



Newsletter

Ninth Month, 2018

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GRASS VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING

*Of the Religious Society of Friends
College Park Quarterly Meeting,
Pacific Yearly Meeting*

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959,
530-273-3183
Sierra Friends Center, Woolman Lane, off Jones Bar
Road,

First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House
9:45 am Silent Meeting for Worship

CALENDAR

First Sunday

- Program to be announced

Second Sunday

- Silent Meeting for Worship, Potluck,
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of
Business

Third Sunday

- Peace and Social Justice

Fourth Sunday

- Spiritual Life

Fifth Sunday

- Program to be announced

Happening September, 2018:

- GVFM Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business: Sunday, September 9 2018
- Berkeley Friends Meeting Open House: September 16, 2018
- International Day of Peace Gathering and Potluck: Friday, September 21, 2018 at 6 p.m.
- GVFM Annual Meeting Retreat: September 22, 2018

Happening Latter:

- GVFM Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business: Sunday, October 10, 2018
- Fall College Park Quarterly Meeting: October 19-21, 2018. Sierra Friends Center, 13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA
- [Pacific Yearly Meeting Calendar](#)
- Ben Lomond Quaker Center:
 - o [2018 Programs](#) - See page 4 for Summer and Fall Offerings
 - o [2019 Programs](#):

We value the simplicity & tranquility of the Sierra Friends Center & want to ensure safety and clean dust-free air for the residents, visitors & neighbors of Sierra Friends Center. We expect observance of the 10 mph speed limit on Woolman Ln. & on the school property.



Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business,

9th Day, Ninth Month, 2018

MINUTES & RECORD

Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business
9th Day, Ninth Month, 2018

Present: Anita McCormick, Don McCormick, Stan or Adam Hilbrun, Sandy Kewman, Peggy Baldwin, Dianne Marshall, Dorothy Henderson, Stuart Smith, Don Kewman, Doug Hamm, Dean Olson, Fosten Wilson, Kathy McCreery, Judy Hamilton, Alan Stahler.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

JOYS, CELEBRATIONS, MOURNINGS

- Margaret Rose Kewman is Sandy and Don Kewman's new granddaughter.
- Del Reynolds passed away recently. M&O will consider whether Stuart should contact the Ramallah Friends School.
- Dianne Marshall appreciates the piece that Deborah Aufdenspring put on her Facebook page.

MINUTES FROM THE 7th MONTH MEETING

2018.09.01: The minutes from Seventh Month were read and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PLACER COUNTY WORSHIP GROUP - Stuart Smith.

No news to report. He'd like to hear if there have been visitors to meeting from Placer County, so he can reach out to those people directly.

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC) - Don Kewman.

He distributed a survey in which we ranked the importance of its programs. FGC needs to cut expenses by cutting programs. (See page 7-8 for the questionnaire) Within two years, they should have a sustainable budget. FGC is currently toying with changing its governing model. If you have opinions about this, please contact Don.

PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING – Sandy Kewman

She talked about why she attends and her experience of it this year. PYM did not yet come to unity about affiliation with Friends General Conference. *See appendix.*

FINANCE – Don Kewman

We usually have 40 households making contributions, but this year we have 30 households, due to deaths and households devoting resources to care. Finance Committee came to unity that we need to live within our means, so the money in most budget categories has been reduced, and recommends that we replace the Quaker Center Pass with a \$600 scholarship fund. Next year the budget is planned to be \$14,000 plus outside donations. Automatic withdrawal of funds as a way of making donations to the meeting was discussed. It was concerned that our present bank may not meet our current. The budget will be seasoned for one month. *See appendix.*

MINISTRY & OVERSIGHT – Kathy McCreery

See the report, which is an appendix. The idea of clusters will be discussed in the Fall Quarterly Meeting, which will be held here in October.

Kathy met Del and Julia's children on a walk and they expressed interest in a work day on the house. Kathy will talk to Martha about a memorial service. A memorial minute need to be written that will go into the Newsletter. It is usually a collaboration between family and the clerk(s). It can also go to *Friends Journal* and *Western Friend*. Sandy Kewman recommended that all people who knew him well should participate. *See appendix.*

NEWSLETTER – Dianne Marshall

She requested help with the newsletter—especially with regards to its length. There was a discussion of the practice of posting some items to the web. It was suggested that a survey about this be sent to people who receive it by mail. Dianne Marshall will contact Charity Bryson about that. One copy of the newsletter that includes all of the reports and other items that are online is placed in the library.

At the end of meeting confusion about this was expressed. It will be an agenda item next month.

MEETINGS OF CLERKS IN THE FALL

Many of our committees don't have clerks. This meeting is a collaboration between the co-clerks and M&O.

INVITATIONS

The Eldering Subcommittee of M&O invites all Pacific Yearly Meeting Friends to a weekly online meeting for worship with attention to the spiritual wellness of our yearly meeting. Please check the PYM website www.pacificyearlymeeting.org for the link.

