

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

FOURTH MONTH APRIL 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 April 7

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
11:30 am ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) "Friend's Favorite Podcasts!"
- hybrid at FMH and on Zoom

Friday April 12-Sunday April 14

FGC (Friends General Conference) "Encountering Spirit" – online weekend retreat

Sunday April 14

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

Wednesday April 17

5:00 pm FGC (Friends General Conference) "Gathering Together for a new Century of Service."

Saturdays April 20 & 27

10:30 Indivisible Washington Implicit Bias workshops Zoom

Sunday April 21

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 April 28

8:30-9:30 am Silent Walking Worship,
10:00 am Hybrid/Blended Meeting for Worship Zoom and Meetinghouse together
11:30 am ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) **Becoming Friends (part 3)**

*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 5/1/24 Send to:
corvallisfriends@gmail.com

**Minutes, Meeting for Business
Corvallis Friends Meeting
March 10, 2024**

Present: Bob Burton (Clerk), Susan Easton (Recording Clerk) Craig Sanders, Abigail Stoughton, Jay Thatcher, Kathy Miller, James Cox, Nina Joy Lawrence, Wendy Robinson, Esther Schiedel, Laura Horsey

The Religious Society of Friends desires to include in its membership all persons who find themselves in unity with its faith and practices or are committed to growing toward that unity. – An open heart and mind and an earnest desire for ever-increasing Light is the chief concern.

While readiness for membership implies a degree of religious insight, it does not assume attainment of perfection or an end to development. Participation in the life of the meeting and living daily by the Spirit results in continuing religious growth.

P. 196 Faith and Practice NPYM 3rd ed.

Centering Silence

*** Meeting Approved CFM Minutes for Feb. 11, 2024 Meeting for Business.**

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer highlighted the following expenses: replacement thermostat for the older portion of the Meeting House; the annual assessment by Willamette Quarterly Meeting. The POP (propane) fund will continue through March, covering the coldest months of winter. Otherwise, outlays were for the usual expenses.

*** Meeting accepted the Treasurer's Report.**

Spiritual Care Committee

To complement the series on Becoming Friends, we are starting to seek a way for more intimate and heart centered experiences. This could be facilitated by small groups. We are aware of several models for this:

- **A Newcomers' Gathering:**
<https://multnomahfriends.org/event/fall-newcomers-gathering/>
- **Mentoring:**
<https://www.apa.org/education-career/grad/mentoring>
- **Spiritual Friendships**
<https://pendlehill.org/product>equals-spiritual-friendships/>
- **Spiritual Sharing Groups**
- **Faithfulness Groups:**
<https://awholeheart.com/faithfulness-groups>
- **Walking Buddies:**
<https://corvalliszencircle.com/>
- **Friendly Sevens**

Dana Edwards and Wendy Robinson are beginning to plan for a conversation about Deepening Friendly Connections. This will be held in coming months with a widely shared invitation. We hope some small groups will be organized following that.

For Easter we plan to offer a walk at dawn in Willamette Park at 6:30 am on 3/31. Walkers will meet at the south entrance to Willamette Park, at the Rotary Shelter.

Some Friendly Sevens groups have had setbacks due to illness and inclement weather. SCC is working to move them forward for the remainder of the winter and spring.

We aren't led to pursue further changes to our Meeting's membership process, but offer this reminder of steps Faith and Practice has to enter and leave membership. For more information, see pp. 192 - 214. An applicant for membership first writes a letter to the monthly meeting expressing a desire to become a member, including reasons for wanting to join.

**Termination of Membership from NPYM
Faith & Practice (2018):**

A monthly meeting may initiate the release from membership if the member shows no interest in the Religious Society of Friends over a prolonged period or exhibits repeated disregard of Friends principles.

If a Friend shows neither interest in the Religious Society of Friends nor concern for the responsibilities of membership, they are contacted by a member of the Pastoral Care Committee or by a small committee, usually of its members, either by a visit or by correspondence. The purpose of this communication is to clarify the relationship between the member and the Society. The meeting process may require an extended period of time and tenderness to the specific circumstances. If continued efforts for five or more years are of no avail, the Pastoral Care Committee notifies the member of its intention to recommend to the monthly meeting at a specified meeting for business that the individual's membership be terminated. If the meeting concurs with the recommendation, it minutes the circumstances and records the termination of the membership. The clerk of the meeting promptly sends a kindly written notice of this action to the individual by mail with return receipt requested.

Paraphrasing to shorten: (If the individual's address has been unknown for 5 or more years, the recommendation for termination may then be made by the Pastoral Care Committee, and brought to MFB for a similar decision.)

