

# FWCC REPRESENTATIVE Report 6th Month, 2021

Geeta Jyothi McGahey, SAYMA FWCC rep

**Mission of FWCC:** 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.

Thank-you for allowing me to be your representative to FWCC. I just finished a term on Finance Committee, am starting a term on the Development Working Group, and am clerk of the investment sub-committee, which recently had helped Friends Fiduciary to make the decision to divest from fossil fuels in addition to other screens. FWCC is embarked on a training program to have us as representatives be better prepared to bring to SAYMA and its monthly meetings the richness that FWCC has to offer. Contact the reps if you want to access materials for First Day School or adult programs. Let's look to create opportunities to get to know Quakers different from us, appreciating the challenges faced by Quakers in Latin America. WE aim to be the bridge. We pray that through the generosity of Friends that many Latin Americans, a group including women and youth will be able to partake in the World Meeting in Durban, South Africa in summer 2024.

The bi-annual meeting was held by Zoom in March and 327 F/friends attended. You, too, can experience the gathering. Presentations are available electronically. If you go to the FWCCAmericas website and click on 2021 Section Meeting, you can learn more.. I strongly recommend the Bible studies led by Manual Guzman, an academic from Mexico City, and the devotional messages brought by Mey Hasbrook. The most meaningful part of the meeting for me was the home group. I was privileged and challenged to be a co-leader of the jitsi group consisting of Cuban representatives and other friends. Rachel Weir from Celo was one of our translators. A Bolivian friend was in contact with the group via jitsi and he then patched it through on What's App. Internet service was spotty. It was challenging and we were held in the Light.

Here are some queries posed to the group by a Cuban representative that I hope will inform our work today.

🌀 What should I change in my life to feel all the power, all the happiness and all the fullness that should exist in the experience of the Shalom of God ?.

🌀 How can I center my conscious life in the presence of God in such a way that all things take their right place?

🌀 Am I committed to the difficult work of forgiving and affirming God's love in such a way that it brings peace?

🌀 What should I remove from my life that does not allow me to harmonize with my community and that of God that we all have?

Please ask your meetings to participate in World Quaker Day on Sunday, October 3rd. The theme is "Growing in Resiliency and Hope: How Do We Draw Strength from Our Quaker Faith".  
Resources will be available later this summer

### What FWCC can do for us

What do we do that matters?	How does our work impact Friends where they live?
Bring Friends together <i>(enable dialogue)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allows Friends to go on a faith journey to deliberately encounter and learn about and from the “other”</li> <li>- Those Friends bring home their experience and open a window for their meeting or church into that “other” community</li> </ul>
<i>Foster</i> dialogue among Friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reps &amp; designate/volunteers deliberately stay in contact/dialogue with the wider Quaker community</li> <li>- Deepens &amp; broadens faith of those involved</li> <li>- Strengthens bonds both locally and internationally</li> <li>- Invites and encourages traveling ministry /representative visitation</li> </ul>
<i>Strengthen</i> Friends to engage in dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reps and volunteers learn skills for hospitality and dialogue, and gain practice worshipping and listening as one in the presence of religious, cultural, and linguistic diversity.</li> <li>- They bring this skill &amp; training back to their home meetings and churches which strengthens their community</li> </ul>
<i>Envision / Actualize</i> Friends as a world-wide faith body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Call Friends to worldwide concerns like ecojustice</li> <li>- QUNO, etc. can act on behalf of Friends concerns</li> <li>- Inspires Friends to see themselves as part of bigger – “a church larger than my monthly meeting” - Benigno Sanchez-Eppler</li> </ul>