Because notice of the *Faith and Practice* Revision process, and the pending drafts reached you late, we have extended the deadline to reply to December 1, 2019. You will receive other drafts during the year, so we don't want to get behind. But we think this extension will serve us all very well. We look forward to hearing from meetings, committees and other yearly meeting entities. Thank you, Laura Magnani and Carl Magruder, co-clerks."

As you may have heard, Berkeley Meeting will be holding an Open House on Sunday, September 16, from 12:45 to 3:30 pm, to celebrate the long-awaited completion of our renovation, and the improved accessibility of our meetinghouse. There will be lots of food, music, a before-during-and-after photo display, and tours for those who want them, as well as worship sharing at 3:30. We know this is quite a distance for those in your Meeting to come, but if any of you can make it, we'd love to have you! Feel free to contact me with any questions, and hope to see you there! Judy Tate, Clerk, Outreach and Nurture Committee, Berkeley Friends Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

College Park Quarterly Meeting will take place here, at Sierra Friends Center, October 19-21, 2018.

Faith and Practice revision committee has been extended...???? Anita will check

The newest issue of *Friends Journal* is wonderful, especially the book review section.

REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Woolman at Sierra Friends Center: *see appendix*

READING OF THE RECORD AND MINUTES:

Note: The record and the minutes were read, corrected or approved.

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

GVFM Newsletter Reminder: Please have items in to Diane Marshall by Tuesday at 10 am.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully recorded by Don McCormick, substitute recording clerk.

APPENDICES: (posted on the website, www.gvfriends.org)

1. 2018-19 Budget
2. Ministry & Oversight Report
3. College Park Quarterly Meeting Announcement
4. Woolman at Sierra Friends Center Report

Appendix 1: 2018-19 Budget

GENERAL FUND	current Budget 10/1/17-9/30/18	Actual to 9-8-18	Proposed Budget FY 2019	
Income				
General Fund Contributions	<u>\$ 17,170</u>	<u>11,711</u>	<u>\$ 15,521</u>	
Expenses				
Advertising	105	105	105	changes
Newsletter Expenses	500	339	400	-100
Rent	6,300	6,300	6,300	
Meetinghouse Maintenance	700	331	700	
Reps. Travel Expense	200	50	100	-100
Officers' Expense	150	0	50	-100
Ben Lomond Annual Pass	1,200	0	0	-1200 **
Religious Ed - childrens' program	250	128	200	-50
Teen Helper - childcare	750	0	375	-375
Hospitality House Food	400	287	350	-50
Website	25	0	25	
Misc. Unbudgeted Expense	250	16	125	-125
Meetings memberships				
PYM dues	4,400	4,068	4,148	-252
CPQM dues	80	72	68	-4
FGC dues	100	0	100	
Ministry & Oversight Com.	50	0	25	-25
Nominating Com.	25	0	20	-5
Peace & Social Justice Com.	75	0	25	-50
Library Com. (subscriptions = \$123)	225	217	220	-5
Hospitality Com.	100	64	75	-25
Outreach Com.	75	55	60	-15
Total Expenses	15,960	12,032	13,471	
Outbound donations, contingent on money available from current income --				
Amer. Friends Service Com.	150	0	150	
Friends Com. Legislation - Calif.	150	0	150	
Friends Com. Nat'l Legislation	150	0	150	
Friends House (FASE)	50	0	50	
Hospitality House	200	0	200	
Laura Wilcox Memorial at FCNL	150	0	150	
Nonviolent Peaceforce	50	0	50	
Sierra Friends Center	450	450	450	
Total Outbound Donations	1,350	450	1,350	
Total General Fund Expenses	\$ 17,310	\$ 12,482	\$ 14,821	
Transfers to Other Funds				
Scholarship Fund (PYM/CPQM/etc.)	\$ 100	100	100	
Quaker Center Scholarship Fund **	\$ -		600	600 **
Total Expenses and Transfers	\$ 17,410	\$ 12,582	\$ 15,521	

** Finance Committee suggests a new fund for Quaker Center

Appendix 2: Ministry and Oversight Report

Cluster Meetings - We have been asked, by Liz Baker of Sacramento Friends Meeting, to consider our interest in participating in a “Cluster Meeting”. Cluster Meetings are gatherings of Friends from within a more limited geographic area than our current Quarterly Meetings - the idea being that Friends would drive no more than 90 miles. The focus of these Cluster Meetings would be on Worship, fellowship, and education. We have expressed interest in participating in Cluster Meetings, we are willing to host such a meeting, and we await more details as the process moves forward.

