
ORANGE GROVE RECORD

July's Testimony: Reaching Out

FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP begins and is nurtured within the home and Meeting. It reaches greater fulfillment as we carry our beliefs into the wider community.

Share your Quaker faith. Take time to learn about other people's experiences of the Light and, as you learn, give freely from what you have gained. Respect the experiences and opinions of others, but do not be afraid to say what you value. Welcome the diversity of culture, language, and expressions of faith in your Monthly Meeting, the Yearly Meeting, and the world community of Friends. Encourage discourse with Friends of pastoral and programmed traditions, and with members of other faiths.

Friends have a long history of involvement in public and private education, sharing our values with the world and nurturing future generations. Be mindful of the needs of children in your community and of avenues for deepening understanding between peoples.

How does my life reflect Friends beliefs and thus encourage others to be interested in the Religious Society of Friends?

Do I respond openly to inquiries about Quaker experience and belief?

What does our Meeting do to make others aware of Friends principles and practices?

What are we doing to help people of various races, cultures, and backgrounds feel at home among us and we among them?

Note: Some queries are intended for individuals. Italicized queries are intended for the Meeting collectively.



Southern California Quarterly Meeting: Report from Spring Gathering, 2017

By Anthony Manousos

THIS IS A TIME when our country is deeply divided politically and religiously. The divide between Evangelical and mainstream Christians is especially deep and painful, reminiscent of the deep divide between Evangelical and liberal Quakers that took place in the 19th century and still persists today.

Fortunately, the Friends World Committee for Consultation has worked hard and successfully to bring about reconciliation among the many branches of Quakerism. It is the only place I know where you can find real diversity among Friends---ethnic and racial and theological diversity. I felt incredible inexpressible joy to be among such richly diverse Quakers!

Today I'd like to report briefly about the recent FWCC meeting that took place in Stony Point, NY. This was a meeting of the Section of the Americas. Over 120 Friends took part. 18 were from Latin America. Given the harsh anti-immigrant policies of our current President, we were very relieved that most of our Latin American brothers and sisters were able to get visas. Friends came from all the different branches of Quakers—Evangelical, Conservative, and un-programmed. Non-theists as well as Bible-believing Christians took part. We worshipped in silence and also with joyful singing and sermons. During times of fellowship and worship sharing in our home groups, we got to know and appreciate each other as friends.

A highlight of the gathering was launching FWCC's new traveling ministry program. Seven Friends from North and Latin America were chosen for this program and we held them in the Light.

Other highlights included hearing a radical sermon by a Cuban Friend who works for the Martin Luther King Center in Havana. Her talk was so powerful it convinced me I want to travel in the ministry to Cuba as soon as possible and get to know Cuban Friends better. Jill and I are thinking of going in December of this year. Please hold us in the Light! I was also impressed by the powerful sermons of Jonathan Vogel-Borne, a New England Quaker activist, and Carl Magruder, a beloved California Friend who now works as a chaplain.

There were many workshops dealing with a variety of topics. I was drawn to the workshops dealing with climate disruption. Based on my experience with FWCC gatherings in Kenya and Peru, I have come to see that sustainability is as important to Quakers as



Praying for those in our new traveling ministry corps

peace in the 21st century. Since climate disruption has world-wide consequences, it affects and unites Quakers everywhere. Those who live in the global south often experience the effects of climate change more directly than those of us who live in the north. Droughts, floods and pollution are causing serious damage to countries like Peru, Bolivia and other places where Quakers live. We hear their stories and feel the need to redouble our efforts to work to be good stewards of our beautiful and fragile planet earth.

We worked on an addendum to the “Living Sustainably” minute that was approved in Pisac, Peru. We realized that that the Pisac statement didn’t include important elements like restoring the earth, supporting the resiliency and resistance of communities adversely affected by climate disruption, and deepening the spiritual basis of our work.

I am happy to share with you this report, which is on my blog and which I have copies of. I wish I could share with you some of the joy and enthusiasm and hope we felt coming together at the Stony Point Conference Center. If you’d like for me to come to your Meeting and talk about FWCC, I’d be very happy to do so.

