

**STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING
OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS NEWSLETTER**

JULY/AUGUST 2018

<http://strawberrycreek.quaker.org>

This newsletter can be accessed by email or at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/StrawberryCreek>

REGULAR EVENTS & CALENDAR

SUNDAYS

Meeting for Worship promptly at 10:00 AM at the Berkeley Technology Academy, 2701 Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Religious Education (Sept–June) and childcare (year-round) provided 9:45 AM to end of Meeting for Worship. Please arrive with children before 10:00 AM. After announcements, all are welcome to stay for refreshments. Please bring your own reusable cup and utensils.

Oakland Worship Group 5 PM at the home of Karen and Peter Lin, 296 Rishell Drive. For more information, call (510) 530-0479 or visit <http://www.oaklandquakers.org>

WEDNESDAYS Mid-Week Morning Worship 7:00 AM Berkeley Friends Meetinghouse, 2151 Vine Street.

THURSDAYS Mid-Week Evening Worship on Summer Hiatus until September

SUNDAY, 7/1

Twelve Step Meeting. 12:00 PM Anyone in any 12 step group is invited. Contact Darcy Stanley at (415) 595-2348 or darcy393@gmail.com

Quaker Political Action Worship Group. See below. Contact Laura Boles (boles9552@gmail.com)

SUNDAY, 7/8 Meeting for Business is cancelled.

WEDNESDAY, 7/11 (2nd Wednesdays) 6:00-8:30 PM. YAF (Young Adult Friends) Monthly Meeting at Berkeley Friends Meeting. Contact Cat Schmidt at hi@cath.land for information.

SUNDAY, 7/15 Worship Sharing 9:00 AM.

YAF Lunch 12:30 PM To RSVP or get information email Cat Schmidt, hi@cath.land.

SUNDAY, 7/22 Committee Sunday. (Some meetings may be cancelled.)

SUNDAY, 7/29

SUNDAY, 8/5 Advices and Queries on Peace read by Facilities during Meeting for Worship.

Twelve Step Meeting 12:00 PM. Anyone in any 12 step group is invited. Contact Darcy Stanley at (415) 595-2348 or darcy393@gmail.com

Quaker Political Action Worship Group 11:45 AM and Mondays at 10:00 AM. Contact Laura Boles (boles9552@gmail.com)

SUNDAY, 8/12 Meeting for Business after Social Hour. All are invited to attend. *Newsletter Deadline for September. Send items to newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org

SUNDAY, 8/19 Worship Sharing 9:00 AM.

SUNDAY, 8/26 Committee Sunday.

SUNDAY, 9/1 Advices and Queries on The Meeting Community read by Loaves and Fishes during Meeting for Worship.

News and Announcements

Strawberry Creek Meeting Calendar

Email the newsletter editor at newsletter@strawberrycreekquakers.org to list your event on the calendar. The calendar is on the Strawberry Creek website (<http://www.strawberrycreekfriends.org/Calendar.html>) and on our Facebook Page. Please bookmark it so you can check it easily!

*SCMM Newsletter Schedule

Please note that there is no new Newsletter until August because there is no Meeting for Business in July. The September newsletter may be published a week or so early due to travel plans, hence the earlier deadline in August.

PPR Book Group Discussions 7/8 & 8/19

The Power, Privilege and Race Summer Book Group has been launched! *Set Free: A Journey Toward Solidarity Against Racism* is by three Mennonites who bring a spiritual perspective to their work. Twenty-three Strawberries, newcomers and old-timers, gathered on 6/17 to answer queries and join in heartfelt and thoughtful discussion, having read the foreword, preface, and chapters 7-10 by Tobin Shearer, a white man.

The second session is on Sunday 7/8, after Meeting and fellowship. For this session, we read again the foreword and preface, and chapters 1-3 by Regina Shands Stolfus, an African-American woman, and chapters 4-6 by Iris de León-Hartshorn, a Mexic-Amerindian woman (pp. 19-81).

