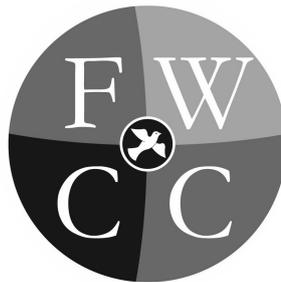


Number 175
2011/2

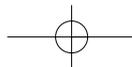
Friends World News

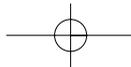
The Bulletin of the Friends World Committee for Consultation



**Friends World
Committee for
Consultation**

Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)





From the World Office

A new year, again! For me, a new year represents opportunity to deepen my trust and faith in our Creator. I haven't bothered with resolutions because I cannot predict God's plans. Instead, I pray for guidance and courage to move forward with what is presented for me to do. You know the saying, if you want to hear God laugh, tell him your plans! God has had plenty of opportunity to laugh in my life and I'm finally learning just to turn it over to Him. Now that doesn't mean I don't make plans; rather, it means I have been learning to be flexible, to pray and listen the best I can.

It's also a time of year to remind myself of the many, many ways my life has been blessed. These blessings sustain me and support me in the darker, more difficult times when the way forward is far from clear. One other saying has proved true in my life: when the need arises, the teacher appears. These teachers don't carry that label, but I learn from them all the same. They may not look what I think I was looking for either! But invariably, I am the better for encountering them.

Here in the World Office, we have been blessed with congenial colleagues to work with, and with volunteers who have appeared and taken on responsibilities that our small staff could not manage. And they have done their work well and cheerfully. Presently, we are blessed with Anne Hodkinson, a retired Personal Assistant and Irish Friend, who first organised our International Membership files and now is serving as the Registrar for the World Conference. Our other

regular volunteer is Phil Wood, a young Friend in his gap year, who is now managing the World Conference website. Both came as surprises and blessings – thank you, God!

While our other staff may be on the payroll, they are nonetheless great blessings to our work: Harry Albright, Director of Communications and International Membership Secretary; Cathy Rowlands, Finance Administrator, Kim Bond, Office Manager; Marleen Schepers, World Conference Coordinator; and Sahra Haji, Database Administrator. The collegiality they offer makes coming to the office every day a pleasure.

And where would we be without our worldwide volunteers, who serve on committees, most of which only meet by conference telephone call? They are willing to take on important work without the pleasure of the face-to-face encounters. We are blessed by their service.

Thank you all!

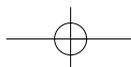
With faith and hope,

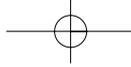
General Secretary
FWCC World Office

Contents

| | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------|
| 2 | World Conference 2012 | 13 | World Office Accounts |
| 3 | Around The Sections | 14 | About FWCC |
| 11 | General Secretary Nominee | 15 | Publications order form/contributions |
| 12 | World Conference Study Materials | 16 | Quaker Youth Pilgrimage |

Cover: Some Friends from Atlanta Georgia who took part in the "Being Salt and Light" USA Workshops. Valerie Joy is top left and Abel Sibonio is 2nd from right on the front row.





World Conference 2012

And we know that in all things God works together with those who love Him to bring about that which is good.

Romans 8:28

For the past three years the International Planning Committee has been working to bring into being the 6th World Conference of Friends. Now it is about to happen, from 17-25 April, at Kabarak University in Kenya.

Kenyan Friends are eager to welcome delegates to the World Conference, eager to join in this rare opportunity for Friends from all corners of the world to meet together in love. It is also a chance for Friends from outside the Africa Section to experience the life that their Kenyan brothers and sisters experience every day. It is an opportunity for the family of Friends to come together and come to know one another new ways, to talk and to listen and perhaps to explore together how Friends are called to live out their faith in this young century. Almost a third of Quakers in the world call Kenya home; holding the conference there is the most practical way to insure full representation of African Friends.

During its first meeting, the International Planning Committee felt deeply held and guided by the Spirit as they discerned the theme: **Being Salt and Light: Friends living the Kingdom of God in a Broken World**. We note with sadness everywhere in the world there is trouble, unrest and pain. Whether it be in Europe, the Americas to Asia, life goes on -- so this is normal process of everyday life for many. This is our broken world that calls for responses.

Let us remember and hold close to our hearts the broken places in our world and consider how we can be beacons of God's light. We trust and hope that this gathering will be important to the future of the Religious Society of Friends.

During the Conference, we hope to make the Conference website the portal for those who wish to follow what is happening but who are unable to attend in person. Here you will be able to read transcripts of the major talks. As well, you will be able follow various blogs, the Conference Facebook page and the Twitter feed. We will post photos and (we hope) video. We want to have a "talking wall" where people from across the world can post their thoughts on what is happening at Kabarak. For the first time, a World Conference of Friends will be as interactive as is practically possible.

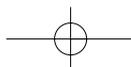
For those who do not rely on the internet, Friends World News and other publications will be reporting fully on the World Conference. There will also be a post-Conference report that we will make widely available.

