

Ministry and Counsel of Concord Friends Meeting
Report to Meeting for Business
February 13, 2021

Our Work:

1. At the request of January Business Meeting we organized a January 16th sharing of reflections on the Jan 6 Capitol attack. We realize that we have a variety of responses to this unprecedented event. We do feel it is appropriate to talk about our values and what concerns us in this event and in government policy as a result of holding those values, while being careful to not talk about political candidates and political parties. It is also important to not make assumptions about each other's views. We were encouraged to write our own responses which Sara has condensed into one Word document. We hope this sharing will strengthen our understandings and open us up to the diverse ways we think about this event. Recognizing that these are personal views, they will be emailed to individuals in the meeting on request. Please email Sara to request a copy.
2. New small groups: These groups have started:
 - a. Braiding Sweetgrass book group: 3 groups!
 - b. Walk once a week for an hour
 - c. Bible Study group
 - d. Deepening Daily Spiritual Practice
3. Yearly Meeting Sessions: Will be online again while Young Friends will meet at Friends Camp. Some intergenerational activities will be offered at the sessions. There will be separate younger Friends sessions at a different time.
4. New Pastoral Meeting in our Quarter (Nashua) came to Jan 31 Quarterly Meeting; they meet in a home and are African Quakers and are interested in being in FUM. The entire quarter will be helping them, as requested. Heidi is assistant Quarterly Meeting clerk, working with Jeremiah Dickinson as clerk.
5. February Fourth Sunday will be reflections of the Tuesday group on their journey from studying the Testimonies to providing material support to people experiencing homelessness.

Our Request for approval:

6. State of Society: We completed some editing and some additions on this. We ask for approval to send this on to Quarterly and Yearly Meeting along with our Statistical Report on membership.
7. The clearness committee reported that they enthusiastically recommend Michael and Joanna Evans for membership as a transfer from Bloomington Indiana Monthly Meeting. We recommend their adult children seek a spiritual home near to their physical home. We ask for the meeting's affirmation of this transfer.