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Friends Around the World

**Handbook and Directory of the
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)**

© Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)
173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK

2011

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A separate publication, *International Work of the Religious Society of Friends*, was published in 1972, 1975 and 1978; the material in this work has now been incorporated into *Friends Around the World*.

The names and addresses contained in this volume
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Foreword

This, the 12th edition, is the first edition of *Friends Around the World* in the age of the world-wide-web – the last edition being in 1994. The web is a blessing in terms of providing a source of continually updated information: www.fwccworld.org. It has also presented a challenge to the editors as to when to go to press!

What this little handbook aims to provide is an overview, a snapshot of the world of the Religious Society of Friends. There is much variety and diversity within the Religious Society of Friends and always parts of it that do not fit neatly within the boxes and categories we create in an attempt to make sense of it. The Holy Spirit does indeed move in mysterious ways among us. We apologise for any omissions and errors in listings. We have made great effort to bring this to you as fully and accurately as possible.

We are grateful for the cooperation of so many people and organisations in providing the information included. Many people have worked on this in the last several years and we appreciate all their efforts.

If you want further information, there are many sources. Where available, we have included website addresses for each organisation listed and many links are available from our website: www.fwccworld.org. In addition, there are always new print publications describing this religion, known broadly as Quakers, and some older publications remain treasures of information.

Suggestions for improvement will be welcome by the editor of the next edition – may it not be so long in coming!

Nancy Irving, General Secretary, FWCC

Note from the Editor

Welcome to this long-awaited update to *Friends Around the World* (formerly *Quakers Around the World*).

Indeed, this is the first edition in the digital age, which means several changes in how we are able to produce and update this directory.

We will be printing the book on demand, which means that we will be able to incorporate minor changes as we are made aware of them. Those changes will also be posted on the new Friends Around the World website (www.friendsaroundtheworld.org) so that the latest information is always available.

As well, we now plan to do a fully revised edition every year, and we are looking to expand the information contained in the book. In essence, we want to create a portable website, as up-to-date as possible, containing all the information about Friends that people might need in their travels. A tall order perhaps, but with your help, we can do it.

So what can you do to help? First, let me know about any errors you spot in this edition. Second, let me have any updates that you know of promptly. Third, send me your suggestions on how this book can be improved, especially what added content you would like to see.

Please send changes to **corrections@friendsaroundtheworld.org** or send the form at the back of this book to: Corrections, FAW c/o FWCC, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK.

If you have any ideas on how this book could be made more useful, please email **suggestions@friendsaroundtheworld.org** or write to Suggestions, FAW c/o FWCC, 173 Euston Road, London NW1 2AX, UK.

I hope you will enjoy this book and find it useful.

Harry Albright
Editor

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Publications: *Friends World News* – twice a year

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

George Fox, “the first instrument” (Penn) of the Society of Friends, was 23 years old when he found personal salvation and peace of mind through Jesus Christ in 1647, after four years of spiritual seeking. He soon became a mighty preacher and leader with a positive Christian message. The Friends rapidly grew in numbers, in spite of severe persecution. They became both evangelists and missionaries. They fervently believed that seventeenth century followers of Christ were to live in the same spirit and power in which the first century Christians lived.

*Excerpt from the Preface to Why Friends are Friends
by Jack L. Willcuts (Barclay Press, 1984)*

In the decades and centuries since the seventeenth century, Friends have scattered and evangelised worldwide, and have become known for their good works reflecting their love for “that of God” in every person. Their forms of worship have evolved in different directions with many Friends now worshipping in Friends churches with pastoral guidance in addition to the silent expectant waiting upon the Holy Spirit still practiced by many.

Origin of FWCC

The Friends World Committee for Consultation was established at the Second World Conference of Friends held at Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, in 1937. The concept of a world organization to express the sense of world fellowship of Friends arose as an important part of the evolution of the Religious Society of Friends in the first two decades of the twentieth century. This tentative development gained impetus from the 1920 Friends World Conference in London and the Young Friends Gathering in Jordans, England, held in the same year. No other organisation exists which links together yearly meetings around the world. Authority within the Religious Society of Friends lies at the yearly meeting and monthly meeting/church level, leaving these groups potentially in isolation. Hence arose the vision of an organisation to keep Friends connected and in touch with each other across the diverse spectrum of the Society.

Despite the second world war, the vision was kept alive and meetings of the Committee occurred irregularly up to 1952, after which these became “triennial” through 2007. Further information about FWCC meetings, officers and secretaries is included at the end of this introduction. FWCC was responsible for organizing the subsequent World Conferences, at Oxford, England, in 1952 and at Guilford College, North Carolina, in 1967. The fifth World Conference, held on three sites, the Netherlands, Honduras and Kenya, in 1991, was the occasion for a greatly increased participation of yearly meetings, especially those in Africa and Latin America, and it was accompanied by a growing recognition of the shared concerns that unite Friends in spite of our differences in theology, culture and worship practices.

Aims and Purposes

The task of FWCC is to help transcend the differences among Friends. These differences include language, culture, nationality, and in the emphasis placed on different aspects of our common Christian and Quaker heritage and witness. FWCC’s role is to help Friends learn to rejoice in the richness of our variety. The Committee has always been careful to insist that its creation would not infringe the autonomy of individual yearly meetings.

FWCC was established to be a channel of communication among Friends, helping us to explore and nurture our identity as Quakers so that we can discover and be faithful to our true place in the world as a people of God. The current mission statement is: answering God’s call to universal love, FWCC brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communications, and consultation, to express our common heritage and our Quaker message to the world.

FWCC was charged by the 1937 World Conference of Friends *to act in a consultative capacity to promote better understanding among Friends the world over; particularly by the encouragement of joint conferences and intervisitation, the collection and circulation of information about Quaker literature and other activities directed toward that end.* The 1976 Triennial revised and expanded the Aims and Purposes of FWCC:

1. To encourage and strengthen the spiritual life within the Religious Society of Friends, and its outreach in the world, through such measures as worship, intervisitation, study, conferences and a wide sharing of experiences on the deepest level.
2. To help Friends to gain a better understanding of the world-wide character of the Religious Society of Friends and its vocation in the world.
3. To promote consultation amongst Friends of all cultures, countries and languages. To bring the different groups of Friends into intimate touch with one another, seeking their common Quaker heritage, sharing experiences, and coming to some measure of agreement in regard to their attitude to world issues.
4. To promote understanding between Friends everywhere and members of other branches of the Christian Church and also of other religious faiths, and to interpret the specific Quaker message to those who seek further religious experience.

5. To keep under review the Quaker contribution in world affairs and to the world Christian mission; to facilitate the examination and presentation of Quaker thinking and concern in these fields; and to encourage Friends to cooperate as far as possible in joint action with other groups having similar objectives.

Structure

Nearly all yearly meetings in the world are affiliated to FWCC, and their members are the membership of FWCC. Cordial contacts are maintained with those yearly meetings that have not affiliated. Each affiliated yearly meeting appoints a number of representatives, based on the size of its membership, who are responsible for transacting FWCC business. In addition, a limited number of individual Friends can be co-opted by the Committee or by the geographically-based FWCC Sections.

There are four sections in the following places:

Africa Section – Nairobi, Kenya

Section of the Americas – Philadelphia, PA, USA

Asia-West Pacific Section – Tarragindi, Queensland, Australia

Europe & Middle East Section – Cambridge, UK

The Sections range in size from nearly 157,000 Friends in the Africa Section to around 12,600 in the Asia-West Pacific Section. The Sections also differ widely in staff, program and financial resources: The Section of the Americas, for example, has full-time and part-time staff members, while the Asia-West Pacific Section is staffed by a volunteer Executive Secretary. Within the overall aims of FWCC, each Section is autonomous, holding regional gatherings, publishing materials and organizing its own special programmes. Information about each Section is given in the appropriate place in this Handbook.

The Committee appoints a General Secretary who works from the World Office, which is currently situated in London, England, and serves as a centre of the worldwide communications. At times, an Associate Secretary appointed by the Committee also serves the World Office. In particular, the World Office organizes Triennial meetings (now called Plenary Meetings, as they are no longer necessarily triennial) and other world gatherings and consultations, implements Committee decisions and serves the Sections and maintains contact with isolated Friends and worship groups (International Members) throughout the world, as well as the Quaker service bodies. FWCC acts as the representative body of the whole Quaker family in worldwide ecumenical bodies and at the United Nations.

International Membership Programme

Totally apart from any missionary purpose, Friends have moved to many different areas of the world and want to retain their connection with Quaker institutions. These Friends inspired the creation of an international membership programme, first within Britain Yearly Meeting, which then passed the programme on to FWCC World Office. The International Membership Programme has expanded to serve isolated worshipping groups as well as individuals. With the spread of the worldwide

web, more seekers have found Friends on-line, creating new opportunities and challenges for international membership work.

At the end of 2007, the programme was serving six monthly meetings on three continents, three recognised meetings on two continents, 30 worship groups on four continents and 101 individual international members.

Plenary Meetings

As a general pattern, the full World Committee has met once every three years in different parts of the world (the "Triennial"). However, the Constitution has been amended to allow up to five years between meetings of the full International Representative body. An internationally representative Central Executive Committee meets between Triennials/Plenary gatherings to continue FWCC's decision-making processes and guide the work of staff on behalf of Friends.

From time to time other internationally based committees (which usually function through correspondence and international telephone conference calls) are constituted to assist with various specific tasks, such as finance and nominations.

Current representatives to FWCC and co-opted representatives are entitled to attend the Plenary meetings. The constitution of the Section of the Americas provides for an additional number of representatives for FWCC activities within the Section. Yearly meetings in the Section of the Americas select a proportion of their full list of representatives to attend Plenary meetings.

In addition, observers from non-affiliated yearly meetings, Quaker mission and service bodies and selected Friends' publications are invited to each Triennial, along with additional Friends from the Section in which the Plenary meeting is being held.

Worship at FWCC Gatherings

Many Friends have a vivid experience of salvation through the teaching, life and death of Jesus Christ. Many others are hesitant about using words at all to describe the deepest spiritual experiences of their lives. Some come from meetings where worship is a joyful combination of song, prayer and Biblical teaching, often led by a pastor.

Others meet together to worship waiting in silence for the spirit of God to move upon their hearts, leading at times to words of ministry shared aloud.

At FWCC meetings, worship is shared from the variety of Friends' experience. Friends who approach worship at FWCC meetings with open hearts and a desire to learn are enriched by the shared experience.

FWCC Business

FWCC cherishes the traditional Friends' manner of decision-making. Our meetings for business are meetings for worship where we seek to learn the will of God.

Votes are not taken. The unity we seek is God's unity, not the will of the majority, nor of the vocal minority. Each person is a full participant in this search for God's will; thus while representatives need to know the mind of their yearly meeting, they are not delegates with a mandate from their meeting. The clerk is the servant of the meeting and has the difficult and sensitive task of discerning the sense of the meeting. This way of doing business together is the common experience of most, but not all, of the Friends attending the FWCC meetings. Doing business together has always been a test of our loving understanding and faithfulness.

FWCC is a committee with a programme of work. At Triennial or Plenary meetings we review what has been done in our name and consider future tasks.

Reports are received from the World and Section offices and the Quaker United Nations Offices, and Friends are brought up to date on publications and projects initiated by previous Triennials. Accounts and budgets are considered; the FWCC officers are appointed; and international management staff is appointed for service at the World Office.

Plenary meetings also provide opportunities for sharing the life and concerns of individual yearly meetings and groups. There have been, for example, opportunities for discussion on mission, service, racism, disarmament, gender relationships in the Society of Friends and work with refugees and migrants. Throughout the meetings there is worship and study in small groups, giving Friends the opportunity to learn together and grow into a community seeking to know God. Participants are enriched, and their vision enlarged, by this first hand acquaintance with the variety, breadth and depth of the Quaker experience.

Functions

The work of FWCC seeks to put into practice the aims and purposes. It is carried out by the representatives serving on committees that are administered by the staff in the World Office in London and the Section Offices.

Conferences and Consultations

A significant contribution of the World Committee has been its sponsorship of World Conferences that enable larger numbers of Friends to be aware of each other's existence – and validity – as descendants of George Fox and his spiritual legacy.

There is ample evidence from responses of conference attendees that these events have been of great value in establishing friendships, in deepening fellowship in the Spirit, in inspiration and mutual support, and in growing awareness of the worldwide membership of the Society.

To date, the World Committee has organized five Mission and Service gatherings, enabling the Secretaries of Friends organizations concerned with mission and service around the world to meet together and learn from one another. At these gatherings, 35-40 Friends of varying traditions and emphases in witness come

together, to know and be aware of one another, to lower the barriers of ignorance and suspicion and to discover together their common Quaker and Christian heritage. The conversation has merely begun and there is far to go before we can accept each other in understanding love.

The Fifth World Conference of Friends held on three sites, in the Netherlands, Honduras and Kenya, in 1991, provided a unique opportunity for Friends from all parts of the world to meet. The theme "In Spirit and in Truth – Faith in Action" led to deep sharing between Friends from different cultures and traditions, learning from one another and creating lasting personal friendships. Many Friends report a renewal of their faith and witness as a result of these encounters. The Conference was reported in *Faith in Action: Encounters with Friends*.

A Sixth World Conference of Friends has been approved by the Triennial gathering in 2007, to be held in Kenya in 2012. It is anticipated to bring together 1,000 Friends in worship, in sharing, and in inspiration.

Occasionally, FWCC organises a smaller gathering called a "consultation" on a specific topic with limited attendance. Papers and reports are available afterwards. The most recent one was held in 1997 in Birmingham, UK, on the topic of Identity and Authority among Friends.

In addition Sections have led a variety of regional and border conferences on specific themes as well as their regular Section meetings for business. The family gatherings, organized periodically by the Europe & Middle East Section, have been particularly popular, with translation into five different languages. EMES also sponsors annual mission and service conferences for staff of those European-based organisations.

Young Friends have organised World Gatherings of their own, the most recent having been held in 2005 in Lancaster, UK and in Mombasa, Kenya. See: www.wgyf.org for more information. This conference led to FWCC establishing a Young Adult Friends Committee to carry the spirit and energy forward.

Communication & Publications

A major function of FWCC is communication with Friends around the world, through correspondence, in the sharing of ideas and concern through our semi-annual journal, *Friends World News*, and in ensuring that adequate information about Friends is available through pamphlets, handbooks and directories. Lists of the latest publications can be obtained from FWCC offices.

Web

An exciting aspect of the work is the increasing importance given to the translation and publication of Quaker literature in languages other than English. The frequent comment by non-English speaking members of the Society that facility in English as the criterion for membership is a challenge to the spiritual descendants of George Fox who saw "a great people to be gathered". But there are also works

in other languages, including, for example, the writings of Korean Friend Ham Sok Hon, and of Heredio Santos from Cuba, which have been translated into English.

The Wider Quaker Fellowship (under the care of the Section of the Americas) circulates a wide range of carefully selected Quaker literature to “friends of Friends”, a service which is also appreciated by isolated Friends. Some of these mailings are bilingual (Spanish-English) and one mailing each year is in Spanish.

Working together

From the outset, Friends have insisted that their world body shall not be a directive organization, but shall be for consultation. Its Plenary Meetings for business, supported by annual meetings of the Central Executive Committee, attempt to ensure that Quaker concerns of a global nature reach the arena of decision-making and that appropriate responses are encouraged in the yearly meetings.

Representation

As the representative body of Friends worldwide, FWCC attends the annual meeting of the Conference of Secretaries of Christian World Communions. In a similar capacity, it is invited to send an adviser to the Central Committee and Assemblies of the World Council of Churches. It also represents Friends at the Global Christian Forum.

Friends World Committee has general consultative status as an accredited, non-governmental organization with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. Thus, a Quaker presence is felt in the highest level of international negotiation: Quaker representatives at our Quaker United Nations Offices (QUNOs) in Geneva and New York follow the issues in UN bodies and negotiations, and consult with delegations, members of the UN Secretariat, representatives of other non-governmental organizations and other key personnel.

QUNO Representatives also convene informal meetings at the Quaker centres or in residential conferences to promote broader understanding and greater consensus on issues of particular concern to Quakers. This enables Friends to make a positive contribution in such fields as human rights, disarmament, the environment, economic justice, trade and development, crime and the treatment of offenders and refugees. Special emphasis is placed on conscientious objection, rights of the child, internally displaced persons, North-South environmental and trade problems and regulating the small arms trade. Voluntary representatives from time to time attend particular UN Conferences and monitor issues at the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna.

The current confusing and perilous condition of world affairs places major demands on our resources, spiritual and material, in the fields of reconciliation, disarmament and development. FWCC appoints half the membership of the Quaker United Nations Committees that serve the New York and Geneva Quaker UN Offices, respectively. These committees set the policy agendas for the two Offices, which are increasingly collaborating with one another. In addition, FWCC provides support for volunteers at other UN departments and agencies.

Intervisitation

Travel in the ministry was once a major means of communication and mutual support between Friends in different parts of the world. In these days of rapid communication there is still an important place for direct personal encounter. Friends under religious concern to travel in the ministry may be encouraged and supported by the World Committee through the World and Section offices. In addition, FWCC staff travel to visit Quaker groups as a regular part of their duties. These visits provide nurture and strength to the spiritual life of the individual and meeting.

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimages, organized for Young Friends in the 16-18 age group by the Section of the Americas and the Europe & Middle East Section, are not only informative and inspirational, but deepen our understanding of one another.

Main Gatherings of Friends & FWCC

Year	Event	Location
1920	All Friends Conference	London, England
1920	Young Friends Gathering	Jordans, England
1937	Second World Conference	Swarthmore & Haverford Colleges, PA
	<i>Recommended establishing Friends World Committee for Consultation</i>	
1938	1st Committee Meeting	Vallekilde, Denmark
1939	2nd Committee Meeting	Geneva, Switzerland
1947	3rd Committee Meeting	Richmond, Indiana, USA
1950	4th Committee Meeting	Oxford, England
1952	Third World Conference	
	5th Committee/Triennial	Oxford, England
1955	6th Triennial Meeting	Germantown, Ohio, USA
1958	7th Triennial Meeting	Bad Pymont, West Germany
1961	8th Triennial Meeting	Kaimosi, Kenya
1964	9th Triennial Meeting	Waterford, Ireland
1967	Fourth World Conference	
	10th Triennial Meeting	Greensboro, North Carolina, USA
1967	International Young Friends Conference	Pennsylvania, USA
1970	11th Triennial Meeting	Sigtuna, Sweden
1973	12th Triennial Meeting	Sydney, Australia
1973	International Mission & Service Conference	London, England
1976	13th Triennial Meeting	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
1976	2nd International Mission & Service Conference	Maryland, USA
1979	14th Triennial Meeting	Gwatt, Switzerland
1979	3rd International Mission & Service Conference	Chiquimula, Guatemala
1981	4th International Mission & Service Conference	Ciudad Victoria, Mexico

1982	International Conference 15th Triennial Meeting	Kaimosi, Kenya
1985	16th Triennial Meeting	Oaxtepec, Mexico
1985	World Gathering of Young Friends	Guilford College, North Carolina, USA
1985	5th International Mission & Service Conference	Birmingham, England
1988	17th Triennial Meeting	Tokyo, Japan
1990	International Theological Conference of Quaker Women	Birmingham, England
1991	Fifth World Conference	Elspeet, Netherlands; Tela, Honduras; Chavakali, Kenya
1994	18th Triennial Meeting	New Mexico, USA
1997	19th Triennial Meeting	Birmingham, England
2000	20th Triennial Meeting	New Hampshire, USA
2004	21st Triennial Meeting	Auckland, New Zealand
2005	World Gathering of Young Friends	Lancaster, England and Kanamai, Kenya
2007	22nd Triennial Meeting	Dublin, Ireland
2012	Sixth World Conference 23rd Meeting of the Committee	Kabarak, Kenya (planned)

FWCC Clerks (until 1985, “Chairmen”)

1938-1947	Carl Heath	Great Britain
1948-1952	D. Elton Trueblood	USA
1952-1958	Errol T. Elliott	USA
1959-1961	Elsa Cedergren	Sweden
1962-1964	James F. Walker	USA
1965-1970	Douglas V. Steere	USA
1971-1973	Heinrich Carstens	Federal Republic of Germany
1974-1979	Edwin B. Bronner	USA
1980-1985	Joseph P. Haughton	Ireland
1986-1991	Simeon Shitemi	Kenya
1992-1997	Heather Moir	USA
1998-2004	David Purnell	Australia
2004-	Dudzile Mtshazo	South Africa

Clerks of Interim/Central Executive Committee

1971-1979	Joseph Haughton	Ireland
1980-1985	Mary Eddington	Great Britain
1986-1991	Dan Seeger	USA
1991-1997	Erica Vere	Great Britain
1998-2000	Peter Eccles	Great Britain
2001-2007	Thomas C. Hill	USA
2008-	S. Jocelyn Burnell	Great Britain

FWCC World Office – General Secretaries

1938-1946	Frederick J. Tritton	Great Britain
1947-1948	Leslie D. Shaffer	USA
1948-1950	Frederick J. Tritton	Great Britain
1950-1954	Harry T. Silcock	Great Britain
1954-1956	Ranjit M. Chetsingh	India
1956-1962	Herbert M. Hadley	USA
1962-1970	Blanche W. Shaffer	USA
1971-1980	William E. Barton	Great Britain
1980-1981	Thomas R. Bodine	USA (acting)
1981-1985	Richard G. Meredith	Australia
1986-1991	Val Ferguson	Great Britain
1992-1997	Thomas F. Taylor	USA
1998-2004	Elizabeth A. Duke	New Zealand
2004-	Nancy Irving	USA

FWCC World Office – Associate Secretaries

1970	William E. Barton	Great Britain
1971-1976	Tayeko Yamanouchi	Japan
1977-1979	Ingeborg Borgstrom	Sweden
1979-1985	Val Ferguson	Great Britain
1986-1991	Thomas F. Taylor	USA
1992-1996	Roger Sturge	Great Britain
1997-1998	Elizabeth Duke	New Zealand
1998-1999	Patricia Thomas	USA
1999-2002	Annis Bleeke	USA
2002-2003	David Brindle	USA
2003-2004	Annis Bleeke	USA (acting)
2004-2005	Joseph Andugu	Kenya

Quaker United Nations Offices Directors, or principal “Quaker representatives”

New York Office		Geneva Office	
1948-1960	Elmore Jackson	1948-1949	Algie I. Newlin
1961-1962	George Loft	1950-1954	Colin W. Bell
1963-1969	William Huntington	1955-1977	J. Duncan Wood
1970-1978	Barrett Hollister	1978-1979	Philip L. Martin
1979-1982	Stephen Thiermann	1980-1982	Peter Whittle
1983-1986	Roger Naumann	1983-1984	Kevin Clements
1986-1998	Stephen Collett	1985-1992	Joel McClellan
1998-2005	Jack Patterson & Lori Heninger	1993-2004	Brewster Grace
2005-2006	Sarah Clarke (acting)	2004-	David Atwood
2006-2007	Robert A. Callard		
2007	David Atwood (acting)		
2008-	Andrew Tomlinson		

AFRICA

FWCC Africa Section

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Telephone: +(2) 567601/568706
Email: fwccas@gmail.com
Website: www.fwccafrica.org

The establishment of the FWCC Africa Section in 1971 represented an important new development for communication and cooperation among Friends on the African continent. The Section, which is based at the Friends International Centre, Nairobi, Kenya, is in touch with yearly meetings and groups of Friends in Africa on a number of subjects within the context of FWCC aims, purposes and rules. There is a Section Newsletter in English, and the Section hopes to include articles in French and Kirundi from time to time. A Kiswahili newsletter is planned, to be published once or twice each year.

Intervisitation is encouraged, and continues to grow as more international gatherings bring Friends together from all parts of the continent. We plan to establish twinning of Quarterly Meetings in Uganda and Tanzania with groups of Friends in Kenya; Young Friends are particularly committed to this development. The Section representatives meet every March for the Annual Section Meeting, whilst the representatives and other Friends holding various responsibilities in their churches meet every three years for a Section Triennial. The Section has held two Triennials that were truly representative of the Section, in 1987 at Lugulu, Kenya and in 1993 at Kaimosi, Kenya, with Friends present from most yearly meetings and groups in Africa, as well as a few visitors from other Sections. For the past decade the Section has witnessed a widening of scope to become truly African, rather than just a Kenyan body.

The Section is proving a useful point of consultation for other FWCC offices, for other Quaker organizations and for international matters such as FWCC representation at UN conferences, especially at UNEP and HABITAT headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. On a number of occasions, the Section has helped to facilitate the work of Friends United Meeting and Britain Yearly Meeting's Quaker Peace and Social Witness. As the challenges facing the Section widen, committees are established to deal with them; a Peace and Social Concerns Committee has recently been launched.

A Brief History of Friends in East Africa

The Christian missionary work started by American Friends at Kaimosi in 1902 developed into the largest yearly meeting in the family of world Quakerism. East Africa Yearly Meeting became self-governing in 1946, became responsible for all property and projects in 1964 and was reorganized into nine regions (spread all over Kenya) in 1973.

The numerical strength of EAYM was mainly in Western province (Kakamega and

Bungoma districts), but there were many outlying churches in Nyanza Province, in Rift Valley Province and in the large towns of Nairobi and Mombasa. The central office of EAYM was in Kaimosi. Evangelization also took place in Tanzania and Uganda as Friends from Western Kenya settled in those countries after 1950 and separate yearly meetings were eventually established.

The educational, medical, industrial and social work initiated by Friends Africa Mission and its devoted servants, both from Africa and elsewhere, matured and modified over 30 years. Since Kenya became independent in 1963 the government has taken over responsibility for primary schools, some of the secondary schools and the Friends Teachers Training College at Kaimosi. Friends remain "sponsors" of these schools and institutions, and local meetings have close relationships with the primary and unaided secondary schools in particular.

The Friends Bible Institute trains pastors (both men and women) for all the yearly meetings in Kenya, while Friends College at Kaimosi (founded in 1971) offers courses in secretarial skills, accountancy, commerce and management.

Following a period of re-organization, three autonomous yearly meetings were set off in 1979-East Africa Yearly Meeting of Friends (South), Elgon Religious Society of Friends and East Africa Yearly Meeting of Friends. Since then, other yearly meetings have been formally established and the setting up of other yearly meetings is in progress. The original three yearly meetings founded a coordinating body, Friends Church in Kenya, in 1984.

