

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

SIXTH MONTH JUNE 2022

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday Worship: 10:00-11:00

3311 NW POLK AVE CORVALLIS OREGON 97330-5057 <https://corvallisfriends.org/>

541-829-0867 Email: corvallisfriends@gmail.com

Our Meetinghouse is located within the traditional homelands of the Chepenefia band of the Kalapuya speaking Nation.

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

Sunday June 5

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship Willamette Park

Contact Bob Ward bobward1948@gmail.com

10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom and at the Meetinghouse

Sunday June 12

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship

10:00 am Hybrid/Blended Meeting for Worship Zoom and Meetinghouse together

11:40 am Meeting for Business Hybrid/Blended

Sunday June 19

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship at North Albany Park

10 am Meeting for Worship & Potluck at North Albany Park (details inside)

10:00 am Meeting for Worship via Zoom and at the Meetinghouse

Monday June 20

5:00 pm Reading Group - *Fit for Freedom Not for Friendship* (details inside)

Saturday June 25

10 am to noon Meetinghouse grounds work party (to be confirmed in Wednesday Digest).

Sunday June 26

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship,

10:00 am Hybrid/Blended Meeting for Worship Zoom and Meetinghouse together

11:45 am Virtual Potluck

Wednesday July 13 to Sunday July 17

North Pacific Yearly Meeting Annual Session

Theme: Deep Hope in Optimystical Times with Friend in Residence Carl Magruder
Join us at Western Oregon Univ. in Monmouth Oregon, or online. <https://www.npym.org/>

This newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of the month. To subscribe by mail or email or to submit items contact corvallisfriends@gmail.com **Next deadline 6/27/22**

Meeting for Worship for Business

May 8, 2022

Clerk: Susan Easton

Recording Clerk: Esther Schiedel

Friends present: Jay Thatcher, John Selker, Bob Henderson, Donna Gerry, Wendy Robinson, Kathy Miller, Nancy Ewald, Nina Joy Lawrence

Meeting began in expectant quiet worship

The Minutes of April 10 were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted with gratitude.

The State of Society report was approved

and will be shared at Willamette Quarterly Meeting and at North Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Spiritual Care Committee (SCC) reported that Mary Jane Grays's Memorial minute (with the addition of her partner Jane's last name) will be sent to Friends Journal and to Western Friend.

May 15 will be an outdoor Meeting for Worship at Peavy Arboretum, followed by a potluck lunch. There will be no walking meeting that morning. The Meetinghouse will be open for anyone who wants to worship there and Meeting will also take place on Zoom.

SCC held an Enquiring Friends Meeting which attended by nine F/friends and was very successful. This group may continue and look at the question of what happens after you center down. **Another similar group looking at the same issue will be formed if there is sufficient interest later in May. Let someone if you are interested.**

Jay is thinking of having some one-on-one meetings over the summer when most organized meetings are on hiatus.

Hosts are needed for the online and hybrid meetings, let someone from SCC know if you are interested.

Nominating Committee provided a written report which will be shared with Friends. Most positions have been filled and a few

will be firmed up when we find out what happens in the primary election. **NPYM Coordinating (formerly Steering) Committee Representative position is again listed, but unfilled. Anyone interested to serve there is invited to speak to a Nominating Committee Member (Donna Gerry, Carmen Brummet, or Nina Joy Lawrence). The report will be seasoned and approved at Meeting for Business in June with terms beginning in July.**

Meetinghouse Maintenance: Wendy reported that Bob Burton had consulted with Northern Willamette Valley Gutter about replacing the gutters at the Meetinghouse. The estimate was \$2000-\$2400. Wendy explained that he did not seek other bids in the interest of time and based on his knowledge of the reputation of this firm.

Meeting approved going ahead with the gutter replacement. We recognize that other issues such as rotten trim may be revealed during this process and trust that our Major Meetinghouse Maintenance Coordinator and volunteers will handle this.

Our representative to We Care, Donna Gerry, reported that there is a need for volunteers to do intake forms for people seeking help from We Care (a local non-profit that provides one-time emergency financial assistance to residents of Benton County). Interested Friends can contact Rex Cole 541-243-8029.

A reminder that **Willamette Quarterly Meeting** will be held in person at Multnomah Monthly Meeting in Portland Oregon and on-line on Zoom on **Saturday May 21**. There is no charge to participate but Friends are asked to register online by May 14
<http://www.willamettequarterly.org/>

Our next Meeting for Business will be held June 12. This will serve as our Annual Meeting.

Meeting closed in silent worship

Corvallis Friends Meeting State of Society

Corvallis Friends Meeting has experienced changes and challenges over the past year. Long time members Mary Jane Gray and Tom Scroggins died in January. We recently learned of the death of Debby Livingston last September. We held memorial meetings last summer for two other longtime members, Ruth McNeill and Jim Kimball.

One very active Friend decided to disconnect from involvement in the Meeting. A few others are dealing with personal life challenges which have limited their involvement in the Meeting.