Website Login - in response to the concern about information shared on the website, we are looking into the matter. We do not see a current need for a cumbersome website login process, particularly given the lack of a person who has both the time and expertise to organise such an endeavor. Personal information is not to be shared on the website, so having the newsletter which contains contact information for Friends available on the website is not currently prudent. Reports from committees to the Meeting for Business are currently shared on the website to diminish printing and postal costs of the newsletter, but there is not and should not be personal information in those reports.

Del Reynolds - As Friends know, dear Friend Del Reynolds passed away very recently. Efforts are underway to support the family as they move through this transition. Keep the possibility of a workday at the Reynolds’ property on your radar screens as help may be very useful soon. Details about a memorial are not yet known, but will be shared as we find out about it.

Appendix 3: College Park Quarterly Meeting

College Park Quarterly Meeting (CPQM) is a quarterly gathering of unprogrammed Monthly Meetings of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) in the northern California and northern Nevada region.

We encourage all Friends to join us here at Woolman for the business of the quarterly meeting on October 19-21, 2018. For more information, click the link [here](#).

Appendix 4: Woolman at Sierra Friends Center Report

Over the past two years, since the closing of the Woolman Semester School, Woolman has engaged in a process to assess our sustainability and discern our way forward. We have researched, talked to F/friends and supporters, piloted programs, expanded income streams, scrutinized our finances, expanded opportunities for collaborations, and audited the site’s needs. The board and staff of Woolman are enormously grateful to all who supported us during this time of discernment. Today we hold the fruition of all that work in the form of a soon to be released 5-year Strategic Plan and a major campaign - Woolman Rising.

Five-Year Strategic Plan: Woolman Rising!

The world needs Woolman now more than ever. Two years of discernment lead us to clarity on how to offer this gift to the world. During that time, we carefully and deliberately engaged our brains, imaginations and hearts. We piloted programs. We talked to our community. Seeking the centrality of Woolman’s purpose we listened actively for Spirit.

Now is the time for action. We move forward with a clarified vision of educational experiences transforming and enlivening our truest selves. This powerful vision embodies our hopes and dreams, and has infused our work with the energy to carry Woolman into a new era: Woolman Rising.

In the coming months details of the plan will be made public and with urgency the new era of Woolman will be launched. Woolman calls upon the alumni, Quaker community and supporters-at-large, to rally in support of the next generation as we help ready them to confront the overwhelming challenges of our world.

This year we celebrated another fantastic year at Camp Woolman. Click the link below to hear about what Woolman means to our dedicated counselors!

<https://youtu.be/BmwV4OiE2o0>

College Park Quarterly Meeting

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Earth, Air, Fire, Water Rescheduled: November 30-December 2

We have rescheduled the date for the 2018 annual kiln firing of Woolman's Noborigama kiln.

Mark your calendars for the weekend of November 30, December 1 & 2 to partake in this truly spectacular event.

Gift Registry

Want to give back to Woolman in a more tangible way? Check out our new gift registry! Click the link [here](#) to see if there is a gift you are able to provide to support the ongoing maintenance and campus improvement projects here at Woolman.

Support Us!

We are raising funds for General Operating Support, Maintenance Projects and for our discernment process moving forward. [We gratefully welcome donations of any amount and deeply appreciate your support.](#) Together, we can usher in a new level of sustainability for Woolman.

Are you an alum? Join the FireSpark Campaign! Started by Charles Dorfan, WS Spring'09, Charles is dedicated to supporting alum in raising funds to preserve Woolman's unique gifts for the future.

ADVICES and QUERIES Ninth Month

Meeting for Worship for Business

Come to Meeting with hearts and minds prepared to be open and faithful to the leadings of the Spirit. Then the conduct of business will lead to truth, unity, and love.

When a matter is before the Meeting for Business, each person present contributes to the corporate search for a decision that accords with the will of God. Inaction is a form of action. Silent worship in the Meeting for Business contributes to the process of achieving unity.

Listen attentively to others' words and use the silence between messages to reflect carefully on what you might contribute. When you are clear, speak simply what is in your heart, without repeating what has already been offered. While making your insights clear, lay aside personal opinions and attend to what God requires.

Do I attend Meeting for Business regularly?

Do I speak in Meeting for Business only when I am led to speak?

Is the Meeting for Business held as a Meeting for Worship in which we seek divine guidance for our actions?

Are we tender and considerate of different views, coming to a decision only when we have found unity?

Do we give prayerful support for our clerks that they may be sensitive to the movement of the Spirit among us?

From College Park Quarterly Meeting Outgoing Clerk

Dear Friends,

College Park Quarterly Meeting will be held October 19-21 at Sierra Friends Center in Nevada City. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet new and old Friends of all ages for fellowship and spiritual enrichment. More information and registration materials will be sent out soon.

Let me introduce incoming clerks, Barbara Babin, clerk <b_babin@yahoo.com>, and Janet Leslie, assistant clerk <janles@igc.org>, who will be your new CPQM contacts. If you are no longer the clerk or CPQM representative for your Meeting, please let Janet know who is currently serving in those roles so that she can update this mailing list.

