

# FFM Bulletin

Monthly Newsletter of the Framingham Friends Meeting

<https://ffmquakers.org/>

## September 2026 Calendar

|              |            |                                                               |
|--------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 2  | 9:30 a.m.  | Coffee, Anyone?                                               |
| September 5  | 1:00 p.m.  | Memorial Meeting for Shirley Britton                          |
| September 6  | 10:00 a.m. | Meeting for Worship                                           |
|              | 11:45 a.m. | First First Discussion – Open                                 |
| September 9  | 9:30 a.m.  | Coffee, Anyone?                                               |
| September 11 | 7:30 p.m.  | Latticework                                                   |
| September 13 | 10:00 a.m. | Meeting for Worship and First Day School*                     |
|              | 11:45 a.m. | Committee Meetings                                            |
| September 16 | 9:30 a.m.  | Coffee, Anyone?                                               |
| September 17 | 3:00 p.m.  | Chestnut Farms CSA Pick up                                    |
| September 20 | 10:00 a.m. | Meeting for Worship and First Day School*                     |
|              | 11:45 a.m. | Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business               |
|              |            | Annual Report – First Day School; Peace Justice and Earthcare |
| September 23 | 9:30 a.m.  | Coffee, Anyone?                                               |
| September 25 | 7:30 p.m.  | Latticework                                                   |
| September 27 | 10:00 a.m. | Meeting for Worship and First Day School*                     |
| September 28 | 7:30 p.m.  | Spiritual Deepening Group                                     |
| September 30 | 9:30 a.m.  | Coffee, Anyone?                                               |

(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 Anne Anderson for current information.*

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

|                   |                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 4-6     | <a href="#"><u>The Goodness Retreat with John Calvi</u></a> , Pendle Hill, in person                                              |
| September 8       | <a href="#"><u>Monthly Check-In for Friends Serving Their Local Meetings</u></a> , Zoom                                           |
| September 10      | <a href="#"><u>End of Life Drop-In Reflection Group</u></a> , Zoom                                                                |
| September 14      | <a href="#"><u>Love Crosses Borders</u></a> , Stephen G. Carey Memorial lecture, Zoom                                             |
| September 15      | <a href="#"><u>Protect, Resist, and Build with AFSC</u></a> , Zoom                                                                |
| September 17 - 19 | <a href="#"><u>Breathing the Beloved</u></a> , Zoom                                                                               |
| September 21      | <a href="#"><u>Child Safety in Quaker Meetings Workshop</u></a> , Zoom                                                            |
| September 26      | <a href="#"><u>Staying Grounded and Nonviolent in Frightening Times with Eileen Flanagan</u></a> , in person at Wellesley Meeting |

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“You may suffer from being odd, but it’s your one and only way to God.  
There’s that of odd in everyone I meet.” Doug Gwynn 2014

*Please note the following volunteer assignments for September and October:*

| Date     | Opener         | Greeters      | Fellowship                            | Hybrid Host |
|----------|----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 9/6/26   | Neil Blanchard | Adam Kohrman  | Marilyn, Peter, Danielle Manzella     | Chuck L.    |
| 9/13/26  | Corbit Larson  | Stephen Nadel | Chuck and Lynn Lidz                   | Neil B.     |
| 9/20/26  | Manzellas      | Chuck Lidz    | Lucia Chen-Lowe and Sam Lowe          | Peter M.    |
| 9/27/26  | Louise Bendel  | Dave Baxter   | Lia Altshuler and Jim Houston         | JR          |
| 10/4/26  | Neil Blanchard | Louise Bendel | Molly and John Branagan-Dee           | Chuck L.    |
| 10/11/26 | Corbit Larson  | Kit Potter    | Kristin and Morgan Wilson             | Neil B.     |
| 10/18/26 | Manzellas      | Lee Miller    | Trudy Schafer and Adam Kohrman        | Peter M.    |
| 10/25/26 | Louise Bendel  | Adam Kohrman  | Gerald Kimber White and Stephen Nadel | JR          |

*Thank You!*

### Fellowship

Please make note of the date for which you’ve been asked to provide fellowship. 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 is BACK!

First Day School resumes on September 13 with another year of fun and learning. You are invited to help with the planning! Are there themes that draw you? Do you have a skill or objects-with-a-story you could share with the children? Suggestions and volunteers are welcome!!! Many thanks to the members of our First Day School Committee - Anne Anderson (co-coordinator), Heather Gray (co-coordinator), Stephanie Hebert, Danielle Manzella, Amie Saulnier, Molly Branagan-Dee, and Lynn Lidz and to all the families who share their children with our Meeting! Please let Anne or Heather know if you have questions or comments.

