

Friends Meeting of Washington

Head of Meeting Announcements

**(For person sitting Head of Meeting to read aloud or summarize in their own words.
Remember the key is to be a welcoming presence.)**

At the beginning of Meeting for Worship

Spirit-led listening is the most important task of everyone attending this Meeting. We ask that you join us in listening deeply, both in the silence and when someone is led by the Spirit to provide vocal ministry. Please help in welcoming our shared silence by turning off your mobile phone and any other electronic device that may intrude upon the silence.

We welcome worshipers of all ages, including babies, although child care is provided for parents who seek a respite. It is the custom in our meeting for children to worship with us for the last 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship.

At the end of Meeting for Worship

My name is [_____] and I welcome you this morning to the Friends Meeting of Washington. At this time, it is our custom to ask the children or their teachers to share with us what they learned or did during First Day School today. (Please pause here momentarily for a child or teacher to share with the Meeting, then thank them for sharing. If no announcement is provided, proceed to the next item).

I am a member of _____ (committee or task force) sitting Head of Meeting this week. Our committee/task force is (add your own description of what you do) and we welcome others interested in joining us or asking about our work.

We hope our visitors will sign the guest book on the table so we can get to know you better. If you have a personal concern or a question about the Religious Society of Friends, or have an interest in becoming more involved in the committees and programs of the Meeting, I hope you will see me or someone seated here on the facing bench. Available to you as well are a few written materials you may find helpful. They are located near the guest book and in the literature rack downstairs by the bathrooms.

After announcements everyone is invited to join the community in the Assembly Room downstairs for light refreshments and fellowship.

We trust in the generosity of Friends, members, attenders, and visitors alike to support the work of the Meeting. Contributions are essential for our programs and staffing. There are three ways to donate. First, you could put money in the box. Second, you could put money in the envelopes scattered around the benches and mail the donation to FMW. Third, you could click on to our website – Quakersdc.org. After you enter the site you will notice the word "donate" in the upper left corner. You can then contribute through the site—either a one-time donation, or a monthly contribution. Thank you.

We hope that our visitors will rise and introduce themselves if they wish. Please speak as loudly as you can and let us know where you are from. After introductions, we hope you will join us downstairs for refreshments so we can get to know you better.

After Visitors Introduce Themselves

Many of today's announcements are included in the printed bulletins available beside the front doors of the Meeting Room. These bulletins provide excellent information about the life of the Meeting.

Does anyone have any announcements of their own that they would like to share? (Pause here and look for raised hands, calling on each in their turn).

If no one volunteers, first ask if there is anyone present from Young Adult Friends. Young Adult Friends rise to make a weekly announcement of their own.

Other Meeting announcements are likely to follow. As soon as they conclude, ask the Meeting whether attenders have a joy or a concern to share.

Conclude the rise of meeting by inviting everyone, once more, to join for fellowship in the downstairs assembly room.