

July 2026



The Friendly News

Friends Meeting of San Antonio (Quakers)

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Our Meeting house is built on the Payaya People's land.

On Neighbors, Change, Division, and Peace

Between August 6-31, a series of events coordinated by Emily Provance and in partnership with Friends Meeting of San Antonio will explore perspectives and strategies—some faith-based, some secular—that can help us build robust communities across deep social fractures. Topics include: *Why Should I Talk to My Neighbor?*, *How Do I Talk to My Neighbor?*, and *Can Changemaking and Peacemaking Coexist?*. To learn more, visit [Emily's website](#).

These events are presented in hybrid format (in person at FMSA and on Zoom). Registration is not required if you intend to participate in person. If you plan to attend online, please click [this link](#) to register for the events that interest you.

Emily will be in San Antonio from August 4 to September 2. Her work will focus on how individuals can shift their thinking about daily interactions and build communities that engage in productive dialogue to solve real, practical problems nonviolently. In addition to the broader conversation about cultural differences in the United States, we'll look at the Quaker model of discernment as a pathway for building skills in congregation for deep listening and practical decision-making.

[continued on page 3]

Query for July

How does my Quaker faith inform the way I commemorate 250 years of the United States?

July 2026 Calendar

Regular Activities

- **Sunday Meetings for Worship**, 10:00 - 11:00 AM
 - In-person in the Meetinghouse and on Zoom
- **First Day School Children's Program**, every Sunday, 10:00 - 11:00 AM
 - Childcare is available during forums and Meetings for Business
- **Midweek Meeting for Worship (Suspended for Summer)**
- **Potluck Lunch** - 1st Sunday, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- **Sunday Forums** - 2nd & 4th Sundays, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
 - In-person in the Meetinghouse and on Zoom
- **Meeting for Worship with Attention To Business**; 3rd Sunday, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
 - In-person in the Meetinghouse and on Zoom
- **Friday Meeting for Worship**, 8:00 - 8:30 AM, Zoom only
- **"Meeting for Weeding,"** 3rd Saturday, 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
- For ALL Zoom Meetings:
 - [CLICK HERE](#) to join by Zoom; ID # 976 0522 6497; passcode: 194077
 - by telephone at +1 346 248 7799, then enter ID#

Upcoming Events

- | | |
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| July 12 | Forum: What Friends Believe (Follow-up) - We will continue our discussion from the June 2026 forum about what Friends believe, as part of our study and discussion of SCYM's new Faith and Practice. What did early Quakers believe? What do their words mean to us today? |
| July 18 | Meeting for (Not Just) Weeding, 8:30-11:30 AM |
| July 26 | Forum: TBA |

On Neighbors, Change, Division, and Peace

[continued from page 1]



Emily Provance is a Quaker traveling minister who has spent time with communities around the world. She has also studied violence and peacemaking in connection with political cycles. According to a recent survey from FIRE, 34% of university-age people in the United States now believe it is sometimes reasonable to respond to speech with physical violence. Which is a problem—because historically, physical violence very rarely leads to actual solutions, while intentional dialogue often does.

We hope you will join us for these thought-provoking sessions.

Considering Intergenerational Worship

At the June 21st business meeting, the Religious Education and Ministry & Care committees presented a joint report in consideration of holding intergenerational/all-ages worship several times a year. Some excerpts from the report:

Friends feel the purpose of intergenerational worship would be to come together as a community to experience worship in a new way. This idea came from Melinda Wenner Bradley's experience of intergenerational worship in her Meeting [as outlined in her Friends Journal article, ["Children in Quaker Worship."](#)]

In intergenerational worship, Friends of all ages are provided materials and permission to have a quiet spiritual experience that may look different than other Meetings for Worship. Friends are encouraged to sit on the floor, color, journal, or engage in whatever other quiet activity they find contemplative...

We offer the following minute for Friends' consideration as a first reading, with a second reading next month.

Friends Meeting of San Antonio recognizes Friends of all ages form our community. In that spirit, we approve an experiment in intergenerational worship. On a quarterly basis, Friends will be invited to worship in an age-inclusive environment, where anyone can give vocal ministry, sit on the floor, and engage with quiet materials provided by the Meeting or brought from home.

Friends may wish to review the [full report of the joint committees](#) and read the article by Melinda Wenner Bradley prior to our July business meeting. You are welcome to reach out to members of the Religious Education and Ministry & Care Committees with any thoughts or questions.

Community Updates

Thanks to all the rain we've gotten recently, Meeting for Weeding was a wild (and sweaty) adventure!



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We welcome input for newsletters. Please email newsletter@saquakers.org
if you have any news, articles, poetry, etc. to share. Photos are great, too!

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