Clerks (until 1985 "Chairman")

1971-1991	Filemona F. Indire	Kenya
1992-1996	Dudzile Mtshazo	South Africa
1996-2004	Stephen Guloba	Uganda
2004-	Gladys Kanga'hi	Kenya

Executive Secretaries

1971-1975	Nathan Luvai	Kenya
1975-1978	David Kikaya	Kenya
1979-1992	Zablon Malenge	Kenya
1992-1995	Malesi Kinaro	Kenya
1995-1997	Barnabas Lugonzo	Kenya (acting)
1998-2004	Joseph Andugu	Kenya
2004-	Moses Musonga	Kenya

Yearly Meetings and Groups

Botswana

See **Southern Africa page 27.**

Burundi

Evangelical Friends Church Burundi (Eglise Evangelique des Amis du Burundi)

Contact Person: Pastor Levy Ndikumana
Address: PO Box 1198, Bujumbura, Burundi
Email: nahelie2002@yahoo.fr

The Friends Africa Gospel Mission was set up in 1934 by Kansas Yearly Meeting (now Mid-America Yearly Meeting). In 1959 the first Quarterly Meeting was established and it was divided into Western Quarterly and Eastern Quarterly Meetings in 1977. In 1988 the Western Quarterly Meeting gave birth to the Northern Quarterly Meeting. The interim Yearly Meeting was established in December 1981 as the *Eglise Evangelique des Amis du Burundi*. It became fully independent in 1984. Four principal stations provide the base for 20 monthly meetings and 37 outposts (with a membership of approximately 7,500). The Yearly Meeting desires to meet the need of the whole person by supporting education, health development and evangelization.

The Yearly Meeting supports literacy programs in all monthly meetings, the teaching of religion in primary and secondary schools, and mechanical and industrial training (e.g. woodwork and welding) at various schools. It supports the hospital and pharmacy at Kibimba as well as Kibimba High School and Mweya Bible School and Seminary. A Pastoral Learning Centre has been established at Kwibuka. It runs the Gitega Evangelical Literature program and Mweya Press in cooperation with United Methodist and Free Methodist Churches. The evangelization program is carried out by means of cassette ministry, visitations among Friends churches and *crusades* (Christian seminars).

Democratic Republic of Congo

Quaker Group Brazzaville-Congo (Groupe Quaker de Brazzaville-Congo)

Address: 9 rue Boukaka - Secteur Ecole Mansimou/Brazzaville
B.P. 1424 - Brazzaville Congo
Telephone: +242 549 40 92
Email: quakermerveilleux@yahoo.fr
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 20
Affiliated Groups: M'Bongui Project for a culture of silence, nonviolence
and peace
Friends Without Borders (Action Quaker)

Kinshasa MM

Contact Person: Bakamana Mouana
Address: Avenue Mukoso 108 C/Bumbu, Kinshasa 13, DRC
Telephone: +243 99 10 606
Email: bakamanam@yahoo.fr

In 1987 the interest of a Zairois teacher in Quakerism and the residence of Quaker Oxfam workers led to a group meeting for worship in Kinshasa. The group meets weekly for worship and supports *Action pour les Jeunes Filles*, a craft workshop for unemployed girls.

Kamina Quakers (Quakers de Kamina)

Contact Person: Tshibuabua Alain
Address: Societé Religieuse des Amis, BP 736, Mbujimayi DRC

People in Kamina first heard of Quakerism in 1978 through a Peace Corps volunteer, and there is now a Monthly Meeting in Kamina with about 350 worshippers from several villages. When political and economic circumstances permit they run a small hospital and centre for the handicapped and give aid to refugees from Kasai.

Evangelical Congo Yearly Meeting (Communauté des Eglises Evangelique au Congo)

Contact Person: Mkocho Boseka, General Secretary
Address: BP 476, Bujumbura, Burundi
Telephone: +250 0845 6506
Email: congoym@yahoo.fr
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Church International (EFCI)
Worship Style: Programmed

Work on the Friends Peace Center (FPC) and guest house is almost complete and the foundation has been laid for the Trauma Clinic Peace Garden (TCPG), and a school of peace is under construction. During the two wars in DRC (1996 and 1998), a group of 50 Friends in the high plateaus refused to take arms. They said that they cannot be dirtied with the weapons and judged it good to leave their towns and families to create the "Sayuni Shelter for Friends". Because of their decisive faith, this Friends group was the systematic victim of plundering, rape, and theft. Their houses were burned and their fields uprooted during the wars. Many young people decided to lay down their weapons to join this Friends group.

The Yearly Meeting of Congo is still young and poor and suffers from under development on all levels. It has no schools or churches, but it does have a hospital and a shelter for the women who suffered during the wars. Congo YM needs help from other Friends to develop.

Ghana

Hill House Monthly Meeting

Contact Person: O. Crisp-Dodoo (Clerk); G.E.S Williams (Elder)
Address: P.O.Box CT1115, Cantonments, Accra, Ghana
Telephone: + 233 21 020 8915195 Clerk; +233 21 024 3709715 elder
Email: HHmeeting@yahoo.com
Members: 20
Established: 1981

For many years there has been a growing worshipping group of Ghanaian Friends, joined by sojourning expatriates from time to time. Membership of the Society was in the past through the Overseas Membership List of the then Friends Service Council of London Yearly Meeting. In 1981, following the transfer of membership responsibilities to FWCC, the meeting in Ghana, which already acted as a preparative meeting, was recognised as a monthly meeting by the FWCC International Membership Committee. Easter gatherings have been joyful annual events in the Meeting's life. Individual Friends take an active part in social service and in ecumenical affairs.

Kenya

Bware YM

Clerk: Daniel Ole Siakati
Contact Person: Daniel Ole Siakati, Presiding Clerk
Address: PO Box 179-40400 Suna – Migori, Kenya
Email: bymoffriends@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 7,524
Meetings: 60 Village Meetings, 32 Monthly
Schools: 13 Secondary, 18 Primary, 1 Youth Polytechnic, 4 Special Unit Schools, 3 Health and Dispensary
Affiliated Projects: Training pastors and empowering them for missionary work

Central YM

Contact Person: Presiding Clerk/General superintendent,
Address: 1510 Kakamega 50100, Kenya
Telephone: +254 713 845 884
Email: josephmbwavi@yahoo.com and enyenzo@justice.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 11,000 Members
Meetings: 70 Village Meetings, 28 Monthly, 7 Quarterly
Established: 1992
Schools: 14 Secondary, 32 Primary, 2 Youth Polytechnics

Chavakali YM

Clerk: Gerishom Mwavali
Contact Person: Elijah Mwavali Vieliza, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 102, Chavakali, Kenya
Telephone: +254 724-152-831
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 12,300 Members
Meetings: 56 Village Meetings, 25 Monthly, 11 Quarterly
Established: 1997
Schools: 11 Secondary, 26 Primary, 28 Nursery
Other Centres: Youth training centre, 2 health centres
Other Activities: Promotion of HIV/AIDS awareness and home-based care
Womens' self-help groups

Chwele YM

Clerk: Joseph Mamai Makokha
Contact Person: Joseph Mamai Makokha
Address: PO Box 428, Chwele, Kenya
Telephone: +254 735-462-922
Email: josephmamai@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

East Africa YM (Kaimosi)

Clerk: Lucas Mudoga
Address: PO Box 35, Tiriki, Kenya
Telephone: +254 722-920-503
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

East Africa YM (North)

Clerk: Henry Mukwanja
Contact Person: James Mugalavai, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 544, Kitale, Kenya
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

EAYM (North) held its first meeting in August, 1987. Twenty Friends from our yearly meeting participated in the Fifth World Conference of Friends and the Yearly Meeting was formally welcomed into membership of FWCC in 1992.

There is a mission meeting in Turkana.

Elgon East YM

Clerk: John Kitui
Contact Person: Philip Musungu, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 2322, Kitale, Kenya
Telephone: +254 733-230-979
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Elgon RSF

Clerk: Amos Dodo
Contact Person: Amos Dodo
Address: PO Box 4, Lugulu via Webuye, Kenya
Telephone: +254 735-954-985
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

As well as its church extension and outreach work, the Yearly Meeting is involved with health care in one hospital at Lugulu, one health centre and 15 clinics. The Yearly Meeting's educational programmes include many primary, polytechnical and secondary schools in an area covering five districts: two in Western Province and three in Rift Valley Province.

Kakamega YM

Clerk: Jared Waudu Wangia
Contact Person: Wesley Harun Sasita, Administrative Secretary
Address: PO Box 465, Kakamega 50100, Kenya
Telephone: +254 723-422-347
Email: harunwesley@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

The Yearly Meeting sponsors primary and secondary schools and is involved with evangelism and church extension programmes in Anjogo, Bware, Chavakali, Chavavo, Gianchere, Lotego, Kigama, Mbale, Vihiga and Vokoli regions. It also runs short courses for pastors, as well as rural service programmes and health care clinics.

Lugari YM

Clerk: Alex Kimiya
Contact Person: David Mulama, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 483, Turbo, Kenya
Telephone: +254 721-961-060
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Malava YM

Clerk: Andrew M. Khayisie
Contact Person: Ben M Shitemi, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 26, Malava, Kenya
Telephone: +254 722-275-066
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Nairobi YM

Clerk: Churchill Kibisu
Contact Person: Henry Apencha, Superintendent
Address: PO Box 8321-00300, Nairobi, Kenya
Telephone: +254 722-892-871
Email: nymoffck@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

This yearly meeting was established by East Africa Yearly Meeting (South). It brings together Friends who have moved from the original home of East African Quakers in the Western Province of Kenya to the towns and cities of Thika, Nakuru, Nairobi, Mombasa, Malindi, Kericho, Molo, Londiani, Naivasha, Gilgil and Nyahururu. The Yearly Meeting is involved in outreach, evangelism and service.

There is a community centre in Nairobi at Ofafa and an international centre also in Nairobi. In recent years the yearly meeting has extended its services to new Districts of the Coast Province: Kilifi, Tana River and Taita Taveta where members from the Giriama, Pokomo and Taita tribes have been received into the Friends Church and new village meetings established.

Tuloi YM

Clerk: Don J Mulama
Contact Person: Hezron L Kiganiri, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 343, Kapsabet, Kenya
Telephone: +254 722-423-984
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Vihiga YM

Clerk: Hezekiah Atsyaya
Contact Person: Lam Kisanya Osodo, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 160, Vihiga, Kenya
Telephone: +254 735-120-406
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Vokoli YM

Clerk: Gerishom Lumasia
Contact Person: Ephraem Ludeki Mudoga, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 266, Wodanga, Kenya
Telephone: +254 721-731-098
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Lesotho

See **Southern Africa** page 27.

Malawi

See **Southern Africa** page 27.

Namibia

See **Southern Africa** page 27.

Nigeria

Gboko Worship Group

Contact Person: Shima Gyoh
Address: 111 Captain Downes Road, Gboko, Benue State, Nigeria
Telephone: +234 803 435 2505
Email: shimagyoh@hotmail.com
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Port Harcourt Worship Group

Contact Person: Abi Alabo Derefaka
Address: c/o Department of History, University of Port Harcourt,
Choba, PMB 5323, Port Harcourt, Nigeria
Telephone: +234 803 342 2133
Members: 6
Established: 1995

Rwanda

Rwanda YM

(Eglise Evangelique des Amis du Rwanda)

Clerk: Antoine Samvura
Contact Person: Augustin Simparinka
Address: B.P. 1689, Kigali, Rwanda
Telephone: +20 250 584293
Email: eearda@yahoo.fr
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)

Southern Africa
(Including **Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi,**
Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe)

Central & Southern Africa YM

Clerk:	Sheldon Weeks
Contact Person:	Sheldon Weeks
Address:	Postnet Suite 141, Pvt Bag X11, Craighall 2024, South Africa
Telephone:	+27-21-462-1864
Email:	gudrun@info.bw
Website:	www.quakers.csaym.ning.com
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed

In the eighteenth century Nantucket whalers introduced Quakerism into South Africa and had a Quaker meeting room in Cape Town. During the nineteenth century visits were paid to South Africa by James Backhouse, a noted Quaker botanist and traveller. He established a school under the care of Friends for the local children in Cape Town. Roughly half a century later Isaac Sharp travelled around the country for some months encouraging missionaries and Christian workers of all denominations.

The Quakers helped Emily Hobhouse with her work in the concentration camps during the Anglo-Boer war. Visits from Friends after the war, in connection with relief for war victims and the return of family Bibles, resulted in drawing together some of the Friends scattered through the country. Early in the twentieth century meetings were started in Cape Town and Cradock and later in Johannesburg and Durban. South Africa General Meeting was established as a Quarterly Meeting of London Yearly Meeting in 1918 and for the next 30 years gatherings were held at irregular intervals and at different centres.

In 1948 Southern Africa Yearly Meeting was formed as an independent body. The name was later changed to Central and Southern Africa Yearly Meeting which consists of the following meetings: Botswana (Gaberone); Bulawayo; Cape Eastern Regional (Port Elizabeth & Grahamstown); Cape Western (Cape Town); Harare; Johannesburg; Lesotho (Allowed); Maseru; Malawi; Namibia (Allowed) Windhoek; Natal Regional (Pietermaritzburg & Durban); Soweto; and Zambia (Regional). The two General Meetings meet jointly every second year for the Yearly Meeting and separately in the other years. The Regional Meetings meet as and when they can.

Because of the relatively small number of Friends and the large distances between most meetings, the Yearly Meeting has to rely mainly on the Monthly and Regional Meetings for such corporate life as there is. Some of the meetings have a high percentage of visiting (sojourning) members and valuable contacts with overseas Friends have been made because of this.

Friends are actively working, jointly and as individuals, in the fields of nonviolence, mediation, peace education, AIDS, community help and refugee care as well as against discrimination and conscription.

Quaker Service in Cape Town and the Valley Welfare (near Port Elizabeth) assist local communities and give aid to needy individuals. South African Friends are represented on the South African Council of Churches.

The Quaker Peace Centre in Cape Town (established 1988) works for peace education, community and economic development and conflict management as well as supplying resources.

Central African General Meeting has a rural centre at Hlekweni and is involved in feeding schemes, low cost housing and, via Zambian Friends, in the Gwembe River project.

Bulawayo and Harare Meetings help administer bursary funds from the UK and USA for African secondary school children.

Tanzania

Tanzania YM

Clerk:	Paul Mtatiro Chacha
Contact Person:	Paul Mtatiro Chacha
Address:	PO Box 151, Mugumu/Serengeti, Tanzania
Email:	presidingclerk@yahoo.com
Affiliation:	Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style:	Programmed
Members:	548

In 1952, following a Royal Commission Report, people from the densely populated areas of Kenya were invited to settle in parts of Tanganyika, now Tanzania, and Uganda. Some members of East Africa Yearly Meeting settled in Ikoma Location of Musoma District of Tanzania where they started meeting for worship.

In 1958, East Africa Yearly Meeting established a monthly meeting at Manchira which is about eight kilometres east of Mugumu, the headquarters of Serengeti District in Mara region. There were eight village meetings. The church was under Kenyan leadership until 1968 when it was registered under the Tanzania government. This area is remote from Musoma and there were no facilities for education and no medical centre. With financial assistance provided by World Neighbors Inc. (USA) East Africa Yearly Meeting provided a health centre. A permanent meeting house was built, also a primary school.

In 1984 Tanzanian Friends decided to form their own yearly meeting with, at that time, two monthly meetings. There are now eight monthly meetings and several village meetings. There are concerns for work, education and evangelism. FWCC Africa Section and FUM have helped to support training of Tanzanian Friends at the Friends Bible Institute in Kenya.

Uganda

Evangelical Friends Church-Uganda Mission

Contact Person: George Walumoli
Address: PO Box 2354, Uganda
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Programmed

Uganda YM

Clerk: Wopicho Apollo
Contact Person: Nambafu Julius, General Secretary
Address: PO Box 162, Mbale, Uganda
Email: ugandaym@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Quakerism entered Uganda gradually. In 1948, the outreach of Johnstone Namufweli and a group of Kenyan Quakers from East Yearly Meeting (EAYM) brought into being a Quaker meeting in Kampala, which later became a monthly meeting of EAYM. From 1952 to 1957 the Colonial Government invited people from the densely populated areas of Kenya to settle in parts of Uganda. Some Friends from Kenya settled in Northwest Uganda and established two monthly meetings in the Bunyoro district, while others went to Eastern Uganda and monthly meetings were started at Sibuse, and later, Nang'oma.

Johnstone Namufweli stayed on as a pastor of Ugandan Friends until 1965. The life of the meetings flourished in these areas, and the growth of Friends led to all the Ugandan meetings becoming a quarterly meeting of EAYM in 1969.

During the tragic years of the Amin regime, many Kenyan Friends were forced to leave Uganda. Kampala Meeting suffered badly. Two families only were left to pray and worship in the privacy of their own homes, and all the Friends' meetings were cut off from each other and the outside world. The meeting houses were burned and their contents taken by local people.

The 1980s were not easy years for Uganda either, but Friends, having decided to become an independent Uganda Yearly Meeting, have sought during the years of political unrest to develop their Quaker life again. As the country has become more stable there has been increasing emphasis on outreach, and the establishment of new churches in various parts of Uganda is in progress.

Zambia

See **Southern Africa** page 27.

Zimbabwe

See **Southern Africa** page 27.

AMERICAS

FWCC Section of the Americas

(Until 1954, "American Section"
from 1954 to 1974, "American Section and Fellowship Council")

Address: 1506 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102, USA
Telephone: +1 215 241 7250
Fax: +1 215 241 7285
Email: americas@fwccamericas.org
Website: www.fwccamericas.org
Publications: FWCC Section of the Americas Electronic Newsletter (approximately 12 times a year)
En Pocas Palabras Electronic newsletter in Spanish (approximately 4 times a year)
FWCC Section of the Americas Newsletter (once a year)
Directory of yearly meetings throughout the Americas and meetings in Canada and the USA (Online searchable database and by print-on-demand)
Wider Quaker Fellowship mailings (twice a year in English, once in Spanish; by electronic and hard copy.)
Finding Quakers Around the World map with statistics

One of the two original sections of Friends World Committee for Consultation, the Section of the Americas celebrated its 70th anniversary year in 2007. The Section serves the 48 yearly meetings and a dozen unaffiliated meetings and other associations and fellowships which constitute the Religious Society of Friends in the Caribbean, Central, North and South America. Through the Comité de los Amigos Latinoamericanos (COAL), a Section program, Spanish-speaking Friends publish an electronic newsletter and facilitate communication, training and visitation.

A primary role of the Section is to provide opportunities for communication, consultation and cooperation among Friends in the diversity which has characterized Quakerism in the Americas. Intervisitation, residential Annual Meetings conducted in two languages, and an extensive series of regional conferences addressing issues of faith and their reflection in concerns bring Friends together across yearly meeting lines. When matters arise which are of importance to Friends from all traditions, the Section is often asked to sponsor appropriate programs or to represent Friends in existing programs. The Quaker United Nations Offices in Geneva and New York, administered by local service bodies, speak at the UN in the name of Friends worldwide. FWCC names half the members of their committees, drawing from FWCC's four sections in the world. Staff of the New York QUNO office and committee members help interpret events at the United Nations to Friends in the Americas.

The Section of the Americas and the Europe & Middle East Section of FWCC cooperate in arranging a biennial Quaker Youth Pilgrimage for older secondary school students. The Section administers the Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund, making grants for the study and practice of Christian mysticism, and the Rachel Metcalfe Fund which, through the Christian Medical Association of India, makes grants to students for nursing training.

The Wider Quaker Fellowship program distributes Quaker-oriented literature two times a year in English and once a year in Spanish to persons in over 90 countries. Many are not Friends (including some prisoners), but share an interest in the Quaker approach to life and in becoming more effective instruments of the Divine Spirit in the World. Others are isolated Friends seeking to keep in touch, or active Friends who appreciate the added dimension the materials provide for their spiritual lives.

Clerks (until 1976, "Chairmen")

1938	Alvin T. Coate	Western YM
1939-42	J. Hoge Ricks	Baltimore YM
1943-45	Thomas E. Jones	Indiana YM
1946	William O. Mendenhall	California YM
1947	D. Elton Trueblood	Indiana YM
1948-55	Alexander C. Purdy	New England YM
1956-60	Dorothy Gilbert Thorne	Wilmington YM
1961-67	A Ward Applegate	Western YM
1968-72	Edwin B. Bronner	Philadelphia YM
1973-78	Donald L. Moon	Western YM
1979-84	Barrett Hollister	Ohio Valley YM
1985-88	Heather Moir	Southeastern YM
1989-92	Harold Smuck	Indiana YM
1993-96	Gordon M. Browne, Jr.	New England YM
1997-99	Thomas C. Hill	Ohio Valley & Wilmington YMs
1999-2002	LaDonna Wallen	Intermountain YM
2002-2008	Elizabeth Mertic	Illinois YM
2008-	Ray Treadway	North Carolina (C) YM

Executive Secretaries

1938-45	Leslie D. Shaffer
1946	J. Harold Hadley, interim
1947	Allen J. White
1948-49	Leslie D. Shaffer
1950-62	James F. Walker
1963-80	Herbert M. Hadley
1981-88	Gordon M. Browne, Jr.
1988-91	Alex Morisey
1991	Cilde Grover, interim
1992-98	Asia A. Bennett
1998-2002	Cilde Grover
2002-	Margaret Fraser

Umbrella Groups

Evangelical Friends Church International

Address: 5350 Broadmoor Cir. NW, Canton, Ohio 44709, USA
Email: efcir@aol.com
Publication: *The Evangelical Friend* (10 per year)

The Evangelical Friends Church International began as the Association of Evangelical Friends in the 1940s and continued until 1961 when it was established as the Evangelical Friends Alliance. It is a voluntary association of Evangelical Friends comprising, at present, membership of six meetings: Alaska Yearly Meeting, Evangelical Friends Church – Eastern Region, Evangelical Friends Church – Southwest Region, Mid-America Yearly Meeting, Northwest Yearly Meeting and Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting. In addition, Iowa Yearly Meeting (FUM) is an associate member through its cooperative mission support in Mexico City. Membership is open to additional yearly meetings as they may desire to become associated with EFCI.

EFCI is involved in education with the part-time support of an educational consultant, cooperative involvement in the preparation and publishing of Aldersgate materials and the development of an EFI Sunday School promotion program. The Publications Commission works with the publication and printing of the *Evangelical Friend* and other publications headed by the EFI. Youth programs become cooperative efforts of EFCI through the Youth Commission.

Evangelical Friends Mission

Postal Address: Box 525, Arvada, CO 80001, USA
Physical Address: 5765 Olde Wadsworth Blvd., Suite 28, Arvada, CO 80002
Telephone: +1 303 421-8100
Email: efm@friendsmission.com
Website: www.friendsmission.com

The purpose and passion of Evangelical Friends Mission (EFM) is to lead our people worldwide to live so close to Jesus Christ that we will worship, serve and obey God as faithful witnesses. We live and die for the cause of fulfilling the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

We exist to fuel a worldwide multiplication movement of worshipping, God-glorifying Evangelical Friends Churches through evangelism, leadership development and missionary sending.

Evangelical Friends Mission (EFM) is the international arm of Evangelical Friends International/North America (EFI-NA). It began in 1978 for the purpose of growth and unity in missions.

EFM supervises ministries in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Ireland, Mexico, Nepal, Philippines, Rwanda, U.S.A. (Navajos), and Muslim ministries in three other

nations. EFM seeks new mission places as well as encouraging all Evangelical Friends to become missionary-sending churches. Fifteen other countries have Friends churches and affiliate with Evangelical Friends International, although they are financially self-supporting or sponsored by international Yearly Meetings. Evangelical Friends now worship our Lord Jesus Christ in over 35 languages.

Six Yearly Meetings/Regions partner in EFM, namely Alaska Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region, Evangelical Friends Church-Mid-America Yearly Meeting, Evangelical Friends Church Southwest, Northwest Yearly Meeting, and Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting. Three of these – Eastern Region, Northwest and Southwest – also have their own Mission Boards and mission fields, directly supervising ministries in an additional ten countries.

EFM meets twice per year as an EFI-NA Commission.

Friends General Conference

Contact Person: Nicole Rayborn
Address: 1216 Arch Street, 2B, Philadelphia, PA 19107, USA
Telephone: +1 215 561-1700
Fax: +1 215 561-0759
Email: Friends@fgcquaker.org
Website: www.fgcquaker.org
Publication: *FGConnections* three times per year
Members: 33,647
Meetings: 850
Established: 1900
Affiliated Groups: 10 Monthly Meetings directly affiliated
Other Centers: Traveling Ministries Program, 1080 45th Street, Des Moines, IA 50311 Phone: (515) 277-2189
Deborah Fisch, Coordinator
Book Distributor: QuakerBooks of FGC

Friends General Conference is a Quaker organization in the unprogrammed tradition of the Religious Society of Friends which primarily serves affiliated yearly and monthly meetings. It is our experience that:

- Faith is based on the direct experience of God.
- Our lives witness this experience individually and corporately.
- By answering that of God in everyone, we build and sustain inclusive community.

In all its work, FGC seeks to help Friends and meetings grow into their Spirit-led ministries.

FGC was organized in 1900 by U.S. and Canadian Friends in the Hicksite tradition. Affiliated bodies, all in North America, now include Baltimore, Canadian, Illinois, Lake Erie, New England, New York, Northern, Ohio Valley, Philadelphia, South Central, Southeastern and Southern Appalachian yearly meetings, as well as

Alaska Friends Conference and Piedmont Friends Fellowship. Directly affiliated monthly meetings include: Davis (CA), Central City (NE), Heartland (KS), Five Rivers (SC), Manhattan (KS), Olympia (WA), Oread (KS), Sacramento (CA) and Topeka (KS).

FGC provides resources and opportunities that educate and invite members and attenders to experience, individually and corporately, God's living presence, and to discern and follow God's leadings. FGC reaches out to seekers and to other religious bodies inside and outside the wider Religious Society of Friends. FGC is directed by a Central Committee, to which constituent yearly meetings name appointees approximately in proportion to membership, and by its Executive Committee. As of 2007, a staff of 25 supports the work of hundreds of volunteers to carry out programs that serve meetings and Friends all over North America.

