

# 244<sup>th</sup> Session of College Park Quarterly Meeting

Saturday, January 16, 2021

## Reweaving The Ties That Bind

*(Held Virtually via Zoom)*

Our faith calls us to be bound together in love, tied together with our families, with our neighbors, with our Quaker communities, with all people near and far, with all of creation. Each person, each life, each relationship, is a tiny, almost invisible, thread that is meant to be woven together with all the others into a shimmering fabric, a web of connection, God's kin-dom.



We are painfully aware in these times that the fabric is torn by divisive politics; a pandemic that keeps us from being together; increasing disparity between those who have enough and those who don't, those who have power and those who don't; the far reaching effects of colonialism and racism; and divisions across theology, gender, sexuality, and generation. Some of us are lonely, some of us are afraid. We want to connect through the Spirit and to heal.

At this Winter gathering of College Park Quarterly Meeting, we invite you to come and explore how we might restore ourselves and be weavers and healers. Through a panel presentation, interest groups, worship-sharing queries, and an evening discussion centering teen voices, we will consider: How are we led, through small actions or larger ones, to reach out and mend these rips to our social fabric? How do we manage the tension that is not only an inevitable part of everyday life, but is essential to weaving, knitting, and spinning the web? What are our Friend's practices that ground and equip us to step into what Parker Palmer calls "the tragic gap...the gap between the hard realities around us and what we *know* is possible..."? How do we strengthen the connections that help us nourish and sustain one another?



"It is not our differences that divide us.  
It is our inability to recognize, accept, and  
celebrate those differences."  
Audre Lorde, *Our Dead Behind Us: Poems* 1994

**Registration information on next page.**

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**Registration:** Registration opens December 26, at [collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org](http://collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org) For registration questions, contact [registrar@collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org](mailto:registrar@collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org).

**Pay As Led Financial Contribution:** The suggested amount for your contribution is \$30 per adult attender. We want to encourage everyone to attend, and no one will be turned away for inability to pay. Payments can be made on-line at the time of registration using the link provided.

**Programs for Children and Teens:** There will be a short **children's program** and also a **teen program**. In addition to meeting separately, teens will join the general program for selected activities and will lead an intergenerational session on Saturday evening. They are also most welcome to attend any activities in the general program that they choose.

### DRAFT SCHEDULE:

8:00	Registration	
9:00 - 9:30	Family Worship	
9:30 - 10:30	Opening plenary	
10:30 – 11:00	Break	
11:00 - 12:00	Plenary II: Panel Presentation on the Theme	
12:00 – 1:30	Lunch Break	
1:30-2:30	Conversation Groups/Fellowship	
1:30-2:30	<b>Children's Program</b>	<b>2:00 Teen Orientation</b>
2:30-3:45	Worship Sharing: Traditional, Art, Walking	<b>2:30 Teen Worship-Sharing</b>
3:45-4:00	Break	
4:00–5:15	Interest Groups on the Theme** (Teens are invited)	
5:15 - 5:45	Closing plenary	
5:45-6:15	Closing Worship	
Evening	<b>Centering Teen Voices, an intergenerational dialogue on the joys and challenges of communicating with and understanding people of different generations.</b>	

Updates will be published as our speakers and interest groups settle into place. \*\*Friends who might be interested in providing an interest group on the theme are invited to contact Assistant Clerk Jan Turner [yellowgateroad@gmail.com](mailto:yellowgateroad@gmail.com)