



Fir0002/Hagstall/afes

This retreat is from Friday dinner through Saturday dinner, with an option to stay until Sunday.

A PROGRAM SERIES
JOINTLY OFFERED BY

NEW ENGLAND
YEARLY MEETING
MINISTRY & COUNSEL

QUAKER STUDIES
PROGRAM

WOOLMAN HILL
RETREAT CENTER

WOOLMAN HILL
Quaker Retreat Center

www.woolmanhill.org
info@woolmanhill.org
107 Keets Road
Deerfield MA 01342
413-774-3431

In partnership with Friends United Meeting's
North American Ministries

DEEPENING WORSHIP

COLIN SAXTON AND CHRISTOPHER SAMMOND

OCTOBER 26-27, 2012

An offering in the program series CRACKED OPEN:
Going Deeper into the Why, What and How of Our Quaker Practice

Enlightenment is an accident. Practice makes us accident prone. -Zen proverb

Spirit-filled worship is something we can't plan for or make happen; it is a gift. But just as in the quote above, there are things we can do which will make us more likely to find this gift, and more able to open to it when it begins to arrive. This retreat will focus on practices which can make us more "accident prone" to receive the blessed gift of powerful, nurturing worship. We will look at how we prepare for worship, how we center down, how to open more to each other and to God during worship, and how to practice discerning between vocal ministry and an impetus to speak that comes from within ourselves alone.

Worship is at the heart of all we do as Friends. If our worship is grounded and nourishing, our meetings flourish. If it is shallow or tangled, our meeting life will suffer. And we mostly leave each other to find our own way in this crucial part of our lives. Come join others in learning ways to enrich our common worship, the lifeblood of our communal faith and practice. This workshop will be experiential and immediate, and will seek to draw Friends into deeper experiences and understandings of our rich practice as Friends.

As preparation for this retreat, Friends are invited and encouraged to engage with the following queries. Whether or not you feel led to work with these queries, you are welcome to participate in the retreat.

1. What do you do to nurture your spirit? How regular are you in this practice?
2. If you are attending the retreat, please practice a spiritually nurturing activity for 20 minutes or more each day. If you do not find the time to do so, without judging yourself, notice what was a greater priority. How does the week's spiritual practice correlate with your experience of worship each Sunday?
3. How do you prepare for worship on Sunday morning?

Christopher Sammond, a member of Poplar Ridge (NY) Meeting, currently serves as General Secretary of New York Yearly Meeting. He carries a concern for faithfulness and a commitment to helping Friends to open to deeper worship. Colin Saxton is General Secretary of Friends United Meeting. He previously served as pastor, adjunct professor at George Fox University, and superintendent of Northwest Yearly Meeting in Oregon.

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COST & REGISTRATION

The standard rate for this retreat is \$110. The fee includes program, lodging and food from Friday dinner through Saturday dinner. Commuter rate is \$70. Please ask if you need additional scholarship funds. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required to hold a space for a program. If you need to cancel, the deposit can be applied toward a future workshop. **SATURDAY OVERNIGHT:** You are welcome to stay over an extra night, with Sunday breakfast provided, for a weekend total of \$150. Please indicate this on the registration form.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Plan to arrive after 5pm Friday evening, in time for dinner at 6:30. The workshop will end with dinner on Saturday. 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 carpooling. The nearest Amtrak train stations are in Amherst and Springfield (MA). Vermont Transit and Peter Pan bus lines stop in Greenfield. Please contact us to 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. We serve nourishing, primarily vegetarian, home-cooked meals and always offer a vegetarian option. Please let us know if you have dietary restrictions. The community building at each retreat includes the joyful sharing of meal chores and 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 whether cell phone or computer use will detract from their experience of being fully present, here and now.

To register for this program, please fill out the information below and send it to us with a \$50 deposit made payable to Woolman Hill. The balance is due at the beginning of the workshop. For more details about our programs and facilities, please visit our website (www.woolmanhill.org) or use the above contact information.

DEEPENING WORSHIP, October 26-27, 2012	
NAME:	
E-MAIL:	PHONE:
ADDRESS:	
MONTHLY MEETING (if applicable):	
Enclosed is \$_____. I plan to pay \$_____ total. I <u>will / will not</u> stay over Saturday night. (\$70 commuter; \$110 standard rate through Saturday dinner; OR optional: \$150 through Sunday breakfast)	
DIETARY, HOUSING, OR OTHER SPECIAL NEEDS:	