

FFM Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the Framingham Friends Meeting

<https://ffmquakers.org/>

June 2026 Calendar

June 3	9:30 a.m.	Coffee, Anyone?
June 5	6:30 p.m.	Latticework
June 6	11:00 a.m.	Elin Calver Memorial Meeting
June 7	10:00 a.m.	Meeting for Worship and First Day School*
	11:45 a.m.	First First Discussion – Jen Newman “Faithfulness in Uncertain Times: Ecclesiastes and the Wisdom of Limits”
June 10	9:30 a.m.	Coffee, Anyone?
June 13	9:00 a.m.	Woolman Hill Board
June 14	10:00 a.m.	Meeting for Worship and First Day School*
	11:45 a.m.	Framingham Friendly Funday!
June 17	9:30 a.m.	Coffee, Anyone?
June 18	3:00 p.m.	Chestnut Hill Farms CSA Pickup
June 19	6:30 p.m.	Latticework
June 21	10:00 a.m.	Meeting for Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business Annual Report – Energy, Finance (final report), Nominating (final Report)
June 24	9:30 a.m.	Coffee, Anyone?
June 28	10:00 a.m.	Meeting for Worship

(More information, including non-Meeting uses of the Meetinghouse, can be found on our website calendar.)

**Please note that FDS plans are flexible and may change from week to week. To be added to the FDS email list for updates, email or call Anne Anderson for current information.*

NEYM Events (see <https://neym.org/> for details)

June 5-7	Junior High Yearly Meeting Spring Retreat
June 9	Monthly Check-in for Friends Serving Their Local Meetings (Zoom)
June 11	Faith and Play Community Circle (Zoom)
June 11	End of Life Drop-in Reflection Group (Zoom)
June 13	Extended Worship, Storrs CT Friends Meeting (hybrid)
June 16	Protect, Resist and Build with AFSC (Zoom)
June 20	Meeting for Listening, Hanover, NH (hybrid)
June 28 – July 1	Quaker Spring, Woolman Hill Retreat Center, Deerfield, MA
July 7 – 12	Friends General Conference, Burlington, VT

June 2026 Bulletin

“With the change of leadership here in the US, many people are scared. They are facing threats to their security, their health, and their freedom and looking toward an uncertain future. They find themselves in “an ocean of darkness,” as George Fox wrote, though he also wrote that “an infinite ocean of light,” of God’s love, flowed over the ocean of darkness. Our faith does not tell us we will not face challenges, but that we can trust in the guidance of Spirit to show us how to love one another in ways that make a difference.” Maeve Sutherland

Please note the following volunteer assignments for June and July:

Date	Opener	Greeters	Fellowship	Hybrid Host
6/7/26	Louise Bendel	Stephen Nadel	Lia Altschuler and Jim Houston	Chuck L.
6/14/26	Neil Blanchard	Chuck Lidz	Peter and Mary Colby	Neil B.
6/21/26	Corbit Larson	Dave Baxter	Heather and James Gray	Peter M.
6/28/26	Manzellas	Louise Bendel	Renel Fredriksen and John Robinson	JR
7/5/26	Louise Bendel	Corbit Larson	Dave Baxter and Anne Anderson	Chuck L.
7/12/26	Neil Blanchard	Chuck Lidz	Brian and Katharine Clark	Neil B.
7/19/26	Corbit Larson	Stephen Nadel	Ileana Matamoros and Diego Low	Peter M.
7/26/26	Manzellas	Lee Miller	Lia Altschuler and Jim Houston	JR

Thank You!

Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee is inviting you to support our community through providing fellowship after the close of Meeting. It is an important way you can participate in the life of the Meeting. Thank you in advance! If you CANNOT do this assigned date, please contact another member or attender from this list with whom you can switch dates. Please do not use FFM announce for this task but rather contact the person directly. *If you have to make a change, once you have found someone who can provide fellowship on your assigned date, please notify Dave Baxter of the change.* Otherwise, if all is well, just bring fellowship! Consult the Directory “Guidelines for Fellowship” for tasks involved-- though please note, we think preparing for 40 people is an accurate estimate. Thank you for supporting the life of the Meeting.

