

# BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER invites you to a double header!



## Mystics in the Midst: two courses on nurturing Quaker Community with *Ben Pink Dandelion* Nov. 15-17, & Nov. 18-21, 2019

*"... the kingdom of heaven did gather us and catch us all, as in a net; and his heavenly power at one time drew many hundreds to land [from the sea of the world's nations], that we came to know a place to stand in, and in what to wait in, ..."*  
~ Edward Burroughs 1634-1663

*These courses are linked but are also available separately.*

### **Friday, November 15 - Sunday, November 17 "In the world but not of it": Quaker Spiritual Community over Time**

This course looks at the changing relationship between Quakers and wider culture over three and a half centuries and the ways in which Friends have tried to nurture authentic spirituality as 'mystics in the midst.'

As Friends, we have never quite fitted into wider society, nor have we totally wanted to. Yet that relationship has been one of constant change as our spiritual and political confidence has itself been in flux. This course looks at the theological basis of separation and of standing apart as well as the historical shifts that have allowed a greater sense of finding allies in the non-Quaker world. Throughout, we use this historical overview to reflect on our current condition, our preferences and prejudices as we try to continue to live in that tradition of living our lives as 'mystics in the midst'.

### **Monday, Nov. 18 – Wednesday, Nov. 20 Building the Blessed Community: Nurturing Authentic Quaker Spirituality**

How do we make our Meetings vibrant and Spirit-led when we are all so busy, and beset by the worries of the world? How do we realize our gifts in a secular world?

Quakerism is facing many challenges, not least the increasing secularisation of wider society, individualism and the growing disinclination to join organisations, and our own internal hesitations about how to present the Quaker tradition to newcomers and enquirers. The world seems to be heading away from our values and the demands of daily life combined with Quaker commitments can feel overwhelming. This course will try and put our collective spiritual quest in perspective and offer some suggestions for lightening our load and nurturing the spiritual life within our Quaker communities.

Both courses will be centered around talks but with some small group sharing. Worship will frame our time together. No prior knowledge or experience is required and participants need only to bring their curiosity.

### **ABOUT THE PROGRAM FACILITATOR:**

*Ben Pink Dandelion is a member of Pendle Hill Area Meeting, part of Britain Yearly Meeting. He has worked at Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre since 1992 and currently directs their postgraduate program. He has written and edited a number of devotional and academic books on the Quaker way and the history, theology and sociology of Quakerism. He gave the 2014 Swarthmore Lecture Open for Transformation: being Quaker and also wrote the companion volumes celebrating the Quaker Way and Living the Quaker Way. This is his first visit to Ben Lomond.*



Registration for: ***Mystics in the Midst*** Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical or ethical dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Accommodation or mobility concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate dates: \_\_\_\_ Nov. 15 -17, 2019 and/or \_\_\_\_ Nov. 18 - 21, 2019

*I/we plan to pay \$ \_\_\_\_/person on the \$160 - \$240 sliding scale for one program.*

*I/we plan to pay \$ \_\_\_\_/person on the \$420 - \$560 sliding scale for both programs*

***Accommodations and meals will be provide for all 5 days for those registered for both programs.***

*No one will be refused from our programs due to lack of funds.*

----- Detach Here and Return or Register Online at [www.quakercenter.org](http://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.

- ◆ **CHILDCARE:** Quaker Center will offer at no charge *if the Directors receive at least two weeks advance notice.* We request payment of \$20 per child, per day 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.**
- ◆ **TRANSPORTATON:** For directions, please see our website, [www.quakercenter.org/directions/](http://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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