



Ben Lomond Quaker Center – 2024 Program Calendar

Please visit www.quakercenter.org to learn more, register, see news and events, and get on our mailing list.

All times Pacific. All are welcome to attend Quaker Center programs and events.

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| Jan 26-28 | The Life Cycle of Quaker Meetings: What are we called to? with Sandy Kewman and Anne Pomeroy (in person) . Using the lens of ‘loving your neighbor as yourself,’ let us explore this question. We will examine each stage of a Meeting’s life, the ‘pivot points,’ and what Spirit calls for in each of these. |
| Tuesdays: Jan 9, 16, 23, 30, & Feb. 6 11 am – 12:30 pm | The Gospel of Mary: A Friendly Study Group, with David Curtis (five online sessions) . Did you know that there is a gospel attributed to a woman? A Jesus who teaches that there is no such thing as ‘sin,’ other than what we create ourselves? David, a Woodbrooke instructor, brings the ‘Friendly Group Study’ method to Quaker Center as a way to explore this short but powerful text together. |
| Feb 16-19 | Young Adult Friends (YAF) Retreat: Climate Grief and Empowerment, with Nora Lisette and Thistle Hofvendahl (in person) . Build community, connect with creation, and reflect on how we build active hope and resilience in uncertain times. Over the long weekend we will be guided through spaces for holding our grief, naming our gifts, and being faithful to our individual and collective callings. |
| Mondays: Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, & Apr 1 7:00 – 8:30 pm | Reading and discussion group on “The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction,” by Ben Pink Dandelion (five online sessions), with Jim Anderson and Bob Runyan . New to Friends? Want a refresher? Just curious? Read along, and discuss this short classic among friends. Jim and Bob will lead the group through the book’s chapters with small group queries and worshipful exchange. |
| Mar 22-24 | Walking in the Bible, with Joe Snyder and Julie Peyton (in person) . Come explore stories from the Bible among friends, and let Spirit speak to us through our experience. A fun and open weekend of readings, art, collaging, discussion, journaling and worship. All are welcome – no biblical knowledge or experience necessary. |
| April 19-21 | The Elders at Balby—for Quakers in 2024, with Paul Harris and Bob Runyan (in person) . Almost 400 years later, this 1656 Epistle remains one of Friends’ most meaningful and consequential statements, offering advice to Quaker meetings and individuals. How much of it is relevant today? What does it mean, and has its meaning changed? And what would a 21 st century version of the Epistle look like? |
| May 17-19 | The 254th session of College Park Quarterly Meeting (hybrid) . CPQM’s annual gathering at Quaker Center is amazing. Children, young people and adults alike are invited to come celebrate our Northern California Friends’ community. Learn more and register at www.collegeparkquarterlymeeting.org . |
| June 16-22 June 23-30 | Quaker Center Camp (in person) . The one and only. Help a kid or teen get to QC Camp for an overnight summer experience of friendship, fun, service, art and Friends’ values. Two sessions this year: one for rising 5 th to 7 th graders, followed by a week-long Teen Service Camp for rising 8 th to 10 th . |
| Jul 30 – Aug 4 | Family Work Camp (in person) . A cherished summer tradition. A week of Quaker Center work projects, fun and fellowship. Spend time with old friends and make some news ones. All are welcome. |
| Aug 30 – Sept 2 | Quaker Center at 75 (in person) . Let’s mark this milestone. Please join us on this diamond date to reflect on Quaker Center’s extraordinary history, and look ahead together to the next glorious 75 years. We’ll hold an extended weekend of celebration, events and activities, and recommit to the BLQC’s core mission of nurturing the spiritual growth and faithfulness of our community and beyond. |
| Sept 27-29 | Being Moved: An Exploration of Embodied Spiritual Presence, with Jane Blount and Kindred Gottlieb (in person) . Quakers speak about being ‘moved by the spirit.’ This weekend, we invite you to be moved beyond sitting on the Meetinghouse bench, and to explore embodied presence, movement and sound. Open to all, including those with physical limitations. |
| Thursdays: Oct 24, 31, Nov 7, 14 & 21 6:30 – 8:00 pm | Recovering your Inner Radiance, with Barbara Birch (online) . Using the practice of <i>lectio divina</i> , let us explore Rufus Jones’ experience of ‘organic mysticism’ as described in his essay ‘Recovery of the Lost Radiance’ (1936). Jones wrote of a spiritual experience that revitalized his faith, his sense of mission, and his physical health. Together we’ll read, write, and use centering prayer and worship-sharing. |
| Nov 1-3 | The Spirit of Shinrin-yoku (Forest Bathing), with Robin Rivet (in person) . Learn to use your senses to dissolve the barriers between your body and nature through the healthful Japanese practice of forest bathing. Join arborist Robin Rivet for a workshop that includes individual and corporate outdoor mindfulness exercises, sensory forest walking, and playful diversions. |
| Dec 6-8 | Quaker Center’s 14th Annual Music and Dance retreat (in person) . Hooray! It’s time for Music and Dance – a weekend of festive fellowship in the redwoods. Plenty of singing and jamming, workshops and fun, and capped with a Saturday night dance with a real caller and fiddler. All are welcome. |
| Dec 28 – Jan 1, 2025 | The Year-End Retreat: Our Spiritual Journeys, with Ann Marie Snell as convener (in person) . This year, we’ll explore ways in which we record and share our spiritual journeys, through story, art and more. Various program leaders and participant facilitators will offer interactive workshops guiding those present through some of these methods, including a workshop by Don McCormick on spiritual memoir. As always, we’ll also spend year-end time in fellowship, contemplation, and celebration. |