





CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

FOURTH MONTH APRIL 2021

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday Worship: 10:00-11:00 via ZOOM

Our Meetinghouse is located within the traditional homelands of the Chepenefa band of the Kalapuya speaking Nation.

Clerk Susan Easton		<h2>THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR</h2>
Recording Clerk Team Nina Joy Lawrence Esther Schiedel John Selker		<p>See Wednesday Digest for Links to all events For help or questions, contact Bob Burton, 541-231-3352 or bob11340@comcast.net</p>
Treasurer Wendy Robinson	SUNDAY 4-4	<p>8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship, Willamette Park contact Wendy 541-753-6101 10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom</p>
Spiritual Care Committee Judy Hays-Eberts Adult Religious Exploration Laurie Childers Children & Youth Program Yalda Asmatey	SUNDAY 4-11	<p>8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship Willamette Park 10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom 11:40 am Meeting for Business via Zoom</p>
Groundkeeping Coordinators Mark Boyd, Nancy Roberts	TUES 4-13	<p>7:00-8:30 pm Adult Religious Exploration via Zoom Kalapuya Teach-In <i>Details inside</i></p>
House & Hospitality Abigail Stoughton	WED 4-14	<p>4:00-6:00 pm Third Age Listening Circle via Zoom Considering Home Part 2. All are welcome <i>Details inside</i></p>
Major Meetinghouse Maintenance Bob Burton	SUNDAY 4-18	<p>8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship, 10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom</p>
Meetinghouse Scheduling Sid Rosen	SUNDAY 4-25	<p>8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship 10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom 11:45 POTLUCK via Zoom</p>
Rides Coordinator Donna Gerry Corvallis Meeting: corvallisfriends.org Facebook.com/CorvallisFriends Meeting corvallisfriends@gmail.com	TUES 4-27	<p>7:00-8:30 pm Adult Religious Exploration via Zoom Threshing Session: Our Land Acknowledgment Monument <i>Details inside</i></p>
Willamette Quarterly Meeting: www.willamettequarterly.org North Pacific Yearly Meeting: www.npym.org	SUNDAY 5-2	<p>8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship, Willamette Park contact Wendy 541-753-6101 10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom</p>

3311 NW Polk Ave Corvallis Oregon 97330 541-829-0867

This newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of the month, and by email a few days earlier. To subscribe by mail or email or to submit items contact Esther Schiedel, editor: corvallisfriends@gmail.com Next deadline 4/27/21

MARCH 2021 MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES

Corvallis Friends Meeting for Worship for Business Sunday March 14, 2021

Conducted via Zoom videoconferencing

Clerk: Susan Easton

Recording Clerk: Esther Schiedel

Friends present: Donna Gerry, Laura Horsey, Judy Hays-Eberts, Bob Burton, Wendy Robinson, Nancy Ewald, Bob Henderson, Nina Joy Lawrence, Jay Thatcher, John Selker, Susie Symth, Jan Evans, Barbara Forrest-Ball

Meeting began with expectant worship.

Jay read the following from NPYM's *Faith and Practice*

- *Do we exercise our creativity in humility and gratitude to the Creator who makes our work possible? Do we recognize creation as a sacred act and creative ability as a gift from God?*
- *Do we use our creative gifts to bring beauty, healing, and joy into others' lives and to reflect the glory of creation?*
- *Within our meeting communities, do we recognize and encourage each other in the exercise of creative gifts?*
- *In a culture that glorifies individual achievements, do we hold our own creations lightly?*

Friends considered and approved the minutes from last month as printed in the newsletter.

Nina Joy read the draft of the Meeting's Statement on Racism. Friends approved it for posting and publication with some changes in spelling and terminology, and some possible additional content. Nina Joy and the ad hoc committee that drafted the statement will work with interested Friends to make these changes

A written Treasurer's Report was shared and accepted with gratitude. Wendy noted the ongoing issue of the garbage collection bill—they bill us for a weekly pickup when we are signed up for an "on-call" pickup only (which has not been necessary because we are not

currently using the building). She has not been able to correct this over the phone and plans to speak to them in person when that is possible. The report also included a breakdown of the additional fees for city services that are included in our water bill. **The Meeting has received donations in memory of Ruth McNeill.** We will consider the best use of these at a future time.

Friends considered and approved the proposed budget for 2021 with the understanding of the uncertainty about the need for childcare and the use of the building by other groups.

State of Society Report Spring 2021 was presented and approved. This will be shared with Willamette Quarterly Meeting in May and at NPYM Annual Session in July.

Nominating Committee asked that the Meeting approve Laura Horsey as Volunteer Coordinator for Groundskeeping starting immediately. Friends approved.

The Meeting is planning to thresh what the meeting room will look like when we open up for Meeting face to face. We will explore whether and how we might include Friends virtually for Meeting for Worship. Friends felt that a Tuesday evening would be good when there were no plans for adult religious exploration. A Friend asked for a 7 pm start time, or later.