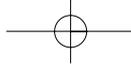
It is our hope that, whether you are there in person, following on the web, or reading about it after the fact, you will feel part of this once-in-a-generation gathering of Friends, and that it will be a positive experience in your faith journey.

Website: www.saltandlight2012.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/saltandlight2012

Twitter: [@kabarak2012](https://twitter.com/kabarak2012)





Around the sections

Section of the Americas

New Executive Secretary

The Section of the Americas has had a new Executive Secretary in the Philadelphia office since June 2011. Robin Mohr is a member of San Francisco Monthly Meeting in Pacific Yearly Meeting, has previously lived in Mexico and Colombia, and speaks fluent Spanish. In her first month on the job, she wrote to Friends in the Americas:

"I come to the FWCC office after 16 years back in my home state of California. I first worshipped with Friends in the eastern United States almost 20 years ago. Over the last six years, I have traveled more widely, discovering the convergent spirit among Friends, across all our usual boundaries, who are both building on our powerful traditions and discovering new energy and new pathways for the Religious Society of Friends.

My own hope for FWCC is that we consistently enable Friends to learn from one another, from Friends with a different perspective but so often the same problems.

- ◆ How do we support the ministers among us?
- ◆ How do we enable young Friends to give the gifts they are offering and assist meetings/churches to receive them?
- ◆ How can we continue to evolve towards a more equal footing among yearly meetings in North, Central and South America?

These are not new questions, but a continuation of nearly 75 years of inspiring work by some amazing people and the Holy Spirit.

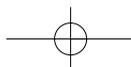
There is so much going on with FWCC right now. It is easy to focus on the work that must be done and the need for more resources. It is important that we also take time to thank God for the opportunities that we have to connect Friends, cross cultures and change lives."

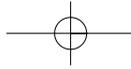
In January 2012, an interview with Robin was published in Friends Journal magazine, "Eight Questions on Convergent Friends." It is available online at <http://www.friendsjournal.org/eight-questions-convergent-friends>

Salt and Light/New Light

Heart to heart and face to face. This has always been the primary form of communication for the Friends World Committee for Consultation. In the last year over 40 local Salt & Light gatherings in eight countries in the Americas have offered over 1,000 Friends the opportunity to worship together and explore the theme of the Sixth World Conference of Friends: "Being Salt and Light: Friends Living the Kingdom of God in a Broken World." With the help of many Friends, we brought fifteen speakers from ten yearly meetings to share their faith and experience with Friends in each region of the Americas.

For some Friends, this was a rare opportunity to meet Quaker ministers from far away and to learn about how Friends express their faith in other parts of the world. For many of them, it was their first time at an FWCC event, and for others, attending a Salt & Light gathering inspired them to renew or deepen their involvement with FWCC. In some places, it was an opportunity to invite new people to attend a meeting event. In other places, the speakers, young and old, joined gatherings of young adults and shared their own inspiring stories of being Friends in the world. In each case, it was a wonderful opportunity for Friends to learn from one another.





Around the sections

Following the World Conference, the Section of the Americas will continue to sponsor local gatherings on a new theme, to be determined at the Conference. This will be an opportunity to bring the message of Friends worldwide home to Friends in the Americas and to make room for new traveling ministers to share their gifts with Friends everywhere.

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage enables young Friends ages 16-18 to learn about Quaker history and process, develop a stronger relationship with God and experience the diversity of Friends' traditions and worship while traveling, living and working together for a month during the summer. Jointly sponsored by the Section of the Americas and the Europe and Middle East Section, the pilgrimage takes place once every two years. Half the Pilgrims are from EMES, and half from the Americas. In 2012, the QYP will be hosted in Northern England, the Netherlands and Belgium.

An FWCC youth pilgrimage is an opportunity to

- ◆ Develop your relationship with God
- ◆ Gain understanding of Quaker process
- ◆ Explore Quaker history
- ◆ Experience different Friends' traditions and forms of worship
- ◆ Form a community and lasting friendships
- ◆ Participate in a service project

Latin American Pilgrimage

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage Program of FWCC is actively exploring a pilgrimage experience in South America. In 2010 The National Evangelical Friends Churches (INELA) of Peru and Bolivia invited QYP to journey south. Both the Program Group and the Executive Committee of FWCC are enthusiastic about this possibility. Individual Friends have been appointed in both INELAs and from the wider Section of the Americas to develop a Latin American pilgrimage program. The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage has been active for over 50 years and is known to be a life transforming and Quaker leadership developing experience. The QYP Program Group looks forward to possibly implementing this as early as 2014.

New site for Friends and Seekers: Voices of Friends!

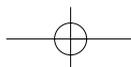
Brought to you by the Wider Quaker Fellowship, a ministry of FWCC to Friends and seekers.

