

Worship with Whittier First Friends Church

January 31, 2021



Church Announcements

God is the Great Giver and has given much to us. The contributions you make are vital to the life of the meeting. Please consider offerings through mail (mark envelope - Attn: Asst. Treasurer) or the Donate Now button on the church's website.

If you have prayer needs or spiritual concerns, please call or email the pastors, Micah Bales and Faith Kelley, or any member of Ministry and Council.

(Today we will be joining Whittier First Friends Church at their Zoom worship service at 11:00 AM. Whittier is also a part of the Western Association of Friends along with BFC.)

11:00 AM - Worship with Whittier First Friends - Bobby Trice, Quaker Engagement Associate at Friends Committee on National Legislation, will be preaching. At 1:00 PM there will also be a workshop about lobby Congress, the work FCNL is doing and how we can be a part of it.

Bible Study starts 7:30 PM on Tuesdays via Zoom. We are discussing David Johnson's book, "Jesus, Christ and Servant of God: Meditations on the Gospel According to John." You do not need to have read or have a copy of the book available as we read a discussion and then discuss.

Happy Hour Hangout- 8:00 PM on Friday February 5. A time to chat and catch up with other BFC folks. No plans, no agendas. Just connecting and community.

Sunday February 7 at 11:00 AM - Sharing Sunday- Bring a short 2-4 minute message that has encouraged, challenged or spoke to you recently. Can be a piece of scripture, a song, a prayer or a reflection you write yourself. Whatever you'd like. In place of a sermon, anyone who would like to will have time to share before open worship.

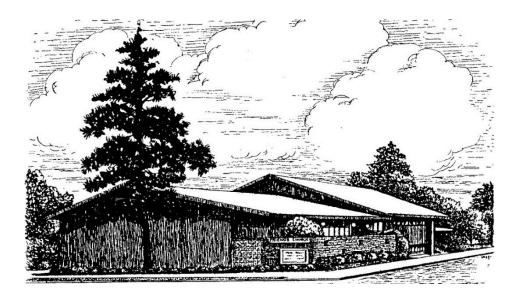
Quakerism in the Age of the Internet- February 5-7- an online program through the Ben Lomond Quaker Center led by Jon Watts, founder of QuakerSpeak. The internet is the most powerful, disruptive advance in mass communication technology since the printing press. How are Friends led to engage with it? Through reflection, worship sharing, and multimedia presentations, we will be exploring the past, present and future of Friends' relationship with new communications technology and asking: what does the Quaker witness look like in the age of the internet? <u>Click here by February 3 to register</u>.

Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples by Friends Peace Teams via Zoom on **Sunday, Feb 7, 5-7 pm EASTERN time.** <u>Register here</u>. In this 2-hour participatory workshop, we hear the story of the colonization of this land in the words of Indigenous leaders, EuroAmerican leaders, and Western historians. We take part in the story through experiential exercises, and share our responses and reflections in small groups. Together, we explore steps that we can take to build relationships with Native peoples based on truth, respect, and justice.

Sunday February 14 at 11:00 AM- God Is Love Intergenerational Worship- Instead of our usual order of service we will be creating a space accessible to all ages, attention spans and places on our spiritual journeys. Join us in song, prayer, brief waiting worship and activities that explore God's love for us.

Section of the Americas Section Meetings - March 12-21, 2021 - The Section Meeting is the biggest conference organized by the Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas. It is held every two years. All Friends are welcome to attend! Normally we meet in person, but this year that is not possible, so we will recreate as much of the experience as we can online. The schedule includes opportunities for worship, workshops, business sessions, and small group activities. It is a great opportunity to get to know and connect with more Friends from North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean and to learn more about the Friends World Committee! <u>Click here for more information</u>.

Keep up with BFC throughout the week. Join the announcement listserv by emailing Faith at pastor@berkeleyfriendschurch.org and follow us on Facebook.



Praises and Petitions of Berkeley Friends Church January 31, 2021

- We **thank you that you know us and love us.** Help us, through the power of your Holy Spirit, grow deeper, wider, and fuller in our knowledge and understanding of your ways. Help us, through the bestowal of your divine Wisdom, bring others closer to you.
- We pray for **loved ones** in our circles of care: All those diagnosed with, suffering from, or recovering from serious illnesses including Liz's classmate Allie, Joe Williams, Dianna's friend Sebastian, Robbie Williams, Marilyn's friend Bruce, Faith's cousin Vicki, Veneita Porter and Stanley Chagala Ngesa.

- We ask for God's presence with Friends not able to be with us: Julie Rowlette, Charles Blue, Janice Wells, Joe Bell and Joe Williams.
- We pray for **all those who are currently sick with COVID-19**. Give their doctors and nurses wisdom on treatments. Comfort the family who can't be with them. Provide the resources that are needed to care for them well and safely. We grieve all those who have died and ask for an end to this pandemic.
- We pray for **Lorring's mom and sister, Pamela and Victoria**, that they might experience health and healing and be instruments of the same in the lives of those around them.
- We thank you that **Pastor Lee and First Lady Rose Jones** at St Paul's Missionary Baptist Church of Brookshire, Texas, are home from the hospital and recovering from Covid. We ask that they continue to feel better and gain energy.
- We pray for **Friends Committee on National Legislation** as they work to organize Quakers and other like-minded people around issues important to us all. Help them to build relationships with our lawmakers and our new presidential administration so they might hear our concerns. Give them the resources and power they need to do the work effectively.
- We pray for all **those who have been harmed by the institutional church**. Those who have been told they're not welcome because of who they are. Those who are burned out by service to your body. Those who have hoped for healing and only been wounded more. Those for whom Christianity has been used to justify their oppression. Wrap them up in your true love. Set them free to experience your presence. Bring healing to their souls. Transform your church into something that more closely resembles the beloved community.
- We thank you that **you demonstrate your power to us in strange and unexpected ways**: from the birth of your Son in a manger, to the gentle nudging of the Holy Spirit calling us to love one another. The works of your hands are faithful and just, and your mercy endures forever. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name.