First Day School Update

First Day School continues our exploration of the different meanings of sanctuary, both for ourselves, for other people, and for the world around us. We are planning to build our own models of sanctuaries using gingerbread (think Christmas gingerbread houses, but sanctuaries instead), and we hope to get other adults interested in helping with the baking! We want to continue teaching the "Lord/Light prepare me to be a sanctuary" song to the rest of the meeting. It is exciting to see little Nellie getting better at walking and climbing, and to see the older children care for her. Dungeons & Dragons is on vacation during May but will return in June with two sessions. Our experiment with having bean bag chairs in the meeting room for children seems to be working out: it has been nice to see children sharing when there are more children wanting to use a bean bag than there are bean bags!

Welcome!

Welcome to Betsy Bragg, FFM’s newest member. Her membership transfer from Friends Meeting at Cambridge is now complete.



FFM Banner Available to Use!

Outreach Committee encourages you to make use of the FFM Banner, stored at the front entrance of the Meetinghouse. The following policy was approved at Meeting for Business in April: "Any two members or attenders who are led to attend a non-violent demonstration are encouraged to use our Framingham Friends Meeting banner. It is suggested that they share the planned usage in order to encourage others to join them."

Condolences

Condolences to the Schnell family, on the death of Carol Schnell, sister of Jean Schnell. She leaves a big hole in Jean, Laura, and Mina's lives. However, it was a peaceful end and the best possible outcome to the journey her family began with her about 5 years ago.

Condolences to Louise and John Bendel on the death of Louise's brother, Christopher Gansky, age 61, of River Edge, New Jersey.

Condolences to Helen Speer on the death of her son, John Kincaid.

June First First

Please bring a bag lunch and join us for a talk by Jen Newman, the Executive Director of Beacon Hill Friends House and this year's invited Bible Half Hour speaker at Friends General Conference. She will be speaking on the topic of "Faithfulness in Uncertain Times: Ecclesiastes and the Wisdom of Limits". Sponsored by Ministry and Counsel.

Prepare for SWAP DAY on July 18!

The Care and Community committee is scheduling another Swap Day on Saturday, July 18th. We had one at the Meetinghouse prior to Covid and it is an excellent way to find new homes for books, appliances, tools, clothing, toys, housewares and even furniture. We did not just trade all of each other's goods, but it can be tempting. We hope for good weather so we can set up in the parking area, but we'll be inside if necessary. We expect that it will be 1-5pm, with an earlier set-up time to get tables ready.

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to Jason Keen on his graduation from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in Sports Management and Leadership!

Congratulations to Molly Branagan-Dee for completing her M.Ed. degree at Fitchburg State University!

Congratulations to Ella Downey on her graduation from Boston College and Gwyn Downey on her graduation from Bard College! (Granddaughters of Elin Calver and daughters of Ina Calver).



Ella and Gwyn a bit before their college graduation...

Photo courtesy of Marilyn Manzella

**FRAMINGHAM
FRIENDLY FUNDAY**

**JUNE 14 AFTER MEETING FOR
WORSHIP**

- **A POTLUCK LUNCH**
- **GAMES FOR ALL**
- **FINE FRIENDLY FELLOWSHIP**
- **AND FREE ICE CREAM!**

**All are Welcome! Bring your family
and a dish to share!**



**Framingham Friends Meeting
Minutes of the Meeting for Worship
with a Concern for Business
Fifth month, nineteenth day, 2026**

Friends at Framingham gathered in silent worship for a regularly scheduled hybrid Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business on Fifth month, seventeenth day, 2026. 24 members and attenders were present. Out of the silence, clerk Richard Lindo read the following quote which was considered in silence. “Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand. “Isaac Penington, 1667

1. The Clerk asked for new items for the agenda. There being none, Friends approved the agenda.

2. Treasurer’s Report

Chris Doehlert read the Treasurer’s report for third month, which was prepared by Lee Miller. All amounts rounded to the nearest dollar.

