

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

THIRD MONTH MARCH 2024

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 Chepeneña band of the Kalapuya speaking Nation.

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

Sunday March 3

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

11:20 am ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) TBA

Sunday March 10

(Daylight Saving Time Begins. Set clocks forward)

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship

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

11:40 Meeting for Business Zoom and Meetinghouse together

Sunday March 17

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

Worship starting at the Meetinghouse

11:10 am Potluck at the Meetinghouse

Sunday March 24

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

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

11:20 am ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) Becoming Friends (part 2)

Sunday March 31

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

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

11:10 Happy Easter!

*Join Zoom Meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84281206597?pwd=L1hnbTBPcUp4RC9NSXdERUM3K3FrUT09>

Meeting ID: 864 1766 6994 Passcode: 959966 or phone (253) 215 8782

This newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of the month. To subscribe by mail or email contact

corvallisfriends@gmail.com Next deadline to submit items 4/3/24 Send to:

corvallisfriends@gmail.com

Minutes for Meeting for Worship for Business Corvallis Friends Meeting

February 11, 2024

Present: Bob Burton (Clerk), Susan Easton (Recording Clerk), Wendy Robinson, Jay Thatcher, Esther Schiedel, Donna Gerry, Dana Edwards, Abigail Stoughton, Craig Saunders, James Cox, Nancy Ewald, Ann Fuller

Every degree of luxury of what kind so ever, and every demand for money inconsistent with divine order, hath some connection with unnecessary labor.

May we look upon our treasure, the furniture of our houses, and our garments and try whether the seeds of war have nourishment in these our possessions.

John Woolman 1763

Financial Stewardship in harmony with our testimonies is as much a part of our spiritual life and journey as prayer and meditation.

Our efforts to live simply and reject superfluous consumption of material goods should not be equated with a superficial belief that money is inherently "bad" or at best a necessary evil that should be ignored. By ignoring finances and not exercising thoughtful stewardship, we risk allowing money to have more control over our lives rather than less.

What does our spending, especially our contributions to our monthly and yearly meetings, Friends organizations, or other charities, say about what is important to us?

Connie Brooks, 2009

Centering Silence

Additions to the Agenda

Revised Minutes of 1/12/25 Meeting for Business **approved** *.

Treasurer's Report

The main body of the Treasurer's Report was **accepted** *.

Treasurer brought up a request for the Meeting to set up a VenMo account to make it easier for renters to pay their monthly rent and to avoid having money lying around. It was also suggested that this would make it easier for new attendees who might want to make a donation. **Approved** *.

Budget Report

The report was presented in two parts: fixed expenses of the Meeting and flexible expenses mostly pertaining to donations and outreach. Treasurer updated numbers based on discussion at the January 14th Meeting for Business.

Fixed Expenses: Expenses presented (with the following exceptions) were **approved** *.

Several name changes were also **approved** *

- Category under Utilities: Water will be listed as City Services which includes water, police, fire, transit, and trees.
- SEEK will be changed to ARE (Adult Religious Exploration).
- ARE includes adult education as well as the Welcoming Friends program which seeks to share information about Friends with new attendees. That name from now on will be called Becoming Friends to explore membership in Friends.
- There are two big increases in the House and Grounds categories:
 - Meeting is paying the Watson children for yard work this summer.
 - Meeting is exploring upgrades to the back yard around the grape arbor.
- A new category approved at the last meeting is Major Meeting House Fund which is a fund set aside to cover house repair/replacement needs arising (\$1000 to establish the fund).
- Under Publicity and Outreach, \$350 was added to the budgeted amount, totaling \$450. Friends

expressed interest in public notices to share information about Friends with people outside the Meeting. Suggestions were made to make outreach through the Barometer newspaper on campus, place ads on the pre-movie Darkside screen, social media, etc. No explicit decisions were made with how to spend this fund.

- Approval of expenses for the category of Children's Program were set aside for further exploration and discussion. Children have not been attending with parents during Meeting for Worship (MFW) in the past year, yet Meeting still wants to make childcare and child education available. Children's education is happening, but at different times than MFW. Meeting referred the issue to volunteers with the children's program.

Flexible Expenses: The numbers presented

- Treasurer expressed two ways to look at these expenses. One is to set the budget based on a fixed number (income). The second way is to make the budget an aspirational goal, that Meeting will attempt to reach.
- One member expressed the desire to reach an objective of 50/50 between fixed expenses (spending on ourselves) and flexible expenses (charitable giving and outreach to our communities). Currently and for several years, the ratio has been 60/40.
- Treasurer also proposed to turn over unspent, budgeted monies to charitable giving.