For decades, FGC was best known for its "Gathering of Friends", held annually each summer since 1968 on a college campus in the United States or Canada. This family-friendly event attracts between 1,500 and 2,000 Friends of all ages each year for a week-long series of workshops, plenary sessions by notable speakers, concerts, discussions, programs for children, teens and young adults, meetings for worship, and much more.

QuakerBooks of FGC is probably the largest Quaker bookstore in the world, with annual sales exceeding \$500,000. Anyone may order by telephone: 1-215-561-1700, or 1-800-966-4556 (USA and Canada only), or online at QuakerBooks.org. Through Quaker Press of FGC and the bookstore, FGC publishes and distributes a wide variety of Quaker and Quaker-related books, pamphlets, posters, tapes and First-Day School curricula and materials.

Other FGC programs and services include:

- The Traveling Ministries Program encourages Spirit-led ministry, helps to arrange for travel by seasoned Friends to meetings and worship groups in North America, and provides for the Couple Enrichment Program.
- The Advancement and Outreach Program works with meetings to deepen and strengthen the spiritual core and community of the meeting ("inreach"); to conduct effective outreach to those who might be interested in our Religious Society; and maintains the QuakerFinder.org outreach tool.
- The Religious Education Program creates curricula for First-Day Schools, holds workshops on faith development and leadership training, and maintains a network of North American Friends involved in religious education.
- The Committee for Ministry on Racism seeks to help meetings enhance racial diversity and eradicate racism among Friends and to help our religious society transform itself into a beloved community, whole and enriched by its diversity.
- The Youth Ministries Program seeks to nurture high school and young adult Friends and their leadings and ministries, help Friends build dynamic and inclusive intergenerational Quaker communities, and facilitate opportunities for living our Quaker faith into action. See QuakerYouth.org for more information.
- The Ministry and Nurture Committee provides spiritual support for FGC's work and holds occasional retreats and conferences for Friends.

- The Christian and Interfaith Relations Committee fosters dialogue with other branches of Quakerism, participates in ecumenical activities, and maintains an active relationship with the World Council of Churches.

The Friends Meeting House Fund, Inc. operates under its own board of directors appointed by FGC. It was established in 1955 to provide financial and technical assistance to meetings wanting to build, buy, or renovate their meeting houses. Funds are available, mostly as loans (or very small grants) to meetings, and are derived from money given to or invested in the Friends Meeting House Fund for that purpose.

FGC publishes a periodic newsletter called FGConnections, sent to all worship groups, monthly and yearly meetings, and supporters. It creates a forum for FGC Friends to air their views on topics announced in advance. Much more information about FGC and its services is available at www.fgcquaker.org.

Friends United Meeting

Contact Person: Sylvia Graves, General Secretary
Address: 101 Quaker Hill Dr., Richmond, IN 47374, USA
Telephone: +1 765962 7573
Fax: +1 765 966 1293
Email: info@fum.org
Website: www.fum.org
Publications: *Quaker Life*, Friends United Press
Meetings: 2700 worldwide
Established: 1902
Affiliated Groups: 29 yearly meetings, African Quaker Vision, Turkana Friends Mission, Samburu Friends Mission, many schools, hospitals, orphanages in Jamaica, Kenya and Uganda
Other Centers: Friends United Meeting, Africa Ministries Office, PO Box 478, Kisumu 40100, KENYA EAST AFRICA
Schools: Friends School Ramallah/el Bireh (Palestine)
 Friends Theological College (Kenya)
 Friends Boys School (Belize)
Reference Library: FTC Library

Friends United Meeting (formerly the Five Years Meeting of Friends) – with constituents in the United States, Canada, East Africa, Cuba, Jamaica and the Middle East – is composed of 29 yearly meetings: Baltimore, Bware, Canadian, Central, Chavakali, Cuba, East Africa (Kaimosi), East Africa (North), Elgon, Elgon East, Great Plains, Indiana, Iowa, Jamaica, Kakamega, Lugari, Malava, Nairobi, New England, New York, North Carolina, Southeastern, Tuloi, Uganda, Vihiga, Vokoli, Western Association, Western and Wilmington. Under a uniform discipline, the Five Years Meeting of Friends was organized in 1902. Its purpose was to create a better spirit of unity and action on the part of widely separated groups of Friends.

While by discipline Friends United Meeting in session is a representative body and yearly meetings are represented in accordance with their respective memberships, in actual practice little distinction is made between officially appointed representatives

and general attenders, except in action taken on business items. All Friends are encouraged to attend and participate in the discussions. From the time of its origins in 1902 Friends United Meeting sessions have been enriched by the attendance of representatives from non-member yearly meetings all over the world. Since 1960 the sessions have been held every three years and in 1966 the official name was changed from Five Years Meeting of Friends to Friends United Meeting.

Friends United Meeting commits itself to energize and equip Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit to gather people into fellowships where Jesus Christ is known, loved and obeyed as Teacher and Lord. FUM is a consultative and administrative rather than a legislative body. The constituent yearly meetings retain autonomy, except in those areas of service and concern expressed through the larger body as a mutually chosen channel.

The work of Friends United Meeting is carried out through the General Board and its subcommittees. These meet three times each year, with the subcommittees making recommendations to the General Board, the responsible body in the interim between triennial sessions. The Richmond, Indiana office oversees accounting and bookkeeping services, administration, development, Quaker Life and Friends United Press.

North American Ministries and Africa Ministries incorporate those functions which are designed to strengthen local meetings and yearly meetings in their service to their constituency. The concern is to build up the local meeting, better equipping its members to carry out their true mission in the world. This includes the educational task, maintenance and revitalization of meeting life, worship, leadership development, curriculum development and helping meetings to grow in Christian discipleship and to be better able to meet the needs of a changing society.

Global Ministries exists to facilitate service and mission within, between and beyond the constituent yearly meetings. As an instrument of Christian ministry to a needy world, this area of the Church's responsibility includes administration of domestic and overseas outreach programs, recruitment and orientation of personnel, encouraging meetings to reach out in their own communities, to support outreach programs around the world and responding to requests from local people for possible development of new ministries and programs.

Overseas ministries began over a century ago with the work in Palestine in 1869. Other ministries began in Mexico (1871), Jamaica (1881), Cuba (1900), East Africa (1902) and Belize (early 1960s). Today, Global Ministries work goes on in six countries outside North America.

The Friends School in Ramallah, West Bank (ten miles north of Jerusalem), provides an essential witness for peace in this troubled part of the world. The school provides quality elementary and secondary education to over 1000 Palestinian students, both Christians and Muslims.

Friends' work in East Africa continues to grow under the leadership of local Friends and the Africa Ministries Office in Kisumu, Kenya. Friends Theological College

prepares Friends for effective ministry and leadership. Friends Kaimosi Hospital and Friends Lugulu Hospital provide medical care for thousands each year. In the Turkana and Samburu Districts, several meetings and schools have grown up in recent years. Dedicated Kenyan Friends lead these expanding programs. Uganda Yearly Meeting also provides a number of primary schools and meetings for their members.

Global Ministries supports Jamaica and Cuba Yearly Meetings financially, with work teams and sometimes with personnel. Financial and personnel support are also given to the Friends Boys School in Belize, a remedial school for boys to get them ready for the entrance exams into high school.

A 25-acre wooded tract is the site for Friends United Meeting, Richmond, Indiana, and the Quaker Hill Conference Center. The conference center, including a large historical residence and the modern Woodard Lodge, includes administrative offices, dining facilities and overnight accommodations for conferences, retreats, committee meetings and small ecumenical gatherings.

Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends

Contact Person: Nancy Hawkins
Address: 5190 Kirk Road, Columbiana, OH 44408, USA
Telephone: +1 216 457 2939
Email: nanquaker@aol.com
Website: www.ohioyearlymeeting.org
Publications: *The Conservative Friend*
Conservative Friends Community Directory
Affiliation: Ohio Yearly Meeting, Conservative

Though Conservative Friends have never had a formal organization above the Yearly Meeting level, general gatherings of Conservative Friends have been held occasionally since 1911. Such gatherings are now held every two years under the care of the Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends, a committee of Ohio Yearly Meeting. Their purpose is to encourage all who seek fellowship among those who worship in the waiting manner and in the name of Jesus. The announcement of a recent gathering, addressed to "Conservative Friends and those of like mind", read: "Unto all them that love His appearing... Within our mortal bodies we each long to 'know the Power of God in Spirit and in Truth' in a deeper way. We have found that as Friends who acknowledge Christ Jesus gather, and lay all else aside to wait in the stillness, we are given a great draught from the source of Living water."

Yearly Meetings and Groups

Bolivia

Bolivia Central YM

(Junta Anual de los Amigos Central)

Clerk: Simón Quispe
Contact Person: Simón Quispe
Address: Iglesia Evangélica Amigos Central, Calle Sbte. Penalzoa
No 413 Casilla 7802, LA PAZ, Bolivia
Telephone: +591 2 38 16 96
Email: reneqf@hotmail.com
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Evangelical
Members: 2500
Meetings: 42 churches
Established: 1986

This part of Bolivia is the mission field of Central Yearly Meeting in the United States. It was set off as a separate yearly meeting in 1986 and affiliation with FWCC was affirmed in March 1987.

Bolivia IEUBA

(Iglesia Evangélica Unión Boliviana Amigos)

Clerk: Gualberto Tórres Quispe
Contact Person: Gualberto Tórres Quispe, Pastor
Address: Casilla 6493, LA PAZ, Bolivia
Telephone: +591 2 78 25 23
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Evangelical
Members: 600
Meetings: 10 churches

Bolivia Santidad YM

(Mision Boliviana de Santidad Amigos)

Clerk: Arles Huanca
Address: Casilla 25003, LA PAZ, Bolivia
Telephone: +591 2 34 05 69
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Evangelical
Members: 15 482
Established: 1986
Members: 12,000
Meetings: 540 churches

National Evangelical Friends Church of Bolivia
(Iglesia Nacional Evangélica “Los Amigos” de Bolivia – INELA-Bolivia)

Clerk: Mario Chavez Castro
Contact Person: Mario Chavez Castro
Address: Iglesia Nacional Evangélica los Amigos, Casilla 8385,
La Paz, Bolivia
Telephone: +591 2 24 53 776
Email: inelabolivia@hotmail.com
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)
Members: 5000
Meetings: 215
Established: 1974

Officially recognized as the Iglesia Nacional Evangélica Los Amigos (INELA), the Bolivian Friends Yearly Meeting is under the supervision of an all-national Executive Council composed of ten members, with each member elected by the National Church representatives to a three-year term of office. The autonomous Yearly Meeting (recognized by Northwest Yearly Meeting in 1974) grew out of mission efforts by that yearly meeting beginning in 1930, and provisionally organized as a yearly meeting in 1961, having received incorporation recognition by the Bolivian government as early as 1956. INELA is affiliated with FWCC.

In addition to an active evangelistic program, Friends in Bolivia are active in education and leadership training. There are fifteen rural schools sponsored by the Bolivian INELA. Training programs for church leaders are carried on through Extension Bible Schools. Friends in Bolivia also operate a residency known as Patmos Bible Institute in La Paz which provides an equivalent of a high school education, including Bible emphasis, and a theological seminary in cooperation with other denominations.

The Board of Missions of Northwest Yearly Meeting maintains headquarters in La Paz and in Santa Cruz, serving in an advisory and educational capacity by official agreement between Northwest Yearly Meeting and the Bolivian National Friends Church.

Star of Bethlehem Evangelical Church (Bolivia)
(Iglesia Evangélica “Estrella de Belén” Bolivia)

Address: Casilla 11083, La Paz, Bolivia
Members: 1000
Meetings: 20 churches

Canada

Canadian Yearly Meeting

Contact Person: Kerry MacAdam, Office Administrator
Address: 91A Fourth Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada K1S 2L1
Telephone: +1 613 235 8553
Fax:: +1 613 235 1753

Email: cym-office@quaker.ca
Website: www.quaker.ca
Publications: *The Canadian Friend*
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Friends General Conference (FGC)
Members: 1,169
Meetings: 23
Established: 1955
Book Distributor: Quaker Book Service

Quakerism in Canada is an offshoot of the Quaker movement in colonial America. Following the American Revolution a wave of emigration into Canada brought a considerable number of Friends' families who settled in areas adjacent to Lake Ontario in the southern part of what is now the province of Ontario. By 1828 three flourishing quarterly meetings had been established under the authority of New York Yearly Meeting.

The nineteenth-century "separations" in the United States touched off similar separations in Canada. By 1881 there were three separate Canadian Yearly Meetings. Genesee Yearly Meeting became independent of New York Yearly Meeting (Hicksite) in 1834 and later affiliated with the Friends General Conference. Canada Yearly Meeting was organized independently of New York Yearly Meeting (Orthodox) in 1867 with later Five Years Meeting affiliation. Canada Yearly Meeting (Conservative) was established in 1881 following the separation in Canada Yearly Meeting in that year. In the 1870s the total membership was approximately 7,000.

With the turn of the century a widely scattered and rapidly diminishing membership began to draw closer together. The impact of two world wars, the necessity to rethink traditional testimonies, and cooperation in war relief work were uniting factors. *The Canadian Friend*, first published at Newmarket in 1904, was an important link in binding together scattered members and kept them in touch both with each other and with the wider movements in Quakerism.

In 1927 Canada Yearly Meeting (Five Years) and Genesee Yearly Meeting (General Conference) decided to hold, in the following year, their yearly meetings in joint and concurrent sessions. Further evidence of growing unity was the organization in 1931 of the Canadian Friends Service Committee, with appointed members from each of the three Canadian yearly meetings.

Conservative Friends who for 13 years had been working side by side with the other two groups in the various activities of the Canadian Friends Service Committee, decided in 1944 to hold their yearly meetings at the same time and place as the other two. After more than ten years of this closer association the three yearly meetings, with the exception of one quarterly meeting, agreed to unite in a single organization. This was accomplished in 1955.

All the meetings at present comprising Canadian Yearly Meeting are unprogrammed meetings.

Though many of the rural meetings have declined in numbers, or have been laid down over the past 75 years, new worship groups have recently sprung up in rapidly growing urban centres in the East and in the West. To enable Friends across Canada to participate more fully in Canadian Yearly Meeting the sessions are held every second year at Pickering College in Ontario and alternately the other years in the Atlantic and Western provinces.

The Canadian Friends Service Committee (CFSC) has been actively facilitating Friends' concerns in Canada since 1931. CFSC, a committee of Canadian Yearly Meeting, is the peace, social justice and international development arm of the Religious Society of Friends in Canada. Its mandate is: "To unify and expand the peace witness and peace education, international service and social concerns."

The work of CFSC is carried out by Friends from across Canada. These Friends are nominated for three year terms, come from all parts of the country and serve on one of the four standing committees of CFSC: the Quaker Peace and Sustainable Communities Committee (QPSCC), the Quaker International Affairs Programme Committee (QIAPC), Quaker Aboriginal Affairs Committee (QAAC) and Quakers Fostering Justice (QFJ).

The work of CFSC is supported by private contributions from persons of many different convictions. Members of the Society of Friends in Canada find many service opportunities in supporting CFSC within their own Monthly Meetings.

The Home Mission and Advancement Committee is responsible for nurturing Quakerism in Canada through religious education, visitation, outreach and contact with isolated Friends. The new Publications and Communications Committee is now responsible for *The Canadian Friend*, the Canadian Quaker Pamphlet Series and the CYM website.

Camp NeeKauNis is the summer camp, the development of which is under the care of Camp NeeKauNis Committee, responsible to Yearly Meeting.

Colombia

Bogota MM

(Junta Mensual de Bogotá)

Contact Person:	Ivan Cabrera
Address:	Transv. 9 no 129-81, Santa Fe de Bogotá DC, Colombia
Telephone:	+57 1 258 6074
Affiliation:	FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Established:	1978 as a Monthly Meeting

Bogota Friends met for over 30 years, first as a worship group, and then in 1978, FWCC, Section of the Americas, approved their application for establishment as a monthly meeting of the Society of Friends under the care of that Section.

The group is very small at present. Nevertheless these Friends, practically all of whom are Colombian citizens, have a real understanding of the spiritual and social testimonies of Friends and have been deeply concerned for the application of these testimonies to the life of their community and country. They have also sought a relationship with Friends in other countries through participation in the organizing Committee of Latin American Friends (COAL) and attendance at the Triennial Meetings of FWCC.

Costa Rica

Monteverde MM

(Junta Mensual de Monteverde)

Contact Person: Lucille Guindon
Address: Escuela de los Amigos de Monteverde, Monteverde,
Puntarenas, Código Postal 5655, Costa Rica
Telephone/Fax: 506-645-5302
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 72
Established: 1952

Soon after the end of the Second World War, a small group of Friends emigrated from the United States to Costa Rica. Most of them were members of Ohio or Iowa Yearly Meetings (Conservative). Their chief motive was to live and rear their children in an atmosphere free from militarism. These Friends secured a tract of land some 25 miles off the Pan American Highway and 125 miles from San José. Here they built their homes and a school/meeting house. They established a cheese factory and in the beginning derived most of their income from dairying.

Other interests and organizations have since developed such as the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, the Monteverde Conservation League and the Monteverde Institute, although not under the care of the Meeting.

In response to revolutions in Nicaragua and El Salvador, the Meeting collected and distributed funds to aid refugees and people in various afflicted zones in Central America. Contact is kept with these areas through visits and correspondence.

The Meeting stays in contact with the Friends Meeting in San José as well as the Friends Peace Center started by San José Friends in 1983.

San José Meeting

(Junta Mensual de San José)

Clerk: Mauricio Rojas Montero
Contact Person: Mauricio Rojas Montero
Address: Friends Peace Centre
Telephone: 506 560 1007
Email: mauquaker@yahoo.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme

Cuba

Yearly Meeting of the Church of Friends (Quakers) in Cuba (Junta Anual de la Iglesia de los Amigos (Cuàqueros) en Cuba)

Clerk: Ramón G. Longoria Escalona
Contact Person: Ramón G. Longoria Escalona
Address: Calle 20, Esq Paz No 118, Holguin 80300, Cuba
Telephone: +53 31 53696
Email: longoria@enet.cu
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 535
Meetings: 8 monthly meetings
Established: 1927

Quaker missionaries arrived in Cuba from the USA in 1900. As a result of their work, the present Yearly Meeting of the Church of Friends (Quakers) in Cuba maintains eight monthly meetings.

The five schools operated previously by the Yearly Meeting were taken over by the Cuban government in 1961.

Four important meetings are held during the year: the Yearly Meeting, the meetings of women and Young Friends and the annual family camp. The camp brings together Friends from all the monthly meetings for speeches, Biblical study, preaching and recreation.

The Yearly Meeting receives some financial support from Friends United Meeting including help with the wages of the pastors, and from Friends around the world through the World Office of FWCC for the reconstruction of churches.

El Salvador

Yearly Meeting of the Evangelical Friends Church in El Salvador (Junta Anual de la Iglesia Evangélica de los Amigos en El Salvador)

Clerk: Aminda Arevalo
Address: Iglesia Evangélica Amigos, Calle Roosevelt Poniente 60, Colonia Las Flores Soyapango, San Salvador, El Salvador
Telephone: +503 227 61 05
Email: aminarev@hotmail.com
Website: www.westernym.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)
Members: 640
Meetings: 8 monthly meetings; 6 churches
Established: c.1991

Friends missionary work began in Guatemala in 1902 under the auspices of the California Yearly Meeting and later spread to Honduras and El Salvador. First

Honduras and then El Salvador were set off as separate yearly meetings. Several Friends from El Salvador attended the World Conference of Friends at the Honduras site in 1991 and there established a number of links with Friends in other parts of the world.

Guatemala

Guatemala Holiness Friends YM

(Junta Anual Amigos de Santidad de Guatemala)

Clerk: José David España
Contact Person: Edgar Amilcar Madrid
Address: Apartado Postal No 5, Chiquimula 20901, Guatemala
Telephone: +502 79 425 689
Email: radioverdad@intelnnett.com
Website: www.radioverdad.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)
Members: c.500
Meetings: 8 in Chiquimula and Zacapa, Guatemala
Established: 1992

The beginnings of the Holiness Yearly Meeting of Friends were with the establishment of Second Friends Church on 2 June, 1968, in Chiquimula. With the addition of other meetings, the group organized itself as Holiness Yearly Meeting of Friends in 1986. It was formally set off and recognized as a separate yearly meeting by Guatemala Yearly Meeting on 16 February, 1992. The Yearly Meeting runs a Quaker Theological Seminary, founded in 1985.

At its March 1993 meeting in Ciudad Victoria, Mexico, the FWCC Section of the Americas welcomed Amigos de Santidad into membership.

Junta Mensual de la Iglesia Evangélica Embajadores Amigos

Clerk: Luis Carlos Ramirez
Address: Iglesia Evangélica Embajadores Amigos, 5a Calle 4-40 zona 1, Chiquimula, Guatemala
Telephone: +502 942 0553
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)

National Evangelical Friends Church of Guatemala

(Iglesia Evangélica Nacional "Amigos" de Guatemala)

Clerk: Elcar Vazquez
Contact Person: Hector Romeo Cabera Alonzo
Address: Apartado Postal 8, 20001 Chiquimula, Guatemala
Telephone: +502 9 420 149
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)
Members: 16,000
Established: 1970

Friends missionary work began in Guatemala in 1902 under the auspices of the California Yearly Meeting. In 1932, a General Council of nine men and three

women was appointed with responsibilities for arranging conference programs and the teaching of doctrine. A reorganization occurred in 1948 with a permanent Commission set up as a cooperative church government between the Mission and the Church. The Yearly Meeting became wholly self-governing in 1970. The Berea Bible Institute in Chiquimula, established in 1921, has a campus in Chiquimula where pastors are trained. The Yearly Meeting also maintains secondary schools and a summer camp in the mountains not far from Chiquimula. The early history of the mission work is described in Paul Enyart's *Friends in Central America*.

Honduras

Friends Evangelical Church (Iglesia Evangélica Amigos)

Contact Person: Juan Saúl Sánchez Reyes
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Ocotepeque, Honduras, C. A.
Telephone: + 0504 6634253, +0504 6634195
Fax: + 0504 6633819
Email: igamigoshn@myrealbox.com
Members: 5500
Meetings: 57
Affiliated Groups: 40 worship groups
Established: 1983
Schools: 2
Other Centers: "Aloj" Campamento Peniel, Gracias Lempira
Coordinator: Francisco Mejía, Telephone +0504 6561621

Honduras YM

(Junta Anual Amigos de Honduras JALAH)

Clerk: Armirio Burgos
Address: Junta Annual Amigos de Honduras, Centro Evangélico
Amigos, San Marcos de Ocotepeque, Honduras
Telephone: +504 663 4498
Email: igamigoshn@yahoo.es
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFI)
Members: Approx. 2000
Meetings: 36 monthly
Established: 1983 (work began in 1903)

Friends Missionaries, supported by California Yearly Meeting, first came to Honduras from Guatemala in 1903, establishing a mission in San Marcos, Ocotepeque in that year, and in Santa Rosa de Copan shortly thereafter. This history is told in Paul Enyart's *Friends in Central America*.

Friends' meetings are now spread across the western half of Honduras, with the main concentrations between San Pedro Sula and San Marcos, Ocotepeque

quite near the Salvadorean border. There is also a meeting in Tegucigalpa, the nation's capital city.

The need for trained church leadership in most of the meeting has been strongly felt and so in 1980, the Colegio Jorge Fox, a Bible school for the training of pastors was founded at the San Marcos Centro Evangélico de los Amigos. In the following years, due to the difficulty of travel in the area, the wisdom of setting off the Honduran meetings as a separate yearly meeting from the Central American Yearly Meeting became clear. This was accomplished in 1983, and Friendly relations are maintained between Friends in the area, with some travel of Honduran Friends across the mountains to the Quaker centre at Chiquimula, Guatemala for visitation and study.

Jamaica

Jamaica YM

Clerk: Horace Hall
Contact Person: Monica Bigby-Malloy
Address: 4 Worthington Av, Kingston 5, Jamaica
Telephone: 926-7371
Email: info@fum.org
Website: www.fum.org/worldmissions/jamaica.html
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: Approx. 300
Meetings: 15 monthly
Established: 1941
Publication: Newsletter (quarterly)
Schools: The Continuation School
Happy Grove School
Several primary and infant schools
Other Centers: The Lyndale Home for Girls
The Swift Purscell Home for Boys
The Kingston Monthly Meeting Centre

Jamaica Yearly Meeting has developed from missionary work begun there by Iowa Yearly Meeting in 1881. While the mission work in Jamaica has followed the usual practice of establishing schools and meetings, Friends' leaders have recognised that Christian groups must also concern themselves with the economic and social life of the people.

Friends are, considering their small number, deeply involved in education in Jamaica. The Continuation School, a co-educational secondary school in Highgate, has recently moved to more commodious premises and new buildings are in process of construction. Friends also conduct several primary and infant schools. Happy Grove School is a highly regarded secondary school of 800 boys and girls. Many of its alumni are active in public life in Jamaica.

The Lyndale Home for Girls is a residence for 50 girls who attend schools in the community. The Swift Purscell Home for Boys houses 70 boys who attend schools in the community and are also given vocational training in the Home.

The Kingston Monthly Meeting Centre, which was destroyed by fire in 1976, has been rebuilt. There are 17 adult members and 30 children in the Sunday school. The meeting is unprogrammed. The Meeting's outreach includes the purchasing of hearing aids for the deaf and cultural film shows on the first Wednesday of each month.

Mexico

Mexico General Meeting (Reunión General de los Amigos en México)

Clerk:	Horacio Peña Garcia
Contact Person:	Horacio Peña Garcia
Address:	Sierra de San Luis Potosi No. 734, 60. Sector, Las Puentes San Nicolás de los Garza, Nuevo León, México
Telephone:	+52 81 8353 08 29
Email:	horepega38@prodigy.net.mx
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Programmed
Established:	1958

In 1958, a group of Friends from Mexico City visited the Friends Church in Ciudad Victoria for worship and discussion regarding the organization of a national representative meeting which could also represent Mexican Friends in the Friends World Committee for Consultation. That organization was given the name Reunión General de los Amigos en México. The new organization held its first meeting in Ciudad Victoria in November 1958, and a second meeting was held in Matehuala S.L.P. in April 1960 with the theme "Application of Quaker Principles in Situations of Tension and Conflict". The Epistle sent to all Friends in the world concluded as follows: "we have been led to the conclusion that in order to diminish tension between peoples and to contribute to reconciliation, it is not ours to identify 'bad people' nor any 'bad social system', but the task of all Quakers to follow Christ in carrying out personal acts of love wherever there is suffering, anguish or grief".