We started holding Meeting for Worship in the Meetinghouse—with the understanding that attendees wear masks and have been vaccinated. We have continued with online Meetings for Worship at the same time. We acquired and installed video equipment in the Meeting room and we have begun holding hybrid meetings for worship—currently twice a month. Several times we have had difficulties with the technology for hybrid meetings. Some Friends do not want to attend hybrid meetings. Others feel all of our Meetings should be hybrid. This is a challenge we will continue to work with.

Because of the shift, some online attenders have felt the Meeting is experiencing a split—which is painful. Some Friends who've been regulars at online worship live too far away to come in person. Some have health issues that prevent in-person attendance.

In addition to online and in person worship, the active early Sunday morning walking meeting continues. It has developed its own character. The worship and sharing there is very meaningful. We are holding a monthly outdoor potluck between the walk and the settling of indoor Meeting for Worship.

A small group of Friends has also gathered for decades to worship at the Meetinghouse on Wednesday evenings.

The Meeting has held one welcoming conversation via Zoom for attenders who consider themselves new to the Meeting. Additional meetings are planned.

Our religious education committee renamed itself Spiritual Exploring and Engagement Committee –SEEK! Friends have gathered online to learn about and discuss and share what brings them joy; spiritual gifts; FCNL priorities; race, culture and equity; and other topics. Last year, Friends finished a month's long discussion group of *My Grandmother's Hands*. Some Friends have also participated in the *Fit for Freedom, Not for Friendship* reading group.

Many Friends gathered over several years to share about various issues and challenges as a “Third Age Group” (which was open to any age participant). Having found a culmination, it is not currently meeting.

We have seven children connected to the Meeting. We haven't maintained a regular children's program but children have participated in some walks and in shopping for gifts for a local Christmas Giving Tree. Recently some have attended Sunday morning in-person Meeting and are planning future activities.

Corvallis Friends are taking steps to engage in a unified social action effort. Several threshing sessions have yet to lead to a decision. We remain committed to increasing our donations to various causes and organizations each year. We also approved our Meeting acting as a fiscal agent for a program (that some of our members are actively involved in) that is filling propane tanks for homeless campers.

An enthusiastic and knowledgeable new attender planned some improvements to our meetinghouse grounds to make them lower maintenance and more drought resistant and to pave a path from our accessible parking spot into the Meetinghouse. This work is in progress.



Outdoor Worship We will hold our second outdoor Meeting for Worship on **Sunday June 19 at North Albany Park**. The park is located at 2800 Hillcrest Street NW, Albany, OR. This park has a covered shelter. We will hold a potluck following Worship. Walking Meeting will also be held at the park from 8:30 am-9:30 am. The Meetinghouse will also be open for worship there and Meeting for Worship will take place on Zoom as well.

Q and A about Meeting House Grounds

1. What's the tree in the between the new path and the sidewalk in the new project area? It is a Crape Myrtle (tree form) called Tuscaora. (One of the two dogwoods that had been there) was planted in a less sun intense area on the East side.)

2. How big will those two columnar evergreens between the windows in the new project get? They are gold cone juniper and expected to get to about 8-10 feet tall.

3. What happened to the yellow iris, bearded iris, calla lilies and daffodils? Some were replanted in the new project area, some have been potted up to stay "staged" until we decide where they might fit next year, and some were given away to Friends and neighbors

4. What's dying by the left of the front door? The near one is Daphne Ruby Glow. The daphne next to it was there before but covered up by yellow iris. It may limp along as daphnes don't like to be moved.

5. What's up with the big fig tree? Two landscape contractors offered two different opinions: "It has a growth like scale," and "it has extensive frost damage." It was pruned aggressively and we worried. Now it is starting to sprout new growth.

6. What happened at the grounds work party on May 21? Seven Friends and attenders came to enjoy each other's company and a) place bed edging between flower beds and grass out back – using material in the shed donated years ago, b) plant, weed, tend beds,

and c) make progress on the interim irrigation for the new project area.

7. What's ahead for grounds parties this summer? Save the date for June 25th 10 am to noon. What's on deck is a) to arrange the existing soaker hoses into a plan for simpler, efficient watering on the established beds

North Pacific Yearly Meeting Worship

Sharing Groups will start Meeting virtually before our Annual Session July 13-17. Please contact the Worship Group Coordinator as_worship_group_coord@npym.org with any questions.

Reading Group - Fit for Freedom Not for Friendship Monday June 20 5:00 PM

A myth-breaking history of and by Quakers of color <https://westernfriend.org/fit-freedom-not-friendship-reading-group>



Advices & Queries – Peace Part 2

We work to create the conditions of peace, such as freedom, justice, cooperation, and the right sharing of the world's resources.

As we work for peace in the world, we search out the seeds of war in ourselves and in our way of life. We refuse to join in actions which lead to destruction and death. We seek ways to cooperate to save life and strengthen the bonds of unity among all people.

- How do we communicate to others an understanding of the basis of our peace testimony?
- As we work for peace in the world, how are we nourished by peace within ourselves, our families, and our meetings?

From North Pacific Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice. Copies are available from the Meeting and online at npym.org