

Southeastern Yearly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends

Post Office Box 1062, St. Petersburg FL 33731-1062

www.seym.org • office@seym.org • (407)739-4150

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

One tap mobile

+13052241968,,81470068304#,,,,*721480# US

+13092053325,,81470068304#,,,,*721480# US

Join by SIP

• 81470068304@zoomcrc.com

Join instructions

https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/81470068304/invitations?signature=qXHS3wYaLBujV2gJvnrzVaV_AUIAEA5vh1BkOzskcKk

Schedule, Agenda, and Reports

Saturday, 13 Sixth Month 2026

- 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
 - *ad hoc* Committee to Consider Changes to the SEYM Directory
 - 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

Southeastern Yearly Meeting
 Approved Budget FY 2026-2027
 June 1, 2026 through May 31, 2027

	FY 2026-2027
	Budget
Income	
2000 · Income	
2001 · Donations	
2002 · Indivd.Donations-Classes	4,500.00
2003 · Meeting Donations	
2013 · Meeting Donations, Unaffiliated	0.00
2023 · Meeting Donations, WG wo apport	0.00
2003 · Meeting Donations - Apportionments	107,827.15
Total 2001 · Donations	112,327.15
2040 · Restricted Donations	
2200 · Investment Earnings	
2203 · Savings Account Interest	3.00
Total 2200 · Investment Earnings	3.00
Total 2000 · Income	112,330.15
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	
2712 · Michener Lect. to GF/insurance	336.00
2732 · Gath/Walton to GF/insurance	1,920.00
2752 · HYM to GF/insurance	944.00
2804 · from Trustee's Funds	
2815 · for BertscheOutreach Travel	2,621.00
2820 · for Staff Salary	6,160.00
2804 · from Trustee's Funds - Other	0.00
Total 2804 · from Trustee's Funds	8,781.00
2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes - Other	-
Total 2700 · Transfer in FROM other classes	11,981.00
2900 · Uncategorized Income	0.00
Total Income	124,311.15
Expense	
2999 · Expenses	
3000 · Operating Costs	
3001 · Bank Service Charges	360.00
3002 · PayPal service fee	75.00
3080 · Duplication	700.00
Total 3100 · Insurance	3,200.00
3107 · Youth Worker CAP Certification	200.00
3146 · Non-Profit Corporation Fee	65.00
3200 · Office Supplies	600.00
3270 · Payroll Expenses	77,976.15
3272 · Employer Payroll Taxes	7,725.00
3380 · Postage/Shipping	300.00
3381 · Post Office Box rental	350.00
3400 · Office Equipment	200.00
Total 3500 · Professional Fees	800.00
Total 3640 · Rent warehouse/office	3,140.00
Total 3700 · Repairs	200.00
3816 · Software	2,000.00
3840 · Telephone & Inet access	1,600.00
3860 · Travel Administrative	2,000.00
Total 3900 · Website	700.00
3000 · Operating Costs - Other	0.00
Total 3000 · Operating Costs	102,191.15

	FY 2026-2027
	Budget
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	
4309 · Archives	50.00
4319 · Cuban Quaker Project	0.00
4329 · EC and IBM	50.00
4339 · Faith and Practice	10.00
4349 · Finance	50.00
4359 · Nominating	10.00
4369 · Peace and Social Concerns	50.00
4379 · Religious Education	0.00
4389 · Youth Committee	10.00
4399 · Worship and Ministry	2,300.00
4429 · Earthcare	10.00
4449 · Publications	10.00
4469 · Racism, Ministry on	10.00
4479 · SEYM Retirement Committee	0.00
4489 · Young Adult Quakers	10.00
5096 · Quaker Education Committee	100.00
4000 · Committees Operating Expenses - Other	0.00
Total 4000 · Committees Operating Expenses	2,670.00
5000 · Donations to Organizations	
5007 · AFSC	200.00
5008 · AFSC-SERO	0.00
5017 · Cuba YM-Havana Peace Coord.	0.00
5018 · Earlham School of Religion	100.00
5027 · FCNL	1,000.00
5028 · QEW (FCUN)	200.00
5030 · FLGBTQC	100.00
5037 · FGC	1,200.00
5038 · FLCoalition for Peace & Justice	100.00
5047 · Florida Council of Churches	200.00
5048 · Florida Impact	300.00
5057 · Friends Journal	100.00
5061 · Friends Peace Teams	500.00
5067 · FUM	500.00
5068 · FWCC	1,450.00
5077 · Pendle Hill	100.00
5078 · ProNica	0.00
5085 · Quaker House of Fayetteville NC	200.00
5087 · Quaker Life	100.00
5088 · SIPAZ	0.00
5089 · QUNO	100.00
5090 · NNABSHC	300.00
5097 · Friends House	100.00
5000 · Donations to Organizations - Other	0.00
Total 5000 · Donations to Organizations	6,850.00
8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	
8160 · Annual Representative	2,000.00
8260 · Quaker Int'l Meeting Travel	0.00
8360 · Attend SEYM-approved Activities	2,000.00
8460 · Travel Support to SEYM Business	1,000.00
Total 8000 · Travel & Financial Aid	5,000.00
Total 8500 · Contingency	2,000.00
Total 2999 · Expenses	118,711.15
9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	
9004 · for Youth Programs	2,500.00
9005 · for Gathering Youth	2,000.00
9060 · for Quaker Int'l Meeting Travel	100.00
9062 · Intl WG Support	1,000.00
Total 9000 · Transfer OUT TO other classes	5,600.00
Total Expense	124,311.15

