

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
***Gathering & Annual Sessions***

April 12 - 16, 2017 • U.M. Life Enrichment Center, Fruitland Park, Florida

***'Climate Justice'***

the 2017 Walton Retreat & Lecture will be presented by  
**Peterson Toscano**

**Retreat Session 1** Wednesday, April 12, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

***'Beyond Lightbulbs & Polar Bears: Overcoming Shame & Fear, Leading in a Time of Climate Change'***

Through interactive thought experiments, personal reflections, facilitated discussion, and a live performance, participants will think outside of the box when it comes to responding to climate change and consider their next significant steps.

**Retreat Session 2** Friday, April 14, 1:15 - 2:30 pm

***'You Already Have Skin in the Game—Justice, Pets, & Coffee Beans.'*** Through a series of lively (but not difficult) activities, we will explore our personal passions and how they are already connected to a changing planet. Discover new ways that we are already concerned about climate change and didn't even know it. (Oh, and learn about the pets of the future.)



**the 54th Annual J. Barnard Walton Lecture** Saturday, April 15, 7:00 pm

***'Discerning our collective calling:  
Love, Hope, & Climate Justice.'***

Drawing on comedy, storytelling, and history, Peterson Toscano creates original content for the stage and the Internet that inspires curiosity about climate change. As the host of Citizens' Climate Radio and the curator of ClimateStew.com, he takes a serious look at global warming without scaring the snot out of you. His university presentations reveal the interconnectedness of power, privilege, justice, LGBTQ issues, polar bears, and coffee beans.

Peterson's unique personal journey led him into performance art. After spending 17 years attempting to de-gay himself through gay conversion therapy, he came to his senses and came out a quirky queer Quaker concerned with human rights and comedy. He asks himself and his audiences unusual and stimulating questions: *'Who are the gender outlaws in the Bible? What is a queer response to climate change?'* and *'How can comedy help us better understand our most tragic losses?'* Peterson is on a mission to connect with his audiences in deeply personal ways stirring up hope and purpose in a rapidly changing world.

Peterson has presented for Friends in many settings including Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, New England Yearly Meeting, Westtown Friends School, Cambridge Friends School, Earlham College, Haverford College, and Guilford College. He facilitated the Bible Half Hour at the FGC Gathering in 2012 and gave a plenary address at the FGC Gathering in 2008. He is a member of Millville MM in Millville, PA, which is part of Philadelphia YM. He lives in Sunbury, PA with his husband, Glen Retief.

Peterson is eager to spend time connecting with Friends in SEYM, both before and after the 2017 Gathering, to talk about how we can work together for climate justice. Learn more about Peterson Toscano at [petersontoscano.com](http://petersontoscano.com) and listen to his podcasts at Citizens' Climate Lobby.

# *What's Special in 2017?*

## **In-Depth Workshop: "Invoking the Presence of God"**

This double workshop is presented under the care of SEYM's Worship and Ministry Committee. Invoking the presence of God is an experiential learning opportunity.

- How do people do it?
- What is your practice?

Workshop leader Eduardo Diaz (Miami MM) is an experienced workshop facilitator and has been engaged in many Quaker organizations for many years. He has been involved in interfaith ministry since 1975 and currently serves as co-chair of the Clergy Dialogue of the Miami Coalition of Christians and Jews. He also currently serves on both the SEYM and Miami Friends Meeting Committee on Worship and Ministry.

*Saturday, 2:45-5:30 pm*

## **Workshops & Interest Groups • Thursday thru Saturday**

**Over 20 to choose from, including:** At Home Among The Stars: Embracing Our Cosmic Nature • Being A Parent & A Friend • Bible Study--Lectio Divina • Chanting • (Let's Talk About) Climate Justice & SEYM Communities • Finding God In Difficult People • #Friendtweetsmymind: Social Media In The Manner Of Friends • Introducing Quakerism 101 • Invoking The Presence Of God • Is Conscientious Objection For You? • Journey Of The Universe • Laughter Yoga • Managing Meeting Finances: Tips & Techniques • "Marking The Quaker Path": Toward A Method For Friends' Practice • Meeting For Remembrance • Nature Walk • Paddling & Birding • Pink Spit: Looking At Childhood Experiences Of Racism • Quaker Response In A Politically Divisive Climate • Quaker United Nations Office • Right Sharing Of World Resources • Sabal Trail Pipeline As An Opportunity For Quaker Witness • Sharing Our Earthcare Concerns • True Islam vs The Extremists

