

IMYM Fall Newsletter

Intermountain Yearly Meeting+

10/1/2017

Fall Queries Included!

Fall Queries

Query #1

At the 2017 Annual Gathering at Ghost Ranch, IMYM approved a minute supporting Friends General Conference's internal audit of their institutional racism. We hope that Query #1 will follow up on our support and

done so far? We hope to catalogue best practices.

Query #2.

Friends General Conference has asked IMYM to consider hosting the FGC Gathering in 2019 or beyond. The FGC Gathering was held in our

Each Fall, Representatives Committee, in conjunction with the presiding, arrangements committee and representatives committee clerks, asks monthly meetings and their affiliated worship groups to consider queries about issues before the Yearly Meeting. This year there are three very different concerns.

Please address as many of the Fall Queries as you can or wish to. You do not need to come to unity on any of these queries, although we'd like to know if you do. Please have your representative or clerk send your responses to the presiding clerk (Molly Wingate, clerk@imym.org) by January 10, 2018. She will compile all the responses for the Representatives Committee February 2-4, 2018.

bring this concern to our local monthly meetings and worship groups. Many meetings have been working on this concern for some time, and we look forward to their wisdom.

How is your Meeting engaging with issues of racism and white privilege? What is the best thing you've

region in 2013 at Greeley, Colorado. The co-clerks, Andrew Banks and Sarah Beutel, found it a deeply enriching experience. They felt well supported by FGC and local Friends. The co-clerks were named by a nominating committee from FGC that included IMYM Friends. Approximately 30

Save the Dates

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IMYM Annual Gathering will be at Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, New Mexico

June 10-17, 2018.

Our theme will be:

**FAITH INTO PRACTICE:
LIVING A FULL QUAKER
LIFE**

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Arrangements Committee (the group that organizes and oversees the annual gathering) will hold its Winter Meeting will meet January 12-13, 2018 at Boulder Meeting, Boulder, Colorado.

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Representatives Committee (the group that seasons the business of the yearly meeting) will have its Winter Meeting meet at the Tempe Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona on February 2-4, 2018.

IMYM Friends served on sub-committees and helping with local arrangements. In 2013, the co-clerks worked on the gathering for 18 months (10 hours a week average) while the subcommittee volunteers had a 12-month commitment. FGC chooses the site for the Gathering, and they are open to suggestions.

Having the FGC Gathering in our region, gives us:

- the opportunity to connect with the wider Quaker community in our own area
- stimulating speakers and program, chance to grow as a Quaker, in spirit and in practice
- a great model of a youth program and a good opportunity to connect for Quaker youth
- a strong model of Quaker process
- opportunities to increase our knowledge of and relationship with FGC, which strengthens our Quaker community and the national Quaker community.

Does your Meeting support hosting the Friends General Conference annual gathering in our region in 2019 or beyond? How would people in your meeting be willing to participate?

Query #3

This summer, Shelley Tannenbaum of Quaker Earthcare Witness attended our annual gathering and

again offered us the opportunity to affiliate with QEW. At least two Friends are interested in serving.

QEW has been the grassroots voice for environmental stewardship for Friends in North America for the past thirty years. QEW shares resources with Friends and Yearly and Monthly Meetings, speaks out on these issues at the national and international levels, and showcases actions that Friends are taking in their presentations, publications and on their website. Overall, QEW serves to inspire Friends to spirit-led concrete actions on earthcare, and QEW shares their stories as a way to inspire and empower Friends to be bolder and more effective.

IMYM could have up to two members on QEW's steering committee which meets twice a year. The cost of attendance \$120-400 (depending on the locations) plus travel expenses. Many yearly meetings contribute to QEW annually; meeting contributions (Monthly and Yearly) make up about a third of QEW's budget. Not all of these Yearly meetings send representatives to the steering committee. Contributions from Yearly and Monthly meetings range from \$50-1000.

Does IMYM wish to affiliate with Quaker Earthcare Witness?

From the Web Communications Team

We continue to organize the imym.org site to be of the most use, and we want your feedback! A reminder that we are not trying to replicate the previous version of the site, but are interested in hearing if there are documents or sections that are not on the current site that you feel would be useful.

We have added a page for meeting/committee reps to post announcements: <http://imym.org/announcements>

If you want access to be able to add to or edit pages/posts on the site, please send an email to pollycwashburn@gmail.com and she will set you up with an account. If you are new to WordPress, you can watch a tutorial Polly made on how to add or edit a post on the site: <http://imym.org/video-tutorial-for-wordpress/>

If any committee needs help accessing archived documents or setting up Dropbox or Google Drive for sharing documents or, please let us know.

Finally, there is now an editable google doc for you to make changes directly to our current list of Meeting

Clerks and representatives (as well as a general contact number and website address for each meeting):

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Tsajo4gKU537Cl_S7xRqUXbQ9idKT9Xr7_hy-29RUk0/edit?usp=sharing

If you do make a change on the page, please highlight it in some way (yellow highlight or red text, e.g.) so that we can see the changes and account for them in various places.

Thank you!

Polly Washburn (clerk):

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303-669-6399

Laura Peterson:

alapete@gmail.com

John Crowther:

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Sanctuary Efforts in IMYM

Three monthly meetings are currently involved in providing sanctuary for people facing deportation.

Albuquerque Meeting

Sanctuary at Albuquerque Monthly Meeting is holding steady as we move into our 8th month. In July, we reaffirmed unity with our original minute. We continue to have our guest, Emma, as well as our relationship with Kadhim, his family, and the First Congregational Church where he is in Sanctuary. Our Sanctuary Task Force has trained over 300 volunteers to do 24/7 accompaniment at

both locations, covering 56 shifts each week. They also worked with the NM Faith Coalition for Immigrant Justice doing outreach to other Faith Communities. This summer, we learned that Emma's case will likely move slowly. We want to support her as she navigates a lengthy stay.

Colorado Springs Meeting

Colorado Springs is part of a coalition of congregations offering sanctuary to Elmer at the All Souls Unitarian Church. We were not really ready when Elmer and his son, David, arrived, but we are catching up. Friends have done trainings on responding if ICE appeared. Friends are staying with Elmer at night, taking care of his laundry, spending time with him, playing with David, and working to get his story out. We hope for a good outcome for Elmer and his family.

Mountainview Meeting

Mountain View Meeting (MVFM) has been actively accompanying Ingrid Encalada in her fight to stay with her family since she left sanctuary at MVFM in May. Her appeal to re-open her criminal conviction was denied in late August; and her application for a pardon was denied by the Governor in September despite long hours spent in vigil at the Capitol. Ingrid's deportation to Peru was scheduled for Oct

17. She went into sanctuary again; this time at a church in Ft. Collins.

MVFM's sanctuary hosting ability is now constrained by anticipated construction on the Meetinghouse. Members are also actively supporting Araceli Velasquez in sanctuary at Park Hill UMC / Temple Micah in Denver.

FWCC curates Yearly Meeting Epistles from around the world. Check them out at:

<http://fwcc.world/epistles-from-quaker-groups-from-around-the-world>.

And now, a fairly bad joke

Elder Silas took Friend Ezra to see his bumper crop of peas. His garden was at the end of a long meadow. A very long meadow.

Occasionally Silas would bend over and pick a stray pea on the path, which showed him he was going the right way.

Finally, Ezra said, "Friend, there must be shorter way to your peas!" To which the Elder replied, "There is no way to peas. Peas is the way."

<https://sites.google.com/site/oldtownfriendsfellowship/quaker-humor>