


Yearly Meeting News

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Sunday 3 Eighth Month 2025 Vol. 365, No. 2

REMINDERS

Your portable Info Desk! Information that repeats day-to-day is in the *Guide to Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions*. If you don't have a copy yet, download the Guide from <https://neym.org/what-expect-2025-sessions>. The *Yearly Meeting News* will provide the day's schedule, along with special announcements and a few reminders.

Hold onto your key/dorm access card! Replacement for the key is \$100.00; for the card, \$25.00. **Lockouts** are \$50 on weekdays and \$75 on nights and weekends!

Your Sessions Photos Wanted: We welcome your photographs for use on neym.org during Sessions (email photos@neym.org); however, please do not take photos from the front of the ballroom or on stage during worship or business. Please do not be disruptive and do not post photographs of individuals without permission. Please see the full policy for taking photographs at Sessions at <https://neym.org/photography-recording-policies> or can be obtained by e-mailing office@neym.org.

Youth Programs maintain their own agreements, including use of social media. Participants and staff in those programs are expected to abide by their program's agreements. Contact the program coordinators with questions.

Policy Addressing At-Risk or Disruptive Behavior at Sessions: A copy of the Policy is on page 5 in the *Guide to Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions*. Friends are encouraged to review it as we seek to create a place of safety and respect for all who attend.

Volunteers Needed: Help in the bookstore, carry a tray at mealtime, play with kids under the tent in the afternoon, drive shuttles. Find something to do and volunteer through the Info Desk.

Practicing Noticing Patterns Together: This year in business meetings, the NPWG encourages all Friends to share their noticings, with support available from Noticing Patterns. The prompts *I feel; I hear; I see; I wonder; I know* are helpful starters. The Presiding Clerk will also call for noticings, as led.

Zoom links and other info for all online activities, including informal gatherings and hybrid events, can be found on the linktree at <https://linktr.ee/NEYMevents>.

EVENTS ON SUNDAY

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|------------------|---|
| 6:30–7:00 a.m. | Early Morning Programmed Worship (See Linktree above)
Windy Cooler, founder of Incubator of Public Ministers from Baltimore YM |
| | Unprogrammed (See Linktree above) |
| 7:00–8:45 a.m. | Breakfast (Worcester Commons) |
| 9:00–10:00 a.m. | All Ages Worship (Student Union Ballroom)
<i>continuing in worship until ...</i> |
| 10:30–11:30 a.m. | Bible Half-Hour (Student Union Ballroom) |
| 11:30–1:30 p.m. | Lunch (Worcester) |
| Lunch | Friends who worship with Three Rivers are invited to gather for lunch on Sunday, at the tables outside the dining hall, on the right (as you face the building). Look for the bright pink sign. |
| 1:15–2:45 p.m. | Plenary with Gretchen Baker-Smith (Student Union Ballroom) |
| 3:30–5:00 p.m. | Meeting for Business (Student Union Ballroom) |
| 4:45–6:45 p.m. | Dinner (Worcester Commons) |
| 6:00–6:45 p.m. | Vespers All ages welcome for singing meditative songs learned by ear. Join us to musically ground in the gift of life. (See Linktree above) |
| 6:00 p.m. | 12-Step Online Link: The Quaker 12-step group will be meeting Sun–Tues at 6 p.m. both in person and on Zoom. (ILCS311) Can't make it in person?—email Juliet Wright julietann@comcast.net for link. |
| 6:00 p.m. | Worship for Gaza (South Lawn) To join a separate worship for Gaza online go to https://linktr.ee/NEYMevents . |
| 7:00–9:00 p.m. | Meeting for Business (Student Union Ballroom) Cuba Yearly Meeting clerk Jorge Luis Peña will give a message to NEYM. |

EARLY ON MONDAY

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|----------------|---|
| 6:30–7 a.m. | Early Morning Programmed Worship (See Linktree above)
Derek Knox of Wellesley MM, Hebrew and Greek Scriptures scholar |
| | Unprogrammed (See Linktree above) |
| 7:00–8:45 a.m. | Breakfast (Worcester Commons) |
| 8:30 a.m. | Bible Half Hour with Kirenia Criado Pérez (Student Union Ballroom) |

The *Yearly Meeting News* is available Sunday–Tuesday mornings at the Info Desk and on the web at neym.org/yearly-meeting-news. Send submissions in email to ymnews@neym.org or drop off at the Info Desk (outside the Ballroom in the Student Union) Sunday thru Monday by 1:30 p.m. Announcements not specifically related to Sessions will not be included in the *Yearly Meeting News*.