The final session will be on 8/19. Readings are chapters 10-13 (pp 82-159), summation and discussion by all three authors. For information, contact Deborah Marks (510) 981-1188

FCL/CA Fundraiser: Taiji (taichi) 24 Form Learning Group

Peter Lin is offering Taiji learning sessions before Meeting for Worship to raise money for the FCL/CA and to learn the taiji 24 form. The group will meet on the first four first days of each month beginning 7/8. Each session will include brief warmups, footwork practice, detailed exploration of each movement and end-to-end practice of the form. Sessions will meet on the basketball court across Derby Street from B-Tech High School beginning at 9AM and ending about 9:45AM. There will be no sessions on the fifth first day. There is ample repetition in case you need to miss a day. Those who decide to participate are asked to contribute an appropriate amount to the FCL/CA. Please contact Peter Lin (peterlin@speedymail.org) for information.

New Interest Groups Starting in September

Susan Black announced that several Strawberries are interested in forming an "Elders" Group to discuss and support lifestyle transitions for seniors. Francie Nurkse would also like to see if Friends are interested in participating in a group. One group, "Quaker Grandmothers," would be for women, and one group, "Building and Balancing Life in Retirement" for both men and women. These three groups may or may not overlap; it is not clear how these will evolve but please contact either Susan Black (sblack71@gmail.com) or Francie Nurkse (fpnurkse@gmail.com) for information and to get involved.

Berkeley Meeting Open House

Berkeley Meeting is making plans to celebrate its 100th birthday with an open house in late September. The exact date has not been set yet. Stay tuned for more details.

Berkeley Friends Church News

Berkeley Friends Church announces the hiring of Micah Bales and Faith Kelly as their new co-pastors. They currently reside in Washington, DC and will be starting their new jobs in early 2019. Micah is well known among Friends for his blog, micahbales.com, and social media accounts, @micahbales on Twitter. He is author of the ebook *A Guide to Quaker Worship*.

On 6/24, Friends Church hosted Brian Byamukama, a Baptist minister from Uganda, who is seeking asylum in the United States. Brian was forced to flee his home country for opening his church and ministering to LGBTQ people. He has temporary housing in Oakland, awaiting the granting of refugee status. During this time, he is unable to find employment, and Friends Church is raising money to support him. When he left, Brian had to leave his wife and children in Uganda. If he is successful in gaining refugee status, he will be able to bring his family here to live with him. Contact Tom Yamaguchi (tomyamaguchi@mac.com).

Local Witness and Worship

Join Nathan Moon and residents of the Northgate Community Cabins at their weekly meetings Thursday 12:30 for Witness and Worship. Learn directly from homeless residents what Quakers can do to help a successful transition from street to community. Be a witness to the challenges ahead. Contact Nathan Moon to find out more. FriendNathanMoon@gmail.com or 510-393-2722

New Member Statement: Pamela Maderos-Streetz



Pamela Ashton Mederos-Streetz began attending SCMM regularly soon after she and her wife, Amelia Victoria moved to the San Francisco East Bay from Boston in June 2017. Their initial choice of meeting was based upon positive comments made by Pamela's father, John Streetz after he and his beloved companion Alice Waddington had attended meetings for worship at

Strawberry Creek in the seven months prior to his death in March 2017.

This pattern of taking a lead from a parent was already well established in Pamela's life as she was born a "Birthright Friend" in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Her parents, Jacqueline and John both became "Convinced Friends" in 1950 shortly before being married in the Media, Pennsylvania Friends Meeting. After John graduated from Lincoln University in 1949, a traditionally African American college in Pennsylvania, he and Jackie explored faiths other than those in which they had been raised. Through the guidance of a "Prominent Friend", their mentor and friend Dr. Dorothy L. Ashton, they chose the Religious Society of Friends.