Report from Stony Point Meeting

ON FRIDAY, March 24, 2017 seventeen Friends met at the Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) gathering in Stony Point, NY, to discuss the sustainability minute approved at Pisac. We had three working groups and here is a report on what transpired. We’d like to begin with a quote from Isaac Penington:

“Sink down to the Seed... and thou shalt find by sweet experience that the Lord knows.... and will lead....to the inheritance of Life.”

Powerful though it was in many ways, we felt the Sustainability minute at Pisac dealt mainly with mitigating anticipated climate disruption. We strongly feel Friends need to go further. Since climate disruption is already adversely affecting the earth as well as the lives of people and other living beings, we need to consider how we can act in solidarity with communities affected by climate disruption as they strive to respond, resist or adapt. We also need to consider ways in which we can help to restore the damage caused to the Earth.

We see a need for a collective as well as personal spiritual awakening leading to transformative spirit-led action. To be effective, we need to express joy in the changes we have made in our lives and share our joy with others. To be spiritually grounded, we need to deepen our relationship with nature and connect with God’s creation. We suggest that Friends traveling in the ministry through FWCC share FWCC’s material on sustainability and collect stories about the effects of climate disruption on local communities and how they are responding. We urge each one of us to carry out our Quaker testimony on earth care and lift it up to all the bodies we are part of.—*Anthony Manousos*

Queries:

- How are we as Quakers living our lives as if climate disruption is real and really matters?
- How are we showing solidarity with indigenous and marginalized peoples affected by climate disruption?

News from Quaker Center

DISCOVER THE BEST family vacation around! Family Work Camp from August 1st – 6th is only \$50/person, which covers for all 5 days. Individuals and families of all ages are welcome! Co-facilitated by Quaker Center staff, Kathy and Bob Runyan, and Brad MacDonald, we'll work on improvements to Quaker Center facilities while building community among us. Work crews gather in the morning after breakfast and work until lunch. After lunch we offer opportunities to play, hike, swim, and cook together, or for time alone to enjoy the redwoods. Some work campers choose to keep working. Learn more about this wonderful intergenerational camp and register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/family-work-camp/>.

Join Vanessa July from September 1-3, 2017 to explore Colonialism, Racism and White Supremacy. Have you ever wondered what white supremacy and colonization are? Have you wondered how they affect our lives both individually and institutionally? Over the weekend we will spend time examining colonization, racism and white supremacy. Find out more at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/colonialism-racism-and-white-supremacy/>.

Lloyd Lee Wilson will facilitate, In for the Long Haul: Inspiration, Strength, and Perseverance for the Spiritual Life Today, from September 29 - October 1, 2017. He will use the underlying metaphor of a school for apprentices: a community of individuals gathered together to learn how to live in harmony with God and each other through a long-time dedication to their craft, learning from each other, from seasoned journeymen and journeywomen, and of course from the Master Teacher of us all. This workshop is halfway to reaching capacity, so register soon at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/in-for-the-long-haul-inspiration-strength-and-perseverance-for-spiritual-life-today/>.

If your meeting has not yet begun the careful discernment to choose two Friends to be representatives at our complimentary Quaker Centering Consultation from October 20 – 22, 2017, please begin now to select two members who are already engaged with, or who are eager to become active in, the work of nurturing the Quaker Life of your meeting. Then invite and support them to join Kathy and Bob Runyan, who are offering the Consultation as a follow-up to their Quaker Center on the Road project. This work endeavors to support the work being done in meetings to center on and deepen our understanding, experience, and practice of Quakerism. Once your M&O committee has recommended and received approval of your representatives, they can register online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/programs/register/>.

Finally, Quaker Center is conducting a short survey to get a sense of what we do in Quaker meeting for worship, what we are seeking there, and whether we are successful in finding it. If you are, or have been, a regular participant in Quaker worship, please take five minutes to fill it out at the following link: <https://goo.gl/forms/E8RQ1N8rv0fuiXvE2>. Once you take the survey you'll be able to look at the results, displayed in nice, colorful pie charts! We'll probably run this survey for a month or two, so you can keep checking back to see how the results are turning out.