**Early Worship by the lake** 7:30 am every morning

**Worship Sharing** Thursday thru Saturday, 9:00 am

**Worship Shearing** to benefit ProNica, mornings & afternoons

**Annual Sessions** Meeting for Worship for Business, Thursday afternoon thru Sunday

## **Intergenerational Activities**

- **Intergenerational play:** afternoons, Thursday – Saturday • Savannah-grams, kickball, & other fun • *see Bulletin Board for day's activities*
- **Canoeing & Birding** Saturday afternoon
- **Intergenerational Dance** Friday night, with the '**Faith & No Practice Band**'
- **Bonfire** Friday night after the dance

## **Youth Program: *Who Speaks for the Trees, Butterflies, & Bees?***

*Join us in Making Puppets for Social Change, Creating Community, Enjoying Nature, Making Friends, Having Fun and Deepening our Quaker Values*  
see the Youth Program flyer

**Healing Center** Breezeway 2, from 2-5pm on Friday & Saturday. Come in for some quiet time, a cup of tea, and Reiki or massage.

**Music** Singing after meals • The **Faith & No Practice Band** • Jammin' on the Bench

**Bookstore** Books from the FGC Bookstore & SEYM Publications • Book Swap tabl

## REGISTRATION

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**DEADLINE: MARCH 26th.** The deadline allows the Life Enrichment Center (LEC) to prepare for our visit. To learn of availabilities after March 26<sup>th</sup>, contact Andrea Hoskins, Registrar at 305-609-9704, or at [andreaghoskins@yahoo.com](mailto:andreaghoskins@yahoo.com).

**Registration is open Feb. 5 – Mar. 26.** Register online: <http://www.seymquakers.org>. Friends who cannot register online may call the Registrar, Andrea Hoskins: 305-609-9704.

**Payment Options:** We encourage you to pay your total registration fees when you register. You may pay online, or by check made payable to SEYM and mailed to the Registrar: **Andrea Hoskins, 12040 SW 187th St., Miami, FL 33177**. Paying the full amount when you register allows check-in lines to move more quickly! Alternately, you may pay your total fees at check-in. **We cannot process credit card payments at the event.** Please bring personal checks.

### PROGRAM REGISTRATION FEES

Adult (over 18) = \$35; Youth attending with families = free; Youth attending with sponsor = \$35.

**ONE-EVENT REGISTRATION:** You can register to attend just the Walton Lecture for a \$35 fee that includes registration, day use, and dinner.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

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Don't let lack of funds prevent you from coming! Register online, follow instructions on Registration form and website, and send in your Scholarship Form.

## YOUTH & FAMILY

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Registration fees & meals for youth attending with their families are paid for by the SEYM Youth Gathering Fund, thanks to private donations & fund raising.

Youth must attend with a parent, guardian, or designated adult sponsor the entire time at the camp and participate fully in the youth program.

Families sending their child/children with a Sponsor will pay both the registration and lodging fees for their youth.

Youth need a parent/guardian signed Consent Forms in order to register & be on campus. The

Consent Forms package is on the website, [www.seymquakers.org](http://www.seymquakers.org).

Parents wanting to have their youth excused from school can download the 'Excuse Letter' from our website.

See the **Youth Program flyer** for complete information.

## SITE USE & LODGING OPTIONS

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**LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER:** Rooms have twin beds and private bath. Bedding & towels are provided.

- Family sharing room: \$84/night (Double twin beds) *Children may sleep on the floor for free or reserve cots for \$10/night.*
- Singles sharing room: \$42/night/person. *Sharing a room? You must list a roommate's name when registering.*
- Private (1-person) room: \$62/night.

**RV CAMPING:** in the open area west of the Pavilion. Full Hookups are \$25/night, Partial Hook-ups are \$21/night.

**TENT CAMPING:** in the woods beyond the Pavilion. The area to the right of the Pavilion is reserved for SEYM. Sites are \$16 /night.

**DAY USE:** Friends can lodge and dine in town, pay the registration fee, and \$10/person/day for site use.

## FOOD OPTIONS

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### LEC DINING ROOM:

Breakfast: 8:00 – 8:45 am

Lunch: 12:00 – 12:45 pm

Dinner: 5:30 – 6:15 pm

Coffee/tea is available in the lobby 24/7.