Pamela attended Newtown Friends School from Kindergarten through Eighth and the Oakwood School, a Quaker coeducational college preparatory institution in Poughkeepsie, NY for her first two years of high school before transferring to George School, a Quaker coeducational boarding and day college preparatory institution in Newtown, Pennsylvania in her junior year. After high school Pamela enrolled in Mills College here in East Oakland.

Pamela moved from San Francisco to Key West, Florida in 1983 where she met her future wife, Amelia Victoria. In 1985 they moved to Boston, where they bought a home and built a life together over the next thirty odd years. While living in Boston, Pamela and Amelia Victoria occasionally attended Cambridge Friends Meeting but never joined.

In Boston Pamela initially pursued various careers including social work but eventually became frustrated with the difficulties that political and funding roadblocks can impose on such work. She worked as a field technician for National grid; formerly known as Boston Gas, the utility company. She continued such work until her forced retirement in 2016.

Pamela indicates she has felt "at home" at Strawberry Creek meeting almost since her first time here. She noted that this had not been the case at other meetings she's visited over the years and that is one of the reasons she feels clear about her leading to join SCMM. At the same time, she speaks with maturity and understanding about difficulties in living the Quaker faith. She seemed to be realistic about people - at times even hopeful, without being cynical or naive. This

sensibility about people is coupled with a strong sense of irony and humor that has no doubt helped her to get through some difficult personal times.

March for Nuclear Abolition & Global Survival

No Nukes! No Walls! No Wars! No Warming!

Each August, people go to the nuclear weapons lab in Livermore. This year, the event will be on the morning of Monday, 8/6. Rally is set for 8 AM at the corner of Vasco Road and Patterson Pass Road. The rally will include Christine Hong (an expert on Korea) and Daniel Ellsberg. After the rally, about 9:30 AM, we will march about 2/3 of a mile to a gate where we will practice nonviolence in various ways, including an option to risk arrest. A peace camp will be held the previous evenings (8/4, 8/5) at a nearby regional park. For more information: <http://trivalleycares.org/> or contact Carl Anderson (510) 654-4983.

Peace Lantern Ceremony

For 16 years, a public ceremony has been held each August in Berkeley. It's been a very fine event, making and floating lanterns on the lagoon at Aquatic Park. However, this year, it will be private, and much smaller. Contact Carl Anderson (510) 654-4983.

Berkeley Food Pantry

Safeway's Feed the Need campaign is donating food this summer to the Berkeley Food Pantry. Now through 7/31, if you shop at Safeway stores at 1850 Solano Avenue and 1550 Shattuck Avenue, you can remove a tear sheet to donate \$1, \$5, or \$10 at the check stand. All donations will be rolled up to a \$10 bag. Contact Tom Yamaguchi (tomyamaguchi@mac.com).

Communication Committee News

Our Yahoo email list connect us and continues to be the most relevant way we share information with each other on-line. However Yahoo's "free" advertising-supported group service has become increasingly unreliable. The Communications Committee reached a unity that we need to move beyond Yahoo for a more reliable email system.

SCMM has been approved for nonprofit software grants from dozens of providers, including Adobe, Microsoft and Google Web Services. These grants will allow us to move from "advertising supported services" like the existing Yahoo Group to private services that we own and directly manage.

Please continue to use the Yahoo list for a while longer, and keep sharing your announcements. We're just excited about this news and wanted to give you a heads up now. The Committee thanks everyone who has working so diligently on this process, especially Jay Cash.

PESW What is thy witness?



Friend Barbara Birch taught English as a Foreign Language from 1973-1988 and later became a professor of Linguistics at CSU-Fresno. She shared what she learned experientially from teaching overseas: 1. There are huge present and past injustices

and crimes that teachers can't "resolve." All teachers can affect is the relationships among the people in the classroom. 2. Conflicts between people in the classroom don't go away if they are ignored. Teachers need courage and knowledge to help repair broken relationships. 3. People living in the present are not responsible for what happened in the past; they are only responsible for the present, which they can change if they want to. 4. Sometimes it is good enough for people to give voice to their wound, listen to each other, and acknowledge the past.

