



CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

DECEMBER 2019

☞ **ALL ARE WELCOME** ☞

Sunday Worship: 10 – 11 am
Wednesday Evening Worship: 7 – 7:45 pm

Clerk

Susan Easton

Recording Clerk Team

Nina Joy Lawrence, Esther Schiedel, Jonathan Stoll

Treasurer

Wendy Robinson

Spiritual Care Committee

Bob Burton, John Selker

Adult Religious Exploration Committee

Laurie Childers

Children and Youth Program

Yalda Asmatey

Groundskeeping Coordinators

Kathy Miller, Mark Boyd

House & Hospitality Coordinator

Abigail Stoughton

Major House Maintenance

Bob Burton

Meeting House Scheduling

Sid Rosen

Rides Coordinator

Donna Gerry



Corvallis Meeting:

corvallisfriends.org

facebook.com/CorvallisFriendsMeeting

Willamette Quarterly Meeting:

www.willamettequarterly.org

North Pacific Yearly Meeting:

www.nypm.org

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

SUN
12-1

10:00 am Meeting for Worship
11:30 am **Share Your Process** What goes on inside you during Silent Worship?

SUN
12-8

10:00 am Meeting for Worship
11:40 am **Meeting for Business**

WED
12-11

4-6 pm Third Age Circle Group (2nd Wednesdays @ the Meeting House) Worship Sharing and discovery for those in the new 'middle age' stretching from 55-80! Open to all.

THU
11-12

Stone Soup (2nd Thursdays @ St. Mary's)
1-4 Prep/Cook: contact barb@barbaralevine.com
5-7 Serve/Clean: contact rachel.peck1@gmail.com

SUN
12-15

10:00 am Meeting for Worship
11:30 am **Dance!** Wendy will lead us in an Eastern European lesnoto dance - so simple all ages can learn - and Yalda will teach an Afghan dance. We'll be on our feet and expressing joy as a community.

SUN
12-22

10:00 am Meeting for Worship
11:30 am **Potluck (see page 5!)**

SUN
12-29

10:00 am Meeting for Worship
11:30 am **Share Your Process** When you "hold someone in the light," what exactly do you do, see, imagine, feel, intend?

This newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of the month, and by e-mail a few days earlier. Submissions and delivery requests go to Lisa Yagoda, editor: corvallisfriends@gmail.com. Next deadline: Saturday Dec 28, 2019.

3311 NW Polk Ave., Corvallis, Oregon 97330 • (541) 714-3306

NOV 2019 MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES

Corvallis Friends Meeting for Business November 10, 2019

clerk: Susan Easton

recording clerk: Nina Joy Lawrence

Friends present: John Selker, Barbara Forrest-Ball, Jonathan Stoll, Kathy Miller, Jay Thatcher, Yalda Asmatey, Esther Schiedel, Shirley Moore, Mary Jane Gray, Satori Asmatey-Stoll, Abigail Stoughton, James Cox, Donna Gerry, Judy Hays-Eberts, Bob Henderson, Ruth McNeill, Nancy Ewald, Lynn Jarvis, Andrea Myhre, Nina Joy Lawrence, Susan Easton, Lisa Yagoda

Expectant quiet

When Friends make a decision, we are not seeking a consensus of our membership. We are seeking unity in a particular matter. The sense of the meeting can arise only out of a membership which has given itself over to seeking the Inner Light

Friends conduct of business is slow, because it takes time to sift ourselves and the matter at hand for ego, self-will, sincere mistakes, matters of individual conscience. The process is sufficiently precious to make it worth laboring to keep sight of its spiritual basis while we are in the midst of it. Friends Meeting at Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Minutes from October and special Called Meeting were **approved**.

Treasurer's Report was **approved**.

Request for donations to DeDe's House:

Lynn Jarvis from Dede's House and Andrea Myhre (Corvallis Housing First) presented about the permanent supportive housing for poor, chronically homeless senior women. A house has been purchased with much of the debt paid already. Faith communities are being asked by the organizers to help with the remaining debt. The goal is to raise \$150,000. Would Friends be willing to make a one time donation next year? The Meeting **will season this request** and consider it as we look at our budget for next year.

Spiritual Care Committee Report: John Selker *Retreat*: since it was cancelled due to illness, we hope to manage having it in February. SCC asks for feedback on possible dates in February. Please communicate with members of the committee (John Selker, Bob Burton, Annaliese Watson, Abigail Stoughton, or Judy Hays-Eberts)

Friendly Sevens groups will begin meeting soon for potluck and community. All are welcome to join a group. Please contact Abigail Stoughton if you want to be included and haven't gotten on the list yet.

