

GRASS VALLEY
 FRIENDS MEETING
*Of the Religious Society of Friends
 College Park Quarterly Meeting,
 Pacific Yearly Meeting*

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959
 @ The Sierra Friends Center, off Jones Bar Road,
 Nevada City, CA 95959

Website: www.gvfriends.org
 Email: grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com

**First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House (zoom)
 10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (in-person and zoom)
 To receive the zoom link, grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com.**

Newsletter, Second Month, 2022

Calendar.....	pg. 1	Upcoming Spiritual Life Programs	pg. 7
Glossary.....	pg. 2	A Prayer for Ukraine.....	pg. 8
Minutes & Record.....	pg. 2	The Hybrid Body of Christ.....	pg. 8
Advices and Queries, 2 nd Month.....	pg. 6	GIVE to GVFM	pg. 9
Treasurer’s Report.....	pg. 6	QuakerSpeak.....	pg. 9
Friends General Conference.....	pg. 7	Volunteers Needed @ SFC.....	pg.10
		GVFM Contacts & Committees.....	pg. 11

MEETING CALENDAR

First Sunday

- Program to be announced

Second Sunday

- Silent Meeting for Worship via zoom only,
 Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of
 Business via zoom only

Third Sunday

- **As announced**

Fourth Sunday

- Spiritual Life – To Be Announced

Fifth Sunday

- On Fifth Sundays we hold a Family Meeting for Worship. *Children and adults gather and spend 20 minutes in storytelling, 20 minutes in singing and 20 minutes in silent worship.*

- ✚ 1st First Day: Bible Story and Song
- ✚ 2nd First Day: A Story and a Craft or Activity
- ✚ 3rd First Day: A Story plus Time for Silent Worship
- ✚ 4th First Day: A Creative, Topical Curriculum
- ✚ 5th First Day: Family Worship (a story, singing and silent worship)
- ✚ Online Worship: every Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm

HAPPENING NOW

- January 23, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Come as you are Bible Study* led by Dorothy Henderson

HAPPENING LATER

- February 27, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Discernment in Meeting for Worship* led by Don McCormick
- March 27, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Quakerism in France* led by Amy and Chamba Cooke
- April 11th-April 21, 2022: Early Registration, Friends General Conference.
- April 24, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Our relationship with the Nisenan* led by Dorothy Henderson
- April 29, 2022: Standard Registration, Friends General Conference
- May 22, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Forgiveness* led by Gordon Starr
- May 22, 2022, InterFaith Walk for Peace and Justice
- July 3-9, 2022, Friends General Conference, Radford University, Radford, VA

GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter

SFC: Sierra Friends Center
M&O: Ministry and Oversight
PacYM: Pacific Yearly Meeting
PHP – Pendle Hill Pamphlet
FGC: Friends General Conference

QUNP: Quaker United Nations Project
FASE: Friends Association for Services to the Elderly
CPQM: College Park Quarterly Meeting
RSWR: Right Sharing of World Resources

Threshing Session: A meeting at a separate time that is specifically not for decision-making; normal practices of a Quaker meeting for business are relaxed so that Friends may speak more than once to an issue, may speak to a point just made, or may ask a question of a previous speaker.

Query: The Friends practice of examining our souls and seeking clarity. These questions and exercises help to give time to seek truth about ourselves and our spiritual condition and to tap into Divine insight. Queries guide us in listening for God's voice in our lives. They are not intended to provide mystical experiences of God, though that may occur." J. Brent Bill, Holy Silence; the Gift of Quaker Spirituality

MINUTES & RECORD: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business – Second Month, 2022

We met on Zoom.

Present: Dean Olson & Karen Olson (co-clerks), Dianne Marshall, Chamba Cooke, Amy Cooke, Judy Hamilton, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Doug Hamm, Dorothy Henderson, Kathy McCreery, fosten wilson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

Clerks' Remarks and Query

"It is a time of bona fide worship that brings all into the presence of God. Business is done in the spirit of worship." Do you recall a time you sensed our conducting business that we were doing this in the context of worship? What practices appeared to support the sense of worship in the meeting?