Approved Budget for FY 2026-2027 (6/1/26 - 5/31/27)

Approved Budget: \$ 124,311.00

Approved Apportionments: \$ 107,827.00

Membership Statistics as of 3/6/2025

Meeting Name	Attendees	Members	Units	Meeting
Charleston MM	6	7	10	\$ 2,372.43
Clearwater MM	15	11	19	\$ 4,389.00
Deland MM	17	9	18	\$ 4,151.75
Fort Lauderdale MM	5	2	5	\$ 1,067.59
Fort Myers MM	26	20	33	\$ 7,829.02
Gainesville MM	15	45	53	\$ 12,455.26
Halifax UMM	11	0	0	\$ -
Havana UWG	9	0	0	\$ -
Jacksonville WG	12	0	6	\$ 1,423.46
Key West WG	12	0	0	\$ -
Lake Wales WG	1	0	1	\$ 118.62
Managua WG	6	0	0	\$ -
Melbourne, Q M of	3	19	21	\$ 4,863.48
Miami MM	5	44	47	\$ 11,031.81
Orlando MM	35	44	62	\$ 14,590.45
Palm Beach MM	9	17	22	\$ 5,100.73
St. Augustine WG	19	0	10	\$ 2,253.81
St. Petersburg MM	17	39	47.5	\$ 11,269.05
Sarasota MM	9	17	22	\$ 5,100.73
Savannah MM	7	7	11	\$ 2,491.05
Tallahassee MM	13	40	47	\$ 11,031.81
Tampa MM	9	16	21	\$ 4,863.48
Treasure Coast WG (Included w/ PBMM)	3	0	2	\$ 355.86
Winter Park MM	3	3	5	\$ 1,067.59
				\$ -
Totals	275	340	455	\$ 107,826.98

Total Apportionments: \$ 107,827.00

Apportionment Per Unit: \$ 237.24

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

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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)

Field Secretary for Earthcare Report
SEYM Summer Executive Committee Meeting
13 Sixth Month 2026

2026 Summer Executive Committee Meeting: Field Secretary for Earthcare Report



beverly g ward

Overview

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

This is an update on field secretary activities that have taken place since the 2026 SEYM Annual Gathering. Also, included are scheduled work and plans at time of submission.

Scheduled or planned work includes:

- Continued community preparedness;
- Continued support for the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida's intervention in the Dade-Collier Training and Transition Airport Detention Facility;
- Work with the SEYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee and other SEYM committees;
- Convening workshops and visiting Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups;
- Producing and sharing videos and other online content; and
- Working in the wider Quaker world and environmental groups.

Also included is a request from the Black Brown People of Color BBIPOC (black, brown, indigenous people of colors) Religious Society of Friends online.



Communication with the FSE Anchoring Committee

Communication with the FSE Anchoring Committee members included in-person, email, telephone, and videoconferencing. As discussed below, much of the contact was initiated by committee work.



SEYM 2026 Yearly Meeting

Communication with the FSE Anchoring Committee members included in-person contact and email, telephone, or other remote means. Most of exchanges were prompted by committee work as described.

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.



Amtrak-Sunrail Station, Deland FL

SEYM Community Preparedness

Planning to work with SEYM committees to revisit our community preparedness is underway. There is ongoing concern regarding state and federal resources. More information will be made available about these planning activities directly to Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups, through SEYM committees and eNews.

Resources within SEYM include, but are not limited to:

- Gainesville Friends Meeting will make the Meetinghouse available to SEYM Friends for short-term use in the event of a climate emergency. Shawna Doran is the contact person.
- Other Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups and individuals have offered shelter in the past.
- Friends are encouraged to consider their household needs.
 - Do you have an emergency plan?
 - Will you shelter in place?
 - Can you shelter with someone else?
 - If you must evacuate, do you have a person in your Meeting or Worship Group to share your plans with?



Mt. Dora, FL

An online planning meeting on SEYM Community Preparedness will be scheduled.