Religious Exploration Committee: Shirley Moore The committee will meet on Dec. 2 to sketch a plan for January - June Second Hours

Children's Education: Yalda Asmatey. The program is going well and growing. A new family attended today bringing 4 children, and another family has made contact this week. It has been our desire and intention to grow the program. Gratitude is our theme for November. The kids made a gratitude tree today. Adults will have a chance to add to this next week. Kids will help at Benton County Fairgrounds to prepare boxes of food, and put kind, caring notes in the packets. For outreach some of the children will make a flyer to distribute in the neighborhood, letting our neighbors know we are setting up 2 giving trees to share needed items with people in need in our town. The flyer will invite neighbors take part in our giving trees if they feel moved. In December we will do the planning for January through June program. Please email Yalda with ideas that the kids can do. Parents of the children are helping on Sunday morning AND they also need a break, so let Y know if you want to volunteer with the kids.

Peace Justice and Environment: Jay Thatcher, volunteer Coordinator

2. *The FCNL advocacy team* reported to the Meeting during Oct. 20 Second Hour and friends wrote letters. FCNL is working this year to repeal two authorizations for war from early in this

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MINUTES (CON'T)

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century. More letters continue to be needed to our congress people.

3. *November 12 Monica Maher* of the Friends Peace Teams will be with us to present on the work in Latin America. John & Yalda have been working on publicity and the meeting is open to the public! It is an opportunity to involve the community. We will have a potluck at 5:30 at the Meeting House, followed by her presentation.

4. *If Friends have leadings*, intimations or inklings to put Friends' testimonies into action and want some support to work on them, talk to Jay.

House and Hospitality: Abigail Stoughton. *Ant problem/solution* - Good Earth Pest Company charges a 1 time fee of \$250, and \$95 per treatment for 3 more which should get rid of the ants. We can continue the periodic treatments or end them after 3 treatments. It was suggested to have the first treatment early in a week so there is plenty of time between treatment and the next Meeting for Worship.

The clearance of plants around the foundation is needed before treatment, back 1 foot to 18

inches. Volunteers will be needed to do this.

Plants inside the house sometimes harbor ants and may need removed. The Meeting **approved** that House and Hospitality can decide about the indoor plants. The Meeting **approved** hiring Good Earth to eradicate the ants. Groundskeeping (volunteer coordinators: Kathy Miller and Mark Boyd) will arrange time and volunteers to clear the plants.

Thanksgiving and Winter Celebrations: Ruth McNeill would like us to sing Thanksgiving hymns, read the children's book together about Native Americans and what they are thankful for before Thanksgiving potluck 24th November. The giving trees will be up and we will begin filling them. We want to ask Wendy Robinson if she is willing to play the piano. House and Hospitality will discuss more about the celebration. The December potluck will be a holiday theme, on Dec. 22. Several different traditional celebrations were mentioned for inclusion: Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Christmas, and Solstice.

Next Meeting for Business: December 8, 2019



Corvallis Friends Special Called Meeting for Business

October 20, 2019

clerk: Susan Easton

recording clerk: Nina Joy Lawrence

Friends present: Susan Easton, Donna Gerry, Sid Rosen, Sherry Rosen, Bob Henderson, Dana Edwards, Jim Kimball, Mary Jane Gray, Jay Thatcher, Pat Omidian, Kathy Miller, John Selker, Shirley Moore, Ruth McNeill, Bob Burton, James Cox, Nina Joy Lawrence

Expectant quiet

War Tax Resister's overnight use of the Friends Meeting House:

The Meeting **approved** allowing the War Tax Resisters League members to spend the nights of Nov. 1 and 2, 2019 in the Meeting House. This is during their annual meeting being held here on those dates. We ask the group for a cleaning deposit. Kathy Miller will be the Meeting contact with the group.

We will revisit our policy about overnight use of the Meeting House at a future meeting for business.

Friends Make It Real

Two Holiday Giving Trees are now growing in the Fellowship Room, because of Friends' support for the north and south Corvallis food banks. One tree is taking shape from stacked packages of toilet paper and larger-sized diapers; the other is filling out with highly-desired items such as condiments, coffee, tea, hearty soups and side dishes, holiday baking supplies - sugar, salt, spices, cake mixes, canned pineapple, apricots, cranberry sauce, etc. Socks, gloves, small hand towels, disposable razors, shaving cream, deodorant, shampoo, and other personal items are also requested for distribution to both St. Vincent DePaul and the Drop-in Center for their guests.