- A Friend shared that it is a support to not to do handwork during Meeting for Worship for Business - to let her hands rest in Spirit as well as her ears and eyes.
- A Friend queries himself, “What do I do to prepare for Meeting for Worship?” Finding the center, stilling thoughts, finding receptivity to spirit that allows hearing of messages. Also, not coming to Meeting for Worship for Business with an agenda.
- Another Friend shared that periods of silence are helpful, to lead back into worship.
- Addressing conflicts in worship rather than having conflicts unacknowledged is very valuable.
- It can be very helpful when Friends come to Meeting for Business having done work outside the meeting in addressing others’ potential concerns.
- Everyone is unified in holding the Meeting so that the clerk does not have to “herd cats.”
- To stop, be quiet, let it settle, trust the direction that the Meeting is moving in.

A celebration was made for the hybrid meeting - the Friends and guests in the meetinghouse, and the members and attenders on Zoom.

Gordon Starr shared that next Sunday music will be happening in the meetinghouse and will continue (other than second Sunday).

Action Items and Seasoning:

- From Twelfth Month: The proposed Rental Agreement with SFC: See Stewardship committee report.
 - The ad hoc committee to welcome Coleen Hedglin report: See Spirit and Witness report.
 - The ad hoc committee on Hybrid Meetings report: See Spirit and Witness report.
- Nominating: Two names were brought forward for the remaining one-year terms on the Welcome Committee, seasoned since 1st Month Don McCormick Pat Phillips

COMMITTEE REPORTS (see reports appended, committee clerk is noted in bold)

NOMINATING: Doug Hamm, Patrica Phillips, Karen Olson

Two names were brought forward for one-year terms on the Welcome Committee. These names have seasoned until this Meeting for Business.

1. Don McCormick
2. Pat Phillips

MINUTE 2022.02.01: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the names of Don McCormick and Pat Phillips to serve on the Welcome Committee for the remainder of this year.

STEWARDSHIP: Mary Starr, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio) Dianne Marshall (ex officio as Librarian and Newsletter Editor), Hailey Wilson, Reed Hamilton

Gordon Starr gave the report, attached. See Spirit and Witness report, below, for more details on the lease with Sierra Friends Center.

SPIRIT & WITNESS: Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Anita and Don McCormick (ex-officio Co Clerks), **Judy Hamilton**

Judy Hamilton gave the report, attached.

There was confirmation expressed that Meeting for Business works better on Zoom. It is difficult, however, for those who would travel fair distances on Second Sunday.

A Friend asked how things will be impacted by the county lifting the mask mandate. The rental agreement requires that we adhere to what the county mandates. Organizations can choose to have tighter restrictions. This will now go back to the committee for further discernment.

MINUTE 2022.02.02: Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the lease with Sierra Friends Center as appended to the 1st Month 2022 Minutes.

WELCOME: Karen Olson, **Kathy McCreery**, ex officio Website/Facebook Coordinator (Amy Cooke), ex officio Zoom coordinator (Hailey Wilson and Stuart Smith), ex officio Email Coordinator (Judy Hamilton), Don McCormick, Pat Phillips.

The Welcome Committee gathered the waivers for SFC today at the physical meeting.

Kathy McCreery gave the Organization Report, appended.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM: Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, **Dorothy Henderson**, Gordon Bishop, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick

Dorothy Henderson gave the report, appended.

She noted that there is a potential of having 14 children from Meeting families present at Sierra Friends Center. It will be live for 3rd Sundays and 4th Sundays, Zoom for 2nd Sundays, and no program at this time for 1st Sundays.

OFFICER REPORTS

Fosten Wilson gave the Treasurer's Report, appended

A Friend brought up the issue of having a representative to SFC as we negotiate an agreement regarding the equipment used in the meetinghouse. Is it necessary that we have only one person? It is very helpful to have one person be the point person for clear communication. It is difficult when more than one person acts on behalf of the Meeting.

This will be delegated to the Stewardship Committee for further discernment.