Since that time, the Reunión General has continued to meet every 18 months. The Friends who contemplated the beginning of these periodic meetings loyally served the Lord – the basis of their Quaker testimony, and hoped to leave that as a clear message for succeeding generations. The children of 1958 have grown into the present-day men and women, some of whom carry out the work of Friends. Some Young Friends from Mexico attended the World Gathering of Young Friends (July 1985 at Greensboro, NC, USA) and had a rare opportunity to examine together with Young Friends from all over the world the unity within the diversity of their beliefs, as well as the future of our Society.

In September 1986, Mexico General Meeting held its twenty-first meeting in the town of Jaumave, Tamaulipas. Under the general theme "Unity in Love", Friends explored

aspects of unity with God, ourselves, our neighbors and the world. As has occurred in recent years, participants in the meeting included Friends from the Satellite, Nueva Rosita, Coahuila and Matamoros, Tam. Friends meetings.

Mexico General Meeting consists of the following groups:

Ciudad Victoria Friends Church (FUM)
(Iglesia de los Amigos en Ciudad Victoria)

Address: Matamoros 737 Ote., Ciudad Victoria Tam., México
Members: 80
Established: Matehuala 1887; Ciudad Victoria 1888

Friends living in Ciudad Victoria celebrated their 100th anniversary as an established Friends Meeting in 1988. The group includes a number of younger Friends, and meets in one of the oldest Friends' church building in Mexico. The meeting at Matehuala has been laid down.

Hermosillo – Sonoran Friends Association
(Asociación Sonorense de los Amigos A. C.)

Address: Casa Heberto Sein, calle Felipe Salido #32, coi. centro
Hermosillo, Sonora, México 83000
Telephone: +62 1701 42

Mexico City Monthly Meeting
(Junta Mensual de los Amigos)

Address: Ignacio Mariscal 132, 06030 México D.E, México
Telephone: +705 0521/705 0646
Fax:: +705 0771
Members: 26
Established: 1947

Mexico City Monthly Meeting was established in 1947, meeting at the home of one of its members. It now meets in a large pleasant room on the top floor of the Casa de los Amigos. In the Casa are also a Quaker library, rooms for group meetings and accommodation for overnight guests.

Mexico City Monthly Meeting holds membership in Pacific Yearly Meeting.

Nuevo Leon – St Nicolas of los Garza Church
(Iglesia San Nicolas de los Garza Nuevo Leon)

Address: Sierra San Luis Potosi No. 734, 60. Sector, Los Puentes,
San Nicolas de los Garza, Nuevo Leon, México
Telephone: +52 83 53 08 29

Religious Assoc of Friends Evangelical Churches in Mexico (ARIEA)
(Asociación Religiosa de las Iglesias Evangélicas de los Amigos en México ARIEA)

Address: Asociación Religiosa de las Iglesias Evangélicas de los Amigos, Viveros de Tepexpan No. 22, Col. Viveros del Valle, Tlalnepantla, EDO. DE MÉXICO, Mexico
Telephone: +52 5 370 7096
Email: ernestoamigos@aol.com.mx
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends International (EFCI)
Members: 135
Meetings: 15 churches; 5 missions
Established: 1993

Groups in Mexico City, Baja California, Nueva Rosita and Tlalnepantla have come together to form this new yearly meeting, Asociación Religiosa de las Iglesias Evangélicas de los Amigos, A.R., organized by Evangelical Friends Mission. It held its first sessions in July 1993 with Felipe Vazquez as Presidente.

Nicaragua

Nicaragua Friends Worship Group

Contact Person: Shannon Howard
Address: El Centro de los Amigos, AP 5391, Managua, Nicaragua
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme

Peru

National Evangelical Friends Church of Peru

(Iglesia Nacional Evangélica "Los Amigos" del Perú INELA - Perú)

Clerk: Jesús Huarachi Cutipa
Contact Person: Jesús Huarachi Cutipa
Address: Av. Independencia No 1930, Cercado, Provincia y Departamento de Arequipa, Perú
Telephone: +51 54 767351
Email: inelaperu@gmail.com
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Evangelical
Members: Approx. 5000
Meetings: 50 churches
Established: 1961

Expansion of missionary work of Northwest Yearly Meeting into southeastern Peru in 1961 opened a ministry to the dense Aymara population of the Puno and Tacna departments. La Iglesia Nacional Evangélica "Los Amigos" (INELA) of Peru began as a group on 15th October 1961 in the community of

Thiri-Juli, Peru. It was started by the first Peruvian to become a Friend, brother Maximo Benito Anahua. The first yearly meeting sessions were held over holy week, 1963, with approximately 100 people in attendance naming Maximo Benito Anahua as its first presidente (clerk).

At present, the work of INELA-Peru extends to four states of Peru: Puna, Tacna, Moquegua and Arequipa, with a total membership of around 5,000 distributed in 30 monthly meetings and 25 dependent groups. The Yearly Meeting is served by eleven pastors who have graduated from the Instituto Biblico Los Amigos, and by 30 pastors "through experience".

Activities in the Yearly Meeting and Service Work: INELA-Peru is involved in four types of service which are carried out by the following committees under the direction of the church board of directors (Mesa Directiva). Comité de Evangelización organizes the trimester gatherings and evangelization and revival meetings, as well as work in new communities and villages for the building of new Friends' groups and churches. Comité de Educación is involved with integrating the administration of the Bible Institute as well as with special courses for the training of pastors and other leaders. Comité de Acción Social works in the countryside with health and social welfare, both in Friends' churches and non-church communities.

Comité Agropecuario works in Friends' church communities toward improved cattle husbandry and agriculture.

Existing International relationships: INELA-Peru works directly with the Mission Board of Northwest Yearly Meeting in the United States which supports missionary families in Peru. The Church is affiliated with the FWCC World Office and the Section of the Americas office, and is in touch with various yearly meetings in the Americas, Europe, Asia and Africa.

USA

Alaska Friends Conference

Clerk:	Douglas Mertz
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Email:	dkmertz@ak.net
Website:	http://alaskafriends.org
Affiliation:	Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed

Unprogrammed Friends in Alaska were drawn together by the peace testimony and by an interest in "international communities" in the early 1950s. From these efforts grew the Chena Ridge meeting in Fairbanks (1954), Caribou Creek Meeting (1954), (since laid down) and Anchorage Meeting (1956). These formed the Alaska Yearly Meeting in 1957, becoming the Central Alaska Friends Conference in 1969

to avoid confusion with the Yearly Meeting of the Alaska Friends Church. At that time Friends sponsored an AFSC workcamp at the village of Beaver and helped begin the Alaska Native Land Claims movement and Tundra Times, the first statewide Native newspaper. Over-involvement of Friends in these activities, and with peace and social concerns during the early 60s, limited the life of the meetings for worship, but an influx of Friends from other areas, new adherents among pioneer Alaskans and reorganization as the Central Friends Conference brought renewed growth and an enriched spiritual life from the mid-60s onward without limiting the peace and social concerns activities of Alaskan Friends. M A Dickerson deeded an eleven-acre wooded lakeside tract for a retreat center upon which Friends have built a meeting house and kitchen for their annual gathering. The Friends School opened by Fairbanks Friends in 1981 has now been laid down but the facility has become the local meeting house and a center for Friendly concerns there.

Individual Friends have become very involved in peace issues particularly as related to Central America, organizing state-wide activities in protest at our government's policies, serving with Witness for Peace in those areas, and organizing nationwide activities in support of the embattled people of those countries. Other Friends are involved in volunteer fire services, consumer cooperatives, war tax resistance and forming local resource centers for peace concerns. A Friend in the state legislature introduced a bill for a "nuclear free arctic and sub-arctic".

CAFC was represented at the FWCC Triennial in Mexico in 1985 for the first time and hopes to make representation at the Triennials a regular occurrence as part of the effort to strengthen ties to Friends throughout the world. The Conference continues to have a particular concern maintaining contact with, and support for, individuals and small groups of isolated Friends scattered through the broad reaches of the Alaska sub-continent.

Alaska YM

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Email: dnlaym@otz.net
Website: www.evangelical-friends.org/north-america/regions
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

In Alaska, the first missionaries began to preach and teach the Gospel, to educate and to minister to physical needs. With the coming of modern civilization to Alaska, health and educational needs are now largely met through government agencies.

In 1970 Alaska Yearly Meeting was established and the primary work now being done by Friends Church Southwest Yearly Meeting personnel stationed there is in the area of leadership training. There is a Bible Training School.

The preaching and pastoral ministries are now the responsibility of Inupiaq Friends.

Baltimore YM

Clerk: Howard Fullerton
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Fax: +1 301 774 7087
Email: bym@bym-rsf.org
Website: www.bym-rsf.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting, Friends General Conference
Worship Styles: Unprogrammed and Programmed
Members: 4665
Meetings: 40 Monthly Meetings; 7 Preparative Meetings,
4 Quarterly Meetings
Affiliated Groups: 6 Worship Groups
Established: 1672 as Maryland YM (name changed in 1771; split in
1828 into two separate yearly meetings, reunited in 1968)
Publications: *Interchange*, three times a year
Schools: 12 - Friends Community School in College Park MD;
Friends Meeting School in Ijamsville MD; Friends
School of Baltimore in Baltimore MD; George Fox
Friends School in Cochransville, PA; Harford Friends
School in Darlington MD; Sandy Spring Friends
School in Sandy Spring MD; School for Friends in
Washington DC; Sidwell Friends School in Washington
DC; State College Friends School in State College PA;
Tandem Friends School in Charlottesville VA;
Thornton Friends School in Silver Spring MD
Retirement Facilities: Broadmead in Cockyessville MD; Friends House in
Sandy Spring MD; Foxdale Village in State College, PA

Baltimore Yearly Meeting dates from a General Meeting held at West River, Maryland, at the time of a visit by John Burnyeat from England. George Fox also arrived just in time to attend. The area of the Yearly Meeting now includes the State of Maryland (except portions east of the Chesapeake Bay), the District of Columbia, and parts of Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia.

Central to the life and experience of the Yearly Meeting is the fellowship Friends share at the annual sessions held for six days on a college campus each summer.

Yearly Meeting committees include: Advancement and Outreach, Camp Property Management, Camping Program, Criminal and Restorative Justice, Educational Funding Resources, Faith and Practice Revision, Friends In Education, Indian Affairs, Ministry and Pastoral Care, Peace and Social Concerns, Religious Education, Stewardship and Finance, Unity with Nature, and Youth Programs.

Yearly Meeting projects include four summer camp programs for youth: Catoctin Quaker Camp, Opequon Quaker Camp, Shiloh Quaker Camp, and Teen Adventure Program; Young Friends (14-18), Young Adult Friends (19-35), Women's Retreats, and other programs developed by meetings and other groups.

Central YM

Clerk: Joseph Cassady
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Email: m_r_williams7@msn.com
Website: centralyearlymeetingoffriends.org/ChurchDirectory.dsp
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Evangelical
Members: 285
Meetings: 3 quarterly, 11 monthly
Established: 1926
Publication: *Friends Evangel* (monthly)

Central Yearly Meeting was established by Friends from both Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings who were dissatisfied with the "modernism" of the Five Years Meeting. The separation occurred at Westfield, Indiana, in 1924. The Bible School there, formerly run by members of Western Yearly Meeting, became the nucleus of the new group. As missionary work is the chief emphasis, this Yearly Meeting has grown until it now contains three quarterly meetings in Indiana. Bolivia, South America, is the center of foreign missionary work. The members of Central Yearly Meeting are strictly evangelical and seek to be modest in their pattern of life.

Evangelical Friends Church - Southwest

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Website: www.efcsw.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

Evangelical Friends Church - Eastern Region

Clerk: Wayne Ickes
Contact Person: Julie Jenkins
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Telephone: +1 330 493 1660
Email: info@efcer.org
Website: www.efcer.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)
Members: 12,000
Meetings: 10 districts, 93 churches
Established: 1812
Publication: *The Facing Bench* (quarterly)

Formerly Ohio Yearly Meeting, Eastern Region Yearly Meeting is composed of 93 Friends Churches located in Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Virginia, North

Carolina, Rhode Island, Georgia, and Eastern Canada. Local churches are evangelical, pastoral, programmed, with top priority given to outreach – both at home and overseas. Varied ministries include church planting, lay renewal and training, youth ministries, retreats for both Quaker men and women, Christian education, community service, and missions projects.

Sunday school, children's church, summer conferences, weekly Bible studies, camping and vacation Bible schools are all a vital part of the YM program.

Malone College, a four-year liberal arts college, is sponsored by EFC-ER. The College is fully accredited by the North Central Association and offers 22 fields of study to a student body currently numbering over 1,000 in Canton, Ohio.

Literature concerns find expression through Friends Book Store, located in Salem, Ohio, supervised by the Publications Board. *The Facing Bench*, the quarterly newspaper, and the *Evangelical Friend* (ten issues per year published by EFCI) are circulated to all member families.

Since 1887 foreign mission work has been a major thrust, first in Nanking and Luho located in Kiangsu Province, China. After the communist take-over in 1950, foreign missionaries have been absent, but a church has continued to grow and ministers, not only to government and university people, but also to the working classes.

The India field was opened in 1896, and industrial training schools, dispensaries, a hospital and a continuous evangelism program have been maintained without interruption from the time the mission began, with an orphanage ministry, to this present day. Though small, the church in India became an independent yearly meeting (Bundelkhand) in 1962 and is entirely self-governing.

Friends' missionaries in India entered heartily into cooperative leadership when the Evangelical Fellowship of India was formed in 1951. Union Biblical Seminary, now located in Pune, was established and trains leaders who are active throughout Asia and Africa. A remarkable ministry through the publishing of Christian literature has developed, which includes providing a fully-graded Sunday School curriculum (now in 26 languages), youth materials, commentaries, teacher training materials, and theological courses by extension.

In 1953 Friends began a mission in Chiayi, Taiwan, with a second center opened in 1957 and a third later in Taichung. Currently there are Friends churches in 35 centers with some 3,000 members over fifteen years of age, involving both Mainlanders and Taiwanese. In 1977 Taiwan Yearly Meeting was established with all offices filled with Chinese personnel.

In 1975 EFC-ER opened mission work in Hong Kong through the sending of a missionary couple to work in cooperation with the Oriental Missionary Society as teachers at United Christian College.

In cooperation with EFCI Yearly Meetings plus Iowa and Alaska as associate

members, four mission projects are supported- Mexico, Philippines, Rwanda, and cooperative sponsorship of the Evangelical University in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

Cross-cultural projects in the US are not neglected. This is evidenced by the ministry to people of African descent through Akron Community Friends Church and to people of Chinese descent in northern Ohio, who meet at North Olmsted Friends Church in regular worship services and in Virginia Meeting at Hampton Friends.

We are not all we are going to be yet – by God's Grace. But we are making progress. And we are excited about what God is doing, through us, to reach His World for Christ.

Evangelical Friends Church - Mid America YM

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Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)
Members: 5715
Meetings: 63
Established: 1871
Affiliated Projects: Kibimba Hospital, Burundi, Africa

Great Plains YM

Clerk: Dorlan Bales
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Email: sjmesner@cableone.com
Website: www.greatplainsyearlymeeting.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 611
Established: 1908 as Kansas YM, 2002 as Great Plains YM

Formerly Nebraska Yearly Meeting, Great Plains Yearly Meeting is composed of 6 monthly meetings scattered across Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma and Colorado.

For many years, Nebraska Central College, located at Central City, Nebraska, was the traditional "home" of the Yearly Meeting. When it became impossible to continue, the College resources were merged with William Penn College at Oskaloosa, Iowa.

In 1957, a number of meetings were set off to form Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting, which has since affiliated with Evangelical Friends Churches International. In recent years, the geographical center of the Yearly Meeting has gravitated to the Wichita, Kansas, area.

In spite of the distance from main Quaker centers, Great Plains Yearly Meeting

maintains a lively interest in many Friends' organizations and related activities. In recent years, the Yearly Meeting has been involved in farm crisis support work and in 1987 established the Friends Farm Loan Fund to aid Quaker farmers in the Midwest, with the help of a loan from Arch Street Meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, given for this purpose.

Illinois YM

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Email: admin@ilym.org
Website: www.ilym.org
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: About 950
Meetings: 1 quarterly, 18 monthly, 1 preparative, 2 worship groups
Established: 1875
Publications: *Among Friends*, twice yearly

Illinois Yearly Meeting was established under the care of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and held its first annual session near McNabb, Illinois in 1875. Clear Creek Monthly Meeting still shares the use of the Yearly Meeting building at that site. The meetinghouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is surrounded by farming country, a bucolic location cherished by those who gather for annual sessions and on other occasions. The adjacent yearly meeting campground has been enhanced by several simple cabins and a bunkhouse. The refurbished bunkhouse was inaugurated during the 2006 annual session when the high school Young Friends hosted the FWCC Quaker Youth Pilgrimage.

While Friends marshaled the resources necessary to restore termite-damaged parts of the yearly meeting house, monthly meetings participated in a "Dream Gathering" process. The vision of a "Peace House on the Prairie" engaged Friends to seek resources for further site development. Goals of peace and unity with nature guide the yearly meeting's plans for future capital improvements.

Twenty-one large and small monthly meetings and worship groups in Illinois, Missouri, Indiana and Wisconsin comprise Illinois Yearly Meeting. Two monthly meetings maintain dual affiliation with Western Yearly Meeting.

Indiana Yearly Meeting (FUM)

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Email: iyminfo@ijm.org

Website: www.iym.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 3969
Meetings: 5 quarterly and 64 monthly meetings
Affiliated Groups: White's and Quaker Haven
Established: 1821
Publication: *The Communicator*
Schools: Earlham School of Religion; Earlham College in Richmond
Retirement Facility: Friends Fellowship Community in Richmond, IN
Reference Library: Earlham Lilly Library in Richmond

Indiana Yearly Meeting has its beginning in the westward trek of Friends into the fertile Ohio Valley. At a later period, when Friends in the Carolinas had to face severe opposition during and following the Civil War, great numbers of them came into eastern Indiana and western Ohio, in many cases transferring almost whole meetings to the "North-West territory". Greensboro, Back Creek, Rich Square, Fairmount, Jonesboro, New Garden and other names duplicate those of North Carolina Quaker communities.

By degrees, following the evangelical revival of the mid-nineteenth century, this Yearly Meeting began to employ ministers, so that practically all of the 64 local meetings have full-time or part-time pastoral care. The same process of change which brought this type of ministry also brought music and the organized Bible School. There is a united concern in this Yearly Meeting to present the message of the Living Christ as held by Friends.

Indiana Yearly Meeting geographically includes three states, with three local meetings in Michigan, nine in Ohio and the remainder in central and eastern Indiana. Richmond, Indiana, located in a southern point of the Yearly Meeting, contains Friends United Meeting Central Offices and Quaker Hill Conference Center and is visited by Friends from across the world. Also located in Richmond are Earlham College and the Earlham School of Religion. Friends Fellowship Community, a project of the Yearly Meeting for older Friends, is located in north Richmond. It was opened for occupancy in 1965.

Concerted efforts are made to challenge young people by the call of Christ and to enlist their active interest and loyalty. To aid in this, Quaker Haven, a camp at Dewart Lake in northern Indiana, is maintained jointly by Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings. It holds eight Indiana Yearly Meeting camps each summer, spiritually impacting many lives.

Indiana Yearly Meeting maintains offices near Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Staff personnel at the Yearly Meeting Office include the General Superintendent, Director of Youth and Camping Ministries, office secretary and a Ministerial Advocate. The bi-weekly publication, *The Communicator*, represents the ongoing work of the Yearly Meeting,

For 150 years, White's Residential and Family Services, near Wabash, Indiana, has

been a Quaker ministry to at-risk children and families. It has on-campus housing and a school, and offers social and spiritual development for ages 12-18. They also train and license Christian foster families, offer emergency overnight care, give home assistance to help families in crisis learn nurturing family skills, and provide permanent Christian homes for foster children available for adoption.

Reorganization has brought seven major committees into being. These are: Christian Education, Christian Social Concerns, Communication and Publications, Evangelism and Outreach, Ministry and Oversight, Missions, and Stewardship and Finance. Other working units are Quaker Men, United Society of Friends Women, with the Representative Council having quarterly and local representation, and executive powers when the Yearly Meeting is not in session.

Intermountain YM

Clerk:	Penny Thron-Weber
Contact Person:	Penny Thron-Weber
Address:	6739 Montview Blvd, Denver, CO 80207, USA
Email:	imymclerk@hotmail.com
Website:	www.imym.org
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	1013 adults
Meetings:	4 regional, 17 monthly, 14 worship groups
Established:	1975

The Intermountain Yearly Meeting was established in 1975 by Friends from Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and neighboring areas who had met as a Fellowship for five preceding years.

Since its formation, IMYM has emphasized the monthly meetings as the primary place for the work of the Society of Friends. The role of the yearly meeting is seen as providing opportunities to enjoy spiritual growth, warm fellowship, and a network of communication and support throughout the wide geographical area. Yearly Meeting committees and working groups have been formed from time to time, in response to leadings that gain the support of the constituent meetings.

There are four regional meetings in IMYM: Arizona Half Yearly, Colorado General, New Mexico General and Utah Friends Fellowship, representing seventeen meetings and various (currently fourteen) worship groups. Mexico City Monthly Meeting is included in both IMYM adult fellowship and that of Pacific Yearly Meeting. In 1993 there were 1013 adult members, an increase of 59.3% since 1985. There are also a significant number of junior or associate members and a large number of regular attenders.

Yearly Meetings are held each June in a variety of sites within the larger geographical area. Primary officers are chosen in rotation from each of the regions in order to facilitate communication over the distances involved.

Iowa YM (C)

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Email: dsfquaker@gmail.com
Website: www.quakernet.org
Affiliation: Conservative
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 574
Meetings: 13 monthly, 1 preparatory
School: Scattergood Friends School
Established: 1877

Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) is held at Scattergood Friends School near West Branch, Iowa. Midyear Meeting is held at Bear Creek Meeting near Earlham, IA.

The Yearly Meeting operates Scattergood Friends School. It is a small coeducational, college preparatory day and boarding high school with a deep concern for every individual. Students and staff share in the varied tasks of daily living, as well as in care of garden, orchard and farm. Community living involves young people and adults in a closely-knit program of study, physical work, recreation and worship.

Iowa YM (FUM)

Clerk: John Rains
Contact Person: Mary Thury
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Email: iaym@mahaska.org
Website: www.iaym.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 3328
Meetings: 37
Affiliated Groups: 2 worship Groups, 1 Indian Mission at Mesquakie
Established: 1863
Publication: *The Iowa Friend* monthly except August
Other Centers: Camp Quaker Heights
Tall Oaks Lodge (accommodation offered)

The Yearly Meeting continues to emphasize church planting and mission outreach. The first church was begun at Salem, Iowa, in 1835. In 1863 the Yearly Meeting was officially organized, being set off as Iowa Yearly Meeting by Indiana Yearly Meeting. There are three full-time employees that service the Yearly Meeting – the General Superintendent, Camp Operations Administrator, and an Administrative Secretary. Iowa Friends support the work of the Friends United Meeting with some meetings also supporting works through EFM. Also, the work at Mesquakie Friends Mission (near Tama, IA) is coming under the works of our Yearly Meeting.

Our Camp Quaker Heights continues to serve over 300 youth at our summer camps, and many other groups throughout the Yearly Meeting use the facility for various types of meetings. Within the last eight years the camp has built all new cabins as well as a new Lodge facility that features "hotel-style" rooms.

Lake Erie YM

Clerk: Merry Stanford
Contact Person: Merry Stanford
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Email: merry.stanford@comcast.net
Website: <http://leym.quaker.org>
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 854
Meetings: 1 Quarterly Meeting, 21 Monthly Meetings and
2 Preparative meetings; 8 Worship Groups
Established: Association of Friends Meetings, 1939; Association and
YM 1963; YM with Associate Members, 1969
Publications: *LEYM Bulletin* 3 times a year
Annual Records
LEYM Directory every other year

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting began as an association of Friends meetings, became a yearly meeting within the Association in 1963, and changed to a yearly meeting with associate meetings in 1969.

Routine items of business rest in the hands of the Representative Meeting which meets in early spring. The annual meetings are for inspiration and fellowship with a business meeting for consideration of basic policies, the state of meetings and meeting concerns, and the naming of clerks, representatives to Friends organizations and the standing committees which carry on the Yearly Meeting work during the year. Committees of concern are set up as occasions arise, made up of those persons under the weight of that concern and are laid down when their work is complete.

Committees and representatives to Friends organizations report through the *Bulletin*. Meetings are encouraged to make contributions directly to Friends' organizations so that the budget reflects only *Bulletin*, office expense and an allowance for travel for clerks and representatives to Friends' organizations. More recently the Yearly Meeting budget has included support for Detroit Friends School and Olney Friends School. The yearly meeting has not yet developed an administrative superstructure requiring paid staff. We have one quarterly meeting in Michigan, called Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting.

New England YM

Clerk: Linda Jenkins
Contact Person: Katharine Lee Clark
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Telephone: +1 508 754 6760
Email: neym@neym.org
Website: www.neym.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Programmed, Unprogrammed
Members: 4,115
Meetings: 68 monthly, 5 preparative, 17 worship groups
Established: 1661
Publication: *The New England Friend* (quarterly)

The first Quakers in North America came from Great Britain to New England in 1656. By 1658 meetings were established at Sandwich, Massachusetts and at Newport, Rhode Island. Massachusetts passed severe laws against the Quakers, but Rhode Island offered a haven to the persecuted. At Newport the first General Meeting was held in 1661.

Since that time meetings have been held annually, making New England the oldest yearly meeting in the world.

