

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting *of the Religious Society of Friends*

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## Fall Interim Business Meeting

Saturday, October 6, 2018

## Documents In Advance

*“And keep the gospel order . . . so that in all your men’s and women’s meetings, see that virtue flow, and see that all your words be gracious, and see that love flows, which bears all things, that kindness, tenderness and gentleness may be among you, and that the fruits of the good spirit may abound.”*

---George Fox, *SEYM Faith & Practice* p.79

*hosted by*

## St. Petersburg Monthly Meeting

St. Petersburg Friends Meetinghouse, 130 19th Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

### Directions from I-275:

- Take a left exit at Tropicana Field onto I-175
- Continue until you reach 4th Street S - take a right
- Continue until you reach 19th Avenue S - take a left
- Continue until you reach 130 19th Avenue SE
- Meeting House is on the right

### Recommended nearby accommodations:

- **The Hollander Hotel:** at 4th Street N and 4th Avenue N. is a 1920s renovated hotel. There is a pool, a restaurant, and free parking. Phone: 727-873-7900. website: [hollanderhotel.com](http://hollanderhotel.com)
- **The Avalon Hotel:** 443 4th Avenue North. Rooms start at \$119/nite. Shares amenities with the Hollander: pool, restaurant. Website: [www.avalonstpetersburg.com](http://www.avalonstpetersburg.com).
- **Cordova Inn:** 253 2nd Avenue North. Historic downtown boutique hotel. Rooms from \$119/nite. Website: [www.cordovainnstpete.com](http://www.cordovainnstpete.com)
- **Overnight Hospitality:** If you absolutely need overnight accommodations in a Friend’s home, contact Vicki Carlie at [office@seym.org](mailto:office@seym.org).



### Saturday Dinner:

## Rice & Beans to Support Justice at the Border

St. Petersburg Meetinghouse • 6-8 pm

Fundraiser for the Border Patrol Victims Network and School of the Americas Watch

\$10 suggested donation • RSVP by Oct. 1st

see flyer at end of these DIAs

# Fall Interim Business Meeting

## Schedule & Agenda

### Friday, October 5

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#### Executive Committee Meeting

- 6:30 pm Fellowship
- 7:00 pm Executive Committee meeting, *all are welcome*

### Saturday, October 6

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#### Fall Interim Business Meeting

- 8:00 am Coffee & snacks
- 9:00 am Worship
  - Nominating Committee preliminary report
  - Announcements
- 9:30 am Committee meetings - all are welcome to attend
- 12 noon Lunch provided by St. Petersburg Friends
- 1:00 pm Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

#### **DRAFT AGENDA**

- Roll call of Meetings & Worship Groups
- Welcome of visitors
- Announcements
- Nominating Committee report
- Worship & Ministry Committee report
- Executive Committee report
  - June EC minutes .....3
- Treasurer's report
- Finance Committee
- Youth Committee
- Gathering Committee
- Half Yearly Meeting Committee
- Peace & Social Concerns Committee
- Ministry on Racism .....4
- Earthcare Committee report
- Field Secretary for Earthcare .....5-10
- Representatives to Organizations ..... 11
- Reading back the minutes
- 4:30 Closing worship
- 6:00 Dinner: Rice & Beans to Support Justice at the Border ..... 12  
 St. Petersburg Meetinghouse • \$10 suggested donation • RSVP by Oct. 1 • see flyer

### Sunday, October 7

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- 10:00 am Worship with St. Petersburg Friends

