

Friends Meeting of San Antonio
Meeting for Worship for Attention of Business
March 15, 2026

Attendance: Jillian Randles, Greg Koehler, Pat Sweet, Bill Sweet, Von Keairns, Dale Keairns, Grethen Haynes, Angela Starnes, Luz Perez Prado, Denise Wilkinson, Bill Wilkinson, Rachael Cundey, Suzanne Cole Sullivan, Judy Grant, Julie Crum, Joseph Montaña, Anaiah Montaña, George Feden, Lisa Craig and Rebecca Cole Sullivan (Clerk, Recording Clerk)

The Meeting started with open worship.

Clerks opening foundations: The clerk read part of the book *Approved: A Story About Quaker Meeting for Business* by Nancy L. Haines. We heard about how the kids in the story hold their own business meeting and decide how to give away the money they made from a food sale.

Accept the Minutes of February

MINUTE 2026-03-01: Friends approves the February 2026 Minutes as corrected.

Committee Reports:

Ministry and Care – Julie Crum, Clerk, reported on behalf of Ministry and Care (Full Report See Appendix A)

Ministry and Care met on March 4 to start discerning the April Query, prepare for the fifth Sunday Ask-A-Quaker form this month, and spent some time worshipping around friends who have asked for such care. Their next meeting will be on April 10 at 6:30pm via zoom.

Friends accepted the Ministry and Care report.

Over the last two months, Friends have been able to provide information and feedback on the State of the Meeting Report as presented here for approve. (See Appendix B for Full State of the Meeting Report).

MINUTE 2026-03-02: Friends Meeting of San Antonio approves the State of the Meeting report as accurate and correct. The clerk will share it with the Yearly Meeting Ministry and Care Committee.

Peace and Social Concerns – Dale Keairns, clerk (Full Report See Appendix C)

Peace and Social Concerns met on March 8. They continue to spend time thinking about how the committee can support Friends Meeting of San Antonio grapple with and discern how we want to interact with Artificial Intelligence and the social change going on around it.

The committee also spent time reviewing a proposal from Emily Provance, a traveling Friend, to come to San Antonio in August and lead hybrid programming about democracy preservation. Peace and Social Concerns is bringing this topic as a report, asking Friends to sit with this idea, talk amongst each other, and come next month ready to discern if this is a collaboration we want to take under our care. Emily's primary asks are the use of Friends Meeting of San Antonio's infrastructure (meetinghouse, Zoom account, library), an offer of housing, and time to focus on developing then presenting her democracy preservation work. She is also requesting that FMSA cover the cost of Spanish interpretation for 3-6 of the presentations, her flight from NYC to San Antonio, and offer a contribution that will help cover other costs of her work as a traveling Friend.

Discussion: Friends supported the idea of Emily coming to San Antonio in August. Several families came forward as willing and able to offer housing, and we had several Friends show interest in setting up and running Zoom during the meetings she would hold in the meetinghouse. The body requested that should we invite Emily to do this work, we ask her to provide us with a written reflection or report about her time here and how Spirit moved within her work.

Minute 2026-03-03: Peace and Social Concerns upon hearing positive interest from the body, submits Emily Provance's proposal to Finance Committee with the hope that Finance will season and balance the asks for ministry support and professional interpretation costs, culminating with a funding recommendation at April's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Treasurer – Bill Sweet, Treasurer (Full Report See Appendix D)

In February, we brought in \$2,095 in contributions (11.4% of our budgeted at 16.7% of the year). We had some rental and miscellaneous income totaling \$850. Our property

and liability insurance premium was \$9,827.00 or \$377 over budget. Otherwise, we saw normally budgeted activities for the month.

Friends accepted the February report.

Religious Education – Rachael Cundey, clerk (Full Report See Appendix E)

Religious Education Committee met February 28th with Lisa, Roberta, and Rachael in attendance.

The committee discussed our concerns for Children’s Religious Education and our hope to find a way forward following the threshing session. We are grateful for the contributions of Gary, Lisa, Roberta, and Gretchen this year and encouraged by the spirited engagement of Young Friends in conversations about Quaker values. We realized the need to have substitutes available so that these four Friends can care for themselves adequately and started a signup list for backup coverage. The committee will have simple activities prepared for the substitutes to use. Please contact Rachael if you would like to be added to the substitute list.