During the first Gulf War, Barbara turned her back on formal Linguistics and started writing and publishing papers combining Peace Education and EL teaching. She was inspired by Elise Boulding.

Her first article was about confronting conflict and reducing prejudice in high school English classes with diverse students in Fresno. Her second article was on teaching and learning "pro-social communicative competence" (a.k.a. right speech) in English classrooms. What she is most proud of is a book-length treatment of peace and healing for teachers and students in EL classrooms worldwide.

That book, *The English Language Teacher and Global Civil Society*, came out in 2009. It was intended to help EL teachers contribute to peace locally and globally. EL teachers and learners are located in global civil society, which is the international network of civil organizations and NGOs related to human rights, the environment, and sustainable peace. English, with its special role as an international language, is a major tool for communication within this network. On the local level, many teachers are interested in promoting reconciliation and sustainable peace, but often they do not know how to do so. The book was intended to provide information and techniques to help teachers around the world take action toward this goal. It offered a new goal for EL teachers besides language learning: global citizenship.

The idea is that English teachers and learners could take advantage of their position in a network of relationships to promote justice, sustainability, and peace, and to heal from violence, injustice, hatred and fear. The central ideas of the book are that 1. The network of EL teachers and students, as part of global civil society, is a global resource for sustainable peace. 2. EL teachers can understand the local causes of conflict and violence and discover ways to heal them. 3. EL Teachers and learners can imagine a preferred

future and work towards it together through pedagogies of transition. 4. The pedagogies of transition heal relationships through dialogues of conflict transformation, tolerance, remembrance, reconciliation, and forgiveness.

Conflict transformation is the ability to use language in a dialogue in which conflict partners restore justice in their relationship. Tolerance is a dialogue in which classmates improve their attitudes towards others. Remembrance is a dialogue in which classmates begin to resolve their difficult emotions. Reconciliation is a dialogue in which reconciliation partners acknowledge past injustices and let them go. Forgiveness is a dialogue in which reconciliation partners begin to envision a just future together.

Dime-A-Gallon Fund History

Peace Earthcare and Social Witness Committee is discussing the Dime-A-Gallon Fund, initially created by a small group of dedicated Strawberries to draw attention to fossil fuel use and encourage steps towards reducing that among Meeting members. It focused on the idea of voluntarily contributing a dime for every gallon of fossil fuel consumed as part of daily life – heating, cooling, and lighting homes, washing clothes, and getting around in the world. Strawberries were invited to calculate their carbon footprint. The original intention and hope was that the fund would eventually shrink to nothing as people changed their fossil fuel consumption patterns. Since March 2004, \$21,183 has been contributed to the fund and \$19,178 has been distributed to mini-grant recipients.

On the plus side, some members have bought hybrids or electric vehicles, replaced incandescent lightbulbs with LEDs or compact fluorescents, made our homes more energy efficient, or installed solar panels. It is now possible to simply pay a little more to buy our electricity from renewable energy sources. On the negative side, some choices proved to be environmentally detrimental in their own right (compact fluorescents containing toxic waste and unrecyclable).

Another issue is that the Dime-A-Gallon grant criteria were somewhat vague leading to requests that required coaching or other lengthy explanations and discussions by one or more PESW members. There have been discussions about the appropriate amount to contribute per gallon of fuel. The fossil fuel calculator on the website was not up to date and was too time consuming for many to use. The carbon footprint formulas are complex and take time without being clearly accurate. Also, since the beginning of the fund, the crisis has become one of greenhouse gas emissions and water use. Climate change is not just based on driving fossil fuel vehicles, but results from particulates of rubber from stopping and braking; from having a larger home, from indiscriminate water use, from flying, and all our other energy uses.

