

CORVALLIS FRIENDS MEETING

EIGHTH MONTH (AUGUST) 2026

ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday Worship: 10:00-11:00 AM

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

Email: corvallisfriends@gmail.com

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

THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

Sunday Aug. 2

8:30-9:30 AM Silent Walking Worship Willamette Park Picnic shelter,
off Goodnight Rd

10 AM Meeting for Worship at the Meetinghouse

Sunday Aug 9

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

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

Sunday Aug 16

**Note: both 10 AM Meeting for Worship and for
11:30 AM Potluck lunch at Susan Easton's garden,
1625 NW 14th, Corvallis 97330**

(weather permitting; in case of rain we'll be at the Meetinghouse)

Sunday Aug 23

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

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

Sunday Aug 30

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

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

Silent Worship every Wednesday at 7 – 7:45 PM, Meetinghouse

*Join Zoom Meetings: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84281206597?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84281206597?pwd=L1hnbTBpU4RC9NSXdERUM3K3FrUT09)

[pwd=L1hnbTBpU4RC9NSXdERUM3K3FrUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84281206597?pwd=L1hnbTBpU4RC9NSXdERUM3K3FrUT09) Meeting ID: 864 1766 6994 Passcode:

959966 or phone (253) 215 8782 CFM newsletter comes out on the first Sunday of each month. To subscribe by mail or email, contact corvallisfriends@gmail.com Submit by 25th of each month. Send to same email address. To learn more about Quakers and opportunities for worship and fellowship, visit our website and links at <https://corvallisfriends.org>

Second Hour (and related) programs

Adult Religious Exploration (ARE) programs following Meeting for Worship on First Sundays have been suspended for the summer.

On Sunday September 6 at 11:30 ARE (Adult Religious Exploration) will be offering "Peace—Our Testimony and Its Timely Exploration". Snacks will be provided. Please come and bring any interested young men from 18 to 25 or their parents or grandparents. (We hope by then we will have all the current details concerning the new draft bill.)

Likewise, 4th Sundays' second hour programs hosted by Worship and Ministry will resume in September.

Join Friends from Eugene and Corvallis Friends Meeting for an evening's hike

Sunday, August 30 at 5:30 pm.

Meet at the Cheadle Marsh Trailhead in Finley Wildlife Refuge. Those who feel ambitious can climb Pigeon Butte. Others may take shorter trips along one of two loop trails of two and a half or six miles that start there.

Driving directions from Corvallis: South on Third St, which becomes Highway 99W for 12.0 miles. Right turn onto Bruce Road at the Country Market. Drive 0.9 miles on gravel to a parking area on the right side of the road.

For information, follow the links above, or ask Jay Thatcher <jjthatch@peak.org> from Corvallis or Jewel Murphy <jewel.murphy@gmail.com> from Eugene.

Please save the date! Saturday, October 10, 3-5 PM Corvallis, OR Toward Right Relations (TRR) workshop at Corvallis Friends Meetinghouse, 3311 NW Polk St.

We have much healing to do from the manner in which the land on this continent was colonized. We can participate. Our Toward Right Relations program will be held two days before Indigenous People's Day is honored in Corvallis, so it feels appropriate.

FMI about this Quaker program, please see:

<https://friendspeaceteams.org/trr/https://friendspeaceteams.org/trr/>

Rev. Irv Porter from Tuallip, WA, will be our facilitator. He is Native himself, and has led this workshop many times.

We have use of the whole building from 2 pm to 6 pm. Would you like to help set up and/or take down? We will *not* be able to admit late arrivals, so plan to come well before 3.

Our financial plan is that Corvallis Friends Meeting will accept tax-deductible donations to pay for the cost of the event in advance. Those who come to the event can (and we hope will) contribute financially to a local Native American effort. *Attendance will be limited to 40 people. Registration will happen in September.* FMI: Laurie Childers (childers@peak.org)

Local Interfaith events

Every Friday noon - 1 pm: Silent Vigil for Unity and Peace, near 8th and Monroe in Central Park.