Third month ending operating account balance	\$27,338
Operations income	\$ 2,457
Operations expenses	\$(14,043)
Net increase (decrease)	\$(11,586)
Third month ending operating account balance	\$15,753
Restricted contributions	\$130
Non-operating income (expense)	\$(1,557)
Bequest Reserve	\$39,864
Capital Improvement Fund	\$4,030
Total Cash Assets	\$59,647

Our operating account balance is about \$9,530 greater than a year ago.
Ordinary contributions for the year to date are about \$14,732 greater than a year ago.

Chris noted two items under Meeting contributions:

- A \$5,000 contribution to New England Yearly Meeting was made one month earlier than usual.
- The funds for a contribution made to MetroWest Worker Center came from a donation made to FFM by Rachel Carey Harper.

Friends approved accepting the report.

3. Calendar Report

Renel Fredriksen presented the Calendar Coordinator's Report.

The following new requests were approved:

6/20, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Private Group, Susan Woodrow

Cancelled Request

5/24, 11:45 am – 12:45 pm, Peace, Justice and Earthcare Threshing Session

Upcoming Events not needing approval

5/29, 5:00 pm – 5/31, Young Friends Retreat, Colleen Williams/Xinef Afriam

6/6, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, Memorial Meeting for Elin Calver (extended)

6/13, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Woolman Hill Board (Morgan Wilson)

6/14, 11:45 am – 2:00 pm, Framingham Friendly Fun Day, Outreach Committee

7/6 – 8/21 (2 days/week) & 7/24 and 8/14, 10 am – 1:00 pm Use of field for summer camp, Academy Metrowest

7/13 – 16, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm and 7/17, 9:30 am – 6:00 pm, Boston Private Tutors Summer Camp (Stephanie Schmit)

7/18, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm, FFM Swap

First First Discussion Dates

Jun 7 - Jen Newman of Beacon Hill Friends will preview her Bible Half Hour talk at FGC (M&C)

4. Ad Hoc Energy Committee: Solar Energy Installation Proposal (continued)

Peter Manzella summarized the proposal made last month at Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business to install two arrays of solar panels on the land adjacent to the Meetinghouse. He shared a Q&A document addressing concerns raised at the previous meeting. He summarized the finances of this project: the total cost for installation would be \$74,710. If we act before the July 1 deadline, the cost will drop to \$52,297 based on a government rebate that is ending. We would receive 3 cents per kilowatt hour produced from the state, which is estimated to total \$17,300. The time to pay off this project is estimated at 4.9 years and is it predicted to save \$455,000 over the 30-year lifetime of the arrays. Concerns were raised and addressed about safety, fencing, vandalism and insurance needs. Friends approved the project to install solar panels on our grounds as outlined by Peter Manzella for the Ad Hoc Energy Committee.

We then considered how this project will be financed. Peter proposed that Meeting members be asked to contribute towards this project. A request will also be made to the NEYM Legacy Gift Fund. Any remaining funds needed could come from the Capital Improvement Fund or the Bequest Reserve. This approach is similar to what we used to convert our heating system to heat pumps. The kitchen remodel was financed by borrowing from the Bequest Fund and repaying it. We currently have sufficient funds in the Capital Improvements fund and elsewhere to be able to pay the 5% deposit if needed.

Friends approved asking the clerk of Finance Committee to draft a special appeal letter to solicit donations for the solar panel project that will be deposited into a named fund for the purpose of this project.

Friends approved authorizing the clerk, Richard Lindo, to sign the commitment letter for this project on behalf of the Meeting.

Appreciation was expressed for Peter Manzella and the Ad Hoc Energy committee for all of the work that went into this thoughtful and detailed proposal.

5. Ministry and Counsel: Transfer of membership

Melisa Foster reported that the committee is delighted to share that Betsy Bragg has transferred her membership from Friends Meeting at Cambridge to Framingham Friends Meeting. A welcoming committee has been appointed consisting of Trudy Schafer, Jay Booker, Chris Wolff, and Kit Potter. Welcome Betsy!