For 30 years (1888-1918), New England Friends administered Friends' work in Ramallah, Palestine. The first Junior Yearly Meeting started in New England in 1930. In 1945, five groups of Friends—the two yearly meetings which resulted from the Gurney-Wilbur division of 1845, the Connecticut Valley Association of Friends and two independent monthly meetings in Cambridge, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island – united to form the present New England Yearly Meeting. Although the Yearly Meeting reflects the diversity of its background, Friends in New England continue to seek and to find a deeper, underlying unity in God's Spirit.

The Yearly Meeting operates a summer camp near China Lake, Maine, the Moses Brown School (K-12) in Providence, Rhode Island and a residence for older people, Thayer House, in Hingham, Massachusetts.

Developing a sister relationship with Cuba Yearly Meeting, acting in noncompliance with the (United States) Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, encouraging visitation and travel in the ministry, facing issues of prejudice and poverty, supporting Yearly Meeting staff in conscientious resistance to the payment of taxes for military purposes, helping meetings to deal with problems of marriage and family life, sexual abuse and ageing, are major concerns of the Yearly Meeting.

New York YM

Clerk: Ernestine Buscemi
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Email: office@nyym.org
Website: www.nyym.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM),
Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Programmed, Unprogrammed
Members: 4,270
Meetings: 5 quarterly, 1 half-yearly, 3 regional, 66 monthly,
2 executive, 2 preparative, 6 prison meetings
Established: 1695
Publication: *Spark* (five times a year)

In 1657 Governor Peter Stuyvesant of New Amsterdam began the persecutions intended to rid the Colony of Quakers. This led to the "Flushing Remonstrance" which resulted in the establishment of religious freedom in the New York area 26 years before the "Toleration Act" broadened the base of religious liberty in America. Flushing Meeting House, NYYM's oldest (still in use) was built in 1694; the following year New York Yearly Meeting was set off from New England Yearly Meeting and its first sessions were held in 1696.

New York suffered the separatism that tragically overran Quakerism in the nineteenth century. In 1827-28, monthly meetings broke up, often to build houses across the road from one another. Two yearly meetings were organized, one "Orthodox" and the other "Hicksite". Slowly Friends came to recognize that common faith was stronger than difference, but it was a full century until they experimented with joint sessions, and 1955 before organic unity was restored. Now there is one New York Yearly Meeting, affiliated with both Friends General Conference and Friends United Meeting, encompassing a constantly enriching variety of tradition and practice and wide geographical membership, from a pastoral meeting in New York State, close to the Canadian border, to an unprogrammed meeting in Dover, New Jersey, close to Pennsylvania.

North Carolina YM (Con)

Clerk: Sidney Lee Kitchens
Contact Person: Sidney Lee Kitchens
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Telephone: +1 336 273 2199
Email: clerk@ncymc.org
Website: <http://ncymc.org/index.html>
Affiliation: Conservative
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 400
Meetings: 8 monthly, 1 preparative
Established: 1698 (separated 1904)

Near the beginning of the twentieth century Friends in North Carolina joined in the movement which gave life to the then Five Years Meeting (now Friends United Meeting), and a new book of discipline was adopted. The Cedar Grove Monthly Meeting at Woodland, North Carolina, which was established in 1760, was not satisfied with the new trend, especially desiring to maintain the unprogrammed manner of worship. In 1904 they formed a separate Yearly Meeting. The three schools in the Yearly Meeting are sources of outreach and strength to the Meeting.

The life of the spirit continues to be the core of the meeting. There is a strong concern for building peace in the world, and Friends work toward that goal from within and without, locally, nationally and on an international level. The center for counselling those in the military is a special outreach toward building peace.

North Carolina YM (FUM)

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Contact Person: John Porter, Superintendent
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Telephone: +1 336 292 6957 +1 800-371-8896
Email: ncfriends@ncym-fum.org
Website: www.ncym-fum.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 9406
Meetings: 703 Monthly Meetings, 4 Preparative Meetings
Established: 1698
Retirement Facilities: Friends Homes Guilford and Friends Homes West

In 1672 George Fox and William Edmundson reached North Carolina on their mission in the Service of Truth, and the first Friends meeting was held in the home of the one Quaker family living near Albemarle Sound. Four years later Edmundson revisited the area and reported that Friends were "finely settled". About 1750 Friends began to come from Pennsylvania, Virginia and Nantucket. Later some moved southward and westward, and into the non-slave States of Ohio and Indiana. The migrations, the exhausting struggle to be freed from the burden of slavery, war and its disasters, depleted seriously the membership of the Yearly Meeting, which in 1863 numbered only about 1,000 adults.

The rebuilding of the Society in North Carolina began with assistance from the Baltimore Association which encouraged elementary schools, introduced improved agricultural methods and schools for freedmen.

The year 1972, the 300th of Quakerism in the Carolinas, was an exciting time marked by the publication of an historical survey, Carolina Quakers-Our Heritage, Our Hope 1672-1972. As Friends reviewed their heritage, they were also looking forward to new ministries worthy of their heritage.

Friends Homes, Inc., opened the first unit of 24 apartments in 1968. At this time the facilities have been expanded into two locations, and have been enlarged to

include 361 apartments and 10 cottages, 92 assisted living units, 97 nursing care rooms and 12 memory care rooms. Friends Homes is able to provide complete care for persons choosing to enter the retirement community. Through the trained staff and many volunteers, a good ministry to retired Friends and others is being provided.

Strong emphasis is placed upon Quaker education and training of young Friends. Camps at Quaker Lake, seminars for high school and college youth, Junior/Young Friends Yearly Meeting, vacation Bible Schools and work camps are all well attended by younger Friends. Mission sites in Alabama and Matamoros, Mexico, are supported by the yearly meeting.

The contribution of the Yearly Meeting Office and staff add strength to the programs, the impact of which is felt throughout the local meetings.

Northern YM

Clerk: Doug Kirk
Contact Person: Doug Kirk
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Telephone: +1 608-442-1642
Email: clerk@northernyearlymeeting.org
Website: www.northernyearlymeeting.org
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: Approx. 550 members and 700 other adults
Meetings: 33 monthly meetings and preparative groups
Established: 1975

The core of what is now NYM was originally a Quarterly Meeting of Illinois Yearly Meeting known then as Northern Half-Yearly Meeting. Our current member meetings are located in Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and the upper peninsula of Michigan. The latter also holds membership in Illinois Yearly Meeting.

We continue to function without any paid staff. All work is done by members. We are very active in FGC. At the Gathering in 1992 our numbers were exceeded only by Canadian Yearly Meeting. We also have representatives in AFSC, FWCC and FCNL.

North Pacific Yearly Meeting

Clerk: Helen Dart
Contact Person: Turtle Robb
Address: PO Box 5023, Bellingham, WA 98227, USA
Telephone: +1 360 312 8234
Fax: +1 360 312 8234
Email: secretary@npym.org
Website: www.npym.org
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 911

Meetings: 20 monthly meetings and 2 preparative meetings
Affiliated Groups: 36 worship Groups, 3 Quarterly Meetings
Publications: *Friends Bulletin* (jointly with Pacific and Intermountain YMs)
NPYM Faith and Practice
Survival Source Book – a guide for small meetings/worship groups
 Handbook for Worship Groups
 Thoughts for Visitors and Visited
Schools: 2, unaffiliated: Portland Friends School, Portland (primary)
 Wellsprings Friends School, Eugene, OR (secondary)

North Pacific Yearly Meeting formed in 1973 when seven monthly meetings in Washington and Oregon separated from Pacific Yearly Meeting to form a new Yearly Meeting. Friends in the northwest corner of the United States had been feeling the stress of distance and were moved to set up their own Yearly Meeting to focus on fellowship and spiritual growth. Since then NPYM has expanded rapidly and finds itself excited and challenged to support monthly meetings, preparative meetings, worship groups, and isolated Friends in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and parts of Wyoming. As part of our commitment across this large area we move our annual session every two years to different geographical areas of the yearly meeting.

NPYM and Pacific and Intermountain Yearly Meetings support the publication of *Friends Bulletin*, a monthly periodical of works by West Coast, liberal Friends. North Pacific Yearly Meeting is affiliated with American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Friends Committee for National Legislation (FCNL), Friends Peace Teams (FPT), and Friends for Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC). Over the years individual Friends from NPYM have served as clerk of the board of directors for AFSC and FCNL, and have been staff members of the World, Section of the Americas, and West coast offices of FWCC. In 2006 NPYM hosted the annual gathering of Friends General Conference for its West Coast debut. We are slowly developing connections, friendships, and a working relationship with Northwest Yearly Meeting of Evangelical Friends Churches International, (EFCI) which shares our geographical area.

At the time of our formation a decision was made to minimize the business at our annual session so that this time together could be for fellowship and spiritual renewal. The business of the Yearly Meeting is carried out by the Steering Committee, made up of representatives of the monthly meetings. This committee meets three or four times a year to carry out the work of the yearly meeting between annual sessions and to oversee the work of our ongoing and ad hoc committees. The clerk of the Steering Committee, the Presiding Clerk, and the Associate Steering Committee Clerk form an Executive Committee that handles the Yearly Meeting business between Steering Committee meetings. Other than a part time secretary, all of the work of NPYM is done by volunteers. In 2005 we started the process of rewriting our Faith and Practice. This committee continues its work and we hope to have a new Faith and Practice within a few years. In 2006 we began the process of vision and structure, to see where we have been, where we want to be, and how are we going to get there. This work continues.

Many of our monthly meetings have fewer than 50 members and face a constant challenge to provide high quality religious education for the next generation. Our Junior Friends' (high school) program has been active since the beginning of the yearly meeting. This group is for the most part self-directed and often plans a summer camp for themselves in addition to planning their gathering at the annual session. In 2007 they were planning an international service project. The Young Friends group (18-35) was slower to form but is now becoming a vital part of our Yearly Meeting. NPYM continues to seek ways to involve the youth in our yearly meeting.

As we grow into being part of the wider world of Friends we struggle with geographic distances, both from the traditional centers of Quakerism, and within our NPYM geographical area.

For the most part our budget is dependent on assessments from our members. To support new and small meetings we have kept these assessments low. Even with almost two thirds of our budget for travel we are unable to fully fund the work of our representatives to national and international Quaker Organizations.

We rely on our local meetings to be the backbone of the yearly meeting and to carry on the work of social involvement both locally and abroad.

Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends Church

Contact Person: Colin Saxton, General Superintendent
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Fax: +1 503 538 9410
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Website: www.nwfriends.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)
Members: 6,438
Meetings: 45 local churches, 4 extension churches, 8 Latino mission points, 12 mission points
Established: 1893
Publications: *NWYM Connection* (monthly)
Keeping Current with Friends (monthly, mission related)
GO! (bi-monthly, mission paper for children)
Book Distributor: Barclay Press Publishing
Schools: George Fox University
George Fox Evangelical Seminary
Friends Center
Greenleaf Friends Academy
North Idaho Christian School
Silverton Christian School and Learning Center
Retirement Facility: Friendsview Retirement Community

Northwest Yearly Meeting (formerly Oregon Yearly Meeting) was established on the authority of Iowa Yearly Meeting, 1893. At the present time it includes meetings in

three states (Idaho, Oregon and Washington). Through the active work of missionaries from 1931 to 2002, evangelical yearly meetings were established in Bolivia (1973) called La Iglesia Nacional Los Amigos-Bolivia (INELA) and Peru (1997) called La Iglesia Nacional Los Amigos-Peru (INELA). Outreach to North Africa was begun in 2002 with two families serving there; and to Russia in 2003 with three workers in Elektrostal. There are also seven teachers serving in foreign countries. Young people are encouraged to get involved in short-term ministries in other countries. Home missions include work among Hispanics in all three states, and among Indians in North Idaho. Support for Evangelical Friends Mission (EFM) in Arvada, Colorado, with missions around the world is also an important part of the outreach strategy of the Global Outreach Board.

Barclay Press Publishers continues with an important ministry of publishing and distributing books by Quaker authors. They also maintain a Web site: www.barclaypress.com where visitors are invited to join the Conversation Café, read book reviews, join book discussions, and learn about emerging writers. Books can also be ordered online through Barclay Press.

George Fox University and Evangelical Seminary is owned by Northwest Yearly Meeting, as is the Friendsview Retirement Community, both in Newberg, Oregon. Two well-equipped, year-round camping and conference centers are owned and maintained by Friends in the Yearly Meeting: Twin Rocks in Rockaway Beach, Oregon, and Quaker Hill at McCall, Idaho. Two smaller camping facilities owned and operated by Friends are Quaker Cove in Anacortes, Washington, and Twin Lakes in North Idaho. Each year about 2,500 youth and adults are involved in the various camping ministries.

Ohio YM (Conservative)

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Email:	djsmith99@hotmail.com
Website:	www.ohioyearlymeeting.org
Affiliation:	Conservative
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	652
Meetings:	10 monthly, 3 quarterly
Established:	1813

Ohio Yearly Meeting was set up under the authority of Baltimore Yearly Meeting at Short Creek. Mount Pleasant soon became its center, but due to a division in the Yearly Meeting, the Wilburite branch moved in 1878 to its present location at Stillwater, near Barnesville, Ohio. Its meetings are in the eastern part of the State except for one at Uniontown, Pennsylvania and one at Harrisonburg, VA.

Ohio Yearly Meeting's ten unprogrammed meetings place special emphasis on Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and on the Holy Spirit by which we may be guided.

We work for peace, love and Christian fellowship. Much of the Yearly Meeting's interest is focused on Olney Friends School and the Walton Retirement Home.

A History of Ohio Yearly Meeting, *The Eye of Faith*, by William P Taber, Jr., chronicles the development of the yearly meeting.

Ohio Valley YM

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Email: ovymsec@fuse.net
Website: www.ovymnotices.blogspot.com
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Two monthly meetings: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Members: 761
Meetings: 18 MMs two of which are inactive; 2 Quarterly
Affiliated Groups: 2
Established: 1821
Publications: *Quaker Quill* 3 times a year

In the early nineteenth century many Friends migrated from North and South Carolina, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania to Southwestern Ohio and Eastern Indiana. Friends in the area were active in the Underground Railroad, helping slaves to escape to Toledo and Detroit. The numerous meetings formed in those years, grouped into five quarterly meetings, established Indiana Yearly Meeting in 1821. After the separation of 1827-28 this group was known as Indiana Yearly Meeting (Hicksite). The designation following its name was changed to Friends General Conference around 1900. In 1976 the name was changed to Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting because constituent meetings (all of which worship in the unprogrammed manner) are now located in Southwestern Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky. A few monthly meetings maintain joint membership with Friends United Meeting.

Work for peace and other social concerns is carried on by the monthly meetings. Work to nurture the life of the Spirit in the monthly meetings, including young people, is carried on by Yearly Meeting committees and the quarterly meetings. The Yearly Meeting supports the work of a number of Friends' organizations devoted to the implementation of Quaker testimonies.

Additional information may be found in *A History of Indiana Yearly Meeting* by Seth Furnas, Sr., and in the Yearly Meeting *Book of Discipline*.

Pacific YM

Clerk: Joe Franko
Contact Person: Joe Franko
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Website: www.pacificyearlymeeting.org
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Established: 1947
Members: 1557
Meetings: 37 Monthly, 3 preparative
Publications: *Friends Bulletin* with North Pacific and Intermountain YMs
(monthly except February and August)

Pacific Yearly Meeting (unprogrammed) traces its beginnings to the forming of College Park Monthly Meeting during the 1880s in San José, California, under the leadership of Joel and Hannah Bean. Around that Meeting developed the College Park Association of Friends.

In April 1931 through the initiative of Howard and Anna Brinton, a meeting was called of Friends from California, Oregon and Washington, and the Pacific Coast Association of Friends was founded. In 1947 Pacific Yearly meeting was established within the Association. By 1972 Pacific Yearly Meeting had grown to include over 40 monthly meetings from as far away as Mexico City, Honolulu, British Columbia, Alberta and eight mainland states. A Consultative Committee on Organization addressed problems of size and distance, and in response, two new Yearly Meetings were formed, North Pacific Yearly Meeting in 1972 and Intermountain Yearly Meeting in 1973. The *Friends Bulletin* continues to serve all three Yearly Meetings, as does the Friends in the Orient Committee.

Pacific Yearly Meeting presently consists of 37 monthly meetings, including Mexico City and Honolulu monthly meetings. The annual gatherings, usually held in early August, are designed to allow time for fellowship, education and spiritual renewal, as well as the conduct of Yearly Meeting business.

Pacific Yearly Meeting has active committees on Peace, on Social Order and on Unity with Nature, with concern for disarmament, reconciliation, social justice, human need, use of the earth's resources and preservation of the environment. As an expression of support for persons moved to act on a personal concern for ministry or service, a Fund for Concerns was established. Members may apply for support to this fund through their monthly meetings. It is administered by the Ministry and Oversight Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting. An Environmental Fund has been established to facilitate projects of environmental concern undertaken by the Unity with Nature Committee.

Because of Pacific Yearly Meeting's location, it has historically had a particular interest in the Pacific Rim. The Friend in the Orient Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting has developed funds to support a family from PYM to reside in a crossroads city in the Orient – an area viewed "as a factor for peace or conflict". David and Catherine Bruner were the first appointees, headquartered in Hiroshima, Japan, in 1962-3. Other Friends have lived in Singapore, Indo-China, Taiwan, Korea and Hong Kong.

Through the publication of *Windows East and West* the Friend in the Orient

Committee hopes to keep Friends informed of events in the Orient; reliable information not available elsewhere is available to the committee through contacts in Asia. The East-West Relations Committee was formed to explore similar activities to improve relations with the former Soviet Union and other countries. This Committee sponsors intervisitation and provides research, publications and discussions.

Philadelphia YM

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General Secretary: Arthur Larrabee
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PA 19102-1479, USA
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Website: www.pym.org
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Publication: *PYM News*

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting traces its origins to the occasion when Friends on both sides of the Delaware River first came together for a General Meeting at Burlington, New Jersey, in 1681. This General Meeting was held each year alternately at Burlington and Philadelphia. From 1760, sessions were held only in Philadelphia.

The unfortunate Separation of 1827 resulted in two yearly meetings covering the same geographical area, but with separate memberships. With the passage of a century, however, a trend towards unity developed, which was augmented by common participation in organizations like the American Friends Service Committee. In 1955, the two yearly meetings happily reunited.

The Interim Meeting, which meets eight times during the year, is responsible for the affairs of the Yearly Meeting when the latter is not in session. The activities of the Yearly Meeting are carried out by approximately 55 committees. In recent years these committees have been divided into five sections: Education, Worship and Care, Peace and Concerns, Support and Outreach, and General Services. In addition to the numerous Friends Schools under the care of monthly meetings, the Yearly Meeting has a caring relationship with two boarding schools, George School and Westtown.

The location of the Yearly Meeting offices is in the Friends Center in Philadelphia which houses other Quaker groups including the American Friends Service Committee, FWCC Section of the Americas, Quaker Information Center, and Friends Council on Education. Each of these groups adds strength to the life of the Yearly Meeting. The Yearly Meeting's Arch Street Meeting House provides conference facilities for Friends and non-Friends and information on Quakerism to tourists in the historic district of Philadelphia. The Burlington Conference Center performs a similar function in Burlington, New Jersey, as well as hosting overnight youth events. Pendle Hill, the Quaker study center located in Wallingford PA, adds greatly to the life of the Yearly Meeting as do the reference centers nearby: Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College, located in Swarthmore PA and the Quaker Collection at Haverford College, located in Haverford PA.

Rocky Mountain YM

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Email: rmym@aol.com
Website: www.rmym.org
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)
Publication: *Traveling Minute* (quarterly)

The Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting was set off by the Nebraska Yearly Meeting in 1957. The geographical area of the Yearly Meeting includes part of Colorado, South Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico and Arizona.

Five Navajo Friends meetings are assisted by the Rocky Mountain YM.

The Yearly Meeting has missions on the reservation in Chinle, Arizona. A mountain camp, Quaker Ridge, houses the Yearly Meeting sessions, youth camps and church retreats.

South Central YM

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Contact Person: Frances Isbell
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Email: Via the website
Website: www.scym.org
Affiliation: Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Publication: *SCYM Newsletter* (twice a year)

South Central Yearly Meeting grew out of Southwest Friends Conference which came into being in 1954 as a fellowship of unprogrammed meetings in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas. Average attendance at Yearly Meeting is 120, with Friends coming as far as 600 miles for the annual gathering. The Yearly Meeting and its constituent meetings give strong support to the work of Friends World Committee for Consultation, American Friends Service Committee, Friends Committee on National Legislation and Friends General Conference.

Some meetings and many individual Friends have been quite active in the movement for racial integration and peace, Indian affairs and related fields of endeavour. Some members give large amounts of their time to the work of the AFSC, FWCC and other Quaker organizations. Some members have studied at Quaker colleges and many have attended the large conferences of Friends General Conference and various Friends conferences. Several have travelled in yearly meetings outside the United States. As a result, in spite of a geographical isolation from the main centers of Quakerism, there is a strong identification with Friends elsewhere and at the same time a real relationship with the communities in the area.

Southeastern YM

Clerk: Susan Taylor
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Email: admin@seym.org
Website: www.seym.org
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM – under review)
Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style: Programmed
Unprogrammed
Members: 512
Meetings: 15
Affiliated Groups: 3 worship groups, 2 preparative meeting, 2 unaffiliated
Established: 1964
Publications: *SEYM Faith and Practice*
SEYM Operational Handbook, Procedures & Job Descriptions
SEYM Newsletter (3 times per year)
Michener Lecture booklet/pamphlet (annually)
Walton Lecture booklet/pamphlet (annually)

Southeastern Yearly Meeting (SEYM) is unique in Quakerism with its founders having been members in three of the east coast's Quaker traditions: FGC, FUM, and Conservative. Quakers in the southeastern USA have a long and colorful history. Not only did George Fox travel past the then Spanish-claimed Florida and Georgia coastlines, but in 1696, Jonathan Dickinson, for whom the Florida State Park is named, landed and wrote his Journal describing (in seemingly rather unfriendly terms) his experiences with the locals. Nearly 75 years later, the Quaker botanist William Bartram studied Florida flora. He is perhaps the first Friend to witness the fury of a Florida hurricane, c. 1773. He also wrote that in 1793, he visited a Friends Meeting near Wrightsborough, Georgia, that had formed c. 1755. By 1807, these Friends, opposed to slavery, migrated to Ohio, Indiana, or Illinois.

From 1800 to 1900, the first influx of Florida Friends arrived from Indiana, Nebraska and Iowa, into Alachua County. Whitewater Meeting (1884-1897) near Archer was under the care of Richmond Monthly Meeting (IN). They built the first Florida meetinghouse. During the same time period, Lake Kerr Friends having migrated from Michigan, Ohio, and London, GB, started the first Friends Elementary School. They sent their high school youth to Westtown Friends School near Philadelphia. The Big Freeze of 1892-1893 wiped out both of these Friends communities of orange grove owners.

Contemporary Quaker history commences in 1893 when the railroad transported the first Quaker farmers to Miami. The Quaker community there waxed and waned, finally becoming firmly established in 1948, and, under the care of FWCC, became a Monthly Meeting in 1950. Meanwhile, c. 1900, Friends had been moving to Orlando from the New Jersey and Philadelphia YMs and had established a preparative meeting under the

care of Moorestown (NJ) Monthly Meeting. They became a Monthly Meeting in 1944 under the care of FWCC. In 1917, St. Petersburg Friends organized and have met regularly since. They, too, became a recognized Monthly Meeting under the care of FWCC and built Florida's first continuously used meetinghouse. Due to very poor roads and no direct transportation, there was little contact among these early Florida Friends.

By 1950, encouraged by AFSC, the Southeastern Conference of the Religious Society of Friends was formed. The 1962 Conference recorded that "Seven Meetings of the Southeastern Friends Conference having indicated by official Minutes their desire to assume Yearly Meeting status, the Planning Committee recommends that these Meetings now consider themselves the Southeastern Yearly Meeting (of the Religious Society) of Friends..." These seven Monthly Meetings were: Augusta, GA, and Florida meetings: Gainesville, Jacksonville, Miami, Orlando, Palm Beach, and St. Petersburg. The first full Yearly Meeting was held 12 April 1963 near Avon Park, FL. J. Barnard Walton (Friends General Conference, 1915-1963) had been instrumental in shepherding the Conference from its inception in 1950 to this conclusion. In recognition of his support, it was decided to name the annual YM Saturday night lecture series, The Walton Lecture.

By 1970, SEYM decided to formally acknowledge the organizations that had supported its meetings: FGC, FUM and FWCC. Holiday weekends were selected for formal and informal gatherings to allow Friends from SEYM's wide area to attend as many meetings as possible. Easter week was selected for Yearly Meeting and the Walton Lecture. Martin Luther King weekend was chosen for Winter Representative Meeting and the annual Michener Lecture. Thanksgiving weekend was chosen for the recreational Half Yearly Meeting (HYM) held in state parks (Oleno, Wekiva Springs).

SEYM Meetings continue to grow and wane as population centers evolve. At the turn of the 21st century, 25 meetings are affiliated with or have a relationship with SEYM.

SEYM is noted for its social concerns including assisting in the founding and support of ProNica, the Cuban Quaker Project, and Amigos Construction. The Cuban Quaker Project and Amigos Construction are no longer active projects.

Southern Appalachian YM and Association

Clerk:	Dennis Gregg
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Website:	www.sayma.org
Affiliation:	Friends General Conference (FGC)
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	1100
Meetings:	21
Affiliated Groups:	6
Established:	1970

Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA) traces its roots to the Southern Appalachian Association of Friends, which began in 1959 when Friends from the areas around Knoxville, Tennessee; Celso, North Carolina; and Atlanta, Georgia gathered in Crossville, Tennessee. In 1977, SAYMA affiliated with Friends General Conference.

SAYMA includes meeting and worship groups in eight states, Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and West Virginia. Our name identifies the geographical center of our widespread monthly meetings.

Since 1992, annual sessions have been held in early June at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, NC. Between 200 and 300 adults, young people and children attend each year.

SAYMA has a very active program for teens, with a paid coordinator. We also have a part time administrative assistant. A committee is working to revise *A Guide to Our Faith and Practice*, last revised in 1998.

A Quaker School in Atlanta is under the care of the meeting there.

Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends

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Telephone: +1 562 698 9805
Email: warsf@inerach.co
Website: www.firstfriendswhittier.org/warsf.html
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed

Western YM

Clerk: Jim Crew
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Address: PO Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168, USA
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Email: westernym@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.westernym.net
Affiliation: Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style: Programmed
Meetings: 52
Established: 1858
Publication: *Western Work* (ten times a year)

Western Yearly Meeting, encompassing 52 monthly meetings in western Indiana and eastern Illinois, was set off from Indiana Yearly Meeting in 1857 and held its first Yearly Meeting in Plainfield, Indiana in 1858. Yearly Meeting sessions are held on the same spot they were in 1858, now meeting in the historic Yearly Meeting house built in 1913.

The Yearly Meeting has its annual sessions in August. Administrative Council, made up of the clerks of the Yearly Meeting, chairpersons of the programming and other boards, USFWI and Quaker Men and representatives of the local Meetings, carries on the business of Yearly Meeting out of session. It meets in November and March, usually being hosted by one of the local meetings. The work of the Yearly Meeting is carried out by five programming boards: Christian Education, Christian Ministries and Evangelism, Christian Social Concerns, Christian Outreach and Board on Meeting Development and Nurture which meet three times a year. The work of these boards and other activities are coordinated by the Executive Committee, which also meets regularly.

Property held by the Yearly Meeting includes a 12-acre campus containing the Yearly Meeting house, a staff home and Friends Apartment Homes, a 29-unit retirement home. Western owns, with Indiana Yearly Meeting, Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana and Quaker Haven Camp on Dewart Lake, near Syracuse in northern Indiana.

Western is involved in wider relationships primarily through its affiliations with Friends United Meeting, being one of the founding and main supporting members of that organization. Western is also actively involved in the work of Friends World Committee for Consultation, American Friends Service Committee, Associated Committee of Friends on Indian Affairs and Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Wilmington YM

Clerk:	Lois Hackney
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Office Location:	Rooms 1 and 3 Kelly Center, Wilmington College Campus
Telephone:	+1 937 382 2491
Email:	mhallwym@aol.com
Website:	www.wilmingtonyearlymeeting.org
Affiliation:	Friends United Meeting (FUM)
Worship Style:	Programmed
Members:	1710
Meetings:	28 plus 1 indulged meeting
Established:	1892
Publication:	<i>The Wilmington Friend</i> (Quarterly)

The Ordinance of 1787, which made Ohio country free from slavery and guaranteed freedom of worship, attracted thousands of Quakers to this territory. The first Quaker Meeting in what is now the area included in Wilmington Yearly Meeting (WYM) was the Miami Meeting in Waynesville in the early 1800s. Quaker meetings appeared quickly in Warren, Clinton, Highland and Greene Counties.

Quakers in this area were first part of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and then Ohio Yearly Meeting (1813-1820) and Indiana Yearly Meeting (1821-1892). Under authority of Indiana Yearly Meeting, Southwest Ohio Friends gathered in a tent on the Wilmington College campus, Seventh-day, 8th Month, 20, 1892 for the first session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

Quakers began settling in East Tennessee in 1780. Friendsville Quarterly Meeting was transferred from North Carolina Yearly Meeting to Wilmington Yearly Meeting in 1897. The oldest Monthly Meeting in WYM is Lost Creek established in 1797 in Friendsville Quarterly Meeting in Tennessee.

First mention of a program for children at WYM was in the 1900 minutes. In 1908 a roll call of Sunday Schools in the YM showed 418 members present at YM from 37 schools. Since 1923, when the first Young Friends camp was held in the Yearly Meeting, camping has been an important part of the program for youths. Young Friends from meetings in Friendsville Quarterly Meeting in Tennessee held their own camp nearer their home meetings.

The book, Quaker Migration to Southwest Ohio, by C. Clayton Terrell (1967) has excellent information about Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

Friends purchased at public auction Franklin College in 1870 thus starting Wilmington College which has a continuing effective educational ministry. In 1982 the Yearly Meeting established a vital ministry on Wilmington campus supporting a part-time Campus Minister. Quaker Knoll Youth Camp was added in 1949 and has become a great asset for camping and retreat programs. Active Boards of the Yearly Meeting carry forward the objectives of the Yearly Meeting: Christian Concerns for Peace and Society; Christian Outreach; Christian Educational Concerns; Property; Evangelism Church Extension and Pastoral Care. Local ministry is carried out in 29 Meetings plus one indulged Meeting in South Western Ohio and East Tennessee.

Wilmington Yearly Meeting works through Friends United Meeting in nurturing a world-wide Christian ministry. The Yearly Meeting also supports National Friends Committee on Legislation, Associated Committee for Indian Affairs, American Friends Service Committee, Friends World Committee for Consultation, the Ohio council of Churches, and Bolivia Link.

ASIA-WEST PACIFIC

FWCC Asia-West Pacific Section

Contact Person: Valerie Joy, Executive Secretary
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Email: awps@fwcc.quaker.org
Website: www.fwccawps.org

The formation of the FWCC Asia-West Pacific Section was formally recognised at the 16th Triennial Meeting in 1985. The first meeting was held during FWCC's 17th Triennial in Tokyo in 1988. The main organs of communication are the newsletter, edited and circulated by the Executive Secretary, and the Section website, which now contains a Hindi language section.

The Section seeks to assist and link the widely dispersed yearly meetings in India, Japan, the Philippines, Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia as well as a number of smaller groups in Hong Kong and South Korea. The hand of friendship is offered to unaffiliated evangelical yearly meetings in Nepal, Cambodia, Indonesia and Taiwan.

The International Membership Committee has two Friends in the Section, who keep in touch with isolated Friends in East and South Asia.

Intervisitation is encouraged, with invitations made to Friends in the Section to Yearly Meetings. Gatherings are held in the Section every three years in a different location. The Executive Secretary maintains a list of Friends Centres in the Section and also opportunities for overseas Friends to be hosted within Australia. If you are planning to travel, please contact the clerk in your destination with details of your visit, and bring a letter of introduction from your meeting or church.

Sister Meeting relationships are encouraged, with Canberra in Australia and Kapiti in Aotearoa NZ, having a special relationship with Seoul Monthly Meeting.

Clerks

1986-1987	Yoon-Gu Lee	Korea
1988-1991	Susumu Ishitani	Japan
1992-1997	Michi Nakamura	Japan
1997-2003	Arvind Swan	India
2004-	Dilawar Chetsingh	India

Secretaries

1986-1990	Richard G Meredith
1991-1996	Ruth Watson
1996-2002	Linley Gregory
2003-2004	Devdas Shrisunder
2004-2007	Kenneth Co Ching Po
2007-	Valerie Joy

Yearly Meetings and Groups

Aotearoa/New Zealand

Aotearoa/New Zealand YM

Co-Clerks:	Claire and Linley Gregory
Address:	Friends' Centre, 115 Mt Eden Road, Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand 1024
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Email:	ymclerk@quaker.org.nz
Website:	www.quaker.org.nz
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	539
Meetings:	9 monthly, 1 Young Friends, 17 Worship Groups
Established:	1964
Publication:	<i>Aotearoa New Zealand Friends Newsletter</i> (monthly)

The Friends scattered throughout New Zealand's North and South Islands first met in Annual Conference at Wellington in July 1909. Annual Meetings have been held regularly since then. Recognition as a Quarterly Meeting of London Yearly Meeting was granted in 1914. We became a Yearly Meeting on 1st January 1964. A Young Friends Meeting was established at Yearly Meeting 2007.

There are Yearly Meeting Committees for a wide variety of activities, including Quaker Peace and Service Aotearoa New Zealand, Handbook Revision, Futures Group (sustainability), Gay and Lesbian Concerns, Spiritual Nurture Programme, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Abuse, Media Concerns, Treaty Relationship Group (dealing with Indigenous Peoples concerns). Yearly Meeting has representatives on a range of National Committees of other organisations, e.g. Alternatives to Violence Project, NZ Head of Churches Group, National Consultative Committee on Disarmament, to name some.

Following the closure of Friends School in 1969 some remaining land is being used as the site of the Whanganui Friends Educational Settlement, a community of families and individuals, established in 1976 to further Friends work and to provide a centre of study and retreat, and for gatherings of various kinds.

"Summer Gatherings", held in various locations each December-January are an integral part of the Yearly Meeting life. Here, for 7 to 8 days Friends (about 100 to 120) live together (sometimes camping style) for the joy of fellowship, growth and recreation.

In 1989 the Yearly Meeting stated its commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi and its promise of partnership between the settlers and the indigenous people, Maori, as a foundation document for the whole nation. The recognition of this led to the inclusion of Aotearoa in the name of the Society. Subsequently the Maori Language Commission granted the name of **Te Haahi Tuuhauwiri** to the Society. This translates

to "The faith community who quake in the winds of the Spirit". Yearly Meeting in July 2008 saw the adoption of a public statement on Constitutional Reform as a further step in the working toward recognition of the indigenous peoples rights within the country.

There is a Friends' Centre in both Auckland and Wellington for the furthering of local Friends' work and convenience of visiting Friends. There is also limited accommodation at Friends House, Waiheke Island and at the Quaker Settlement in Whanganui.

Quaker Faith and Practice, Britain Yearly Meeting is widely used and referred to. In 2003 a New Zealand edition of local material was produced entitled *Quaker Faith and Practice in Aotearoa New Zealand*. There is also a local version of Advices and Queries entitled *Questions and Counsel*. There is ongoing work being carried out on the Quaker Handbook to ensure we are up to date with the ongoing needs of the Society.

Quaker Peace and Service, Aotearoa/New Zealand

Address: QPS, 115 Mt Eden Road, Auckland 3, Aotearoa/NZ

The work of Peace and Service has been divided into a Service group and Peace Action groups; the address given serves for both. These groups foster Friends' concerns for peace and service and raise money for these purposes. They keep in touch with other Quaker agencies and maintain relationships with non-Quaker service and peace agencies and groups.

Australia

Australia Yearly Meeting

Contact Person: Judith Pembleton, Yearly Meeting Secretary
Address: P.O. Box 556, Kenmore, Queensland 4069 Australia
Telephone: +617 3374 0135 (07 3374 0135 within Australia)
Fax: +617 3374 0317 (07 3374 0317 within Australia)
Email: ymsecretary@quakers.org.au
Website: www.quakers.org.au
Members: 974 members, 1029 attenders
Meetings: 7 Regional Meetings, one in each state and in the Capital Territory. Within these seven Regional Meetings there are 56 Meetings, either Local or Recognised Meetings or Worshipping Groups
Established: 1964
Publications: *This we can say; Australian Quaker Life, Faith and Thought*
The Handbook of Practice and Procedure, Australia YM
Peace Comes Walking by Victoria Rigney
The Australian Friend, quarterly national magazine
Secretary's Newsletter, monthly national newsletter
The James Backhouse Lecture (annually)

- Book Distributor:** Topsy and David Evans, PO Box 181, Glen Osmond, SA 5064 Australia
sales@quakers.org.au
- Reference Libraries:** Australia YM archives are housed within the National Archives, National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory 2600 Australia. There is also a sizable resource of Quaker history within the State Library of Tasmania, 91 Murray Street, Hobart TAS 7000. Regional Meetings have their own libraries
- Schools:** The Friends' School, Po Box 6021, North Hobart, Tasmania 7002, Australia (Co-educational, Years K-12)
- Other Centers:** Quaker Service Australia is the service organization of Australia YM, 119 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills, NSW, 2010 Australia – Telephone +612 9698 9103
Meeting Houses that offer accommodation: Friends' House, 10 Hampson St, Kelvin Grove, Queensland 4059; Friends' House, 631 Orrong Rd, Toorak, Victoria 3142
- Accommodation:** Friends House, 10 Hampson Street, Kelvin Grove, Brisbane, Queensland 4059
Friends House, 119 Devonshire Street, Surrey Hills, New South Wales
Quaker Cottage, 4 Oakura Avenue, Woodford, New South Wales
Friends House, 35 Clifton Crescent, Mt. Lawley, Perth, Western Australia

In 1832 James Backhouse and George Washington Walker visited Australia and worked among Friends in many areas. As a result small meetings were formed in several states. In 1902 the growing sense of unity led to the holding of the first General Meeting of Australian Friends, recognised as a Quarterly Meeting of London Yearly Meeting. After many years of discussion and seeking, the first Yearly Meeting was held in 1964, and in 1970 the first full-time Secretary, responsible for the administration of the Society, was appointed.

Australia Yearly Meeting includes seven regional meetings (one in each state) which encompass local and recognised meetings in all states and territories. The Yearly Meeting is held in each state in turn, usually in January.

This We Can Say, Australian Quaker life, faith and thought, was published in 2003. The Handbook of Practice and Procedure is under continuing revision and an Australian version of Advices and Queries includes Australian queries interleaved within the full Britain Yearly Meeting Advices and Queries. Other Australian publications are listed on the Australia Yearly Meeting website, www.quakers.org.au

Australian Friends are actively concerned with peace, aboriginal issues, the environment, violence in prisons and the community, conflict resolution and mediation, gender, HIV/AIDS, and education issues. Much of this work is carried out with other groups, but the Society also works independently through a system of

committees, each usually based within one regional meeting and corresponding with other Friends throughout Australia.

Communication between members spread over a country as large as Australia has always been a problem. Modern technology is helping, with committees meeting via email and teleconferences. Several print publications aim to provide links for Australian Friends, including the quarterly journal, The Australian Friend and the monthly Secretary's Newsletter. In addition the Australia-wide Quaker Fellowship issues occasional mailing each year to keep isolated Friends in touch with Quaker thought.

Friends Booksales is presently located in Adelaide, email sales@quakers.org.au, and provides mail order facilities for material published by Australia Yearly Meeting. A full list of publications is available on request.

The Friends School, founded in Hobart in 1887, is a co-educational school with close links to the Society. The School caters for students from kindergarten to matriculation.

Australia Yearly Meeting is committed to strengthening links among Friends in the Asia-West Pacific Section of Friends World Committee for Consultation.

Australia Yearly Meeting is a member of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

Quaker Service Australia

Address: Friends House, 119 Devonshire St, Surry Hills, NSW 2010
Email: qsa@quakers.org.au

QSA is the development aid committee of Australia Yearly Meeting.

QSA supports development projects in Southeast Asia, India and Africa. QSA also supports Aboriginal community projects in Australia. Funding is received from individual Friends, meetings, the general public and from AUSaid, the Australian Government Overseas Aid Fund.

Cambodia

Cambodia YM

Address: PO Box 532, Phnom Penh 12202, Cambodia
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

Hong Kong

Hong Kong MM

Clerk: Julian Stargardt
Contact Person: Julian Stargardt
Address: Hong Kong Friends Meeting, GPO Box 5108, GPO, Connaught Place, Central, Hong Kong

Telephone: +852 9835 5371
Email: friends.hk@gmail.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Friends in Hong Kong have a monthly meeting in the care of FWCC. Details may be obtained from the clerk. Meetings for worship are held on Sundays at 10.30 am in the David Kwok Room, on the top floor of the annex at St John's Cathedral, in Central on Hong Kong Island. Visitors can check the Church Notices section of the South China Morning Post on Saturday to confirm the meeting time and place. Tea and Coffee are served after meeting and often Meeting is followed by an informal lunch.

India

Bhopal YM

Clerk: Sunny Singh
Contact Person: Ronald Titus
Address: 302, Mohini Apartment, T-3 Sector 'B' Sarvadharam Colony, Kolar Road, Bhopal, MP India
Telephone: +91 755 2738156
Email: titusronald@gmail.com
Members: 150
Meetings: 2
Established: 1983

The Friends Foreign Mission Association of London Yearly Meeting set up Bhopal Monthly Meeting in 1893 as a part of Mid-India Yearly Meeting. It is now an independent yearly meeting.

Bundelkhand YM

Clerk: Swarnlata Brown
Contact Person: Jairaj Brown
Address: Toriya, Mohalla, Chhatarpur MP 471 001, India
Telephone: +91 7682 241283
Email: jairajbrown_chh@rediffmail.com
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 420
Meetings: 2 monthly, 9 meetings for worship
Established: 1956

In 1896, Esther Baird, Delia Fistler and Martha Barber started the American Friends Mission in Nowgong, Bundelkhand. There was a famine and orphans were brought to the mission house for care. Thus the orphanage was born which later became the nucleus of a Friends meeting.

In 1897, Eliza Frankland of the British Friends Mission joined the American Friends and started the first girls' school in the area. In 1931 the first women's hospital was built in Chhatarpur.

Many of the members of the present yearly meeting are descendants of those who were brought up in the orphanage and others who came to work in the hospital. An independent yearly meeting, officially Bundelkhand Masihi Mitra Sarmaj, was established in 1956.

There are three English medium schools at Chhatarpur, Nowgong and Harpalpur, serving more than 1,000 children, most from non-Christian homes. There is a Hindi medium school at Chhatarpur, teaching 350 pupils up to junior high school standard. The Christian hospital which has served the people of the area for over 50 years has 80 beds and is now in the care of the Emmanuel Hospital Fellowship.

The Yearly Meeting has continued to engage itself in the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Preaching camps in the villages are organized, Christian literature is distributed by church volunteers and camps and conferences for young people and women are held. Many people have been told about Jesus and some have made open confession of faith in Christ.

The Yearly Meeting is a member of the Federation of Evangelical Churches of India which a previous Yearly Meeting General Superintendent has served as General Secretary.

The Yearly Meeting maintains a relationship with Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region, Ohio, which continues to support some of the Yearly Meetings' ministries.

Delhi Quaker Worship Group

Contact Person: Hari Khurana
Address: DDA 236 SFS, Hauz Khas Apts, New Delhi-110016
Telephone: +011-26963925, 91 9868933939 (mobile)
Email: harikhurana@yahoo.com
Established: 1943
Publications: Occasional Newsletter

The Delhi Quaker Worship Group has been a welcoming place for travelling Quakers to worship peacefully amidst the chaos of Delhi since 1943, with Quaker roots reaching back long before its official creation.

The meeting convenes every Sunday between 10am and 11am in the National Office of YWCA of India at 1 Sansad Marg, New Delhi 110001. Worship Meeting is followed by discussion over a cup of tea/coffee in the lounge of the adjoining International Guest House. Friends passing through Delhi from all over the world are warmly welcomed to enjoy the Unprogrammed Universalist Silence of the Meeting.

Originally located in a modest house at 772 East Park Road, Karol Bagh, the Delhi Quaker Worship group has a long history of stewardship on the part of a few extraordinary dedicated individuals. Before the organisation was officially created,

Bill and Eleanor Hindle (posted to Delhi by the YMCA) had worked tirelessly since 1939 to build a community of peace-workers in Delhi and beyond. When Bill and Eleanor were no longer present to hold this community together, the Delhi International centre was created by consensus at a meeting at Friends Rural Centre Hoshangabad, presided over by Marjorie Sykes. This mandate was carried out in 1943 by Ranjit and Doris Chetsingh who envisioned the organisation as both a serene place of worship and a hub of peace-building activity for those working and passing through India.

Throughout the years the Delhi International Centre had moved many times. From East Park Road it relocated to 24 Rajpur Road in 1946 and then down the road to 27 Rajpur Road a few years later. In response to significant growth of Quaker activity at the centre, it was moved to a spacious establishment at 224 Jorbagh near Lodhi Gardens in South Delhi in 1960.

Prior to 1973 the AFSC (USA) and FSC (UK) actively provided the financial and logistic support to Quaker International Centre in Delhi. With the withdrawal of this programme in 1973 it became Delhi Quaker Worship Group and moved to its present location in the YWCA building in a central location near Connaught Place. For many of the subsequent years, the meeting was in the faithful care of Jai Gopal Malik. The warmth of his dedication to the mission of the Delhi Quaker Worship Group was experienced by many Friends around the world for almost 25 years until he passed away in 2000.

In addition to providing a space for worship the Delhi Quaker Worship Group members are happy to assist visitors in finding cost-efficient accommodation in Delhi.

General Conference of Friends in India

Clerk:	Archana Gour
Contact Person:	Dilawar Chetsingh, Correspondent GCFI
Address:	B-78, Sector 36, NOIDA 201303 U.P., India
Telephone:	+91 120 2500998
Email:	chet@airtelmail.in
Affiliation:	FWCC International Membership Programme
Members:	35
Established:	1959

The General Conference of Friends in India was founded in 1959 for the scattered Friends belonging to any yearly meeting in India and abroad. It is a fellowship of men and women in India whom Christian discipleship has drawn into membership with the Religious Society of Friends.

We believe that with its diverse streams of quest and experience, all Indian religious life has much that is of universal and abiding worth; and we affirm our sense of unity with the stream of religious experience and spiritual and social witness which has characterised the life of Quakers in many parts of the world over the last 300 years.

Since 1965 GCFI has enjoyed the status of a monthly meeting under the care of

FWCC with power to admit members: in consequence it is functioning as a fourth organized group of Friends in India, parallel to the three yearly meetings, with its own representation in Quaker world affairs. Usually in September/October of each year it holds its annual general meeting for the purpose of study, worship and fellowship. Thus we grow in this fellowship through prayer, correspondence, visitation and any other means which are open to us.

Mahoba YM

Presiding Clerk: Piyush Augustine
Secretary: E.S.Singh
Contact Person: Dr. Vinay Augustine
Address: Vinay Davakhana, Haveli Darvaja Mahoba, Mahoba,
210427, Uttar Pradesh, India
Cell Phone: (0) 9450275654

Friends in Mahoba, Kulpahar and Charkhari, all Monthly Meetings of Mahoba YM, originally came from Chhatarpur, Nowgong and Damoh in Madhya Pradesh. They had moved to Mahoba YM area as a result of marriage, employment and business. Until about six years ago they were part of BMMS. However, due to being in different states, distance and a desire to be an independent group, they separated and have been accepted by AWPS as a Yearly Meeting.

Marble Rocks MM

Contact Person: Rashmi Manuel
Email: shiny_raymanuel@yahoo.com

Mid-India YM

Clerk: Silas C Lall
Contact Person: Arvind Swan
Address: 207 Amber, Ghandi Nagar, 128 LIG Niyas Colony,
Itarsi MP 461 111, India
Email: arvindswan@hotmail.com
Affiliation: Independent
Worship Style: Programmed
Members: 280
Meetings: 6 monthly
Established: 1907

Rachel Metcalfe, an English Friend, came to India in 1866 as a pioneer missionary representing the newly-formed Friends Foreign Mission Association, London. She started sewing work with just one girl. Mid-India Yearly Meeting has developed from the work of the British Friends who followed Rachel in this central part of the country.

Mid-India Yearly Meeting has been fully independent since 1953 and has responsibility for three schools and other community services which grew up as part of the mission. Two schools are of Higher Secondary standard, the boys' at Itarsi and the girls' at Sohagpur. A new venture is an English/Hindi Primary School at Itarsi.

The Central Office of the Yearly Meeting is at Itarsi, which is an important railway junction almost in the heart of India and developing very rapidly. Some members

are employed in the railway service or in other government departments; some are teachers in Friends schools or in government schools or in private schools; some are nurses (most of them are now government employees); some were weavers once at Khera (Itarsi) but now there are none, the next generation having taken up other jobs.

Young people's meetings and women's meetings are organized by some monthly meetings. Sunday schools and meetings for worship are held regularly in each monthly meeting. Quaker study groups or Bible study groups and seminars are arranged by the Yearly Meeting. In addition to the regular unprogrammed meetings for worship, some meetings arrange programmed worship to meet the needs of members of other denominations. Nowadays many of our young people after their education are going out of this area in search of their livelihood.

There are at present six monthly meetings. The Yearly Meeting is held during Dashra or Diwali festival holidays, at different monthly meeting locations.

Indonesia

Indonesia Yearly Meeting

Contact Person: Arbiter Simorangkir
Address: Friends Church Office, Graha Raya Bintaro Jay, Blok G10/8A, Pakujaya, Tangereang, Serpong, Bantu, Indonesia
Email: arbitergs@yahoo.com
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

Japan

Japan YM

Address: 8-19 Mita 4-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 108-0073, Japan
Telephone: +81 3 3451 7002
Email: japanym@rhythm.ocn.ne.jp
Members: 161
Meetings: 5 monthly, 1 preparative
Established: 1917
Publication: *Torno* (quarterly)

Quakerism in Japan grew out of the work of Philadelphia Friends, beginning in 1884. Members of several yearly meetings and the American Friends Service Committee have contributed to its development. Japan Yearly Meeting was formally established in 1917. In 1940, under governmental suggestions, the Yearly Meeting joined other Protestant denominations to form the National Christian Church, but a small group of Friends continued to meet separately in their accustomed manner of worship based on silent listening. Out of this group a new yearly meeting was formed in 1947 and those who had been members of the National Christian Church returned to the Japan Yearly Meeting.

Sunday Schools are held in some of the monthly meetings and there are small groups studying the Bible, Quakerism and non-violence activities.

The Friends Girls' School, established by Philadelphia Friends in 1887, is now a self-supporting institution with several Friends on the faculty and on the school board. The faculty includes a few American teachers who are selected by the recommendation of Philadelphia Quakers. It is a day school, combining junior and senior high school and following the public school syllabus. The student enrollment is 900.

Friends Old Folks Home, "Ai-yu-en", was founded in 1920 in Mito in Ibaraki Prefecture, where it was a pioneer project. Setagaya Old People's Day Care Center is run by the Japan Friends Service Committee.

Friends Center in Tokyo is now maintained and run by Japan Yearly Meeting. It serves for various Quaker-related activities and a guest house for visiting Friends.

Korea

Seoul Monthly Meeting

Clerk:	Jang Yeon-Ho
Contact Person:	Tom Coyner
Address:	2-87 Shinchon-dong, Seodaemun-Gu, Seoul 120-140, Republic of Korea
Telephone:	+82 2 392 5869 or +82 11 9099 6195
Fax:	c/o Coyner +82 2 741 9334
Email:	coyner@gol.com or tomcoyner@gmail.com
Website:	www2.gol.com/users/quakers/korea_quakers.htm (English); www.quakerseoul.org/ (Korean)
Affiliation:	FWCC International Membership Committee
Members:	15 Friends; attendance 15-20 people
Established:	1964

In part as a result of spontaneous interest stimulated by reading, and in part from contacts of Korean people with the medical-social work undertaken by the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Service Council following the Korean War, a group of people began to meet regularly for unprogrammed worship and for study and discussion. In the initial stages of its existence the Seoul group was helped by the counsel and other assistance of American Quaker families living in Seoul.

