



Friends World Committee
for Consultation

SECTION OF THE AMERICAS

Comité Mundial de Consulta
de los Amigos

SECCIÓN DE LAS AMÉRICAS

TRAVELING MINISTRY CORPS 2020

Are you interested in traveling in the ministry? Have you felt God's call to share with others beyond your own Church or Meeting? If so, consider applying to become an FWCC traveling minister.

Our vision is to connect with Meetings, Churches and Yearly Meetings across differences in worship style, belief, and culture — through visitation from a traveling minister. We seek to build an integrated network of Friends, woven together in a tapestry that is the Religious Society of Friends. We may have many branches, but we are from one root.

Visitation is the essential work of FWCC. Through visitation we open windows and let the light of understanding shine in. Friends meet “face-to-face and heart-to-heart” to share both that which unites and that which divides them in the life of the Spirit. Open exchange builds understanding, respect, trust and love, and, with God's help, renews awareness of a worldwide family of Friends.

To discern your desire to participate as a traveling minister, consider participating in a clearness process with your monthly meeting to discern the divine call. Historically, two things have been crucial in discerning if a person is called to be a traveling minister: the overpowering leading of the Light and the nature and purpose of the specific occasion of travel. The first may be tested with a clearness process. The second will become clear over time - as opportunities to travel in the ministry arise through FWCC.

The concern that is carried by the traveling minister is the mission of FWCC: to bring 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. We are looking to build bridges between the different branches and traditions of Quakerism.

The traveling ministry program began in 2016. If you want to learn more about the vision for this program, please see the Quaker Speak video, “Why Traveling Ministry is Vital for Quakers in the 21st Century” <https://youtu.be/1jQK9srrgDs>. (English with Spanish subtitles)

We ask traveling ministers to commit to two years of service. FWCC will cover all travel costs for about four visits per year. A mandatory training is held in late March each year and we expect that ministers will also participate in the second year gathering as part of the next cohort's training. If you would like more information please visit our website: www.fwccamericas.org. The application is on the reverse.

Applications must be received by September 30, 2019. Applicants will be notified of the committee's final decisions in November 2019. Please send application and any supporting documents to travelingministry@fwccamericas.org.

Applications should include:

- 1) Your full name and mailing address, email and phone number. Affirmation that you are over 18 years of age.
- 2) A brief personal history in Quakerism including the name of the Friends meeting or church and yearly meeting in which your membership is held. (This should be no longer than one half of a page.)
- 3) A statement describing your discernment process and your spiritual leading to apply for this program. (This should be no longer than one half of a page.)
- 4) One letter of support from a body of Friends describing your discernment process and affirming your ability to fully serve as a traveling minister for FWCC. This letter should be from a clearness committee, the pastor of your meeting/church, Ministry and Counsel committee, or the equivalent. If you have been given a traveling minute from your monthly or yearly meeting, please include this in addition to other letters.
- 5) Answers to the following questions. (Altogether, this should be no longer than two pages.)
 - a. What topics are you passionate about?
 - b. What are your spiritual gifts?
 - c. Tell us briefly about a time when you had to understand somebody from a different group (whether that was a different church, race, gender, language, etc.) Was this difficult? How did you resolve this?
 - d. What is your experience in public speaking? (In school, at church/meeting, or in the community? How many people were there? What was the topic? What were you worried about? How did you prepare? Why would you want to do that again?)
 - e. If you described yourself as a part of the body of Christ, what part are you?
 - f. What are the qualities/virtues of your best friend? (defined any way you like)
 - g. What experience do you have as a leader in your church or Friends community?
- 6) An audio or video interview in addition to this written application will be scheduled in the last week of October.