

Report of Friends General Conference 2013

This year FGC has started:

- 1) New Meeting Project to support new meetings and worship groups – teams are being trained to be contacts with these groups over several years while they get established
- 2) The Quaker Cloud – this is to provide assistance for meetings by hosting websites, meeting minutes, directories etc. Small meetings will pay \$10/month and large meetings will pay \$20/month.
- 3) A new curriculum for 3 to 8 year olds has been completed called *Sparkling Still* and it will be released just prior to the Gathering in Colorado

FGC continuing programs include:

- 1) Quakerbooks of FGC (www.quakerbooks.org) which has books available for purchase. They also provide books for book tables at monthly and yearly meetings. Books can be ordered by phone, on-line or you can visit the FGC bookstore in person.
- 2) QuakerPress and QuakerBridge Media publish print and digital books, pamphlets and occasionally other resources for and about Quakers and relating to the goals of FGC.
- 3) The annual gathering of Friends which will occur June 30 – July 6 in Greeley Colorado.
- 4) Consultations for Friends of Color are held each year and this year there will be one in Washington, D.C. in November.
- 5) FGC offer Couple Enrichment workshops for people in committed relationships to assist in nurturing relationships using Quaker values and practices. Meetings can arrange to have workshops.
- 6) Faith and Play is a resource that helps children find words and images for expressing their spiritual experiences. It is a joint project of FGC and Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
- 7) FGC continues to assist meetings with inreach and outreach through Quaker Quest
- 8) FGC and Friends Council on Education (FCE) are cosponsoring a pilot project with meetings and Quaker schools that are in a care relationship.
- 9) FGC holds one or two regional gatherings annually for Friends engaged in ministry or the support of ministry in their meetings.
- 10) FGC assists meetings by providing seasoned Friends who can lead workshops, retreats, help meetings address areas of concern and provide nurturing opportunities.
- 11) FGC works with seasoned Friends who, with clearness and support from their meetings, seek opportunities to travel in the ministry.
- 12) FGC helps Friends get discounted rates and meet with each other at the White Privilege Conference. This is an annual conference that examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building. In 2014 the conference will be in Madison, WI 3/27-29.