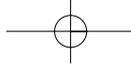
For people who are looking for a new religious community but just don't know that it's called Quakerism. For all those folks who take the Belief-O-Matic Quiz and find out they are Quakers but don't know what that means. For your friends and family members who you think would like to know more about Quakers.

The new website, www.VoicesofFriends.org offers clear and concise introductions to the different varieties of Friends. Beyond the introductions, it includes links to current Quaker blogs and a selection of engaging and relevant pamphlets in English and Spanish on topics like peace, simplicity and prayer, in a searchable database and downloadable formats. For those seeking a more direct connection to Friends, our directories of Quaker meetings and churches around the world enable them to find their closest Quaker community.

The Section is on Facebook

Find us at <http://facebook.com/fwccamericas>





Around the sections

Asia-West Pacific Section

Post Manila – we are still thriving

The Asia West Pacific Section is still consolidating the benefits gained from our Manila Gathering last April. Communication is the essential work of FWCC. Although the Gathering left us with a black hole in our budget, face to face meetings are essential in the development of our work for and within God's Kingdom.

We are delighted to welcome Daejeon Meeting in South Korea as a fully affiliated member of FWCC. Here is a little background.

Daejeon Quaker Study Group began on December 19, 2004, although interest in the Quakerism by the individuals among the group may be dated earlier. As an introduction to the background of the Daejeon Quaker Meeting, we will start with the story on how Chonyon Kim and Jong Hee Lee became interested in Quakerism.

In 1965, Chonyon met with Quaker Ham Sok Hon. Chonyon heard Ham Sok Hon's claims that Quakerism is a contemporary religion for the new era. Later he became further interested in Quakerism from reading the book, "Friends for 300 Years" authored by Howard Brinton and translated by Ham Sok Hon. Chonyon got more interested in Quakerism during his study abroad in Germany, and became increasingly serious about it listening to Ham Sok Hon on Quakerism during Ham's visit to Germany in 1979.

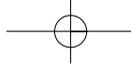
In January 1989, Chonyon and Jong Hee found a Quaker group in Goettingen, Germany, where they lived. It was not easy and took some time to find a Quaker meeting because Quakers do not actively advertise themselves. Chonyon and Jong Hee attended the meetings at the place of Inge Schmitt and Kurt H. Schmitt in Spandauer Weg every month. After Inge passed away, the meetings have continued at the houses of the Friends. Chonyon and Jong Hee attended as Friends of Friends the Quarterly Meetings of North Germany and also began to participate in the German Yearly Meetings. They took significant roles in the Goettingen Meeting. Chonyon returned to Korea where he is a professor at Hannam University. He became interested in establishing a Quaker-like meeting.

Jong Hee remained in Germany, and continued to participate in the Meetings in Goettingen, the Quarterly and the Yearly Meetings. Although she attended the Goettingen Meetings as a Friend of the Friends, her faith already confessed herself to be a Quaker, and concurrently she led a program for retreat and spiritual growth.

While Chonyon held Quaker-like meetings in Daejeon, he met a Friend Sung-Joon Park who became a Quaker in Pendle Hill and returned to Korea. Conversing with him, Chonyon felt that Quaker Meetings are needed in Daejeon also, but he could not begin the Meeting under the name of the Quaker because he was not yet a regular Quaker Friend. Chonyon then had an opportunity for research in Germany for a year on leave, and decided to apply for Quaker membership in Germany. Meanwhile, Chonyon decided with some friends of other study groups to begin 'Daejeon Quaker Study Group' on December 19, 2004 and invited Friend Sung-Joon Park in Seoul travel to Daejeon and guide the group.

Chonyon and Jong Hee each submitted applications to the Quarterly Meeting of Northern Germany in the spring 2005 to become Quakers. This had long been awaited and they received a genuine welcome and encouragement by the Goettingen group. The attainment of membership for Chonyon and Jong Hee was reported to the Yearly Meeting in Bad Pymont in November 2005. The Friends at the meeting congratulated them with encouragements, and presented the book, "Quaker Faith and Practice" as gifts. It had been a long journey for them to finally become regular Quakers. Chonyon and Jong Hee feel this time was very significant spiritually. They both returned to Korea





Around the sections

at the end of January 2006.

Daejeon Quaker Study Group mainly studied the history of Quakerism for the first year. Sung-Joon Park travelled to Daejeon less frequently after Chonyon Kim and Jong Hee Lee returned. The Study Group studied various materials on the faith and practice of Quakerism. The group previously gathered every other week, and now met once a week. The silent worship was for a relatively shorter time earlier and then extended to one hour.

Meanwhile, Friends from Australia visited the Daejeon Study Group Meeting in August 2006. Friends from Germany, Ute Caspers visited a number of times, and Joerg Seume visited for a short time. As the Study Group had been meeting since 2004, some members felt that they would like to become regular Quakers. These feelings and decisions were matured and reached a decision to place the year 2009 as a preparatory period.