6. Nominating Committee: First Draft

Renel Fredriksen presented the first reading of the Nominating committee report. At this time, Building and Grounds committee is in need of a co-clerk and Peace, Justice and Earthcare could use additional members. There is also a vacancy for Rising Clerk. This report will be presented for approval at the June Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. The draft report will be shared in the May FFM Bulletin.

A concern was raised about the need to specify who will be carrying out specific tasks under the purview of the newly formed Operations Committee. The committee is charged with filling these roles, which does not require approval from the Meeting. During this transition period, Nominating Committee will provide a list of the roles and who will be filling them in the coming year at the next Meeting for Business, for information purposes only.

7. Finance Committee: First Draft

The Finance Committee report presented by Brian Clark will be amended to reflect the recent approval of the solar panel installation project and the resulting budget changes. The proposed budget (minus the needed revisions) will be shared in the June FFM Bulletin and the revised version will be shared later via FFM announce.

Friends approved accepting the Finance Committee annual report.

The Meeting closed with silent worship, purposing to meet again on Sixth month, twenty-first day, 2026.

Richard Lindo, presiding clerk

Melissa Foster, recording clerk

Nominating Committee Draft Report 20260-2027

Committees

A	B	C	D
	Until September 2027	Until September 2028	Until September 2029
Building & Grounds		Jim Houston Chuck Lidz, co-clerk Peter Manzella	John Branagan-Dee Bob Foster Pamela Strauss
Care & Community	Louise Bendel Mary Colby Jennifer Keen Ileana Matamoros	Lynn Lidz, co-clerk	Peter Colby Susan Woodrow, co-clerk
Energy (ad hoc)	Neil Blanchard, Jay Booker, Sam Clarke, Chris Doehlert, Bob Foster, Stacey Lancaster, Chuck Lidz, and Peter Manzella, clerk		
Finance	Judson DeCew Chris Doehlert Marilyn Manzella John Robinson	Chuck Lidz Lee Miller	Brian Clark, clerk
FDS	Danielle Manzella Amie Saulnier	Anne Anderson Heather Gray Stephanie Hebert Heather considering coordinating	Molly Branagan-Dee Lynn Lidz
Ministry & Counsel	Shirley Britton (3) Sam Clarke (6) Lee Miller (6) Trudy Schafer, clerk (6) Morgan Wilson (3)	Amie Saulnier (2)	Melissa Foster (4) Anne Jones (4) Megan Potterbusch (1)
Nominating	Renel Fredriksen (3) Chuck Lidz (3)		Dave Baxter (1) Stephen Nadel (1) John Robinson (1)
Operations		Milena Barrett Stephen Nadel Anna Romer	Melissa Foster Renel Fredriksen, clerk Sarah James John Robinson
Outreach	Melissa Foster Kit Potter	Lee Miller, clerk	Chuck Lidz
Peace, Justice, & Earthcare	Neil Blanchard, co-clerk Jane Moeller could use more people	Susan McAvoy, co-clerk	James Gray Jud DeCew Chris Wolff

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Sub-committees

	Name	Representative of
Enabling Fund Committee	Chris Doehlert	Finance
	Melissa Foster	M&C
		FDS
	Susan McAvoy	PJ&E
Response Committee	Anne Anderson	FDS
	Anne Jones	M&C
	Lynn Lidz	C&C
	Richard Lindo	Clerk
Sister Meeting Committee	Melissa Foster	Care of M&C
	Richard Lindo	
	Felice Lopez	
Working Group on Racism	Richard Lindo	Care of M&C
	Kit Potter	
	Morgan Wilson	

Meeting Appointees

		Year
Presiding Clerk	Richard Lindo	3
Rising Clerk		
Recording Clerk	Melissa Foster	1
Treasurer	Lee Miller	3
Assistant Treasurer	Chris Doehlert	5
Recorder	Marilyn Manzella	13
Assistant Recorder	Renel Fredriksen	4
Librarian	Pamela Strauss	13
Assistant Librarian	Trudy Schafer	13
Trustees	David Baxter	
	Melissa Foster	
	Stacey Lancaster	

