



Powell House
Quaker Conference & Retreat Center



Playing in the Light:

Godly Play®/Faith & Play™ Training for Quakers

with Melinda Wenner Bradley

December 4–6, 2026

This experiential approach to religious education can transform your program for children and nurture intergenerational spiritual community. Learn and practice a method of storytelling grounded in deep respect for children, that explores the existential limits of their lives through wonder, play, and stories from the Bible and Quaker faith and practice. Discussions include:

- nurturing the spirituality of children
- exploring the “unspoken” lessons of spaces and methodology
- supporting children and families in the meeting community
- working with multiage groups and diverse needs
- weaving Godly Play/Faith & Play stories into a children’s program with other religious education resources available to Friends.

This training is a blended workshop that includes two online sessions + the weekend gathering:

Two Online Sessions:

Intro: **60 min, Nov 22, 7pm**

Final Plenary: **60 min TBD**

Powell House weekend:
Dec 4–6, Fri–Sun

Melinda Wenner Bradley is a member of West Chester Meeting in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. She is a co-author and the editor of *Faith & Play: Quaker Stories for Friends Trained in the Godly Play Method*. Since 2010, Melinda has been a licensed Godly Play Trainer and has traveled in the ministry to facilitate trainings and share stories in children's religious education programs, intergenerational worship, Friends school classrooms, teacher workshops, and international gatherings of Friends. Her ministry among Friends weaves together interest in children’s spiritual lives, support for families and teachers in faith communities and schools, and the intersection of religious education and outreach. She is a co-founder of Faith & Play Stories, Inc. and the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative.



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Playing in the Light: Hybrid Core Training Schedule

Reading/Reflection (completed before first online session)

Asynchronous reading assignment will be excerpts in the Faith & Play Stories publication and additional PDFs provided by the trainer.

Online Sessions (both required)

Introduction Session: TBD; 60 minutes

Final Plenary: Supporting the Circle of Children and their Families
Date TBD with participants; 60 minutes

Onsite Sessions (at Powell House)

Friday, Dec 4 — 7:00p – 9:00p* (Dinner)

Saturday, Dec 5 — 8:00a – 9:00p* (B/L/D)

Sunday, Dec 6 — 8:00a – 4:00p (B/L)

*includes optional material-making in the evening