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(REMINDERS continued)

Worcester Commons dining service welcomes us, ready to cater to our special needs. Menus and ingredients are posted at <https://umassdining.com/locations-menus/worcester/menu>. If you have allergies and are unsure about whether an item is safe for you, please feel free to ask Worcester Commons staff or Jana Noyes, NEYM Access Coordinator, access@neym.org.

Need a tray for your meal? There are now trays in the dining hall for people who need trays. They are in a stack on a counter just a few feet past where you swipe your card upon arrival. They are compostable, so if you put your tray with your dirty dishes at the end of the meal the dining hall staff will compost them. **Please leave trays for those with young children and mobility challenges.** Encourage parents with small children to go to the head of dining lines and offer to help.

There are many opportunities to care for Friends during Sessions, holding a door, helping someone move in, carrying a tray in the dining hall. We invite you to offer help to a Friend who might want a helping hand.

Several Friends from across our yearly meeting will be holding us all in pastoral care this week. At times, Friends wearing buttons saying “pastoral care” will be outside the ballroom if you would like to invite quiet conversation, prayer, or presence. If you have pastoral care concerns at other times, you may call or text Susan Davies, who is serving as a pastoral care coordinator, at 207-660-1323. Leave a message, and someone will respond as they are able.

If you have a serious urgent concern, please follow the information on the back of your name tag.

No Running Zones: Please do not run in the dining hall and other busy areas! Please be careful not to bump into Friends. Please consider wearing your mask when not actively eating. Outside seating is available again this year.

Join Curt Torell, Quaker House and QREC, to chat over a meal about supporting youth discernment around conscientious objection to war. Registration for the draft is already happening. Now is the time for discernment and documentation. Curt’s updated curriculum for teens, *Conscientious Objection: Is This for You?* has just been released. Curt hopes also to return to NE in November to offer workshops at local meetings near colleges. Might this be for your meeting? Contact Beth Collea (bethcollea@aol.com) who is serving as Curt’s elder.

Please join us for a Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Peace & Justice in Palestine. Sunday, August 3, 6:00–6:45 p.m. (Rain date Monday August 4, 6:00–6:45 p.m.) on the **South Lawn** (between the Du Bois Library and the Campus Pond). We have invited local community members who share our concern. If you are able, bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Please arrive a bit early. [Valley Families for Palestine](#) will lead stories and quiet activities for children nearby. Zoom worship with the same concern hosted by the Israel Palestine Resource Group. To register for this worship, go to: Zoom worship with the same concern hosted by the Israel Palestine Resource Group. To register for this worship, go to:

Draft Minutes from Meeting for Business can be reviewed via Linktree (<https://linktr.ee/NEYMevents>). Please email readingclerks@neym.org with correction or comments.

Puente de Amigos is NEYM Friends’ Bridge of Love with Cuba Yearly Meeting (CYM). At our Tuesday 3:00 p.m. Business Session, Cuban Friend Kirenia Criado Pérez will read the Puente de Amigos Epistle. See the Puente display at the back of the Ballroom, where Friends can donate to support Cuban Friends using a QR code (instructions there). Donations by cash or check are additionally welcome at the Monday 1:15 p.m., Interest Group.

MEALTIME OPPORTUNITIES Unless otherwise specified, Mealtime Opportunities begin at the following times: Breakfast 7:30 a.m.; Lunch 11:45 a.m.; Dinner 5:15 p.m. For Details: <https://neym.org/choices>

Newcomers Breakfast Meet-up	Sunday Breakfast
Puente de Amigos	Sunday Lunch
Newcomers Lunch Meet-up	Sunday Lunch
Newcomers Dinner Meet-up	Sunday Dinner
Women in Ministry	Sunday Dinner
Woolman Hill	Sunday Dinner



NEYM’s Bookstore & Consignment Shop in Campus Center Room 165

Books for all ages, including some by NEYM authors! You’ll find beautiful crafts and creative doodads made by NEYM’s many artists in residence—plus piles of delicious Fair Trade chocolate bars! Make the rounds! All purchases support the Yearly Meeting and our wonderful independent book suppliers, many of which are Quaker entities.

Hours:

Sunday 8/3 from 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m. and 3–9 p.m.

Monday 8/4 from 11:30–9 p.m.

Tuesday 8/5 from 11:30–5 p.m.