SFC REPRESENTATIVE: Pat Phillips

Updates included:

- The Writing Group has started and all are welcome
- The water lines are being installed

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- If you use Facebook, follow the Grass Valley Friends Meeting page, or join the Facebook Grass Valley Friends Meeting group. If you share a post from the page, your friends will see it! It helps our visibility. Follow this [link](#).
- It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Go to gvfriends.org and click on the Give button. This takes you to a secure site for donations. Please consider making your contribution monthly. Your contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. Thank you.
- Tithely now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request.
- Interfaith Nevada County may be taking part in the March for Peace and Social Justice on May 22, 2022, with some modifications pending. See the newsletter!
- Sierra Friends Center has volunteer opportunities available. See www.woolman.org.
- Stuart Smith has had an article published in this month's Friends Journal. <https://www.friendsjournal.org/issue-category/2022/quaker-heroes-2022/> (Also mentioned in the January edition of this newsletter)

ACTION ITEMS & ITEMS SEASONING

- Representative for SFC: delegated to the Stewardship Committee for further discernment.

Gratitude was expressed at Dean for his care and attention to the Meeting's business. Dean expressed his gratitude for all the work and clarity that the committees have done - there is a sense of the Meeting being held with attention and love through so many changes.

READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES

The record and the minutes were read, corrected, and approved.

If you are giving a report to GVFM, please send the actual report to the recording clerk at grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com THE FRIDAY BEFORE MEETING FOR BUSINESS.

GVFM Newsletter Reminder: Please have items into Dianne Marshall by the Tuesday after Business Meeting at 10 am.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Amy Cooke, recording clerk.

APPENDICES:

1. Spirit and Witness Report
2. Children's Program Report
3. Stewardship Committee Report
4. REPORT ON QUAKER ORGANIZATION: FGC
5. Treasurer's Quarterly Report

Second Month Queries: Spiritual Life

The life of the spirit gains depth and vigor through devotional practices, prayer, study and meditation. Take time regularly for individual and family worship, discussions, readings from sacred texts, and other spiritual refreshment in order to live a more centered life and to bring a deeper presence to the Meeting for Worship.

Friends believe that the spiritual path is best found in community. Create opportunities in your Meetings for people of all ages to explore and express their evolving relationship with the Divine, their spiritual highs and their doubts. If different metaphors and language interfere with communication, listen more deeply, honoring the Spirit in which the thought and words have their beginnings.

Do I live in thankful awareness of God's constant presence in my life?

Am I sensitive and obedient to the leadings of the Holy Spirit?

When do I take time for contemplation and spiritual refreshment?

What steps am I taking to center my life and to stay open to continuing revelation?

Do we share our spiritual lives with others in the Meeting, seeking to know one another in that which is eternal?

Does the Meeting provide religious education including study of the Bible and Friends' history and practices?

Grass Valley Friends Meeting Treasurer's Quarterly Report: 2-11-2022

summary = better now.

This report covers four months, October thru January. The contributions you provided in those months (\$6,659) exceeded spending from our General Fund (\$5,956), thank you.

Our Meetings for Worship are now combined, both in-person and participation via Zoom. We have paid rent to Sierra Friends Center (SFC) for January & February. And the internet access at the Meeting House is now functioning reasonably well. So we are paying for internet also, starting with January.

The "Fund Balances" & the "Actual Spending vs Budget" reports are available in the Meeting House and by contacting me. Our annual dues to Pacific Yearly Meeting (\$3,136) were paid in full last month. That is a relief. Our Sharing fund & our Placer County Worship Group fund have each increased. The other Restricted Funds are unchanged.

Thank you for your help. All gifts, both in service to the Meeting & financial are deeply appreciated.

Fosten Wilson, Treasurer, Grass Valley Friends Meeting

new email = fwkm@protonmail.com



by Kathy McQueery

The Friends General Conference's logo is a dandelion going to seed. The floating seeds represent the wishes, work, and faithfulness of Friends in their pursuit of Peace in the World

FGC Vision Statement:

“We envision a vital and growing Religious Society of Friends- a faith that deepens spiritually, welcomes newcomers, builds supportive and inclusive community, and provides loving service and witness in the world.

