



# PHOENIX QUAKER MEETING NEWSLETTER

(Noticias de la reunión de los Amigos de Phoenix)

## MAY 2026

MAY 2026		
Sunday, May 3	9:00 – 10:00am	Faith & Practice Discussion
	10:00 – 11:00am	Meeting for Worship
	10:00 – 11:00am	Childcare Ages 0-5
	11:00am	Children's Easter Egg Hunt
	1:30 - 4:30pm	Book Talk on "the Six Who Stopped the Steal" with author Nancy Marshall
Sunday, May 10	9:00 – 10:00am	Peace & Social Concerns Meeting
	10:00 – 11:00am	Meeting for Worship
	10:00 – 11:00am	Childcare Ages 0-5
	11:30am	Potluck Lunch/Fellowship
Sunday, May 17	9:00 – 10:00am	Experiment with Light
	10:00 – 11:00am	Meeting for Worship
	10:00 – 11:00am	First Day School (Sunday School)
	10:00 – 11:00am	Childcare Ages 0-5
	11:30am	Business Meeting (MFWFB)
Sunday, May 24	9:00 – 10:00am	Book Club: "Calling In" by Loretta J Ross
	10:00 – 11:00am	Meeting for Worship
	10:00 – 11:00am	Childcare Ages 0-5
Sunday, May 31	9:00 – 10:00am	5th Sunday Sing
	10:00 – 11:00am	Meeting for Worship
	10:00 – 11:00am	Childcare Ages 0-5

### FIND US ONLINE



[PhoenixQuakers.org](http://PhoenixQuakers.org)

Follow us on Facebook: [@PhoenixQuakerMeeting](https://www.facebook.com/PhoenixQuakerMeeting)

(602) 767-3060 | [info@phoenixquakers.org](mailto:info@phoenixquakers.org)



## **NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Welcome to our new member, Jay McAuliffe!
- Mike Gray Memorial Meeting
- *You are Invited!* Nancy Marshall will speak about her book: *Six Who Stopped the Steal*
- The Mother by Khalil Gibran
- First Day School & Childcare
- Plastic Bottle Caps
- News Highlight
- Call to Action!



## **Welcome to our newest member of Phoenix Quaker Meeting, Jay McAuliffe!**

Here's why Jay decided to join the Phoenix Quaker Meeting:

“Quakers in general have always appealed to me. I've long held the belief that God is found in other people, so the Quaker idea that the light of God is within all people matched up perfectly. Quaker beliefs and values are, in general, beliefs and values I already had.

As a queer and trans person, it can be a struggle to find a welcoming church or spiritual community. Phoenix Quaker Meeting has continually demonstrated that we have a space where I can be welcomed as myself.

As I wrote at the end of my letter requesting membership, 'for someone who talks so much, I'm surprised to find it difficult to put into words how grateful I am for this

community.' This remains true; I greatly appreciate and value everything we all bring to the life of this Meeting, and I'm honored to now call myself a member.”

## **MIKE GRAY MEMORIAL MEETING**

On Saturday, April 4, at 2 pm Arizona time, Phoenix Meeting hosted a memorial service for Mike Gray. Although he only became a regular attender in Phoenix over the past several years, Mike has had a long association with Friends in the IMYM community--first, with the IMYM-AFSC Joint Service Project for over a decade, in which Mike led service projects for our youth in Mexico and South Dakota and the Hopi and Navajo nations, and then, until his last days, personal service to those same marginalized and indigenous communities. This included helping Seri women come to Arizona and California to market their high-quality baskets and carvings. Some of the youth from Phoenix Meeting went on service projects with Mike.

The service was attended by people from Arizona, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, California, and (by zoom) beyond. A table was filled with memorabilia from these communities including Seri baskets

and ironwood carvings, shell necklaces, beadwork from the Lakota, and many photos. Many spoke of the love they felt from Mike, and his ability to be present with them. At the end of the service Tom Kowal, who had walked the Migrant Trail many times with Mike, led us all in singing one of Mike's favorite songs, "Somos el Barco."



