

NPYM CURRENTS

NORTH PACIFIC YEARLY MEETING QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

May 2022



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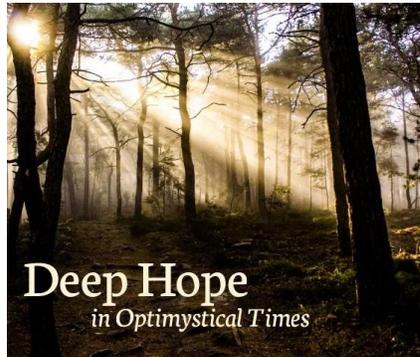
Worship with Children??

Calendar (details later in the newsletter)

- May 5: Made in God's Green Image. A series of 4 hosted by Ben Lomond
- May 6: Finding Justice for Historical Injustice Webinar with Taylor Stewart of the Oregon Remembrance Project
- May 7: QUIP – Quakers United in Publications Conference starts
- May 10: Western Friend Podcast – A tale of Two Military Cities with Molly Wingate of IMYM and Lucretia Humphrey of NPYM
- July 29/30: Pacific NW Women's Conference 2022

Upcoming Gatherings

NPYM Quick Links



NPYM ANNUAL SESSION 2022
at Western Oregon University, Monmouth, OR
07/13/2022 (All day) to 07/17/2022 (All day)

<https://as.npym.org/>

Registration Opens May 16, 2022

Update on NPYM Annual Session 2022

By Jana Ostrom, NPYM Presiding Clerk.

The Executive Committee of NPYM united in deciding to hold Annual Session 2022 at Western Oregon University in Monmouth, Oregon from July 13 to July 17, 2022 in a hybrid format. Careful considerations and multiple meetings of the Site Committee, the Annual Session Planning Committee, and the Executive Committee preceded that decision. We are particularly hoping that meeting at this site (where the pandemic prevented us from meeting in 2020) will allow families with children and Junior Friends to join us in person. Zoom meetings have not been a draw for the youth of NPYM, so we are looking forward to being together as we haven't been able to do for the last 2 years.

We are working on discerning COVID guidelines that will allow us to meet safely—look for those in the registration materials that will be coming soon. There will be parts of Annual Session such as plenaries that will be hybrid, parts such as worship sharing groups where Friends meeting in person will meet with others in person, and those attending virtually will meet with other virtual attenders. We are inviting those who present interest groups to choose whether to hold them only in person, only on-line or to hold a hybrid session. We continue with Abundant Financing so that cost is not a barrier to attending for anyone.

The theme is “Deep Hope in Optimystical Times,” and Carl Magruder of Pacific Yearly Meeting will be our Friend-in-Residence. He is a palliative care chaplain who grew up in Pacific Yearly Meeting, and his ministry is under the care of Strawberry Creek Meeting there. We live in very challenging times with the news bringing us evermore evidence of pandemic losses, lack of racial justice, inequalities, war, climate change, and distrust of others. Deep hope comes from our trust in the Divine, reminders of the ways Quakers in the past have been led to witness, have seen things in new ways, and were guided to make positive changes. How can we work from this deep hope going forward?

Join us—in-person or online—for fellowship, the chance to see old F/friends and meet new ones, to worship together, to be nourished and inspired and connected.

Annual Session Community Guidelines

By Mim Coleman, NPYM Annual Session Event Planner

At our Annual Session this July in Monmouth Oregon, NPYM will be using Community Guidelines. These guidelines may help Friends know what to expect, and what will be expected of them.

These Guidelines are based on the minutes from NPYM Friends affirming our commitments to:

- "- protecting the civil rights of all persons regardless of their sexual orientation." ***Minute on Rights and Sexual Orientation - July 25, 1992***
- "- becoming an affirming, safe, and nurturing place for everyone to live fully that which the Spirit is leading them to be." ***Minute of Inclusion: Welcoming Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming People - July 29, 2017***
- "- individually and as meetings to take action that dismantles oppressive societal attitudes and institutions, creates equity, and constructs multiracial movements to solve the pressing problems of our times." ***Minute on Uprooting Racism - July, 2019***
- These guidelines may also include policies around Covid-19 developed by the NPYM Committee on Covid-19.

