



**Redwood Forest Friends Meeting Newsletter  
June 2021**

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**Redwood Forest Friends Meeting invites you:**

10 am Meeting for Worship on First First Days via Zoom  
To obtain Zoom link or join by phone please contact  
[b\\_babin@yahoo.com](mailto:b_babin@yahoo.com)

**Lake County Worship Group every Tuesday, 7:30-8pm**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/395822648?pwd=VmpMWm9QRTVaZ05uZzcwL2ZsVWNIQT09>

If you will be dialing by phone:

+1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 395 822 648\

**Quaker Center Worship Opportunities**

**WEDNESDAY MORNING WORSHIP SHARING 10 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (PT)**

Join Friends from around the world on Zoom as we respond to queries based on short readings.  
Find Zoom link on our website [QuakerCenter.org](http://QuakerCenter.org) Password: Quaker

and also. . .

**DAILY ONLINE WORSHIP 7:30 a.m. - 8 a.m. (PT)**

Find Chat link on website.

Deadline for July 2021 Newsletter is June 18  
Send submissions to [rffmnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:rffmnewsletter@gmail.com)

**Redwood Forest Friends Meeting  
June 2021 Calendar Items**

*(All events are via Zoom unless otherwise noted.  
Links or changes will be sent out in the weekly announcement.)*

- Friday, May 28** 7-9 pm Friendly Friday Films: *John Lewis, Good Trouble*
- Sunday, June 6** 8:45 Worship-Sharing on Advices and Queries, facilitated by Molly Bishop  
10 am Meeting for Worship  
Noon Committee Meetings/First Reading of State of the Meeting Report
- Sunday, June 13** 10 am Meeting for Worship  
Noon Meeting for Business
- Sunday, June 20** 10 am Meeting for Worship  
Noon Quaker Working Group on Racism
- Saturday, June 16** 11-1 Preparations for the Repair of Social Justice, facilitated by Brian Lloyd
- Sunday, June 27** 10 am Meeting for Worship  
Noon Quaker Topic: *9 Core Quaker Beliefs*  
facilitated by Barbara Babin

**Worship-Sharing on the Advices and Queries**

We will be holding worship-sharing sessions at 8:45am on first Sundays to reflect on the Advices and Queries that are published in Pacific Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice*. These queries (which will also be read during worship on the first Sunday of the month) give us the opportunity to examine how we live out our faith as individuals and as a community. Come join us as we delve deeper!

**Lake County Worship Group** meets weekly on Tuesday evenings via Zoom.  
7:10pm Singing; 7:30pm Worship; 8pm Socializing

**Wednesday Worship**

In-person worship (masked and distanced), takes place around the courtyard of the Meetinghouse on Wednesday mornings at 10am. Sometimes the seats are a bit damp, so you may wish to bring a cushion. These 'no-host' Meetings for Worship will continue at least through the month of May.

To me every hour of the day and night is an unspeakable miracle.

*Walt Whitman*

## July Event

For many decades, the Friends Committee on Legislation of California has been a Quaker-Inspired presence in Sacramento. Its staff and board members pay attention to host of bills in the State Senate and Assembly, as well as the measures that show up on the Ballot at election time. They advocate for laws that are just, compassionate and respectful of all people, and keep us advised of legislation that is consistent or inconsistent with Quaker values.

At noon on **July 11**, Kevan Insko, who directs the Committee's activities in Sacramento will be with us via Zoom to bring us up-to-date with the current legislative session, and to hear about issues that most concern us. Please join the conversation.

James Alexander & Steve Birdlebough  
FCLCA Board Members

## Advices and Queries for June **STEWARDSHIP AND VOCATION**

John Woolman said, "As Christians all we possess are the gifts of God... To turn all the treasures we possess into the channel of Universal Love becomes the business of our lives." The principle of stewardship applies to all we have and are. As individuals, we are called to use our time, our various abilities, our strength, our money, and our material possessions with care, managing them wisely and sharing them generously.

From the indwelling Seed of God, we discover our particular gifts and discern the service to which we are called. In making choices about occupation or education, consider the way that offers the fullest opportunity to develop your individual abilities and contribute to the world community while providing for yourself and your family. In daily work, manifest a spirit of justice and understanding, and thus give a living witness to the truth.

