

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

FIFTH MONTH MAY 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 Chepenefia band of the Kalapuya speaking Nation.

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

Saturday May 4

**10:30 am Indivisible Washington presents
“Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workshop Series” via Zoom**

Sunday May 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
11:30 am ARE (Adult Religious Exploration)
- hybrid at FMH and on Zoom**

Sunday May 12

**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**

**Friday May 17-Sunday 19,
Willamette Quarterly Meeting Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp.**

Sunday May 19

**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 May 26

**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)**

*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 April 14.2024

Present: Bob Burton (Clerk), Susan Easton (Recorder), Jay Thatcher, Laura Horsey, John Selker, Abigail Stoughton, Kathy Miller, Bob Ward, Laurie Childers, Esther Schiedel, Bob Henderson, Wendy Robinson, Marybetts Sinclair
Centering Silence

Meeting approved Minutes of 3/10/2024 Meeting for Business

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer noted 1.) The electric bill was approximately \$100 higher than usual due to broken thermostat. 2.) A donation for meeting supplies was not reimbursed, but were still noted for budgeting purposes. 3.) The POP program is finished for the year (winter). Donations in the amount of \$12,515.94 were made to the program. There is \$277.79 balance left in the account.

A request was made asking for a chart so that Friends can get a sense of the trend of donations. The treasurer and assistant treasurer agreed to set it up.

A Friend noted an arithmetic correction that needed to be made. ***Meeting accepted the Treasurer's Report**, pending the correction.

Spiritual Care Committee (SCC) Report

A program called **Deepening Friendly Connections** is planned for 4/29/24 at 7 p.m. Friends will share dessert, expand our acquaintances, build trust, and start some of the less formal activities in small groups for mentoring, spiritual friendships, walking buddies, and Friendly Sevens. SCC hopes to encourage old and new Friends to deepen relationships with each other and for the spiritual health of the Meeting. Activities with more organization and commitment will be left until autumn. SCC has been working with ARE to develop this ministry.

Jay and Carmen are preparing a new leaflet for welcoming new attenders to worship. Check

the Wednesday Digest to see how you can contribute.

***Meeting accepted the report.** Next SCC meeting is set for 5/3/24.

Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) Committee Reports

An ARE program about spiritual podcasts was well attended with suggestions provided by Lisa Perelli, Carmen Brummet, Jay Thatcher, James Cox, and Abigail Stoughton, including "Quaker Speak." For details on podcasts, check with the above mentioned people.

Fourth Sunday, 4/8/24, at 11:30, will be the 4th session of Becoming Friends, "Testimonies, Etc." We will explore questions concerning testimonies, acronyms, Quaker terminology, as well as the last question from last month's session, "What do Quakers Believe?"

Apologies were made for the technical issues with the hybrid session last month.

***Meeting accepted the report.**

State of Society Report

Jay, Wendy, and Susan submitted the State of Society Report. ***The report was approved** by the Meeting pending several typographical corrections and rewording. A corrected version will appear in the Wednesday Digest.

Nominating/Prenominating Committee report

Due to ill health, Nominating Committee asked Susan Easton, to step in to help with the committee's work this spring. Nom Com requested approval of Meeting to formalize her appointment to the committee. ***Request approved.** Nina Joy will remain on the committee and participate when she is able. Craig is acting as Clerk of the committee.

Report of Ad hoc Grounds Committee

An ad hoc Grounds Framework Committee submitted a comprehensive report offering guidance on how the grounds of the Meeting House should be managed.

The first section proposed three guiding principles for future care of the grounds.

- 1.) Simplicity of Maintenance
- 2.) Sustainable stewardship, and
- 3) Maintaining an attractive and welcoming presence.

***Meeting approved adopting these principles.**

The Grounds Coordinator expects to be the focal point for undertaking new uses of the ground, vetting outside gifts, and executing small projects consistent with the guiding principles. Friends are encouraged to support with labor and advice, as needed, projects which are ongoing or in the planning stages (e.g. fire exit railing, grass maintenance, east side planting bed improvement).