## Summer Executive Committee Meeting • Numbered Minutes

- 18SEC01. SEYM Executive Committee approves subscribing to an online conferencing service to enable committee meetings and other live remote events. The cost will be offset for FY 2018-19 by reducing other Administrative line items in the budget.
- 18SEC02. SEYM Executive Committee appoints Bill Carlie, Phoebe Andersen, and Joel Cook to serve as an ad hoc search committee to fill the Administrative Secretary position starting after Vicki Carlie's retirement.
- 18SEC03. SEYM Executive Committee approves the proposal of the Youth, Trustees, and Finance Committees to fund the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator position for three years, pursuant to minute 18YM11, as follows:
- 20% from Youth Committee
  - 40% from Trustees
  - 20% from the budget for salaries
  - 20% from donations and reserves.
- 18SEC04. SEYM Executive Committee requests that Orlando Monthly Meeting discern whether they can provide lodging for the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator for approximately two to three years starting January 1, 2019.
- 18SEC05. SEYM Executive Committee requests that Earthcare Committee bring forward an evaluation of the Field Secretary for Earthcare Program for discernment by the Executive Committee at the Fall Interim Business Meeting.

# Committee for Ministry on Racism Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting DIA • October 6, 2018

*“Knowing Ourselves: Undoing Racism as Spiritual Practice”*

([American Friends Service Committee Webinar](#), April 30, 2018)

Please join the Committee for Ministry on Racism as we meet at 9:30 AM, on Saturday, October 6, for the ongoing spiritual practice of raising awareness about racism and addressing it. There are Friends within SEYM who are personally engaged in this prayerful work on a daily basis and find there is always more to learn and ways to be as we discern together. How do we as the body of Southeastern Yearly Meeting wish to continue to engage and respond regarding this concern, beyond the first steps we have taken?

The Committee continues our work of gathering resources that can be helpful in addressing colonialism, white privilege, white supremacy, white entitlement, and structural racism in general. Please let us know what resources you have found useful, so that we can coordinate sharing them. The American Friends Service Committee website ([afsc.org](#)) has much information on many issues related to racism. In addition to the webinar referenced in the above quote, there is much on immigration and mass incarceration. The Friends Committee on National Legislation ([fcnl.org](#)) brings resources for working with Congress. Last year, New York Yearly Meeting read **Deep Denial, The Persistence of White Supremacy in United States History and Life**, by white southerner, David Billings. Friends General Conference (FGC) has completed its *Institutional Assessment on Racism*. Please see the update on their website: [fgcquaker.org](#). 24% of the respondents to FGC’s Institutional Assessment survey were from Southeastern Yearly Meeting. Final results and recommendations will be given at the annual Central Committee meeting in October and afterwards will be shared with yearly meetings and directly affiliated monthly meetings. An article is planned for the January 2019 issue of **Friends Journal**. In addition, as part of FGC’s Spiritual Deepening Program, Friends are invited to attend the four-week e-Retreat, beginning October 14: *Understanding and Healing White Supremacy*. ([fgcquaker.org](#))

Safe travels to FIBM. We look forward to being with all of you in God’s, Christ’s, Spirit’s love. The love from the Source.

For the Committee,

Wendy Clarissa Geiger, Co-clerk (Jacksonville)

Susan Taylor, Co-clerk (Tallahassee)

Committee members:

Minerva Glidden (Orlando)

Cheryl Demers-Holton (Gainesville)

Kathy Hersh (Miami)

Beverly Ward (Tampa)

Jane Westberg (Miami)

# SEYM Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting 2018

**Overview:** *Provide focus and coordinate efforts on environmental work in the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) region.*

This report summarizes efforts to provide focus and coordinate environmental work in the SEYM region and beyond since the 2018 Yearly Meeting Gathering. Also included are activities undertaken with the wider Quaker world; faith-based, local, and other environmental groups; and, individuals.

## Communication with the Anchoring Committee

Regular communication with Anchoring Committee members continues. As mentioned below, a number of activities have led to face-to-face meetings, collaborations, and other contacts with committee members. Monthly and Interim Business Meetings, Alternative Violence Project (AVP) workshops, and other activities provided additional opportunities for contact with committee members.