Many groups have used similar Community Guidelines as starting places for mitigating harm within their communities. The process of writing and communicating these guidelines began with spiritual discernment, and is grounded in our commitment to helping our Yearly Meeting thrive as a nourishing place for all Friends. Our hope is that using these guidelines will have the following impacts:

- Helping our community be more accessible for newcomers, by explicitly stating our agreements and expectations in a way that is clear and hard to miss.
- Supporting our commitment to work towards LGBTQIA2S+ inclusivity
- Supporting our commitment to using the "Ouch, Whoops, Whoa" process for confronting racial harm
- Supporting safety and community connections for Friends at different levels of Covid-19 risk assessment

Further information will be posted on the NPYM.org website in the coming months. Please direct any questions or concerns to community-guidelines-committee@npym.org

The Minutes mentioned can be found on the NPYM.ORG website by clicking on "Friends' Experiences" in the main heading, then selecting "Minutes".

Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting is using a similar idea, called Interaction Guidelines, titled "Nurturing the Light in each other".

This version can be found on the PNQM.ORG website, at the bottom of the main page.

<https://pnqm.org/nurture%20the%20light%20in%20each%20other.pdf>

Thanks!

Worship Sharing Groups in June and during annual session.

There will be pre-annual session worship groups that will be different and separate groups from those within annual session which will be both virtual and in person but not hybrid. These pre-annual worship sharing groups will be in the month of June.

Volunteers needed for Annual Session 2022 ASAP!

We are looking for an Interest Group Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator with both including full fee waivers and a Bookstore Manager comes with a half fee waiver.

Interested persons please contact Mim Coleman @ marvelousmadmadam@gmail.com

New Annual Session Paid Position: Rising Event Planner

This paid position will begin in May 2022 as part of the AS Management Team, then will take over as Event Planner next year. The stipend is \$750 in addition to lodging and travel expenses. Please contact celia.castle@gmail.com or rockygarrison@gmail.com

Minutes and Proposals to Season for AS 2022

[Minute of Support for Indigenous People](#)

[A Quaker Statement on Migration](#)

[Minute Supporting the end of hate crimes targeting Asian Americans](#)

[Epistle for Reflection by Meetings & Worship Groups](#)

[Epistle supporting amending the 13th Amendment](#)

[Proposal for Working Groups](#)

[Earthcare Minute](#)



Outreach and Visitation: 2022 Visitor; Visitor's Bureau; Worship for Isolated Friends

2022 Knitting Us Together (KUT) Visitor

NPYM's Outreach and Visitation Committee has selected the Visiting Friend for the 2022 Knitting Us Together Program-- J. C. Armbruster will be visiting Friends in-person throughout the area running from Olympia north and west from the Cascades. J.C. is identifying Elders to accompany him. We expect to have some idea of his proposed travel windows and will be contacting meetings, worship groups and isolated Friends in the visitation area in the next month or two.

Visitors' Bureau

The Outreach and Visitation Committee receives information about a variety of Friends who are interested in visiting in our yearly meeting with a concern. We only select one applicant for the KUT program each year even when we have several applicants who have interesting programs,

and we also get inquiries about those who wish to visit around concerns that are of interest to Friends but not necessarily the right fit or timing for the program. We do want to support these Friends in Visiting and to make meetings aware of who in NPYM is interested in visiting on what subjects. We plan to create a roster on the NPYM website of such visitors to make their interest known to Friends throughout the yearly meeting. Those interested either in being on the roster, or who know of a Friend interested in traveling, please contact Joe Snyder at josephhoytsnyder@gmail.com or 541 297 6246

Worship for Isolated Friends

Outreach and Visitation and the Ministry and Council Committees will be working together to send out a survey to Isolated Friends about their experience with and interest in virtual worship and whether there is interest in NPYM organizing a permanent Virtual Worship Group.



NPYM Coordinating Committee

Saturday, March 26, 2022 – 26 people via Zoom

We began with introductions and brief highlights from Meetings represented.