Sandy Kewman, outgoing clerk

From Friends General Conference (FGC): Don Kewman, Grass Valley Friends Meeting Representative to FGC Central Committee

History: Founded in 1900, FGC has grown from a voluntary organization of seven yearly meetings, created to hold a “general conference” every other year.

Minute of Purpose: Friends General Conference, with Divine guidance, nurtures the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) by **providing programs and services** for Friends, meetings, and seekers.

FGC has three priorities: 1.) Deepen Quaker Worship, 2.) Support a welcoming and inclusive community; 3.) Support outreach

Now: 15 Yearly Meetings; 13 directly affiliated Monthly Meetings including GVFM. Primarily unprogramed “liberal” meetings. \$1,746,00 budgeted expenses; 1,307,000 income plus \$92,000 restricted funds and \$297,000 “endowments” (\$50,000 greater than sustainable withdrawal from “endowment” so need for cutbacks).

From the 2018 Friends General Conference

► **Rev. Dr. Barber's Plenary Address at FGC**, “America must have a Moral Revival” is available for viewing on YouTube. Please view and share as led. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/Xqaln5eYfSo?t=18m50s>

Your Input Requested by Friends General Conference...call or email Don to provide your input!

- 530-272-3736
- <dkewman@gmail.com>

Current Major Programs: Please rank the top THREE FGC programs in order of importance/significance to you by placing a 1, 2, & 3 in the space before each program

- __ Friends Meeting House Fund
- __ Christian and Interfaith Relations Committee (CIRC)
- __ Quaker Cloud (Hosts many Meeting websites and other online Resources)
- __ Ministry on Racism and Institutional Assessment on Racism
- __ Young Adult Friends
- __ Spiritual Deepening
- __ Publications and Distribution (Bookstore)
- __ Summer Gathering
- __ Yearly Meeting Clerks Consultation

Have you ever attended the annual Gathering? (circle one) YES NO
What other programs of FGC have you utilized or are familiar with?

Current FGC Governance Model:

Central Committee (Approx. 75-120 people who meet 1x year) Executive Committee (30-40 people who meet 3x year); Executive Committee primarily acts on behalf of Central Committee between Meetings. Many feel it is an unwieldy structure and needs to be more nimble. Are Central Committee members delegates representing “will” of their Meeting or primarily vessels seeking “divine guidance” for decision making.

Four Draft Models Proposed (not mutually exclusive):

2. Dynamic Governance (Sociocracy)
3. Separate into 4 corporations
4. Reduce programs to only two: Gathering and Racial Justice Ministry
5. Vest decision making primarily in Executive Committee with more of an advisory and oversight function of the Central Committee that meets every other year

Please contact Don Kewman to share your answers, insights and questions.

From PYM and from the Heart by Sandy Kewman PYM Rep :

Why do I attend the Annual Session? I go because being a member of the Religious Society of Friends of the Truth is my spiritual path. There I get to worship more than daily, as well as eat and talk and walk with Friends from Mexico, Nevada, Hawaii, as well as California.

This year the two young women, Elena Anderson Williams and Carin Anderson, who spoke to the gathering about their leadings to work in the world were inspiring. (I've taken their words and included it here at the end of my report for all of you to read.)

At Annual Session I hear about how other Meetings are ministering to the world as well as how other Friends are being worked by the Spirit. Daily, Friends can choose to read the Bible together and share how such segments of the bible speak to their condition. We hear from representatives from Friends General Conference, Friends Committee on National Legislation, and Friends Committee on California Legislation, as well as the Guatemala Scholarship program. But most of all, at Annual Session I continue to learn what it means for me to be a Friend.

I feel searched by the Light and supported by other Friends who are searched by the Light. I learn about Quaker history that I've not heard of before and spiritual practices that can help us all. I hope some of you will attend next year on July 12-17, 2019 at Walker Creek Ranch in Marshall, California.

Elena Anderson-Williams

Faithfulness in ministry is birthing a witness together—we are joined in this. A childhood myth of a noble calling and answer lived in Elena early in her life. She craved certainty and waited. She hoped to move quickly beyond what constrained her. Yet the waking up did not come quickly or easily. In her failures and longing, she knew she needed divine intervention. She felt helpless and unworthy. How could she be an instrument of God, how was she to be faithful? She was answered in her life: faithfulness, she found, was not about goodness, being right, or even service. What was required was to be a fool for God, to be broken open before the world, to be fierce in love and in the following of that love. A wild faith of no boundary, beyond our concepts and fears. When she was 23 two teens, one pregnant, with substance abuse and other challenges, arrived to live with her. Told this was beyond her by others, she nevertheless stood firm to be a channel for God's love. Finally she came to her own limit in holding this care—in this moment of breaking apart, the words of Isaac Pennington coursed through her—give over thine own willing...and let that breathe in thee. She gave it all over and