Willamette Quarterly Meeting will be held Saturday May 22 on Zoom: 9:00 am–3:00 pm & 7:00–9:00 pm. Volunteers are needed for Community Night—to emcee and to perform. Jan Evans volunteered to help with this. Several Friends were suggested as possible performers. Esther will contact them.

Meeting closed with worship.

Next Monthly Meeting – 4/11/2021

The COVID-19 pandemic has kept us from meeting in our beloved 6-sided Worship Room since March 2020. We have adapted in several ways, often using Zoom, to maintain connections with each other and do meaningful work together. Our Wednesday Digest email notices have been more important than ever. We continue exploring the quality of our worship.

Many were surprised at how effective the Zoom platform is for Sunday Meeting for Worship (M4W). Some find it more intimate than in a room with closed eyes, seeing each other's faces and homes. One member, originally hesitant to try online worship, wept to realize that the presence of each other and the Spirit is so palpable. We are blessed with regular attenders and visitors from afar – Alaska, Arizona, Canada, Colorado, Washington, and Oregon. It has worked well for some who are alter-abled. Meeting for Business, and even our monthly “potluck” turn out to be focused, informative, lighthearted and enjoyable via Zoom.

Many of us meet in a park at 8:30 AM Sundays for Walking for Worship. Masked, we walk on trails along the Willamette River in silence, observing subtle changes in the seasons. Midway in the hour, we stop for worship sharing, and then walk back, concluding with announcements. The walking group attempts conscious overlap with the Zoom group, so that announcements are mutual. This group has made Quakers “visible” to regular dog walkers and joggers.

Spiritual Care Committee hosts M4W and has been attentive to special needs of individuals. During good weather small groups met outside the residences of four elderly Friends who could not manage Zoom or walking. Visitation responsibility falls on all members. Other assistance, including moving house, has been given to several aging Friends. SCC also set up phone triangles whereby, groups of three people form a call tree to check in with each other on a periodic basis.

Adult Religious Exploration programs are designed to uphold the commitment and spirit of the NPYM's Uprooting Racism minute. We learned from our District Attorney that education is the biggest factor in preventing jail time. Ann Mbacke led a Deescalation Training, getting us to stay grounded in our hearts. For followup we used that Quaker superpower of Worship Sharing to further explore her queries: How do we keep from “othering” people, and expand our sense of “we?” Scott Smith presented on Conflict Resolution. Late winter we began exploring Decolonization.

Circle for Third Age Living is in its 3rd year. We gather monthly to grow personal connections with meaningful sharing about resources and our challenges and gifts in the major life phase after parenting and career achievements.

We find ways to sense and respond to the promptings of God for action in an unjust world. We have helped refugees from Latin America and people displaced from fires in neighboring counties, and encouraged engagement in democracy. We increased our donations substantially this year, and labored over how to distribute them. The meeting chose several new recipients: a local foundation addressing pandemic needs of the poor, a Diversity in Nursing scholarship at the local community college, and local groups coordinating food banks and shelters. The FCNL Advocacy team is active lobbying, hopeful about two issues: 1) Repealing the Authorization of Use of Military Force; and 2) Rejoining the Iran Nuclear Deal.

We wish we had more ways to support our children during the pandemic. Several adults have engaged with the three families that have children, inviting them for special outside projects. Children assisted with our Christmas food drive for local Food Banks.

In early 2021, beloved Friends Ruth McNeill and James Kimball passed away.

Adult Religious Exploration programs take place on Zoom on a Tuesday night, from 7-8:30. See Wed. digest for links.

April 13: Kalapuya Teach-In We ask people to research in advance what they can about the Kalapuya people who lived for more than 10,000 years in the Willamette Valley, and specifically in Corvallis. Please check Wed. Digest for online links to get you started. Come prepared to share what touched your heart; what gives you a feeling of kinship or admiration, what questions you would like to ask a knowledgeable Kalapuya from 500 years ago about this land.

How do we expand our sense of “we” to the Kalapuya who were marched away from this land?

April 27 Threshing Session: Our Land Acknowledgment Monument. What message(s) do we wish to convey? To whom? What images might convey our message?

Considering Home Part 2: Third- age will meet on April 14 from 4-6 p.m. on Zoom. This meeting will be a continuation of the discussion on housing and our changing needs in the future. Anyone interested is welcome to join us. The link for the zoom meeting will be posted in our Wednesday digest. If you don’t have access to that you can call Ruth Penton (334-406-2991)

Two queries for your consideration are:

What is it about my (our) current living situation that cannot be maintained forever? What am I (are we) tied to? Why might I hesitate to make important decisions or changes? What’s at stake for me (us) in these choices?

What would being more creative in my (our) future living arrangements look like, and where will I find people, information, resources and courage to help me move forward?