*Summary & Photos*

*Submitted by Nancy Marshall.*

**You are invited**

**to**

**A Presentation and Community Conversation on  
the true story of the 2020 elections here in Maricopa County**

***SIX WHO STOPPED THE STEAL***

**Nancy Hicks Marshall, author of *STEAL*,  
will talk about Election Integrity  
and facilitate a conversation on what it means to have integrity  
and how to consider cognitive dissonance in conversations  
about our electoral politics.**

**Sunday, May 3, 2026**

**2:00-4:00 PM**

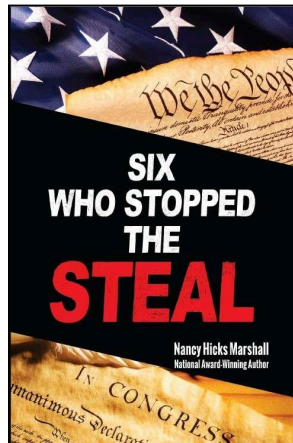
**Phoenix Quaker Meeting,  
1702 East Glendale Avenue, Phoenix.**

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**The “Six” have been invited, and a member of the Maricopa County Elections Department. With luck,  
one of them will be present to provide a better understanding of what actually goes on and what we  
should look out for in the 2026 midterm elections.**

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**Co-Sponsored by  
Phoenix Quaker Meeting and Fiddler’s Dream Coffeehouse**



## THE MOTHER



The most beautiful word on the lips of mankind is the word “Mother,” and the most beautiful call is the call of “My mother.” It is a word full of hope and love, a sweet and kind word coming from the depths of the heart. The mother is everything – she is our consolation in sorrow, our hope in misery, and our strength in weakness. She is the source of love, mercy, sympathy, and forgiveness....

Everything in nature bespeaks the mother. The sun is the mother of earth and gives it its nourishment of heart; it never leaves the universe at night until it has put the earth to sleep to the song of the sea and the hymn of birds and brooks. And this earth is the mother of trees and flowers. It produces them, nurses them, and weans them. The trees and flowers become kind mothers of their great fruits and seeds. And the mother, the prototype of all existence, is the eternal spirit, full of beauty and love.

*~Khalil Gibran*

***Happy Mother’s Day, May 10, 2026! We celebrate all forms of Motherhood.***

## FIRST DAY SCHOOL & CHILDCARE



The children have been busy, whether they have been on an Egg Hunt or otherwise gathering for learning and play.

The last gathering of this school year for the First Day School will be May 17th, unless otherwise notified.

Childcare will be available through May 31, 2026.

Both First Day School and Childcare will be on summer break from June through August. Both will resume in September. Jackson plans to return for the 2026-2027 school year. Reese will be stepping in as the leader of the Childcare and Nancy and Candace will continue to lead the First Day School.

***A BIG Thank You to all of the teachers, volunteers, and coordinators for this school year. A lot of work and thought goes into these volunteer jobs, and we appreciate you!***

**Childcare Adult Volunteer Schedule for May, 2026:**

**May 3 - Candace W.**

**May 10 - Nancy M.**

**May 17 - Kari W.**

**May 24 - Jay M.**

**May 31 - Nancy M.**





## **PLASTIC BOTTLE CAPS: PLEASE BRING THEM IN!**

The campaign for plastic bottle caps continues:

Friends Pam Garcia and Julie Heynssens of Flagstaff Meeting bring a bag of caps to Phoenix while lunching at casa Marshall. Fellowship and service combined!

*(submitted by Nancy Marshall)*

## **NEWS HIGHLIGHT:**

### **Federal Government to Automatically Collect Draft-Age Men's Date, Who Knew?**

By ARNIE ALPERT | April 21, 2026

"Young men and those who care about them would do well to heed a recent change in the law governing the Selective Service System (SSS), the federal agency which would administer a military draft."

This news is from an independent New Hampshire newsletter. We must face the possibility of an erratic commander in chief ordering troops anywhere for aggressive illegal reasons. The PSCC is looking into more information so that we can help young men who may ask about Conscientious Objector status or about the morality and possibility of going to war.