*SCC report accepted

Adult Religious Exploration Committee
The February Becoming Friends program was well attended. The lively discussion explored the 1st four of nine inquiries on Friends beliefs. The next program will be March 24, exploring the remaining five questions. A request was made to try reaching out to a wider audience than just Friends about this program.

April 7, F/friends will explore and share podcast reviews of favorite spiritual podcasts. For more information, contact Lisa Perelli at lperelli70@gmail.com.

*ARE report accepted

State of Society Report
A draft State of Society Report was read to the Meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes and it will be available to read in the Wednesday Digest. Contact Susan Easton

(seaston@99west.com), Wendy Robinson (robburton@comcast.net), or Jay Thatcher (jthatch@peak.org) with corrections, additions, or other changes. We'll season the report until next month at Meeting for Business. **Next meeting for business will be April 14, 2024.**

Spiritual Care Committee 2023-2024

CFM Spiritual Care Committee members are available to receive comments, concerns, and requests regarding the spiritual life of the Meeting, in all its current forms, and the care of members and attenders. A private meeting may be arranged via Zoom, phone, or email if so desired. Contact any of the following:

Jay Thatcher jthatch@peak.org

Wendy Robinson robburton@comcast.net

Carmen Brummet brummetc@peak.org

Abigail Stoughton sabigail@comcast.net or
541-758-5057 (home and cell).

Dana Edwards nondo99@yahoo.com

Friends General Conference Retreat

The Spiritual Deepening Program of Friends General Conference is excited to invite Quakers and newcomers to participate in an online weekend retreat, *Encountering Spirit*, from April 12-14, 2024.

Friends are invited to Build-Your-Own retreat schedule of workshops, plenaries, and opportunities for creative and spontaneous connections, all exploring the Quaker experience of encounter with the Divine. It will be a playful, deep, and joy-filled weekend!

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/event/encountering-spirit-retreat-save-the-date/?sd=1712894400>

Inquiries to Rachel Ernst Stahlhut,
rachels@fqcquaker.org

Indivisible Washington presents “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workshop Series”

All sessions 10:30 am PDT

Stand-alone workshops, open to all Friends in NPYM (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) region. Registering once will give you access to all.

April 20 - Understanding & Mitigating the Impact of Implicit Bias and Stereotype Threat

April 27 - Intersections of Identity & Racial Privilege

May 4 - Racial Microaggressions: What are They and Why are they Harmful

Zoom. Information: Laurie Childers,
childers@peak.org

Willamette Quarterly Meeting

Registration is now open for Willamette Quarterly Meeting to be held May 17-19, 2024 at Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp. Register online at willamettequarterly.org. You might have to refresh your browser by clicking on the little circle arrow on the right side of the search box. Cost is "pay as led" so please don't let cost be a barrier to attending! If you can pay more to support others to come, that's good, too.

Our Theme is *Strengthening Community*. Come to Willamette Quarterly Meeting for a chance to meet new and old Friends; practice deep listening to your inner light, each other and the earth; hear about what Meetings are doing to strengthen community and share your own stories. Come away energized with a renewed sense of community, connection to the earth and your inner light.

Our Children's Program will be led by Liz Bruno. Our theme is *Spring Up*. We will explore and play with nature's sounds, colors, and shapes that spring up around us, as well as what springs up in us. Understanding land and body as home, we'll practice the art of "noticing what we notice." The program follows

an understanding that a willingness to attend to and notice is a foundation of care, relationship, and stewardship. The children's program will meet as an all-ages group, ages 1 - 11, and divide into activity groups as needed. Activities include: nature music composition, color matching, nature cartooning, water play, sand play, nature mandalas, and so on. We'll also hear a few stories using Montessori methods (the parable of the mustard seed, Klickitat stories of Mount Hood), as a way to build our curiosity and listening.



Advices & Queries Harmony with Creation (part 2).

The essence of the Divine Light can be found in our connection to the natural world. Our collective experience of this deep interconnectedness with all nature helps us understand the connection between ecological and cultural diversity, know the Earth as teacher, and value inspiration from a range of faith traditions.

We face the difficult challenge to change our manner of living to come into harmony with creation. As we support each other's efforts to use no more than our fair share, we guard against waste and resist the temptations of convenience and the inertia of the status quo. We help each other look for ways to counter attitudes of human arrogance, domination, and greed which threaten Earth's equilibrium.

- What will the impact of our current choices be on the lives of future generations?
- How do we educate ourselves and others about living in harmony with the earth?
- What can we do to make the community of life whole?

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