On December 19, 5 years after the beginning date of the Study Group in 2004, the members reached a decision to convert the Study Group Meeting to a Quaker Meeting on December 20, 2009. Many helped us to attain this accomplishment. The Friends in Seoul encouraged the Study Group and attended the meetings often.

The decision was made in November 2011 by the International Membership Applications Committee for the Daejeon group to be known as Daejeon Monthly Meeting. We welcome visitors to our regular Sunday Meetings for Worship. The meeting's address is Hansup Apt. #112-1902, Youngjeon-dong Dong-gu, Daejeon. Meeting is at 3pm every Sunday.

Daejeon is not far from Busan, where the World Council of Churches General Assembly will be held in October 2013.

Other News

Robert Howell has been appointed Peace and Earthcare worker by Australia Yearly Meeting for one year, commencing in January 2012.

Boni Quirog from Bohol, the Philippines will take up an appointment on the board of QUNO Geneva from 2012.

Young Friends in Aotearoa New Zealand have sponsored the travel to the World Conference in Kenya of Young Friends Marjorie Angelot from The Philippines and Anuj Hamilton from GCFI India.

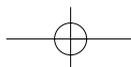
Friends in Australia are fund raising to assist Lalthla Muana from Myanmar to travel to the World Conference.

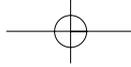
The India Friends Working Group of Philadelphia Yearly meeting are assisting Vivien Rose Robertson from GCFI to attend the World Conference.

These names are in addition to delegates from our affiliated Yearly Meeting. The World Office hopes to receive more donations to assist Friends from India, Nepal, the Philippines and Indonesia to participate at Kabarak.

Lastly, Abel Sibonio and Valerie Joy from Australia Yearly Meeting were invited by FWCC The Americas to run "Being Salt and Light" workshops in ten states, using the Study Booklet produced for preparation by Friends everywhere for the World Conference. Very warm welcomes were made everywhere, and Friends from Burundi were very happy to again meet with their pastor Abel, who had supported Friends for over 10 years in refugee camps in Tanzania.

Valerie Joy, AWPS Executive Secretary





Around the sections

Africa Section

Tough Beginning

It is exciting to work as the Executive Secretary of Africa Section, but it is frightening when one considers the underlying bottle-necks existing to be reckoned with.

My honey moon period in the office has been marked by wading through long overdue administrative matters that needed urgent attention in order to put the Section into the required legal position. I have also made frantic attempts to get annual subscription fees from the Yearly Meetings with very little success. It is ironical to note that some of the Meetings have not supported the section in a very long time, yet they have had their members serving FWCC in different capacities.

The month of August gave me a first ever opportunity to visit the Annual Conferences of most of the Yearly Meetings in Kenya. The reception was awesome, although it is greatly regrettable that we could not extend these travels in ministry beyond Kenya due to the financial constraints that have crippled the Section since its inception.

The office is also operating under very adverse circumstances ranging from lack of suitable space and basic equipments, very poor staff remunerations and competition from other Quaker agencies based in Africa in general, but more specifically in Kenya, just to mention, but a few.

We are also trying to address the issue of the dormant website for the Section which is a tool that we may use to tell our story well in word and pictures.

Intervention

We have deliberated at length on some of these issues and we have decided to start with at least some step on the road to recovery. Here under is a proposal from the finance team that has been endorsed by the Executive committee.

We have carried out consultations widely, to prepare the ground work for Investments and subsequent roll out. The investment in picture is to **construct hostels and a retreat centre in Western Kenya for FWCC-AS.**

The region under consideration is Kakamega town.

1. To Partner with Masinde Muliro University in offering accommodation space for the Students and staff.
2. Geographical - most Yearly Meetings are concentrated in this area and it is our hope and desire that they would benefit from such a facility and be proud to be identified by it.

We are determined to move the Section to another level if we get the necessary support from friends.

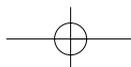
Churchill Malimo, Executive Secretary (FWCC- Africa Section)

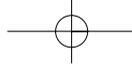
Kenya prepares to welcome the world

Greetings from Kenya, a home of refuge for many.

We are indebted to God for the stability that we are witnessing since 2007 after the disputed elections which culminated in violence. Many things have happened to regain the lost glory and to make Kenya the pride of Africa.

Tremendous amendments were done to the Constitution. This has resulted in remarkable reforms in key institutions such as the Judiciary, the Police, the National Assembly, the Anti-corruption body and others. It is still





Around the sections

early to spell out all the prospects of the new Constitution, but the hopes are high that Kenya is headed for a brighter future.

We are persuaded beyond any reasonable doubt that it is within God's arrangement that we hold the 6th World Conference of Friends in Kenya. We do acknowledge the many challenges we are wrestling with at the moment, but we do not want to treat any one of them as a reason to discourage friends from coming to fellowship in this beloved country, but as a confirmation from the Lord that he is preparing the Land for his people to gather together. It is an opportunity for Friends to come and indeed demonstrate what it means to be SALT AND LIGHT IN A CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.



