



Annual Report May 2016-April 2017

Section Meeting

Over 120 Friends from more than 30 Yearly Meetings, including 20 Quakers from Latin American Yearly Meetings, gathered in Stony Point, NY from March 23-26. Our theme was **Vivir La Paz – Living Peace (John 16:33)**. In addition to business, we gathered each morning to hear from one of our three plenary speakers: Carl Magruder, Kirenia Criado, and Jonathan Vogel Borne. The budgets for fiscal years 2018 and 2019 and nominations were reviewed and approved. Bible Study was conducted in the manner of Godly Play, and we gathered to bless the launch of the 2017 Traveling Ministry Corps. The body also heard a report on the implementation of the “Weaving the Tapestry” strategic plan and agreed to extend the time period until 2023. The vision, mission, and full strategic plan are available at fwccamericas.org/about/our-work.shtml. The next Section Meeting will be held in March 2019.



Traveling Ministry Corps

The work of several years of planning, fundraising, and praying has culminated in the first cohort of the **Traveling Ministry Corps**. The 2017 Corps has four ministers from North America and three from South America. The launch of this program is extremely exciting for us, as we continue to live into our vision of a vibrant tapestry woven of the various threads of Quaker faith.



Before the Section Meeting in March, the 2017 Corps gathered for training and preparation. Ministers will visit or connect with Friends in North, Central, and South America in the hopes of crossing the boundaries created by distance, language, and belief. The 2018 Corps will consist of Young Adult Friends aged 18 – 35 with a calling to share their ministry. For more information, visit fwccamericas.org/visitation/traveling-ministry.shtml

World Quaker Day



The third annual **World Quaker Day** was held October 2, 2016. The theme was **Inspired by Faith – Witnessing Together in the World**. This event continues to grow in popularity, and many meetings and churches plan special worship sessions or other events, like sunrise worship sessions or inter-meeting visitation. To see more ways that Friends marked WQD go to worldquakerday.org, and for many easy and fun ideas for commemorating World Quaker Day in 2017, visit fwccamericas.org/wqd.

From the Section of the Americas Office

Karen Gregorio de Calderon is serving FWCC as COAL Meeting and Representative Engagement Coordinator. Karen was previously on the Executive Committee and works from her home in Guatemala. In November 2016, longtime FWCC employee **Evan Draper** left to pursue graduate school goals. We are in the process of restructuring the Data Coordinator position into a sustainable, long-term job. We have also changed offices within Friends Center. With the Traveling Ministry Corps up and running, and World Quaker Day growing, we feel we have made deep progress into our strategic plan while acknowledging there is still much work to be done.

Officers of the Section of the Americas for 2016-17

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Clerk: | Benigno Sánchez-Eppler, <i>New England YM</i> |
| Assistant Clerk: | Kelly Kellum, <i>North Carolina (FUM) YM</i> |
| Recording Clerk: | Dorothy Grannell, <i>Ohio Valley YM</i> |
| Assistant Recording Clerk: | Kenya Casanova Sales, <i>Cuba YM</i> |
| Treasurer: | Nancy Wallace, <i>Illinois YM</i> |
| Assistant Treasurer: | Jason Eaby, <i>Baltimore YM</i> |

Clerks of Committees and Program Groups for 2016-17

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Finance Committee: | Jonathan Vogel-Borne, <i>New England YM</i> |
| Nominating Committee: | David Shiner, <i>Illinois YM</i> |
| Naming Committee: | Christel Jorgenson, <i>New England YM</i> |
| Communications: | Anthony Manousos, <i>Pacific YM</i> |
| Convocations: | Aimee McAdamas, <i>Northern YM</i> |
| Correspondence: | Mary Hopkins, <i>New England YM</i> |
| Representative Engagement: | Chuck Schobert, <i>Northern YM</i> |
| Traveling Ministry Corps: | Kristen Olson Kennedy, <i>North Carolina (C) YM</i> |

Finances

| | FY17 | | 4/30/17 |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total ordinary income: | \$391,980 | Assets | \$1,810,771 |
| Total expense: | 421,217 | Liabilities | 63,341 |
| Other income: | 78,297 | Net Assets | 1,747,430 |
| Other expense: | <u>3,208</u> | | |
| Net income: | \$ 45,852 | | |

The most recent audited financial statements are available at fwccamericas.org/donate.