### 2026-2027 Directories ready for pickup

Please pick up your labeled directory and those for your family members to save the expense of mailing them. If you are not on the directory list and would like to be, speak to Renel Fredriksen or Marilyn Manzella. If you would like a pdf copy for your personal use, let Marilyn know. If you find any errors or corrections, please share them as well. Some could be printed in a future bulletin.

## Remembering Our Friend, Shirley Britton

On September 5 at 1:00 p.m., there will be a Memorial Meeting for beloved F/friend, Shirley Britton. We will honor Shirley's roots in both Quakerism and Sufism as we celebrate her life. All are welcome to attend and are invited to bring finger foods for the fellowship and/or flowers from your backyard.

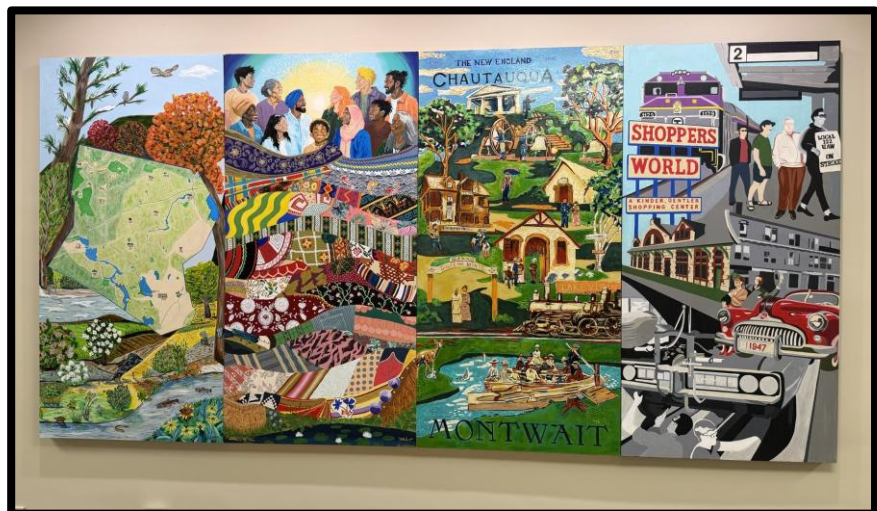
## Congratulations!



Trudy Schafer has welcomed her 8th grandchild. Tatum Hoffmeister arrived on August 13th weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces. He needs a little time before coming home and is eagerly awaited by all.

## Framingham Celebration Mural

Molly Branagan-Dee was one of four artists selected to create Framingham's 325th Anniversary Mural. Her panel focused on Transportation and Industry and was unveiled at the Memorial Building where the mural will remain on permanent display outside the mayor's office. (Photos by John Branagan-Dee)



## Cuentos Sin Fronteras

A group of writers affiliated with MetroWest Worker Center/Casa has launched a new blog at this link: <https://cuentos-sin-fronteras.org/> According to the blog description, “We are a collective of writers, reporters and editors working in solidarity with MetroWest Boston’s vibrant immigrant communities to lift up the untold stories and amplify the unheard voices of our immigrant friends and neighbors – especially the stories and voices of those unjustly targeted by current U.S. immigration enforcement in our neighborhoods. We aim to build lasting, resilient solidarity among MetroWest’s immigrant communities and allies committed to immigrant justice in MetroWest.” Our own Richard Lindo is among the authors.

## FFM Solar Project Underway!

The Meeting’s efforts to be energy independent are taking a big stride this summer, as our array of solar panels are installed and will soon be generating electricity!



**To Join Worship via Zoom:**  
**Request the link to join**  
**Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**  
**at [worshipzoomffm@gmail.com](mailto:worshipzoomffm@gmail.com)**

I wonder why  
the Prophet must come down  
from a mountain peak in the sky  
holding stone-carved commandments?  
Why can't She  
meander like a stream  
out of the valley  
with ripe berries in her hand?  
I wonder why  
we build the story of our dream  
on pillar, steeple,  
palace and penthouse.  
Why not waken to the smell  
of hay grass after rain,  
run our gaze along the gentle curve  
of wine-gold hills and scarlet  
poppies clustered at a desert spring?  
Why not come home to silence  
like evening mist,  
hearts pierced by a bell  
of red-winged blackbird?

I wonder why  
nations won't drop their borders  
like a veil,  
gather naked in the fire-lit circle  
of our village shaman, the Sun,  
share electric juices  
of the ancient forest,  
roil brown hips in harvest dances,  
entangling all our chromosomes  
in the body of a single  
rainbow serpent.  
I wonder why  
all our prayers are not  
one sound,  
the sound of this breath  
moving in and out,  
whispering,  
'Enough, enough, enough...'  
- Fred LaMotte -

