

The Daily Miracle

Pacific Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Saturday, July 19, 2014

Today's Schedule

6:00-7:00 Outdoor Worship
7:00-8:00 Breakfast
8:00-9:30 Worship Sharing (AM & PM)
9:30-10:00 Clear rooms
10:00-11:15 Plenary IX
11:30-12:30 Closing Worship

12:30-1:30 Lunch
1:30-3:00 Evaluation Meeting for Clerks
and Officers

From your Friends on Arrangements

As you pack up and prepare to lead PYM:

1. Please have all of your belongings out of the dorms and lodges by 10:am so Walker Creek Ranch staff can make the center ready for the next group.
- 2 Displays and crafts in Maple room: please remove by noon.
3. Everything else – tents, meeting rooms etc should be cleared by 1pm.
4. Linens: place inside pillowcase and leave on floor in middle of you room.
5. Please leave your name tag holder in the box in the plenary tent, dining hall or Maple.
6. If you put up any signs, please remove them

7. Be sure to check the Lost and Found in the Dining Hall.

8. Travel safely – be aware of many cyclists on the local roads.

Any unfinished business with the registrars?

Please check in with them at their table in the patio during lunch. See Joyce Samati or Sarah Tyrrell.

Worship Sharing

Yes, both AM & PM Worship Sharing groups will meet at the same time this morning. Groups that are sharing spaces between AM and PM should look for an appropriate spot nearby or come to the dining hall and we'll suggest some options.

Please complete your worship sharing evaluations and leave them in the tray at the back of the Plenary tent.

Meeting Representatives: please remember to take home the items in your Meeting's folder. The boxes of Meeting folders are to the left of the doors in the back of the Plenary Tent. – Rep support Committee.

Friends Peace Teams

Friends Peace Teams is a relatively new Friends organization. It does not have the structure of a non-profit organization or a nongovernmental organization. The council which governs it is made up of representatives from non-programmed Yearly Meetings and the officers of the organization. The work which we do is the outcome of a person's leading. There are currently three initiatives: African Great Lakes, Central America and Columbia, and Asia West Pacific. Friends Peace Teams welcomes persons with a leading to make inquiries. Friends Peace Teams go into an area which has been at war and starts to build peaceful communications.
– Gay Howard, Central Coast Meeting, PYM's representative to Friends Peace Teams

Failure to Disarm: Aug 6

You're invited to the gates of the Livermore Nuclear Weapons Laboratory on the 69th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima. Ceremony and nonviolent protest. Meet at 7:30 am on Wednesday, Aug.6, at Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road in Livermore (about 40 miles from Oakland). Co-sponsored by over 20 organizations. Info: www.trivalleycares.org or ask Carl Anderson.

Daily Miracle Online

Even after you leave Walker Creek Ranch, you can still read the past week's editions of the Daily Miracle online by going to www.pacificyearlymeeting.org.

Child Refugees and Migration Report

(Ad hoc Subcommittee of the Latin American Concerns Committee)

Many Friends came to PYM this year with a concern for the humanitarian crisis of Central American children and youth arriving at our border, seeking refuge from violence in their home countries. Gathering to discuss this issue, a group of about 20 Friends met during three mealtimes over the week. This is a brief report

of our work – a more expanded version has been placed in the Representative folders to be taken home and shared with your Monthly Meetings.

We discussed the widespread misinformation about this recent increase in child migration and the role of US policy in creating the conditions that push young people to flee their countries. We shared our distress at the hate being directed toward these children and youth.

In the face of this situation, we feel called to offer a Quakerly response that lifts up the humanity of these children and acknowledges their Inner Light. We discussed the importance of recognizing these children and youth as refugees of misguided US policies that emphasize security, economic gain, and politics over community wellbeing. Our response to this current crisis draws on the strength and wisdom of Quaker action throughout history: taking in Jewish children sent out of Nazi Germany, interceding on behalf of Japanese Americans interned during WWII, and helping to protect African American children whose lives were endangered because they took a stand for racial equality and justice.

We have discussed many ways of responding to this crisis, and will continue to meet via conference calls to further discern and develop our response. For now, we would encourage concerned Friends to:

1. Spread messages that help to emphasize the humanity of these children and counter hateful misinformation.
2. Continue to support the lobbying work of FCNL and AFSC on immigration policy.
3. Consider sponsoring a child as a foster parent.

As we continue to meet, we will discuss other responses such as how to support efforts to help these children gain some sort of legal status and how to engage with local coalitions who are working to care for the children being detained in facilities in our communities.

For action alerts as well as tips on writing letters to the editor, visit: <http://fcnl.org/issues/immigration/>

For more information on this current crisis and its historical roots, the Women's Refugee Commission has many wonderful resources here: <http://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/programs/migrant-rights/unaccompanied-children>

For more information on this subcommittee or if you would like to be included in our efforts, please contact: Lynnette Arnold (Santa Barbara) lynnettearnold@gmail.com or (510)798-9213

Mil Gracias!

Thank You PYM people. The Guatemalan store profits will fund one and a half scholarships for one year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Margaret Bean and Donna Smith

Visit Honolulu Friends!

Friends in Honolulu some times feel isolated [from wider Quaker gatherings and other Friends' Meetings.]

We'd love to see visitors from PYM and other Friends' organizations. If you are traveling to (or through) the Hawaiian islands, we invite you to attend Sunday worship.

We also offer inexpensive lodging in our {Honolulu} Meeting House – 2 weeks maximum. Located in a lovely neighborhood, near the University. For more information or reservations call 1 (808) 988-2714, or see our website www.hawaiiquaker.org

Aloha, Ramona Hussey

About the Strawberry Creek Minute to Divest Fossil Fuel Extraction Companies of July 13, 2014

The key sentence in the minute is “we recommend the divestment of fossil fuel stocks or funds by all Quaker bodies, including Friends Fiduciary, and we commit to not buying any fossil fuel stocks and funds in the future.”

There are three main ideas:

- 1 - Our institution is committed to divesting
- 2 - We suggest, recommend or suggest consideration of divesting to other institutions (and individuals?)
- 3 - Including Friends Fiduciary.

This last is perhaps the most controversial. Friends Fiduciary wants to keep fossil fuel companies in their main portfolio and have a relationship or dialogue with them. Strawberry Creek and other friends are of the view this hasn't worked, isn't useful, and that and we Friends Fiduciary should totally divest.

If you want a speaker at your meeting on this topic or more information about this or about reinvestment and investing in the future, please contact Unity with Nature Committee. For a full version of the Strawberry creek minute, please see Attachment 2 of the most recent Unity with Nature Report on the PYM website.

Tweet for the Climate

During the past week, we have been asking ourselves where is our Quaker voice? Sometimes, it is difficult to find a corporate witness on weighty issues, such as drone warfare and income inequality

Sometimes when we act as individuals, we may feel that our efforts are not adequate. Still, we do what can with what little time and energy we have in this world. In addition to living without owning a car, I am using my Twitter account to express my concerns for climate change and the need to address this issue in the upcoming November election. That is why I am posting at least one tweet per day on climate change with the hashtag #climatetweet. More information can be found on my blog post, <http://>

tomyamaguchi.wordpress.com/2014/04/22/happy-earth-day-tweet-for-the-climate/.

My handle on Twitter is @tomyamaguchi if you would like to follow me or read my tweets.

On another note, I am continually asked about how I got a Japanese last name. My story is on a personal website I created with Tripod. You can read it at <http://tfyamaguchi.tripod.com/adoption.html>. Warning: it does contain some strong language, but not much.

Tom Yamaguchi

