EXPERIMENTS IN QUAKER WORSHIP: FORMS WITH LIFE!

KIRSTINA KEEFE-PERRY & JONATHAN VOGEL-BORNE
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Early Friends were said to reject “forms without power” — traditional worship in the Anglican Church that no longer spoke to their condition, and which excluded the participation of women and others. In stripping away the formal trappings of Church, early Friends continued to use preaching and teaching in their public worship. Ultimately Friends rested in silent waiting, expectant worship where they experienced the powerful movement of the Holy Spirit in their midst. As the centuries have passed, most unprogrammed Friends only practice a kind of worship based in silence. But...does it still have power?

Join us at for a weekend exploring: what is worship, what is spiritual power, and how are you fed by worship (spiritually) at your meeting? We’ll look at the history of worship among Friends and ask, ‘what is at the heart of a Quaker expression of spirituality, found in worship?’ We will share stories of how different worship forms have spoken to us...or not. And we’ll engage in some contemporary experiments in worship and different worship modalities. This is a participatory weekend.

Kristina Keefe-Perry is the mother of a third grader, a wife, an avid cyclist, and a member of Fresh Pond Monthly Meeting, NEYM. She grew up in Northern California and came to Friends in Berkeley, California, just after college. Kristina carries a minute of release from Fresh Pond Monthly Meeting in support of a leading for the nurture and growth of accessible, teaching, open and affirming, Christian, Quaker experiences of worship and connection. She is currently being called to a multi-year vision establishing an innovative Friends church in the Boston area.

Jonathan Vogel-Borne is a lifelong Friend raised in Orange Grove Meeting, Pacific Yearly Meeting. Traveling widely across the full Quaker spectrum, from evangelical to liberal, Jonathan’s ministry is to seek deeper unity and a clarity of vision and witness among us. He and his spouse, Minga Claggett-Borne, served as Resident Friends of Cambridge (MA) Monthly Meeting from 1985–1990. Jonathan was the lead staff person at New England Yearly Meeting from 1991 to 2013. He continues to travel in ministry, particularly among Friends in New England and California.

Woolman Hill Quaker Retreat Center
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Program cost of $225 includes program, meals and accommodation. Sliding scale and scholarships available.
COST & REGISTRATION
The standard rate for this retreat is $225 with a sliding scale of $165-330. The fee includes program, lodging and food from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch. Commuter rate is $165. Please pay what fits in your personal budget, encourage your faith community to support your participation if that is appropriate, and please ask if you need additional scholarship funds. A non-refundable deposit of $50 is required to hold a space for the program. If you need to cancel, the deposit can be applied to a future workshop.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE
Plan to arrive after 4:30pm Friday evening, in time for dinner at 6:30. The workshop will end by 2pm on Sunday. We are centrally located in western Massachusetts, close to both I-91 and Route 2. For those arriving by car, we will send directions after you register. Please let us know if you’d be interested in car-pooling. The nearest Amtrak train station is in Greenfield (MA). Vermont Transit and Peter Pan bus lines also stop in Greenfield. Please contact us in advance to see if we can arrange a ride from these stations.

ROOM & BOARD
Our 19th-century farmhouse has hand-hewn beams and wide pine floors, with simple dorm-style lodging. The meetinghouse and the first floor of the main building are wheelchair accessible. Our cabins have electricity, woodstoves and outhouses. We serve nourishing, primarily vegetarian, home-cooked meals and always offer a vegetarian option. Please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions. Part of the community building at each retreat includes the joyful sharing of meal chores and final clean-up.

WHAT TO BRING
Please bring your own toiletries, towels, and bedding (sleeping bag or sheets and blankets or comforter). Pillows are provided. Be sure to bring seasonally appropriate clothes and comfortable indoor and outdoor footwear. You might also like to bring a flashlight, journal, musical instrument... Please do NOT bring pets or candles. We have limited internet access and cell phone reception. We encourage guests to consider how cell phone or computer use may detract from their experience of being fully present, here and now.

TO REGISTER ON-LINE for this program, or for more details, please visit our website (www.woolmanhill.org) OR fill out the information below and send it to the address above with a $50 deposit made payable to Woolman Hill. The balance is due at the beginning of the workshop.