## Meeting with Monthly Meetings (MMs), Worship Groups (WGs), and Others

*Perform visits to Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups within SEYM to help them discern their leadings in care of the Earth, and to provide information and coordination among Meetings.*

As a reminder, the suggested visitation request process: “Meetings can issue invitations to the [SEYM] administrative secretary, FSE, or the Anchor Committee. We will all conference over the invitation and subsequent planning” (Phoebe Andersen, 3 Tenth Month 2016).

## Contact Information

- The SEYM Administrative Secretary established an email account: [fsEarthcare@seymquaker.org](mailto:fsEarthcare@seymquaker.org).
- A free conference calling number has been established, 1-712-770-8055. The conference code is 662814.
- Skype: phdant.
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7545638812>.
- appear.in: <https://appear.in/fsearthcare>.
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: 13705 Lazy Oak Drive, Tampa, FL, 33613.4923.

A Google calendar showing requests for visitation and FSE has been created and shared with the Anchoring Committee and the Co-Clerks of the Earthcare Committee. All prior and upcoming visits are shown below. MMs and WGs continue to request visits, particularly in conjunction with retreats and AVP workshops.

**St. Petersburg Monthly Meeting, 19 Fifth Month 2018:** I facilitated a discussion on “Sea Level Rise in the Time of Climate Change” at the Meetinghouse. After the viewing two short films, “Major Sea Level Rise in Near Future”, a TED talk by Jason Briner, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7sEhuSbQo8>; and “Life in a Sea-Level Hotspot” a newscast of interviews with local Miami residents, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ne41XSZKTuA>, participants spoke of their experiences with flooding and other impacts of climate disruption. One emerging theme is the need for meaningful public participation in regard to how local governments invest funds in mitigating impacts. That is, finding a balance between infrastructure investments, e.g., pumps, rebuilding roadways, etc., and investments in

people, e.g., purchasing housing in floodplains, building alternative and affordable housing, etc.

Among the participants was a representative from ReThink Energy Florida ([www.rethinkenergyflorida.org](http://www.rethinkenergyflorida.org)), Alexis Howard, Political Advocacy Coordinator, Tampa Bay Region. Rethink Energy Florida has received grant funding to hold Sea Level Rise Candidate, Tidal Town forums in various cities around the State of Florida and Alexis has asked for assistance from Friends in getting the word out, etc. A link to their website on Tidal Town Halls (<http://tidaltownhalls.org/2018/07/03/rethink-energy-florida-firststreet-foundation-announce-tidal-town-halls/>) has been posted on the SEYM and FSE Facebook pages and shared with others for their newsletters, etc.

**Gainesville Monthly Meeting, 20 Fifth Month and 18 Sixth Month:** At the request of the Gainesville MM Earthcare Committee, I helped to facilitate a meeting to discern what Earthcare action the Committee or Meeting could take on. One potential project that emerged was a partnership with a local charter school in the historical African-American community of Lincoln Estates. Susan Cary, Tallahassee Meeting and Gainesville Meeting attendee, is a volunteer with the school and detailed the plans of some school staff to have a vegetable garden, pollinators garden, compost area, and recycling program. A summary of the meeting was provided to the Committee for presentation to the Monthly Meeting. (A copy of the summary was shared with the Sixth Month 2018 FSE Report and is available by email upon request.) After receiving support for the project from the Monthly Meeting, a meeting with representatives of the charter school was held at the school on 18 Sixth Month. During this meeting, the participants identified ways that Friends could partner with the community with initial steps including providing plants, seeds, and soil to support the gardens. Other actions may include an additional meeting, perhaps before the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Collaboration with other resource persons within the Monthly Meeting, Yearly Meeting, and beyond, e.g. Grow Permaculture, Crone's Cradle, etc., also may be among the early actions.