This year there is an increased need for food and non-food items at both food banks, stemming from an increasing number of food-insecure people in Corvallis and from the change by the Oregon Food Bank, which is now directing its resources toward attacking

the causes of food insecurity and supporting stronger programs - yet that means it is procuring less food for hungry people right now.

Please keep the Giving Trees in mind when shopping for groceries and include some items to help them grow and nourish our many neighbors. And remember that giving two of each greatly simplifies the division of the donations between the two food banks.

Let's make these offerings truly beautiful. As the Giving Trees grow, they'll be decorated by the children in our First-day program, until Sunday, December 22nd - when they'll be dismantled at our Holiday Potluck and the items distributed to the two food banks.

Help bring happiness for everyone in our community, with the inspiration and gifts you share. Sharing makes us brighter!

Thank you!

Bias Response Initiative Action & Planning Meeting: December 10, 2019

Join us on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 5:30pm at the Corvallis Friends Meeting (3311 NW Polk Ave) for the Bias Response Initiative Action & Planning Meeting.

The petition co-sponsored by the Corvallis Friends Meeting to adequately fund initiatives to prevent and respond to bias and hate in our community has over 520 signatures! The petition will signify the outpouring of support, but now we have to share our voices and stories. The City of Corvallis will be meeting in the coming months to prioritize programs

and services. This is an opportunity to influence the process and make sure our representatives represent our interests.

We'll talk about the next phase of our plan for outreach and action. This will include mobilizing our community to write opinion pieces to the Gazette Times and organizing action teams to lobby our Corvallis city councilors and provide testimony during council meeting(s).

For questions contact Jonathan Stoll @ corvallisaction@gmail.com

MORE NOTES

Dec 22 Potluck Celebration!

Help create an especially celebratory holiday potluck on Dec. 22nd. Suggestion: Think colorful, think yummy! Solstice will be the night before and Hanukkah begins that evening, with Christmas and Kwanzaa a few days later. Shared love and light are themes throughout. Let's add our own spice to the season with the joy, laughter and music of being together.



MAY 29-31, 2020

Please join us for our first Annual Willamette Quarterly Meeting under the new structure of meeting one time per year instead of three. At Camp Arrah Wana in Welches, OR (near Mt. Hood, about an hour east of Portland). More at willamettequarterly.org

North Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session

North Pacific Yearly Meeting is happy to announce that our Annual Session for 2020 will be Wednesday through Sunday, **July 22-26**, on the campus of Western Oregon University in Monmouth, Oregon. Kenya Casanova of Cuba Yearly Meeting has accepted our invitation to be our Friend in Residence. We expect her to be an inspiring presence. Watch the NPYM website for registration to open sometime in the spring!

David Zeiss, Presiding Clerk

Advices and Queries on Expectant Worship, Vocal Ministry

We prepare ourselves for meeting for worship in many ways—for example, through regular study, meditation and prayer—so that we come into meeting with open, expectant spirits seeking after Truth.

Search within yourself before rising to give vocal ministry—be aware of the physical and spiritual promptings that underlie true vocal ministry.

If prompted by the Spirit to give vocal ministry, we speak audibly, clearly, simply, and as briefly as possible.

Listen to the ministry of others as if it is the voice of the Divine; seek the thoughts behind the words and hold the speaker in love.

After a message is given, Friends take time to ponder its meaning and to give space before rising to speak if we are so led.

Prepare the children of meeting to understand and experience the power of Quaker worship and vocal ministry.

- How do we prepare our hearts and minds for meeting for worship?
- Do we worship together in a way that honors and respects other Friends' beliefs? How do we listen to ministry that seems wrong or misguided?
- Do we meet for worship in expectant waiting for the promptings of the Divine Spirit? How do we carry this inspiration into our daily living?
- How do we take care that our vocal ministry is not lightly given? Do we offer vocal ministry under the leading of the Spirit, in the simplicity and sincerity of truth?
- As we listen, or as we speak, are we guided by the inward Light and sensitive to one another's needs? Are we careful not to speak at undue length or beyond our call?

~ North Pacific Yearly Meeting, *Faith and Practice*,
2017

Corvallis Friends Meeting
3311 NW Polk Ave.
Corvallis, OR 97330