Friends Association for Higher Education's Quaker Leadings in Higher Education series presents:

The Soul of Higher Education:

Contemplative Pedagogy, Research, and Institutional Life for the 21st Century

How does the current dominant epistemology in higher education mitigate against contemplative teaching, learning, and research? How can a contemplative culture be nurtured in the classroom?

Tuesday, October 18, 2022
7:30-9 pm, eastern

Presenters:
Margaret Benefiel, Ph. D.
Executive Director
Shalem Institute

Bo Karen Lee, Ph. D.
Associate Professor of Spiritual Theology and Formation
Princeton Theological Seminary

Moderator:
David R. Ross
Research Professor
Department of Economics
Bryn Mawr College

Agenda and Edited Chat
Welcome and introductions

Opening:
Margaret shares a theoretical framework.

Bo Karen leads a meditation

Breakout Groups:

Choose a query:

- What was that experience like for you?
- Was there anything surprising or challenging for you?
- Was there any gift or grace that reached you during that meditation?
- Did you receive any sense of leading from this experience?

Friends return to the main Zoom room to reflect on the small-group sharing.
I threw the backpack away and was able to lie on a paddleboard, floating on water…

Warm and grace-filled - thank you!

I found it easy to engage. I appreciated the invitation to think of myself as on a path that reached in both directions.

A strong sense of invitation and I had a sense of Christ wanting to carry me...

I came into this session lugging a particularly heavy rock I recently acquired along with me, and found it amazingly powerful to consider it with a Christ figure, not just by myself.

It was calming.

Burdens are not necessarily bad -- needing to be unburdened; carrying them may add to the meaning of our lives

I love this deep listening in a context of love. Do you have any advice for when we find ourselves in a situation where someone listens unkindly to us, distorting what we are trying to say in the worst possible way?

https://contemplativelabcurriculum.wordpress.com/why-contemplative-pedagogy/

Brief closing comments Margaret and Bo Karen.

Gifts of the meditation posted in the chat.

Grateful for all you shared. Bought the book!

The gift of "a real rest"

The gift of my burden lightening.

Marrying knowledge and wisdom.

The gift of slowing to be present

Rather simple perhaps, but - taking the time to recognize what part of the path you believe yourself to be on at this point in time

Silence as a method to defuse tension

A benevolent figure who opens my backpack and looks with me at all those stones...

How to settle my mind?.

“The unforced rhythms of grace”

Announcements and Goodbye.

Thank you, Margaret and Bo!

Thank you all for your thoughtful q's and comments and engagement!

Thank you so much, Margaret and Bo, and thanks to everyone else as well!

Further questions contact: Margaret@shalem.org

Thanks.