

# Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

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Summer 2026 Executive Committee Meeting

13 Sixth Month 2026

9:00 am, Eastern Time

## Agenda and Documents In Advance

We will gather online and in person at

Tampa Friends Meetinghouse

1502 West Sligh Avenue

Tampa, Florida

Join Zoom Meeting:

Southeastern Yearly is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting

Time: Jun 13, 2026, 09:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470068304?pwd=LSVKUQb1nxSW21e4SUMYWNb2BaW41m.1>

Meeting chat link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/81470068304>

Meeting ID: 814 7006 8304

Passcode: 721480

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One tap mobile

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Join by SIP

• 81470068304@zoomcrc.com

Join instructions

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/81470068304/invitations?signature=qXHS3wYaLBujV2gJvnrzVaV\\_AUIAEA5vh1BkOzskcKk](https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/81470068304/invitations?signature=qXHS3wYaLBujV2gJvnrzVaV_AUIAEA5vh1BkOzskcKk)

# Schedule, Agenda, and Reports

Saturday, 13 Sixth Month 2026

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- 9:00 am Fellowship, coffee and snacks, all are welcome
- 9:30 am Opening Worship  
Announcements  
Introductions  
YM Secretary's Report  
Nominating Committee Report
- 10:00 am Committee Meetings
- 11:00 am Monthly Meeting and Worship Group Open Forum - Where is Testimony leading us?
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 pm Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- Clerk's report
  - Treasurer's Report
  - Field Secretary for Earthcare Report
  - *ad hoc* Organizational Documents Report
  - Worship & Ministry Committee Report
  - Youth Committee Report
  - Youth and Young Adult Coordinator Report
  - Committee for Ministry on Racism Report
  - Representatives to Friends Organizations
  - Changes to nominating committee report (as needed)

Reading back the minutes

Executive Committee as Personnel Committee

- Staff Performance Evaluations and salary adjustments

Closing Worship

# Worship and Ministry Committee Report

## SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting

### 13 Sixth Month 2026

*Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand.*

Isaac Penington, 1667

The call of the SEYM Worship and Ministry Committee is to provide opportunities and resources for spiritual nurture and joyful hope to both individual Friends and to SEYM Meetings and Worship Groups. We accompany all who are struggling to make sense of the difficulties faced by the most vulnerable among us by holding them in the Light, helping them to find answers along their journey, and providing tools of discernment and wisdom for those seeking solace.

After our wonderful Michener Lecture during First Month with speaker Susan Taylor, we shifted focus to the Yearly Meeting Gathering, 1-5 Fourth Month. Worship and Ministry-sponsored sessions included

- a workshop, “Reflections from the Heart and Spirit” (facilitated by Jan Dahm and Lisa Erazmus);
- Extended Worship (clerked by Jan Dahm);
- Meeting for Remembrance (Nancyrose Logan); and
- early morning Bible Study (Joel Cook) with the theme, “When All My Hopes were Gone.”

In addition, morning Worship Sharing sessions, with quotes and queries discerned by Jan Dahm and Lisa Erazmus, were a centerpiece of Annual Gathering, as always. All were meaningful experiences for those attending.

Technical issues for hybrid workshops were more infrequent this time round, in part due to the dedication of Hope and Larry Ascher to facilitate the experiences of our many online attenders.

Going forward, we have at least one new online presentation in the works for this summer. Specifically, Beverly Ward will share with Friends on the topic of Faith and Practice understood through Permaculture. We also hope to schedule a summer Extended Worship. For the Fall, we are discerning how to offer a Quakerism 101 series that will work well online, and are discussing another possible online worship session – to be determined.

We attempt to be faithful to our labor of encouragement by holding individuals and Monthly Meetings/Worship Groups in our hearts and working toward the recognition of Friends’ work in the world as a sacred task needing deep spiritual nourishment. We ask that all continue to hold each other (and themselves) with a tender hand and listen deeply to where Spirit is leading us.

Jan Dahm, Lisa Erazmus, Richelle Ogle  
Co-clerks, SEYM Worship and Ministry Committee

# Youth and Young Adult Coordinator Report

## Summer Executive Committee Meeting

13 Sixth Month 2026

### Annual Gathering

#### Youth Program

Seven children attended the gathering. We missed two wee friends (absent due to family obligations) and three teens who graduated from the program. Otherwise, all SEYM youth who attended last year were present. We also joyfully welcomed two new youth from Gainesville.