Locally, Friends are busy, preparing to receive all those who have chosen to come and attend the conference. The month of August has been dedicated to visiting the yearly meetings to sensitize Friends about this historic event and the response in each place we have visited so far has been overwhelming.

The challenge of the drought has been a great opportunity. Kenyans of all walks of life have been able to raise millions of shillings in an initiative dubbed, KENYANS FOR KENYA to feed those who are affected by drought. The influx of refugees from other countries to Kenya in search of food and security, has been a challenge to the Government and the international community to find ways of helping them from their countries, but this is in no way a threat to national security. We have always believed that this is one reason why God preserves Kenya for it offers a home to many who would otherwise perish in the wilderness. All this is happening much far towards the north of the country and we are sure it will not affect the conference or its participants in any way. All the activities planned around the conference will not be affected in anyway. Do not hesitate to come and fellowship with Friends in Kenya.

The task we have now as a Church in Kenya is to pray for peace especially during the 2012 elections in August. The Africa section plans to organize civic education as a major activity within our churches and the neighbourhood. We hope this may serve as one way of being salt and light in the contemporary Kenya. Our duty is to do everything within our powers to ensure that we have very peaceful elections and the civic education is just but one of the many activities we have lined up beginning in January 2011, to the time of the elections in August 2012. We are equally hopeful that the delegates who will gather in Kenya in April will be making a statement with us that we stand for peace by word and actions. I do not think any friend who had a desire to attend the conference will want to be left out of this singular opportunity to be part of such a statement for fear of eventuality.

Friends in Kenya are ready to host some of those who would like to experience true African hospitality. Different meetings are looking forward to having Friends visit with them and see the different projects that they are involved in to serve the community. There are different programs to rekindle the fire in you to see the task we have from our God. For those who may have time, Kenya is full of many features that you may visit and thank God for his creation. The menu is just full. Please do not miss out on these. Let nothing stop you from coming to have a refreshing moment in Kenya. We the undersigned do assure you by the mercies of God that you will not regret to have chosen to attend the 6th World Conference.

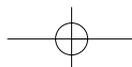
COME ONE, COME ALL. KARIBUNI KENYA (WELCOME ALL TO KENYA)

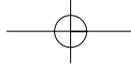
With Faith and Hope

BainitoWamalwa
LAC Co- Clerk

Rose Imbega
LAC Co- Clerk

Churchill Malimo
Executive Secretary (FWCC- Africa Section)





Around the sections

Europe and Middle East Section

A number of Yearly Meetings met in the past six months – Sweden and Switzerland in June, France in July, and Britain Yearly Meeting was in session for a whole week from the end of July, in Canterbury. There were many Friends from other countries in Europe and beyond, helping to discern how we could be Growing in the Spirit: changing the way we live to sustain the world we live in. A decision to become a low carbon, sustainable community was greeted with much enthusiasm, and Friends are now busy working out what this means in practice for individuals, Meetings and communities. It is work that will be continued during our forthcoming World Conference of Friends.

In September Friends from Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg the Netherlands and the United Kingdom met in Sittard (Netherlands) to explore the connections between the 17th century philosopher Benedict (Baruch) Spinoza and Quakers, who may have influenced his ideas when they visited Amsterdam to spread the Quaker message in the 1650s. Spinoza had by then been rejected by the Jewish community in Amsterdam, and he was known to be on good terms with Mennonites, Millenarianists, and other dissenters. It is suggested that the Hebrew Translation of Margaret Fell's 'A loving Salutation to the Seed of Abraham among the Jews' may have been translated by the youthful Spinoza. More about this thought-provoking subject on our website: <http://www.fwccemes.org/news/is-everything-divine-northw-border-meeting-september-2011>.

Julia Ryberg delivered the Cary Lecture during German Yearly Meeting in October. Her subject was Becoming Authentic: disillusionment and enlightenment. The lecture encourages us to see the truth about ourselves and our communities, speak this truth to each other, and ultimately live in the truth that the Light reveals to us. The German and English texts are available from our website.

Peace and Service Consultation

In November we held our annual Peace and Service Consultation at Kortenbergh, in Belgium. Friends from a variety of Quaker organisations and committees active within and outside our Section came together to consider our response to outbreaks of violence, taking as our text The sword comes into the world because of justice delayed and justice denied – from the Haggadah, the Jewish text for the Passover Seder).

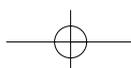
We reflected on outbreaks of violence in the Middle East and North Africa, the appalling events in Oslo and Utøya and the riots in the UK in August. We asked ourselves: "How do we respond? Do we articulate sufficiently the need for economic and environmental justice as well as political justice?"

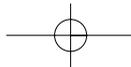
We learnt more about how these topics were explored at the International Ecumenical Peace Convocation in Kingston, Jamaica, held by the World Council of Churches in May, and exchanged updates on the progress of the Quaker presence, advocacy and work in Israel/Palestine.