Be ready to limit engagements, to withdraw for a time, or even to retire from an activity that inhibits your ability to follow a higher call. Try to discern the right moment to accept new responsibilities as well as to relinquish responsibility that can pass to others. Be open to your calling in different stages of life. Meetings need the strength and vigor of young people as well as the experience and wisdom of elders. Although they may not be able to contribute great financial support, their energy and insight invigorate the community. As people begin careers and families, they may need the spiritual and experienced help of the Meeting. Later, when families are growing up and careers are established, greater participation in the Meeting and greater financial support may become possible. Welcome the approach of old age, your own and others', as an opportunity for wisdom and greater attachment to the Light. Meetings should be ready with material and spiritual support for those suffering from unemployment or facing difficult vocational decisions.

How have I been faithful to the leadings of the Spirit in choosing work or vocation?  
What am I doing with my talents, time, money, and possessions? Am I sharing them according to the Light I am given?  
Is my conduct at the workplace consistent with my life as a Friend?  
*How does the Meeting help and support members who are in job transitions?*

## **RFFM MINUTES OF MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS 5/09/21**

The meeting opened with Worship at 12 noon with Barbara Babin, Clerk, presiding. She noted our sabbatical and our current status of assessing our meeting and invited tenderness with each other and awareness of Spirit as we move forward.

**MINUTE 2021-5-1 Meeting approved the Minutes of the April 11, 2021, meeting as written.**

The Clerk proposed that we select July as the summer month we take off from business meeting.

**MINUTE 2021-5-2 Meeting approved holding no Meeting for Worship For Business in July, 2021.**

### **Friends Committee on Legislation – California (FCL-CA) Report**

James Alexander, the meeting's representative to FCL-CA, reported the organization is having fiscal difficulties, is reaching out for donations, and is seeking new board members to infuse new energy and tackle the financial situation. Staff hours have been cut back. There was interest in having a speaker join RFFM zoom meeting to answer questions, and the importance of FCL-CA lobbying for police reform was noted.

### **Finance Committee Report**

Mary Miche gave the Treasurer's report for the third quarter. She noted the meeting has had less income but also less expenses during the Covid-19 restriction time. Payments to Pacific Yearly Meeting and our stewardship donations will be made before end of fiscal year. She reported an annual pass is still available for events presented by Ben Lomond. She also reported meeting received a \$22,000 donation from the Leon Beck Trust Fund which will be kept in the Rainy Day Fund until meeting decides how it will be used.

Mary also re-presented the proposed budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021. Comments and concerns included:

- Property Committee can review solar expense since it should be minimum bill.
- Request for more realistic estimates for space use income and cleaning budget.
- Committee will alter accounting to clarify Good Samaritan Fund activity.
- Appreciation for Finance Committee work on the budget.
- Send suggestions/questions to the committee by June 1; content is on website.

### **Resident Friends Sub-Committee Report (of Property Committee)**

Ann Boone reported the committee met with the resident friends on April 20. The Safe Parking project is going well. The resident friends are doing well, have accepted some cleaning duties while no groups are using the meetinghouse, and are planning for

home birth of their baby in early September. Meeting house activity will close down for the week the baby is born. The committee discussed safe re-opening of the meetinghouse and noted July will mark year 26 for meeting at our Guerneville site.

### **Property Committee Report**

Keith Bridges presented information from this committee:

- Construction of the subdivision on our west boundary will begin in May.
- Ben Hofvendahl, Resident Friend, will inform user groups when their baby is born.
- User groups smaller than eight persons can meet on site soon.
- Current Health Dept. guidelines allow 18 to gather in the meeting room (a few more allowed if couples/families sit together). If we gather, greeters would have more duties (e.g. remind about masks, take temps).
- Committee refers back to the Coordinating Committee the issue of reopening and how blended meeting (in-person plus zoom) would work.
- Committee will look for a gardener to replace Omar who is leaving soon.

Clerk noted Quaker Center and Western Friends sponsored a zoom workshop about hybrid (blended) meeting for worship and asked attendees to report.

- Resources include Woodbrooke meeting in England and the Future of Worship website.
- Effort is needed to prevent second class of membership with blended meetings.
- Stressed need to plan, plan, revise.
- Attention is needed to ensure members are able to hear.
- Start with least expensive technology.
- Understand blended meetings will bring benefits to the meeting.
- This is an opportunity to keep worship alive.