- **Approved updating the job descriptions for the Youth Coordinator and the Youth Committee.** These updates make the job descriptions more accurate and aligned with each other. Added details to the Youth Coordinator position include job qualifications, communication responsibilities, administrative support for Junior Friends, connection with Children's Programs throughout and outside of NPYM, and membership with the Youth Committee. The updated Youth Committee description specifies the clerk's responsibilities regarding hiring, supervising, and evaluating the Youth Coordinator.
- **Annual Session Updates.** These are described in Annual Session section of this newsletter.
- **Minute of Support for Indigenous People** – Mackenzie Barton-Rowledge. The Anti-racism Working Group requests feedback on this Minute. An amended draft was posted on the NPYM website on March 16, with changes made based on comments received. Please send further comments and suggestions by the end of April. mbartonrowledge@gmail.com
- **Ouch-Whoa-Oops process** – Lori Patterson. The Ouch-Whoa-Oops process is just one step in taking accountability for racial harm. NPYM is asked to build a more open, transparent, deeply thought-out process to address harm at AS. Lori shared a document from FGC that is available on the NPYM website, under "Resources": *Guidelines for Addressing Racial Wounding*. Jana Ostrom reported that she will be working on this concern with the Anti-Racism Working Group prior to Annual Session. Susan Cozzens reported that she is developing a workshop on racial wounding.
- **Pre-nominating Committee** – Celia Castle. Three volunteers are needed for the Pre-nominating Committee. This committee meets once a month until the Nominating Committee roster is complete. Please ask for volunteers in your MMs and WGs. Send suggested names to celia.castle@gmail.com

- **Annual Session 2024** – Jana Ostrom. Send suggestions for Friend in Residence to Jana, ideally by July, but later is fine too. clerk@npym.org
- **22-3-13 Next CC Meeting** Saturday, July 23, 9:00 am-noon (PT); 10:00am-1:00pm (MT), via Zoom.

Announcements

- **Youth Opportunity Fund** - The Youth Committee is soliciting applications for the Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF). Applications for the spring funding cycle are due on April 15 and are available to middle-schoolers through age 35.
- Mackenzie Barton-Rowledge requests input to bring to the AFSC Corporation meeting in early April.
- CC members Lucretia Humphrey and Mary Hansen are on the Board of *Western Friend* and encourage all to read it.
- Lucy Fullerton, Clerk of Ministry & Counsel, reported that the committee seeks visitors to Sierra Cascades and Pacific Northwest YMs. Contact Lucy if interested in this role. Also, please send State of Meeting and Memorial Minutes to M&C.
- Iris Graville's newly published book, *Writer in a Life Vest, Essays from the Salish Sea*, is available at her website. Also see her upcoming readings at irisgraville.com
- Johanna MacNee and Nancy Irvine raised concerns that we do not abandon our support of the LGBTQIA and Friends of Color communities. Discussion centered around making sure these groups are invited to CC meetings, are centered in our concerns, and that living into our Quaker testimonies includes inclusivity and support at every Quaker gathering. Susan Cozzens reminded us that Working Groups at the YM level are a way to create on-going collaboration among Friends around a particular issue or concern.