*** The budget for charitable giving (flexible categories) was approved with the aspiration of increasing this expenditure to at least 50% of the total budget.**

*** Meeting approved the proposal to direct unspent monies, in a pro rata manner, to our charitable giving.**

Prenominating Committee Report

After consultation with the current Nominating Committee, Pre-nominating Committee put

forward Laura Horsey to serve on the Nominating Committee. **Meeting approved her appointment.***

State of Society Report

Clerk asked for volunteers to write the first draft of the State of Society Report to be presented at the next M4B. Susan Easton, Wendy Robinson, and Jay Thatcher stepped forward. **Meeting approved their appointments.**

Adult Religious Exploration

Progress has been made on issues to be discussed regarding Indigenous Reparations. An action list was developed and an ad hoc committee of Nina Joy Lawrence, Loreen Olufson, Georg Stahl, and possibly, Dana Edwards has been formed and will plan next steps for the Meeting.

Becoming Friends, is an inquiry-led discussion of what it means to be a Friend, why to become a Friend, and related topics. A list of topics was organized into six topic areas. The next discussion will take place 2/25/24. Thanks were given to Bob Ward for his advice and assistance with both of these programs.

Due to the popularity of the discussion of books with spiritual content earlier this year, more of these discussions will be planned.

Meeting accepted the ARE report.

Spiritual Care Committee (SCC)

There is no report this month, but SCC is actively working with the *Becoming Friends* discussions.

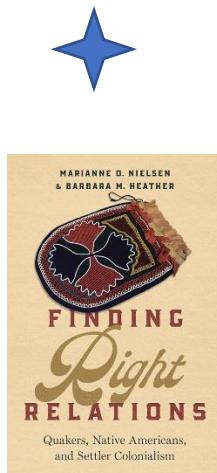
SCC is also working with Nominating Committee on the new Outreach Committee nominations. Neither of the current committee members is active at this time.

Becoming a Member and Leaving

Membership Broad consideration of these issues was moved forward to next month. The

records keeper suggested reading *Faith and Practice* to review the procedures involved.

Next Meeting for Business March 10, 2024.



**Finding Right Relations:
Quakers, Native
Americans, and Settler
Colonialism**
by Marianne O. Nielsen and
Barbara M. Heather
---Reviewed by Nancy
Ewald

This is a really good basic text for those seeking to find right relations with indigenous peoples in our time.

The first half of the book is history, mainly of the early Quaker and other settlers and the Lenape people in the 1600s / 1700s. This focus, however, is equally applicable to the settlers and indigenous peoples of the West Coast in the 1800s.

The chapters cover differences and similarities in governance, peacemaking, philosophy, and religion between the settlers and “Indians,” and makes abundantly clear that the failure of Penn’s “Holy Experiment” was due to the combination of several factors: the settlers’ (including Quakers) assumption of the superiority of their culture, their failure to listen to the opinions and wisdom of the Indians (for one thing, they didn’t bother to learn the language). Also, Penn and the Quakers were too weak to prevail against the warlike and hostile attitudes of non-Quaker settlers, especially the Scots-Irish, and the cheating, duplicity, and outright land theft of squatters.

The role of the boarding schools run by Quakers and other “Christian” religious groups in the 1800s is also described, and, again, the attitude of cultural superiority that made them grim failures.

A discussion and conclusions section is included at the end of each chapter, and the final chapter describes present initiatives and continuing need in the US and Canada for restorative justice.

Advices & Queries – Harmony with Creation
Rejoice in the majesty of nature. Pray that the Presence will lead us to our rightful place in the creation.

We are each part of the intricate web of life; each choice to act or not to act can have profound consequences. We live in such a complex world that we can do considerable damage without knowing it. Choices that are beneficial in one direction may be harmful in another.

We take care to conserve and protect the whole of life. Both scientific inquiry and spiritual reflection lead us to deeper understanding of the interconnected, constantly changing systems in which we live.

- In what ways do we seek harmony with Creation? How does science help us live within It respectfully?
- In what ways do we honor all living things? Do we seek the holiness inherent in the order of nature, the wildness of wilderness, and the richness of the world?
- How do our daily habits and choices reflect our respect for the web of life?

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

