

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
*of the Religious Society of Friends*  
**Fall Interim Business Meeting 2021**  
2 Tenth Month 2021

**MINUTES**

**Regrets:** Shawna Doran, Gainesville

Friends gathered on Zoom, settling into Worship. Clerk Phoebe Andersen read a message from Gay Howard.

*Love and the presence of God work together in pastoral care. Love of God, love of others, and love of oneself are all needed. We cannot grow into our whole selves, the person we were destined to be, without receiving love and learning to love. When we love and when we are loved, we are in a reciprocal relationship. This is the unseen, and often ignored, fabric of our world; God is at the center, the source of all love. Pastoral care is an activity in which all participants are learning to give and receive compassion, the fundamental skill for life.*

**Gay Howard, 2000**  
**SEYM Faith & Practice, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed., p. 229.**

The agenda was reviewed. Items were added before the break: a report from the *ad hoc* Quaker Retirement Community Committee (Dan Vaughen, convenor) and a letter from Wendy Clarissa Geiger. After the treasurer's report there will be a report from the Trustees. The agenda was approved as amended.

Friends introduced themselves by meeting.

Phoebe informed FIBM that Executive Committee has accepted Orlando Meeting's minute stating that they are not comfortable hosting Winter Interim Business Meeting & the Michener Lecture in January 2022. These events will therefore be virtual.

YM Clerk Bill Carlie reported on the COVID 19 Relief Fund. \$2000.00 has been disbursed. Bill intends to set up an open forum to discuss how meetings are moving forward as faith communities as we continue to struggle through this pandemic. Friends accepted the report.

Recording Clerk Liz Dykes read the numbered minutes from the Fall Executive Committee meeting held 1 Tenth Month 2021 (attached). Friends approved the minutes.

Liz read the numbered minutes from the Summer Executive Committee meeting held 19 Sixth Month 2021 (attached). Friends approved the minutes.

Ed Lesnick reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee recommends Brad Stocker for the Committee for Ministry on Racism. The committee accepts the resignation of Bonnie Zimmer

from the Earthcare Committee and as a representative to FGC Central Committee. Ed reminded Friends that there were some 32 positions coming up for renewal or new nominations in 2022. Nominating Committee will begin working on this in November.

**21FIBM01** Fall Interim Business Meeting approves Nominating Committee's recommendation of Brad Stocker to the Committee for Ministry on Racism for a term to end in 2024.  
**APPROVED**

Friends accepted the report.

Joel Cook presented the Treasurer's report (attached). Joel emphasized the need for funds for the programs for youth.

Friends accepted the report.

Neil Andersen reported for the Trustees (attached). Neil explained that Trustees Funds for the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator position are different from funds for the programs for youth; Joel and Neil will work together to transfer appropriate funds as needed. This does not change the need for funds for youth programming.

Friends accepted the report.

Jack Bradin reported on the concern for Friends in the Havana Unprogrammed Worship Group. The cost of communications for Friends in Cuba is about \$20 per family unit per month. There is also an opportunity to send medicine and material supplies using a shipping company that handles all the logistics. There is information attached.

**21FIBM02** Fall Interim Business Meeting approves creating an ad hoc committee to address needs of Friends in worship groups outside the US affiliated with SEYM. Johannes Werner & Mercedes Soca, along with other Friends for the committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee clerk. Further, FIBM authorizes SEYM to transfer \$500 from the contingency fund to the restricted fund for this work created by minute 21SEC01.  
**APPROVED**

Friends accepted the report.

Following a short break, Friends centered in silence.

Nancy Triscritti reported for Worship & Ministry Committee. She presented two minutes (attached).

Friends accepted the report.

Dan Vaughn updated the status of the *ad hoc* committee working on a Quaker retirement community. The committee was created at WIBM 2021. No members have yet been appointed. This is an opportunity to bring a greater Quaker presence in Florida.

**21FIBM03** Friends accept Phoebe Andersen, Dianna Langan, Chris Laning, and Caroline Lanker joining Dan Vaughn on the *ad hoc* committee on a Quaker Retirement Community.  
**APPROVED**

Friends accepted the report.

Phoebe shared a letter from Wendy Clarissa Geiger (attached). Wendy suggests that SEYM provide money for Young Adult Friends to attend Pendle Hill's Young Adult conference. This suggestion will be forwarded to the Youth Committee. She also suggested that SEYM work with Friends on living

debt-free with Dave Ramsey's program. Phoebe will consider to which committee this suggestion might be referred.

Cecilia Yocum reported for the Youth Committee (attached). Cheryl Demers Holton has volunteered to serve as CAPP coordinator.  
Friends accepted the report.

Kody Hersh reported as Youth & Young Adult Coordinator (attached). He reminded Friends that he is available for Meetings, in person and virtually. He let Friends know that he will be leaving this position on 15 August 2022, and raised important questions for SEYM about the support for youth, young adults, and families going forward.  
Friends accepted the report

Kody Hersh made the final report on the ad hoc Crisis Response Committee (attached). The report makes several recommendations for the Yearly Meeting. Executive Committee laid the committee down, with gratitude, at its meeting on 1 Tenth Month 2021.

**21FIBM04** Fall Interim Business Meeting agrees to implement all the recommendations in the ad hoc Crisis Response Committee's report. The EC clerk, in consultation with the youth committee clerk, the CAPP coordinator, the YM secretary, and others as appropriate will report at WIBM on next steps.

**APPROVED**

Friends accepted the report.

Susan Taylor shared the report of the Committee on Ministry on Racism. A written report will follow. She presented a minute on the Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act.

**21FIBM05** Fall Interim Business Meeting unites with the Committee for Ministry on Racism in supporting the bipartisan Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act that was re-introduced to Congress on September 30, 2021, the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools.

The Act "would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. This Commission would formally investigate the past wrongs of the federal government's attempts to terminate the cultures, religions, and languages of Native communities and respond to the ongoing historical and intergenerational trauma devastating tribal communities today," according to Senator Elizabeth Warren, D- Mass. who joined Senator Edward J. Markey, D- Mass, Congresswoman Sharice Davids, D-Kans. and Congressman Tom Cole, R- Okla. in introducing the bill. This would be the first commission of this kind ever established.

Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture.

We urge Congress to establish a Truth and Healing Commission on U.S. Indian Boarding School Policies.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting urges all Friends to support this bill.

**APPROVED**

Committee for Ministry on Racism will be asking Friends to share work on racism in meetings and individually.

Friends accepted the report.

Beverly Ward reported as the Field Secretary for Earthcare (attached). Friends celebrated five years of her service as Field Secretary for Earthcare. She continues to see the intersectionality of environmental concerns and other social issues.

Friends accepted the report.

Bill Carlie reported for the Earthcare Committee. The committee met today and had a lively discussion.

Friends accepted the report.

Brian Olson reported for Half Yearly meeting. HYM is planning an in-person event, with safety precautions, including simpler meals and asking Friends to register on time. No last minute or walk-in registrations will be permitted. A flyer will go out soon.

Friends accepted the report.

Warren Hoskins reported for the Peace & Social Concerns Committee. Today, the committee discussed Bob Allenson's Call for Spiritual Uplift (attached).

**21FIBM06** Fall Interim Business Meeting agrees to designate a day of fasting and prayer, with the intention of healing individual ills and social conflicts and seeking our way forward. SEYM will petition other yearly meetings, Friends' agencies, and groups like the Poor Peoples' Campaign to unite on an upsurge into a worldwide focus on how we are ruining Planet A and inflicting grievous harm on each other, then resolve to turn about-face and march together toward freedom and peace.

**APPROVED.**

Friends accepted the report.

Vicki Carlie reported for the SEYM Gathering Committee. Carl Magruder will be the 2022 Walton Lecturer. A theme has not been decided.

Friends accepted the report.

Liz Dykes read the numbered, approved minutes.

Friends settled into silence.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Dykes,

Recording Clerk

Phoebe B. Andersen

EC/IBM Clerk

**Participants:**

**Deland Worship Group**

Cheryl Demers-Holton (Gainesville MM)  
Beverly Ward (Tampa MM)

**Fort Lauderdale Monthly Meeting**

Brian Humphrey

**Gainesville Monthly Meeting**

Neil Andersen  
Phoebe Andersen  
Liz Dykes  
Jean Larson

**Lake Wales Worship Group**

Caroline Lanker (Tampa MM)  
Nancy Fennell (Fort Myers MM)

**Miami Monthly Meeting**

Brian Olson

**Orlando Monthly Meeting**

Chris Laning  
Ed Lesnick  
Kody Hersh  
Dan Vaughen

**Palm Beach Monthly Meeting**

Jack Bradin  
John Palozzi

**Saint Petersburg Monthly Meeting**

Bill Carlie  
Vicki Carlie  
Dianne Langan  
Susan Wade

**Tallahassee Monthly Meeting**

Bob Allenson  
Andrea Hoskins  
Warren Hoskins  
Angela Prather  
Susan Taylor

**Tampa Monthly Meeting**

Jan Dahm  
Lisa Erazmus  
Nancy Triscritti  
Cecelia Yocum

**Treasure Coast Worship Group**

Joel Cook (Palm Beach MM)

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
*of the Religious Society of Friends*  
**Fall Executive Committee Meeting 2021**  
1 Tenth Month 2021

**NUMBERED MINUTES**

- 21FEC01** Executive Committee approves that the 2022 Winter Interim Business Meeting and the Michener Lecture will be held virtually. We will consider whether future Executive Committee and Interim Business Meetings will be in person at a later date.  
**APPROVED**
- 21FEC02** Executive Committee approves the COVID 19 Relief Fund grant of \$1500 to Tampa Friends Meeting.  
**APPROVED**
- 21FEC03** Executive Committee will create an ad hoc committee to facilitate providing funds and material aid to international Friends groups affiliated with SEYM.  
**APPROVED**
- 21FEC04** Executive Committee lays down the ad hoc Crisis Response Committee, with gratitude for its spirit led work; and particularly for the dedication of Kody Hersh as clerk.  
**APPROVED**

**Southeastern Yearly Meeting**  
*of the Religious Society of Friends*  
**Summer Executive Committee Meeting**  
19 Sixth Month 2021