Through Friends General Conference, we see Quakers led by the spirit joining together in ministry to offer services that help Friends, meetings and seekers explore, deepen, connect, serve and witness within the context of our living faith.”

Friends General Conference (FGC) is an association of local and regional Quaker organizations. They hold conferences and consultations, provide religious education and opportunities, host programs and Initiatives for and on behalf of members. It was started in 1900. They have a number of services and resources, some of them being the Quaker Cloud, Resources for adults and children, Loans for Meeting Houses, among others.

My experience with FGC is their bookstore and hearing about their yearly gathering. The FGC bookstore offers neat books, available online. People from our Meeting have felt enriched by attending the annual gathering. Distance from our homes is an impediment for us to be active with FGC gatherings.

This year they are hosting and in person gathering and a virtual option as well. It is at Radford University in Virginia July 3-9, 2022. It is a week of Quaker Worship, workshops, and community for all people. For this year’s event early registration starts April 11th-April 21st. Standard registration starts April 29,2022.

Friends General Conference’s website is www.fgcquaker.org.

Upcoming GVFM Spiritual Life Programs – 2022

- January 23, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Come as you are Bible Study* led by Dorothy Henderson
- February 27, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Discernment in Meeting for Worship* led by Don McCormick
- March 27, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Quakerism in France* led by Amy and Chamba Cooke
- April 24, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Our relationship with the Nisenan* led by Dorothy Henderson
- May 22, 2022, 11:15a.m.: *Forgiveness* led by Gordon Starr
- Programs for additional months to follow.

A Prayer for Ukraine

The Rev Dr Inderjit Bhogal, Honorary President of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, has written a prayer for use during this time of heightening tensions in the Ukraine.

Holy God,

We hold before you all who live close to war and conflict; and all who live close to the threat of war and violence.

We remember, especially at this time, people in Ukraine and Russia. We pray for nonviolent and peaceful resolutions of conflict.

Give to us all hearts of hospitality and sanctuary, forgive us all our hostility and hatred.

Bring all people to the humanity you give us, and to the reconciliation and healing for which you give your life.

Strengthen us all to work with you to build justice and peace, reconciliation, and healing, in our hearts and homes, in our streets, in all communities, neighborhoods and nations.

Bless all who live lives for the peace and wellbeing of others and make their service fruitful.

In the name of Christ.

Amen.

The Hybrid Body of Christ by Micah Bales

This is a sermon that I preached on Sunday, 1/23/22, at Berkeley Friends Church (via videoconference). The scripture reading for this sermon was: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a. You can listen to the audio, or keeping scrolling to read my manuscript. (The spoken sermon differs from the written text.)

The last two years have been a long decade.

None of us had any idea, when this pandemic started, how long it would last and how profoundly it would shape our lives. It's shaped us on an individual level and as families. It has also transformed what it means for us to be a Christian community as Berkeley Friends Church.

Two years ago, we were – like most churches – a totally analog experience. We met in person, in a brick-and-mortar building. We shared food and coffee. We sang songs and shook hands at the end of worship.

The last two years have been a long decade. It's been a time that has seen us transform into something more than a local church. We have people who are real, active parts of our community who are living in places like Stockton, California – which isn't quite in range of our meeting house in Berkeley. Others are coming in from much farther away: the East Coast, Ohio, Kansas, Honduras, the suburbs of Paris. We have become more than a local church; we're global now.

We've also become less than a local church. Many of our good friends and members of this church have not been included in this digital transformation. For a variety of reasons, many of us have simply not been attending for the last two years. We're hopeful that many of these friends will rejoin us as we return to in-person worship, but we know that some will not. This pandemic has been a time of growth, but also of diminishment.

Full Text: [The Hybrid Body of Christ](#)

[Listen to Sermon Now](#)

Do consider supporting Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on button below.

FRIENDS, while we experience mail delivery challenges, please use this "Give" button.