Each Saturday noon: Interfaith Prayer & Song Vigil for Peace, Courthouse steps, 4th & Madison.

Following the AFSC presentation in January, many expressed a Quaker passion for a fair and humane outcome for Palestinians, and wanting to volunteer effectively. The Corvallis Palestine Solidarity group has ongoing events on these issues. corvallispalestine.org

POSTCARDS FOR PALESTINE: Thursdays, 2:30–5pm Interzone Cafe, 1563 NW Monroe Ave.

WEEKLY RALLY FOR PALESTINE: Saturdays, 12-1pm Benton County Courthouse.

SPEAKER SERIES: Third Sunday of the month, 3-5pm The Bière Library, 151 NW Monroe Ave.

Please donate to the FOOD BANK!

Every month on Third Sunday we collect food for and hygiene items for the food bank. As we gather for our potluck, it feels right to think of our less fortunate neighbors. Thank you for participating!

South Corvallis Food Bank's current and ongoing needs for this spring and summer are especially focused on the following items: Toilet paper, Cooking/salad oil, Condiments & spices (especially ketchup and mustard), Hearty soups & stews, and Side dishes & boxed meals.

As always, please bring items to the meetinghouse throughout the month or to the monthly potluck. Food bank clients and volunteers are very grateful for our donations. Thank you, Friends, for your continuous generosity. If you can't come to potluck, bring your donations to the meetinghouse ahead of time and put them in the big box in the Fellowship room. Thank you!

Corvallis Friends Library: Quaker Quicks and Staff Picks

Working in the Commonwealth of Books: 1960-2025 A Cultural Memoir.

By Keith Helmuth. *(Reviewed by Carmen Brummet)*

Maybe because it is about books, maybe because of passages evoking Africa, (my residence when I was 16), or maybe because it spans high school through last year for me, this book hooked me (to use Nancy's word.)

Keith Helmuth and his wife grew up Mennonite and became Quaker. He learned of Friends World College (now Long Island University Global) at the New York Yearly Meeting. He transitioned from bookseller in Manhattan to librarian at Friends World College to small-scale farm and market garden manager, to publisher of “literature of place”.

This is a romp through different cultures and different books through a lens of cultural vitality and environmental integrity.

“The sense of landscape with which one exists in East Africa becomes a memory of primal connection (as you re-enter the dislocation and alienation of the paved over and overbuilt environment of urban America.) It draws the mind and body into a rhythm of relationship that adds an African resonance to the rest of your life.”

A chalkboard sign at Books a Plenty in Tauranga, New Zealand boasts: “Books: helping introverts avoid conversation since 1454.”

FGC and its Ministry on Racism

NPYM (North Pacific Yearly Meeting) made the decision this summer to affiliate with Friends General Conference. FGC has a very active Ministry on Racism. In the link below you can find its offerings. There are many resources and opportunities in that community to deepen the work we have been doing here as just one yearly meeting and in our monthly meetings.

You can find information on the online worship for people of color, the BIPOC Womxn’s Worship Space, and the White Friends Confronting Racism group. This program has also published anti-racist clerking advice (65 pages of it!).

Here’s the link: [Ministry on Racism - Friends General Conference](https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgcprograms/ministry-on-racism/).
<https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgcprograms/ministry-on-racism/>

Meeting for Worship for Business Corvallis Friends Meeting Minutes - July 12, 2026

Attending: Wendy Robinson (Clerk), Laura Horsey (Recording Clerk), Zina Allen, Bob Burton, Nancy Ewald, Ann Fuller, Mary Goff, Nina Joy Lawrence, Marybetts Sinclair, Georg Stahl, Abigail Stoughton, Jay Thatcher and Bob Ward.