**NUMBERED MINUTES**

- 21SEC01** Friends direct the Treasurer to set up a fund for restricted donations for support and for internet access for international worship groups associated with SEYM.  
**APPROVED**
- 21SEC02** Executive Committee recommends to Fall Interim Business Meeting that SEYM make an immediate donation of \$500 to the restricted fund set up in minute 21SEC01, support for international worship groups.  
**APPROVED**
- 21SEC03** Executive Committee recommends that SEYM reapply to the State Department for a license to travel to Cuba with aid and ministry.  
**APPROVED**
- 21SEC04** Executive Committee accepts the report prepared by Phoebe Andersen about the history of the apportionment process. EC recommends that the report be sent to all monthly meeting clerks/treasurers/finance clerks as well as worship group contacts with a request for feedback not later than Winter Interim Business Meeting. EC asks Peter Schmidt to summarize the history and minutes to date. An *ad hoc* committee will then consolidate the feedback and history and suggest a codified, transparent, fair system for funding the yearly meeting.  
**APPROVED**
- 21SEC05** Executive Committee concurs with the Earthcare Committee in its response to the urgency of the Climate Crisis. The committee unites to establish a challenge grant to raise funds for the Field Secretary for Earthcare position with an initial fundraising goal of \$10,000.  
**APPROVED**
- 21SEC06** In order that applications for SEYM Youth Workers may be processed in the absence of a CAPP Coordinator, until a new Coordinator is appointed:
- a. The registrations of SEYM Youth Workers that are expiring in 2022 shall be extended until the end of the 2022 YM Gathering.
  - b. The Youth Committee Clerk (or a Youth Committee member) and the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator may schedule and oversee training sessions for new and returning applicants. Training sessions may be conducted online.
  - c. The Administrative Secretary may solicit, accept and process applications in advance of scheduled trainings.

**APPROVED**

**21SEC07** Executive Committee mourns the death of Jacksonville Friend Al Gieger. While saddened, Friends expressed appreciation for all the gifts Al shared with SEYM through the years.

**APPROVED.**

# Preliminary Treasurer Report for 2020 - 2021 Fiscal Year

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Preliminary Annual Report for end of Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (June 1, 2020 thru May 31, 2021)All values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

## SEYM Total Cash Flow not including Trustees

The overall cash flow of the Yearly Meeting (excluding separately reported accounts under the care of the Trustees) yielded a net loss (excluding unrealized capital gains) of \$442. This resulted from an SEYM total real income of \$90,477 against total expenses of \$90,919.

## SEYM General Fund for Administration - Cash Flow and Budget Performance

At the end of the fiscal year, the General Fund (the operations fund for which we approved a balanced budget of \$86,410 in our 2020 Yearly Meeting sessions) showed a net loss of \$3,470. This resulted from General Fund total income of \$61,244 (71% of budget) against expenses of \$64,714 (75% of budget).

## Budget Support Apportionments & Contributions Received

During this fiscal year, in response to the annual request for support of the approved General Fund Budget (the Apportionments), contributions received from the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups totaled \$43,345, or 64% of the year's budgeted request of \$76,590.

Sixteen (16) Monthly Meetings and ten (10) Worship Groups were included in the Apportionment request this fiscal year. 11 contributed between 90% and 125% of their requested amount, 2 contributed approximately 25%, and 11 contributed nothing.

The unrestricted individual donations received toward the Budget during this period totaled \$3,595 approximately 180% of the \$2,000 budgeted amount.

## Cash Flow Results for Programs

The annual programs for this fiscal year are complete. There may, however, be some adjustments to these figures.

The Yearly Meeting Gathering and Walton Lecture had an income of \$12,165 and expenses of \$1,803, yielding a net income of \$10,362.

Half Yearly Meeting had an income of \$320 with expenses of \$450 giving a net loss of \$130.

The Michener Lecture had an income of \$2,026 and expenses of \$195, yielding a net income of \$1,831. Programs for Youth had income of \$3,800 with expenses of \$3,475, yielding a net income of \$326. (Note: As of 9/31/2021 Programs for Youth has an available balance of \$1,541. Donations are needed urgently.)

The Publications program during this period had a net real loss of \$885, excluding unrealized capital gains of \$3,926 on investments for the program.

The SEYM Field Secretary for Earthcare program during this period received \$8,945 in donations and had expenses of \$17,920, yielding a net deficit of \$8,975. As of 5/31/2021 the SEYM Field Secretary for

Earthcare program has an available balance of \$9,271. (Note: As of 8/31/2021 the FSE Program has an available balance of \$12,834)

Net Worth

The Net Worth of the combined Yearly Meeting and its Trustees at the end of this period was \$670,354, an increase of \$124,068 including \$120,584 in unrealized capital gains since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Joel D. Cook, Treasurer - SEYM 9/30/2021

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
**Budget vs. Actual**  
 June 2020 through May 2021

09/26/2021  
 Cash Basis

	<u>Jun '20 - May 21</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income				
2000 · Income				
2001 · Donations				
2002 · Indivd.Donations-Classes	3,595.00	2,000.00	1,595.00	179.75%
2003 · Meeting Donations				
2013 · Meeting Donations, Unaffiliated	100.00			
2023 · Meeting Donations, WG wo apport	0.00			
2003 · Meeting Donations - Other	49,344.92	76,590.00	-27,245.08	64.43%
Total 2003 · Meeting Donations	49,444.92	76,590.00	-27,145.08	64.56%
2106 · Not Designated-TrusteesFFCFunds	0.00	20.00	-20.00	0.0%
Total 2001 · Donations	53,039.92	78,610.00	-25,570.08	67.47%
2200 · Investment Earnings				
2203 · Savings Account Interest	3.95	0.00	3.95	100.0%
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	3.95	0.00	3.95	100.0%
2316 · GuideOne Insurance Dividends	202.76			
Total 2000 · Income	53,246.63	78,610.00	-25,363.37	67.74%
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes				
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	150.00	150.00	0.00	100.0%
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	900.00	900.00	0.00	100.0%
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	450.00	450.00	0.00	100.0%
2804 · from Trustee's Funds				
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,939.28	1,800.00	139.28	107.74%
2820 · for Staff Salary	4,558.12	4,500.00	58.12	101.29%
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	6,497.40	6,300.00	197.40	103.13%
Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	7,997.40	7,800.00	197.40	102.53%
Total Income	61,244.03	86,410.00	-25,165.97	70.88%
Expense				
2999 · Expenses				
3000 · Operating Costs				
3001 · Bank Service Charges	359.40	100.00	259.40	359.4%
3002 · PayPal service fee	131.13	10.00	121.13	1,311.3%
3080 · Duplication	723.50	1,200.00	-476.50	60.29%
Total 3100 · Insurance	1,815.23	1,400.00	415.23	129.66%
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	61.25	70.00	-8.75	87.5%
3200 · Office Supplies	338.22	800.00	-461.78	42.28%
3270 · Payroll Expenses	40,717.41	47,500.00	-6,782.59	85.72%
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	3,015.58	3,500.00	-484.42	86.16%
3380 · Postage/Shipping	216.02	400.00	-183.98	54.01%
3381 · Post Office Box rental	198.00	180.00	18.00	110.0%
3400 · Office Equipment	0.00	400.00	-400.00	0.0%
Total 3500 · Professional Fees	0.00	1,400.00	-1,400.00	0.0%
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	1,781.07	2,800.00	-1,018.93	63.61%
Total 3700 · Repairs	70.00	200.00	-130.00	35.0%
3816 · Software	1,974.32	1,200.00	774.32	164.53%
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	1,135.09	1,700.00	-564.91	66.77%
3860 · Travel Administrative	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
Total 3900 · Website	1,073.58	900.00	173.58	119.29%
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	53,609.80	65,910.00	-12,300.20	81.34%
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses				
4309 · Archives	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
4329 · EC and IBM	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
4339 · Faith and Practice	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%

	<u>Jun '20 - May 21</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
4349 · Finance	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4359 · Nominating	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	54.00	450.00	-396.00	12.0%
4379 · Religious Education	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4389 · Youth Committee	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4399 · Worship and Ministry	0.00	150.00	-150.00	0.0%
4429 · Earthcare	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
4449 · Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	0.00	50.00	-50.00	0.0%
<b>Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses</b>	<b>54.00</b>	<b>1,650.00</b>	<b>-1,596.00</b>	<b>3.27%</b>
5000 · Donations to Organizations				
5007 · AFSC	200.00	200.00	0.00	100.0%
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5027 · FCNL	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.0%
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	200.00	200.00	0.00	100.0%
5030 · FLGBTQC	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5037 · FGC	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	100.0%
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	400.00	200.00	200.00	200.0%
5048 · Florida Impact	300.00	300.00	0.00	100.0%
5057 · Friends Journal	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.0%
5067 · FUM	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.0%
5068 · FWCC	1,450.00	1,450.00	0.00	100.0%
5077 · Pendle Hill	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	200.00	200.00	0.00	100.0%
5087 · Quaker Life	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5089 · QUNO	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
5097 · Wm Penn House	100.00	100.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations</b>	<b>6,050.00</b>	<b>5,850.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>103.42%</b>
8000 · Travel & Financial Aid				
8160 · Annual Representative	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
8360 · Attend SEYM-approved Activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
8460 · Travel Support to SEYM Business	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
8560 · Other Travel	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 8000 · Travel &amp; Financial Aid</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>6,000.00</b>	<b>-6,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
8500 · Contingency	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 2999 · Expenses</b>	<b>59,713.80</b>	<b>81,410.00</b>	<b>-21,696.20</b>	<b>73.35%</b>
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes				
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	100.0%
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	100.0%
9060 · for Triennial Travel	500.00	500.00	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>64,713.80</b>	<b>86,410.00</b>	<b>-21,696.20</b>	<b>74.89%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-3,469.77</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>-3,469.77</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Income & Expense by Class  
June 2020 through May 2021

