

## END OF LIFE ASSISTANCE AND MEMORIAL MEETINGS AT BETHESDA FRIENDS MEETING

The Bethesda Friends community seeks to comfort and assist those nearing the end of life as well as the bereaved. BFM resources are available from the following:

**Pastoral Care Committee:** Provides spiritual and practical support to individuals with terminal illness and to those who have lost loved ones. Please use our [contact form](#).

**Ministry and Worship Committee:** Works with grieving families to schedule and plan Memorial Meetings at BFM and for guidance on preparing a memorial minute--an appreciation of the life of the departed Friend. Please use our [contact form](#).

**BFM Widowed Persons Group:** Offers resources and social and emotional support to those grieving for spouses or partners who have died. Please use our [contact form](#).

### ***A FRIENDS MEMORIAL MEETING***

*A Friends Memorial Meeting takes place within the context of a meeting for worship in the traditional manner of Friends. We gather in silence, holding ourselves open to leadings of the spirit, consistent with our belief that there is that of God in everyone. A Memorial Meeting is a time to celebrate the life of one we have known and loved and to give thanks for having had this presence among us. Anyone present may speak or remain silent, as he or she is led to do, mindful that neither words nor silence but sincerity of heart best testifies to what the life of our departed friend has meant to us.*

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Some of BFM's End-of-Life resources have been drawn from the following:

- Baltimore Yearly Meeting
- Langley Hill Friends Meeting
- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
- Sandy Spring Friends Meeting