

BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER invites you to:



Come As You Are:
Reading the Bible with Friends
with Stephen Matchett
January 25 - 27, 2019

"[W]e cannot . . . make [Bible] authority to depend upon any virtue or power that is in the writings themselves; but we desire to ascribe all to that Spirit from which they proceeded."

~Robert Barclay, Apology for the True Christian Divinity

Learn why the Bible has been and is so important to Friends; how the Quaker conception of the place of Scripture in our devotional life differs from what some may think of as the "required" Christian view.

Experience the spiritual synergy of group Bible reading, that moment when the text opens up and reveals a fresh illumination of the Spirit. Each of us will bring a unique perspective to whatever passages we choose to read, and together there can emerge something new, stirring, surprising and even inspired, whether from an ambiguous parable of Jesus, a troubling tale or challenging admonition from the prophets, or a beloved chestnut you thought you knew backwards and forwards. Expect the unexpected.

We will spend time in worship; Bible reading and reflection in large and small groups; and many opportunities to learn from one another and from the Spirit that animates the texts. We are hoping for a whole range of people: those new to Friends, curious about Quaker views on the Bible; people looking for a "way in" to reading the Bible, or who struggle with their relationship to Scripture; people with substantial acquaintance and love for the Bible, who relish engaging with others over the texts in an open and non-didactic framework; in short, anyone who seeks an open encounter with the Bible in a setting that encourages listening for what the Spirit has to say to us through its words today. Bring a Bible if you have one, in any translation; pen and paper for journaling or other writing; and an open spirit.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM LEADER:

Stephen Matchett, a member of San Francisco Monthly Meeting, is a Quaker by birth and by conviction. Once an appellate criminal defense lawyer, he now spends much of his time facilitating conflict resolution workshops in prisons and in the community with the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). Over the years he has had an active traveling ministry among unprogrammed Friends, offering presentations on early Quaker writings and on Friends' beliefs, and following a leading to support and encourage contemporary Quakers' (re)acquaintance and engagement with the Bible. He regularly convenes Bible study at College Park Quarterly and Pacific Yearly Meetings, and led a Bible workshop at Friends General Conference's summer gathering in 2013. This is his third time presenting this activity at Quaker Center.



Registration for: *Come As You Are to the Bible* **Name(s):** _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Medical or ethical dietary restrictions: _____

Accommodation or mobility concerns: _____

I/we plan to pay \$ _____/person on the \$160 - \$240/person sliding scale. (More below)

----- Detach Here and Return or Register Online at www.quakercenter.org-----

Check-in is from 4 PM to 6 PM. Dinner is served at 6 PM and the first program session will begin at 7:30pm. You can expect to be depart by 12:30 PM on Sunday after breakfast, final clean-up, the closing session and worship. We no longer require a deposit with your registration. We trust that you will "let your yay be yay" and you'll participate in this program if you register. If you absolutely must cancel, please do so at least two days in advance. Otherwise we may request \$50 payment for the food the cook has already purchased for you.

✓ **A NOTE ABOUT OUR SLIDING SCALE:**

✓ **Comprehensive rate:** The top of our scale covers all our costs. (**\$240/person**).

✓ **Standard rate:** We hope most people will pay at least this amount. (**\$200/person**)

✓ **Special reduced rate:** The bottom to our scale (**\$160/person**).

No one will be refused from our programs due to lack of funds. Please call or email us for financial aid.

✓ **CHILDCARE:** Quaker Center will offer at no charge *if the Directors receive at least two weeks advance notice*. We request \$25 to 50 per child over the age of 3 to cover the cost of meals.

➤ **ACCOMMODATIONS, THINGS TO BRING, AND FOOD:** Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard Lodge in semi-private rooms. **Bring a sleeping bag or sheets, pillowcase, towel, and toiletries.** Please do not wear or bring strongly scented toiletries. All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. We ask all participants to take turns working together on meal prep, dish crew, and cleaning at the end of the program. **Please tell us if you must leave early** so that we can make sure you get signed up for a final clean up task that can be done early.

➤ **PLEASE DO NOT BRING PETS.** Only service dogs trained to perform a specific task to palliate the disability of the dog's handler may accompany guests. **If you need to bring your service animal, you must call us in advance.**

➤ **TRANSPORTATION:** For directions, please see our website, www.quakercenter.org/directions/. If you are arriving by bus, let us know at least a day in advance if you need a shuttle and we will pick you up from the Main Street stop in Ben Lomond. **If you need to change your pick-up time., call the Quaker Center cell phone: 831-212-2631.**

DRIVING DISTANCES FROM:

- ◆ Los Angeles: 365 miles, 6.5 hours
- ◆ Sacramento: 150 miles, 2 hours, 45 minutes
- ◆ San Francisco: 90 miles, 2 hrs and 15 minutes
- ◆ San Jose Intl Airport: 35 miles, 50 minutes
- ◆ Santa Cruz, 12 miles, 25 minutes

To: Quaker Center at 1000 Hubbard Gulch Road

PUBLIC TRANSIT:

- ◆ **Amtrak:** Take the train to the San Jose Diridon Station
- ◆ **From the San Jose Diridon Station:** Take the 17 Express bus to the Cavallaro Transit Station in Scotts Valley.
- ◆ **From the Scotts Valley or Santa Cruz:** Take the 35 or 35A bus to Ben Lomond.
- ◆ **In Ben Lomond:** Get off at Highway 9 and Main Street and walk or call for a ride.

QUAKER CENTER

P.O. Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005

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