09/26/2021  
Cash Balms  
TOTAL

Income	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	Cash Balms
2000 - Income										
2001 - Donations	3,595.00	280.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,080.00
2002 - Indivd Donations-Classes										
2003 - Meeting Donations	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
2013 - Meeting Donations, Unaffiliated	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2023 - Meeting Donations, WG we support	49,344.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,344.92
2003 - Meeting Donations - Other	49,444.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,444.92
Total 2003 - Meeting Donations	49,444.92	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,444.92
2004 - Individual to Annual Gath Youth	0.00	1,265.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	1,315.00
2104 - Ind Domain for Youth Event Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,080.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,080.00
Total 2001 - Donations	53,039.92	1,545.00	0.00	0.00	1,280.00	5.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	55,919.92
2040 - Restricted Donations										
2050 - Restricted - Other	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00	125.00
2060 - Donations - Restricted- FSE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,945.00	0.00	0.00	8,945.00
Total 2040 - Restricted Donations	0.00	0.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	8,945.00	0.00	25.00	9,070.00
2200 - Investment Earnings										
2203 - Savings Account Interest	3.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.95
2205 - Dividends FFC Gathering Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,436.89	4,436.89
2210 - Dividends FFC Michener Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	929.59	929.59
2215 - Dividends FFC Bertsche Outravel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,939.28	1,939.28
2220 - Dividends-FFC Staff Salary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,558.12	4,558.12
2225 - Dividends FFC Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,618.10	3,618.10
2230 - Dividends FFC Walton Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,718.26	1,718.26
2280 - Dividends FFC SEYM Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2290 - Investment Capital Gains/Losses										
2206 - Capital Gain(Loss) Gath, Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2211 - Capital Gain(Loss) Michener	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,209.12	30,209.12
2216 - Capital Gain(Loss) BertscheOTra	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,329.24	6,329.24
2221 - Capital Gain(Loss) Staff Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,203.75	13,203.75
2226 - Capital Gain(Loss) Unrestricted	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31,077.89	31,077.89
2231 - Capital Gain(Loss) Walton	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,797.01	24,797.01
2232 - Capital Gain (Loss) Meetinghouse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,699.42	11,699.42
2281 - Capital Gain(loss) SEYM Publish	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	74.08	74.08
Total 2290 - Investment Capital Gains/Losses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total 2200 - Investment Earnings	3.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	117,390.51	121,316.63
2316 - GuideOne Insurance Dividends	202.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	134,590.75	139,097.46
2400 - Program Registrations										
2430 - Registration Fee	0.00	2,465.00	270.00	1,046.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	202.76
Total 2400 - Program Registrations	0.00	2,465.00	270.00	1,046.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,801.00
2600 - Sales										
2630 - Book/consignment Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	54.24
2680 - Publication Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	668.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	668.57
Total 2600 - Sales	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	668.57	0.00	0.00	0.00	722.81
Total 2000 - Income	53,246.63	4,010.00	320.00	1,086.00	1,300.00	5,230.57	8,945.00	0.00	134,665.75	208,813.95
2700 - Transfer in FROM other classes										
2712 - Michener Lect. to GF/Insurance	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
2732 - Gath/Walton to GF/Insurance	900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	900.00
2752 - HYM to GF/Insurance	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	450.00
2780 - for Publications	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	173.26
2784 - from GF for YouthProgramsClass	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
2801 - transfer from General Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
2802 - from GF for Gathering Youth	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
2804 - from Trustee's Funds	0.00	4,436.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,436.89
2805 - for Gathering Youth	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2810 - for Michener Lecture	0.00	0.00	0.00	929.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	929.59
2815 - for BertscheOutreach Travel	1,939.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,939.28
2820 - for Staff Salary	4,558.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,558.12
2830 - for Walton Lecture/Gathering	0.00	1,718.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,718.26
Total 2804 - from Trustee's Funds	6,497.40	6,155.15	0.00	929.59	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,582.14
Total 2700 - Transfer in FROM other classes	7,927.40	8,155.15	0.00	929.59	2,500.00	173.26	0.00	500.00	0.00	20,255.40
Total Income	61,244.03	12,165.15	320.00	2,025.59	3,800.00	5,403.83	8,945.00	500.00	134,665.75	229,069.95



	Admin/General Fund	Gathering/Walton Lecture	Half Yearly Meeting (HYM)	Michener Lecture	Programs for Youth	Publications	Secretary - Earthcare	Triennial Travel	Trustee's Funds	TOTAL
7804 - Youth Prg. Expenses/Fees/Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	323.80
7805 - Youth Program Leader/childcare	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,150.00
Total 7800 - Youth Program	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,473.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,473.80
Total 7000 - Operating Costs Programs	0.00	750.00	0.00	0.00	3,473.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,223.80
Total 2999 - Expenses	59,713.80	903.49	0.00	44.72	3,473.80	2,363.08	17,920.27	0.00	500.00	84,919.16
9000 - Transfer OUT TO other classes										
9002 - to GF for insurance	0.00	900.00	450.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,500.00
9004 - for Youth Programs	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00
9005 - for Gathering Youth	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,436.89	6,436.89
9060 - for Triennial Travel Fund	500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
9210 - for Michener Lecture	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	929.59	929.59
9215 - for Bertsche/Outreach Travel	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,939.28	1,939.28
9220 - for Staff Salary	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,558.12	4,558.12
9230 - for Walton Lecture/Gathering	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,718.26	1,718.26
Total 9000 - Transfer OUT TO other classes	5,000.00	900.00	450.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,582.14	20,082.14
Total Expense	64,713.80	1,803.49	450.00	194.72	3,473.80	2,363.08	17,920.27	0.00	14,082.14	105,001.30
Income	-3,469.77	10,361.66	-130.00	1,830.87	326.20	3,040.75	-8,975.27	500.00	120,583.61	124,088.05
Net Income Excluding Capital Gains/Losses	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,926.12	0.00	0.00	117,390.51	121,316.63
Net Income Excluding Capital Gains/Losses & Trustees Funds	-441.68	10,361.66	-130.00	1,830.87	326.20	-885.37	-8,975.27	500.00	3,193.10	2,751.42
Expenses Excluding Capital Gains/Losses & Trustees Funds	90,477.48									
Expenses Excluding Capital Gains/Losses & Trustees Funds	90,919.16									

Southeastern Yearly Meeting  
Balance Sheet Prev Year Comparison  
As of May 31, 2021

09/26/2021

Cash Basis

	<u>May 31, 21</u>	<u>May 31, 20</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
0501 · Checking Account BOA			
511 · Checking - Gen'l Fund - General	13,909.24	13,516.92	392.32
560 · Checking-GF-Triennial Travel	8,858.18	8,858.18	0.00
561 · Peace Team Travel Fund	-4,300.00	-4,300.00	0.00
566 · Checking-GF-Sufferings	170.00	170.00	0.00
610 · Checking-SA-Michener	2,144.32	313.45	1,830.87
630 · Checking-SA-YBM Gathering	-5,072.22	-13,433.88	8,361.66
640 · Checking-SA-Programs for Youth	-2,747.23	2,526.57	-5,273.80
650 · Checking-SA-HYM	333.61	463.61	-130.00
670 · Checking - SA - Earthcare	9,271.00	18,235.70	-8,964.70
680 · Checking-SA-Publications	-6,003.76	-5,118.39	-885.37
700 · Checking-Trustees			
705 · Checking - Gathering Youth Fund	3,881.74	3,831.74	50.00
710 · Checking - Michener Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00
715 · Checking - Bertsche Travel Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00
720 · Checking - Staff Salary	605.00	605.00	0.00
725 · Checking - Unrestricted Fund	530.00	1,005.00	-475.00
730 · Checking - Walton Fund	5.00	5.00	0.00
Total 700 · Checking-Trustees	<u>5,031.74</u>	<u>5,456.74</u>	<u>-425.00</u>
Total 0501 · Checking Account BOA	<u>21,594.88</u>	<u>26,688.90</u>	<u>-5,094.02</u>
830 · Checking - BofA Payroll	11,337.38	6,152.92	5,184.46
903 · Savings BOA	<u>36,920.49</u>	<u>36,916.54</u>	<u>3.95</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>69,852.75</u>	<u>69,758.36</u>	<u>94.39</u>
Accounts Receivable			
1100 · Accounts Receivable	<u>-1,124.68</u>	<u>-1,124.68</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>-1,124.68</u>	<u>-1,124.68</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Other Current Assets			
1180 · FFC SOYM1 Publications Investme	18,549.05	14,622.93	3,926.12
1200 · Trustee Investments			
1205 · FFC SOYMT6 GatheringYouth Fund	142,723.78	112,514.66	30,209.12
1210 · FFC SOYMT3 Michener	29,902.68	23,573.44	6,329.24
1215 · FFC SOYMT2 BertscheTravel Fd	62,381.45	49,177.70	13,203.75
1220 · FFC SOYMT5 Staff Salary Fund	146,828.27	115,750.38	31,077.89
1225 · FFC SOYMT4 Unrestricted	118,655.12	90,240.01	28,415.11
1230 · FFC SOYMT1 Walton Fund	55,272.52	43,573.10	11,699.42
1240 · FFC SOYMT7 Meetinghouse Support	27,312.92	27,238.84	74.08
Total 1200 · Trustee Investments	<u>583,076.74</u>	<u>462,068.13</u>	<u>121,008.61</u>
Total Other Current Assets	<u>601,625.79</u>	<u>476,691.06</u>	<u>124,934.73</u>

	May 31, 21	May 31, 20	\$ Change
Total Current Assets	670,353.86	545,324.74	125,029.12
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>670,353.86</b>	<b>545,324.74</b>	<b>125,029.12</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
1300 · Expected/prepaid expenses	0.00	-961.07	961.07
Total Other Current Liabilities	0.00	-961.07	961.07
Total Current Liabilities	0.00	-961.07	961.07
Total Liabilities	0.00	-961.07	961.07
Equity			
1400 · Trustees Funds Equity	296,694.99	296,694.99	0.00
1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets			
1511 · General Fund Net Assets	29,324.36	29,324.36	0.00
1560 · Triennial Travel Net Assets	5,349.80	5,349.80	0.00
1580 · Publications Net Assets	14,341.85	14,341.85	0.00
Total 1500 · Operational Equity/ Net Assets	49,016.01	49,016.01	0.00
1700 · Retained Earnings	200,574.81	210,615.83	-10,041.02
Net Income	124,068.05	-10,041.02	134,109.07
Total Equity	670,353.86	546,285.81	124,068.05
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>670,353.86</b>	<b>545,324.74</b>	<b>125,029.12</b>

# Trustees' Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

During the past twelve months the SEYM funds invested through the Friends Fiduciary Corp. (FFC) gained and lost market value as the financial winds shifted but ended with an increase of more than 20% over the period.

