



2017 FGC Gathering

July 2 to 8, 2017

Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York



Author Events at the 2017 FGC Gathering Gallagher, Room 110



	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
1:30	Jerry Knutson	Becky Birtha	Judy Brutz	George Lakey and Keith Helmuth	Brenda Beadenkopf
3:15	2017 Bible Half Hour presenter Regina Renee	Marcelle Martin and Quaker Journals	Greg Barnes and Nancy Learned Haines	Peterson Toscano	Caroline B. Parry
4:30	Douglas Gwyn	Rocky Wilson	J. Brent Bill	Nadine Hoover and Janet Riley	Cecilia Yocum

Information on individual authors and their presentation topics begin on the next page!



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MONDAY, JULY 3, 2017

Jerry Knutson: *Individual Spiritual Discernment*

1:30PM – 3:00PM

Jerry Knutson has been studying discernment since 1999 – including being a residential student at Pendle Hill and receiving a Masters of Divinity from ESR. He led weeklong workshops at FGC Gatherings on Discernment in 2003 and four on Deepening Your Experience with the Light from 2014 to this year.

Regina Renee: *FGC Bible Half Hour printed pamphlets and other Bible-related books*

3:15PM – 4:15PM

Regina Renee Ward identifies as a Christian Friend and attends Mountain View Friends Meeting in Denver, Colorado. She is a public librarian and former public school teacher, passionate about social justice, intellect.

Like the psalmist (Psalm 119:105 NRSV), Regina Renee experiences the Bible as an inspirational guide along life's journey. Bible Half Hour is an opportunity to share together, see how Spirit moves, and discover the ripples that result. Visit her blog online at friendreginarenee.blogspot.com.

Douglas Gwyn: *The Anti-War: Peace Finds the Purpose of a Peculiar People/Militant Peacemaking in the Manner of Friends*

4:30PM – 5:30PM

The Anti-War is an exploration of the deeper roots of the Quaker peace testimony. It looks at the peace witness of early Friends and some New Testament texts that shaped it, and aims to help Friends toward a more resistant testimony during unpromising times for peace.

Douglas Gwyn is author of books on early Friends, on the Gospel of John, and on Pendle Hill. His previous book was *A Sustainable Life: Quaker Faith and Practice in the Renewal of Creation* (QuakerPress of FGC, 2014).



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TUESDAY, JULY 4th, 2017

Becky BIRTHA: *Far Apart, Close in Heart*

1:30PM-3:00PM

Becky BIRTHA has written for both adults and children. Her poetry and short stories were well received in the LGBTQ+ community. Her current book, *Far Apart, Close in Heart*, presents a cross section of children and families and the grief and discomfort that come when a family member is incarcerated. Her other picture books, *Grandmama's Pride* and *Lucky Beans* also express her concern and advocacy for social justice. She and her partner are parents of two young adults. She has been a member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting since 1987. Visit her website at beckybirta.net.

Marcelle Martin and Quaker Journals: Variety of Quaker Journals and Journal Writing

3:15PM – 4:15PM

Quakers journals are records of how the Divine has been experienced in the lives of Friends. They have been a valuable source of inspiration and guidance. Various Quaker journals will be at the Gathering Store. Marcelle Martin, who quoted from many Quaker journals in her book, *Our Life Is Love*, will speak about the treasures to be found in them. Visit Marcelle's blog online at awholeheart.com.

Rocky Wilson: *The Last Bus to Camden*

4:30PM – 5:30PM

A lover of Walt Whitman's poetry, Wilson has done several full length performances about the Good Grey Poet and actively interprets Whitman in libraries and schools. Wilson also runs a monthly poetry celebration (Pizza & Poetry) that is one of the longest running poetry series in the state. This is his first published book of poetry. Locals know Rocky for his unassuming presence and loving engagement with youth.



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WEDNESDAY, JULY 5th, 2017

Judy Brutz - Series 'Come Away and Pray': God is Love (Volume 1), God is Hope (Volume 2), God is Gracious and Forgiving (Volume 3), God is Light (Volume 4)

1:30PM-3:00PM

Judy Brutz, Speaker, Spiritual Retreat Guide, and Author, lives with her kitty in Idaho. Her career spans hospice chaplaincy, pastoral care and spiritual direction. She is at home in the beauty of nature.