**Tampa Monthly Meeting, 24 Sixth Month:** At the request of the Meeting, I provided an overview of FSE activities and led a discussion on how Friends' testimonies can inform our care for the Earth. During Third Month 2017, I facilitated Adult Firstday School with Tampa Meeting. Since that time, Friends expressed an interest in learning more about how the position had evolved and the desire to better support the work. As part of the discussion, I provided a PowerPoint presentation including a mindmap to illustrate connections. I will share a copy of the mindmap and other highlights from the discussion on the SEYM website.

**Miami Monthly Meeting, Scheduled 29 Ninth Month:** The Meeting has requested that Cece Yocum and I provide Bystander Training as part of Friends' Miami Friends Retreat on Sanctuary, Accompaniment, and Witnessing. (See below.)

**Fort Myers Monthly Meeting, Scheduled 4 Eleventh Month:** I am in the process of planning a visit with the Meeting during Eleventh Month. This may include an informal discussion on the 3rd, with a more structured meeting on the 4th.

**Interactions or Collaborations between and among other SEYM committees** *These interactions between and among SEYM committees help to facilitate communication and collaboration of our regional concerns with national organizations and to be a Quaker Presence at specific events.*

- **The Ministry on Racism:** During the 2018 SEYM Gathering, I was added to the Ministry of Racism Committee. The committee convened a meeting via Zoom. Much of the discussion was a recap of

the experience that Jane Westberg and I had the Pendle Hill Truth and Healing Conference on right relations with Indigenous people. I am very interested in Friends sharing the history of the land where we worship. This may include adult and younger Friends Firstday School, site markers, events, e.g., Indigenous Day, etc. During Eighth Month, I participated in training to become a Toward Right Relationship project (TRR) workshop facilitator (<https://www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship-2/>). I plan to offer these workshops within the SEYM Region and beyond as part of the climate justice work of Earthcare;

- **Earthcare:** I continue maintain telephone and email contact with the co-clerks and other committee members and participated in the Committee meeting during this year's annual gathering. This includes continued work with Jack Braden and Brad Stocker, SEYM's representatives to Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW). (More details are provided below.);
- **Florida Council of Churches (FCC):** The FCC convened the fourth assembly of the Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network, 29 through 30 Sixth Month. (See below.) FCC will have a second gathering during Eleventh Month this year;
- **Peace and Social Concerns:** I continue to remain in contact with members of SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Cecilia Yocum and I provided two sessions on Bystander Training during the 2018 SEYM Yearly Meeting Gathering. About 10 youths and Youth Workers attended one session. Approximately 20 more seasoned Friends attended the second session. In addition to discussions on verbal attacks, everyday bigotry, and unintentional obliviousness to biases, Friends participated in role-plays and explored ways to be allies to persons being attacked.
- **Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO):** In addition to working with Warren Hoskins to build links, I also am working with QUNO through QEW and the American Friends Service Committee;
- **Right Sharing of World Resources:** I continue to share information with Nilufer Wilkins to build links, including QEW United Nations Working Group, particularly the Earthcare Coalition (See below.).
- **Youth Committee:** I worked with the Youth during the annual gathering to assemble about 60 "pocket guides." I also plan to apply for a mini-grant from QEW to print more guides and share with other Yearly Meetings through QEW. I continue to share resources and information with individual Meetings, such as Earthcare for Children, <https://www.quakerearthcare.org/article/earthcare-children> and Finding the Light in You, <https://quakerbooks.org/products/finding-the-light-in-you>.

**The Wider Quaker World, Interfaith Groups, and other organizations** *To communicate and collaborate our regional concerns with national organizations including Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT), Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), and Friends General Conference (FGC). To be a Quaker Presence at specific events, including those arranged by others.*

In the wider Quaker World, interfaith groups, and other environmental organizations, I have listed existing memberships, partnerships, or collaborations that have been a part of the outreach effort. These include, but are not limited to:

- **Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP),** Tampa Bay completed basic workshops for Sarasota (23 Ninth and 28 Tenth Months) and Gainesville (18-19 Eleventh Month). We are planning an advanced workshop for Gainesville;
- **American Friends Service Committee (AFSC):** I have been accepted as an at-large member of the AFSC Corporation and will attend the 2018 Annual Meeting the AFSC Corporation 13-14 Fourth 2018 Month.

