

Sierra-Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends
Quarterly Gathering
Eugene Friends Church
September 28, 2019

New Members:

The memberships of Kathleen Gathercoal and Roy Gathercoal were **APPROVED**.

New Meetings:

The membership of Hillsboro Friends Church in Sierra-Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends was **APPROVED**.

Representatives:

Anna Scott-Hinkle and Tom Stave were **APPROVED** as representatives of SCYMF to Friends Committee for National Legislation (FCNL).

Julie Peyton, David Peyton, and Bob Rader were **APPROVED** as representatives of SCYMF to Friends General Conference (FGC).

Nominations to the Nominating Committee:

Eric Muhr and Matt Boswell were **APPROVED** to serve on the Nominating Committee for three-year terms.

Coordinating Committee:

The Coordinating Committee brought forward a simple statement as a definition of who we are:

A Christ-centered, inclusive, Quaker community.

Concerns were raised over the term, "Christ-centered." Some feel that it is a loaded term that carries baggage for those that have had negative experiences with the church. This is a concern

that has been raised before, and reveals an ongoing tension between the leadings that our members feel.

While we are not entirely homogeneous, we are committed to maintaining and growing a healthy community, and that means honoring the Light within each person. Our leading when this Yearly Meeting was first formed was clear, but we are equally clear that this leading is not a command, but a description of who* we have felt ourselves to be as a community.

One suggestion was that the statement instead read, "An inclusive Quaker community centered on Christ." The Coordinating Committee will take these concerns for more discernment.

(This sense of the meeting was **APPROVED**.)

Break for Lunch

New Meetings, cont.:

The membership of Silverton Friends Church in Sierra-Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends was **APPROVED**.

Committee Nominations:

The following committee nominations were **APPROVED**, each for three-year terms:

- Roy Gathercoal, Coordinating Committee
- Lynette Cortez, Quarterly Gathering Committee
- Jim Teeters, People Care Committee
- Anna Scott-Hinkle, Equity & Inclusion Committee

Nurture of Ministry Committee:

The Nurture of Ministry Committee brought forward a proposal to shorten the response period for ministers in the process of recording from 60 days to 30 days. It was found that nearly all comments were submitted at the beginning of the feedback period, and the longer time requirement made it difficult to finalize the process in time for annual sessions. This was **APPROVED**.

Closing:

We closed with a prayer of gratitude for the work God is doing in our committees, our local meetings, and with Friends around the world, and in holding in the Light the concerns that were brought forward.

"If you would also like to be a representative, you can discern that with us, and then we can approve you after lunch."

"If we would like to discuss the Oxford Comma, we may do so at lunch."

"Take it to the comma committee." "Are they taking nominations?"