We also discussed our interest in children’s spiritual development outside of Meeting. Lisa proposed a possible book study on the book *Woven: Nurturing a Faith your Kid Doesn’t Have to Heal From* by Meredith Miller. Would Friends have interest in this activity?

We made plans for future forums to learn more about what we believe as Friends and how we can live out our testimonies in the world.

Discussion:

We have received a request from some parents in the meeting to know more about Conscious Objection. We are going to start working with the older children and their parents to help them know about the process and how to prepare oneself.

Friends liked the idea of reading a book together so we can learn about how we can do religious education together and learn from each other.

SA Stands – Rachael Cundey, Representative (Full Report See Appendix F)

Sueños sin Fronteras (SSFTX) is a member of the SA Stands coalition. SSFTX is a San Antonio organization that works toward reproductive justice for immigrants. They are

asking other members of SA Stands to consider signing on to their letter concerning justice for those detained by ICE with a deadline of Tuesday March 17th at 5pm. They approach this issue from the perspective of reproductive health. (See Full Report in Appendix F for Complete Letter).

In April 2023, Friends Meeting of San Antonio approved this policy statement in response to a request from FCNL:

Friends Meeting of San Antonio is a community which values life, possibility, and growth. As such, we seek a world in which all people who can give birth receive affordable, easily accessible, and comprehensive reproductive care without regard to age, including complete, accurate, and unbiased counseling; sex education; contraception; pregnancy care; post-partum and well-baby care; family and adoption support during and after pregnancy; and safe and legal abortion in every community throughout the United States.

Discussion:

Friends quickly agreed with the idea of the letter even though it doesn't say exactly what we want. We are worried this statement is not focused enough and the last two points lose the point of the letter and supporting information. The SA Stands Representative responded to these comments letting us know that SA Stands members did not have an opportunity to support the creation of this letter. However, she has heard the concerns risen today, they will help guide her on giving feedback on future requests where coalition members ask for responses and feedback.

This letter brought up the idea of when it is time for us to write our own statements. As we worshiped, we were not ready to start writing our own letters. Due to our social placement, we need to sign on to letters from those who are doing the work. We would like to keep ourselves in a role of support and counsel for the meeting.

MINUTE 2026.03.04: Friends Meeting of San Antonio affirms the right of all people who can give birth to the full spectrum of reproductive care. We acknowledge that comprehensive care is not provided to pregnant individuals in ICE detention facilities and that the fear of detention by ICE discourages many from seeking care in the community. We support neither the separation of children from their families nor the detention of children. For these reasons, we are signing on to the Sueños sin Fronteras letter calling for the release of all pregnant people and their children from ICE detention.

Clerk's Item: On March 8, 2026, the body gathered in the meeting room and on Zoom for a scheduled threshing session about religious education. The session was clerked by Ed Fay from Friends Meeting of Austin to allow our clerk to be fully present with the discussion. Carolyn LeJuste from Red Cedar Friends Meeting (Lansing, MI) joined via Zoom as an elder.

We considered two queries:

- What is the purpose of religious education, both for adults and children?
- How do we let our children find their understanding of their faith?

As is traditional with threshing sessions, no decisions were made. Rather, we will continue to thoughtfully and prayerfully consider how way is opening and how Spirit is moving around religious education at Friends Meeting of San Antonio.

Announcement:

Citizen's Climate Lobby: Bill S. consulted with the Property Coordinator, Clerk and others in the Meeting and we agreed he could offer our space for free to two traveling artists through Citizen's Climate Lobby. They are looking into places to perform their unique 90-minute multimedia concert called [For the Birds -- live music, images and poetry invite reflection on our changing climate](#). Be on the lookout in the announcements about if and where in San Antonio they might perform April 12-26.

Closing:

The Meeting for Business Closed with worship.

Appendix A: Ministry and Care Report

March 2026

The committee met on March 4 via Zoom; Pat Sweet, Jillian Randles, Judy Grant, Julie Crum, and Rebecca Cole Sullivan attended; Denise Wilkinson was away.

The query for April is still under discernment.

The State of the Meeting report will be presented at the March Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Friends will gather on the fifth Sunday in March, the 29th, for the periodic Ask-a-Quaker forum. New friends are especially welcome.

