

Report of PYM Representatives to Friends World Committee for Consultation,  
Section of the Americas  
PYM Representative Committee, March 5, 2011

FWCC Representatives gathered at PYM 2010 to address three areas of work: the selection of delegates to the World Gathering of Friends in Kenya in 2012, two outreach programs of FWCC, termed the Global Change and the Salt and Light projects, and the general work of communicating the FWCC themes of connection and communication among Friends of diverse traditions.

We prepared some initial materials to inform the PYM community of the delegate selection process and to invite friends who might wish to serve, to contact PYM Nominating Committee. We believe Nominating Committee will be bringing to this Representative Committee, the names of Friends who will attend the World Gathering on our behalf.

Presentations and announcements regarding the Salt and Light and Global Change projects have been carried to Quarterly and Monthly Meetings in the past months. One of our representatives served on a panel, participated in an interest group, and distributed materials at the Southern California Quarterly Meeting in the fall of 2010. Two other representatives offered a discussion of the Global Change theme [based on six queries designed to help Friends explore global change and discern possible responses] at Redwood Forest Monthly Meeting, also last fall, and we anticipate bringing this discussion to the Spring Quarterly Meeting of College Park Quarterly as well. The Salt and Light theme, built around the biblical passages which use these metaphors to point to the role of Friends in the world, has been the subject of a series of meetings and retreats, typically led by traveling Friends, in various parts of the Section of the Americas. The discussion is now underway with a number of PYM meetings, about prospects for hosting such a traveling speaker and a gathering focused on this theme, in our area this spring. One of our representatives has been serving as liaison in this process, as the central office in Philadelphia seeks host meetings for this program.

Some of us will be attending the annual gathering of the Section of the Americas in Philadelphia in mid-March, to join in service as delegates, to participate in our FWCC committee work, and to attend a Salt and Light gathering scheduled to follow immediately on the annual meeting.