- **The Bridge of Tampa:** I continue to work with the Bridge on various efforts. I am working to facilitate visits for David Helvarg, Executive Director, Blue Front Frontier, <https://bluefront.org/>, in Florida along with Kathy Hersh and others;
- **Clark Atlanta University, Department of Political Science:** Dr. Kurt Young, Lena Young Green, and I continue to work on social justice issues, particularly in regard to transportation projects;
- **The Fellowship of Friends of African Descent (FFAD):** I continue to work with FFAD and am working to strengthen linkages with QEW UN Working Group. I participated in informal gatherings of FFAD during the 2018 Friends General Conference Gathering;
- **First Unity, Saint Petersburg (FL),** is a member of the spiritual community of Unity Worldwide Ministries. I continue to work with members of First Unity through their work with Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network, particularly on the 8 Ninth Month Climate, Jobs, and Justice Mobilization, <https://peoplesclimate.org/actions/sept-8/>.
- **Florida Interfaith Climate Action Network (FL-iCAN):** FCC and the Fourth FL-iCAN Assembly convened the fourth assembly 29 – 30 Sixth Month at the J.B. Callahan Neighborhood Center, 101 North Parramore Avenue, Orlando FL 32801. Photos are available at <https://fl-ican.org/>. On 28 Seventh Month, the Steering Committee held a follow-up meeting to discuss additional actions and the governance of the network. Planning for the fifth assembly, which also will be held at the Callahan Center, is underway. More information is posted at Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network, <https://fl-ican.org/>;
- **Friends Committee on National Legislation, Energy and Environment:** I continue to maintain contact with several FCNL staff.
- **Friends General Conference:** In addition to a presentation in the Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Center and performing two one-act plays; Homo Sapiens by Chantal Bilodeau, Climate Change Action Theatre, and Bare Spaces by Angella Emurwon, in collaboration with the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts with John Heimburg, I participated in Photography as a Contemplative Practice workshop. My favorite photos can be viewed here. I also took part in informal discussions at the People of Color Center and assisted in the Quaker Arts Center;
- **Friends Peace Teams (FPT):** Face-to-face and email contact with members of FPT. Working to link FPT to QEW UN Working Group, see below.
- **Friends United Meeting:** Additional contact was made during the QEW Steering Committee Meeting at Pendle Hill during 10th Month. Geeta McGahey continues to be a liaison person. With the addition of Bob McGahey to the Outreach Committee, I have additional contact to FUM;
- **Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC):** I continue to work to link FWCC to QEW UN Working Group;
- **The Initiative on Coastal Adaptation and Resilience (ICAR):** I with ICAR through the Florida Council of Churches and Jan Booher, board member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton (UUFBR);
- **Living Mirror Playback Theatre (LMPT), Tampa:** I continue to link theater work, particularly Bystander Training, as mentioned above.
- **National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Environmental Justice Issues in Transportation and the Women’s Issues in Transportation Committees:** I am a “friend” of the Women’s committee and the research coordinator for the Environmental Justice Committee;