We discussed concerns for friends, the new procedure for organizing opening, closing, and kitchen management, and the application for more HEB cards, still in progress.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, April 10 at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

Appendix B: State of the Meeting Report 2025

Appendix C:
Appendix D:

Appendix E:

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE'S REPORT *reported by Rachael Cundey*

Religious Education Committee met February 28th with Lisa, Roberta, and Rachael in attendance.

The committee discussed our concerns for Children's Religious Education and our hope to find a way forward following the threshing session. We are grateful for the contributions of Gary, Lisa, Roberta, and Gretchen this year and encouraged by the spirited engagement of Young Friends in conversations about Quaker values. We realized the need to have substitutes available so that these four Friends can care for themselves adequately and started a signup list for backup coverage. The committee will have simple activities prepared for the substitute to use. Please contact Rachael if you would like to be added to the substitute list.

We also discussed our interest in children's spiritual development outside of Meeting. Lisa proposed a possible book study on the book *Woven: Nurturing a Faith your Kid Doesn't Have to Heal From* by Meredith Miller. Would Friends have interest in this activity?

We made plans for future forums to learn more about what we believe as Friends and how we can live out our testimonies in the world:

- March 22nd Gretchen will lead a forum on nontheism
- April 12th We will discuss Quaker work in the world and community, focusing on the efforts of the American Friends Service Committee, Friends Peace Teams, Quaker Earthcare Witness, and Right Sharing of World Resources
- April 26th TBD-possibly giving time to P&SC Committee
- May 10th Birth party for SCYM Faith and Practice, which we hope will be approved at Yearly Meeting

Religious Education Committee will next meet April 11th at 3pm.

Appendix F

SA Stands Representative's Report

Sueños sin Fronteras (SSFTX) is a member of the SA Stands coalition. SSFTX is a San Antonio organization that works toward reproductive justice for immigrants. They are asking other members of SA Stands to consider signing on to their letter concerning justice for those detained by ICE with a deadline of Tuesday March 17th at 5pm. They approach this issue from the perspective of reproductive health.

In April 2023, we approved this policy statement in response to a request from FCNL: Friends Meeting of San Antonio is a community which values life, possibility, and growth. As such, we seek a world in which all people who can give birth receive affordable, easily accessible, and comprehensive reproductive care without regard to age, including complete, accurate, and unbiased counseling; sex education; contraception; pregnancy care; post-partum and well-baby care; family and adoption support during and after pregnancy; and safe and legal abortion in every community throughout the United States.

I propose that we sign on to the letter with the following minute:

MINUTE 2026.03.xx: Friends Meeting of San Antonio affirms the right of all people who can give birth to the full spectrum of reproductive care. We acknowledge that comprehensive care is not provided to pregnant individuals in ICE detention facilities and that the fear of detention by ICE discourages many from seeking care in the community. We support neither the separation of children from their families nor the detention of children. For these reasons, we are signing on to the Sueños sin Fronteras letter calling for the release of all pregnant people and their children from ICE detention.

Call for Immediate Release of Pregnant People & Families in ICE Detention Sign-On Letter

We, the undersigned organizations, providers, and advocates, call for the immediate release of all pregnant adults and children, currently detained at the South Texas Residential Center in Dilley, Texas.

The South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, Texas, is currently detaining pregnant women, children, and infants in deplorable and deadly conditions. This facility is where five-year-old asylum seeker [Liam Conejo Ramos](#) and his father were held for 12 days after being detained in Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is also the same facility where a two-month-old infant, Juan Nicolás, facing life-threatening respiratory issues,

was detained with his mother and his sixteen-month-old sister. [On February 18th, 2026, ICE deported the infant and his family, abandoning them across the border in Mexico.](#)

Reports from inside the center describe [unsanitary conditions, malnutrition, lack of nutritious food options, contaminated water](#), and a [denial of prenatal and medical care](#). These conditions place pregnant people and children at grave risk. [U.S. Representative Joaquin Castro has expressed concern about the children and pregnant women currently detained](#), reporting that requests he has made to improve conditions have not been fulfilled.

On February 5th, 2026, [two measles cases were confirmed at the Dilley detention facility](#). Measles exposure during pregnancy can cause severe complications, [including pneumonia, miscarriage, premature birth, and fetal harm](#). Holding pregnant individuals in detention amid a confirmed outbreak constitutes a public health crisis and a direct threat to maternal and infant health.