Note: *This button will take you to a secure site.*

It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give button above or go to gvfriends.org and click on the "GIVE" button. This takes you to a secure site for donations.

Your monthly contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. *Tithely* now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request Thank you.

QuakerSpeak: <https://quakerspeak.com/>

Welcome to QuakerSpeak, a bi-weekly Quaker video project by [Friends Journal](#). We release a new video every other Thursday, so [SUBSCRIBE](#) to be in the know.

QuakerSpeak is a Quaker YouTube channel. **We interview Friends of all different backgrounds** and ask them the core questions of our faith.

QuakerSpeak interviews are personal and intimate. We seek to give viewers worldwide an experience that is entertaining, informative, inspiring, challenging, inviting, unifying and collaborative.

New videos come out **every other Thursday**. [Subscribe here.](#)

How To Use QuakerSpeak for Your Meeting

QuakerSpeak can be a useful tool for your Quaker Meeting. Let us help support your Meeting by stimulating meaningful discussion and helping to communicate with newcomers. **Here are a few ways that Meetings are using QuakerSpeak.**

Sometimes called “adult religious education” or “second hour”. QuakerSpeak videos are a quick and simple way to begin a conversation about what matters to us as Friends.

We offer transcripts of every video so you can follow along with everything being said.

To jumpstart the conversation, we also offer a few queries for each video. **Just click on the bar below any video on our website.** Feel free to use ours or create your own!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

HELP US UPDATE THE A-FRAMES!

*Saturday/Sunday March 5-6, 2022
10am-4pm*

We'll be painting the A frames and building/installing new screen doors. Experience helpful, but not required.

Overnight accommodations are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Contact shannonb@woolman.org for more info!



Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information (7-1-21)

Office Holders:

OFFICERS:

- **Clerk of the Meeting:** Co-Clerks – Dean and Karen Olson (530) 270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- **Communication/Email Coordinator:** Judy Hamilton judywestonhamilton@gmail.com
- **Directory Coordinator:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Librarian & Newsletter Editor:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
- **Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- **Newsletter Distribution:** Pat Phillips 530-913-1338 pPhillips1949@gmail.com
- **Newsletter Reader:** Karen Olson deanolson44@hotmail.com
- **Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com 916-663-3539
- **Recorder:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) ntowhee@gmail.com
- **Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, amylisette@gmail.com
- **Sierra Friends Center:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 deanolson44@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, fostenw@yahoo.com
- **Website/Facebook Coordinator:** Amy Cooke amylisette@gmail.com
- **Zoom Coordinators:** Hailey Wilson seahorseleaf@protonmail.com, Stuart Smith sewsmitharts@yahoo.com

REPRESENTATIVES:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1. AFSC: | 5. FCLCA: | 9. QUNO: Shera Banbury |
| 2. College Park
Quarterly: | 6. FGC Liaison: | 10. Right Sharing of World Resources: Judy
Hamilton |
| 3. FASE: | 7. PYM: Don
McCormick | 11. Sierra Friends Center: Pat Phillips |
| 4. FCNL: | 8. Quaker Center: | 12. Interfaith Nevada County: Dianne Marshall |

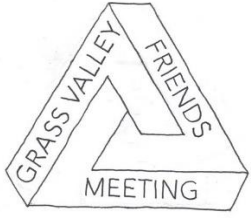
COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

Stewardship: **Mary Starr**, Gordon Starr, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Doug Hamm, Fosten Wilson (Treasurer, Ex-officio) Dianne Marshall (ex officio as Librarian and Newsletter Editor), Hailey Wilson

Spirit/Witness: **Judy Hamilton**, Gordon Starr, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Dorothy Henderson, Dean and Karen Olson (ex-officio Co Clerks),

Welcome: **Kathy McCreery**, Karen Olson, Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, ex officio Website/Facebook Coordinator (Amy Cooke), ex officio Zoom coordinator (Hailey Wilson and Stuart Smith), ex officio Email Coordinator (Judy Hamilton)

Children's Program: **Dorothy Henderson**, Karen Olson, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Bishop, Anita McCormick, Doug Hamm, Don McCormick



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