Those interested should reach out to Sharon Gates or David Mackenzie
of Orange Grove Monthly Meeting.

HOW DO I.....?

Make an announcement after Meeting? Write it down and put it in the announcement basket before Meeting starts. The announcement basket is either on the table in front of the Meeting House fireplace or in the closet in the library. You can download an [announcement form \[link to announcement form\]](#) here. Also, there are often blank ones in the announcement basket. Or just write clearly or type on a blank piece of paper and include the dates that you wish the announcement made.



Make an announcement in the e-mailed monthly announcements? Members and attenders can submit an announcement directly to announce@ogmm.org. Announcements should be sent the last week of the month in order to be published the beginning of the next month. A few printed copies will be on the library table.

Put something out on the e-mail list (listserv)? If you are a clerk, you can submit it on your own. If you aren't a clerk, ask the clerk of the relevant committee to do it for you. The clerk will then e-mail it to announce@ogmm.org. As some members and attenders are concerned about the number of e-mails, please give consideration to, instead, adding it to the monthly announcements (see above).

Announce an event on the website calendar? Jane Krause has volunteered to enter events on our website [calendar](http://www.ogmm.org/calendar/) [link to <http://www.ogmm.org/calendar/>]. She is posting events such as the Adult Ed topics, other Meeting events, and who is using the OGMM campus when. Contact her at assistant@ogmm.org.

Obtain a name tag? After Meeting, a little box with makings for name tags is passed around. You can create a temporary nametag for yourself. To request a permanent nametag, either because you're new or need a replacement tag, please fill out a request card (in the box). Within a week or two, a bright shiny new name tag will miraculously appear on the name tag board in the library. This request card also asks if you want to be on the OGM listserve.

Make a donation? After Meeting, put cash or check in a little white envelope available in the announcement basket. Hand the filled envelope to the treasurer or deposit it in the ample box in the Fellowship Room. You can also donate using either Paypal or a Credit Card by clicking the Donate button on any page of this website. On-line donations can be one-time or monthly. Donations are tax-deductible. At the end of year, the treasurer sends letters to all donors who have contributed \$250 or more.

Sign up to co-host refreshments for Fellowship? We rotate co-hosting refreshments. This involves two people making coffee, setting out refreshments which volunteers have brought in, and cleaning up afterwards. Volunteer co-hosts are always needed and appreciated. Click on the "Sign-Up, Be a Fellowship Hero!" button on any page on this website. Any questions, e-mail fellowship@ogmm.org.



Submit an article to the Orange Grove Record? Send an e-mail to record@ogmm.org with an idea or an article. The Record comes out every two months.

Get reimbursed for a Meeting expense? Fill out a reimbursement form. These are in the box of file folders in the library. The form must be signed by both the person requesting and the committee clerk. Receipts need to be attached to the form. Any questions, e-mail treasurer@ogmm.org.

Find out how to become a Member of the Meeting? Talk to any member of the Pastoral Care or Worship & Ministry Committees or e-mail their clerks pastoral@ogmm.org or worship@ogmm.org. There is a membership pamphlet in the library next to the outside door.

Find out how to join a committee? Talk to any member of Nominating Committee or e-mail the clerk at nominating@ogmm.org. Some committees are open to all members and attenders; other committees have requirements.

The Righteous Mind, Why Good People Are Divided by Politics

A Book Review by Alexandra Hopkins

THESE DAY, I rarely listen to NPR news—it's too big a dose of daily distress. At the same time, I want to understand what is going on in America and to be part of the solution. Our current level of polarization is not sustainable. The campaign and election of Trump tells us that disaster can emerge from the gaping wound that separates us.