SEYM 2026 Earthday Virtual Observance, 25 Fourth Month (April)

The working group of Friends who have been holding the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida's intervention regarding the federal detention center in the Everglades gathered online to discuss their efforts. Beginning with Chris McBride, Fort Myers Monthly, workgroup participants spoke on their leadings or response to this concern. Clyde Dunton-Gallagher, Miami Monthly Meeting, providing an overview of the legal history and potential next steps. The crux of the issue is the failure of the state and federal government to follow the law, specially the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA directs that among other considerations tribal governments should be consulted and there should be a public comment period. The case has been awaiting a decision from the appeal court. Clyde Dunton-Gallagher anticipates that the case may be sent back to the lower court. The working group is is draft amicus brief.

Chris McBride also recommended the book, *Journey to Eloheh: How Indigenous Values Lead Us to Harmony and Well-Being*, by Randy Woodley and Edith Woodley.

SEYM Worship and Ministry Committee Virtual Workshop, 27 Sixth Month (June)

At the request of Worship and Ministry, a workshop, Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture. This workshop will introduce permaculture design and domains. From *SEYM Faith and Practice*, we will consider ways to align permaculture practices with Friends' testimonies. The intention is to couple our spiritual practices with permaculture, finding more ways to embody care for the earth. The workshop will be held Seventhday (Saturday), 27 Sixth Month (June), 10:30



earthday.org

AM. Registration information will be provided in the SEYM e-newsletter and by email to Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups, and individuals.

Ongoing Initiatives with Meetings

- Fort Myers Monthly Meeting (MM) and others have been working with Mission Peniel to help purchase bike light kits in support of farmer workers .

Donations can be sent to:

Mission Peniel
P.O. Box 1204
Immokalee, FL 34143



Manatee River, Parrish, FL

You can also order directly from the Amazon Gift Registry: https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/guest-view/2LEN1QXFAM1EF?ref=cm_sw_r_cp_ud_ggr-subnav-share_VDTTWZ9ATMQQYBW7WP46_6.

- Quakers of Orlando Property Committee is revisiting the plantings and design of the meetinghouse grounds.
 - Other Meetings also are interested in xeriscaping — designing with slow-growing, drought-tolerant plants to conserve water and establish a waste-efficient landscape. It may be useful to bring together interested Friends to share ideas and other resources in the near future. This can be coupled with Community Preparedness Planning.
- Several members of Deland Monthly Meeting are sitting with ways to “enliven Earthcare within our Meetings.” A broad range of ideas are under consideration, which include establishing Unity with Nature Circles, interfaith nature conservancy, a community garden, and more.
- Chris Ruhnke, Fort Myers Monthly Meeting, is working with The Anointed Rivers Academy, anointedacademy.org, a school in Matunda, Kenya. One of the goals of the school is to establish a small farm to help feed the students.

Chris is planning fundraising for the school. I shared Quaker Earthcare Witness's Mini-Grants program with Chris.

Suggested Workshop/ Event Topics (In-Person, Virtual, or Hybrid)

- **Angelic Troublemaking: Beyond Bystander Training** - explores anti-racism/decolonization work with emphasis on local concerns and means of accompaniment
 - **Bystander/Upstander Training:** introduces strategies for accompaniment, documenting harmful behavior, bigotry, obliviousness
 - **Climate Justice in Our Community:** identifies specific local social justice and equity concerns;
 - **Decolonizing Earthcare:** explores the intersectionality of gender, race, extraction, and harmful economic systems;
 - **Discerning Earthcare Leadings:** listening and sharing experiences to reach individual and group decisions on Earthcare actions;
 - **Earthcare audits:** baseline assessment of individual or community Earthcare activities and discernment;
 - **Equality or Equity? What is Our Testimony?:** examines Friends' equality testimony, the concepts of equity and justice, and the relationship of these to Earthcare;
 - **Permaculture is Not Just Agriculture:** introduces permaculture design and domains and ways to align these practices with Friends' testimonies;
 - **Power-Mapping:** an interactive, strategic tool for identifying and analyzing where and how power is being held and how to develop change-making strategies.
- NEW OFFERING;***
- **Quakers and Climate Collapse:** shares and builds on a Woodbrooke course led by Jackie Carpenter including review of the latest science, grief, worship sharing, and discernment;



Storytelling in the Tripp Pavilion @ Gathering

- Quakers and the United Nations: explores Friends' history with the UN and ways to be engaged. **NEW OFFERING**;
- Racial Wealth Gap Simulation: an exercise that helps "...people understand the connections among racial equity, hunger, poverty, and wealth";
- Transportation, migration, and climate: explores access and mobility issues from the local to global perspective and the impacts of climate change;
- Waterline Communities: Displacement and Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care drills down to the county or community level on the impacts of displacement; and

Please let me know of any ideas, topics, or suggestion you would like to see that is not listed here.