Since then Ohio Yearly Meeting (Barnesville), Lake Erie, Pacific, Philadelphia and Japan Yearly Meetings have developed close ties with the Seoul group of Friends, which is now recognized as a monthly meeting in the care of the Friends World Committee for Consultation International Membership Committee.

In 1965 Seoul Friends were enabled to move into their own meeting house after having had to change their place of worship ten times in six years. International Quaker contacts such as work camps, travel and study abroad, participation in

Quaker conferences, an intervisitation program with Japanese Quakers and welcoming numerous visiting Friends have contributed greatly to strengthening the Meeting as a part of world Quakerism; yet the basic desire remains in the group to make a Quaker witness as Koreans in Korea. However we have recently witnessed an increase in foreign as well as Korean attenders.

Nepal

Nepal YM

Contact Person: John Vanlalhriata
Address: PO Box 8975, EPC 331, Kathmandu, Nepal
Telephone: 00977 1 553 5263
Email: efcn@wlink.com.np
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

New Zealand

See **Aotearoa/New Zealand page 81.**

Philippines

Philippines Evangelical Friends Church

Clerk: Maximo Juacalla
Contact Person: Jaime Tabingo
Address: Ortigas Centre, PO Box 12341, Pasig City, Metro Manila 1608 Philippines
Telephone: +63 655 3895
Email: jaimetabingo@yahoo.com
Website: <http://pefc.fotopages.com>
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)

Sri Lanka

Colombo Quaker Group

Contact Person: William Knox
Address: William Knox, 7 Visaka Road, Colombo 4, Sri Lanka
Telephone: + 94 777 720456
Email: william.knox@yahoo.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Meetings for worship are held at various times in these places. It is advisable to write

or telephone beforehand to check on times and place. Up-to-date details of these, and of other worship groups which may develop in the region can be obtained from FWCC Asia-West Pacific Section or FWCC World Office.

Taiwan

Taiwan YM

Contact Person: The Clerk
Address: Hsing Long Road Sec 1 Lane 55, Alley 27 # 34,
Taipei, Taiwan
Affiliation: Evangelical Friends Churches International (EFCI)
Members: 3200
Meetings: 36
Established: 1997
Publication: *Taiwan Kuei-ke-Hui Yieh-Kan (Taiwan Quaker Monthly)*

The China Mission of Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region USA (EFC-ER) began with the arrival in Nanking of Esther H. Butler who became superintendent of the China field with centers in Nanking and Luho, both in Kiangsu Province. In Nanking, Friends opened a training school for women, a girls' boarding school under Lenna Stanley, an orphanage, a women's hospital under Dr Lucy Gaynor, a kindergarten under Rachel Mostrom and carried out refugee work in the Manchu city after the war of 1912.

In Luho, a hospital was opened by Dr George DeVol of New York Yearly Meeting and his wife Isabella French DeVol of Damascus, Ohio. Friends Academy was opened by Dr Walter Williams.

Evangelistic work was done in the surrounding villages and chapels opened in 30 out-stations. A strong Friends Church in Nanking ministered to government and university people, as well as to working classes. The Luho church touched the entire area until 1950 when mainland China was closed to foreign missionaries.

In 1953 Friends began a mission in Chiayi, Taiwan, again with the major emphasis on evangelism and gathering believers into congregations for worship, fellowship and discipline. The meetings established are pastoral meetings, and all of them are pastored by Chinese. Missionaries purposely keep a low-key profile serving in an encouraging and facilitating role. They minister in the services at the invitation of the pastors and work with the Chinese who take leadership in planting new congregations. It is of note that after the first place was begun by missionaries in Chiayi, each succeeding congregation has been started from concern and vision of Chinese. The congregations from the northern port of Keelung to the southern port of Kaohsiung have been formed into two main districts, northern and southern. Taiwan Yearly Meeting was established in September 1977 with General Superintendent, Russell Myers, representing EFC-ER for the occasion. All of the YM leaders are Chinese and have received no remuneration up to the present for service to the Yearly Meeting.

Beginning in 1986 Taiwan Yearly Meeting assumed full responsibility for all the

established congregations under its care. The members have concern to continue evangelizing and discipline their own people over the island, many of whom are moving into vast housing developments in or near urban centers. The need is great where hardly 2% of the total population is Christian. So, at their invitation and urgent call, the mission cooperates with them in supporting newly planted churches and in the training of leaders.

On 6 November, 1988, Friends in Taiwan celebrated the 100th anniversary of EFC-ER (formerly Ohio Yearly Meeting) missionary outreach to China. In the same year Taiwan Yearly Meeting with vision and by faith set the goal to double the number of Friends churches and believers by the year 2000. In order to reach this goal Taiwan Friends Church continues to give priority to evangelism, church planting and leadership development. This goal also includes a burden and prayerful planning to send out foreign missionaries by the year 2000. Members of Friends meetings come from all walks of life, but meet and serve together joyously under the lordship of Christ. They have demonstrated a growing united working strength in meeting needs together. In this way they have opened new work, helped complete a number of buildings for worship, as well as shown compassion to needy individuals or groups both within Taiwan and overseas.

Since Chinese Christians are commonly evangelical in beliefs, there is much common ground for cooperation with other Christians in Taiwan and Southeast Asia to advance the Gospel. In 1989 Christians from all groups and denominations united to form the Year 2000 Gospel Movement in Taiwan. Friends actively participated in this and other cooperative Christian endeavours.

Internationally Taiwan Friends have relationships with EFC-ER and the Evangelical Friends Mission. In 1990 Taiwan Yearly Meeting of Friends became one of the founding members of Evangelical Friends Churches International.

EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST

FWCC Europe & Middle East Section

(until 1966, "European Section"; until 1992, "European & Near East Section")

Contact Person: Marisa Johnson, Executive Secretary
Address: PO Box 1157, Histon, Cambridge, CB24 9XQ UK
Telephone: +44 1223 479585
Email: emes@fwcc.quaker.org
Website: www.fwccemes.org
Publication: *Among Friends* (quarterly)

Although there are members, attenders and sympathizers of the Religious Society of Friends in at least 25 countries of Europe and the Middle East, in many cases these are just a handful of people. Meetings for worship spring up for certain periods, disappearing when people move. There is, however, some indication that the greater mobility of recent years may strengthen smaller groups.

The total number of members of the Society within the Section is about 19,000 (plus several thousand attenders), of whom the vast majority are in Britain Yearly Meeting (Great Britain). Ten other yearly meetings exist: Denmark, France, Finland (set off from Sweden in 1992), German, (the German Democratic Republic YM and Pymont YM united in 1991, and the Meeting encompasses Austria Quarterly Meeting), Ireland, Middle East (not really functioning as such as unable to meet since 1975 due to political difficulties but meeting in 1994 for the first time for 18 years), Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland. They range in size from about 50 to 18,000 members. Friends in Belgium and Luxemburg form a monthly meeting in the care of the Section as do Friends in Barcelona and Moscow. Small groups also exist in Italy and Spain and are emerging in the countries which were part of the USSR, e.g. Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia and Russia itself, as well as other parts of Eastern Europe such as the Czech Republic, Georgia and Hungary. Some isolated Friends hold international membership under the care of FWCC.

Because of their small number, Europe & Middle East Friends welcome the opportunity for contact and exchange of ideas and experiences. As most countries within the Section have their own language (some even more than one), the very tools of communication provide difficult but stimulating challenges. Thus, the production of material, both printed and on-line, in different languages is being encouraged.

Various events and opportunities, such as family gatherings, youth pilgrimages, border meetings, intervisitation, seminars and peace and service consultations encourage mutual respect, support and trust, leading towards greater spiritual growth and involvement. A small Executive Committee, assisted by a full-time secretary, ensures communication within the Section and with other Quaker bodies. A part-time Ministry and Outreach Co-ordinator is developing a Visiting Friends programme and on-line project to help people develop their understanding of Quakerism even when geographically remote from other Friends. Increasing focus is put on youth and peace and service work. Young Friends have formed EMEYF (Europe & Middle East Young Friends) organized under the Section's auspices. The Europe & Middle East Section holds an Annual Meeting of YM and Group representatives (usually at Easter) and

maintains a keen interest in the activities of Quaker agencies which operate within the area, e.g. QCEA (Quaker Council for European Affairs) in Brussels and QUNO (Quaker United Nations Office) in Geneva.

Up-to-date information about meetings for worship, particularly outside Britain and Ireland can be obtained from the Section office.

Clerks (until 1986 “Chairmen”)

1939-1948	Regnar Halfden-Neilsen	Denmark
1949-1952	William H. Marwick	Scotland
1953-1955	Norah Douglas	Northern Ireland
1956-1963	Sigrid H. Lund	Norway
1964-1970	Heinrich Carstens	West Germany
1971-1973	Gunnar Sundberg	Sweden
1974-1976	Madelaine Jequier	Switzerland
1977-1985	John Ward	British, resident in Switzerland
1986-1991	Erica Vere	Great Britain
1992-1996	Ena McGeorge	Great Britain
1996-1997	Egil Hovdenak	Norway
1998-1999	Marianne Ijspeert	The Netherlands
2000-2006	Anita Wuyts	Belgium & Luxemburg
2006-	Marit Kromberg	Norway

Secretaries

1938	Helen Peach (Brooks)
1939-1947	Frederick Tritton
1948-1952	Elise Thomsen
1953-1955	Archer Tongue
1956-1963	Sigrid H. Lund, Executive Chairman
1964-1981	Margaret S. Gibbins
1982	Jonathan Fryer
1983-1993	Franco Perna
1993-1997	Hans Weening
1998-2002	Franco Perna
2002-2008	Bronwyn Harwood
2008-	Marisa Johnson

Quaker Council for European Affairs

Clerk: Richard Condon (Belgium & Luxembourg MM)
Representatives: Martina Weitsch and Liz Scurfield
Contact Persons: Martina Weitsch and Liz Scurfield
Address: Quaker House, Sq Ambiorix 50, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Telephone: +32 2 230 49 35
Fax:: +32 2 230 63 70
Email: info@qcea.org
Website: www.quaker.org/qcea
Publications: *Around Europe* (monthly)
Briefing Papers on a variety of subjects
Established: 1979
Reference Library: Yes

QCEA was established to bring Quaker concerns to European decision makers in the European Union and at the Council of Europe. In the past we have also engaged with other European or international agencies (i.e. NATO and the OSCE) and may do so in the future.

We work on four broad programme areas: peace, human rights, economic justice, and sustainable energy security. Within those areas we identify specific projects or themes which change over time. Our website attempts to be up to date on these at all times.

QCEA also has a role in bringing information to Friends about political developments in the European institutions and in international organisations; we do this through our publications and by running annual Study Tours and biennial conferences (upcoming dates in 2010, 2012, 2014). We collaborate where appropriate with FWCC/EMES, QUNO, FCNL, AFSC and other Quaker agencies and with the peace and service committees of the European YMs. We also collaborate with NGOs working on themes related to our own.

We can assist Friends in developing appropriate strategies for political concerns which are better raised in European fora. We offer limited overnight accommodation (very simple!) to Friends and those affiliated with Friends.

Europe and Middle East Young Friends

Contact Person: EMEYF Secretary
Address: Quaker House, Sq Ambiorix 50, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Telephone: +32 2 234 3062
Fax:: +32 2 230 6370
Email: emeyf@qcea.org
Website: http://emeyf.quaker.eu.org
Established: 1984

Europe and Middle East Young Friends (EYEMF) was set up by young Quakers from various European countries in 1984 as a body within EMES. EMEYF is run autonomously by young Quakers. Its aims are to foster communication

amongst, and information about, Young Friends communities in different parts of Europe. We hope to learn and grow from each other's spiritual experience and try to overcome boundaries by encouraging exchange between our different cultural backgrounds. One way in which we do this is to organise an annual Spring Gathering which is held in a different country each year with a special aim of supporting isolated Young Friends. There is also an annual business meeting held in March in Brussels.

Every country has a national contact person who passes information from their Young Friends group to EMEYF as well as spreading information from Young Friends in other countries to their own. EMEYF tries to give Young Friends a voice within the wider Society of Friends. EMEYF has a secretary at Quaker House in Brussels, Belgium, where enquiries can be answered.

Yearly Meetings and Groups

Austria

Austria Quarterly Meeting

Clerk:	Crispa Aeschbach-Jachmann
Contact Person:	Crispa Aeschbach-Jachmann
Address:	Eroicagasse 8/2, A-1190 Wien
Email:	oesterreich@quaeker.org
Website:	www.quaeker.org
Affiliation:	German Yearly Meeting
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	8
Meetings:	1 worship group
Established:	1938

Meeting for Worship was started in Vienna in 1921 by Friends on the foreign membership list of the then Council for International Service, London.

Friends in Austria are active in work for peace and with the UN. The former Vienna Quaker Centre, under the name of Quäkerhaus, served as a location for FSC and AFSC work with refugees and for the promotion of East-West relations.

Belgium & Luxemburg

Belgium & Luxemburg MM

Clerk:	Paul Holdsworth
Address:	Quaker House, Sq Ambiorix 50, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Telephone:	+ 32 2 230 49 35
Email:	pquaekerclerk@gmail.com
Website:	www.be-lux.quaeker.org

Affiliation: FWCC Europe & Middle East Section
Members: 33
Meetings: 2 (Brussels and Luxemburg)
Established: 1976

Although there had at various times been small Quaker worship groups in Belgium (notably Brussels and Lessines), a permanent meeting was born when expatriate Friends got together in the mid 1970s, in the capital. Contact was made with isolated Belgian Friends, until then under the auspices of France or Netherlands Yearly Meetings, and a monthly meeting was established. It was granted special status directly under FWCC Europe and Middle East Section, rather than being tied to any adjoining Yearly Meeting.

The growth of a concern about European affairs among Friends in Belgium and elsewhere led to the creation of the Quaker Council for European Affairs and, in early 1979, the opening of Quaker House, home to the QCEA secretariat.

Quaker House also hosts meetings for worship in Brussels, a small Quaker library and meeting rooms. There is some simple overnight accommodation space for Friends and attenders visiting Brussels (who should apply in advance to QCEA).

The presence of European Community institutions and other international organizations in the city ensures a regular turnover of members and attenders of many nationalities.

The meeting enjoys good working relationships with Belgian organizations and religious groups active in areas of traditional Quaker concern.

It participates in an annual Quaker "Border" meeting that brings together Friends from Belgium, France, Germany and The Netherlands.

Britain

Britain YM

Clerk: Martin Ward
Contact Person: Gillian Ashmore, Recording Clerk
Address: Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ
Telephone: + 44 (0) 207 663 1000
Fax: + 44 (0) 207 663 1001
Email: enquiries@quaker.org.uk
Website: www.quaker.org.uk
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 14,907, with 8,133 recognised attenders
Meetings: 71 area (formerly monthly), 475 local
Established: 1668
Publications: *Quaker News* (quarterly)
The Friend (weekly, published independently of YM)
Quaker Voices (published by Quaker Life)
Friends Quarterly (published independently of YM)
Book of Meetings (annually)

Book Distributor: Friends House Bookshop
Reference Library: Friends House Library
Schools: 8, not managed directly by the Yearly Meeting
 Friends' School, Saffron Walden, Essex
 Ackworth School, Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorks
 Bootham School, York
 Breckenbrough School, Thirsk, North Yorkshire
 Leighton Park School, Shinfield Road, Reading
 The Mount School, York
 Sibford School, Sibford Ferris, Banbury, Oxon
 Sidcot School, Winscombe, North Somerset

Britain Yearly Meeting (formerly known as London Yearly Meeting) is the final constitutional authority of the Society of Friends in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland with the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, but not Ireland). The Yearly Meeting arose out of a series of conferences of ministering Friends, some regional, some national, such as Swannington (1654), Balby (1656) and Skipton (1656). Since 1668 Yearly Meeting has been held in London in May/June, as it still is in most years, but since 1905 it has been held outside London, at first occasionally, and now residentially every four years in July/August. In 1994 the name of the yearly meeting was changed to Britain Yearly Meeting. The first book of Discipline was issued in manuscript by Yearly Meeting in 1738 as the Christian and Brotherly Advices. It was revised in 1782 and printed the following year, being re-issued almost once every generation since that time. The book of Discipline is now published under the name of Quaker Faith and Practice. The current updated edition was published in 2005. It contains a combination of advice on Church Government, guidance on living 'in the light', and substantial historical material.

Meeting for Sufferings, established 1675, is the standing representative body. Its name reflects its establishment to take steps to relieve and secure redress from persecution. It comprises some 170 Friends nominated by area meetings and a number of ex-officio and co-opted members. It meets at Friends House, London, about eight times a year. Yearly Meeting delegates to Meeting for Sufferings in the intervals between Yearly Meetings, deliberation, discernment and the oversight of our corporate religious life. Meeting for Sufferings also receives regular interim reports for information and consultation from the Britain Yearly Meeting Trustees. Yearly Meeting appoints Trustees to act on its behalf as managing trustees of the work, assets and property held directly by Britain Yearly Meeting. The Trustees are responsible to the Yearly Meeting for the right stewardship of its work, assets and property; as charity trustees, they are also legally defined as responsible for the general control and management of the administration of the affairs of Britain Yearly Meeting. They oversee the work of the Management Meeting and are the employers of Britain Yearly Meeting staff.

The Yearly Meeting's work is carried into effect through departments and committees, of which the following may be specially mentioned:

Quaker Life works with Friends in their meetings and with other local and national committees to help deepen experience of God's grace and its consequent

expression in all our lives and in our meetings. It seeks to nurture the worshipping community of Britain Yearly Meeting, developing it into an inclusive community.

Its purpose is to strengthen and sustain the fabric of Quaker life by offering programmes and opportunities that will empower Friends, individually and in their meetings, to deepen their spiritual lives and attract new people to their meetings. The committee carries out its work by support, training, developing skills, and sharing experience and good practice. It uses local and regional networks, publications and other communications, and the opportunities available through co-operation within the Christian church and with other faith groups.

The three main areas of responsibility of Quaker Life are: spiritual development, religious learning and pastoral care; support for the right holding of meetings for worship and for church affairs; membership matters and outreach. The committee works closely with Woodbrooke, and through Charney Manor and Swarthmoor Hall, in many of these areas.

The committee works together with and for those taking special responsibilities such as clerks, wardens, librarians, elders and overseers. It also supports those involved with nominations, work with children and young people, relations with other churches and outreach to those who may be interested in the Religious Society of Friends.

As part of its work with young people, the committee is responsible for the holding of Junior Yearly Meeting.

Quaker Peace & Social Witness works with and on behalf of Friends in Britain to translate our faith into action. As Quakers we are impelled by our faith to make our lives an active witness for peace and justice. Our historic testimonies to equality, justice, peace, simplicity and truth challenge us to alleviate suffering and seek positive social change.

The committee aims to ensure that its work is clearly rooted in Quaker values, expresses Quaker testimonies and builds upon Quaker experiences. It works to build the daily experiences and spiritual leadings of Friends in their meetings into our corporate work. With this foundation the committee seeks to support Friends individually in their lives, jointly in their meetings and in Britain Yearly Meeting and to witness on behalf of Quakers in the world. Our work should be primarily directed to areas where our Quaker witness can be best done corporately and where it has a particular contribution to make.

The responsibility of the committee is to promote a committed and rigorous social and political engagement for the building of a just and peaceful world. The committee tries to address the causes of violence, locally, nationally and globally, by engaging in nonviolent peacemaking in areas affected by armed conflict, working for a culture of peace and justice based on nonviolent change. It works towards a society where diversity is appreciated and all people can fulfil their potential for fullness of life in harmony with others. It promotes social justice, the reduction of prejudice and the equal treatment of all people, and works against unjust systems. The committee

also seeks to promote changes that will help us to live responsibly and in harmony with all life and the Earth itself.

Quaker Peace & Social Witness works with individual Friends and meetings to make available advice, education and information as Friends seek to respond to their leadings.

The committee engages in dialogue locally, nationally, internationally and globally, to witness to Quaker values and testimonies, and to express Britain Yearly Meeting's views to governments, intergovernmental bodies and other political institutions. The committee seeks to promote truthfulness, integrity, openness and accountability in social and political institutions. Quaker Peace & Social Witness works with other Quaker bodies nationally and internationally to share experience and expertise. It works with ecumenical and interfaith groups, and with other churches and faiths at home and abroad, to advance shared concerns.

Quaker Peace & Social Witness seeks to express corporately our experience that the Holy Spirit moves people to serve and learn from their fellow human beings and to promote peace and social justice.

Quaker Committee for Christian & Interfaith Relations is responsible for keeping Britain Yearly Meeting informed of the various movements towards co-operation within the Christian church and opportunities for interfaith dialogue, and for responding on behalf of the yearly meeting so that Friends' views on issues of faith and order are represented to other churches and communities of faith.

Quaker World Relations Committee maintains contact with the life and activities of other yearly meetings and groups of Friends, and in particular with the work of the Friends World Committee for Consultation and its Europe & Middle East Section.

Young Friends General Meeting organises a number of events each year that enable young Friends from around Britain to get together for social and spiritual gatherings. Its address is: YFGM Co-ordinator, Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham, B29 6LJ.

There are also a number of independent associations existing to promote the special concerns of Friends (see entries in Britain Yearly Meeting's Book of Meetings and on the website).

The Library of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain (founded 1673) at Friends House contains extensive material on Quaker history, life and thought, and the concerns of the Society in many parts of the world. This amounts to about 90,000 printed items, about 20,000 pictures, prints and drawings, and a substantial manuscript collection. The Library also holds the central archives of the Religious Society of Friends in Great Britain from the 17th century onwards; most local Quaker archives are deposited locally, but the Library maintains a general inventory. The Library is open to Friends and other bona fide researchers from 10 pm to 5 pm, Tuesday to Friday inclusive. Besides public holidays, it is closed in the week preceding the spring bank holiday in May and for the last complete week in November.

The Quaker Bookshop at Friends House holds a large stock of Quaker books published in Britain and from around the world. It also stocks books on spirituality, liberal Christianity, social responsibility, the environment, conflict resolution and peace work. It has an extensive postal trade both at home and abroad.

Czech Republic

Prague Recognised Meeting

Contact Person: Benjamin Vail
Address: Petra Beznice 35A, Praha 8-Kobylisy, Czech Republic
Telephone: +420 776 813 256
Email: info@kvakeri.cz
Affiliation: WCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Denmark

Denmark Yearly Meeting

Clerk: Mogens Clausen
Contact Person: Mogens Clausen
Address: Kvaekerne, Drejervej 17, 4 DK-2400
Copenhagen NV Denmark
Website: www.kvaekerne.dk
Members: 30
Meetings: 1
Affiliated Groups: Worship group at Aarhus once a month
Established: 1875

Quakerism began to take root in Denmark in about 1870 following, in the early part of the century, the visits of British Friends. The first Yearly Meeting was organized in 1879. The little Society never had more than 100 members. No regular meetings for worship or business were held. The annual gathering provided the only regular contact between members.

The revival of an active Quaker movement in Denmark occurred about 1930 mainly as a result of the return to Copenhagen of two Danish Friends who had been to the USA. A regular public meeting for worship was started 1936 in Copenhagen.

Friends participated in relief work in Spain, work for refugees from Central Europe, and Christian Assyrian/Syrian refugees from Turkey.

A Scandinavian Quaker centre was established in Copenhagen in 1939/40. It became a Danish Quaker Centre receiving assistance from British and American Friends from 1951-1965.

A Danish Quaker group was responsible for a boarding school for 15-17 year old girls from 1947-1973, and for a dayschool for 6-17 year olds from 1957-1987.

After the Second World War Danish Friends were engaged in relief work in several European countries, and they later were active in the campaign against atomic weapons, and they assisted refugees seeking asylum in Denmark.

A Danish initiative in 1984 led to a series of "Baltic peace meetings" where Quakers from East and West could meet. In 2000 Friends in Copenhagen moved from their downtown premises to a more modern building in Copenhagen West.

Meeting for worship is held every Sunday in Copenhagen and monthly in Aarhus. Several times every year we gather in Jutland where a few isolated Friends are living.

Egypt

Cairo Quaker Group

Contact Person: Ray Langsten
Address: Social Research Center, American Univ in Cairo,
113 Sharia Kasr el-Aini, Cairo 11511, Egypt
Telephone: +20 2 2797 6969
Email: langsten@aucegypt.edu
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Estonia

Tallinn Worship Group

Contact Person: Anna-Leena Vierumaki
Address: Uus 2-4, Tallinn 10111, Estonia
Email: anna-leena@vierumaki.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 5
Established: 200

Finland

Finland YM

(Ystävien Uskonnollinen Seura Kveekarit)

Clerk: Heather Lundberg Fowler
Address: Nylandsgatan 3B 34, FIN-20500, Åbo, Finland
Telephone: +358 40 876 9163
Email: fowler@hotmail.co.uk
Website: www.nbl.fi/suomen.kveekarit
www.netlife.fi/users/antti.pelkola/kveekarit/
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Members: 25
Meetings: Helsinki, Tampere, Turku/Åbo, Oulu & Kokkola and Ekenäs (of Sweden YM)
Telephone: +358 40 876 9163
Established: 1992
Publication: *Kveekariuutiskirje/Kvåkarnyhetsbrev newsletter 6 times a year*
Other Center: Kveekarikoti, Vaasankatu 4 C 53, 00500, Helsinki, Finland (accommodation)

The Religious Society of Friends in Finland has three main roots: the peace work carried out in connection with Swedish Friends after the 1914-1918 war, the relief work in Finland by American, Swedish and other Friends after the 1939-1945 war, and the Viittakivi international study centre (1951-2007) which was started in cooperation between AFSC/FSC Friends and the Settlement Movement.

Douglas Steere made the first of his many influential visits to Finland in 1937. Two years later Olof Rikberg, a conscientious objector who had studied at Pendle Hill, joined Sweden Yearly Meeting, becoming the first official Finnish Quaker. In 1946 a Monthly Meeting of Sweden YM was established in Helsinki.

