



# FORT MYERS MONTHLY MEETING

OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

**NEWSLETTER, SEVENTH MONTH, 2022**

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## **Meeting for Worship**

*Friends are meeting for hybrid worship every 1<sup>st</sup> day at 10:30AM. Friends may meet physically outdoors (weather permitting) under the roof of the chickee hut on the Orange River in Buckingham.*

*Friends who prefer to meet via Zoom instead may do so. Each Friday an invitation to Zoom worship is sent to our entire e-mail list, identifying the hyperlink and meeting number. People may join early either physically or via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. for conversation and fellowship.*

*Midweek worship, in person only, is held at the chickee hut each Wednesday morning, at 10:30 a.m. For directions to the chickee hut, call 239-313-6201 or e-mail the e-mail address above for directions.*

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## **QUERIES & ADVICES** *from Faith & Practice of Southeastern Yearly Meeting*

### SEYM Queries & Advices

#### Third Section:

To what extent is our personal life in accord with Quaker principles?

#### 7. Self-Discipline & Responsibility

##### Queries:

- *Do we attend meeting for worship regularly and punctually?*
- *Do we participate in meeting for worship with a concern for business and support it financially and with personal service according to our resources and abilities?*
- *Are we conscientious in fulfilling all obligations of state and society that are not contrary to our religious convictions?*
- *Are we punctual in keeping promises, just in payment of debts, and honorable in all our dealings?*
- *Do we choose recreations that strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual life, avoiding those that may hinder others, our Earth, and ourselves?*
- *Do we act responsibly concerning substances and behaviors that can become addictive?*

## Advices:

- *Take heed, dear Friends, to the promptings of love and truth in our hearts, which are the leadings of God.*
  - *Bring the whole of our life under the healing and ordering of the Holy Spirit, remembering that there is no time but this present.*
  - *When tempted to do wrong or to despair, call upon God with an open heart, confessing our weaknesses and our needs.*
  - *Be mindful at all times of our connection with the Divine and others—avoid substances, behaviors, and activities which diminish this connection.*
  - *Be aware of the ill effects of mind-altering or habit-forming drugs, intoxicants, gambling, and other detrimental practices.*
  - *Choose recreations that increase our vitality, self awareness, and peace of mind and strengthen our will to create what is good.*
  - *Make thoughtful use of our time.*
  - *Guard ourselves and our children in our choice of print, electronic media, and other entertainments. Avoid those that promote violence and disrespect for human beings.*
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- *Friends, strive to be courteous and responsible while driving.*

## **Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of 7th Month 10, 2022**

The Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends met on the 7th month 10th day in hybrid worship online and at Peace Acre in Buckingham with a total of 14 Friends present. The Meeting opened with a period of silent centering.

Clerk Richard Frechette introduced the single item for business: whether we should unite with the “Statement of Concern about the Ukraine War” sent to us from Boulder, CO, Friends Meeting.

Friend Helen Fox, Recording Clerk, pointed out that the Statement originated with the Ann Arbor, MI, Friends Meeting’s Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

Clerk Richard read the statement (below) and asked Friends for their thoughts.

In the discussion that followed, Friends concurred with the substance, tone, and Quaker values expressed in the statement, but suggested several changes, saying:

- the statement invites the charge of hypocrisy since it does not mention the role our own country is playing in the hostilities

- the statement is naïve because it neglects to mention the ways that modern warfare is different in tactics, scope, and weaponry from the two world wars
- the statement is species specific in that it doesn't mention the suffering that war causes to animals

Friend Jill reminded us that we should not let perfection be the enemy of the good.

Consequently, we approved the statement as written, uniting with Friends from Boulder and Other Meetings, adding that anyone who feels the need for a subsequent minute is invited to form a group and bring a draft to the next Meeting.

❖ **Minute 2022-MM-06:** Friends approve the following **Statement of Concern about the Ukraine War:**

As Russian troops continue to invade Ukraine, we stand in solidarity and sympathy with the people of Ukraine who have suffered egregious assaults on their lives. We also stand with the people of Russia and all whose lives are torn apart by this war. We grieve the loss of life and the destruction that war brings. We feel compassion for all caught up in its web.

We call on the US government, NATO, Ukraine, and Russia to urgently work toward ending hostilities, and the removal of all foreign military troops from Ukraine. We urge all parties to remain at the negotiating table and to keep lines of communication and dialogue open and active.

For more than 350 years, the Religious Society of Friends has sought a world without war, actively seeking to build peace among nations and address the root causes of violence. We are called to uphold justice, to advance nonviolent solutions to conflict, and to promote peaceful cooperation among all peoples.

We affirm again that war is never the answer. Lasting peace can only be achieved through peaceful means.

We agreed to send this Statement of Concern statement to other Quaker groups including SEYM and FCNL, and to distribute it as appropriate throughout our community.

