

2024 SCYM Annual Sessions Workshops

Tuesday, March 26. 7:30-8:45 PM (Online only)

1. **Faith and Practice workshops.** (Jane Houser and maybe Leada Dietz). Online.

Description

Have you seen the 2024 updated edition of the SCYM Draft Faith and Practice? You can download your own copy at scym.org, home page and documents "Draft Faith and Practice 2.15.2024." There are many additions and changes that the committee has made, incorporating the feedback we received from various meetings and individuals since the 2023 draft was submitted.

The members of the Faith and Practice committee are offering this workshop, among other opportunities, to hear what you think about this edition. Questions for attendees: are there topics that we have not thought to include, even in the sections not yet written, are there relevant quotes that should be included? And any other questions or concerns you might have.

2. **Safe Meetings Don't Avoid Conflict.** Don McCormick). Online.

Description

We will discuss times we have seen Quakers or Quaker organizations avoid conflict, what happens when conflict is avoided, and Quaker myths about conflict. Then we will discuss what each of us can do about conflict avoidance in our monthly meeting, yearly meeting, and/or Quakerism overall.

3. **Making Sense of, and Being Able to Talk about, the Situation in Israel & Gaza.** (Alex McDonald) Online.

Description

Want to act on our faith through the testimonies of peace, equality, community, and integrity? Want to nurture your soul by knowing you have made your best effort towards building peace? Join this workshop to understand how we got to October 7, 2023 and how we move forward as Americans deeply involved in the violence against Palestinian civilians.

Then learn how we can effectively and lovingly speak with others on the situation and what to do. It is primarily through changing US public opinion that peace will come to the region.

4. **Brazos River Rocks associated with the asteroid impact that caused the dinosaurs' extinction.** (Chris Drexler). Online

Description

1. Discuss and show the location of the Chicxulub asteroid impact relative to the location of the Greene Family Camp.
2. Step through the series of disruptions to the earth's physical systems caused by the impact and its effects on life.
3. Show examples of geologic deposits associated with the impact event and its aftermath.
4. Introduce attendees to the types of rocks they should see in the field and their association to the impact event and its aftermath.

5. **Conscientious Objection to War.** (Val Liveoak). Online

Description

Civilians can be Conscientious Objectors! It's valuable to work toward having a copy of a statement of conscientious objection on file, even if you are not likely to be conscripted. And, even if you are not likely to be conscripted, your taxes are! Learn how Friends resist war and the increasing trend towards militarization in our society.

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Friday, March 29. 8:00-9:00 PM

1. **Right Sharing of World Resources – Right Relationship.** (Nathan Kleban). In person. No A/V.
Description
Exploring power dynamics in relationships in our own communities locally on a human-to-human level, and drawing connections to this on a global level.
2. **Practical Compassion: collaborative solutions development for consensus and conflict resolution.** (Ed Halloran). In person. May borrow Gladys' projector and screen.
Description
This workshop is designed to explore perspectives on conflict to reveal what parties have in common and support maintaining connection through shared values during the process of solution development. It is grounded in the idea that real conflict resolution is not a zero-sum game and draws on the wisdom and works of Marshall B. Rosenberg, Victor Frankl and various Friends' Faith and Practice segments.
3. **8 April, 2024 Eclipse Overview.** (Edwin Campbell). In person. No A/V.
Description
How eclipses work and also dispelling myths/misinformation that have been implied about eclipses causing or being the cause of.
4. **Writing to and Visiting our Neighbors on Death Row.** (Chip Bach and Paula Keeth) In person. No A/V.
Description
 1. Introductions including:
 - a. DR Ministry experience? Friend's Name, and nature of relationship (write and/or visit?)
 - b. if no DR experience, what interests you and what ??s?
 2. Spiritual benefits for both in writing/visiting
 3. How do you find a pen pal.
 4. Guidelines to writing and visiting.
 5. The Correction Departments' rules

Saturday, March 30. 1:30-2:30 PM

1. **Writing a Spiritual Autobiography.** (Don McCormick). Online.
Description
There will be short talks on the reasons for writing a spiritual autobiography and ways to identify trends or patterns in your spiritual life. There will be time to share what you've found with other workshop participants. The session will end with worship sharing on spiritual autobiography and what you've learned.
2. **Freedom to Stay, Freedom to Move, Freedom to Return – a conversation with Amy Gottlieb and Jacob Flowers from AFSC on immigration policy in the US and beyond.** (Jacob Flowers). In person. A/V needs?
Description
Learn about AFSC's global work on migration with a focus on listening to participants about their experiences and their own work in the area. There will be a conversation about AFSC's vision for immigration policy over the next year, the next five years, and longer term, and about what it might take to get there. We will discuss root causes of migration, the state of migration policies at the federal and state levels, and what can be done to support welcoming communities.

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3. **Faith and Practice workshops #2.** (Jane Houser and maybe Leada Dietz). In person. No A/V.

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4. **Introduction to Transition Movement.** (Rich Corl). In person. No A/V?

Description

The Transition Movement is characterized by several key principles. These include a focus on practical action, community involvement, and a commitment to building resilience. The movement encourages individuals and communities to take practical steps to reduce carbon emissions, increase local resilience, and create sustainable food systems. The movement also emphasizes the importance of building strong, resilient communities that are connected to each other and to the natural world.

5. **That of God in All: Friends and Homelessness in the weird post-covid world.** (Gladys Tiffany). In person. Will bring projector and screen.

Description

Homelessness is an old problem that communities all across the country – urban and rural - deal with. Since covid, a distinct shift in the situation has created a critical housing justice crisis that Friends will want to be clearly aware of. This workshop will introduce the escalating situation and discuss the role of Friends in addressing it in our own communities.

This workshop will involve a brief presentation on the national condition of homelessness, suggestions for Meetings to consider, and discussion about the minute on education about homelessness to be presented through Peace & Justice. Discussion of the situations in the communities of monthly Meetings is included.