



**YIELDING TO THE POWER OF THE LIVING SEED**  
**An Invitation To**  
**A DAY OF EXTENDED WORSHIP**

**South Starksboro Friends Meeting, Saturday, June 24, 2023, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm**  
**430 Dan Sargent Road, South Starksboro, VT 05443**

*“God alone is able to strengthen us to dig deep,  
to remove all which lies between us and the safe foundation...”*

*John Woolman*

**OVERVIEW**

In earlier times Friends would often worship for hours fully expectant and deeply patient for the Living Presence to do its work in the gathered body of Friends. These gathered experiences were core to Quaker conviction, personal transformation, and prophetic challenges to the cultural behaviors in the places where Quakers lived.

Modeled on a twenty-five-year practice in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, we have begun these opportunities for NEYM Friends to experience a full day of Quaker worship. In June we will be meeting in the historic South Starksboro Friends Meetinghouse. We hope that many Friends will join us.

We will gather in the South Starksboro Friends Meetinghouse at 9:30 a.m. for three hours or so of expectant waiting worship. Three hours may sound like a long time, but Friends who have been practicing this kind of extended worship have often been surprised how quickly it seems to go by. Friends are free to get up and move around, to lie down on the benches, to use the bathroom, even to take a walk outside and rejoin the worship as led. Following the worship, we each eat our own brown bag lunch (beverages provided). After lunch, we will return to the meeting room for some worship-sharing about our experiences of the morning. We will close by 2:30 p.m. **Friends are welcome to come for the morning only, to stay for lunch, or to stay for the whole day.**

Transformative experiences can happen when the Living Presence has adequate time to remove the spiritual cobwebs and to shine a Light on the deep calls that are beckoning us to change and to make the world a better place. It is God’s work to awaken people to God’s wisdom, guidance, and love. These extended meetings for worship can provide a seedbed for God to do that awakening. You can also read Marcelle Martin’s Pendle Hill Pamphlet, *An Invitation to a Deeper Communion*, which describes the beginnings of these extended worship experiences in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting.

**(See the full schedule and other important details on the reverse of this page)**

## SCHEDULE

9:00	Tea, coffee, and light snacks will be available with an opportunity for quiet conversation outside of the meeting house.
9:30	Meeting for Worship
12:30	Brown Bag Lunch and time for a walk, relaxation, conversation, etc. Beverages will be provided.
1:15	Reflections on the morning experience of extended worship
2:30	Closing

## CONVENORS

Jean Rosenberg, Middlebury Meeting, and Michael Wajda, Bennington Meeting, are part of a small online extended worship group with nine other NEYM Friends that has been meeting now for more than two years. Michael and Jean started these full-day extended meetings in May 2022 and are committed to moving them around the yearly meeting every 2-4 months as possible.

## LOGISTICS

- Please remember to bring your own lunch if you plan to stay beyond the morning worship.
- If you plan to come, it would be helpful to let us know, in case we need to make changes due to weather or Covid. See the email addresses below. *Please come whether you let us know or not!*
- The 1828 South Starksboro Meetinghouse has no electricity or plumbing. There is a sanitary outhouse.
- If you would like some padding on the historic seating, please bring a cushion.
- For a glimpse inside the South Starksboro Meeting House, here is a link to a short video entitled “The Ministry of the Stove.” [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R\\_hDDvSN49Q&t=15s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R_hDDvSN49Q&t=15s)
- If Friends coming from a distance would like overnight hospitality, please contact the convenors to make arrangements. Limited accommodations will be available.
- If you plan to come and could offer hospitality to a Friend from a distance, please let us know.
- If you plan to come and could offer carpooling, please let us know.
- If your meeting would like to host one of these extended worship days in the future, please let one of the convenors know and we will be in touch with you.
- Regarding Covid: Please do a rapid test right before coming. Masks will be optional, and we will spread out in the meeting room with open windows. If on that weekend you have any symptoms of COVID, flu, or a cold, please do not attend.

**To register and for questions**, please contact Michael Wajda ([mfwajda@gmail.com](mailto:mfwajda@gmail.com)) (484-639-3356) or Jean Rosenberg ([jrosenbe@middlebury.edu](mailto:jrosenbe@middlebury.edu)) (802-388-6453).

**We look forward to being with you in That Which Is Eternal.**