We closed in silent worship.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Helen Fox, Recording Clerk  
Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## FMMM Funds Report 06/30/2022

### General Funds

Checking	4,543
Gen Fund Savings	40,413
Gen Fund Fr Fiduciary	27,567

**Total General Fund 72,523**

### Meeting House Funds

Savings	193,905
MH Funds Fr Fiduciary	12,828

**Total Meeting House Funds 206,733**

**FMMM Total Funds 279,256**

### June 2022 Income vs Expenses

June Income \$ 13,765\*

June Expenses \$ 271

\* \$10,000 donation to Meeting House

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We are very grateful that Samuel De Oliveira has agreed to serve as Meeting's Assistant Treasurer. He will help to insure that all checks are deposited quickly and safely. This is necessary due to the frequent traveling of our Treasurer Paul Davis. Paul will continue to perform all the other Treasurer duties. Please mail from now on all donations to Samuel at the address below:

Contributions to the Meeting can be made payable to Fort Myers Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, and can be sent to:  
Samuel De Oliveira, Assistant Treasurer  
FtMMM  
14180 Vindel Cir  
Fort Myers, FL. 33905

## ***Fort Myers Monthly Meeting is Celebrating Babies!!***

### **Rocking Chair Presented to Celebrate a New Baby in the Meeting**

On behalf of the Fort Myers Monthly Meeting, a personalized child-sized rocking chair was presented to the Samuel De Oliveira family for little Benjamin. Friend Paul Davis assembled and with Clerk Richard Frechette presented it to Samuel. We welcome Benjamin into our Meeting!!

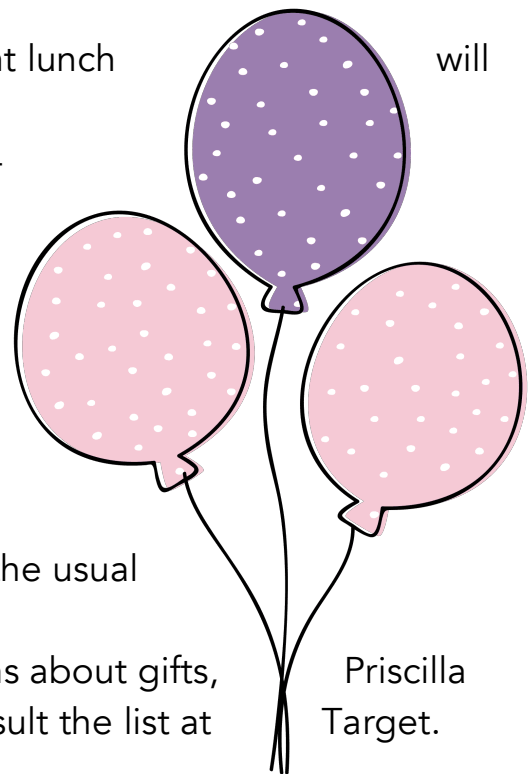


## ***Baby Shower - July 23, 2022***

Friends are invited to come to the home of Nancy Howell, on July 23, at 1 pm, to attend a baby shower for our beloved "child of the meeting", Priscilla DeOliveira Goldey, who is expecting a baby girl in August. Both

men and women are invited to attend. A light lunch will be served, with seating both inside and outside (weather permitting). Those planning to attend should RSVP by July 17 to allow for better planning, and will receive information on where to park, etc.

Priscilla tells us that she and Dylan are registered at Target, if you need guidance on gifts. The baby will need the usual clothing, blankets, towels, toys, books, etc. If you have questions about gifts, Priscilla will be glad to answer your questions, or consult the list at Target.



The shower will be at 105 Pinebrook Drive, off Daniels Parkway, just behind the Bell Tower shopping center. The condo is gated: the gate code is \*30105. Phone Jeannette Botha or Nancy Howell to RSVP. Hope to see you there. "

*Something of God  
comes into our world*

*with every child that is born.  
There is here with the newborn child  
a divine spark, a light within...*

*Rufus M. Jones, 1948*

## USEFUL WEBSITES FOR FRIENDS

<a href="https://pendlehill.org">https://pendlehill.org</a>	Pendle Hill, Quaker Retreat and Resource Center
<a href="http://seymquakers.org">http://seymquakers.org</a>	Southeastern Yearly Meeting
<a href="http://www.fcni.org">www.fcni.org</a>	Friends Committee for National Legislation
<a href="http://www.fgcquaker.org">www.fgcquaker.org</a>	Friends General Conference
<a href="http://www.afsc.org">www.afsc.org</a>	American Friends Service Committee
<a href="http://fwcc.world">http://fwcc.world</a>	Friends World Committee on Consultation
<a href="http://www.quakerspeak.com">www.quakerspeak.com</a>	QuakerSpeak: A Quaker YouTube Channel
<a href="http://www.quakerhouse.org">www.quakerhouse.org</a>	Quaker House, Fayetteville
<a href="http://www.quakervoluntaryservice.org">www.quakervoluntaryservice.org</a>	Quaker Voluntary Service
<a href="http://www.quno.org">www.quno.org</a>	Quaker United Nations

## MEETING CALENDAR

1 <sup>st</sup> Days (Sundays)	Meeting for Worship in a hybrid format: in person at Buckingham chickeehut or via Zoom An informal conversation time begins at 10:00 am	10:30 am
8/7/22	Potluck following in-person worship.	Following worship
Each Wednesday	Meeting for Worship at Buckingham chickeehut. This is in person only.	10:30 a.m.
8/15/22	Meeting for worship with attention to business.	Following worship

**Friends Meeting of Fort Myers**  
**Religious Society of Friends**  
**c/o Richard Frechette**  
**138 Pinebrook Dr.**  
**Fort Myers, FL 33907-5988**  
Address Correction Requested