**SPECIAL DIETS:** Vegan/vegetarian, diabetic, gluten-free, and other choices are available. To request a special diet,

**you must fill out the LEC Special Diet request form** at <http://www.lecretreats.org/lec-dietary-page>.

**PAVILION:** Campers may prepare meals in this covered, screened room provided with picnic tables, stove, refrigerator and ample electrical outlets. Bring your own cooking and eating utensils. You may also choose to pre-register for any or all of your meals in the Dining Hall.

**FOOD ELSEWHERE:** There are abundant restaurants 3-5 miles from the camp.

## LOCATION

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FL United Methodist Life Enrichment Center  
4991 Picciola Road  
Fruitland Park, FL 34751

phone: 352-787-0313

Fruitland Park is located on US Hwy. 441 between Leesburg and Lady Lake, Florida. From Hwy.27/US 441, turn east on County Road 466A, Picciola Road. Go 3 miles. The Life Enrichment Center is on the right; look for the sign. Enter the drive and proceed to the designated parking area.

## WHEN YOU ARRIVE

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**Check-in at the SEYM Registration Desk in the LEC camp desk lobby** (not auditorium lobby) to get room key & name badges.

**Check-in times:** Phone number is posted if Registrar has stepped out.

- Wed: 1-5:30 pm, 6:15-7:00 pm, 8:30-9pm
- Thurs: 9am-12noon, 12:30-4:15 pm, 7:30-9pm
- Fri: 9:00-10:00am, 12:30-5:30pm, 6:15-9 pm
- Sat: 9 -10:00am, 2:30-5:30 pm, 6:15-7 pm

**Late arrivals:** PLEASE have a friend get your room key and wait up for you.

## THINGS TO BRING

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- Toys for toddlers, children's supplies (throw pillows, toys to share, soccer balls, etc.), puzzles and games for all ages.
- **Rise Up Singing**, hymnals & voices for singing after dinner.
- Instruments and musicians needed for the Faith and No Practice Band & Jammin' Under the Trees.
- Books for Book Swap table
- Your books-to-buy list for The FGC Bookstore.
- Checks to buy books: no card processing at the event.
- Walking shoes for nature walks: check out the Path of Silence.
- Families: bring swimsuits for Thursday
- A friend/Friend new to your Meeting. Let them see how wonderful it is attend Southeastern Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions and Gathering!
- Documents-In-Advance (DIAs) for Annual Sessions.

## FGC BOOKSTORE

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Come browse and purchase books by Quaker authors and other topics of interest to Quakers. Use cash or checks. Sorry, no credit cards.

## DISPLAY SPACE

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Contact the Office at [office@seym.org](mailto:office@seym.org) to reserve a table.

## LEC & SEYM ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- Complete Youth rules are specified in the *Youth Program* flyer.
- Except during scheduled youth program times, all youth must be supervised by their parents, sponsors, or parent/sponsor-arranged f/Friends (25 yrs. & older). 1 adult may supervise up to 8 youth.
- No video or electronic games are allowed in youth program sessions. Cell phones must be turned off during program sessions.
- Limited display/table space is available for Quaker organizations and for Committees. Space must be reserved with Vicki Carlie: [office@seym.org](mailto:office@seym.org).
- Park in designated areas only.
- Quiet time from 11:00 pm to 7:00 am.
- No skateboards, in-line skates, or scooters permitted. Youth on bikes must wear helmets.
- The Gold Room kitchen is reserved for youth and evening snacks only.
- The outdoor chapel and labyrinth are sacred memorial places—children must be quiet and respectful at all times and may visit only with an adult.
- No swimming in lake---there are alligators!
- No alcoholic beverages or recreational drugs allowed.
- Pets on a leash are allowed in the camping area.

## QUESTIONS?

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**Registrar: Andrea Hoskins**

305-609-9704; [andreaghoskins@yahoo.com](mailto:andreaghoskins@yahoo.com)

**Gathering Co-Clerk: Stephanie Preston**

321-287-6448; [scpreston@yahoo.com](mailto:scpreston@yahoo.com)

**Youth Program Coordinator: Mira Tanna**

321-287-8734; [miratanna@yahoo.com](mailto:miratanna@yahoo.com)

**SEYM Office:** Vicki Carlie, Secretary

407-739-4150; [office@seym.org](mailto:office@seym.org)