PROGRAM DIRECTOR OPPORTUNITY

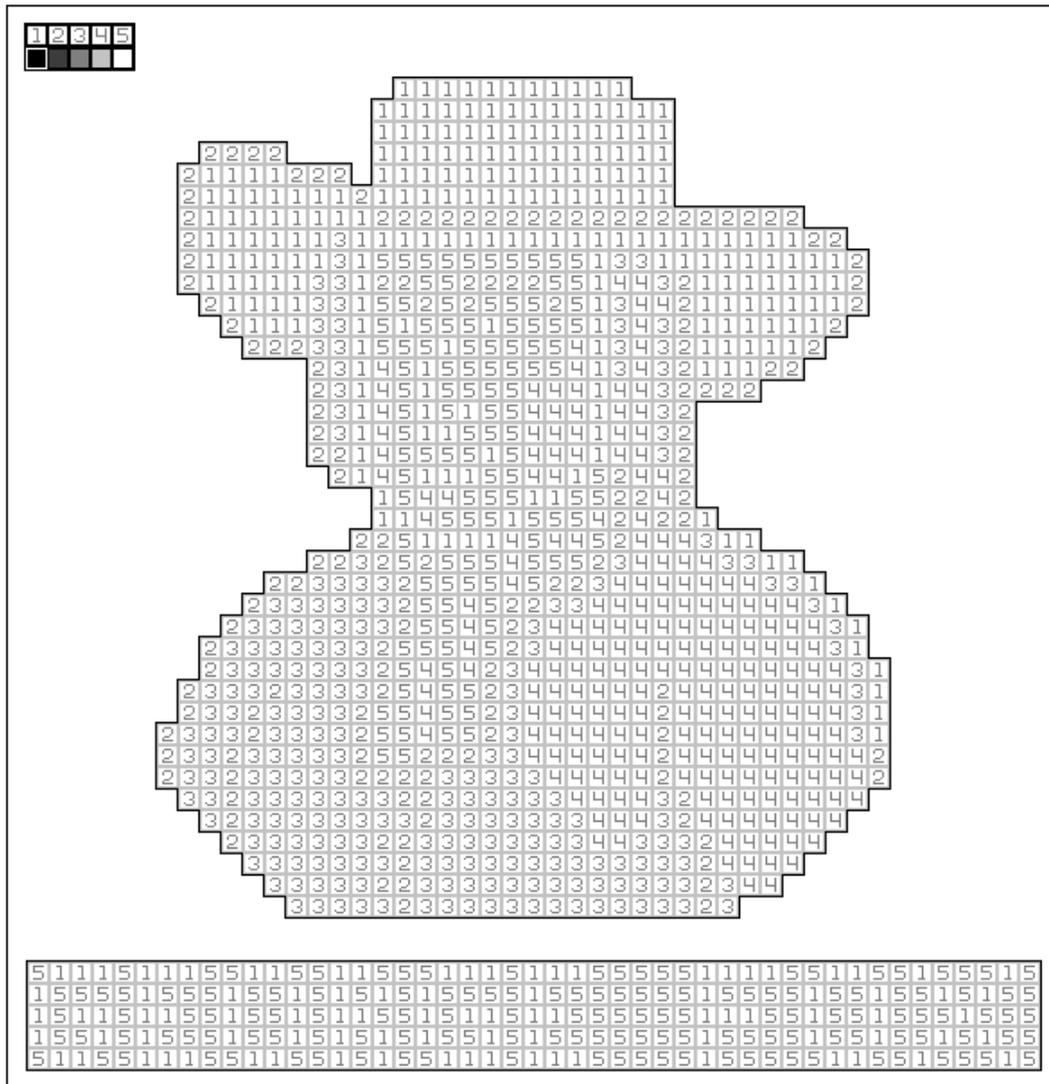
University Friends Meeting (Seattle, Washington) seeks a Program Director for the Quaker Experiential Service & Training (QuEST) program. The Director is responsible for administering and implementing a program that provides Quaker and non-Quaker young adults with year-long positions at local social change and social service organizations, and an intentional, residential community. This is a part-time exempt position. Job description is available at <https://quest-seattle.org/download/12810/>. The position is open until filled. A first round of screening resumes will be held on May 9, 2022. To learn more about the QuEST program: <https://quest-seattle.org>

Friends of All Ages

Color or Shade by Number

Who is this Friend? To find out: Print this page, or open the image below in an image editing software (like Photoshop, or MSPaint)

- Pick five colors or shades, (one for each number 1-5) and color/shade each square according to the number inside.



I have a question for Pickles: Pickles, are you able to tell me why the World is so beautiful?!

Thank you! love - Mary Ann Percy

Pickles says "Because there are so many friends in it!" (He also wanted to list all of his friends by name, but I said I didn't think there'd be room in the newsletter.)

Ask Pickles? Do you have any questions for me? Pickles? I like questions. If you want to ask me questions you can email them to As_Child_Prog_Coord@NPYM.Org

Worship with Children

In spring 2020 the Education Committee of University Friends Meeting began to offer child-centered family worship on Zoom once each month, with 2 hybrid worships. 30 people attended one worship outside in person.

Each month we choose a picture book on a Quaker-adjacent theme (there are not many specific Quaker books) and a Friend makes slides of the pages for us. We have been accompanied by a pair of singers who are also experienced in work with children who find songs each month to offer, as we open our gathering or as we go into worship after the story.

We've used books about young people who worked for civil rights, about finding and bringing beauty in the world, about the wise fool Nazruddinm and about a young boy's Christmas in Japan, and about Miriam and infant Moses, among others. The committee meets once to choose a theme and find a book, and develop queries, then once to run through our program with music. We send queries to families for conversation before worship.

We invite all Friends to join family worship but ask for space for children to share in worship before adults do. We encourage all to have materials for drawing, as we gather and then in worship.

This format can be called semi-programmed worship, and we have brought it twice to the entire 11:00 Meeting for Worship, on 5th Sundays, in collaboration with the Worship and Ministry committee. We asked families to talk about our queries and send their children's responses, with a photograph of each child, to be made into slides. This connects families and Meeting and allows us to hear from children without putting them on the spot in a setting where they are outnumbered by adults.