up to God and was broken not apart but open. She became able at every turn to answer in love. This great and terrible truth, she feels now in her bones. Then she felt a call, which she resisted but then responded to, to work for a time in Belfast at Quaker Cottage. Upon her return, she learned she had been “tenderized” in the hardness of this period in Belfast. Her work with women and children in suffering was a work of extending care and obedience to God; she could love them unconditionally. What does it mean to be formed for fellowship, she asked herself, and how does this affect her relationship to the larger community of Friends? Willing to be exposed and foolish, she fears judgment even in the open loving community; she fears being seen as one of those in need of being served, rather than one in service. How do the lines of service and being served work in the matter of being faithful? She finds herself able to bring her love of life into community when she no longer is asking what needs to be served, when she feels our common sinking down to the seed, to the sweet yoke. Faithfulness is for her the feeling of joyfulness now present for her in every interaction. This forms her instinct for life. Yet this requires standing with feet on the abyss. Humility must be there but also the willingness to stand as a living testament to the embodiment of grace. We must answer every call in being ready to be obedient, even while discernment must follow.

Carin Anderson

With Kylin Navarro Burger, Carin sang. *We shall be known by the company we keep—it is time now—we shall learn to lead in love.* Carin spoke of a transformation of life two decades ago when she learned ways of following the leadings of the Spirit. This led to years of following ---- yet she began to feel that her own callings led her out of the Quaker community where she felt them unwelcome. A decade ago she shared a message that she felt was not heard and she began to withdraw from the Quaker community to experiment on her own. When invited to speak at this annual session, she wanted to refuse but did not—and began to understand there was a message she was called to give, discomfiting as it might be to us and to her. She told us a story. When ten years old she lived in Hong Kong—a place of fascination but also great economic inequity. She saved her allowance to give to the “poor people.” It however was a deep hurt to see this way in which the world was not right. This abiding sensitivity to suffering has called her to work in many ways, in many places, especially with children. In El Salvador and then in Colombia she sought to be of service and brought these stories home to this Quaker community. She hoped to inspire some action to change these conditions and found support in many. Yet most of what moved her felt too difficult to share. She moved on because she could not say these words: “we are in relationship with these many people who suffer, who grow our bananas, make our clothing, make our computers. We are connected to their suffering and we know it.” Yet we are able to rationalize in some way these relationships and remain able to live on in our current ways. She spoke of Woolman’s powerful account of a vision of human suffering in the silver mines, where he heard the voice that said “John Woolman is dead.” He comes to understand that the message was the death of his own will—he saw the “silver vessels” in homes he visited as his connection to this suffering. Woolman could not experience the fruits of the suffering of others without feeling that suffering. He knew his liberation was bound up with theirs. Are we like the 18th century Friend slaveholders? How much of our wealthy lives rests on a modern slave system? We share a set of norms that buffers real challenge to our ways—convincing us that having a car, a computer, a cell phone, is “normal.” We live a first world life while few among us genuinely challenge this system. What happens to our integrity and relationship with God when the daily acts of our lives involve the “purchase” of oppressive systems. Slave owners used many practical arguments for perpetuating their system. We also have made acceptable our own living off of the suffering of others. Carin in her own experiments has not figured out the solution yet she has found much in her search. Her own radical shedding of possessions to move into a very small hand-built home in Chico, was a transforming experience. The simplicity and quiet opened her. Her abandoning of car ownership was another experiment—in which she found a liberation, even in the midst of the many challenges. In these experiments she has felt lonely and sometimes a burden to her first world family and friends. What has she learned? We need community—the personal experiment is not enough. We must corporately experiment, for there is much complexity in figuring out how to do it. For each the experiment will be different—yet in each life, steps are possible. The failure is of collective imagination. Alternatives

exist even if we do not now see them. We seek to live into a world that will nurture all of us. Like spokes of a wheel, all these experiments lead us to a center. For us, tweaking at the edges of a life is not enough. A paradigm shift is required, hard as it is. But to be able to look our human family in the eye, is to see the face of God.

InterFaith Nevada County Invites You



- **Who:** InterFaith Nevada County (INC) honors U. N. International Day of Peace
- **What:** A “Gathering for World Peace”
- **Why:** To pray, meditate, sing, celebrate, and enjoy fellowship
- **When:** Friday, September 21, 2018 at 6 p.m.
- **Where:** United Methodist Church, 236 S. Church Street, Grass Valley (530) 272-1946.
- **Pot-luck dinner to begin at 6 p.m. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages provided. Program follows in the Sanctuary at 7 p.m. Children’s room available.**
- **For more information, please contact your local religious community.**

GVFM ANNUAL RETREAT

Saturday, September 22, 2018

Presented by your Spiritual Life Committee

At the home of Mary and Gordon Starr

750 Pine Knoll Rd., Applegate, Ca. 95703 530-878-1237

Meeting for Worship is in many ways the core—the central embodiment—of all that we as Friends hold dear and true. In sitting in silent worship with others, we seek to find that stillness, light and unity that confirms our innate oneness in the Spirit, while also seeking to touch and be touched by the Light, by Divine presence and guidance. Although there exist methods that might help us experience that presence and light, and guidance about what one might do in meeting to enrich the experience of all, they aren’t used or emphasized as much as they could be.

