

Quakerism 101: Introduction to Friends

Sundays, May 15 & 22, June 12 & 19, July 17 & 24, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Facilitator: *George Schaefer

Presented by and for the Upper Susquehanna Quarter

All are welcome to sign up for Quakerism 101: An Introduction to Friends. This course offers an opportunity for learning and fellowship for Friends new to Meetings, associated with State College or Greenwood Friends schools, attenders and members with some experience with Quakerism wanting to learn more, and experienced Friends eager for a refresher. Seasoned Friends willing to bring their experience to the discussions are especially encouraged to participate.

This **six-session on-line Zoom course** will introduce the participants to the faith and practice of Friends from the perspective of the liberal tradition of which Philadelphia Yearly Meeting is a part, and serve as a refresher for those whose “study” of Quakerism dates back a few years. The course will take an experiential approach to learning about Quakerism. We will review the rise of Quakerism and its historic roots and its religious, spiritual, and social development over the past three hundred and fifty years.

Topics will include:

- Understanding Quaker worship
- Quaker business process and membership
- The Quaker testimonies
- Friends and social justice
- The future of Quakerism

Texts: **The Quaker Way** by Rex Ambler The text is available through FGC Books, Amazon and other used book outlets online.

https://quakerbooks.org/products/the-quaker-way-21?_pos=6&_sid=8796411f7&_ss=r

Other course materials will be available online at no or minimal cost.

Register in advance: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqcOivrz8vGdHNpMXHU4EbQTEnw5VGn8MO>

Attendance at all sessions is encouraged, so please feel free to attend as many as your schedule permits.

Questions? Email or call Claudia Wilson, USQ Clerk: cbewilson@gmail.com or 814-441-2776.

*George Schaefer is a member of Abington Friends Meeting and a PYM Resource Friend, offering assistance to meetings in the areas of Mental Health & Wellness, Aging and Pastoral Care with an emphasis on conflict transformation and the function of eldership among Friends. From 2009 until 2021, George served PYM as the Care & Aging Coordinator. In this role, he offered monthly and quarterly meetings, retreats, and workshops on a variety of pastoral care topics including Listening for Transformation and Spirituality and Aging. George also facilitates opportunities for learning offering Quakerism 101 (and beyond) courses. George can be reached at 610-220-3735.

This class is funded through a PYM grant for Quarterly Meetings from the Shoemaker Fund.