In addition, initially PESW intended to spend one meeting approving projects to be funded. But questions arose about methodology and purpose of the fund and projects to be funded, which stretched the process to multiple months of meetings before unity could be found. The original eco-berries and founders of the Dime-A-Gallon fund have a lot of attachment to the concept but have argued that it should be a Dollar-a-Gallon. PESW is trying to simplify and clarify the purpose of the fund, the criteria for grants, and to reduce the workload on committee members while retaining the personal connection of Meeting to the projects and people involved.

Quaker Center News

Family Work Camp 7/30-8/4. Only \$50/person covers all for 5 days. Individuals and families of all ages are welcome! Quaker Center staff will co-facilitate work camp crews to improve Quaker Center facilities while everyone co-creates the Quaker community. Learn more about this intergenerational camp and register

online at <http://www.quakercenter.org/family-work-camp/>.

Mother and son team of Betsey and Darren Kenworthy from 9/7-9/2018 offer "Wherever Two (Kids) Are Gathered: Quaker Community and Spiritual Growth with Youth." We will deepen our openness to each other through worship sharing on queries regarding our formative spiritual experiences, our hopes and fears for the youth of our Meetings, and positive and negative experiences we have had working with young people. Find out more and register early at: <http://www.quakercenter.org/wherever-two-kids-are-gathered-quaker-community-and-spiritual-growth-with-youth/>.

BEN LOMOND QUAKER CENTER (CA) is accepting applications for two full-time Co-Director positions beginning spring 2019 to provide spiritual leadership to West Coast Friends. Seeking applications from couples or two individuals. LGBTQ & persons of color encouraged to apply. See the Quaker Center website to review the job description. <http://www.quakercenter.org/about-us/employment-opportunities/>

Advices and Queries for the Month of August: Peace

Friends oppose all war as inconsistent with God's will. As every person is a child of God, we recognize God's Light also in our adversaries. Violence and injustice deny this reality and violate the teachings of Jesus and other prophets.

Friends challenge their governments and take personal risks in the cause of peace. We urge one another to refuse to participate in war as soldiers, or as arms manufacturers. We seek ways to support those who refrain from paying taxes that support war. We work to end violence within our own borders, our homes, our streets, and our communities. We support international order, justice, and understanding.

Become an instrument of peace. At every opportunity, be peacemakers in your homes, workplaces and communities. Steep yourself in the power of the universal Spirit. Examine your actions for the seeds of violence, degradation and destructiveness. Overcome the emotions that lie at the root of violence and nurture instead a spirit of reconciliation and love. Come to know the oneness of all creation and oppose the destruction of the natural world.

- *Do I live in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars?*
- *How do I nourish peace within myself as I work for peace in the world?*
- *Do I confront violence wherever it occurs, even when my personal relationships are involved?*
- *Where there is distrust, injustice, or hatred, how am I an instrument of reconciliation and love?*
- *What are we doing to remove the causes of war and destruction of the planet, and to bring about lasting peace?*
- *Do we reach out to all parties in a conflict with courage and love?*

Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting
Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business
June 10, 2018 Minutes

The meeting opened at noon with silent worship. Ralph Murphy clerked the meeting. 32 Friends were present.

Responses to the Advices and Queries on Spiritual Life were read by Susan Burr of Finance Committee. That report is attached. The Meeting returned to silent worship, out of which further responses were given.

The minutes for the May 13, 2018 Meeting for Business were approved with the following corrections. The Peace, Earthcare, and Social Witness Committee report will include the statement that the Dime-A-Gallon guidelines are being reviewed. The announcement of the annual board meeting will include the entire name of the board, i.e. the annual board meeting of Strawberry Creek Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Correspondence and Clerk's Business:

The clerk received a Thank You card from *Friends Journal* for our annual contribution.

Old Business:

Nominations (Nominating Committee)

The clerk reported for Charlie Blanchard who was unable to attend the business meeting. The clerk read the names that have seasoned for one month.

