

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Representative Report to Annual Session 2022 Pacific Yearly Meeting

Important upcoming events:

Sunday, October 2: World Quaker Day. Let's all celebrate with Quakers around the world!

Wednesday, 3/ 23--Saturday 3/26. 2023. The Section Meeting will be held hybrid style. The in person gathering will be at Haw River State Park, Greensboro, North Carolina. We hope that this report will encourage people to attend.

2022 Section Meeting: March 12, online , from 7am to 5pm

As you can imagine, the schedule was jam packed. But there was plenty of time for personal connections. The Theme was "Hope and Resilience: Drawing Strength from Our Quaker Faith". There were some important messages for us in Pacific Yearly Meeting as we take on the challenge of change as we become more inclusive

The keynote address was given by Sarah Hernandez from Southern Yearly Meeting. Her message was on change . She noted that in order to change you have to name it, then you can implement it by allowing the Light to to guide.. There is work to be done, and patience and a longtime continuity of long time effort are required. She pointed out a challenge and a positive for Friends. We need to confront internal racism and internal colonialism. And we can take on this challenge by honoring our experience with consensus building.

Pastoral Message: How can we draw new and different people with us into the "wildness of God's presence"? This question was posed by Pastor Mike Huber of Portland, Oregon. He based his remarks on the Gospel story of the healing of a paralysed man. Jesus was in a crowded house, so the man's friends made a hole in the roof and lowered him down to Jesus. Pastor Mike looked at this from the point of view of the homeowner. All she could see was the hole in her roof. We Quakers have a structure and we are grateful for it, but some people's journey to God may be through our roof. When this happens, will we talk about the roof or about hope? We had this message in mind when we settled into unprogrammed worship.

Emelyn's special memory: During small group time I was with one other person, Friend (Hermana) Catalina from La Paz, Bolivia. The question was, "What is your favorite sound?" My answer was the music of Mozart. Her answer was "El sonido del agua", the sound of water.

Traveling Ministry Corp

Unhappily this activity has been laid down due to lack of funds. The final work included carrying out virtual meetings. One such meeting even included Friends from Africa. A women's conference was held that included Friends from Kenya and Latin America. Kenya now has a good number women pastors. They were interested in sharing their experience and encouragement to those women with a gift or calling to be pastors--seeking support across borders.

By Emelyn Buskirk and Hulda Muaka, FWCC Representatives