Most of the Trustees' funds are restricted; the principal is preserved and the dividends on the invested funds are used for specific purposes to benefit the Yearly Meeting.

Analysis shows that the Trustees' Funds provide substantial benefit to the operations of the Yearly Meeting.

The requested FFC standard 4% dividend payouts to SEYM were made and the \$13,582 received from dividends was divided among the designated SEYM programs as usual.

Support funds were available and were used for the Covid-19 Stress Relief Fund. Support funds were available but were not required to support the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator position.

The cash retained in the Trustees' partitioned section of the SEYM checking account will be invested appropriately in FFC after the books have been settled for the Fiscal Year, except for an unrestricted amount held for any unanticipated Trustees' expenditure which might arise.

Neil H. Andersen, Clerk of Trustees

# Care Packages to Cuba

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Hi Phoebe,

This is Johannes Werner. Mercedes Soca and I make up the subcommittee in charge of organizing shipments to Cuba.

Thank you for offering to help. Jack Braden suggested we bring you up to speed.

In August, Mercedes organized a first shipment of 12 pounds of medicine to Friends in Havana, as accompanying luggage with returning Cuban travelers from Russia.

We now want to put this on somewhat more organized footing, by sending packages via Crowley, a major shipping line that sends two container ships a month from Port Everglades to Mariel in Cuba. They work with state shipping company CubaPack, which delivers our packages at the recipient's doorstep.

These shipments take long - sometimes more than three months - to get to the final recipient, but they are for now the only plannable way of sending much-needed medicine and food from the United States to Cuba. And they deliver to the door of the recipient.

Here's the link to the Crowley Cuba package service:

<https://lp.crowley.com/en/cubaexpress?hsCtaTracking=b2c3af6f-61d1-4075-81f2-18221a87e34e%7C663e89b8-722b-4a3e-99db-e4c6d8075b2c>

Crowley would allow us to ship a batch between 12 and 21 pounds. If we start with a 12-pound shipment (minimum), shipping and related costs will be just under \$200 (including USPS mailing to the Crowley warehouse in Miami). A 21-pound shipment would end up costing us just under \$300 in shipment costs.

The recipient must also pay a custom processing fee of 50 Cuban pesos (24 pesos = \$1) per 3-pound bag upon pickup or delivery, which we should reimburse them.

If the recipients prefer pickup at the CubaPack warehouse in the Havana boonies (this could cut some waiting time), the shipping cost would be \$48 for a 12-pound shipment, and \$84 for a 21-pound shipment, but we would have to add around \$60 for taxi.

We are, in theory, ready to begin buying medicine, food, or toiletries. We are seeking feedback from Friends in Cuba what it is they most need, and we are also finding out from them how these packages/bags should be organized to allow for fair distribution.

Any suggestions on how we should proceed?

One last thought: We could save some time and shipping cost if we were to buy our donations online and have them shipped directly to the Crowley warehouse in Miami. However, I was also thinking that buying the goods in person and packaging them here (in Sarasota, for example), would allow mobilizing volunteers, which creates a more direct relationship with Friends in Cuba, and could prompt a few more donations.

Johannes (941) 210-1512

# Worship and Ministry Committee Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Nancy Triscritti presented the following minutes:

## Memorial Minute for Al Geiger

Southeastern Yearly Meeting mourns the death and celebrates the life of Al Geiger, longtime attender of Jacksonville Meeting and SEYM events. We fondly remember Al enjoying camping at the SEYM Gathering and his peaceful presence among us, especially on the Peace and Social Concerns Committee and Committee for Earth Care. Many of us remember with joy the generous hospitality at his and his family's home and his quiet smile. We are grateful to have been companions with him.

Worship and Ministry would like to express appreciation to all those who worked so hard and willingly to make it possible for this Fall Interim Business Meeting to occur.

# Wendy Geiger Letter to SEYM IBM Clerk

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021  
[Transcription]

Gentle blessings,  
from Wendy Clarissa Geiger,  
of Jacksonville Friends Meeting      Wednesday, Sept. 8th, 2021

Dear Susan Wade,

Please send to me via USPS mail the new SEYM Directory [this has been done]. Thank thee kindly, Susan.

I don't know much of anything re SEYM business. As, for the last 7 or 6 months and counting, I've been w/o computer & e-mail. Both Susan Taylor, my co-clerk on the Com for Ministry on Racism, and I are in the processes of moving, she in Tallahassee, me in Jax.

Here are a few of my ideas for SEYM Friends to mull over/discern-discuss at the e.c./IBMs. (over, please)

1)... for SEYM to finance Young Adult Friends in SEYM to attend the week-long Summer Gathering/conference @ Pendle Hill, held each Summer there for 18-35 year-old Young Quakers. Their transportation financed by SEYM, too! Anonymous SEYM Friends financed my participation in Young Friends of North America in the eighties & early nineties for which I am exceedingly grateful, deepened my sense of Quakerdom, and kept me in the Quaker way and kept me attending SEYM Gatherings for 50 years! ~ the other idea: help SEYM Friends get out of debt (especially, through the Financial Peace University of Dave Ramsey's work).

Cover woodcut by Irving Ammen (l.-r.) Chistian, Jewish, Muslin, Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist.



*Christian-Jewish-Muslim-Hindu-Buddhist-Taoist*

*woodcut by Irving Ammen*

"Prayer for Dialogue with Greater Religions"  
by Mary Lou Kownacki  
(from A WORLD OF PRAYER)

I bow to the one who signs the cross.  
I bow to the one who sits with the Buddha.  
I bow to the one who wails at the wall.  
I bow to the OM flowing in the Ganges.  
I bow to the one who faces Mecca,  
whose forehead touches holy ground.  
I bow to dervishes whirling in mystical wind.  
I bow to the north,  
to the south,  
to the east,  
to the west.  
I bow to the God within each heart.  
I bow to epiphany,  
to God's face revealed.  
I bow. I bow. I bow.

"The Religion of Love"  
by Ibn 'Arabi

My heart has become capable of every form: it is a pasture for  
gazelles and a convent for Christian monks,  
And a temple for idols and the pilgrim's Ka'ba and the  
tables of the Torah, and the book of the Qur'an.  
I follow the religion of Love: whatever way Love's camels take,  
that is my religion and my faith.

"I Am In Love With Every Church..."  
by Hafiz,  
rendered by Daniel Ladinsky

I am in love with every church  
And mosque  
And temple  
And any kind of shrine

because I know it is there  
that people say the different names  
of the one God.

*Gentle blessings,  
from Wendy Clarissa Geiger,  
of Jacksonville Friends Meeting*

*Wednesday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

*Dear Susan Wade,*

*Please, send <sup>to me</sup> via USPS mail the new  
SEYM Directory. Thank thee kindly, Susan.*

*I don't know much of anything re SEYM  
business. As, for the last 7 or 6 months <sup>and counting</sup>, clue  
been w/o computer & e-mail. Both Susan Taylor,  
my co-clerk on the Com. for Ministry on Racism, and I  
are in the processes of moving, she in Tallahassee, me in Jacksonville.*

*Here are a few of my ideas for SEYM Friends to  
mull over/discern-discuss at e.c./FBms. (over, please)*

2)... for SEYM to finance Young Adult Friends in SEYM to attend the week-long Summer gathering (conference @ Pendle Hill, held each Summer there for 18-35 year olds) Young Adult Quakers. Their transportation financed by SEYM, too. Anonymous <sup>SEYM</sup> Friends financed my participation in Young Friends of North America in the eighties & early nineties for which I'm exceedingly grateful, deepened my sense of Qua

kerdom, "The Religion of Love" poem is from page 268 of CATHEDRALS OF THE SPIRIT - The Message of Sacred Places, by T.C. McLuhan, author of a favorite book of my childhood, TOUCH THE EARTH. Here is the introduction of the poem: "The great Andalusian sage Ibn 'Arabi (1165-1240) was born in Murcia in southern Spain into a family of pure Arab blood of the tribe of Ta' i. His greatest 'masterpiece' was his own life, writes Seyyed Hossein Nasr, 'a most unusual life in which prayer, invocation, contemplation, and visits to various Sufi saints were combined with the theophanic vision of the spiritual world in which the invisible hierarchy was revealed to him.' In the Islamic world he was surnamed Muhyi al-Din, the Revivifier of Religion. His vision of the universe encompassed the principle of the universality of revelation, the idea that all prophets are an aspect of the Divine Presence - the Supreme Center - and that each, in fact, is a 'logos' in him or her self. Ibn 'Arabi believed in the transcendent unity of the inner core of all religions. Ultimately, he realized that divinely inspired paths all converge at the same peak, and that to have embraced a single faith completely is to have embraced them all; a recognition that has been immortalized in his famous and oft quoted poem...."

and kept me in the Quaker way and kept me attending SEYM gatherings for 50 years! The other idea: help SEYM Friends get out of debt (especially, through the Financial Peace University of Dave Ramsey's work).

Cover worded by Irving Ammen (d. 72): Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Taoist.

# Youth Committee Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

The committee met 8/22/21. Attending were Kody Hersh, Cece Yocum, Jennifer Mendoza

The committee discussed providing a stipend for the presenter, Laura McGuire, at the 8/26/21 workshop for Young Adults and approved \$75.00. Kody agreed to contact SEYM treasurer to secure the funds.

Discussion continued regarding Fundraising for the Youth Programs including salary for the Youth Coordinator through 2022. Discussion of a model for sustaining the position was addressed and Cece will consult with Joel Cook for more ideas. Other ideas are welcome.

The Committee discussed the trial CAPP Training for Youth Committee members and potential youth program volunteers set for 9/19/21 from 2-4 PM.

Half Yearly Meeting Youth activities are planned, however, there was no certainty about whether the Meeting would be in-person or online. Cheryl Demers-Holton has volunteered to be the next CAP Coordinator.