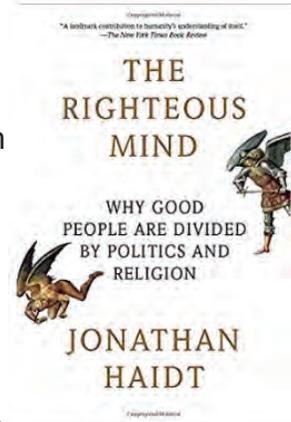
How can we mend a broken heart, no...wrong song...how can we mend our broken body politic? Closer to home, how can we talk with our family members on the opposite side, who seem so, well, ignorant and nuts? In hopes of a path forward, my husband and I have launched a reading program.

I've just finished the audiobook of *The Righteous Mind, Why Good People Are Divided by Politics*. Actually, it was so transformational and was so crammed full, that I listened twice. (It's also available in book formats from Amazon.)

The author, Jonathan Haidt (pronounced "hite"), is a noted research psychologist. He writes in a conversational style with an occasional touch of humor. In 2012, *The Righteous Mind* hit the *New York Time's* best seller list, and Haidt was named among the "top global thinkers" by *Foreign Policy* magazine. When the book was released, politics was still child's play--*The Righteous Mind* is even more relevant and valuable today.

Haidt points out that most psychologists are liberal. When they study the liberal/conservative divide, they tend to look at conservatism as a pathology. Factors like "overly strict parents" come up as the root of this pathology. But, this approach doesn't give a clue as to how to start productive conversations with friends and family on the other side nor how to design legislation that meets conflicting moral demands.

Haidt and his colleagues have developed new approaches to research on liberals, conservatives, and libertarians. They have found that these groups tend to have different biological genetics (yes, really!) and different moral intuitions. Not surprisingly, the research reveals that political and moral views—on all sides--are not primarily the product of logical thought. Political and moral views arise from strongly-held intuitive responses that can be below the level of conscious awareness.



Whereas liberal morality rests largely on three main intuitive moral planks, conservative morality rests on these three plus three more. It was revelatory to see my moral worldview so neatly described by the three liberal planks. The three additional conservative planks were just as revelatory to me—they explain so much about the way conservatives see the world. If these differences aren't appreciated, talking to each other can feel like talking to a brick wall, as you may be well aware.

The big issues which have proved so difficult for Americans to resolve, like abortion and immigration, stir up deep moral sentiments and emotions. It's no good skating along the surface with logical discussions of facts and figures. A friendly relationship together with mutual understanding as to how the other sees the moral stakes comes first. Then, there is a chance of rational discussion.

Haidt proposes that if we try to appreciate the deep moral intuitions of the other, it will become possible to have productive discussions. These excerpts from a customer review of *The Righteous Mind* on Amazon give hope:

"I have struggled for years to communicate with some of my friends and family. So many words were wasted discussing politics, religion and conspiracy theories.... We never had resolution and we never succeeded in convincing the other side.

"Something had to give, so I went searching and ended up on this book. I read it, digested it and decided to try and apply the principles to my communications." The reviewer goes on to detail the progress he made with his new approach. He calls the book, "hands-down the most important book I've ever consumed."

As a bonus, Haidt addresses the role of religion in society. He looks at religion not from a spiritual viewpoint but from that of a social psychologist—do religions create conflict or build community? The research on this topic is particularly interesting in light of the claim that religion is divisive, a claim launched aggressively since 9/11 by the "New Atheists" with books like *God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*. (I've got to give Christopher Hitchens one thing—he knew how to title a book.)

I don't agree with all of Haidt's conclusions, and there is much more to understand—for example, his analysis of conservatism barely touches on the Religious Right. But *The Righteous Mind* is a big step forward in understanding those with whom we share America. At this time, more understanding is very much needed.

Jonathan Heidt photo credit: Miller Center of Public Affairs flickr page, Charlottesville, VA - JONATHAN HAIDT photo RS3J6847 on Flickr, CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=20128018>

Interview with Master Yoda

Interviewer: Master Yoda, I've always thought your name was related to the Hebrew term "Yodea," meaning "He knows," but I read in the online encyclopedia *Wikipedia* that it may be related to the Sanskrit "Yoddha," meaning "Warrior." So, are you the One who Knows or the Great Warrior?"

