



FGC Organizes Unique Week-Long Spiritual Gathering for Quakers

Toledo will host Quakers from around the world during FGC's annual Gathering of Friends in July

Friends General Conference, a Quaker organization serving Friends across the United States and Canada, will present its annual **FGC Gathering of Friends** from **July 1 to 7** at the **University of Toledo**. The theme of this year's Gathering is ***The Power of Truth*** – an invitation to explore the concept of truth in the era of “fake news.”

“Our goal is to help create bridges of healing,” said **Barry Crossno**, FGC's **General Secretary**. “Quakers believe that every person is loved by and has direct access to the Divine. We also believe that personal integrity and honesty are foundational to the spiritual journey. The FGC Gathering is an opportunity to affirm these truths with Friends and friends of Friends through fellowship and spiritual reflection.”

This year's Gathering will bring together almost 1,000 Quakers, as well as members of other spiritual traditions, for a week of eclectic workshop offerings, community worship opportunities, and a stellar line-up of speakers. **Dr. Robin Wall Kimmerer**, award-winning author of ***Braiding Sweetgrass***, and **Rev. Dr. William J. Barber, II** of the **Poor People's Campaign** will make appearances for the afternoon Author Events series and deliver evening plenary addresses to Gathering attendees during the week. **Baldemar Velásquez** of the **Farm Labor Organizing Committee** and storyteller **La'Ron Williams** are also due to present as part of the evening programming. Community members are invited to visit the **Gathering Store**, featuring books and craft vendors from around the United States and Canada.

The 2018 FGC Gathering runs from July 1 to 7 at the University of Toledo campus. Evening plenary events will take place at 7:00pm each night Monday through Friday.

For more information about the Gathering, visit FGCquaker.org/gathering.

About Friends General Conference (FGC)

FGC is an association of local and regional Quaker organizations primarily in the United States and Canada. Since 1900, FGC has supported the spiritual journey of individual Friends, Quaker meetings and churches, and those interested in the Quaker Way through regional events, virtual learning opportunities, and print resources.

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