



31st Triennial Gathering of Friends United Meeting

Friends University
Wichita, Kansas
July 12-16, 2017

friendsunitedmeeting.org

[One] kindled
soul may be the
agent whereby
the slumbering
embers within are
quickenened into
a living flame.

— Thomas Kelly
The Eternal Promise

Dear Friends,

Welcome! Bienvenido! Karibu!

As we have been approaching the FUM Triennial gathering, my prayers have increasingly focused on what God seeks to do in and through us. Here we are—our global community drawn together in one place, joined together in the Spirit of Christ, to worship, play, serve, and fellowship as one Body. Imagine what God might do if we are willing!

There are so many great things to look forward to throughout the days we will be meeting. There are terrific workshops, opportunities for service in the Wichita community, and plenty of time to share together around how Christ is at work in our lives and waiting to be expressed through our shared work and witness in the world.

Your packet contains all the information you need for a wonderful week together. We may have a few updates for you when you arrive in Wichita—but this will get you prepared to come.

Please look over everything we've sent. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact the office in Richmond. We want it to be a great week for everyone—let us know how we can best serve you.

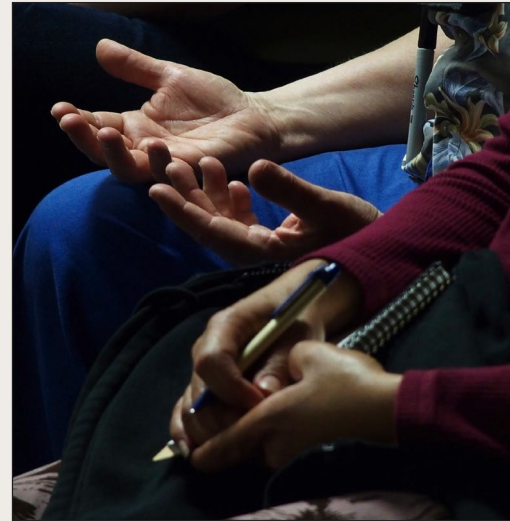
As I have been re-reading Thomas Kelly's *The Eternal Promise* to prepare to be in Wichita, I am drawn to this quote:

*But the blazing discovery which Quakers made, long ago, is rediscovered again and again by individuals, and sometimes by groups. The embers flare up, the light becomes glorious. There is no reason why it cannot break out again—today—with blazing power. The world needs it desperately. It is in the hope that **you and I**, today, may rediscover this flaming center of religion that these words are written.*

My hope—and prayer—is that this will also be the reason we are gathering. May God kindle something new and powerful within us—for our sake and for the blessing of others!

Peace and joy!

Colin Saxton
General Secretary
Friends United Meeting



TRIENNIAL SCHEDULE

Wednesday—July 12, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Registration in Fine Arts Gallery
10:00 a.m. Executive Board Meeting
Lunch on your own
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. General Board Meeting
5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Dinner for non-banquet attendees
5:30 p.m. USFWI Banquet with speaker Dale Graves
An offering will be taken to support “A Big Year in Belize!”
8:00 p.m. Social gathering

Thursday—July 13, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Morning Gatherings for Worship:
• Walk the Labyrinth at University Friends
• Taize Worship
• Bible Study/Morning Devotions
• Meeting for Worship
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Business Session in Sebitts Auditorium
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Global Ministries presentation
in Sebitts Auditorium

Thursday—July 13, 2017, *continued*

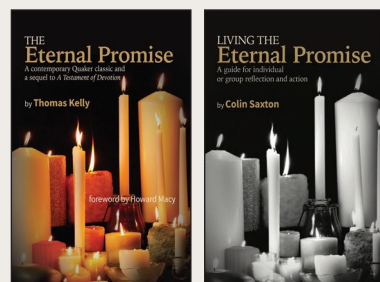
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Workshops
2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops
4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Anchor groups
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Worship in Sebitts Auditorium:
Miriam Were, speaker, “Religion for a Distraught World”
9:00 p.m. Ice cream social/jazz group

Friday—July 14, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Morning Gatherings for Worship:
• Walk the Labyrinth at University Friends
• Taize Worship
• Bible Study/Morning Devotions
• Meeting for Worship
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Business Session in Sebitts Auditorium
11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Communication presentation
in Sebitts Auditorium

TRIENNIAL SPEAKERS

Our speakers for this Triennial will use themes from Thomas Kelly’s book *The Eternal Promise* as we rekindle our spiritual passion and ready ourselves to be the Children of Light in our communities and around the world.



Thursday—7:00 p.m.

Miriam Khamadi Were is one of the children of Joel Khamadi and Zipporah Vunoro, who were amongst the first members of the Friends Church in East Africa in the 1910s. Friends Missionaries in Kenya helped Miriam to enroll at William Penn College in Iowa, from which she graduated in 1964. Miriam is married to Humphreys Rapando Were, and they are parents and grandparents.

Miriam is a Medical Doctor (Nairobi, 1973) with the Masters and Doctor of Public Health degrees from Johns Hopkins University. She worked in Kenya as a high school science teacher and as a Medical Officer in government services. She has also taught Community Health at the University of Nairobi Medical School and spearheaded the establishment of the MPH program of the University of Nairobi. She worked for the United Nations agencies UNICEF, WHO, and UNFPA from 1985–2000.

Post-retirement, Miriam has been Chair of Kenya’s National AIDS Control Council, Chair of the Board of the African Medical and Research Foundation, and member of various national and international boards. She was honored for her work in improving medical services in Kenya and Africa with a focus on improving health at the community and household levels. Among these honors are The George Tolbert Health Award given by the National Council of International Health, the Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize given by the Japanese government, and the Queen Elizabeth II Gold Medal for Public Health. Among the Kenyan honors she has received are Shujaa (Heroine) in Scholarship and Community Health Goodwill Ambassador. In 2013, she was appointed by the President of Kenya to the position of Chancellor, Moi University, a position she still holds.

Friday—July 14, 2017, continued

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Community Service Projects
 OR 1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Workshops
 2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops
4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Anchor Groups
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Worship in Sebitts Auditorium:
 Wess Daniels, speaker, “Publishers of Truth”
9:00 p.m. Sharing our Spiritual Stories and Concerns

Saturday—July 15, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Morning Gatherings for Worship:
 • Walk the Labyrinth at University Friends
 • Taize Worship
 • Bible Study/Morning Devotions
 • Meeting for Worship
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Business Session in Sebitts Auditorium

Saturday—July 15, 2017, continued

11:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Global Ministries presentation
 in Sebitts Auditorium
12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Global Marketplace—open all afternoon!
1:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Workshops
2:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Workshops
4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. Anchor Groups
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:00 p.m. Worship in Sebitts Auditorium:
 Jan Wood, speaker, “Room for the Infinite”
9:00 p.m. Sing-a-long

Sunday—July 16, 2017

7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Worship at University Friends:
 Colin Saxton, speaker, “Life in the Eternal Now”
12:00 p.m. Closing meal at University Friends

Friday—7:00 p.m.

C. Wess Daniels is an Ohio-born oldest child. He was raised Catholic and spent time in charismatic non-denominational communities during his teenage years. Now he is a cross-country-traveling Quaker minister who has lived in Los Angeles; Camas, Washington, and now lives with his wife and their three children in Greensboro, North Carolina. Identifying as a “convergent Friend,” Wess is a bridge-builder and boundary-crosser when it comes to our various Quaker branches.

Wess currently serves as the Director of the Friends Center and Quaker Studies at Guilford College, and was the released minister of Camas Friends Church from 2009–2015 in Northwest Yearly Meeting. His book, *A Convergent Model of Renewal: Remixing The Quaker Tradition in Participatory Culture* (2015), sets out to describe a model of renewal that takes into account both tradition and innovation while fostering a deeply participatory community. In his off time, he enjoys roasting coffee, sketchnoting, riding his motorcycle, and playing with his kids. You can learn more at www.gatheringinlight.com.



Saturday—7:00 p.m.

Jan Wood, a recorded Friends minister, is the Director of GOOD NEWS Associates in Seattle, Washington. She is a speaker, writer, spiritual director, and consultant. One of her joys is to help individuals, Churches/Meetings, and organizations to be fully empowered in their faithfulness—especially in the areas of discernment, finances, and vocation. She is the author of *Christians at Work: Not Business as Usual*, and co-author of *Practicing Discernment Together: Finding God’s Way Forward in Decision Making*. She may be reached at www.goodnewsassoc.org.



Sunday—10:00 a.m.

Colin Saxton serves as the general secretary of Friends United Meeting. He is a recorded minister in Northwest Yearly Meeting (NWYM) and a member of North Valley Friends in Newberg, Oregon. Colin and his wife Janine are the parents of four grown children.





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Letter of Welcome to the FUM Triennial

Dear Friends of Friends United Meeting,

Greetings to all on behalf of Great Plains Yearly Meeting! We are so excited and humbled by the effort made to come and meet here on the plains. We are praying God's presence will be deeply felt and lives transformed because we have gathered together. What a joy it is to reconnect and deepen old friendships—and to make new friends!

There is much to see and enjoy here in the city of Wichita, Kansas. Our hope is that you have a chance to embrace the wonderful goodness of the city and surrounding areas beyond the campus.

If there is anything we can do to enhance the experience of your stay here, please ask any from Great Plains Yearly Meeting, and we will be happy to assist.

We are blessed by you,

LaVonna Loesch
Presiding Clerk
Great Plains Yearly Meeting



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