

INTERMOUNTAIN YEARLY MEETING
41st Annual Gathering
June 11-18, 2017
Ghost Ranch
Abiquiu, New Mexico

CALL TO INTERMOUNTAIN YEARLY MEETING
February 10, 2017

Friends,

You are warmly invited to gather again at Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu, New Mexico for our annual gathering. Early Days of fellowship and seminars will begin Sunday afternoon, June 11 and run through Wednesday morning, June 14. The Annual Sessions will begin on Wednesday evening June 14 run through meeting for worship on Sunday morning, June 18. I hope you can come and enjoy fellowship, worship, and business in the manner of Friends.

Our theme this year is, “About Money: A Call to Integrity, Community, and Stewardship.”

We understand that it is hard to talk about money. On a personal level, our feelings of fear, guilt, defensiveness, secrecy, resentment, denial, worry, and/or pain can be disabling. On a societal level, few of us feel that we have the training to understand and engage with our economic system. Yet questions about money, ranging from personal practices to monthly and yearly meeting finance decisions to what our economy is for, have powerfully spiritual roots.

Our guest speaker, Pamela Haines, offers us queries to consider. How do our traditional testimonies – Integrity, Simplicity, Equality, Sustainability/Community, Peace – guide us in regard to:

- stewarding our personal money and other resources?
- aligning our monthly and yearly meeting budgets and budgeting processes with our professed Quaker values?
- providing the means for the spiritual development of our families and young people to be nurtured, and for all Friends to fully participate in our activities?
- living in a corporation-dominated global capitalist growth economy that profits from war, exploitation, and environmental destruction?
- creating and participating in alternative life-sustaining economies as we steward Earth’s finite resources?

Our present money system can only function in a growing economy, yet our ever-growing economy is on a collision course with the realities of a finite planet, and is systematically moving wealth from borrowers to lenders, from those with less to those with more. How did we get to the point where our security, both individual and institutional, depends on being lenders? How can we move forward with integrity toward a right relationship with finance?

We seek spiritual guidance for living on this Earth and making our financial decisions in the light of honesty, gratitude, compassion, grace, community, and right relationship. These queries might serve as a focus for discussion for everyone preparing for attending the annual gathering and for those who will not be in attendance, as well.

The **Junior and Senior Yearly Meetings** have planned group activities that will deepen their Quaker experience. We can all look forward to intergenerational activities throughout the annual sessions. The SYFs look forward to leading our Intergenerational Worship Sharing, an activity they put a great deal of effort into each year. They ask that you please be sure to attend Intergenerational Worship Sharing if you sign up for these the early afternoon sessions.

Arts Program: Rob Pierson, Charlie Rawson and Caroline Rackley are acting as Arts Team core coordinators and have created a Google group IMYMQuakerArts <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/imymquakerarts> for the 2017 IMYM annual gathering. Feel free to contact Rob Pierson (robpierson0 at gmail.com) or Charles Rawson (mr.charlie.arts at gmail.com).

Holding our Annual Gathering in the Light in hopes you will come for any or all of the week,

Molly Wingate

Molly Wingate, Clerk
Intermountain Yearly Meeting

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR IMYM 2017: PAMELA HAINES

Our 2017 Keynote speaker, Pamela Haines, is a long-time resident of Philadelphia, managing with her husband an extended family household in a diverse neighborhood of the city. She is active in peace, justice and environmental work in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends, in the Friends Economic Integrity Project and in a national interfaith group, Faith, Ecology, Economy, Transformation. She has led a variety of workshops on faith, economics and investment, and she is co-author of a new book, *Toward a Right Relationship with Finance; Interest, Debt, Growth and Security* (available online at www.quakerinstitute.org). Pamela's paid work includes building community, leadership development and organizing for policy change among child-care workers; teaching peer counseling; and leading family play groups. She is on the board of the Mill Creek Urban Farm in West Philadelphia and is active with the Philadelphia Orchard Project and her community garden. She enjoys deep personal connections in Poland and Nicaragua and has helped develop community building and trauma healing work in Uganda and Indonesia. She is passionate about quilting and repair of all kinds, and blogs at www.pamelalivinginthisworld.blogspot.com.