- Recording Clerk—Tom Yamaguchi
- First Day Children's Program co-clerk—Nathan Moon
- Loaves and Fishes—Zadie Moon
- Worship and Ministry—Lee Douglas, Peter Trueblood

Nominating Committee has heard no concerns regarding the nominations. Those nominations were approved.

New Business:

Micki Graham Memorial Minute (Worship and Ministry Committee, Elizabeth Strain)

Elizabeth Strain read the memorial minute prepared and approved by Worship and Ministry Committee. The minute is attached. The clerk asked that the minute be approved today without seasoning so that it can be forwarded to Pacific Yearly Meeting before the next annual session. The memorial minute was approved.

Reports:

Quarterly Meeting Representative (Tom Yamaguchi)

Tom Yamaguchi gave the report for the Spring Quarter session that was held at Ben Lomond Quaker Center from May 18 to May 20. That report is attached. New directors for Quaker Center are being sought, as Kathy and Bob Runyan are leaving their positions after seven years. The Quarter is considering replacing the current winter session with a number of smaller, regional meetings. Tom is on the committee that will make a proposal at the fall session. Tom is also treasurer of the Quarter and reported that the meeting's bank will no longer accept checks made out to CPQM, but must be written out to the full name, College Park Quarterly Meeting. Attendance was improved from the Fall. Attendance at that session was affected by the Northern California fires. The Fall session will be at Sierra Friends Center from October 19 to October 21.

Treasurer (Richard Leath)

Richard Leath gave the treasurer's report, which is attached. A new line item includes Young Adult Friends activities. The Retreat Fund report now includes expenses and income of the Spring Retreat. The most recent retreat went over budget by a few hundred dollars. The treasurer found this to be no cause for concern.

Announcements

Next Meeting for Business will be held on August 12, 2018 at 11:50 AM at Berkeley Technology Academy.

Susan Burr announced that the discussion group on the book ‘Set Free’ will begin next Sunday. Those with questions may contact Susan Burr.

Shelley Tanenbaum announced that she and Leonard Joy are working with 15 local planners on the Bay Area Climate Action Forum to be held on June 25. This is among the events leading up to Global Climate Action Summit in September. A march will be held on the Saturday before the Summit, September 8. Shelley invited us to march as a meeting with both Quaker Earthcare Witness and Strawberry Creek banners.

Tom Rothschild provided an update on the Berkeley Shellmound. The applicant who wishes to develop the property for housing tried to use a new state law to bypass an environmental review process. However, the City of Berkeley denied the fast track application, leaving the developer with three options: 1) abandon the project, 2) challenge the determination (in that case the City of Berkeley would defend the legal action and pick up the legal costs), and 3) revert to the regular environmental review process which would take at least a couple of years to finish.

Pacific Yearly Meeting’s annual session will be held at Walker Creek Ranch in Marin County from July 13 to July 18.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 1:10 pm.

Submitted by: Ralph Murphy, Clerk, Rachel Findley, Alternate Clerk, and Tom Yamaguchi, Recording Clerk.

Reflections on the Advices and Queries: Spiritual Life

by Finance Committee for 6-10-18 Meeting for Business

At its meeting on April 22, 2018, members of Finance Committee read the advices and queries and offered reflections in worship sharing.

The life of the spirit

We all may want our life of the spirit to gain depth and vigor through devotional practices, prayer, study and meditation. Yet often we find “taking time regularly for spiritual refreshment in order to live a more centered life and to bring a deeper presence to the Meeting for Worship” is easier to want than to achieve. Practices of some of our committee’s members include sharing daily meditation with a family member for 15 minutes or so, being out in nature, prayer, and centering meditation outside the Quaker context (yoga and another meditation practice).