Kody discussed the planning and facilitating of a July 25 retreat for SEYM youth and families at Anastasia State Park. Two retreats, one in South Florida and one in North Florida, were originally planned, but the South Florida event was cancelled due to low registration. The North Florida event was attended by ten families, 33 people total (16 adults and 17 youth).

The Committee discussed proposals for youth activities, approving online resumption of Quaker Baker on 10/31/21 Sunday at 12 noon online to make Halloween Cookies, including any interested parents and adults as well. More details later.

The possibility of reading stories online for families was discussed noting prior lack of attendance. Cece volunteered to contact Emily Provance in regard to her efforts.

Next Youth Committee Meeting, we will further discuss the model for the Youth Coordinator position and the farm north of Gainesville as a possible retreat location. Cece visited the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice retreat center in mid July and we will talk further about this as a location for some events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 2021, at 7 pm on zoom. The youth committee requests the Nominating Committee to suggest additional members to the Youth Committee.

Kody Hersh, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, has submitted a separate report to SEYM Fall Interim Business Meeting 2021. Please see that report for more information.

Jennifer Mendoza,  
Youth Committee recorder and co clerk

Cecilia Yocum, co clerk

# Youth and Young Adult Coordinator Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Dear Friends,

It has been a joy and a challenge to restart my service as SEYM Youth and Young Adult Coordinator during this time of crisis and uncertainty. In August 2020 when I began a leave of absence from my work for the yearly meeting I believed that I would return once the pandemic was over, and we were all confident that it was safe to resume in-person events. Now it's clear that, for the foreseeable future, navigating a rapidly changing public health landscape will be a central part of personal and community life for all of us, and a defining factor in the work of supporting SEYM's youth, young adults, and families.

## Work Undertaken, Spring 2021-Fall 2021:

With the approval of SEYM Youth and Executive Committees, I returned to my work as YYAC on a limited basis in early spring 2021, to clerk the Ad hoc Crisis Response Committee following Javier del Sol's arrest, and to begin planning summer events for youth and families. I resumed regular hours on June 15, 2021.

Since spring 2021, I have focused on:

- Coordination of SEYM's response to Javier del Sol's arrest, including direct, individual outreach to former youth program participants, parent/guardians, and volunteers.
- Planning and facilitating a July 25 retreat for SEYM youth and families at Anastasia State Park. Two retreats, one in South Florida and one in North Florida, were originally planned, but the South Florida event was cancelled due to low registration. The North Florida event was attended by ten families, 33 people total (16 adults and 17 youth).
- Restarting monthly online events for SEYM young adults (18-35). We began in July with a worship sharing session, and have a variety of workshops and activities, with different facilitators, scheduled for the next three months.
- Testing the waters for an in-person young adult retreat, including trying to identify a potential date, site, and planning committee members. As COVID numbers rose in July, we decided not to move ahead with an in-person event at this time.
- Beginning development of a new, online CAPP training, and resuming revisions to the CAPP manual begun in 2019.
- Communication with youth, young adults, and families, to provide information and pastoral care support-- with a particular focus on welcoming families new to SEYM.

- Serving on High School Program staff for the Friends General Conference Gathering, in order to connect with other Quaker youth workers, and learn from and with them about how to host meaningful youth events online.
- Stepping into new youth-related roles with Orlando Monthly Meeting: working on how to welcome youth and families to the meeting and facilitate their participation in worship without a formal youth program (suspended due to COVID), coordinating the restart of the formal youth program, and convening a committee to discern the meeting's long-term vision for youth support and religious education. I hope that engaging more deeply with youth work in the monthly meeting context will help me to better support other SEYM meetings in their religious education and intergenerational community-building work.

### Priorities for the Coming Months:

Between Fall Interim Business Meeting and Winter Interim Business meeting, I anticipate focusing my energy in the following areas:

- Scheduling monthly meeting visits (virtual or in person as circumstances allow).
- Writing more articles for the SEYM eNews.
- Creating more usable and varied communication methods for informing youth and young adults about SEYM happenings and broader Quaker world opportunities.
- Encouraging attendance and planning activities for youth and young adults at upcoming SEYM events (HYM, WIBM, YM Gathering (including both in-person and contingency plans)).
- Supporting youth, family, and young adult participation in the 2022 FGC Gathering in Radford, Virginia.
- Continuing to explore the possibility of an in-person young adult retreat in 2022.
- Coordination of Orlando Meeting's Young Friends program, and participation in long-term visioning.
- Completing development of a new CAPP training program, and continuing revision of the manual

### Challenges and Opportunities:

The greatest challenge that I'm experiencing right now in my work as YYAC is uncertainty about the future, especially as regards in-person events. Online events seem to work well for young adults, though they can't replace in-person opportunities. They do not seem to work well for most youth. The combination of real need and hunger for physical proximity to others, for

relationship and community and connection, is deeply challenging to reconcile with the particular vulnerability of children too young for vaccination, and/or with medical complications.

A further challenge, and invitation, is the approaching end of my three-year term of service with the yearly meeting. I have become clear, and shared with SEYM Youth Committee, that I will not be available for this role beyond the three-year term, which extends to fall 2022.

I will do everything I can in my remaining time to engage and equip other people to do different parts of this work, and create tools that can be easily used by others in the future. I urge the yearly meeting to begin discernment about what support for youth, families, and young adults will look like as I transition out of the role. Is the YM led to continue staff support specifically focused on youth and young adults? What would that look like? If not, what other structures could be put in place to ensure that youth, families, and young adults are supported and engaged, that their needs and experiences and participation are central in the life of the community?

I invite your prayers, feedback, invitations to visit your meeting, or requests for support, resources, or consultation at any time, and remain grateful to have the opportunity to serve in this role.

Kody Hersh  
Youth and Young Adult Coordinator

# *Ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

The *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee (committee) was created by SEYM Executive Committee and approved by Minute at SEYM annual sessions in response to the arrest of Javier Del Sol in 2021 for sexual abuse of a minor that occurred in 2005 or 2006. While the young person harmed by this abuse was not connected to the SEYM community, Javier Del Sol had been a volunteer with SEYM youth programs for several years prior to and around the time of this incident. Members of the *ad hoc* Crisis Response Committee have been Kody Hersh, Bill Carlie, Nancy Triscritti, Susan Taylor, and Cecilia Yocum.

The committee met during 2021 Yearly Meeting sessions and drafted a response plan and public statement which were approved by Minute prior to the rise of SEYM annual sessions. This interim report summarizes the steps taken under the plan and the results to date.

The committee has been active, meeting at first weekly as the plan was implemented and more recently every 2 weeks. Steps taken include:

- Publication of the public statement on the SEYM website and direct distribution of the statement to Meeting clerks and correspondents for Worship Groups.
- Direct personal contact with youth participants and youth coordinators from the period of Javier del Sol's involvement in SEYM youth programs (approximately 2001-2005).
- Identifying and training a small group of SEYM members to be available for supportive listening, and providing them with private Google-based phone numbers and email addresses dedicated to this effort.
- Creation of shared documents to track our efforts at contacting former youth program participants, parents, and volunteers.
- Review of SEYM Gathering attendance records from 2001-2005, in order to ensure, to the greatest extent possible, that all participants, parents, and volunteers from the time period in question were contacted directly. While the committee was not able to find contact information for every person on the list, more than 70 individuals received a direct, individual communication informing them of the arrest and SEYM's response, offering support, and committing to listen if they had any negative personal experiences in SEYM programs that they wished to share.
- Submittal of committee notes for publication on the SEYM website, in order to provide transparency around the response process as it unfolded.

Some notable results have been recorded:

- No incidents of abuse at any SEYM event have been reported to committee members or named listeners during this process.
- The committee received many messages of appreciation for the individual outreach and the transparency of this process.
- Listeners were available to Friends who were distressed by the news of this event and while the need for this support was limited, Friends appreciated the availability of this support.

Additional actions taken by the committee:

- The committee and listeners have remained in place as a resource for members or participants to report incidents or seek support through to Fall Interim Business Meeting.
- The committee has discerned recommendations for SEYM to improve the yearly meeting's ability to respond to crisis situations, strengthen our child abuse prevention and response processes, and create a safer community for all SEYM members and attenders.

### **Committee Recommendations**

The Committee unites in the following recommendations to the body of SEYM:

The committee found that records of attendance / registration at the SEYM gathering and other SEYM events have not been consistently retained. However for this particular work, 4 years of this information was retained in the minute books, these retained records covered the time of concern which was very useful in completing our work of contacting those who attended.

- The committee recommends that it become policy for event registrars/coordinators and the SEYM Administrative Secretary to work together to retain registration / attendance records for SEYM in-person gatherings, in an archival format within the minute books or other record keeping manner similar to the minute books. These records would not be published with the minutes, but would be preserved in the same manner as the minutes for future reference, should need again arise.
  - o The committee recommends that the Youth Committee, CAPP Coordinator, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, and others as needed, support this record-keeping by specifically recording participant and volunteer attendance in SEYM youth programs and sharing that information with the SEYM Administrative Secretary for archiving.

Of particular concern to committee members is the process by which incidents of abuse or harassment can be reported and acted on. We feel that SEYM Friends should know how any

incident of abuse or harassment in the community can be reported and to whom. In all cases, an ability to respond promptly and transparently will be important.

- The committee recommends that a committee or working group be created to develop a SEYM harassment policy and standing crisis response process.
- The committee recommends development of training so that all individuals attending an SEYM event, regardless of formal involvement with the youth program, are able to contribute to an atmosphere that is inclusive and safe for all attendees, and in particular safe for our youth.
  - o We recommend as a first step that the CAPP Coordinator, Youth Committee, and Youth and Young Adult Coordinator develop a training on child abuse for the yearly meeting body as a whole, and consider how to specifically equip and empower youth program volunteers to respond to incidents or concerns in the moment they arise.
  - o We recommend that Youth Committee, the CAPP Coordinator, the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator, and the committee formed to create crisis response and harassment policies, consider what additional training might help support SEYM's work to be a safer community for all.
- The committee recommends that SEYM Executive Committee designate funds to allow for professional consultation and support, as needed, in the creation of harassment and crisis response policies and the development and delivery of related training.
- The committee unites that with acceptance of this report, the work of the committee is complete. We recommend that the *ad hoc* Crisis Committee created for this incident be laid down at this time.
- Finally, the committee recommends that documents related to this response process be collected and made permanently available on the SEYM website, for ongoing transparency, and in order that our experience might be helpful to other Friends.