- **Organize NOW/F.I.R.E., Climate Justice Committee:** I continue to assist the local committee in planning climate justice survey and have built a link with the Orlando office;
- **The Pachamama Alliance:** I continue to have contact with members through the FL-ICAN network
- **QEW:** I continue focus on the International Decade for People of African Descent and co-clerking the Water Circle. A report on the 2018 side event on 11 Seventh Month 2018, Salvation Army International Social Justice Commission in New York is forthcoming. In brief, the side event was attended by more than 60 participants (more than 110 registrants). A video of the Zoom presentations is being edited and will be posted to the Earthcare Coalition YouTube Channel. I also continue to work with the Outreach Committee. We are in the process of conducting out second survey of Yearly Meeting representatives
- **ReThink Energy Florida:** As mentioned above, I have been working with various staff members to spread the word on the tidal town halls. I plan to continue to provide this support during the second round of town halls prior to the Eleventh Month elections.
- **Sierra Club, Tampa Bay:** I remain in contact via email, snailmail, etc.
- **Sunshine State Interfaith Power and Light:** I continue to work with this group through FL-iCAN
- **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship:** I continue to work with Jan Booher, board member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Boca Raton (UUFBR) and Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida, <http://www.uujusticefl.org/>, through FL-iCAN; Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- **University of South Florida, Institute on Black Life (IBL), Advisory Committee and the Patel College of Global Sustainability (PCGS):** I continue to work with the University, primarily through these two units, however a student and a professor with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering have been working with me on the Quaker Earthcare Witness UN Working Group. Dr. Cheryl Rodriguez and I have an article forthcoming in Transforming Anthropology, which addresses some of the concerns of People Against D.O.T. Discrimination (P.A.D.D.), Tampa, e.g., potentially adverse impacts of more highway construction

## Social Media

I continue to blog, “fsEarthcare Processing”, for the SEYM website. The SEYM Administrative Secretary also has created a webpage, <http://seymquakers.org/faith-in-action/field-secretary-for-earthcare/>. Currently, the page contains the blog, the job description, and other links. I am in contact with the secretary on how best to populate this page, e.g., calendars, social media, etc. I tweet @fsesecretary; FB, [fb.me/FsEarthcare](https://www.facebook.com/FsEarthcare). These links and others are included the signature of my emails. I also have been sending out shorter pieces to the Monthly Meeting, Worship Groups, FWCC, and others on activities to use in newsletters, tweets, etc.

**Qiqochat:** Qiqochat, created by the Florida Council of Churches (FCC) as a resource for information sharing, etc., has not been used very much during the last two years. It is still in existence and there is some discussion regarding making use of its applications to further the work of FCC and FL-iCAN. If this platform is more actively engaged, I will share with Friends.

## United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent (IDPAD):

As mentioned earlier, I am co-clerking the Water Circle for the United Nations High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development side event to be convened during Seventh Month 2018. The IDPAP is the focus of the QEW UN Working Group through 2024. (See QEW,

<https://www.quakerearthcare.org/article/united-nations-international-decade-people-african-descent> and the Earthcare Coalition site, [https://undecadeforpeopleofafricandescent.wordpress.com/.](https://undecadeforpeopleofafricandescent.wordpress.com/))

In preparation for the 2018 side event and in conjunction with visits and retreats, I have been recommending a number of films, most can be found on YouTube or Vimeo:

#### **Water Scarcity:**

- *Running Dry: Call To Action* (19:18 mins)
- *The Coming Global Water Crisis* -(Documentary, HD) (6:22 mins)

#### **Oceans/Sea Level Rise:**

- *Ocean Frontiers: The Dawn of a New Era in Ocean Stewardship* (1:20:54 mins)
- *National Geographic -Earth Under Water In Next 20 Years* (45:08 mins)
- *Major Sea Level Rise in Near Future* | Jason Briner | TEDxBuffalo (18:53 mins)

#### **Climate Change:**

- *Al Gore: The Case for Optimism on Climate Change* (25:08 mins)
- *The emergent patterns of climate change*, Gavin Schmidt, (12:04 mins)
- *Climate change: Oh, it's real*, 10 Ted Talks,  
[www.ted.com/playlists/78/climate\\_change\\_oh\\_it\\_s\\_real](http://www.ted.com/playlists/78/climate_change_oh_it_s_real)

#### **Florida:**

- *Florida Wildlife Corridor Exhibition* (56 mins)
- *The Forgotten Coast: Return to Wild Florida* (56 mins)

As mentioned above, we did convene a side event on 11 Seventh Month 2018. A report of the event is being compiled and will be shared in the FSE reports and beyond. Thank you, Friends, for your support, prayers, and love. You made the side event possible!