Here's a brand new article from long-time AFSC alum Arnie Alpert on the topic:

<https://indepthnh.org/2026/04/22/automated-military-draft-not-imminent-or-is-it/>

*[from NHM, with thanks to AFSC Western newsletter writer Jon Krig]*

*(submitted by Nancy Marshall)*

## **CALL TO ACTION:**

### **Beautiful but Deadly**

This cute little plant is called Stinknet (aka Global Chammomile) for a reason. While it does have pretty little yellow balls of flower, it does not smell great. Worse than that, it is a predatory invasive plant (from South Africa) that sucks up a lot of water, thus competing with native plants and even regular crops, making it difficult for anything nearby to survive.



When you see Stinknet, pull it out by the roots, bag it and throw it in the trash. You'll be helping native plants in a water-scarce environment. Thanks!

*(submitted by Nancy Marshall)*

### **On Conscientious Objection**

Friends are urged to refresh our memories on how we can help those, especially young men, who may be automatically registered for selective service. Peace & Social Concerns is seeking information so that we can have a pamphlet to hand to anyone who has questions. Now, more than ever, conscientious objection to wars, especially those initiated by our government, will become an important issue – for Friends and others. If you have information, share it with Chris Gehlker or Nancy Marshall.

*(submitted by Nancy Marshall)*

### **Ukrainian Quaker Project**

Anne Hainesworth, of Cape May Quaker Meeting, in New Jersey, visited Phoenix Meeting last year. She invited Friends here in Phoenix to send items for children in Ukraine to her, and she would get them to Ukraine. With the war in Ukraine now entering its fifth year, the needs of the children are increasingly urgent. Children have been displaced. They have lost loved ones. Their schooling has been disrupted. The First Lady of



Ukraine, Olena Zelenska, has called for every day to be a “Children’s Day”.

Our response is to provide these children with warm clothing: handmade (knitted, crocheted, sewn) or purchased. Gently used items are also welcome. Winters in Ukraine are very cold. Electricity and heat are sparse. Summers are short and mild.

Also, we want to provide them with emotional support with arts and crafts projects, games and toys. Small stuffed animals (handmade or purchased) are a very welcome source of comfort.

We collaborate with Cape May Shelters Lutsk to ship our items to Ukraine. You can ship any of these items to: Anne Hainsworth, 111 Simpson Lane, West Cape May, NJ 08204.

A list of suggested items is provided. Please feel free to use your imagination when thinking about the way you want to help!

*Examples of items needed for infants to 18 years of age; they can be knitted, sewn, quilted, purchased new, donated or any combination!*

**CLOTHING:** Onesies, Underwear, Thermal Underwear, T Shirts, Socks, Leggings, Shirts, Dresses, Pants, Shoes/sneakers (new only please)

**OUTERWEAR:** Sweaters, Hats, Gloves, Coats, Boots

**BLANKETS** (all sizes)

**TOYS:** Puzzles, Legos, Small stuffed animals (handmade or purchased), Checkers, Chess sets

**ARTS and CRAFTS:** Crayons, Coloring Paper, Coloring Books, Watercolors for painting, Beading Kits, Paint by number kits, Play dough

*Alternatively, Vance Marshall has been working with a local Ukrainian group since 2024.*

*If you would like to donate money to the group, contact Vance.*

*(submitted by Nancy Marshall)*

## **Food Donations Wanted**

Phoenix Quaker Meeting is currently accepting non-perishable food donations, as well as pet food, for the Paradise Valley Food bank. You may bring them into the Meeting House and look for a bin in the main room to put the items in. They will be delivered directly to the food bank. If you are not able to bring donations to the Meeting House, please consider finding a food bank close to home to take your donations to. Thank you, every donation counts!

## Submissions for This Newsletter!

Do you write poetry, or create artwork? Would you like to share it with the community? Did you come across an interesting article and wonder if others at the Quaker Meeting would enjoy it? If so, send it along to Kari at [acumoxamama@gmail.com](mailto:acumoxamama@gmail.com) to be added to the next newsletter!

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

Here are the links to *QuakerSpeak* that were included in February's Saturday reminder emails:

- Margaret Fell: The Mother of Quakerism's Powerful Ministry  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJyGjaqls4s>
- Can a Quaker Murder You?  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hliOtFkHvIA>



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