Reading: “Perhaps the most outstanding aspect of Meeting for Business is its atmosphere, which one word describes, respect. Quakers respect one another. They are also open to each other and are unusually humble. Being non-violent they do not shout each other down or indulge in sarcastic remarks. In part, their respect for each other arises because of their common belief that everyone has the Light within. In part it comes because Quakers are wary of claiming truth for themselves, although they are willing to acknowledge their small piece of it. Moreover, they enter Meeting for Business with the belief that all are seeking the best solution to whatever problems confront them and that the group can arrive at the best solution through worshipping and working together.” Patricia Williams, 2008

Opening silence

Additions to the agenda:

Children’s program update – Nina Joy Lawrence

Outreach update – Jay Thatcher

Approval of Minutes of 6/1/2026 Meeting for Business

Minutes approved** with the following corrections: 1) add Bob Ward to attendees, 2) Strike “full” from the final sentence of Nominating Committee report to read, “A minute** for the slate of nominations, as presented, **was approved by Meeting**, with gratitude.”

Monthly Treasurer’s Report – written report provided by Bob Ward.

Marybetts clarified the expense for waterproof sign to be mounted in the handicap access bathroom. ***Report accepted.**

Nominating Committee Update – written report provided by Jay Thatcher.

Nominating Committee proposed three changes from June report: 1) Abigail Stoughton nominated to Adult Religious Exploration, 2) Bob Burton nominated to FCNL Meeting Contact, 3) Outreach coordinator corrected to one person (Jay Thatcher). ***A minute for the changes to nominees was approved by Meeting.** Two Friends offered themselves for consideration by Nominating Committee for open positions. The FWCC contact person role remains open; nominating committee is not actively seeking to fill the role; a short discussion of the responsibilities of FWCC was given by two Friends. Outreach committee suggests that Meeting expect additional nomination proposals on a continuing basis.

NPYM Annual Session Report – written report provided by Bob Ward. The CFM budget was also provided to support the discussion.

Bob W. clarified that NPYM includes Friends from Washington, Oregon, Western Montana and parts of Idaho; approximately 20 Meetings. Four Corvallis Friends in attendance have registered to attend NPYM held in Olympia 7/22 – 7/26.

Anyone who has participated in discussions about proposed statements on Gaza / apartheid / genocide may participate remotely without fees in the plenary session the morning of July 18th where NPYM will seek unity to endorse 1 to 3 of the circulated documents. Contact Bob W for link access and the final names / versions of the three documents.

Separately, Bob W reported that NPYM has a significant shortfall of ~\$12,000 in covering the expenses of the annually meeting, and asks CFM to consider supporting NPYM beyond our current level. Reasons for the shortfall are being considered and addressed by NPYM.

***Meeting approved \$850 payment to NPYM** which reflected the current 2026 \$200 “Abundant Life” budgeted amount plus the approximate cost (\$650) of a single adult attendee at current rates. The Treasurer was directed to make the payment this month. As background, it was noted that underage attendees are free, and young adults receive support as well. Additionally, CFM includes \$2700 for NPYM administration costs in its 2026 budget; this amount has not increased annually while some donations to “outside” groups have in recent years.

House Maintenance Report – written report provided by Marybetts Sinclair & Nina Joy Lawrence.

Costs for stretching or replacement of the carpet in the fellowship room and children’s room is being researched. Carpet was installed in 2008 and has trip-hazard buckling and stains. Meeting thanked the committee for the update and encouraged continued research and returning to MfB with a proposal.

New window coverings for the fellowship room are also being researched. Attendees encouraged the committee to consider balancing Quaker values of welcoming, simplicity, and environmental concerns when returning to MfB with a window covering proposal. Meeting approval is not required at the research stage.

Worship and Ministry Committee Report – written report provided by committee

The new committee consists of Nina Joy Lawrence (Clerk), Pat Omidian, Craig Sanders and Laurie Childers. Starting in September the committee is moving to hold a monthly second hour to consider a query in a full hour of worship-sharing instead of reading the query during MfW. Attendees generally welcomed the idea; Nancy Ewald said this was a “treasured practice” in a Meeting she had previously attended. Several suggestions about logistics were made for the committee to consider.

Separately, the committee is continuing to define responsibilities guided by Faith and Practice and CFM’s “user manual.” They encourage other committees (especially PCC and ARE) to do the same to better understand each committee’s charter, focus, and purpose.