OSU Provost Lecture: Ibram X. Kendi - National Book Award Winner, Historian and Leading Antiracist Voice in America
April 14, 2021 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

For more information and to register, click on this link:

<https://leadership.oregonstate.edu/provost/provosts-lecture-series>

FCNL Training: “Learn to Lobby in 30 minutes”. Tuesday, April 20, 4:00 PM Eastern Time (1:00 PM Pacific)

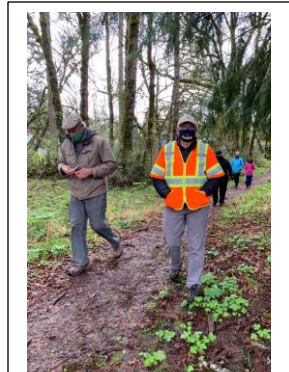
Join a 30 minute interactive call where we will share inspiring stories from our grassroots network, conduct a short skills training and answer questions about how to schedule and plan your visit.

Are you excited to take action, to make a difference, but not sure where to start? Join a 30-minute interactive call where we will share inspiring stories from our grassroots network, conduct a short skills training, and answer questions about how to schedule and plan a Quakerly lobby visit.

<https://www.fcnl.org/events/learn-to-lobby>

Save the Date: Saturday May 22, 2021 for Willamette Quarterly Meeting on Zoom. Join Friends from throughout Oregon for Worship, Business, Lamentation (details on that later), and Community Night. Contact Esther Schiedel ceelf@aol.com for more information. To help with Community Night—contact Jan Evans 541-250-9564 talk/text –more information on page 5.

Can you name these Quaker walkers?



A Covid Spring: Imagine a night of much-needed revelry with Friends from all parts of Oregon! Community Night is part of the Annual Willamette Quarterly Meeting on Saturday, May 22. We will be enthusiastically celebrating the warming days of spring and the prospect of soon gathering in person. Traditionally, Community Night has been a talent (or no talent?) show.

We need to assemble a team now to pull this all together. Are you with me? We all deserve an evening to let loose and be both silly and serious with skits, songs, stories, etc.

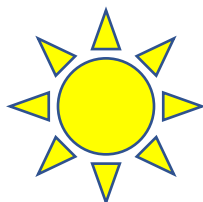
Here are the roles I expect we will need:

- advisors with previous experience
- a few people to have 2 or 3 (1 hour?) Zoom meetings to pool ideas and make decisions
- someone to make a colorful and fun poster to advertise the event and encourage signups
- Zoom master for the event
- emcee or co-emcees (if you are willing to tell jokes and wear a silly costume or wig, all the better!)
- talent recruiters
- someone to collect signups and decide the order

If you would like to help plan this event, please let me know ASAP, and tell me what you would like to do. We will have a committee meeting soon to make some initial decisions.

Jan Evans

541-250-9564 talk/text



Corvallis Friends Meeting Statement on Racism

Members of the Corvallis Friends Meeting acknowledge that our Meetinghouse is located within the traditional homelands of the Chepenefa band of the Kalapuya-speaking Nation whose people were forcibly removed to reservations in Western Oregon, where they live today as part of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz.

We also acknowledge the African Diaspora that came about primarily through the kidnapping and enslavement of Black people to build the prosperity of this nation without liberty, monetary compensation or just treatment. We recognize that Oregon was admitted to the USA as the only anti-slavery state with exclusion laws to discourage most Black people from settling here. As members of the Religious Society of Friends (also known as Quakers) we believe that Black Lives Matter.

In addition, we recognize the many contributions of Latinx and other People of Color to our nation's culture, democracy and economy. Each person, regardless of appearance or economic status, deserves respect, to be treated fairly, paid living wages, and appreciated for their unique gifts and talents.

To the best of our ability, we are called to "...walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone," (George Fox, letter to Friends in Barbados, 1656) as we commit to justice, respect and equity for Indigenous, Black, and all People of Color.

We look forward to taking actions based both on our own vision of opportunities for greater justice, and in response to specific calls for action from the communities that have suffered throughout the history of our nation.

ADVICES & QUERIES: Integrity

North Pacific Yearly Meeting, *Faith and Practice* 2018

<https://www.npym.org/sites/default/files/NPYM%20F%26P%20-%20March%202018.pdf%20March%202018.pdf>

We strive to maintain integrity in word and deed. We recognize the temptations to grow rich at the expense of others, and how apparently harmless indulgence can lead to wrongdoing.

Avoid pretense in clothing, manners, and speech, realizing that false impressions may be conveyed by action and appearance, no less than by words.

In all the settings you find yourself, practice keeping a single and open manner of relating to others. Avoid using different characters in each role you fill.

We live our best lives as Friends when we focus on what Truth and Love require of us, not on our own comfort or contentment.

- How do we use the resources and strength we are given to meet the challenges of living a whole and honest life?
- How do we keep to a single standard of truth in daily life? Do we avoid taking judicial and other oaths?
- How do we fulfill the promises we make?

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING
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