We invited drawing in response to queries and both children and adults shared drawings and other ministry out of waiting worship. For our first all-Meeting worship, in October, we invited all of our children to introduce themselves and our prompt for worship and drawing was about how we hold people in the Light. In January we read about a group of disabled children who, with their families, sued the Washington DC school district for the right to an education, in the early 1970s.

Semi-programmed worship is accessible to children in a way silent worship is not. We are grateful to University Meeting for agreeing to this radical experiment in our community.

Religious Education Reimagined

"First-Day School" has not worked well in University Meeting. Members have not been available to teach and the Meeting has not had guidance for paid teachers, who have not always been reliable. One 5th grader, who had been part of FDS from toddlerhood, told his father that he heard more about Quakers in school than in Meeting. Successive committees have burned out just finding people to be with the children week after week.

As the pandemic began, UFM approved an experiment in children's religious education which we will begin to implement, finally, in May, when we'll invite children to the Meetinghouse for a full hour of hybrid unprogrammed worship.

We will offer childcare on Sunday mornings for all ages of children, who will continue to join the last 10 minutes of worship. It is much easier to hire people for childcare than for "religious education," and First-Day School was not resulting in education.

The education committee will offer an event for families once a month on a Saturday afternoon or evening. This will include a meal (Covid conditions permitting), worship-sharing for parents and activities for children around Quaker themes. We believe the committee can sustain this level of involvement. We hope other Friends will join us to share their Quaker faith with our children at a time when they won't have to miss worship. We have found that many families have conflicts with Meeting on Sunday.

Children are always welcome in Meeting for Worship, but on the 4th Sunday each month we will expect and invite them to join the full hour of silent worship. We'll have a space on the floor with some quiet toys and a child-size table and chairs for drawing. We expect our children to join us in silence but recognize that we'll have worship with a level of activity that may challenge us. 9:30 worship is available for Friends who prefer to worship only with adults.

When we have a 5th Sunday, the education committee will lead a semi-programmed Meeting for Worship at 11. This format is more accessible to children than a full hour of silence, and we are grateful to UFM for agreeing to this experiment in intergenerational worship.



CALENDAR

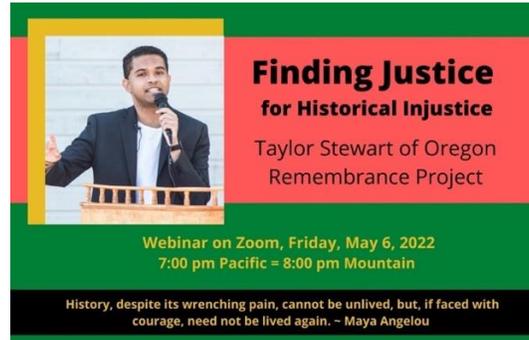
May 5: Made in God's Green Image

A series hosted by Ben Lomond Quaker Center, co-led by Sister Confianza, a nun in Honduras, and Frank Granshaw, a geoscientist in Portland, OR. Both were raised Methodist and are currently active in the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers).

Five Thursdays May 5 - June 2, 2022 Online 90 minutes starting 10:00 AM Pacific = 11 AM Mountain [Click here for registration, opening soon.](#)

Creation stories in the Bible describe a God who creates, tends, and takes joy in the natural world. Genesis 1:26 says that humans are made in God's image. How do we live that out? In the course of the program, we'll explore relevant Bible passages, celebrate nature, and learn some of the science of climate change. Participants will have the opportunity to share thoughts and experiences around environmental issues and take steps toward climate mitigation and resilience. We'll also hear creative solutions from around the world, including rural Honduras where Sister Confianza lives, and Frank's experience as a COP-26 observer for Quaker Earthcare Witness.

May 6: Finding Justice Webinar : [Register Here](#), or check back for a live stream link. Subscribe to [this YouTube channel](#) to be notified of the livestream link.



Live ASL interpretation will be provided by

May 7: 2022 QUIP Annual Conference



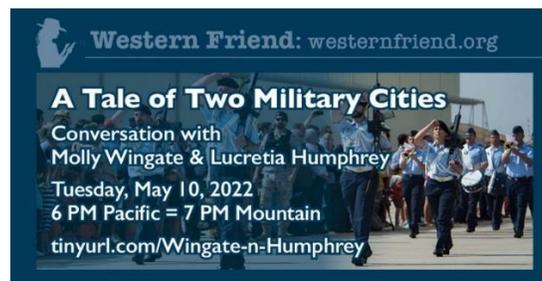
Our Annual Conference will be held online in three sessions, Saturday, May 7; Tuesday, May 10; and Saturday, May 21. See the [Conference Schedule](#) for times and event descriptions. We hope you will join us by [registering here](#).