The committee expresses its thanks to all the members who have assisted this effort with their time and spiritual support. The Committee continues to hold in the Light all who have been involved in this incident and encourages all Friends to join us in this.

Kody Hersh, clerk  
Bill Carlie  
Susan Taylor  
Nancy Triscritti  
Cecilia Yocum

# Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR) Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

*What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can faith save him?*

James 2: 14 (RSV)

(James has been said to be a favorite of George Fox's)

Greetings, Friends,

The Committee for Ministry on Racism is very much looking forward to the SEYM-hosted Zoom seminar, **Race and the Death Penalty**, to be given Friday evening, September 10 at 7:00 P.M. by Floridians for Alternatives to the Death Penalty (FADP). Please spread the word and go to the SEYM website for details about this inspiring opportunity: [www.seymquakers.org](http://www.seymquakers.org). Information is also on the SEYM Facebook page. We are very grateful to the staff of FADP for initiating the offer of the seminar, and for offering it. Our committee is also grateful to have worked with Susan Wade and Vicki Carlie on this, along with Phil Stone, Clerk, Peace and Social Concerns Committee. We deeply thank Susan Wade and Vicki Carlie for their persistent, faithful commitment at the administrative end for making it possible for this event to happen. Vicki's artistry with the graphics and wording resulted in compelling publicizing.

The Committee for Ministry on Racism will be meeting virtually October 2 from 9:30 – 11:00 AM. We warmly invite any Friend who wishes to attend our meeting. To help with planning, please notify Susan Taylor, Co-clerk, by email: [susantaylor410@gmail.com](mailto:susantaylor410@gmail.com) if you are a non-committee member who would like to join us. At this writing, our agenda is in the process of being drafted, and we welcome your input.

One of our main agenda items will be discerning way forward on next steps in the life-long challenge to remove White supremacy within SEYM. We are engaged in follow-up with the invitation we offered to Friends at Winter Interim Business Meeting 2020. A sub-committee of the Joint CMOR and Youth Committee will have met again, as part of that discernment, prior to our October meeting.

CMOR and the Youth Committee jointly proposed that:

- “each monthly meeting, partnered monthly meetings, or partnered monthly meetings and worship groups, schedule a Zoom worship sharing or a threshing session in February or March 2021 in response to the [Call to Action from the Outgoing Epistle of the 2020 FGC Virtual Pre-Gathering Retreat of Friends of Color and their Families](#). The worship sharing or threshing session would consider [the queries in the Outgoing Epistle].” Some meetings have reported doing this, though some in a different time frame.
- “Following the worship sharing or threshing session, at another time, Friends could select one area of growth or learning that will strengthen the meeting's or meetings' capacity to engage in discernment and action around racial justice. They could develop a plan for how Friends might collectively engage on that topic in any number of ways...” Some meetings have reported racial justice actions they are taking, which may or may not have followed sitting with the queries mentioned above.

- “the SEYM Committee for Ministry on Racism could host an online check-in for Friends to share what arose in their meeting's or meetings' worship sharing or threshing session times, along with any follow-up steps that they are planning. It could be a time of seeking support, sharing resources, and engaging in collaborative problem-solving for any challenges that are arising. Support could come from members of other meetings, the Committee for Ministry on Racism, or both.” This online meeting has not yet been scheduled.
- “that Friends attend SEYM's screening of **Just Mercy**, another movie suggested by Friends, or organize their own movie event focused on a racial justice topic. “ We thank Vicki Carlie for showing this movie, virtually. About six Friends attended, including Vicki. We know that some Friends have shown videos in their own meetings that help them challenge White supremacy.
- In Fall 2021 . . . each monthly meeting might place the following query on their agenda for meeting for worship with attention to business: ***How are we called, as a community, to further live into racial justice and healing within and beyond our meeting and the Religious Society of Friends? This query might be considered several months in a row, so that Friends have ample time to reflect and seek unity.***
- Another ongoing query that could be raised as part of SEYM's, monthly meetings' and worship groups' decision-making process: ***How does this decision impact our goal of removing White supremacy from our faith community?***

CMOR continues to watch for the re-introduction of the bill like the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policy Act” (HR8420) and continues to urge Friends to support it. (Please see **21YBM08**.) The Friends' Peace Teams Toward Relationship with Native Peoples website ([friendspeaceteams.org](http://friendspeaceteams.org)) continues to be a strong resource for Friends.

Another agenda item for our October 2 meeting will be the exploration of ways in which inclusiveness is included in Friends' First Day schools, especially within SEYM. Please send us your experiences!

As always, we look forward to being with you, grounded in worship.

Trusting in the Spirit, with love,

Susan Taylor, Co-clerk CMOR

For the Committee: Wendy Clarissa Geiger (Co-clerk, Jacksonville); Minerva Glidden (Orlando), Beverly Ward (Tampa), Katie Green (Clearwater), Kathy Hersh (DeLand Quakers Worship Group and Miami), Mainus Sultan (Savannah), Jean Larson (Gainesville), Cheryl Demers (Gainesville), Jane Westberg (Miami and Boulder). Youth Committee members active with Joint CMOR and Youth Committee: Cece Yocum, Co-clerk (Tampa); Jennifer Mendoza, Co-clerk (Sarasota); Aurelio Anderson (Tallahassee).

# Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR) Report Addendum

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Greetings, Friends,

## Land Acknowledgment, excerpted from the SEYM website ([www.seymquakers.org](http://www.seymquakers.org)):

*We acknowledge that the monthly meetings of Southeastern Yearly Meeting are on the unceded lands of many different indigenous peoples...*

*We acknowledge the Seminole (SEM-in-ol) and Miccosukee (mick-uh-SOO-kee) Tribes, who continue as peoples, and as protectors of South Florida's land and water. Their fierce and sustained resistance to European invasion and the physical and cultural processes of colonization and land theft continue to this day.*

*We acknowledge that Native individuals of many nations and peoples live throughout this region today.*

*We in Southeastern Yearly Meeting have committed ourselves to an ongoing process of decolonization. We repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery, commit ourselves to a deeper understanding of Quaker involvement in the genocide of indigenous peoples, and seek way forward in deepening commitment and solidarity with Native peoples.*

The committee refers Friends to the **Decolonizing Quakers** website, [www.decolonizingquakers.org](http://www.decolonizingquakers.org) for ways for monthly meetings to create their own land acknowledgments.

**We approved taking a minute to FIBM session** this afternoon stating SEYM's support for the recently introduced bipartisan bill: **Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act**. SEYM Friends approved at yearly meeting sessions 2020 support for a similar bill which was introduced in 2019 and urged Friends to support it. Committee members approved Susan Taylor changing wording in the minute approved last year and bringing it to the body for approval. FCNL has a template for Friends to provide their support for the Act as individuals

## **SEYM Minute of Support for the *Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act*.**

Southeastern Yearly Meeting deeply supports the bipartisan *Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies in the United States Act* that was re-introduced to Congress on September 30, 2021, the National Day of Remembrance for U.S. Indian Boarding Schools.

The Act "would establish a Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding School Policies. This Commission would formally investigate the past wrongs of the federal government's attempts to terminate the cultures, religions, and languages of Native communities and respond to the ongoing historical and intergenerational trauma devastating tribal communities today," according to Senator Elizabeth Warren, D- Mass. Who joined Senator Edward J. Markey, D- Mass., Congresswoman Sharice Davids, D-Kans.

and Congressman Tom Cole, R- Okla. In introducing the bill. This would be the first commission of this kind ever established.

Quakers were among the strongest supporters of the federal policy calling for this forced assimilation, and operated some 30 Indian schools. The children were taught to reject their Native languages, cultures, and spiritual practices and adopt Euro-American culture.

We urge Congress to establish a Truth and Healing Commission on U.S. Indian Boarding School Policies.

Southeastern Yearly Meeting urges all Friends to support this bill.

**The Committee for Ministry on Racism heartily thanks Susan Wade and Vicki Carlie** for their support in making possible for SEYM to host the successful September 10 Zoom seminar given by Floridians for Alternatives Against the Death Penalty (FDAP): **Race and the Death Penalty**. We are very grateful to FDAP for offering this insightful, inspiring event and to the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee for their support for this program. There were over 55 attendees.

**We discussed in our meeting today that we in SEYM are family, and** it is important to check-in with each other on our goal to remove racism from SEYM. We realized that what we are talking about with this issue are relationships within our SEYM family unit and it is important to speak directly with one another regarding our actions to end racism. One way to do this is by receiving written feedback from Friends on the actions they are taking that we all might learn from and be inspired by each other. We expressed gratitude that we have representation from all but three monthly meetings on our committee.

***Committee minute:***

**The Committee for Ministry on Racism asks monthly meetings to send to the committee by December 30, 2021, reports of their actions to end racism within their meetings so that we all might learn and be inspired. We invite any Friend, so led, to become a member of the committee.**

Kathy Hersh reported on an initiative in Sandwich, MA, in which the city council went through a process of developing a statement for diversity, equality and inclusion. We will discuss this further at another meeting, recognizing that the process involved is valuable.

Beverly Ward reported on the end of a two-year long conference she was involved with concerning the role of faith based transportation and equity. She further reported briefly that she is a cohort of “Quakers Uprooting Racism.” The initiative involves many Friends and Friends’ organizations, including AFSC, FGC, and FCNL representation.

Kathy lifted up a concern for divisions within AFSC that have occurred with the restructuring process, in which field staff and others were not included. **The People’s AFSC** was created through the rift. We hold this concern in the Light.

