

## Friends General Conference Representative Report

This year has been a full year and a hard year as a representative to FGC's Central Committee. As representatives' we serve on the board (Central Committee) and each of us also serve on a committee, Rebecca Sullivan on Nominating and Sharon Annis on Development Committee. At our annual board meeting FGC approved the concept of an institutional audit on racism to review our structures of governance and staffing. This has been exciting work but has created some hesitation to do much of anything else as the board would also like to restructure our governance after or during the assessment as it is too big and obscure to easily understand.

The exciting news for FGC is that we started a new program 18 months ago, the Spiritual Deepening program. This program is an opportunity for one member from your community to get trained in how to use a library of resources to help the spiritual life of the meeting and its members. It is designed to be used for those new to Quakerism as well as seasoned Friends. There are 6 modules one can work from to offer small experiential and reflective workshops. The program is also designed for an individual to work with others on the web to learn about Quakerism as well as deepen their individual faith. Sharon participated as an individual in the first session last Fall. The process was rewarding in many ways. The program is also structured to be multigenerational if a meeting would like to offer Religious Education in that manner.

Another exciting announcement is that the Quaker Cloud, the FGC website server, is getting an upgrade. We will be adding a handful of new features for your website. If your meeting is interested in moving to the Quaker Cloud check out the FGC website as there is a promotion currently going on.

One of the biggest struggles as representatives is that we are supposed to be offering guidance about what SAYMA wants from FGC and vice versa and we do not always know how to do this. Giving reports to Representative Meeting or visiting individual monthly meetings can be helpful to increase Friends awareness (which we have done this year) of what FGC has to offer to individuals and meetings. If your meeting would like to learn more about FGC please contact Rebecca Sullivan, [supersullivan24@gmail.com](mailto:supersullivan24@gmail.com), and see if we can schedule a visit from her to your meeting. We want to hear your thoughts about where you hope FGC will go in the future and we hope you might look into the programs offered and how they can help your meeting deepen its sense of practiced faith.

Visit Friends General Conference web site to learn more about all of the programs as well as other Yearly and Monthly Meetings. [www.fgcquaker.org](http://www.fgcquaker.org)

FGC hopes that you might join us at the 2018 FGC Gathering in Toledo, Ohio July 1-7, 2018.

In service,  
Rebecca Sullivan and Sharon Annis

NOTE: This is my last report. I will be moving from the area as SAYMA is in session. Service to SAYMA has been a deep joy and continued to support my spiritual life. Thank you for allowing me to serve. Blessings Sharon