

## **2019 Northern Yearly Meeting Annual Session Workshops**

### **Saturday**

#### **1. Assessments on Institutional Racism, FGC and NYM**

Led by: Becky Marty, John Greenler and Gale Rohde (NYM representatives to FGC)

Institutional racism is racism expressed in the practice of a social or political institution, as compared to an act by an individual. Institutional racism is frequently subtler and less overt, and individual racism is frequently easier to identify.

Friends General Conference (FGC) has been working on issues of racism for over 20 years. Over the past several years, it has embarked on a formal institutional assessment on racism (IAR), both to improve its own practices, and to provide similar opportunities for other Quaker organizations. During this workshop there will be a short introduction to institutional racism, and to the work of FGC on this topic. The majority of the time will be focused on working in small groups to consider different aspects of institutional racism and where we (Northern Yearly Meeting) see ourselves. This workshop may serve as a pilot for a possible larger effort by NYM to be reflective and take action on this concern.

#### **2. Witnessing to Our Faith and and to Our Practice (Friends Peace Teams' Asia West Pacific Initiative)**

Led by Nadine Hoover and John Skinner

Friends commit to being Ministers (tending our own and others' inward lives) and Companions (tending our outward expression of our inward experience). As we are changed by experimenting with the Spirit in our lives, we also become Witnesses (recording our faith and practice in the book of discipline and in the public record).

Come learn about and offer feedback to how Friends Peace Teams lives out our Quaker Peace Testimony today in Indonesia, Nepal, Aotearoa, Korea, Nepal, Philippines, North Caucus, and Ukraine, and explore how you might express your individual witness. [For additional detailed information, visit <https://friendspeaceteams.org/awp/>.]

#### **3. Individual Spiritual Discernment, following Pendle Hill Pamphlet #443**

Led by Jerry Knutson

Jerry Knutson will guide participants through his Pendle Hill Pamphlet #443 "Individual Spiritual Discernment". This workshop will focus on practicing methods of discernment, testing and

implementing the discernment, and practicing spiritual disciplines. Participants are encouraged (but not required) to read the Pamphlet in advance and bring it to the workshop. The pamphlet is available at [Quakerbooks.org](http://Quakerbooks.org)

Jerry is visiting with a travel minute from Orlando, Florida Meeting.

## **Sunday**

### **1. Traveling in the Quaker Ministry Among the Diverse Branches of Friends: Stories from the past two years on the road.**

Led by Chuck Schobert

Since attending the 2012 World Gathering of Friends in Kenya, Chuck has been exploring and seasoning his Call to travel in the ministry across the varied branches of Friends, sharing what God offers him. The ministry he carries is one of listening and encouragement; carrying the Spiritual Fire to kindle God's love in a world sorely in need of healing. He encourages Friends to deepen their spiritual lives and consider how that depth might help bridge differences across the various branches of Friends. He'll share a few stories about the origin and discernment of this leading and what he has learned during this travel. The majority of our time will be grounded in experiences, with opportunities for open discussion and questions. Please come prepared to listen and share tenderly with hearts open.

### **2. Quaker Education.**

Facilitated by Kat Griffith

There will be a four speaker panel, including one or two Salvadorian Friends, followed by group discussion. We will be addressing: What is distinctive about Quaker education (in the experience of the presenter)? What does it mean to be a Quaker educator in a public school setting? What does it mean to be a Quaker home schooler?

### **3. Holding our Families in the Light: Results of last year's interviews**

Led by Windy Cooler

Windy visited several yearly meetings last summer, starting with NYM, to conduct research on family life present day Friends' communities. This workshop will be a chance to hear the results of that research and talk through our responses to it.