FRAMINGHAM FRIENDS MEETING
September 2026 through August 2027
BUDGET EXPENSE Detail

	A	B	Y	AD	AH	AJ	AL	AM	AN	AP	AR	AS	AT
1			ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	Projected	Budget	\$	%
2	EXPENSE DETAIL		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	3/31/2025	FY 2025	FY 2026	3/31/2026	FY 2026	FY 2027	change	change
3													
4	MEETING HOUSE												
5	1.1	In lieu of Tax	300	600	600		600	600	0	600	600	0	0%
6	1.2	Insurance - Building	3,071	3,298	3,753	4,278	4,278	4,500	4,923	4,923	5,500	1,000	22%
7	1.	Meeting House Subtotal	3,371	3,898	4,353	4,278	4,878	5,100	4,923	5,523	6,100	1,000	20%
8													
9	PROPERTY OPERATIONS												
10	2.1	Electricity	1,579	3,217	10,016	5,587	8,429	8,000	6,048	8,700	9,000	1,000	13%
11	2.2	Fuel	3,482	4,277	0								
12	2.3	Maintenance											
13	2.31	Maintenance, Building	16,103	4,064	604	175	405	2,000	566	1,000	1,500	(500)	-25%
14	2.32	Maintenance, Grounds	2,065	5,585	4,400	3,115	4,095	5,500	4,730	9,500	7,000	1,500	27%
17	2.36	Maintenance, Inspections and Service contr	5,206	6,363	4,240	9,157	8,000	8,000	3,120	8,000	8,000	0	0%
21	2.5	Water	135	40	80	75	160	150	430	600	250	100	67%
22	2.6	Special Projects*			41,990	1,194	1,194						
23	2.	Property Operations Subtotal	23,364	22,389	63,453	14,386	23,440	23,650	14,894	27,800	25,750	2,100	9%
24													
25	MEETING ACTIVITIES												
26	3.1	Advertising			0	0		0					
27	3.2	Phone & Internet	1,131	1,524	1,415	825	1,416	1,400	828	1,400	1,500	100	7%
28	3.3	Dues, Subscriptions	24		0	0		0				0	
29	3.35	Outreach			0	86	154	500	65	300	500	0	0%
30	3.4	First Day School		200	0	0		1,000	36	100	1,000	0	0%
31	3.5	Library	60	28	0	23	23	150	21	50	150	0	0%
32	3.6	Office Expenses	1,912	1,149	1,271	1,041	1,433	1,500	1,290	1,800	2,000	500	33%
33	3.7	Care and Community			0	0		100			100	0	0%
34	3.8	Supplies, Fellowship		46	56	122	122	250			200	(50)	-20%
35	3.9	Peace, Justice and Earth Care	82		100	0	100	100			100	0	0%
36	3.b	Ministry and Counsel Expenses			0	207	207	100	100	100	100	0	
37	3.	Meeting Activities Subtotal	3,209	2,947	2,842	2,304	3,454	5,100	2,340	3,750	5,650	550	11%

Annual Budget 2026-2027

FRAMINGHAM FRIENDS MEETING
September 2026 through August 2027
BUDGET
INCOME and EXPENSE Summary