#### **Summary**

Since the 2018 SEYM Gathering, it seems as if life happened at once! I have been so uplifted by the way Way has opened.

Thank you.

Beverly Ward

# Florida Council of Churches Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting Report 2018

The Florida Council of Churches (FCC), as fiscal agent for the Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN), [please note the spelling changes] convened its fourth assembly at the Dr. J. B. Callahan Neighborhood Center in Orlando. This was the culmination of several months' planning following the *Huffington Post* piece, "*Even Breathing Is A Risk In One Of Orlando's Poorest Neighborhoods,*" [www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/florida-poor-black-neighborhood-airpollution\\_us\\_5a663a67e4b0e5630072746e](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/florida-poor-black-neighborhood-airpollution_us_5a663a67e4b0e5630072746e). A recap of the assembly can be found on the SEYM website, *Notes from the Field: FL-iCAN Assembly*, [seymquakers.org/blog/2018/07/28/notes-field-fl-ican-assembly/](http://seymquakers.org/blog/2018/07/28/notes-field-fl-ican-assembly/).

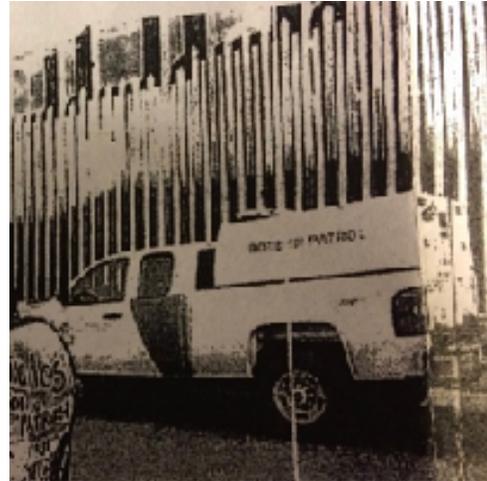
FCC, FL-iCAN Steering Committee and others are continuing to plan for a 2018 Indigenous Wisdom Gathering on 8 Tenth Month 2018. During the 2018 FL-iCAN Assembly, a memorial ceremony was held for Bobby C. Billie, a Miccosukee-Simanoolee clan leader and resource to FL-iCAN.

Following the Eighth Month Florida Primary Election, FCC is planning a statewide Clergy Convening, "*Clergy Impacting Equal Justice in Florida: What should just legislative reform look like?*", for the evening 30 Ninth Month and all day, 1 Tenth Month in Orlando. An ecumenical worship service and reception will begin at 7:00 p.m., Mt. Olive AME Church (2525 W Church Street, Orlando) on the 30th. The welcome and sessions will begin at 8:45 a.m. the next day at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center (1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando). The two gubernatorial candidates have been invited to the Monday luncheon to address the gathered clergy. As a "church without laity," Friends are invited to attend. To register, go to: <https://goo.gl/forms/pVxtJhfuNnQduUOu1>.

Planning continues for the 2018 Board Meeting and Gathering, 29 and 30 Eleventh Month to be held New Bethel AME, Lakeland.

---Submitted by Beverly Ward  
SEYM Representative to Florida Council of Churches

# Rice & Beans to Support Justice at the Border



**Saturday October 6      6 - 8 pm**

St. Petersburg Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
130 - 19th Avenue SE

**Dinner ~ Dance Performance ~ Jewelry & Crafts Sale**

Come to show solidarity with those affected by U.S. immigration policy and for fellowship with friends and other members of the community.

**Ana Maria Vasquez  
of the Border Patrol Victims Network  
will give an update of what is happening at the border**

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\$10 suggested donation for the dinner will help raise funds for the legal and medical services for immigrant victims

***RSVP for dinner by October 1st:  
[selmocabi@gmail.com](mailto:selmocabi@gmail.com) or call 727 439-0137***