We considered how we engage with partners and network to amplify the impact of our advocacy efforts, and what we can offer from our experience and ways of working to partners so that we can be catalysts for change. We received a presentation via Skype from Vukovar, Croatia, on how to help heal fear and stop the transmission of trauma resulting from war. We experimented with the power of apology and healing techniques.

Ministry and Outreach

The Quaker in Europe project continues to develop and a full evaluation of the four years of the project is now underway, seeking to assess the success of the project in terms of learning about Quakerism, individual spiritual growth, community formation and the impact it may have had on established Quaker meetings.





Around the sections

We continue to find ways of encouraging Friends to travel, to equip themselves better to serve their own and other Meetings in a variety of ways. We have launched a Companion programme to further this work. We held a Meeting for Learning in Svartbäcken in November, attended by 12 Friends from Ireland, France, Switzerland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Germany, Lithuania, Finland and Sweden, who worked on the theme Reaching Out – how do we share our Quaker Faith and the Quaker way?

A Russian-speaking Gathering, took place in the Ukraine in October, attended by 17 participants from five countries, who met in the industrial town of Kremenchuk along the Dniepr River. The gathering was held in a spirit of peace and friendship to share vision and experiences around the theme "The Gathered Meeting". It was based on a chapter from Thomas Kelly's *The Eternal Promise*. Natasha Zhuravenkova, a staff member of Friends House Moscow translated the chapter into Russian especially for the gathering.

Our Clerk, Rachel Bewley-Bateman attended the Evangelical Friends Church International's Europe Conference in Tolna, Hungary, in October.

Visits and Meetings

In September the Secretary, Marisa Johnson, visited Friends in Tbilisi, Georgia, accompanied by Elena Belajeva as interpreter. Friends in Georgia face many social, political and economic challenges. They treasure visits from Friends, and love to show their country to visitors.

A new worship group has been established in Malta, more than 350 years after Sarah Cheevers and Katherine Evans were arrested and imprisoned for three years by the Inquisition in 1658!

Website and Publications

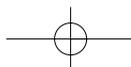
We continue to put news items and to advertise forthcoming events on our website www.fwccemes.org.

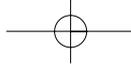
Our journal, *Among Friends*, was published in July and November. Electronic copies can be downloaded from the website.

Marisa Johnson
FWCC-EMES Executive Secretary

FWCC General Secretary nominee

The Central Executive Committee has agreed that the name of **Gretchen Castle of Philadelphia YM**, currently Acting Dean at Pendle Hill Quaker Study Center, should go forward for approval as Nancy Irving's successor as General Secretary. This proposal will be considered at the International Representatives Meeting at the World Conference. Once Gretchen's name is approved, she will join the team at the World Office in London as Associate General Secretary in October, taking over from Nancy in January 2013.





World Conference study materials

Study Booklet

The Study Booklet for the World Conference is offered as a resource to all Friends everywhere, whether or not they are attending. It can be read online or downloaded. Hard copies can also be purchased.

The booklet contains extracts from longer pieces written by Friends from all over the world, and from varying Quaker traditions. These shorter reflections are offered to allow for focussed reflection on particular aspects of the Conference theme, either alone or in small groups. The full text of each contribution is available online.

We have deliberately not been proscriptive in how this booklet is used. Your meeting, church or other group may wish to hold several sessions to look at each aspect of the theme in greater depth, or you may wish to focus on the area that interests you most in a single session. Or you may wish to do something in between.

Whether or not you are attending the Conference, we hope that you will find this booklet useful, and we thank our contributors for their inspirational messages.

You may order copies of the book on the website, www.saltandlight2012.org, where you may also read it online and download PDF copies.

Online Study Circles

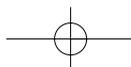
- ◆ Have you read the World Conference study booklet?
- ◆ Are you excited, inspired and challenged by what you read there?
- ◆ Are you eager to share your thoughts and feelings with other Friends?
- ◆ Are you prepared to listen with an open mind and open heart to the thoughts and feelings of other Friends?
- ◆ Are you open to new light that might come as a result?
- ◆ Are you prepared to grow?

If you answer 'yes' to all of the above, then the online study circle is for you!

You will work with the study booklet texts and queries:

- ◆ in groups of up to 12 Friends with diverse backgrounds and from diverse Quaker traditions
- ◆ in Spanish, French, English or Russian
- ◆ in an easy-to-use online forum called Moodle
- ◆ for 7 weeks, taking about 2 hours of interaction a week
- ◆ working when it suits your own schedule
- ◆ with a facilitator equipped for Quaker online methods of learning and sharing

If you would like to participate, you can register on the website, www.saltandlight2012.org. We hope to continue running these circles for as long as there is interest in using the material, even after the World Conference has concluded.