At the retreat, learn what your fellow Quakers do and experience when they are in meeting for worship. Discuss the approach to meeting for worship that is in the classic Quaker pamphlet *Four Doors to Meeting for Worship*. Experience, journal about, and discuss a guided meditation based on the practices of early Quakers—the experiment with light described by Rex Ambler. Engage in worship sharing about queries from our own Quakerism 102 course. We encourage you to read from these sources in preparation for the retreat.*

The retreat will be just the one day, Saturday, September 22, from 9:00 AM until 5:00 PM or so with coffee and tea and a light vegetarian lunch provided. In addition, due to several requests, we are happy to offer the option of coming Friday night to join us for a potluck dinner and evening of visiting. We have ample accommodations for spending the night but please let us know ahead of time if you plan to come.

The cost is \$20 per person for the day with no extra charge for Friday night. ***Child care will be provided.***

* "Four Doors to Meeting for Worship" can be obtained from QuakerBooks online bookstore

<https://quakerbooks.org/products/four-doors-to-meeting-for-worship-3376> .

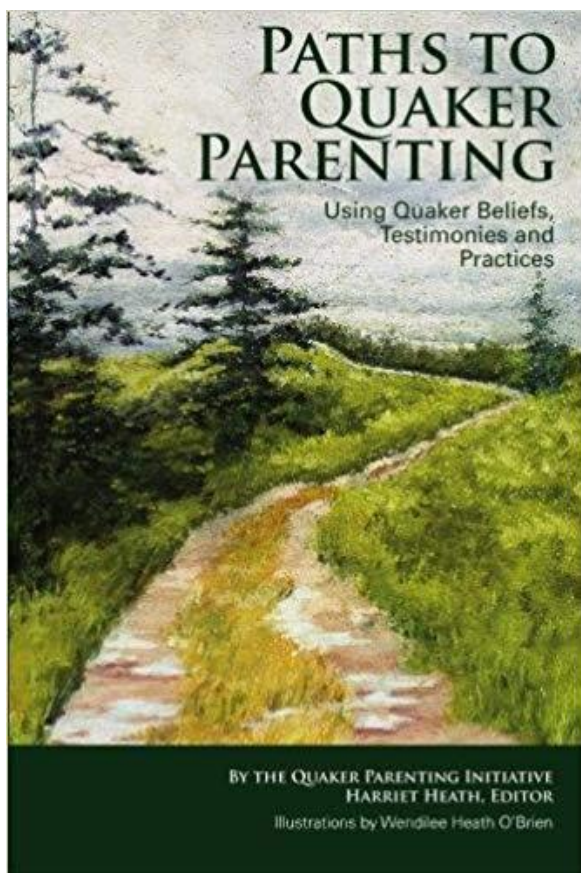
A summary of the "Four Doors to Meeting for Worship" pamphlet is at

[https://www.fgcquaker.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Four Doors to Meeting for Worship_0.pdf](https://www.fgcquaker.org/sites/default/files/attachments/Four%20Doors%20to%20Meeting%20for%20Worship_0.pdf)

An introduction to Rex Ambler's work on Quaker light-related meditations can be found at <http://www.experiment-with-light.org.uk/about.htm>

Newsletter Editor Alternate needed for when Dianne Marshall may not be available. IF interested please call or see Dianne. 530-274-1922. Thank you!

Paths to Quaker Parenting: Using Quaker Beliefs, Testimonies and Practices: \$14.95 – Copy now available in the GVFM Library



Parents ask questions: How should I respond to my three-year-old's whining for a cookie at 5:30? Should my nine-year-old have both an iPod and a cell phone, or neither? How do I deal with my anger when my teenager rolls his eyes and doesn't move after I've asked him to take out the trash? As Quakers parents look to their faith for guidance. How does my belief, that there is a Way, impact my parenting? How will I parent following the Peace Testimony especially when I am angry? Will centering myself help keep me from lashing out when I am so angry? Can I center myself in the midst of family chaos? This book is the sharing of a group of parents who have struggled with concerns such as these, have looked to their Quaker faith and found there strength and guidance.

As We Go Forward

As we go forward in this life...

May we be SAFE: Safe in our travels And Safe people to be with;

May we be PEACEFUL:

Peaceful within And Peaceful with the world;

May we be TENDER:

Tender to ourselves And Tender One with Another;

And May we be LOVE:

For God is Love And Love is all that is ever asked of us!

"So long as we enjoy the light of day may we greet one another with love." ~Zuni

I'd like to Join the Meeting

Variations of stories like these have been shared on numerous occasions:

Regular Attender Hi, I'm thinking of joining the meeting.

Member, shaking her head What?! You've only been coming for 2 [or 5 or 10] years?

Regular Attender Hi, this is my first time at meeting and I've found my spiritual home. How do I join?

Member, grinning Can you write your letter this week? Nominating Committee's been looking for a new clerk of the meeting for several months and you'd do just fine.

Regular Attender I've been attending meeting for five years, clerked several committees, and now am ready to join. What do I need to do?

Member, sighing sadly Well, it entails a lot of responsibility and commitment. Why don't you let me know in a few years if you still feel like this is the place for you?

New, and regular, Attender I've been coming every week for the last six months and feel like this is my spiritual home. And, I read *Faith and Practice* like you suggested.

Member I'm so glad.

New, and regular, Attender I'd like to become a member.

Member, aghast, and stepping back from the attender What?! It takes years to decide that. Keep coming, participating, reading more books, doing the work – if you are sure in four or five years, then we can discuss if this might be right for you.

Consider these responses, instead:

Regular Attender Hi, I'm thinking of joining the meeting.

Member, smiling That's fantastic! Tell me more.

Regular Attender Hi, this is my first time at meeting and I've found my spiritual home. How do I join?

Member, joyfully I'd like to hear more about your experience. Do you want to grab some coffee and join me in the fellowship room?

Regular Attender I've been attending meeting for five years, clerked several committees, and now am ready to join. What do I need to do?

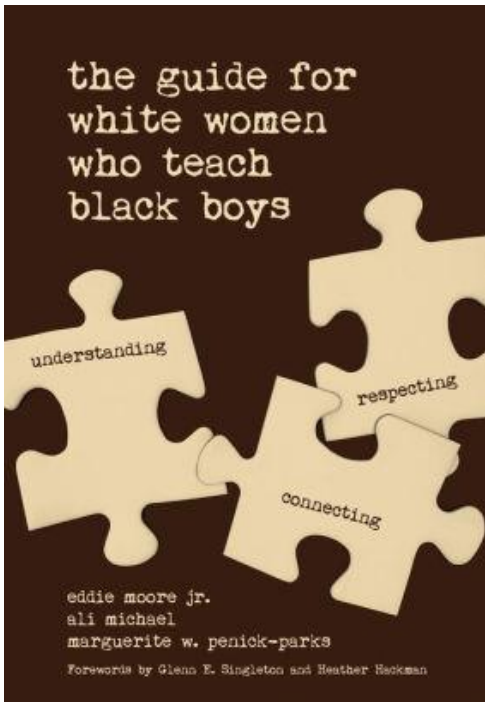
Member, bubbling with joy I'm so glad! Let's go together to the clerk of Care and Council so that you can start the process. Let me know if there's any way that I can be helpful to you.

New, and regular, Attender I've been coming every week for the last six months and feel like this is my spiritual home. And, I read *Faith and Practice* like you suggested.

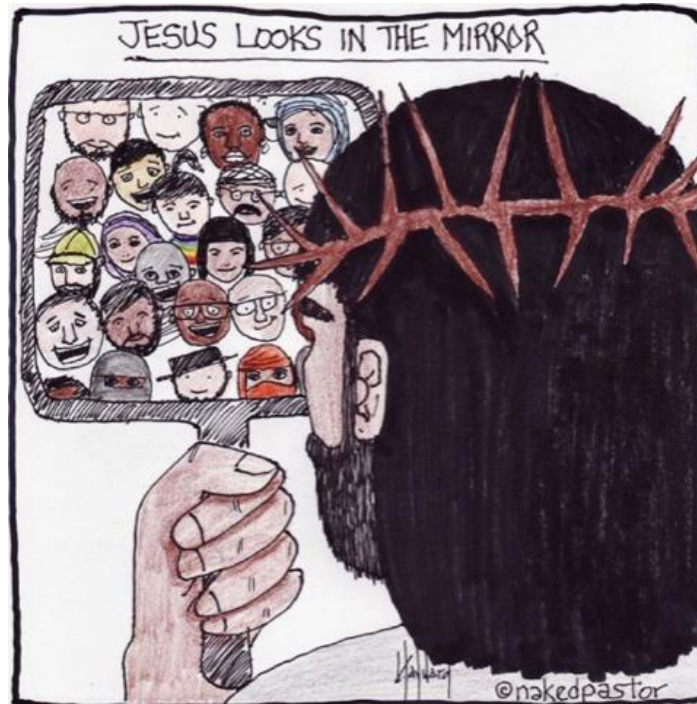
Member, nodding I'm so glad.