[Click here to view the complete Conference Schedule.](#)

[Click here to register for our Annual Conference.](#)

May 10: Western Friend Podcast: Join our "live studio audience" interview with Molly Wingate and Lucretia Humphrey. Join two recent Western yearly meeting presiding clerks – Molly Wingate of IMYM and Lucretia Humphrey of NPYM – as they discuss experiences and insights they have gained through decades of Quaker life in "military towns."

- One hour starting 6pm Pacific, 7pm Mountain <https://tinyurl.com/Wingate-n-Humphrey>



July 29/30: Pacific NW Women's Conference 2022

The Pacific NW Quaker Women's Conference is returning in 2022! After pandemic

postponements in 2020 and 2021, we are ready to reunite through Zoom with a re-imagined format for this year. Please save the date and set aside this precious time for

Reconnecting with Each Other for the Common Good

Friday evening, July 29, 2022 and Saturday all day, July 30, 2022

[Click here to watch our website for forthcoming registration and schedule details.](#)

The conference will feature dynamic speakers Ellany Kayce and Kathleen Gathercoal, as well as opportunities for online small group conversations and fun.

Ellany Kayce is an enrolled tribal member of the Tlingit Nation, Raven Clan. She's interim director of the Nakani Native Program and has extensive experience as a speaker and workshop leader. Ellany will offer us a range of tools to begin understanding each other's cultures and belief systems and diagnose the obstacles, to discern and resist colonialism in all its forms, and build a community where equity and honesty are heartfelt realities.

Kathleen Gathercoal will speak on the new wisdom of current research on how to recover and re-connect with each other and with our work out in the world. Empowered by these old/new ways, we won't stay overwhelmed; we can use whatever advantages we have in society to raise up those who are in the margins. Kathleen teaches at George Fox University's Graduate School of Psychology.

We expect that this PNWQWTC will open ways to connect, learn from, and share with women from a wonderful range of Quaker meetings and churches. If you have been waiting for a Friendly chance to reunite with old friends and make new ones, this is for you. Maybe you have others in mind who would welcome this opportunity; if so, please share or forward this to them.

(The 2020 conference was postponed twice during these pandemic years. Because covid remains a threat for many, we have opted for caution in 2022. This year's conference will be held via Zoom with support from experienced tech professionals. We are confident that together we can create a sacred space for connection and growth.)

Questions, ideas? Email webmaster@pnwquakerwomen.org

We look forward to re-connecting! We have missed each other!

Sincerely, Conference Planning Committee (2000, 2022)

Joy Preston, clerk, Katie Buckley, Kate Jaramillo, Judy Maurer, June Thomasson, Leann Williams

Upcoming Gatherings

College Park Quarterly Meeting - Spring 2022

2022 May 13 - 14:00 to 2022 May 15 - 14:00

IMYM - Annual Session 2022

2022 Jun 12 - 16:00 to 2022 Jun 19 - 14:00

SCYMF Annual Conference 2022

2022 Jun 17 - 16:00 to 2022 Jun 19 - 16:00

Quaker Service and Art Camp 2022

2022 Jun 18 - 12:00 to 2022 Jun 24 - 12:00

NPYM - Annual Session 2022

2022 Jul 13 - 09:00 to 2022 Jul 17 - 17:00

FGC Gathering 2022

07/03/2022 (All day) to 07/09/2022 (All day)

PacYM - Annual Session 2022

2022 Jul 22 - 12:00 to 2022 Jul 27 - 12:00

Pacific NW Women's Conference 2022

2022 Jul 29 - 17:00 to 2022 Jul 30 - 17:00

FGC Gathering 2023

07/02/2023 (All day) to 07/08/2023 (All day)

NPYM Quick Links

Peace & Social Concerns Committee (get involved)

Teleconference/Videoconference Calendar (e.g. Zoom meetings)

Online Worship Opportunities (Meetings and Worship Groups)

Mid-Week Online Bible Study (6pm PDT Wednesdays)

Facebook Page (What's happening and Friendly updates)

Member Meetings (Where we worship)

Coordinating Committee

Outreach and Visitation Committee

Uprooting Systemic Racism Minute

Faith and Practice

Thoughts for Visitors and Visited