

YIELDING TO THE POWER OF THE LIVING SEED
An Invitation To
A TIME OF EXTENDED WORSHIP AT NEYM SESSIONS

Friday, August 1, 2025, 12:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Location: 8th Floor Campus Center

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

John Woolman

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 convincement, personal transformation, and prophetic challenges to the cultural behaviors in the places where Quakers lived.

Now, having held fifteen of these extended worship opportunities in many meeting houses throughout NEYM, we have been invited to convene another opportunity on the first day of NEYM this summer. It will be an optional offering on the campus of UMass-Amherst, but not officially part of yearly meeting sessions.

We hope you will join us.

We will gather on the 8th Floor of the Campus Center for 2.5 hours or so of expectant waiting worship. Two and a half 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 use the bathroom, even to take a walk outside and rejoin the worship as led. Following a short break, we will return to the meeting space for some worship-sharing about our experiences of the worship.

Here is the full schedule:

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| 11:30 am | Bring your brown bag lunch or buy lunch at the Blue Wall Food Court in the Campus Center where there are many options. |
| 12:30 pm | Worship will Begin (8 th Floor Campus Center) |
| 3:00 pm | Take a short Break |
| 3:30 pm | Reflections on the experience of extended worship |
| 4:30 pm | Closing |

Why We Share What Rose for Us During Worship

Sharing our experiences from worship helps us all in several ways. We increase our awareness and learning from our experience. We inspire and encourage others. We learn from each other's experiences and responses. We deepen our connections and love. Our community of Friends becomes a crucible in which God works our transformation.

Proclaim what you have discovered, for others' benefit, sharing as if inviting to a banquet:..our community will grow in depth and power as we tell each other what we've been trying and finding.... We need to find ways to talk about it — simple, humble, concrete, realistic, truthful. It's not bragging to admit we've been visited by the Lord, and trying to take some steps along the way God's spirit leads.

Brian Drayton, Amor Vincat, 4/30/23

Our vision is to strengthen Friends' corporate yielding to the Living Presence in all our meetings for worship and business so that the Inward Teacher can fully do its work of abundant guidance and love.

For questions, please contact the convenors, Michael Wajda (mfwajda@gmail.com) (484-639-3356) or Jean Rosenberg (jrosenbe@middlebury.edu) (802-388-6453).