2010 World Office Accounts

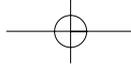
All figures are in Pounds Sterling (£ GBP)

| INCOME | 2010 | 2009 | EXPENDITURE | 2010 | 2009 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| General Funds | | | Personnel Costs | 126,214 | 108,142 |
| Africa Section | 0 | 132 | Travel in the Ministry | 15,461 | 5,697 |
| Section of the Americas: | 70,863 | 84,663 | Publications | 10,748 | 10,046 |
| Asia-West Pacific Section | 6,694 | 5,704 | Office, IT and Communications | 31,200 | 26,700 |
| Europe and Middle East Section | 73,558 | 72,017 | Central Executive Committee | 11,930 | 21,353 |
| Trust Funds | 10,615 | 6,564 | International Membership | 227 | 847 |
| Other Income | 26,449 | 61,433 | Quaker United Nations Committees | 8,489 | 5,911 |
| | | | Other Costs | 17,846 | 38,957 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 188,179 | 230,381 | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | 231,652 | 227,153 |

| Statement of funds | At 1.1.10 | Transfers | Incoming Resources | Outgoing Resources | At 31.12.10 |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| General Funds | 91,862 | 9,380 | 191,999 | 184,962 | 108,279 |
| Designated Funds | 155,841 | 3,000 | 120 | 38,541 | 110,420 |
| Restricted Funds | 60,025 | (186) | 12,638 | 7,230 | 65,247 |
| Endowment Funds | 225,112 | (12,194) | 931 | 5,275 | 208,574 |
| Total Funds | 522,840 | Nil | 205,688 | 236,008 | 492,520 |

A surplus of £16,417 was achieved in general funds, but there was substantial expenditure from designated funds to meet advance costs for the World Conference in 2012. The result is an overall outflow of resources in excess of £30,000. 2010 was the last year of a period in which it has been possible to build up the general reserve, now exceeding our target of six months general expenditure. Income from our main sources of funding, the Section of the Americas and Europe and Middle East Section, is now static or reducing so we expect that general fund balances will now decline increasingly steeply. Continuing efforts to raise funds will be needed, as well as new vision for the way in which the FWCC World Office can maintain its service to the Society of Friends.

Roger Sturge
Treasurer



About the Friends World Committee for Consultation

The purpose of the Friends World Committee for Consultation is to encourage fellowship among all the branches of the Religious Society of Friends. The Quaker community circles the globe, spanning a rich diversity of regional cultures, beliefs and styles of worship. FWCC programs unite Friends around the world through Spirit-led fellowship.

Our association with the Quaker United Nations Offices offers a means to monitor and present Quaker contributions to world affairs. Our consultation extends to those of other faiths through work with the World Council of Churches.

Our Mission

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. (Approved 2006)

History

In 1937, after years of concerned work to reconnect a fragmented Quaker world, the Second World Conference of Friends created the FWCC "to act in a consultative capacity to promote better understanding among Friends the world over." Today, Friends from yearly meetings and groups in 75 nations continue this work. Around the world there are four cooperating, autonomous FWCC Sections serving Africa, the Americas, Asia & the West Pacific, and Europe & the Middle East. FWCC's World Office is in London.

Since 1948, FWCC has had "consultative" status with the United Nations and is responsible for the two Quaker UN Offices in Geneva and New York.

FWCC World Office

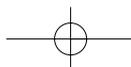
The world office is based at Friends House in London, England. It serves four main roles:

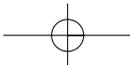
- ◆ Organise world gatherings, including triennial meetings and consultations of Quakers world-wide.
- ◆ Support and maintain contact with the work of the four FWCC sections and the Quaker United Nations Offices.
- ◆ Coordinate the International Membership programme, which joins isolated Friends and worship groups to the wider Quaker community.
- ◆ Promote an understanding of the world-wide character of the Society of Friends, through conferences, staff travel, correspondence and publications, and through ecumenical and interfaith work on behalf of Friends.

Further information about FWCC and its activities can be obtained from the World Office or the Section Offices, whose addresses are on the inside back cover of Friends World News. Contributions to the work of FWCC are always welcome and can be sent to any of the offices.

Friends World News

Friends World News, the bulletin of FWCC, is published twice yearly. If you wish to receive a personal copy, please contact the World Office (or the Section of the Americas if you live in North America). There is no set subscription fee, but a donation would be welcome. Please send to the World Office anything you would like considered for publication in *Friends World News* – articles, letters, news, photographs and other illustrations, about the activities and religious witness of Friends. All materials received will be acknowledged although the editor cannot make any commitment to publish. Please say if you wish photographs or other materials to be returned.





