

Pacific Yearly Meeting  
**Ministry Committee**  
Report to Representative Committee (RepCom) 2023

**Summary:**

**Ministry Committee** work during the year has supported the continuing theme for our last annual sessions and the coming one, Building the Beloved Community. The committee and its subcommittees have delved into healing the wounds of racism, building right relationship with indigenous peoples, and conflict resolution. We're wrestling with providing a membership form that acknowledges and supports the belongingness of those for whom traditional monthly meeting affiliation is not workable. We continue to think about the future of the yearly meeting.

**Ministry Committee starts working with the Clerk to plan for this year's annual session after the conclusion of last year's, as we read with appreciation the evaluations that many attendees filled out so thoughtfully.**

**We are working with our Racial Justice Subcommittee on addressing the need for healing of wounds caused by unconscious racism in our midst.** As we become aware of the hurts happening in our midst, how can we heal? On rather parallel tracks, the Eldering Subcommittee has been working on supporting conflict resolution in meetings; the Indigenous Concerns Subcommittee is working on how meetings and individuals can build right relationship with indigenous peoples.

**We are working on creating a form of membership directly in the yearly meeting, as requested by a number of people.** Those interested in being in the conversation can contact Gail Eastwood ([eastwood@asis.com](mailto:eastwood@asis.com)) We are open to the possibility of taking a worship group under the care of the yearly meeting (as provided for in our *Faith and Practice*), and developing a proposal for defining a membership process for those who attend the worship group.

**We are bringing to annual session a recommendation to make permanent the half-time administrative assistant position that was adopted on a trial basis in 2021.** Bronwen Hillman, who has been doing this job since fall of 2021, has been invaluable in taking on many tasks formerly assumed by Sharon Gates—essential nuts and bolts work that goes on in the background. For example, she has worked closely with Communications Committee to maintain the data base, assumed tasks the youth coordinator often had to tend to though not in that job description, arranged for a variety of online activities by yearly meeting committees throughout the year, and monitored and updated the website. (For more information, see Bronwen's report to RepCom.)

**As we struggle with diminished numbers on our own committee, we continue the conversation on the future of the yearly meeting in a changing world and situation.** We regret our lack of capacity this year to provide regular liaison to all yearly meeting

committees. Committee members and clerks with concerns or questions are encouraged to contact us through our clerk, Gail Eastwood. Information about your committee's work can be shared more widely through the monthly update email sent out by Bronwen (submissions due the Wednesday before the second Sunday of the month).

- 2023 Gail Eastwood, Humboldt (2018), Clerk
- 2023 Stan Searl, Santa Monica (2021)
- 2024 Robin DuRant, Orange Grove (2021)
- 2024 Rita Comes Whitney, Palo Alto (2021)
- 2025 Lee Sisson, Orange Grove (2022 RC)
- 2025 Gail Coonen, Humboldt (2022)
- 2025 Kathryn Neale Manalo, Berkeley (2022)