Submitted with loving blessings,

Susan Taylor (Tallahassee), co-clerk, and committee members in attendance:  
Kathy Hersh (DeLand Worship Group); Cheryl Demers (DeLand Worship Group), Jean Larson (Gainesville), Beverly Ward (Tampa)  
Regrets: Minerva Glidden (Orlando)

# Field Secretary for Earthcare (FSE) Report

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

## **Overview**

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

This report provides an update on field secretary activities since the written and oral reports submitted for 2021 Annual Gathering Meeting with a Concern for Business and the 2021 Executive Committee Meeting. Upcoming planned activities also are included.

Overall, with a few exceptions, activities continue to be carried out online. Please continue to hold us all tenderly.

## **Communication with the Anchoring Committee**

Most communication with the FSE Anchoring Committee members has been through email, telephone, or other electronic means. During early Sixth Month, I did have an in-person meeting with Bonnie Zimmer. Overall, the Anchoring Committee and I continue to hold the rapidly evolving Earthcare concerns for the Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups.

## **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, "Meetings can issue invitations to the [SEYM] administrative secretary, FSE, or the Anchor Committee [for FSE visits]. We will all conference over the invitation and subsequent planning" (Phoebe Andersen, 3 Tenth Month 2016). This includes virtual visits.

## **Contact Information**

- Email: [fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org](mailto:fsEarthcare@seymquakers.org).
- Facebook: @fsearthcare
- Twitter: @fsearthcare.
- Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/7545638812>.
- Skype: phdant
- Telephone number: 813.928.8823.
- Snailmail: P.O. Box 1614, Umatilla, FL 32784 (until further notice).

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, for this reporting period, and upcoming visits are shown below. MMs and WGs continue to request visits, particularly in conjunction with retreats and AVP workshops.

## **Suggested workshop/event topics:**

- Angelic Troublemaking: Beyond Bystander Training;
- Climate Equity Climate Justice in Our Community (Location specific climate justice issues);
- Discerning Earthcare Leadings;
- Earthcare audits (baseline assessment of individual or community activities and discernment);
- Equality or Equity? What is Our Testimony?;
- Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture;

- Quakers and Climate Collapse;
- Racial Wealth Gap Simulation;
- Transportation, migration, and climate;
- Underwater Homeowners Association;
- Water: Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality;
- Waterline Communities: Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care; and
- Kody Hersh and I also plan and work together. WELCOME BACK, KODY!!!

**Lake Wales Worship Group, to be scheduled**

This e-visit is still on hold. The proposed Multi-Use Corridors of Regional Economic Significance Program (M-CORES) was repealed during the 2021 State Legislative Session and signed by the governor. However, the legislation did not repeal the total project. The northern Turnpike extension from Sumter County to the Suncoast Parkway is still under consideration. As discussed below, there are several concerns associated with investments in additional roadway projects, including the air quality impacts and the burdens on low- income and BIPOC communities.

**St. Augustine Worship Group, to be scheduled**

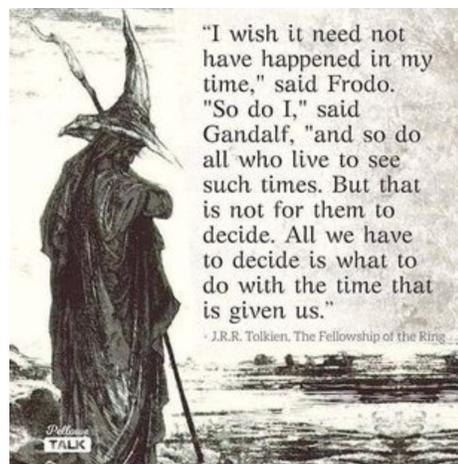
I plan to worship with St. Augustine Worship Group prior to Fall Interim Business Meeting. I continue to worship virtually with various Meetings and Worship Groups, the SEYM, and other Quaker groups.

**Clearwater Monthly Meeting, 30 Fifth Month**

More than 20 Friends and guests met, in person, at John Chesnut, Sr., Park in Palm Harbor for Meeting for Learning, Worship, and Meeting for Eating. The Meeting for Learning including sharing information from a Woodbrooke course, A Quaker Response to Climate Collapse, that I participated in. (Woodbrooke, <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/>, is an international Quaker learning and research organization based in Britain.) At the end of the course, the participants developed an epistle, which recapped our activities and sense of where we landed as a group. (A copy of the epistle can be found by clicking [here](#).) As always, I am available to share more of the course with Friends.

**Yearly Meeting Gathering, 31 Third Month – 11 Fourth Month**

I participated in a workshop, “What Now Earthcare?” with the Earthcare Committee on 9 Fourth Month. As mentioned above, this portion of the workshop focused on the M- CORES project, the overall concern is around the continued investment in fossil fuels by providing more automobile facilities.



FROM: A QUAKER RESPONSE TO CLIMATE COLLAPSE

Most recently, the United States Congress has enacted legislation that will make available trillions of dollars for “traditional” and “nontraditional” infrastructure projects.

### **Sarasota Monthly Meeting, 3 Eighth Month**

Johannes Werner, Sarasota MM, has been working with a local group, the Suncoast CleanJobs Alliance, to try to figure out, in part,

What would it mean for the Suncoast region if billions of dollars were made available through the American Jobs Plan for climate-related infrastructure projects? So, we got to work beginning the process of figuring this out based on the burning climate-related infrastructure needs of the local region.

The Alliance has developed a white paper, “The Green Transition: An Economic Opportunity for Sarasota-Manatee, which describes challenges and opportunities associated with

- Electricity generation, transmission and consumption
- Transportation/Mobility
- Land use, water use, and restoration; and
- Phosphate mining, gypstacks, and water quality.

I provided comments and suggestions on the paper and local contacts from other organizations, e.g., the Unitarian Universalists, the Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN), and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, etc., whomight be interested in working with the Alliance. The paper also was shared with the FL- iCAN Steering Committee. It may be useful for SEYM MMs and WGs to review and consider the opportunities for local Green Transitions.

### **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 Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR): I continue to serve as a member of CMOR and provide support, especially in identifying resources;
- Earthcare Committee: In addition to the Gathering session, I continue to work closely with the Committee on an individual or small group basis. Much of this work overlaps with that of Quaker Earthcare Witness as I coordinate with the two representatives from the Yearly Meeting to that group;
- Florida Council of Churches (FCC): During this period, work with the Florida Council of Churches has been through FL-iCAN and collaborations with individuals in that group;
- Peace and Social Concerns: I remain in contact with the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee and some Monthly Meetings Peace and Social Concerns Committees, again, as a resource;
- Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO), AFSC: Kathy Hersh and I share an SEYM appointment to AFSC. More information about QUNO and AFSC is detailed below;
- Right Sharing of World Resources: I continue to share information through the- QEW United Nations Working Group, AFSC, and Quaker United Nations Committee.
- Youth Committee: I continue to work with the Youth Committee.

### ***The Wider Quaker World, Interfaith Groups, Other Environmental 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), there are now online AVP workshops. I have not been able to participate in any offerings to date, but hope to be available in the future as a facilitator. A group of AVP facilitators in Florida has begun holding monthly virtual meetings;
- American Friends Service Committee (AFSC): I continue to serve as a corporate member of AFSC and as part of that work am a member of the Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO). I also am part of AFSC's Third World Coalition. AFSC has a resource page, Caring for each other during COVID-19, <https://www.afsc.org/content/caring-each-other-during-covid-19>. A number of Friends within SEYM and beyond also have participated in AFSC's "Changing Systems, Change Ourselves" self-study e-course, <https://www.afsc.org/resource/self-study-changing-systems-change-ourselves-e-course>;
  - o The 2021 Annual Meeting of the AFSC Corporation was held virtually from 11th to 16th Fourth Month. I had limited participation due to the overlap with the SEYM Annual Gathering. However, I have participated in some of the People's AFSC online meetings, which have been convened by AFSC staff who share concerns regarding AFSC's reorganization;
  - o Both Quaker United Nations Offices (QUNO), New York and Geneva have been recruiting new directors. Most recently, the Geneva office announced the selection of Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge as the incoming Director of QUNO Geneva. "Nozizwe, a South African national, is a member of the Quaker Community in the Western Cape Meeting. She has broad experience in her home country and distinguished and influential service in government, civil society and advocacy. Nozizwe has an honorary Doctorate of Law from Haverford College, diplomas in microbiology and adult education, a degree in social science and an honours degree in philosophy." <https://quno.org/timeline/2021/8/quaker-united-nations-office-geneva-names-new-director>.
- Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>, is planning follow up activities from the virtual "Working Towards Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples" conference. Much of the work during this period has been to provide spiritual and other support to Indigenous Water Protectors at Line 3 in northern Minnesota. For more information, please visit, <https://friendspeaceteams.org/join-and-support-indigenous-water-protectors-at-line-3/>;
- Florida Interfaith Climate Actions Network (FL-iCAN): Jan Booher continues to work with the Florida Disaster Resilience Initiative, (<https://resiliencesystem.org/dashboards/florida-disaster-resilience-initiative/>) and share health and environmental information, including COVID-19. As part of this effort, I will participate in a Resilient American Communities (RAC) COVID-19 Convocation during Eighth Month.  
The RAC unity of effort is working with the Alliance for Prevention and Response and Geiger-Gibson 2.0 to integrate . . . collective efforts with the efforts of the White House, Congress, the National Governors Association, and the National League of Cities to reduce the impact of the Delta variant and other emerging variants through trust hyper-local approaches to vaccination equity and behavioral and social resistance to COVID.

- Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL): Brad Stocker and I continue to share a slot as representatives to FCNL for QEW. This includes participation in monthly telephone conference calls with FCNL staff, Clarence Edwards. Mariah Shriner's appointment has ended. However, Mariah, Clarence, and I will be participating on a panel, "Shared Mobility for All Travelers" where we will discuss, The Role and Potential of Faith-based Transport: Buses, Carpools, Vans, Cyberspace;
- Friends General Conference: I continue to work with FGC, particularly with the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent and FGC's Institutional Assessment 2017-2018, <https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/fgcs-institutional-assessment-2017-2018>. During this year's Gathering, I participated in several sessions, including
  - o Providing technical support to the Prisoner Visitation and Support;
  - o Decolonizing Our Future: A look into colonialism and the road to liberation workshop; and
  - o A presentation in the Quaker Earthcare Witness Center. This included a performance of "Failed Experiment" from the Climate Change Theatre Action collaboration.
- Friends Peace Teams (FPT): I continue to work with members of FPT linking FPT to QEW UN Working Group and Towards Right Relationship/Decolonizing Quakers;
- Friends United Meeting (FUM): I continue to work with Jim Kessler, Grinnell Friends Church, through Quaker Earthcare Witness and on Grinnell Friends support of low-income and minority communities in and around Grinnell (IA);
- Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC): I continue to work to strengthen links to FWCC through QEW and AFSC. I participated in the FWCC Section of the Americas (SOA) Meeting and continue to work with Faith Biddle and Susanna Mattingly.
- Lake [County] Soil & Water Conservation District: I presented on climate justice issues related to water to board members during Fifth Month.
- National Academies of Sciences, Transportation Research Board (TRB), Equity in Transportation and the Women's Issues in Transportation Committees. I am co-chair of the transportation equity conference in 2021. I participate in two sessions during the conference;
- Organize NOW, Climate Justice Committee: I continue to assist the local committee;
- The Pachamama Alliance: I continue to work with members through the FL-iCAN network;
- QEW: I continue to co-clerk the QEW United Nations Working Group with Jack Bradin. I am scheduled to join Brad Stocker as co-clerk of QEW, Fall 2021. Through QEW Presents!, an online offering of workshops, I also worked with
  - o Farmington-Scipio Spring Gathering 2021, Fifth Month
  - o College Park Quarterly Meeting, Fifth Month
  - o Living Mirror Playback Theatre and QEW, Fifth Month
- Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA): During SAYMA's annual Gathering, I provided a presentation on "Equity: Speaking to One's Condition."
- Tri-City NAACP Branch: I continue with the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. As a result of this work, I provided a presentation to Unitarian Universalists of Lake County on water issues during Fourth Month. This led to the Lake [County] Soil & Water Conservation District presentation mentioned above.
- Unitarian Universalist Fellowship: Jan Booher, Unitarian Universalist Justice Florida (UUJF), and I continue to collaborate through FL-iCAN. See Tai-City NAACP, above;
- 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 and am planning

for the 2022 Weather, Climate, and Science National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates this summer.

### **Social Media**

I continue to blog for the SEYM website, <http://seymquakers.org/faith-in-action/field-secretary-for-earthcare/>. I also share “eField Notes”, short pieces on activities, with SEYM Monthly Meetings, Working Groups, the wider Quaker world and others. Please send suggestions for topics, research, etc.

Overall, there is much work to be done. In some instances, work with individual Meetings has expanded to several Meetings or Worship Groups or even the wider Quaker World.

Despite the circumstances, this has been a good thing. I continue to be concerned with the rise of what Friend Jerry Knutson has named “..the six pandemics that are causing dis-ease and death worldwide:

- COVID-19,
- Prejudice,
- violence,
- climate change,
- economic inequity, and
- misinformation.

Thank you.

May we all be safe.

May we all be healthy.

May we all know joy.

May we all know happiness.

May we all live lives of wellbeing.

Love and Peace,

Beverly G. Ward

# Call for Spiritual Uplift

Fall Interim Business Meeting  
2 Tenth Month 2021

Dear Friend Phoebe,

For this afternoon, I've written an initial paragraph and slightly tweaked the rest without verbal changes.

Thank you for hearing me out.

Bob Allenson

For nine months talk among the people of the USA has centered on denial and insurrection. It is high time to discuss responsibility for change and the right use of our financial resources. I am proposing a movement, grounded in fasting and prayer, to accomplish this. By fasting, I do not mean trying to placate God or grab God's attention, rather to free up and focus our energy for a vital cause. And prayer is no sticky sentimental whine, rather asking God to empower us for tasks beyond ordinary human capability.

A recent event strikes me as emblematic of the crisis in which we are foundering. During the evacuation through the Kabul airport, what is called intelligence detected suspicious movements of a man loading packages into his car and then driving to a staging area close to the airport. A drone was sent to take out this target, killing a family including seven children. Too late we learned that this man had been stowing bottled water to meet his family's needs.

For times when the demons of war are set loose in our midst, passages from the Bible come to mind (from the Revised English Bible): Havoc and violence confront me, strife breaks out, discord arises. Therefore law becomes ineffective, and justice is defeated. ... Because you yourself have plundered many nations, because of the bloodshed and violence you inflicted on cities and all their inhabitants over the earth, now the rest of the world will plunder you. (Habakkuk 1,3f. and 2,8f.) Yet even now, says the Lord, turn back to me wholeheartedly with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Rend your hearts and not your garments, and turn back to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, long-suffering and ever constant, ready always to relent when he threatens disaster. (Joel 2,12f.) -- His disciples asked Jesus privately, 'Why could we not drive this demon out?' He said, 'This kind cannot be driven out except by prayer.' (Mark 9,28f.)

From biblical times and up to the Civil War, at critical moments a public 'day of fasting, humiliation and prayer' was declared. During my lifetime I recall isolated, individual acts of protest but no broad-gauge anti-war movement. Astonishingly we continue to squander our resources on feeding the insatiable wealth of profiteers from the military - industrial complex. Therefore I repent of my country's wrongheaded imperialism. I repent of my complicity in evading responsibility for devoting our resources to the needs of war and climate refugees worldwide. For only through global cooperation and mutual aid will life on earth as we know it survive.

I propose that Friends designate the Saturday before the season of Advent as a day of fasting and prayer with the intention of healing individual ills and social conflicts, and seeking our way forward. Could SEYM petition other yearly meetings, Friends' agencies, and groups like the Poor Peoples' Campaign to unite on an upsurge into a worldwide focus on how we are ruining Planet A and inflicting grievous harm on each other, then resolve to turn about-face and march together toward freedom and peace?

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War Department (1789) and Navy Department (1798) unified as  
'National Military Establishment' 26Jul1947, renamed DoD 10Aug1949

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-ACTIONS:

Young Evangelicals for Climate Action (YECA), Tori Goebel natl organizer  
-Sep 25/26 DC Capitol Hill

Sierra Club  
-Sep 29 Wed 3:30pm CDT Climate Emergency Mobilization Team

People vs. Fossil Fuels, incl Climate Hawks  
-Oct 11-15 at White House: get Biden to cancel fossil fuel devs

Youth Climate Finance Alliance  
-Oct 29 Fossil Free Future Day of Action

Womens' Earth & Climate Action Network (WECAN Intl) Osprey Orielle Lake, exec dir  
-led 120+ orgs at U.N., 23Sep2021 with 8-step program against fossil fuel,  
ag practices causing soil erosion, preserving oceans, food security,  
indigenous people's treaties  
-Nov \_\_-\_\_ will present demands at U.N. Climate Change Conf (COP 26)

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Fuller, Richard, 1804-1876.  
-Mercy remembered in wrath. A sermon preached by the Rev. Dr. Fuller, on  
Thursday, September 26, 1861, being the day of national fasting,  
humiliation and prayer. Baltimore: published by Henry Taylor, 1861.  
24 p.; 21 cm.  
[same title, by John M. Mason, 1795; cf. William Ellery Channing, 1812]  
[others in 1861, Union: Dreher Duffield Fugitt Pyne Stanton Wadsworth;  
-Confederate: B M Palmer, H H Tucker]  
[1865, after Lincoln's assassination: Farquhar, Howlett]

WHAT FOLLOW IS THE FINAL VERSION AS EDITED BY BOB ALLENSON:

## **Call for Spiritual Uplift in the Face of Armed Conflict**

For nine months talk among the people of the USA has centered on denial and insurrection. It is high time to discuss responsibility for change and the right use of our financial resources. I am proposing a movement, grounded in fasting and prayer, to accomplish this. By fasting, I do not mean trying to placate

God or grab God's attention, rather to free up and focus our energy for a vital cause. And prayer is no sticky sentimental whine, rather asking God to empower us for tasks beyond ordinary human capability.

A recent event strikes me as emblematic of the crisis in which we are foundering. During the evacuation through the Kabul airport, what is called intelligence detected suspicious movements of a man loading packages into his car and then driving to a staging area close to the airport. A drone was sent to take out this target, killing a family including seven children. Too late we learned that this man had been stowing bottled water to meet his family's needs.

For times when the demons of war are set loose in our midst, passages from the Bible come to mind (from the Revised English Bible): Havoc and violence confront me, strife breaks out, discord arises. Therefore law becomes ineffective, and justice is defeated. . . . Because you yourself have plundered many nations, because of the bloodshed and violence you inflicted on cities and all their inhabitants over the earth, now the rest of the world will plunder you. (Habakkuk 1,3f. and 2,8.) Yet even now, says the Lord, turn back to me wholeheartedly with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Rend your hearts and not your garments, and turn back to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, long-suffering and ever constant, ready always to relent when he threatens disaster. (Joel 2,12f.) -- His disciples asked Jesus privately, 'Why could we not drive this demon out?' He said, 'This kind cannot be driven out except by prayer.' (Mark 9,28f.) -- [see Psalm 139,4-6 - Isaiah 55,8f.,11 - Matthew 5,3-10 - Ephesians 6,12]

From biblical times and up to the Civil War, at critical moments a public “day of fasting, humiliation and prayer” was declared. During my lifetime I recall isolated, individual acts of protest but no broad-gauge anti-war movement. Astonishingly we continue to squander our resources on feeding the insatiable wealth of profiteers from the military - industrial complex. Therefore I repent of my country's wrongheaded imperialism. I repent of my complicity in evading responsibility for devoting our resources to the needs of war and climate refugees worldwide. For only through global cooperation and mutual aid will life on earth as we know it survive.

I propose designating as a day for fasting and prayer -- with intention of healing individual ills and social conflicts, and seeking our way forward -- either or both of these Saturdays in November: the 6th (during 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference, 31 Oct - 12 Nov) and/or the 27th (day before the season of Advent, a time for beginning anew). I envision an upsurge into a worldwide awakening to how we are ruining Planet A and inflicting grievous harm on each other, then resolving to turn about-face and march together toward freedom and peace.

Drafted [20 September 2021](#) by a Friend. Approved and minuted [2 October 2021](#)  
by Southeastern Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends