

Friends Meeting of San Antonio  
Meeting for Worship for Attention of Business  
April 19, 2026

Attendance: Jillian Randles, Pat Sweet, Bill Sweet, Von Keairns, Dale Keairns, Angela Starnes, Denise Wilkinson, Bill Wilkinson, Suzanne CS, Julie Crum, Lisa Craig, Carol Redfield, Rob Flinn, Roberta Russell, George Feden, Gretchen Haynes and Rebecca Cole Sullivan (Clerk, acting Recording Clerk)

**The Meeting started with open worship.**

**Clerks opening foundations:** “The premise of Quaker Meeting is that no one person sees the entire truth. The group search after truth is more comprehensive and more exacting than the search of one individual. At Meetings for Worship, the shared silence creates receptivity to the continuing revelation of the truth. People who are moved to vocal ministry offer small insights that contribute to each person’s understanding.” *The Quaker Book of Wisdom*, pg. 24

**Accept the Minutes of March**

**MINUTE 2026-04-01:** Friends approves the March 2026 Minutes as corrected.

**Committee Reports:**

**Religious Education** – Lisa Craig reported on behalf of Religious Education (Full Report See Appendix A)

Religious Education Committee met Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Roberta, Lisa, and Rachael were present.

We discussed what we heard in the threshing session. We noted the difficulty of meeting the needs of all Young Friends in a single lesson.

We recommend weekly Children’s Religious Education for Young Friends based in story, play, and/or experience. All stories should be presented in a way that invites Young Friends to consider their own values and beliefs. With this guideline, stories may come from Quakerism, the Bible, other religious and spiritual traditions, or secular sources.

Renata would continue her role as support for this group along with 1-2 adults from the Meeting leading each week.

We recommend an additional offering for Young Friends, most likely two lessons each month, focused on Quaker education and spiritual formation. This form of religious education may be more didactic at times as Young Friends learn more about the mechanics of Quaker process. We would need two adults from the Meeting to support this group whenever it is held.

We imagine Young Friends would transition from the first to the second group at around ten years old. We do not want to impose a strict cutoff but rather allow each Young Friend, with the support of their parents and the Meeting, to discern where they fit best.

To safely hold both offerings, we will need additional adult support of Children's Religious Education. Potential teachers are currently discerning their calls in this area. Please contact the committee if either or both of these opportunities speak to you.

We also heard a desire for intergenerational activity and to introduce Young Friends to what we do in unprogrammed worship. We recommend an experiment in intergenerational worship, inspired by the work of Melinda Wenner Bradley. (See Full Report for link from Melinda).

**Discussion:**

Bill Wilkinson will be meeting with our older young friends about conscious objection offerings. If you know other young people who would like to join, let Bill Wilkinson know.

Friends received the report.

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

Ministry and Care met by zoom on Thursday April 16. This committee is charged with fostering the spiritual health of Meeting. We are considering more ways we can help Friends with spiritual development. For example, we might form study groups that would meet evenings or other non-forum times, examining spiritual issues or the newly approved Faith and Practice. What might Friends find helpful toward this end?

Ministry and Care also received the request from Religious Education to hold Multigenerational Worship and is looking forward to working with the Religious Education committee to bring a proposal for intergenerational worship to Meeting for Business.

Friends received the report.

**Naming Committee** – Julie Crum reported on behalf of the Naming Committee (Full Report See Appendix C)

The naming committee is made up from people who hold other positions in our meeting: Clerk of Ministry and Care, Clerk of Finance and Clerk of Meeting. We have met a few times over the last months and are bringing forward two names for a first reading: Rob Flinn and Lisa Craig. If approved next month, they will serve a three-year term starting May 2026 and serving through April 2029.

We will bring one additional name next month. We are in discernment with a few people. These three people will join Bill Wilkinson who is finishing out a term that will end in April 2027.

Friends received the report.

**Finance Committee** – Pat Sweet, Clerk, reported on behalf of Finance (Full Report See Appendix D)

The Finance Committee has been considering the possibility of supporting Emily Provance in San Antonio. We were delayed somewhat in our conversation because we were waiting for a translation estimate.

Individual Friends from the meeting have offered to cover her housing and flight to San Antonio (in her proposal in the March Minutes she noted she already has funding for her departure flight).

The questions we are considering include:

1. How much honoraria, if any, is Friends Meeting of San Antonio willing to provide?
2. There may be a final event at the end of the program. Are we willing to pay for food?
3. There will be three (3) speakers, some or all of whom will attend by Zoom. Emily is interested in having a Spanish language interpreter available during their

sessions. Suzanne has reached out to SA Stands for costs as that was the final piece of the financial picture. They have not yet gotten back to Suzanne. We were waiting on that information before making any financial commitments as these costs can be in the range of \$100-\$150/hour. We do not need to provide translation services. Some of that decision will be based on anticipated attendance by Spanish-speaking participants.

4. How exactly will we promote this series of events/conversations outside Friends Meeting of San Antonio if it is envisioned as a community conversation? While Emily may not be concerned about the number of participants; decisions about the cost of translation services, honoraria for Emily, and Meeting time and effort could be affected by participation--is it worth it?

#### Discussion:

We reviewed what Emily is offering (see Peace and Social Concerns Committee report in March 2026 minutes). Even though we have plenty of logistical questions and even got caught a bit on them, in particularly the question about translation, we looked at those and decided those will become clear with further work. The clerk redirected us back, to the general question of are we led to invite Emily to San Antonio for a time of residency.

Friends agreed that the topic is crucial to our world. We also noticed that this would allow us to connect with our community and neighbors.

One Friend, reminded us that Emily won't only be ministering to us, but this is also an opportunity for us to minister to Emily. We need to ask ourselves about the ways we will support Emily and make sure we are not just showing up to her workshops but also praying for her faithfulness and offering her other spiritual care.

Friends agreed we do want to offer this opportunity for her to join us in August. We are also aware there are more costs that we might occur and that over the next few months Finance will work on a budget to help us understand how to cover those costs.

**MINUTE 2026-04-02:** Friends Meeting of San Antonio is pleased to invite Emily Provance to San Antonio in August 2026 for a 30-day residency and ministry opportunity around "Addressing Election Violence and Supporting a Nonviolent Democracy." We are excited to share our resources with Emily as she creates this work and hold her in prayer.

**MINUTE 2026-04-03:** Upon the recommendation of the Finance committee, Friends Meeting of San Antonio approves sending \$2000 to Emily Provance via her fiscal sponsor, Good News Associates at the end of her residency.

Friends received the report.

**Property Committee** – Bill Wilkinson, Clerk, reported on behalf of Property (Full Report See Appendix E)

Property committee met this past month. The downed tree was removed and the elm tree in the courtyard was trimmed.

The committee is continuing to look into frost hydrants for outside faucets, rainwater collection system and the reinvigorating of the courtyard. The safety and usage of the space across groups seems to be the biggest consideration moving forward. The committee is continuing to think about what to bring forward.

The committee also chose a meeting schedule of every other month. So, their next meeting will be sometime in June.

Discussion:

A friend shared that they started two native gardens recently and would be willing to help with the courtyard, so we make sure we look at native plants for our future. It will take time and effort to get it situated but would be a great way to work with our space. We need to make sure we talk to the children about how they would like to use and see the space out there.

Friends received the report.

**Peace and Social Concerns Committee** – Dale Keairns, Clerk, reported on behalf of Peace and Social Concerns (Full Report See Appendix F)

Peace and Social Concerns met this past month. Multiple people on the committee attended South Central Yearly Meeting and were excited to meet with people from other meetings' peace and social concerns. They are hoping to create a relationship with other meetings in Texas so that our minutes and work are in collaboration.

The committee also discussed Immigration and the upcoming forum on April 26. See report for more details on both topics above.

Friends received the report.

**Treasurers Report** – Bill Sweet, Treasurer, presented the March Finances (Full Report See Appendix G)

We have plenty of cash on hand in our local bank savings and checking account. However, our investments at Friends Fiduciary in Quarter 1 lost about \$22,500. Our undesignated contributions in March was \$12104.90 about 44% of the budgeted income of the year after the first quarter. Most of this was a special contribution to help cover the expenses of the paving of the parking lot. This is not likely to be repeated from year to year. March childcare payment was made in April and we had about \$1550 in minor repairs. Otherwise we have normal expenses.

Friends received the report.

**Announcements:**

Friends General Conference Summer Gathering registration is open. If Friends are interested and need financial support South Central Yearly Meeting has some funds available for spiritual enrichment.

American Friends Service Committee is running a campaign right now called [Love As Action](#), taking worship out into the streets on a monthly basis. If anyone is interested in starting a campaign in San Antonio reach out to Peace and Social Concerns.

**Meeting closed with a time of worship.**

## Appendix A: Religious Education

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT** *reported by Lisa Craig*

Religious Education Committee met Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Roberta, Lisa, and Rachael were present.

We discussed what we heard in the threshing session. We noted the difficulty of meeting the needs of all Young Friends in a single lesson.

We recommend weekly Children's Religious Education for Young Friends based in story, play, and/or experience. All stories should be presented in a way that invites Young Friends to consider their own values and beliefs. With this guideline, stories may come from Quakerism, the Bible, other religious and spiritual traditions, or secular sources. Renata would continue her role as support for this group along with 1-2 adults from the Meeting leading each week.

We recommend an additional offering for Young Friends, most likely two lessons each month, focused on Quaker education and spiritual formation. This form of religious education may be more didactic at times as Young Friends learn more about the mechanics of Quaker process. We would need two adults from the Meeting to support this group whenever it is held.

We imagine Young Friends would transition from the first to the second group at around ten years old. We do not want to impose a strict cutoff but rather allow each Young Friend, with the support of their parents and the Meeting, to discern where they fit best.

To safely hold both offerings, we will need additional adult support of Children's Religious Education. Potential teachers are currently discerning their calls in this area. Please contact the committee if either or both of these opportunities speak to you.

We also heard a desire for intergenerational activity and to introduce Young Friends to what we do in unprogrammed worship.

We recommend an experiment in intergenerational worship, inspired by the work of Melinda Wenner Bradley on this topic (<https://quakerfaithandplay.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Children-in-Intergenerational-Quaker-Worship.WennerBradley.pdf>). The key idea behind this practice is making many ways of being in worship available to everyone (different seating, coloring pages, opportunity for

vocal ministry). We are working with Ministry and Care in further discernment of this idea.

We heard less about Adult Religious Education during the threshing session and are still discerning what direction to take. If you have ideas on the structure of Adult Religious Education, please contact the committee.

## Appendix B: Ministry and Care

### Ministry and Care Report

April, 2026

Ministry and Care met on Zoom on Thursday, April 16. Rebecca, Pat, Denise, Jillian, Judy, and Julie attended.

This committee is charged with fostering the spiritual health of Meeting. We are considering more ways we can help Friends with spiritual development. For example, we might form study groups that would meet evenings or other non-forum times, examining spiritual issues or the newly approved Faith and Practice. What might Friends find helpful toward this end?

May's advice arises from ministry offered during worship recently:

In these times of earthly turmoil, many people of faith often look to heaven for solace. But in looking up they may miss the suffering of those to the left and right. May I never spend so much time inside of myself that I lose sight of the mission on the outside.

We are looking forward to working with the Religious Education committee to bring a proposal for intergenerational worship to Meeting for Business.

We have discussed the possibility of offering CPR training. If you'd be interested, contact anyone on the Ministry and Care committee.

We discussed concerns for Friends.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, May 8 at 6:30 pm on Zoom.

## Appendix C: Naming Committee

### Naming Committee Report

April 2026

The naming committee is made up from people who hold other positions in our meeting: Clerk of Ministry and Care, Clerk of Finance and Clerk of Meeting. We have met a few times over the last months and are bringing forward two names for a first reading: Rob Flinn and Lisa Craig. If approved next month, they will serve a three-year term Starting May 2026 and serving through April 2029.

We will bring one additional name next month. We are in discernment with a few people. These three people will join Bill Wilkinson who is finishing out a term that will end in April 2027.

## Appendix D: Finance

### Finance Committee Report

April 19, 2026

The Finance Committee has been considering the possibility of supporting Emily Provance in San Antonio. We were delayed somewhat in our conversation because we were waiting for a translation estimate.

Our understanding is that travel and housing will be covered by Rebecca and Suzanne. The questions we are considering include:

1. How much honoraria, if any, is FMSA willing to provide?
2. There may be a final event at the end of the program. Are we willing to pay for food?
3. There will be three (3) speakers, some or all of whom will attend by Zoom. Emily is interested in having a Spanish language interpreter available during their sessions. Suzanne has reached out to SA Stands for costs as that was the final piece of the financial picture. They have not yet gotten back to her. We were waiting on that information before making any financial commitments as these costs can be in the range of \$100-\$150/hour. We do not need to provide translation services. Some of that decision will be based on anticipated attendance by Spanish-speaking participants.
4. How exactly will we promote this series of events/conversations outside FMSA if it is envisioned as a community conversation? While Emily may not be concerned about the number of participants; decisions about the cost of translation services, honoraria for Emily, and Meeting time and effort could be affected by participation--is it worth it?

## Appendix E: Property

### **Property Committee Report 04/19/2026**

The Property Committee met at the meetinghouse on the evening of April 8 to discuss a number of issues. Those in attendance were Von K., Pam S., John J., Julia H., Bill S., and Bill W. The meeting began with silence.

The downed tree north of the common room was removed and the elm in the courtyard was trimmed, including the removal of the invasive mistletoe. The chain-link fence along the east side of the property was repaired.

Bill W. will reach out to our plumber (Beyer Brothers) to investigate the cost and practicality of installing frost hydrants for our outside faucets that are more exposed to the elements.

We discussed whether a rainwater collection system should be considered and will wait until more thought is given to reinvigorating the courtyard. The committee reviewed some ideas submitted by Friends and is concerned that anything we decide to do with the courtyard is sustainable in terms of water requirements and time commitments from the Meeting. In addition, safety along with how the space will be used by the children and outside organizations is an important factor. We continue to think about how to reduce bird strikes with the meetingroom windows.

The committee plans to meet every other month by Zoom unless required to do otherwise. The next meeting will be in June on a date yet to be determined.

The meeting ended with silence.

## Appendix F: Peace and Social Concerns

### **Peace & Social Concerns: Committee Meeting April 12, 2026 @ Meeting House Library 8:30-9:30 am**

Dale Keairns, cmte clerk, Angela Starnes, Luz Perez Prado,  
Guest: Rachael Cundey; Regrets, Suzanne CS

**Worship:** The meeting began with a period of silent worship

#### **SCYM**

##### 1) Texas Meeting P&SC collaboration

Suzanne and Angela attended SCYM and Rachael and Dale attended selected sessions virtually. Angela connected with many attenders representing the SCYM Peace & Justice committee, and other Texas Meetings focused on Peace and Social Concerns including the Austin Meeting Peace & Social Concerns committee, the Dallas Peace & Social Concerns Committee, and the Houston Live Oak Meeting Peace & Social Action committee. This provided an opportunity to understand other Monthly Meeting committee projects and actions. Angela recommended one of the products of these exchanges was to develop a working relationship with the other Texas Meeting Peace & Social Concerns committees. The committee was in unity to support this recommendation.

##### 2) SCYM Peace & Justice committee report was discussed

The Peace & Justice committee made a report at business meeting that included drafts of two minutes and a statement on war. These represented a timely response to current national and state issues. There was a constructive exchange on the minutes and the statement that led to revising the two minutes and the statement. An update will be provided that will include the two minutes and the statement.

##### 3) Related topics

The committee also had brief exchanges on related SCYM presentations (e.g. FCNL Advocacy Teams, the interfaith Texas Impact activity, AFSC, Quaker Earthcare Witness).

#### **Immigration**

1) Direct immigration support of two Bexar County organizations were previously identified as a committee priority (provide Meeting support with actions determined by specific events/needs). Individual actions including connections with FCNL and collaboration with others were identified as additional options.

2) Forum: The committee exchanged thoughts on options for the April 26 Forum on immigration. Rachael will lead the Forum. Several immigration topics were discussed – including thoughts shared at our March Meeting for Business. The

topics ranged from policy action (e.g. FCNL legislative lobbying, AFSC or QUNO international advocacy), direct immigration support (the current Meeting focus with local support), and public witness (e.g. Minutes, marches, etc.). The sense of the committee was to focus on three topics: the SCYM minutes, the Meeting's direct support work (SA Stands, Nuevos Vecinos) and future collaboration (e.g. Texas Meetings collaboration). The plan is to build on the actions from this year's SCYM Annual Meeting sessions and to give further thought to how the Meeting carries a concern for immigrants.

### **May Forum**

The May forum was briefly discussed. Potential topics included a continuation of the immigration forum and climate.

### **Committee Operation**

- The Committee confirmed our regular meetings on the second First Day, 8:30-9:30 am, in the MH Library
- Committee meetings are open and others are welcomed to attend; let the clerk know if there are specific concerns.

### **The meeting closed to attend Meeting for Worship**

Treasurer