Grounds Report - verbal report provided by Abigail Stoughton

Co-chairs Abigail and Kathy Miller seek input on the concept of turning the South and East sections of the meeting house grounds into a meadow. They are researching different methods. They plan to develop a proposal and will focus on a) the initial costs and efforts b) the costs and effort to maintain it, c) trade-offs and benefits of using the space in this way, d) ability to continue to employ young attenders for maintenance work.

Adult Religious Exploration Report – verbal report provided by Abigail Stoughton

The committee is considering changing the name to Adult Religious Exploration and Education but continuing to be known as “ARE.” Bob Ward gave background about why “education” had been dropped: it was seen by some as “indoctrination” though this concern seems to have waned. The committee suggests overlap on topics of interest with the Peace, Justice and Environment interest group, including: peace testimony, indigenous issues, ecology, relating to homeless, black prejudice and racism. Two attenders suggested that

education on Quaker practices and testimonies is also of interest. The committee welcomes input and will determine priorities going forward.

2027 NPYM Outreach and Visitation in March – Jay Thatcher shared an email.

Travelling Friend, Susan Marie, from Multnomah Meeting together with her elder, Joe Snyder, plan to visit CFM on Monday, 3/8/27. Her focus is on “deep listening.” Meeting indicated that a Monday evening meeting was likely to be attended. Several Friends indicated that the request for hospitality of two bedrooms for this date could be accommodated.

Children’s Program Update – Nina Joy Lawrence provided a verbal update.

Nina Joy provided an update to a question raised in the June MfB. The children’s program employee has been and will continue to be paid for a full hour whether or not children come to participate in the program.

Outreach Report – verbal announcements from Jay Thatcher

The OSU Beaver Fair is set for September 25th and CFM plans to again have a table in the social justice section of the fair. Volunteers are requested. Bob W. expressed interest and Mary Goff indicated prior experience in organizing young adult activist groups. A certificate of insurance will be required by OSU; Bob Ward is able to provide it.

Separately, Jay and a Friend from Eugene Meeting invite friends to hike Pigeon Butte in Finley Wildlife National Wildlife Refuge on August 30th.

Next Meeting for Business

Meeting for Business will not occur in August. The next MfB is planned for September 9. Wendy plans to participate remotely from Illinois and will need a local Friend to help with in-person logistics. ***Friends approved a Minute of gratitude to Wendy Robinson for taking on the Clerk role.**

Abbreviations:

CFM Corvallis Friends Meeting
FCNL Friends Committee on National Legislation
FWCC Friends World Conference on Consultation
MfB Meeting for Business
NPYM North Pacific Yearly Meeting
* Action taken by CFM

Advices and Queries - Equality

We treat every person with respect and love, based on our belief in the fundamental equality of all of humankind.

We examine ourselves as individuals and in our meeting communities to be sure that we are practicing the testimony of equality in reality and not just paying lip service to it.

We cherish those parts of the history of the Religious Society of Friends that show us opposing slavery and refusing to doff our hats to superiors. We also acknowledge that Friends are not perfect in treating all human beings with equal respect and that there is work yet to do, both among Friends and in the world, to achieve the vision of a social order based on the testimony of equality.

- Do we regularly examine ourselves for evidence of privilege and prejudice?
- What are we, as individuals and as a meeting community, doing to overcome the contemporary effects of past and present oppression?
- How do we avoid being drawn into violent reactions against those who are destructive of human dignity? Do we reach out to the violator as well as the violated with courage and love?
- How do we make our meeting open to all, regardless of ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and identity, or class?
- Is our meeting place physically accessible and welcoming to all?

The Worship and Ministry committee:

Nina Joy Lawrence (541)-231-2432

Pat Omidian (925) 482-7983

Craig Sanders (541) 971-2813

Laurie Childers (541) 908-4518

The Pastoral Care committee:

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

Esther Scheidel CEELF@aol.com (541)602-2254

Bob Burton 11340bob@gmail.com (541)231-3352

John Selker selkerj@gmail.com or (541)-829-0137