Interactions or Collaborations between and among other SEYM Committees

The 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.

- Archives Committee: Bill Rapp and I have had several phone and email exchanges regarding contacts and accessing the Yearly Meeting archives at the University of Florida, Smathers Library. A visit to the library is planned for the week of 15 Sixth Month (June).
- The Committee for Ministry on Racism (CMOR): I assisted the committee with its plenary session for the 2026 SEYM Gathering. We are working to increase our use of resources available from other Quaker organizations who are engaged in this work such as Friends General Conference Anti-



Lake Umatilla

Racism, <https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgcresources/anti-racism/> and Decolonizing Quakers, <https://www.decolonizingquakers.org/>.

- Earthcare Committee: The Earthcare Committee has meet twice since annual gathering. While a clerk has not stepped forward, Hollyn Green, Savannah Monthly, has agreed to serve as a second representative to Quaker Earthcare Witness;
- Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) Committee: The committee has not met since SEYM was approved to return to Wekiwa Springs State Park Youth Camp for Eleventh Month 2026, Fifthday (Thursday), 26 through Firstday (Sunday), 29. Continue to look for information directly from the committee and SEYM eNews for updates!
- Nominating Committee: Welcomes to Angela Hopkins as a new member to NomCom!
- Peace and Social Concerns (P&SC) Committee: I continue to meet with the P&SC Committee. The committee asks Monthly Meetings and Working Groups to consider of the AFSC statement, "A different future is possible: Quaker organizations share a vision for peace in Palestine and Israel."

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.



Falconer, NY

Ad hoc Committee to Consider Changes to the SEYM Directory

Summer Executive Committee Meeting

13 Sixth Month 2026

The current contents of the SEYM directory far exceed the requirements set forth in the SEYM handbook (2007). Further, the cost of printing the directory has risen dramatically. At Yearly Meeting sessions, a small *ad hoc* committee was appointed to consider a change to the directory. The committee consisted of Phoebe Andersen (Archives Committee), John Palozzi (Publications Committee) and Susan Wade (*ex officio*, YM secretary). Liz Dykes was added to the committee upon her confirmation as the membership recorder.

The committee has agreed that the directory can best serve its intended purpose if it contains only meeting and personal contact details, organized for maximum efficiency. Therefore, we propose reducing the content and scope of the directory to meeting information pages (mailing addresses, meeting location and time, officers, SEYM positions), address lists for each meeting, and contact information for related Quaker bodies.

Proposed minute: The SEYM Executive Committee approves that going forward, the SEYM Directory will be limited in scope to contact information for meetings, individuals, and Quaker related bodies. Primary responsibility for the directory contents lies with the Membership Recorder and the Yearly Meeting Secretary.

Archives Committee continues to carry the concern that complete printed copies of the minutes with all reports and attachments should be available, both for the University of Florida and for the Yearly Meeting. This can be, in part, accomplished by cooperation between the Archives Committee and the YM Secretary.

In addition, it appeared that as new minutes and documents are added to the website, the oldest minutes and documents drop off. We do not know if this is an issue of cloud storage, website design, or something else. We also do not know what committee might address this. We believe that it is essential to have adequate, reliable cloud storage for all Yearly Meeting archival materials, even if they are also stored offline in the archives. The YM Secretary believe that all available digital archival minutes are stored and accessible. As this is outside the charge to this committee, we will pass this to the relevant Friends to assure that nothing is being deleted that should be kept.

Submitted by Liz Perch, membership recorder

Gathering Committee Report
Summer Executive Committee Meeting
13 Sixth Month 2026

The Gathering Committee is pleased to announce that Lauren Brownlee will be our 2027 Walton Lecture and Retreat leader.

Lauren is FCNL's deputy general secretary and the leader of the organization's Governance, Community and Culture team. In this role, she serves as staff clerk and partners with the general secretary on organizational leadership. She offers strategic guidance around FCNL living into its values, particularly as they relate to its Quaker identity and its anti-racism, anti-bias, justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion commitments. She also offers strategic support to FCNL's human resources and Friends Place on Capitol Hill.

She also currently serves on the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)'s corporation and board and the steering committees of the Quaker Call to Action and Quakers for Peace in Palestine and Israel. She co-clerks the Quaker Coalition for Uprooting Racism's steering committee and the AFSC's Community, Equity, and Justice Board Committee.

She presented a lecture at the FGC 2023 Gathering, has appeared in podcasts and QuakerSpeak videos, and has written several articles for Friends Journal. She is a member of Bethesda Friends Meeting in Baltimore Yearly Meeting.

The 2027 Yearly Meeting Gathering will be held at Dayspring Conference Center March 24-28, 2027.