The Clerk indicated members/attenders interested in joining the ad hoc committee dealing with blended meetings and reopening the meeting house get in touch with her or Ann Boone.

### **Peace and Social Witness Committee**

Dinah Bachrach reported the committee discussed essential functions to continue:

- Dinah as Clerk will continue to post relevant events via listserv.
- Committee members will discuss via email any disbursements from the Good Samaritan Fund.

### **Ad Hoc Nominating Committee Report**

David Hoffman reported several items:

- Dinah Bachrach will be added to Coordinating Committee; this will hold over until approval at the June business meeting.
- Ann Boone will be the committee's contact for the Coordinating Committee.
- Molly Bishop will clerk the committee pending approval by Meeting for Worship for Business in June.
- The committee produced a survey that will be sent by email to members/attenders requesting information as to what involvement they are willing to contribute to the meeting. For those who have questions or need assistance with the survey, please call Paul Robbins at 707-529-1603.

## **State of the Meeting Report**

The meeting reviewed the report which had been revised based on member comments. The Clerk will incorporate changes suggested in today's meeting:

- Elimination of the final sentence in the section on Finances and Property.
- Inclusion of information on Monan's Rill in the section on Resilience in the Face of Climate Change.

**MINUTE 2021-5-3 Meeting approved the State of the Meeting Report with changes incorporated.**

## **Coordinating Committee**

Ann Boone reported several items from the committee:

- The committee will continue to meet on the third Monday of each month.
- They are working on welcoming committees for two members. Molly Bishop will visit new member Margaret Lowery and gift her with an audiobook from RFFM. Members who would like to be on Thistle West's welcoming committee should contact Ann Boone, convener of that committee.
- In May the committee is instituting Quaker Topics based on a viewed video at second hour on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays; these are meant to inform new attendees about Quakerism.
- Advice and Queries will be read at 8:45 (followed by in-depth discussion led by Molly Bishop) and at meeting for worship on first Sundays.
- Committee is working on memorial plans for three former members of RFFM: Mike Halliwell, Diana Selser, and Polly Post.
- A request for marriage under the care of the meeting will be brought to Meeting for Worship for Business in June.

## **Email Listserv Update**

Jim Avera reported news related to the listserv. The Clerk will authorize clerks or conveners of interest groups and worship groups to be able to post using listserv. He noted attachments need to be in PDF format.

### **Correspondence**

The Clerk noted we received a thank you from Western Friend for our contribution of \$350 last year.

### **Joys and Concerns**

Clerk invited Joys and Concerns during the silent worship at end of meeting. Members spoke up about finding a signed book by Howard Thurman in the RFFM library, appreciation for those who worked on the State of the Meeting Report, the distraction of members eating or drinking during business meeting on zoom (with suggestion we turn off camera to avoid distraction), the need for recovery and healing if we return to meeting for worship in a blended form, and the need to find strong and affirming ways to pull the community back together.

Clerk called for rise of meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patti Callahan, Recording Clerk

### **WAY WILL OPEN 2021 FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE GATHERING JUNE 27 TO JULY 3 A VIRTUAL GATHERING**

A week of gathering online for Quaker worship, workshops and community for all ages. There is a wide range of workshops from Mon. thru Fri and on the weekend. It will be difficult to narrow down your choice to just one. Other offerings include Bible Half-Hour and Worship Sharing and so much more. Pre-Conference events include Adult Young Friends Retreat, Retreat for People of Color and their Families, and Quakers and Business Conference. For information about all the many offerings and opportunities go to [www.FGCgathering.org](http://www.FGCgathering.org). Early registration is April 15-29 and is recommended as some workshops will fill up. Cost? Pay As Led - a sliding scale system to accommodate a wide range of abilities to pay. Questions? [gathering@FGCquaker.org](mailto:gathering@FGCquaker.org) or 215-561-1700 option 2.

I hope to see you there. Donna Smith, RFFM FGC Rep.

There is a sample of the 2020 FGC Gathering Bible Half-Hour given by Carl Magruder of Pacific Yearly Meeting on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com).

FGC Virtual Gathering 2020: Bible Half Hour with Carl Magruder