

Can we get married in your meeting house without having a Quaker wedding?

Yes, our meetinghouse* is available both for marriages under the Meeting's care (described more fully below) and for private functions such as weddings. Langley Hill's marriage celebrants are only available for weddings under the care of the Meeting; all other weddings will require the services of a Justice of the Peace or clergy member to sign the marriage license.



How do Quakers celebrate marriage?

At a Quaker wedding, the couple simply exchanges vows during a special Meeting for Worship*. All those present are called upon to witness this commitment and to lend their support to it in the future. This practice upholds our belief that God is with and available to each of us and will sustain us. The Meeting, for its part, undertakes to support them in their commitment.

The love that God calls us to share with one another is always a journey, a work in progress. Marriage involves a mutual commitment to share life, following a path of love together. This requires growth, integrity, and mutual respect. We earnestly advise the couple contemplating this important step and the community that will support them to seek Divine guidance in reaching the decision to marry.

Resources & Contacts:

Building Scheduler:
Sheila Bach
snbach@earthlink.net

Care & Clearness:
Tim Yeaney
timothy.yeaney@verizon.net

For more information on marriage at
Langley Hill Meeting please visit:

www.langleyhillquakers.org/marriage_faq.aspx

For more information about
Langley Hill Meeting please call:
(703) 442-8394

Or visit us online at:
www.langleyhillquakers.org

You are also invited to join us
Sunday from 10-11 a.m.

Join our online community by emailing:
Langley-owner@yahoo.com

Questions about Marriage at Langley Hill Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends



Watercolor by Jenepher Moseley

You're planning a wedding! We at Langley Hill Friends Meeting welcome your inquiries.

Whether you are looking for a place to hold your wedding or want to have our Meeting's support and encouragement over the entire span of your marriage, we are happy to help.

This pamphlet provides answers to questions we frequently receive.

Langley Hill Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

6410 Old Georgetown Pike
P. O. Box 387
McLean, Virginia 22101-0387

**In this brochure, an asterisk indicates that more info is available online at:*

http://www.langleyhillquakers.org/marriage_faq.aspx

What does it mean to be married under the care of Langley Hill Meeting?

Marriage is a life-long commitment. Marriage under the care of Langley Hill involves an equal commitment on the part of the Meeting. To help the Meeting make this commitment, we appoint three or four people as a "Clearness Committee". This committee meets with the couple to explore issues before they enter into marriage and to discuss their expectations of the Meeting. Once that committee agrees that the couple has clarity to marry, it asks the entire Meeting to accept responsibility to support and nurture the couple and their marriage for the rest of the couple's life together.

A second group of Friends is appointed to assist in planning and carrying out the wedding itself. After the ceremony, a representative of the Meeting will sign the couple's Marriage License.

Usually,* the Meeting will undertake the care of a marriage only when one or both parties are members of Langley Hill Friends Meeting.



Will you marry same sex couples?

Yes, we extend to all couples, whether of one sex or two, the same support and care in every aspect of the life of our Meeting.



Does a marriage under the care of the Meeting have to take place at the meeting house?

No, a Quaker Meeting for Worship can be held at almost any location. The Meeting works with couples to hold the celebration of their marriage in a place that is appropriate for them.



Can we have a wedding like the one you describe here without it being under the care of the Meeting?

Yes*, the Meeting is happy to work with you to incorporate aspects of a traditional Quaker wedding into a ceremony that is right for you. Some options that have been chosen in the past include asking the Meeting to hold or help you hold a special Meeting for Worship in loving support of your marriage or to provide a Clearness Committee to meet with you before your wedding to consider and discuss issues important in marriage.

These options are some that have been chosen by couples who are not members of the Meeting or for other reasons do not want the marriage under the Meeting's long-term support and care.

****In this brochure, an asterisk indicates that more info is available online at:***

http://www.langleyhillquakers.org/marriage_faq.aspx