

## **Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)**

Emelyn Buskirk and Hulda Muaka, representatives to FWCC

### **Announcing the Online Meeting of the Section of the Americas on Saturday, March 12, 2022.**

This is a great way to experience the diversity of Quakers in the Americas. Friends from Bolivia, Peru, and Central America will be there, sharing the richness of their cultures and points of view. People from all four branches of Quakerism will be there: Liberal, Conservative, Pastoral and Evangelical. Our experience of these meetings is that the Power of the Light can be felt, drawing us into unity. You can go online to find out more and to register. The website is [fwccamericas.org](http://fwccamericas.org). From the home page click on "Events". Also on the events page is a conference on the environment called "Spirit-Led Climate Action Among Quakers."

**FWCC in the pandemic** FWCC has continued to find ways to respond to the challenges of the pandemic. Resilience is a theme that has dominated as Friends develop this strength to we cope with life in the "new normal." Meetings that were once held in person were now held online. However, the reduced expenses for travel and housing made it possible for more Friends from Latin America to participate. This greatly enhanced the experience.

**Traveling Ministry Corp** This group had a lot to do with the success of the 2021 Section Meeting. Many of the arrangements were made by the ministers and sure enough their many talents made the bilingual semi-programmed worship a success. The Corp has been involved in a lot of exciting activities. Nine online events were held with hundreds of participants. There were gatherings for young people, men only, and women only. Unfortunately the Traveling Ministry has been laid down due to lack of adequate funds.

**Meeting of Women** A meeting of women led by Latin Americans was also attended by women from the USA and Africa. It was held on October 30, 2021. Two speakers, one from Guatemala and one from Kenya, were inspired by women in the Bible to become leaders in their communities. There is a growing number of women pastors in Kenya. The conference gave them a chance to share their experience. They encouraged women who were called to the ministry to follow that leading

**Quakers at the COP 26 Climate Conference** Quakers took an active role in this UN event in Glasgow. FWCC is one of the parent organizations of the Quaker UN Office (QUNO), which was a participant. An FWCC sponsored report was given to the Quaker world from the Glasgow meeting house. Two women, one who is a representative for climate action at the QUNO office and, one who works on economics and sustainability at Quakers in Britain shared their perspectives on the conference.

Friends sponsored an event within the COP conference called "fair share in finance for people affected by loss and damage." QUNO, FWCC, and Quaker Earthcare Witness were three of the four organizations involved. The focus of the presentation was the disastrous floods caused in Nepal by more intense rainfall. You can find videos of both these events at [fwcc.world/areasofwork/sustainability/cop26](http://fwcc.world/areasofwork/sustainability/cop26)

**News from the World Office** After Gretchen Castle left the General Secretary position Susanna Mattingly stepped into that role on a temporary basis. We now welcome our new General Secretary, Tim Gee. The website shared a statement on Desmond Mphilo Tutu from Friends in Southern Africa.