Although Asma has outgrown the youth program, she has transformed into a competent young adult Quaker who is more than capable of sharing our faith and traditions. As one of this year's youth workers, she went above and beyond in demonstrating her leadership skills by taking charge of the youth business meeting and epistle-writing, and by serving as a role model to the younger children.

Our new youth worker, Mikey, is new to Quakerism but his energy and kindness were a real asset to the program.

Seth, Amanda, and Jennifer volunteered a lot of their time, and it is only because of them that the weekend went so smoothly.

#### Young Adults

Several young adult faces were notably missing from the gathering, but the thirteen who attended left feeling a sense of renewed community. Intense discussions of the future of Quakerism, coping with trauma, and countering racism were just a few of the topics that spontaneously arose during their conversations. They are well-grounded in the traditions of the gathering and of Quakerism in general, but their own traditions are arising organically. For example, they spontaneously hosted a talent show Saturday night after the Walton lecture, when many older friends were already in bed.

#### Young Adult Actions

In the current political situation, there is no shortage of ways for young adults to engage in actions in accordance with Quaker testimonies. In Orlando, they have hosted a community Iftar dinner and prayer vigil for immigrant justice, participated in parades and rallies, spoken out at community organizing meetings, worked with mutual aid organizations to provide assistance to others, and worked with other Quaker organizations such as FGC, FWCC, QEW, and North Star Network. Young adults in Gainesville have also been active in political organizing, immigrant justice, and mutual aid.

#### Monthly Meeting Engagement

The Youth Committee created a First Day School Toolkit, which they presented in a workshop at Annual Gathering. This publication contains reproducible flyers and surveys, a list of books, suggested curricula, and links to online resources. The committee hopes that it will encourage meetings to prepare religious education materials for youth, whether they currently have any in attendance or not.

In the upcoming year, I hope to do outreach through tabling at events and possibly hosting a summer (2027) program in conjunction with a monthly meeting interested in ministering to children in their surrounding community. I also hope to collaborate with the Quaker Faith & Play organization to provide training in this tradition of storytelling. I remain eager to support monthly meetings in their initiatives to welcome younger people into their communities.

*Rachel Dellinger, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator*  
*May 16, 2026*

# Committee for Ministry on Racism Report

## SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting

### 13 Sixth Month 2026

#### CMOR Postscripts from Yearly Meeting

**It's only after you've stepped outside your comfort zone that you begin to change, grow, and transform.**

**Roy T. Bennett, author**

The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR) is charged with the task of examining racism within SEYM and helping us become an anti-racist yearly meeting. Friends General Conference has been working to eradicate racism within their organization for several years and have produced a lot of resource material to assist Yearly Meetings in this work.

CMOR carefully crafted queries for its recent Yearly Meeting workshop that invited us to step out of our comfort zones and bravely talk about a subject which has been avoided for too long in our country, our communities, and in our monthly meetings. We encourage monthly meetings to take up these queries:

- What is your first memory of racism? What was its effect on you?
- Why is it important to be aware of your privilege or lack of it?
- What has been your experience of systemic racism?
- What have you done or can you do to challenge the systemic racism you experience?
- What can we, as the Religious Society of Friends, do about systemic racism?

We make sure an antiracist workshop and affinity group sessions are in the schedule every year at YM. These provide opportunities for frank discussions about race in safe/courageous spaces. Sometimes the discomfort lingers. That is not unusual, it's part of growth. When that is the case, we urge anyone troubled by issues raised or microaggression not dealt with satisfactorily to consult with their Care and Counsel Committee in their home meeting.

CMOR also appreciates feedback so that we can address any issues in future workshops and affinity group sessions.

FGC and CMOR recommend the resources below to help us deal with any ongoing issues aroused by the hard and necessary work we are engaged in:

- **Becoming an Anti-Racist Quaker Meeting (FGC)**  
<https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgcresources/anti-racism/becoming-an-anti-racist-quaker-meeting/>
- **Waking Up White**, by Debby Irving. "This is the best book I've read yet on white privilege, or advantage, if you prefer. Irving takes the reader on her painful journey of discovering the hard truth, that her reality was not "the" reality, that racism is so deeply embedded in American culture it is invisible to white people. She is informative about the "real" reality without being preachy or blaming." (Kathy Hersh, CMOR)
- **Thriftbooks.com** Has some used copies \$5 and up. They have a good collection of books on race. "Good prices and consistently reliable." (KH)