New, and regular, Attender I'd like to become a member.

Member, happily That's awesome! Let me introduce you to the clerk of Care and Council so that you can start the process.



The Guide for White Women who Teach Black Boys by Eddie Moore, Jr., Ali Michael and Marguerite Penick-Parks "So why is an awareness of whiteness so important for white teachers (and white Friends)? For one thing, whites see themselves as individuals above all. Therefore, they don't find racial identification to be of significance. Because the school curricula and the media mostly reflect the same cultural references, preferences, and biases, they see them as normal and superior. Other groups, because they are oppressed based on their racial identity and because there are differences between their ways and dominant white ways, do see themselves as distinct groups. Unfortunately, white teachers typically perceive black life as a deficit; as a result, they approach teaching with a "savior" mentality. With more awareness that whiteness is just one of the options, teachers are better able to appreciate the richness of the cultures of children of color and to notice the brilliance and giftedness among children they teach."



Through a Visitor's Eyes . . .

Adapted from a piece used by Farmington Friends Meeting, New York Yearly Meeting

Hello, I am a newcomer to your meeting. You cannot know the reason why I am here this morning. It may be as simple as a move to your community, or as complicated as a personal crisis that leads me to seek strength from God. In any case, I am here. And I will probably remain here and come back to visit you next Sunday and the Sunday after that if you will do something for me. Won't you please . . .

- **SMILE AT ME AS I WALK IN YOUR DOOR.** You are my first impression of this meeting, and this impression will probably stay with me for a long time.
- **SPEAK TO ME AFTER MEETING.** I know you want to see your friends, and settle that piece of committee business, but if you do not notice me, I may find it hard to believe that you truly care for the "stranger in your midst."
- **TELL ME GOOD THINGS ABOUT YOUR MEETING.** I want to believe that I have come to a place where people love each other, and where they believe they are doing something important.
- **NOTICE ME EVEN IF I AM NOT A "FAMILY."** I don't want to feel invisible just because I am unmarried, a teenager, or an older person.
- **TALK TO ME AGAIN THE SECOND WEEK WHEN I COME BACK,** and the third and the fourth. I am still not part of your meeting family. Please don't feel that you have "done your duty" by me because you made a point of greeting me the first week I was here.
- **INVITE ME TO BECOME PART OF SOME MEETING GROUP OR ACTIVITY.** I need more than worship every Sunday. I need to know that I am accepted and affirmed. I need to have people within the meeting who know me by my first name and who care about me as an individual.

If you can find it in your heart to do these things for me, I will come back . . . the second Sunday, the third, and maybe forever. I will worship with you. And I may work on your projects, teach First Day School, share my spiritual journey, and become an active member of your meeting. In so doing, I will find my life immeasurably enriched, and so will you.

Grass Valley Friends Meeting (GVFM) Contact Information:

Updated 7-8-18

Office Holders:

- **Clerk of the Meeting:** Don and Anita McCormick, 310-597-9469, donmccormick2@gmail.com, <anita@webstop.com>
- **Directory Clerk:** Sandy Kewman (530) 272-3736 srosekewman@gmail.com
- **Librarian:** Dianne Marshall dmarshall@pacific.net, 530-274-1922
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- **Website Maintenance:** Amy Cooke, amyliette@gmail.com

Committees:

- **Buildings and Grounds:** Gordon Starr – Committee Clerk (530-878-1237) gstarr121@aol.com, Reed Hamilton, Doug Hamm, Pat Phillips
- **Finance Committee:** Mary Starr – Committee Clerk, Reed Hamilton, Don Kewman, Fosten Wilson, Treasurer, Ex Officio member
- **Intergenerational Education Committee:** Judy Hamilton, Judywestonhamilton@gmail.com, Karen Olson (Resource), John Inman, Ben Preston
- **Library Committee:** Christie Monson, Shera Banbury, Elissa Preston
- **Ministry and Oversight Committee:** Kathy Mc Creery (530-265-6533) fostenw@yahoo.com, Genevieve Buckley, Gordon Bishop, Peggy Baldwin, Mary Starr
- **Outreach Committee:** **Gordon Starr** Committee Clerk (530-878-1237) gstarr121@aol.com, Sharon Davisson, Gordon Bishop, Hilary Ellis-Lavigne and Ted Smith
- **Peace and Social Order Committee:** Dean Olson, 273-2094, deanolson44@gmail.com, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Pat Phillips, Beth Kemplin, Dave Barnett
- **Sierra Friends Center:** (530) 273-3183 info@woolman.org
- **Spiritual Life Committee:** Gordon Starr – Committee Clerk gstarr121@aol.com, (530-878-1237), Sandy Kewman, Peggy Baldwin, Don McCormick

Remember: This contact information is new for the year 2018-19.

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Return Address Requested

