



Friday, July 8, 2016 & Saturday, July 9, 2016

Online: fgcquaker.org/blog

2016 FGC Gathering

July 3 to July 9, 2016

College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph, Minnesota



Advices and Queries on Race and the Beloved Community

"that we all may be one" (John 17:22)

Advices:

If we are to overcome both personal and institutional racism in the life and ministry of Friends General Conference, we must hold a common vision of the Beloved Community:

A community that affirms the Spirit lives and speaks in the hearts of all people regardless of race or ethnicity and respects and values all of their gifts.

A community whose core testimonies (equality, peace, integrity, simplicity and community) stand in sharp contrast to a culture of white supremacy whose insidious nature has found roots in the life and work of Friends General Conference.

As a community we must do the painful work of honestly facing our history, in order to seek, uproot and dismantle white supremacy in Friends General Conference.

Emboldened by this vision, we appeal to you this week, to reflect on these queries.

Queries:

What is your experience with white supremacy in your own life and the life of your Quaker Meeting?

How would your life and the life of your Quaker Meeting be different if the structures of white supremacy and racial injustice were dismantled?

How do you see your part in creating the beloved community?

Plenary

Peggy Senger Morrison - 7 pm Holy Boldness

Peggy Senger Morrison is a free-lance provocateur of grace, recorded Friends minister and founding pastor of Freedom Friends Church, a pastoral Quaker Meeting in Salem, Oregon, that declares itself as Passionately Christ-centered, Passionately Quaker, and Passionately Inclusive. She is the author of *Miracle Motors: A Pert Near True Story*, a motorcycle theology. As a licensed counselor for 20 years, her major focus for the last decade has been trauma healing, especially among Quakers in Central Africa.

"White Privilege Is, White Privilege Ain't"

Reflections on this year's White Privilege Conference written for her Quarterly Meeting by LVM Shelton, pertain to the concerns of institutional and internalized racism that have smoldered during this week of Gathering. Copies may be obtained at the People of Color Center on second floor of Gorecki Center. An electronic copy may be obtained by emailing LVM at lvshelt@mailbag.com.

Today's Events

Peace Prayer Dances

7:00 am: BAC: Studio Theater. Last chance for Peace Prayer Dances led by Barbara Christwitz.

2016 Gathering Committee Meeting

12:30 pm: Ardolf: 121. Note the time change.

Talk with General Secretary

1:30 pm: Henrita, 128B. An opportunity for Friends to share with the General Secretary concerning issues of race and moving toward a positive future.

Future of Quakerism Continued...

1:30 pm: BAC: 104A. Come share your vision. What are we called to as a people? How do we support one another in manifesting the transforming power of our faith?

Multi-generational Activity - Location Change

1:30 pm: Library Plaza. Have a favorite song or poem? Bring your family and share it.

Quaker Arts Center Reception

1:30 pm: Henrita: 128A. Come to the Art Reception. There will be a discussion about art workshops, a chance to talk to artists, a folk music performance and refreshments. Become a member of the Fellowship of the Arts which curates this show.

AYF Activities

3-5 pm: Aurora Basement Lounge. Slate approval and closing worship.

11pm - Late: Aurora Basement Lounge. Love Feast and Talent Show!

Family Place Event

3:15 pm: Margretta: Lounge. Grace Kelly leads a puppetry activity in the Family Place.

Today's Events - Continued

Quaker Stories

3:15 pm: BAC-A104. Chuck Fager on Quaker blogging and Quaker stories. Chuck did his first "blogging" and wrote Quaker stories on a typewriter and has never stopped. Let's talk about that - bring your best Quaker stories, too.

Prayer of the World

4:30 pm: Henrita: 119. Prayer of the World brings forth the voice of earth through poetry, photography and music shared out of silence.

Announcements

Lost and Found

Looking for your yoga mat? Cellphone? Sunglasses? Water bottle? Other items? There is an overflowing box of items at the Info Desk. Please check the box carefully before you leave campus.

Pig Buckets in the Dining Hall

The cafeteria supplies a local farmer with food scraps left on our plates! The dishwashing staff collects the scraps which are picked up and fed as a sustainable foodstuff to some local pigs. This is a great way to keep our food scraps out of the landfill while supporting a small local farm.

Serving Utensil Etiquette

Friends are reminded that serving spoons and tongs are placed in each dish in the dining hall for a reason. Using serving spoons and tongs on other dishes makes those dishes unsafe for others with diverse dining and allergy needs. Please refrain from cross-contaminating when serving yourself.

FLGBTQC Cabaret and Auction

Robb Yurisko is collecting items for the auction at Aurora F03.

Announcements - Continued

Sunday's Statement on Racism

Sunday's **updated** statement on racism can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/gr7dq9h>

Message Board

Please check the large red message board in the Gorecki Center Lounge. You might be surprised to find a note for you!

Golf Carts

On Saturday we need to return our golf carts by noon. Golf cart dispatching services and cell phone service will end at 10 am. Later golf cart use will be sporadic.

Fragrance-Free Left Overs

Please feel free to take left over shampoo and conditioner home with you.

Volunteers Needed

We need to check the dorm rooms after Friends leave on Saturday starting at 1 pm. If you are able, please sign up at Lend-a-Hand.

Guatemalan Handicrafts

Last chance to buy crafts. We will be packing up at 2:30 pm Friday in the Gathering Store. *Mil gracias* for supporting Mayan students.

Northern Radio Reminder

Remember to take Northern Spirit Radio sampler CDs for your ride home and for sharing with your Meeting and community. Available from the Gorecki Center display before 5 pm Friday.

SATURDAY EVENTS AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Saturday Closing Worship:

9-10 am: **All Gathering Closing Worship.** Sacred Heart Chapel (enter through the Gathering Place). Please be aware the Sisters have a funeral at 11am with friends/family gathering as we leave worship.

9-10 am: **Meeting for Worship under the care of FLGBTQC.** Haehn Center: Alumni Hall.

Departing from St Benedicts

Please check out with CSB before departing campus. Bring your key and swipe card to Gorecki Center Lounge across from the dining hall starting at 7:00 am. Leave your sheets, pillows and towels in your room. If you still have your key packet, please put your key and swipe card in the packet. This will speed the returns and check out.

Departing earlier than 7 am?

For earlier checkouts on Saturday morning, please leave your key and cards together in the labeled box located in the lobby outside the Gorecki Dining Center. The main check-out will be available starting at 7:00 am in the Gorecki Main Lobby area.

Reminders

- **Campers and Commuters** can leave cards in the labeled box located in the lobby outside the Gorecki Dining Center.
- All **Executive Express** Shuttles will be departing from in front of the Gorecki Center.
- **Box Lunch Pick up 6:00 am – 11:00 am** in the Lobby outside Gorecki Center Dining Hall
- Remember to pick up your box lunch **if you signed up for one.** If not, you may fix a To Go Box starting at 11am in Gorecki Center. Lunch will be served only in the Gorecki Center on Saturday.

Golf Carts

Golf Cart Service will stop at 12:00 noon. If you need a golf cart on Saturday to get to the Gorecki Center, please check with Golf Cart Central to find out if arrangements are still possible. Any golf cart needs for early morning departures must be made with Golf Cart Central and are dependent on driver availability.

Payment

If you have not yet paid for attending the Gathering and would like to use a credit card (or give us a check), please see Susan Lee Barton in the Gathering Office from 9 am-1 pm and 2-4 pm today.

Hope to see you next year!

2017 FGC Gathering

Ripples start where spirit moves

July 2 - 8, 2017

Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York