Yoda: Great Warrior? Hah! Wars not make one great.

I: My apologies, Master. I fear that was the question of a fool.

Y: A fool no questioner is. By asking, wiser he becomes.

I: Then I shall be so bold as to ask what is that wonderful smell coming from your cooking pot?

Y: Root stew. Come, eat, ready now it should be. Cold do not let it become.

I: Thank you. . . .Mmm, this is delicious. It reminds me of carrots, onions, potatoes . . . but different, a touch of wildness. May I have a second?

Y: Another helping you may have. More discernment have you than Skywalker's son. Wrinkled up his face, he did.

I: Have you always eaten roots, Master Yoda?

Y: Since from the egg hatched I was, thus have I eaten. Roots and leaves, fruits and berries, pod-fruit and seeds.

I: So you don't eat meat?

Y: With all living beings through the Force am I connected--so, how could I kill them to eat their corpses? Like killing and eating myself, it would be. Tasty I am sure I am not.

I: Master Yoda, I know we are all connected through the Force. I promise you that in the future I shall try to eat only plants.

Y: Try not. Do. Or do not. There is no try.

—*Benjamin Urrutia, Peaceable Table, August 2005*



Orange Grove Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Announcements for July, 2017

Friendly Reminders

Pamphlets on the Society of Friends & Orange Grove Meeting are on the table in the library.

Parking: We remind Friends to keep the parking spaces in the Meetinghouse driveways clear on First-day morning so that those spaces remain available for anyone experiencing physical difficulty, with small children, or other special needs.

Please sign our guestbook. Please indicate if you wish to receive a permanent name tag, and a copy of our newsletter by filling out a yellow form in the announcement basket. It may take 2-3 weeks to receive your name tag.

Crafty Quakers meet as follows: May 24th, and June 21st. All are invited –

7:00 to 9:00 pm - in the OGM fellowship room. Contact Jane Krause with any questions, jkbigdog517@gmail.com

First Day School: Please sign up to supervise the children during Meeting for Worship by contacting Kindred Gottlieb: ogmm.childcare@gmail.com.

Special Grants Funds/Spiritual

Enrichment Funds are available to members and attenders for activities that promote spiritual growth. The announcement and form are available with the announcement clerk or on the Orange Grove website.

For further programs and other spiritual enrichment programs, find “Ben Lomond Quaker Center” at <http://www.quakercenter.org/>

OGMM Website. The website includes pages dedicated to particular activities and calendar listings. If you would like your activity to have a page, please email Alex Hopkins at alexahop@gmail.com. Something new – you can now donate to OGM on the website – go to ogmm.org and push DONATE Community.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ON THE OGMM WEBSITE?

- Announce your OGMM event. E-mail the information to Jane Krause, treasurer@ogmm.org. She will post it for you on the website calendar. The website calendar is now bursting with Adult Ed topics, OGMM events, and community events hosted on our campus.
 - Announce your non-OGMM events. Go to www.OGMM.org and click on the Bulletin Board. The first time you post, you need to register. Click on Welcome and Get Started.
 - Donate to OGMM one-time or monthly. Go to www.OGMM.org and click on Donate. You can use Paypal or a Credit Card.
 - Sign up for co-hosting Fellowship (make coffee and lay out snacks). Go to www.OGMM.org and click on “Be a Fellowship Hero.”
 - Find out about Quaker beliefs or history or about OGMM. You can also find OGMM Monthly Minutes, OG Records, OGMM activities, contact information for members and attenders, etc.
 - Some info is password-protected. Many OGMMers know the password or ask website co-manager, Alexandra Hopkins (818) 542-9500.
 - Website managers: Alexandra & Kim Hopkins, admin@ogmm.org
- Community Announcements:** To submit an announcement, please send an email to announce@ogmm.org or leave a written version in the basket on First-Day morning.

Orange Grove Monthly Meeting
520 E. Orange Grove Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91104
626-792-6223—since 1907