	A	B	Y	AD	AH	AJ	AL	AM	AN	AP	AQ	AR	AS
1			ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	Projected	Budget	\$	%
2			2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	3/31/2025	FY 2025	FY 2026	3/31/2026	FY 2026	FY 2027	change	change
3	INCOME												
4	OPERATING INCOME												
5	1.	Contributions	44,392	38,323	42,439	33,234	43,311	47,700	49,931	60,000	54,600	6,900	14%
6		In-kind contributions	31	1,226	214	165	478	0	823	823	400	400	
7	2	Building Usage	830	450	650	650	1,150	600	150	750	600	0	0%
8	3	Bequest transfer to operations	(9,289)	1,162	846	653	1,300	1,100	643	1,300	1100	0	0%
10	4a	Bequest withdrawal, special						0	0				
11	5.	Emergency Urgent Maintenance											
12		Total Operating Income	35,964	41,161	44,149	34,702	46,239	49,400	51,547	62,873	56,700	7,300	15%
13													
14	NON-OPERATING INCOME												
15		Restricted contributions	1,721	1,715	13,880	990	1,640	1,700	910	1,560	1,560	(140)	-8%
16		Bank and Pooled Funds interest	223	45			0	0	0				
17		Pooled Funds invest income/loss	685	3,366	1,344	1,009	2,072	1,000	1,061	1,061	1000	0	0%
19		Total Non-operating income	2,629	5,126	15,224	1,999	3,712	2,700	1,971	2,621	2,560	(140)	-5%
20		Total Income	38,593	46,287	59,373	36,701	49,951	52,100	53,518	65,494	59,260	7,160	14%
21													
22	EXPENSES												
23	1.	Meeting House	3,371	3,898	4,353	4,278	4,878	5,100	4,923	5,523	6,100	1,000	20%
24	2.	Property Operations	23,364	22,389	63,453	14,386	23,440	23,650	14,894	27,800	25,750	2,100	9%
25	3.	Meeting Activities	3,209	2,947	2,842	2,304	3,454	5,100	2,340	3,750	5,650	550	11%
26	4.	Social Testimonies	14,000	14,550	15,650	9,000	16,450	15,550	0	18,750	15,550	0	0%
28		Total Expenses	43,944	43,784	86,298	29,968	48,222	49,400	22,157	55,823	56,700	7,300	15%
29													
30		NET INCOME	(5,351)	2,503	(26,925)	6,733	1,729	0	29,390	7,050	0		

Annual Budget 2026-2027

FRAMINGHAM FRIENDS MEETING
September 2026 through August 2027

BUDGET EXPENSE Detail

	A	B	W	AB	AF	AH	AJ	AK	AN	AP	AQ	AR	AS
1			ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	BUDGE	ACTUAL	Projected	Budget			
2	EXPENSE DETAIL		2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	thru	T	thru	FY 2026	Candidate	\$	%	
3						3/31/2025	2024-25	2025-26	3/31/2026	FY 2027	change	change	
4	<u>SOCIAL TESTIMONIES</u>												
5	4.1	Enabling Fund			0	0		1,000	0		1000	0	0%
6	4.2	Corporate Giving	1,500	2,000	2,100	2,000	1,900	2,000	2,200	2200	2000	0	0%
7													
8	4.4	Interfaith Contributions											
9		Mass. Council of Churches		50	50	0	50	50	0	\$50	\$50	0	0%
10		Framingham Interfaith Community Ass	50	50	50	0	50	50	0	\$50	\$50	0	0%
12	4.5	Meeting Contributions											
13		New England Yearly Meeting	10,000	10,000	10,000	5,000	10,000	10,000	0	10,000	10,000	0	0%
14		Salem Quarterly Meeting											
15		Friends General Conference	250	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	0%
16		Friends United Meeting *											
17		N.E.Y.M. Equalization Fund	800	800	800	0	800	800	0	800	800	0	0%
18		Pendle Hill	50	50	50	0	50	50	0	50	50	0	0%
19	4.6	Quaker Action											
20		African Great Lakes Initiative *	250	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	0%
21		Amer. Friends Service Comm.	450	450	450	0	450	450	0	450	450	0	0%
22		Friends Committee on National Legisl.	400	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	0%
23		Friends World Comm. for Consultation	250	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	0%
24	4.7	Special Projects/donations			1,000	2,000	2,000	0	0	4,000			
25													
26	4.	Social Testimonies Subtotal	14,000	14,550	15,650	9,000	16,450	15,550	2,200	18,750	15,550	0	0%
27													
28	EXPENSE TOTAL		43,944	43,784	86,298	29,968	48,222	49,400	31,690	55,823	53,050	3,650	7%
29													
30		* African Great Lakes Initiative is in lieu of FUM contribution											

Annual Budget 2026-2027

