

St. Petersburg Quakers Online Worship & Adult First Day School

Dear Members and Beloved Attenders,

"If we believe tomorrow will be better, we can bear a hardship today."

---Thich Nhat Hanh

We're living in a new way. Indeed, it IS a hardship. Many of us are grieving the loss of various things personal and important to our own way of living. It seems like we've fought against it, and tried to get around it, but the fact is that we are being asked to stay home if at all possible. Hopefully, this will shorten the time we need to be separated, instead of dragging it out.

The Meeting House will remain closed for the safety of all of us.

I would like to return to Adult First Day being held at 9:30 AM (via Zoom) and Silent Worship being held at 10:30 AM (via Zoom.) If you wish to worship in another way, that's perfectly understandable; know that our hearts will be encompassing everyone, not just those present on the Zoom site.

BEFORE SUNDAY

- Please read these instructions, which have links for tutorials on downloading and using Zoom on your device: https://seymquakers.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Zoom_instructions_2020-REV.pdf
- If you are new to Zoom, please download the Zoom app ahead of time: <https://zoom.us/download>
- Here is the link and the Meeting ID you will need to join the meeting:
 - Join Zoom Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/867305902>
 - Meeting ID: 867 305 902

FOR ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL • Sundays at 9:30 am

Everyone's microphone will be automatically muted when they enter the Zoom online 'room'. You will be named by the facilitator in order for you to know you are 'seen.' In order to offer something in AFDS, hold up a white piece of paper next to your face, wait to be called upon, unmute your microphone and speak. When done, re-mute your microphone, so that others don't hear feedback and sounds from your home (you'd be surprised how they carry!)

FOR SILENT WORSHIP • Sundays at 10:30 am

Everyone's microphone will be automatically muted when they enter the Zoom online 'room'. The Clerk will facilitate by welcoming everyone by name as they enter the site, so that you will know your technology is working and you are 'seen'. The Clerk will also indicate verbally when Friends are expected to settle into silence and begin worship, as well as ending the worship at the appointed time, and inviting joys and sorrows.

May we all hold each other, our Meeting, our communities and the world in the Light as we explore this time to go deeper.

I'd like to close by quoting Richard Rohr:

“We cannot face large-scale crises as individuals; we cannot carry the pain of this reality on our own, nor can we only look out for ourselves. The pain is communal and so too must be the response.”

Linda