Friends should consult with the Grounds Coordinator before undertaking any new projects. Other potential developments are on hold, to be activated when a Friend steps forward to lead proposal development and create a team of interested committee members.

New projects needing Meeting approval:

- Erecting a peace pole donated by Nancy and Peter Ewald and (gratefully) accepted by the Meeting ***Meeting approved erection of the pole;**
- Making additions to the Friends Meeting sign including times of Meeting and identifying the Meeting House as a house of worship. One Friend suggested including a QR code making it more accessible to more people. An estimate for the project was well under \$200.

***The Meeting approved the signage and up to \$200 for the work.**

Request for our Sponsoring/Hosting WQM

Spring 2025 The program committee of Willamette Quarterly Meeting (WQM) has requested Corvallis Friends Meeting (CFM) to host the WQM meeting in May, 2025. CFM Clerk noted that this is timely for CFM

involvement for newcomers to Meeting and Young Friends. CFM has not hosted this in several years as WQM dropped from three quarterly meetings to one annual Meeting.

In the past, the Quarterly Meeting took place over a Saturday, but would likely take place as a retreat over a whole weekend in May 2025. The host responsibilities for finding a venue, supplying food, finding housing for attendees needing it, and other potential needs were not yet clear

Several people stated they would not be able to help at that time. Others expressed interest.

No decision was made. It will be taken up at the May M4B.

Next meeting for business: 5/12/24

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

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

open to all Friends in NPYM (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) region.

- May 4 - Racial Microaggressions: What are They and Why are they Harmful
<https://www.facebook.com/WashIndivisible/>

Willamette Quarterly Meeting

May 17-19, 2024 at Mount Hood Kiwanis Camp. Register on-line at willamettequarterly.org

Grounds Committee Report excerpts

Principle 1: Simplified maintenance in keeping with Meeting capabilities and resources. The implications of this include:

- Native plants can be incorporated where they meet maintenance goals, but since they often don't offer density to limit weed growth, a native-specific garden is not in the plan.
- A vegetable garden is not in the plan as it is best handled with regular onsite maintenance. (Edibles including tree fruit, and berries can be managed.)
- Offered or donated plants, seating or similar can be accepted when it aligns with the general grounds framework or taken to MfB as an exception.
- Improving maintainability of the mixed flower bed in the southeast area (by Polk Street) (where plants were mown to accommodate painting).
- Sadly, many interesting ideas are not consistent with the simplified maintenance requirement.

Principle 2: Sustainability – in keeping with our evolving understanding of best stewardship practices. The implications of this include:

- Pesticides and herbicides use will be limited generally. Proposed use of products not considered consistent with organic practices will be considered by the MfB as an exception.
- The practice of not watering the lawn in summer will be continued.
- New planting should generally be drought tolerant when established and selected to be well-suited to site growing conditions.

Potential Future Projects –are placed on hold, to be activated if / when a Friend steps forward to lead proposal development and coalesces a team of interested committee members.



Advices & Queries Stewardship of Money & Other Resources (part 1)

We seek a sound relationship to money and other resources, making decisions that reflect our testimonies of integrity, simplicity, equality, peace, and care for creation.

Our household and meeting spending plans are evidence of what is important in our lives.

We pay a fair wage to our employees and offer comparable pay for comparable work.

We refrain from hazardous speculation or participation in business matters that may be ethically suspect. We seek to invest our money and time in ventures that are planned to benefit the social or environmental good as well as to provide a fair rate of return.

Obsession with the things we have is a sickness. So also are envy and helplessness when we feel we haven't enough. Whatever our state of economic affairs, gratitude for what we have helps to prevent worries over losing it or resentment of others who live differently.

- As Friends, we examine our decisions about money and other assets, and look in them for the seeds of war, injustice, and environmental damage.
- How do we use our time, talents, and material possessions to reflect that they are gifts from God?
- As individuals and as a meeting community, how do we show that we are stewards and not just owners of the property and resources in our care?
- How does the Spirit guide us in our relationship to money? How do our choices reflect the working of Truth and Love in our lives and in the world?

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