The Meeting became a nationally independent Yearly Meeting and registered society in 1992. With money from Sweden YM, Finland Friends were able to buy a flat in Helsinki for holding Meetings for Worship, housing a Quaker library and providing accommodation for visitors.

The three largest Meetings for Worship are located in Helsinki, Tampere and Turku/Åbo, with other smaller groups around the country, and also many geographically isolated Friends. There is a rich mix of Members and attenders residing in Finland, with Finnish, English and Swedish being the main languages of communication, reflected in the tri-lingual newsletter.

Friends from around Finland gather for Meetings for Worship for Business four or five times per year and hold an annual summer gathering. An increase in actively involved attenders, especially Young Friends, keen to work with established Finland Friends, has breathed new life into the Yearly Meeting and there is great hope for the future.

As a small Yearly Meeting, Friends in Finland continue to find great joy and strength in visits by Friends from abroad and in contact with other Yearly Meetings and Quaker organisations.

France

France Yearly Meeting

Contact Person: Jeanne-Henriette Louis
Address: 114 rue de Vaugirard, 75006 Paris, France
Telephone: +33 01 4548 7423
Email: quaker.paris@aliceadsl.fr

Website: <http://quaker.chez-alice.fr/>
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 60
Meetings: 3 monthly meetings
Established: 1933
Publication: *Lettre des Amis* (Quarterly)
Other Centers: Centre Quaker de Congénies, 11 rue des Quakers, 30111 Congénies. Accom. www.maison-quaker-congenies.org

The first Quaker group dates back to 1785 when a mystical sect of about 150 members living in Congénies and other villages in the south of France came into contact with London Yearly Meeting. American and British Friends helped the group to build its meeting house (1822) which was used until about 1906 and still stands. Mainly owing to the burden of conscription, the little Society gradually declined in numbers.

The present Society of Friends in France grew up after the war of 1914-18, when an Allowed Meeting of London Yearly meeting was set up for relief workers. After the conclusion of the work of the War Victims Relief Committee, an international Quaker Centre was established in Paris in 1920. Interested French people attended the meeting for worship from the beginning. In 1927 the Allowed Meeting was recognised as a Monthly Meeting of London Yearly Meeting. In 1933 this became a yearly meeting. After a period of slow but steady growth there came a crisis of decline arousing fears for the yearly meeting's survival. Now new life seems to be developing with new, active members.

Small groups meet fairly regularly in Normandy and in south France, and a meeting for worship is held every Sunday in Paris at 11am, 114 rue de Vaugirard.

French Quakerism has some special features due to the French character: a spirit of freedom, a keen feeling of equality and a traditional absence of formality. France Yearly Meeting cooperates with various peace, social and religious organisations. The Quaker International Centre serves as headquarters for France Yearly Meeting, for Paris Monthly Meeting and for the International Centre.

In 2003, France Yearly meeting bought back the Quaker House in Congénies, which had gone into private hands at the beginning of the 20th century.

Georgia

Tbilisi Worship Group

Clerk: Mikheil Elizbarashvili
Contact Person: Jimsher Chachibaia
Address: Tsotne Dadiani 65-1-75 Tbilisi, Georgia
Telephone: +995 95 388 394
Email: friendshouse.ge@yahoo.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 7
Established: 2007

Germany

German YM

(Deutsche Jahresversammlung e.V.)

Clerks:	Jalka, Mason Barnett
Contact Person:	Jalka
Address:	Quäkerbüro, Planckstrasse, D-10117 Berlin, Germany
Telephone:	+49 30 208 2284
Email:	berlin@quaeker.org
Website:	www.quaeker.org
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed
Members:	273 (including Austria)
Meetings:	8 quarterly (including Austria), ca. 30 monthly meetings and worship groups
Established:	1925
Publication:	<i>Der Quäker</i> (monthly)

Established through visits of early Friends from England and America, small groups of Friends existed in Germany around 1700 and again 100 years later. Due to wars and persecutions, most Friends emigrated and groups again dwindled.

During World War I British Friends helped interned Germans and other internees and right after the war joined with American Friends to form a relief service in over 100 places in Germany. These contacts with German people in the relief centres led to regular meetings for worship. Eventually the German Yearly Meeting was formed in 1925. A new meeting house was built in 1932 at Bad Pyrmont in the place where the previous one had stood since 1801. In spite of the coming of the Hitler regime in 1933, the little Society of Friends even grew; though many members had to emigrate. Friends suffered under persecution and for six years could not hold their Yearly Meeting. Finally in 1942, the Quaker house was confiscated.

After World War II German Yearly Meeting restarted in many places and, again with the help of Friends' relief teams, there were neighbourhood centres, maintained for several years by the then Friends Service Council and the American Friends Service Committee. German Yearly Meeting grew and seven quarterly meetings (including Austria) were established. The largest meetings are now in Hamburg, Berlin and Hanover. As there are many Friends living in isolated areas, the regional meetings are of particular importance in the life of the Yearly Meeting.

In 1969 political circumstances forced German Friends to split into east and west yearly meetings. In the meantime a new generation emerged, bubbling with concerns and activities (especially peace campaigns) and strengthened by a large group of associated young Friends, not yet members, but swelling the ranks of the YM gatherings to almost twice its former size. Friends are involved in the Quakerhäuser in Holm-Seppensen near Hamburg, an institution that gives a home to children from broken homes.

Relief work is being done by the Quäkerhilfe. It supports the projects of other yearly meetings, especially the Rural Service Programme in Kaimosi, Kenya and various projects in Warsaw and Krakow, Poland. It is also involved in work for refugees. The Peace Committee organizes regional weekend seminars and has circulated statements on the development of nuclear arms in Germany. In the recent past it has dealt with East-West reconciliation and questions of nuclear energy. Other committees deal with literature, outreach and programmes for the children. After the fall of the GDR, the two divided German Yearly Meetings reunified in November 1991, after 22 years, to form one German Yearly Meeting. The former GDR YM and the reunified Berlin group (after 28 years) have come together into one Quarterly Meeting, Bezirk Ost of GYM. Friends meet 2-3 times per year for Quarterly Meetings. German Friends maintain close ties with the Yearly Meetings across their borders.

Young Friends appoint their own clerks and hold their Junior YM during GYM. They, as well as younger Friends, organize several gatherings during the course of the year (New Year's, Easter, Pentecost) to enhance their ties to one another. A position was established in 2008 to augment the children's and youth programme in GYM with curricula, material and to help increase intergenerational interaction.

Friends now own the Quäkerbüro in the Planckstrasse, Berlin, which was founded as the International Secretariat in 1926 and which has been the office of GYM since 1945. The offices were renovated in 2008 and visitors are welcome. Berlin Meeting holds meeting for worship there every week.

Greece

Athens Christian Friends Meeting.

Contact Person: Themistoklis J. Papaioannou.
Address: P.O. Box 21121, Athens 11410, Greece
Telephone: +30 694 241 2687
Email: info@christianquaker.net
Websites: <http://christianquaker.net> (in English)
www.quaker.gr (in Greek)
Affiliation: Rockingham Monthly Meeting, Ohio Y.M (Conservative)
Established: 2006 as an allowed Meeting of Rockingham MM

Hungary

Budapest Recognized Meeting

Contact Person: Zsuzsa Eastland
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Telephone: +36 1 319 6326
Email: eastland.zsuzsa@freemail.hu
Website: <http://hungary.quaker.eu.org>
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Ireland

Ireland YM

Contact Person:	Recording Clerk
Address:	Quaker House Dublin, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16, Ireland
Telephone:	+353 1 495 6888
Fax::	+353 1 495 6889
Email:	office@quakers-in-ireland.ie
Website:	www.quakers-in-ireland.ie
Members:	1534
Meetings:	3 quarterly, 8 monthly, 19 particular (meeting weekly) with an additional 7 (meeting once or twice a month)
Established:	1669
Publication:	<i>The Friendly Word</i> (6 times a year)

The first Meeting for Worship in Ireland was held in 1654. There are now about 802 members in Northern Ireland (which is part of the United Kingdom) and, in the Republic of Ireland 747, of which about 513 are in the Dublin area. The membership is largely urban rather than rural. Meetings for Worship are unprogrammed.

The main witness to the message of Christ is through the lives of members in their neighbourhoods and workplaces, and through involvement in social and other work in conjunction with members of other denominations.

Irish Quaker Faith in Action (IQFA) is the committee of Yearly Meeting which has a care over peace and service work.

Most quarterly and monthly meetings have their own peace and service committees. The most active of these is the Ulster Quaker Service Committee which has two main projects. The first, Quaker Cottage, which now occupies purpose-built premises outside Belfast, provides a place where mothers and children from both traditions and communities in Northern Ireland, who have often experienced difficult circumstances in their homes, can come together in a welcoming and caring atmosphere. The second project consists of the visitors centre at Meghaberry gaol in Northern Ireland.

Education has long been a particular interest of Friends in Ireland and there are at the moment four schools. All these schools cater for all denominations, and most are fully integrated into the state system. There are also many Friends who are involved in other schools or educational projects in Ireland.

Bloomfield Hospital was established in Dublin in 1811 "for those afflicted with disorders of the mind" under the management of a Committee of Friends. The psychogeriatric hospital, which added nursing care and active elderly facilities in the last century, has moved to new premises on a 10 acre site in Rathfarnham and has been incorporated as Bloomfield Care Centre Ltd.

The Ireland Yearly Meeting Office has moved with Bloomfield to the purpose-built Quaker House on the same site.

Irish Quaker Faith in Action

Central Address: IQFA, Quaker House Dublin, Stocking Lane, Dublin 16, Ireland
Tel: (01) 4956889

Irish Quaker Faith in Action is a committee of Ireland Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. It is charged with giving expression to our Christian faith through peace witness and social concern. Irish Quaker Faith in Action was established in 1992 as a successor to Irish Quaker Peace and Service.

IQFA approves projects for support by Irish Friends and accepts concerns and tasks from Ireland Yearly Meeting.

Fund raising is a key element of the work of IQFA as well as sponsoring communication between Peace and Service committees within Ireland Yearly Meeting. IQFA welcomes the opportunity to cooperate closely with other like-minded organizations.

Italy

Associazione religiosa degli Amici

Contact Person: Cecelia Clementel-Jones
Address: Via San Ruffillo 1, I-40141 Bologna, Italy
Telephone: +39 051 399 965
Email: clementel@mailbox.dsnet.it
Website: www.quaker.org/italia
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Bologna Quaker Group

Contact Person: Mauro Bonoiuti
Address: B Gigli 2, 40137 Bologna, Italy
Telephone: +39 051 6234 319
Email: 4707@jperbole.bologna.it
Website: www.quaker.org/italia
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Kyrgyzstan

Bishkek Worship Group

Contact Person: International Membership Secretary
Email: world@fwcc.quaker.org
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Latvia

Daugavpils Worship Group

Contact Person: Elena Belajeva
Address: Jatnieku iela 75-27, Daugavpils LV-5410, Latvia
Telephone: +371 601 8388
Email: elena74@inbox.lv
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Liepaja Worship Group

Contact Person: Inese Ansule
Address: Daugavas iela 7-19, Liepaja LV-3416, Latvia
Telephone: +371 29983559
Email: nese172001@yahoo.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Riga Worship Group

Contact Person: Agita Zake
Address: Varnu 10-12, Riga LV-1009, Latvia
Telephone: +371 2672 5651
Email: agitazake@yahoo.com
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Lebanon

Brummana Monthly Meeting

Clerk: Tony Manasseh
Contact Person: Tony Manasseh
Address: c/o Brummana High School, Brummana, Lebanon
Email: bmm.lebanonquakers@gmail.com
Telephone: +961 366 5024

Brummana Monthly Meeting, part of Middle East Yearly Meeting, is so closely linked with Brummana High School that it is impossible to speak about one without the other. Brummana High School founded by Theophilus Waldmeier opened its doors as a girls school in the summer of 1873. Brummana Monthly Meeting first met on 12 December 1868. It was attended by four members, Theophilus Waldmeier, Eli Jones, Henry Newman and Alfred Loidfox, who were soon joined by many local people.

Today, Brummana High School is one of the best schools in the region with over 900 students; 80 of them are boarders from several nationalities. Brummana High School suffered a lot during the 15 years war that started in 1975 and most of its boarders numbering 350 students at that time had to flee Lebanon. Brummana

High School is owned and looked after by Quaker International Educational Trust (Quiet) headquarters in London; while a local board of governors runs the school.

Brummana Monthly Meeting holds its meetings every Sunday at 10AM in its meeting house on Brummana High School property.

We have currently around 35 active members and many have unfortunately left due to the war, to the U.S., U.K and Europe.

Lithuania

Kaunas Quaker Group

Contact Person: Irena Balciuniene
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Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

The Netherlands

Netherlands YM

(Religieus Genootschap der Vrienden – Quakers)

Clerk: Kees Nieuwerth
Contact Person: Hadewijch Touwen (Executive Secretary)
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Telephone: +31 570 655 229
Email: secretariat@quaker.dds.nl
Website: www.vriendenkring.info or www.quakers.nu
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Members: 93
Meetings: 4
Established: 1931
Publication: *De Vriendenkring* (monthly)
Reference Library: Quakercentre, Vossiusstraat 20, 1071 AD Amsterdam
Other Centers: Quakercentre, Vossiusstraat 20, 1071 AD Amsterdam

The connection of Friends with The Netherlands began about 1653, the Low Lands being the nearest field for the "spread of truth" outside the British Isles. Several British Friends travelled in the ministry in parts of the Netherlands and Germany, particularly in the northern Friesian parts. Here they found fertile soil for their ministry since this is where, a century earlier, our fellow Peace Church, the Mennonites arose. In 1677, at the request of the Dutch Friends, a deputation of British Friends, among them George Fox, William Penn and Robert Barclay, visited the Netherlands to found, at Amsterdam, a Yearly Meeting for the continent of Europe, with quarterly meetings in a number of different countries. This was the fifth Yearly Meeting to be recognised worldwide. However, partly because many Friends decided to emigrate to Pennsylvania, this first Amsterdam Yearly Meeting gradually died out and was discontinued around 1710, though some staunch Dutch Friends carried on until 1851.

In its present form, Netherlands Yearly Meeting arose around 1928, greatly influenced by Woodbrooke College in England. Dutch people who studied at Woodbrooke became familiar with Quaker faith and practice, and, therein, found their spiritual home. Netherlands Yearly meeting was (re)established in 1931.

As racial persecution developed in neighbouring countries, work for refugees was undertaken in collaboration with American and British Friends. Dutch Friends shared with German and British Friends in founding an International Quaker School at Ommen in 1934. This school was revived after the war and has since moved to Castle Beverweerd near Utrecht. After 37 years the Foundation for Quaker Schools running it dropped the Quaker name in 1971. The school continues as an international boarding school for boys and girls.

The Quaker Centre at Amsterdam, founded with the cooperation of British and American Friends in 1939, is now carried on by Dutch Friends at Vossiusstraat 20. It houses Amsterdam Monthly Meeting and the library of Netherlands Yearly Meeting, but there is no accommodation available there.

Netherlands Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends is registered under the law as a church and is a member of the Council of Churches in the Netherlands. The same applies to the Dutch Interchurch Aid and Service Organisation. Netherlands Friends take an active interest in the Quaker Council for European Affairs and are represented in the Council. Likewise Dutch Friends take an active part in the work and life of Friends World Committee European and Middle East Section.

Norway

Norway YM

(Vennesen Samfunn Kvekerne)

Contact Person:	Marit Kromberg
Address:	Grønland 12, 0188 OSLO, Norway
Email:	kveker@kveker.org
Website:	www.kveker.org
Members:	125 (including children)
Meetings:	3 Monthly Meetings
Established:	1818
Publication:	<i>Tidsskriftet Kvekeren</i> (quarterly)

The first Norwegian Friends were men from the coastal areas of southern Norway who were seized at sea during the Napoleonic wars and were confined on prison ships near London. Friends from the Meeting in Rochester visited them frequently. In 1814 when the war was over, the men were set free and returned to their homes.

We know of small groups of Friends in Christiania (later Oslo) and Stavanger. These groups were supported by visitors from Britain and USA. In 1818 a special meeting was called, first in Stavanger, about a month later in Christiania, with the assistance of Stephen Grellet and William Allen. The meeting in Stavanger has since been reckoned as the first yearly meeting of the Society of Friends in Norway.

All religious groups outside the Lutheran State Church suffered severe persecution for years to follow, and several local groups emigrated to the USA, leaving only a few remaining members in each area around Stavanger. In 1845 new legislation was adopted giving dissenters the right to form their own religious societies. But conflicts remained in the areas of payment of church taxes and conscientious objection to military service. In 1969 the legislation governing religious organisations was revised to regulate conditions for membership and to introduce a system for reimbursement to the religious organisation of church taxes paid by members to the state and to local authorities.

Norwegian legislation assumes child membership of religious organisations, and a certain amount of the reimbursed tax is earmarked for religious education. The children of Norway Yearly Meeting live all over the country and we see it as important to ensure that they can meet and maintain friendships and practice Quaker ways. Our yearly meetings include a children's yearly meeting, and we arrange an all-ages event in October each year. Oslo Monthly Meeting regularly arranges meetings for worship for children (and adults). Other groups usually arrange some event for children before Christmas.

Stavanger Monthly Meeting has been in existence since 1818. The Christiania Meeting did not become permanent, but Oslo Monthly Meeting was formally established in 1952. Kristiansand Monthly Meeting was established in 1975. Isolated Friends scattered through the country remain affiliated to the Meeting where they entered into membership, and try to form worship groups in the area where they live. Contact addresses are published and kept updated on our website www.kveker.org.

A monthly newsletter, Kvekernytt, is circulated to Friends and Attenders all over the country. It contains a mixture of short ministry, sharing of joys and sorrows, notices about changes of address, and information about meetings for worship and other events.

In 1959 the Yearly Meeting opened a small school and home for mentally handicapped young men on a farm, Lindgrov, near Risør on the south coast. Following legislative reform in 1990, the institution, which by then consisted of small, modern buildings functioning as "family collectives", was taken over by the Local Authority from January 1, 1991. Norway Yearly Meeting has maintained links of friendship with Lindgrov.

Norway Yearly Meeting established Kvekerhjelp (Quaker Service Norway) in about 1963. Kvekerhjelp now supports projects in the Middle East and in the Great Lakes Area of Africa. Kvekerhjelp cooperates with other Quaker service organisations and with Norwegian and international aid agencies. Priority is given to projects in conflict areas, projects among women and children and on self-reliant participatory development and conflict management, initiated and carried out by local partners. Kvekerhjelp is administered by a board elected by Norway Yearly Meeting.

The quarterly publication *Tidsskriftet Kvekeren* started in 1937. It was meant to be a Scandinavian or Nordic publication, but very soon became all Norwegian. *Tidsskriftet Kvekeren* will publish expressions of the religious views and attitudes of the Religious Society of Friends in Norway, and try to see questions of current interest in a Quaker perspective. It should provide information to others about the Society of Friends and Quaker thinking.

Kvekerforlaget (Norwegian Quaker Press) was established in 1978 and by 2007 has published about 60 different pamphlets and books, several of them in subscription series. A few books have been published in English for the international market.

Palestine

See **West Bank** page 118.

Russian Federation

Friends House Moscow and Moscow MM

Email: fhm@online.ru
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

St Petersburg Quaker Group

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Worship Style: Unprogrammed
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Spain

Barcelona Monthly Meeting

Contact Person: Caroline Wilson
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Members: 5
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Established: 1958

The Barcelona group was established in 1958 by a few Spanish seekers who had heard about Friends from various sources, including an esoteric (and clandestine, at the time) magazine, the BBC and, in the case of one member, from a book describing "dangerous sects". They became associated with France Yearly Meeting and, since 1965, two American Friends from Central Philadelphia Yearly Meeting have been living in Barcelona and supporting the meeting.

In 1992 the monthly meeting became a meeting in special relationship to the FWCC World Office through the International Membership Committee.

The group is small and visitors are always welcome. Meetings for worship are held on the first and third Sundays each month at 11am.

Madrid Quaker Group

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Email: mc.alcalde@terra.es
Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Malaga Worship Group

Contact Person: Francisco Gonzalez
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Affiliation: FWCC International Membership Programme
Worship Style: Unprogrammed

Sweden

Sweden Yearly Meeting

Contact Person: The Clerk (t f ombud)
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Kristinehovsgatan 2, Stockholm (callers)
+46 8 668 68 16
Telephone: kvakargarden@kvakare.se
Email: www.kvakare.se
Website: Around 100
Members: 8 recognized worship groups
Meetings: 1935
Established: *Kväkartidskrift* Swedish Quaker Journal (3 or 4 times a year)
Publications: *VänNytt* newsletter (about 8 times a year)
Other Centers: Svartbäcksgården, Svartbäcken, 762 91 Rimbo
(rural retreat centre with accommodation)
Other Centers: Kväkarhjälpen, Tofte Frykman, +46 175 60425/70 732 78 65

Sweden Yearly Meeting arose spontaneously from a small worship group that met in the 1920s. In 1937 the Meeting was recognised by the Swedish government as an independent religious society outside the Swedish State Church. Since 1956 Swedish Friends have had their own Centre in Stockholm called Kväkargården. The Centre has a meeting room, office, library, warden's flat and two small rooms for committee meetings etc.

About seventy kilometres from Stockholm, the Meeting has Svartbäcksgården, a rural facility used for retreats, summer camps, residential Yearly Meeting and leisure-time activities.

Friends gather for Yearly Meeting and Samfundsrådet, a General Meeting for business that meets twice a year. Worship groups conduct meetings for business according to their needs, size and regularity of meeting.

Much of the Meeting's energies and resources are spent keeping the various worship groups thriving and encouraging formation of new groups. Kväkargården and Svartbäcksgården are maintained and managed. We offer regular retreats, studies and summer camps that attract Friends, attenders and enquirers. All-age worship, intervisitation and travelling in the ministry to groups and individuals are ways we hope to deepen our fellowship. We are active in outreach through our homepage, newsletter and informative gatherings. Kväkargården has a well-kept library. We produce publications of various kinds and our Quaker journal, Kväkartidskrift. An important aspect of the Meeting is work with our Service Committee, Kväkarhjälpen, which supports self-help projects in a number of developing countries. Recent projects have also included writing our own Faith and Practise, releasing a Friend to write the history of our Meeting, supporting another Friend to complete studies at Earlham School of Religion in order to better serve as released resource person to the Meeting. Sweden YM strives to maintain active relationships with other European Yearly Meetings and Quaker organisations.

Switzerland

Switzerland YM

(Société Religieuse des Amis Suisses)

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Website:	www.swiss-quakers.ch
Affiliation:	Independent
Worship Style:	Unprogrammed

The first gathering of Swiss Friends and "friends of the Friends" was held at Berne in 1934, with the encouragement of Friends in Geneva, and was attended by about 50 people. Many of the members of the conference were unknown to each other, but it was discovered that 22 of the participants had served at different times with Pierre Ceresole in the Service Civil workcamps, and nine of the men had been imprisoned for conscientious objection to military service. A group from Zurich, closely connected with the Christian Socialist Movement, had been holding a meeting for worship regularly for some time, and in the opening session of the conference one of their number described their spiritual need and reasons for turning toward Quakerism.

This conference proved to be the first of a series of annual meetings and in 1939 Swiss Friends were formally recognised as a General Meeting attached to London Yearly Meeting, having the status of a quarterly and monthly meeting. In 1944 the General Meeting became a Yearly Meeting. The membership is fairly evenly divided between French and German speaking Switzerland. At the Yearly Meeting both languages are used.

Swiss Friends are united as a yearly meeting in their witness for peace. They cooperate with the Service Civil, whose founder Pierre Ceresole was a Friend. Human rights, and, in particular, the right to conscientious objection to military service, are a concern of Swiss Friends. They try to put forward this concern to the Swiss government, frequently in cooperation with other religious groups and churches. In 1978, they set up a special committee to deal with this and other social and political concerns. Swiss Friends also take an active part in the projects of FWCC, Europe & Middle East Section.

Quaker House in Geneva has historically a close relationship with the Geneva meeting for worship started in 1923. In the meeting there are always many non-Swiss members and the French and English languages are used. Quaker House, established in 1926, is under the sponsorship of QPSW in London.

West Bank

Ramallah Friends Meeting

Contact Person: Jean Zaru
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Worship Style: Unprogrammed
Established: 1910
School: Ramallah Friends School
Other Center: Friends International Center Ramallah

There has been an active and vibrant Palestinian Quaker community in Ramallah since the late 1800s. In 1910 this community built Ramallah Friends Meeting House and later added another building that was used for community outreach. The Ramallah Friends Meeting has always played a vital role in the community. In 1948 the buildings and grounds became the home to many Palestinian refugees. Throughout the years, the members of Ramallah Friends Meeting organized numerous community programs such as the Children's Play Center, Sunday School, and women's activities.

By the early 1900s the Meeting House and Annex, which housed the meeting rooms and bathroom facilities, fell into disrepair as a result of damage inflicted by time and as a result of conflict. So serious was the deterioration that by the middle of the 1990s it was impossible to use the building at all.

A further blow to Ramallah Friends and the wider Palestinian community was the high level of emigration brought on by the economic situation and the hardships arising from the continuing Israeli military occupation.

In 2002 a committee consisting of Friends from the US and the Clerk of Ramallah Friends Meeting began to raise funds for the renovations of the buildings and grounds of the Ramallah Friends Meeting House. By November 2004 the renovations were completed and on 6 March 2005 the Meeting House and grounds were rededicated to serve Ramallah Friends and the Palestinian community at large.

The Friends International Center in Ramallah (FICR) is a ministry of the Ramallah Friends Meeting in partnership with Philadelphia YM, Baltimore YM and concerned Friends and others in the US and around the world. FICR offers a ministry of hospitality; creates an atmosphere of care and respect in which positive civic and civil discourse can be pursued; is a witness to hope and reconciliation in a region where despair and violence have too often reigned. In all this we seek to express the deepest values and highest aspirations of the Quaker faith. FICR networks with faith communities and with local and international NGOs that promote human rights and international law. Activities include arranging lectures for college and university groups, NGO study tours and fact-finding tours, as well as organizing educational and cultural events, lecture series, workshops on women's role in peacemaking and providing space for local NGOs and faith-based groups to meet.

Corrections

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| Spelling or Punctuation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Change in Contact Details | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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