A period of daily worship might help us better to sustain relationship with the Divine. An opportunity is available from 7:30-8:00 every morning for friends to engage in early morning online worship through Quaker Center. Go to the Quaker Center website and log in, then enter personal worship with an awareness that others are worshipping simultaneously, not only in the Quaker Center library but also elsewhere in the world. While online participants neither see nor hear anyone else, at the completion of worship, Kathy or Bob Runyan mention to those present in person the names and locations of others who were logged in. On one occasion recently, the group included friends in California, several across the United States and one in Moscow. |

How may we assist each other create and maintain supportive spiritual practices?

Spiritual path and community

We wondered: Is the spiritual path “best found in community”, as one advice states? Or is it perhaps that seekers, once on their spiritual path, may be best supported by community? Which came first for you? One friend expressed a facet of his experience this way: “In worship, when my eyes are closed I am more internally centered; when my eyes are open I see the community and am more aware of my path.”

Listen more deeply

Different metaphors and language DO sometimes interfere with communication, in spoken ministry and outside the meeting for worship setting. A couple of us have family members who often express themselves in fundamentalist Christian metaphors and language that we find difficult to relate to. In family situations, as in worship, we are called to 'honor the Spirit in which thought and words have their beginnings'. If discomfort arises and is expressed when messages in worship are shared which use Christo-centric language, will those for whom this the most natural expression of their experience be less likely to speak? Will all our voices be heard?

Do I live in thankful awareness of God's constant presence in my life?

In our reflecting, one expressed gratitude for a growing awareness of God's presence. Another described having had a clearer sense in young adult years of being led by Spirit minute to minute and taking time to read the New Testament repeatedly. Now, at a stage of life with more material comfort, he is not reaching out as much for help and experiences a diminished sense of connection with the Divine.

From another's point of view, it is difficult to have a sense of Holy Spirit as something separate as the language of the query seems to imply "it's just the world." From a centered, true place I am in harmony with myself, not self-questioning. Maybe the query is asking: Are you awake, aware, not just on cruise control, paying attention

Do we share our spiritual lives with others in the Meeting, seeking to know one another in that which is eternal?

Participating in meeting for worship is a way of sharing our spiritual lives. Strawberry Creek Meeting provides opportunities for shared worship at times in addition to Sunday mornings. Midweek meetings for worship are available at Berkeley Friends Meeting on Vine Street; one meets early Wednesday mornings and sometimes one on Thursday evenings.

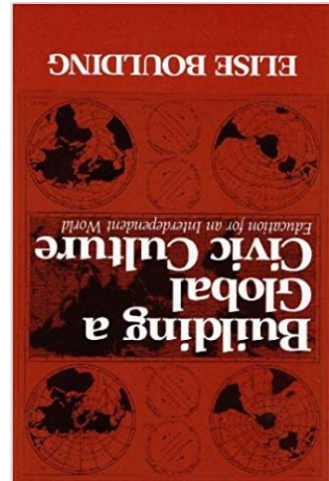
Some people are more inclined to find Spirit and to share personal reflections in smaller groups such as Spiritual Life Sharing Groups, Friendly 7s, or committees. Small group worship sharing is available one Sunday a month before Meeting for Worship. What other ways may we encourage each other to share our spiritual lives?

Religious education including study of the Bible and Friends' history and practices

Our meeting's committee structures have changed from time to time in an effort meet community needs while taking into account people's willingness to serve. For a time, meeting had an Adult Religious Education Committee. It was laid down some years ago and the responsibility returned to Worship and Ministry Committee.

Some are drawn to Bible study; others are decidedly not 'Bible people'. Quakerism 101, a series including readings, presentations and discussions regarding Friend history and practices has been presented at intervals in the past. How may we discern whether such an undertaking at this time would help strengthen our community? Is there sufficient time and energy available to those who might lead? Each of us could think about what would be helpful to us as individuals and as a community in terms of deepening our connection to the Divine. Inspirations can be passed along to Worship and Ministry Committee for seasoning!

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to the newsletter editor.



STRAWBERRY CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO:

July/August 2018 ISSUE

TIME VALUE