FWCC Publications

- (1) Faith in Action: Encounters With Friends (£5/\$8)
- (2) 21st Triennial Talks - (set of 3) (£6/\$9)
- (3) & (4) World Gathering of Young Friends Study Book Quaker Faith & Practice Around the World £6 (\$9) each or £10 (\$16) for both
- (5) Friends World News (twice yearly by request)
- (6) Triennial T-shirts (€9, £6, \$11) plus postage
- (7) Triennial Mugs (€20, £14 plus postage) Contact the World Office for details
- (8) Cheerfully over the World, a handbook for isolated Friends – *New Edition* (£5/\$8)
- (9) Friends Around the World (£12/\$20)

Contributions/Order Form

FWCC relies on contributions in order to carry out its ministry. To contribute to the work of FWCC please fill in the form below, indicating the amount of the contribution and your method of payment.

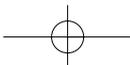
If you would like to know more about legacy giving, please tick that box.

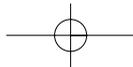
To order any of our publications: Circle the appropriate number on the list and enclose it with the form below to the World Office, 173 Euston Road, London, NW1 2AX, UK.

Publications will be shipped with no additional charge. Fill in the form below, indicating the total cost of the items and your method of payment.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Method of Payment: cheque or money order to FWCC in £Sterling or US\$ (circle one) or by PayPal via our website www.fwccworld.org</p> <p>Details of Payment:</p> <p>Total Literature £/\$ _____</p> <p>Donation to FWCC general work £/\$ _____</p> <p>Donation for particular area of our work, including FWCC Sections _____</p> <p>(please specify)</p> <p>TOTAL £/\$ _____</p> | <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Please tick here if you would like a receipt <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>(For contributions only)</i></p> |
|---|---|

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p>SECTION OF THE AMERICAS 1506 Race Street Philadelphia, PA, 19102, USA E-mail: americas@fwccamericas.org Phone: +1 215 241 7250 Fax: +1 215 241 7285 Executive Secretary: Robin Mohr www.fwccamericas.org</p> <p>AFRICA SECTION PO Box 41946 Nairobi, Kenya E-mail fwccas@gmail.com Phones: +254 2 570 077 +254 2 567 601 Executive Secretary: Churchill Malimo www.fwccafrica.org</p> | <p>WORLD OFFICE 173 Euston Road London NW1 2AX, UK</p> <p>General Secretary: Nancy Irving E-mail: world@fwcc.quaker.org www.fwccworld.org</p> <p>From OUTSIDE the United Kingdom call Phone: + 44 207 663 1199 Fax: + 44 207 663 1189</p> <p>from INSIDE the United Kingdom Phone: 020 7663 1199 Fax: 020 7663 1189</p> <p>U.K. Charity 211647</p> | <p>EUROPE & MIDDLE EAST SECTION P.O. Box 1157 Histon Cambridge CB24 9XQ UK E-mail: emes@fwcc.quaker.org Phone: +44 1223 479585 Executive Secretary: Marisa Johnson www.fwccemes.org</p> <p>ASIA-WEST PACIFIC SECTION 17 Bourelet St Tarragindi Qld 4121 Australia E-mail: awps@fwcc.quaker.org Phone +61 7 3342 4887 Executive Secretary: Valerie Joy www.fwccawps.org</p> |
|---|--|---|





Quaker Youth Pilgrimage

The Quaker Youth Pilgrimage is a long standing ministry which helps young people aged between 16 and 18 from the United States and Europe to explore their Quaker roots. The pilgrimage is organised jointly by the European & Middle East Section and the Section of the Americas of FWCC, the world body of Friends. It's an opportunity to promote loving understanding of our diversities within the Quaker worldwide family. Pilgrims will come from different cultural, language and theological traditions. During your time together they travel and learn together and seek to nurture their spiritual lives.

The Pilgrimage takes place every two years, alternately in Europe and in the United States. In 2008 the Pilgrimage was in Europe on the theme 'A Journey through Conflict to Peace'. After home stays in Glasgow the pilgrims travelled to Yealand Conyers, where they explored the '1652 Country' and had three days for facilitated community building exercises. Their next stop was Dublin, where they were involved in a service project before travelling on to Moyallon Quaker Centre in N. Ireland. Among other activities, they were able to visit Quaker House, Quaker Cottage, Stormont and Maghaberry Prison Visitor Centre. The pilgrimage was brought to a close with two days at Wiston Lodge near Biggar, outside Glasgow.

The most recent Pilgrimage took place in July-August 2010, when pilgrims met in Seattle, USA & after short homestays travelled to Quaker Cove on Puget Sound where they spent over a week building their community & being involved in service projects. They returned to Seattle and were welcomed by NSF – North Seattle Friends church where they learned about the work of AFSC and about Native American issues. In the third week they moved on to Portland, attending a variety of meetings & churches and being involved in service projects before spending a few days at Camp Mugerder on the Oregon Coast. The pilgrimage ended with a closing retreat hosted by Camas Friends Church.

The next Quaker Youth Pilgrimage will take place in Europe (England and The Netherlands) from July 12 to August 13, 2012. For more information and to apply to be either a participant or leader, visit www.fwccemes.org/emes/quaker-youth-pilgrimage.



Participants in previous Pilgrimages