[A woman who was 36 weeks pregnant was deported after being detained for three months at the South Texas Residential Center in Dilley, Texas, with her two young children](#). Multiple medical experts and airlines deemed her medically unsafe to fly due to the advanced stage of her pregnancy. Rather than prioritize her health and the safety of this woman's unborn child, ICE deliberately sought out a physician and an airline willing to override those warnings and carry out the deportation anyway. **This was not an administrative error. It was a conscious act of state violence against a pregnant person.**

Congressman Castro has also reported that Dilley officials were ["hiding the pregnant women" from him and that pregnant detainees had been removed from the facility and transported to a medical site in Laredo to avoid public scrutiny](#). The concealment of pregnant people from elected officials and the public reflects a broader pattern of secrecy, medical neglect, and systemic abuse within ICE detention facilities.

[The Department of Homeland Security \(DHS\) has estimated that 0.18% of immigrants detained in ICE detention are pregnant](#). With roughly 60,000 currently held in ICE custody in recent months, this translates to around 100 pregnant women being detained and facing deportation at any given moment.

According to the department's rules, none of these individuals should be detained. [ICE Directive 11032.4](#) states, ***"ICE should not detain, arrest, or take into custody for an administrative violation of the immigration laws individuals known to be pregnant, postpartum, or nursing unless release is prohibited by law or exceptional circumstances exist."***

Further compounding these harms, on May 5th, 2025, [U.S. Customs & Border Protection \(CBP\) quietly revoked critical protections for pregnant, postpartum people, and infants in custody](#). These policies, which have now been rescinded, ensured access to adequate water and food, diapers, and unexpired formula; privacy for breastfeeding mothers; and expedited processing to reduce time in detention for medically vulnerable

individuals. With these safeguards stripped away, detention conditions have become even more dangerous for birthing people and infants.

Detaining pregnant individuals, children, and infants in inhumane, medically inadequate conditions, especially in Texas, where reproductive health care is already intentionally inaccessible, is a serious violation of human dignity and bodily autonomy, and a serious threat to the health and well-being of our community.

We therefore demand the following:

1. Immediate Humanitarian Release, NOT Deportation

We demand the immediate humanitarian release of all pregnant adults and their children currently held at the South Texas Residential Center in Dilley, Texas, and across the United States. **This demand is not a call for deportation or a transfer to another facility.** We are specifically calling for every pregnant person and family to be released back into their communities in the U.S., where they can access medical care and mental health support.

Pregnant people must be released into healthy environments where they can receive care from trusted medical providers in their communities, receive evidence-based obstetric and gynecologic health services, and have continuity of care throughout pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. This includes access to culturally responsive services, medical interpreters, and social services, such as housing and nutrition assistance.

2. Cut All ICE Funding and Stop Building Infrastructure For ICE Detention Facilities

We demand that Congress immediately cut all funding for ICE's illegal and harmful operations, including the cessation of funding for ICE's detention practices, enforcement activities, and expansion of facilities. No allocation of taxpayer dollars for new detention facilities or for the maintenance and operation of existing ones. ICE's budget supports systems that harm public health, criminalize pregnancy and care-seeking, and exacerbate racial and gender inequities in child, maternal, and reproductive health.

3. Community-Centered Alternatives to ICE Detention

We demand the replacement of punitive detention with community-based, health-centered, and rights-affirming alternatives that uphold human dignity and family unity. Examples include compassionate case management programs that help individuals and families safely access the immigration system, connect with legal aid, and receive social and health resources.

The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) affirms that immigration status is a structural determinant of health and that ICE detention and enforcement activities deter people from seeking necessary health care and cause

harm to maternal and infant health outcomes. Specifically, the ACOG recommends against detaining all pregnant, postpartum, and lactating individuals.

4. Abolish ICE and End Immigration Detention

ICE endangers the safety and well-being of our communities. No one is safe with the threat of enforcement looming in our communities, hospitals, and workplaces. We therefore demand the abolition of ICE as an enforcement agency that detains individuals and families and the permanent closure of all ICE detention centers and facilities that imprison immigrant adults and families.

The intersection of immigration enforcement and reproductive oppression creates life-threatening conditions. Incarcerating pregnant adults, children, and infants is both a moral failure and a public health crisis. We urge Congress to act immediately to cut ICE funding, remove ICE from our communities, permanently close all ICE detention centers, and release all individuals currently held in ICE detention.