Gregory A. Barnes: *The AFSC's Memorable Role in the Civil Rights Era*

Nancy Learned Haines: *We Answered With Love: Pacifist Service in World War I*

3:15PM – 4:15PM

Drawing on his recent Centennial History of the American Friends Service Committee, Greg Barnes will re-acquaint Friends with the first fifty years of the AFSC, when it partnered with many in the public eye. The focus of his talk will be the Civil Rights era, when the organization had its own southern strategy and became a presence in some southern communities. A member of Central Philadelphia Monthly Meeting, Greg carries a ministry of writing on Quaker topics that deserve coverage. In addition to the recent history of the AFSC, he has published *A Biography of Lillian and George Willoughby: Twentieth Century Quaker Peace Activists* (Edwin Mellen Press, 2007) and *Philadelphia's Arch Street Meeting House: A Biography* (QuakerBridge Media, 2013).

After 17 years in engineering, Nancy Learned Haines has made books. With her spouse, she owned and managed a bookstore, and has now turned to writing. Her successful first book has now been followed by this, stories of the pacifist service lived in World War I.

J. Brent Bill: *Holy Silence*

4:30PM – 5:30PM

Brent Bill writes, gives workshops, and is part of FGC's staff. When not doing that, he's on a tractor on the fields of Ploughshares Farm - fifty acres of Indiana farmland that is being reclaimed for native hardwood forests and warm season prairie grasses. It's no surprise that after writing about being a 'bad' Quaker he revised *Holy Silence* - An invitation to experience more fully the life-changing power of sacred silence...

Visit his website at www.brentbill.com.



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THURSDAY, JULY 6, 2017

George Lakey: *Viking Economics*

Keith Helmuth: *Tracking Down Ecological Guidance*

1:30PM – 3:00PM

George Lakey lives, works and consults on nonviolent direct action after a professional life of writing, teaching and training. His latest book has galvanized attention in many corners, as he shares his myth-busting research in a book described as a 'fun economics book' by several reviewers.

Keith Helmuth, a founding member of Quaker Institute for the Future, lives in Woodstock, New Brunswick where he now coordinates a community garden project. *Tracking Down Ecological Guidance* maps his experiences in essays, exposing the conflict between the growth economy and ecosystem integrity and focusing on the means of "spiritual survival" - the ability to keep working for human betterment and environmental integrity despite the worst that may happen.

Peterson Toscano: *Transfigurations: Transgressing Gender in the Bible*

3:15PM – 4:15PM

No stranger to the FGC Gathering, Peterson Toscano is a playwright, actor, Bible scholar, blogger, podcaster, and gay activist, and he shares his experiences internationally through various media outlets, especially plays. His talks and performances use comedy and storytelling to explore LGBTQ issues, religion, and climate change. He will present *Transfigurations: Transgressing Gender in the Bible*, a DVD which includes much of the same material covered in his presentations of the Bible Half Hour in 2012.

Nadine Hoover and Janet Riley: *Power of Goodness: Art and Stories for a Culture of Peace*

4:30PM – 5:30PM

The Power of Goodness presents stories collected from the world over: Chechnya, Russia, the Ukraine and Indonesia—a great resource for peace education. Stories of nonviolence and reconciliation, illustrated by children, are compelling to people of any age, with all the emotions, new perspectives and encouragement of small acts that make big differences. Nadine Hoover, Coordinator of Friends Peace Teams Asia West Pacific, will share the work of putting this collection together, with Janet (Riley) Moles, founder of Power of Goodness Project. Learn more online at www.consciencestudio.com/index.php?q=pub-PoG.



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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2017

Brenda Beadenkopf: *Organizing for Nonviolent Direct Action* 1:30PM – 3:00PM
Brenda Walker Beadenkopf tells the true story of her father, Charlie Walker of Philadelphia, who devoted four decades to the causes of racial harmony and human dignity. While on the staff of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Charlie arranged for A.J. Muste to speak at Crozer Theological Seminary, where Martin Luther King first heard about nonviolence. As the Civil Rights Movement evolved, Charlie evolved with it, becoming a premier trainer, organizer, recruiter and writer of training materials and helped train leaders and workers in the Civil Rights Movement. The book Brenda has reprinted is his handbook, *How to Organize for Nonviolent Direct Action*.

Caroline B. Parry: *The Heron Spirals, A Commonplace Book* 3:15PM – 4:15PM
Caroline has been a teacher, a writer, a religious educator, visual artist and freelance performer. She has held “Artist in Education” residencies through the Ontario Arts Council, and has presented concerts and workshops through several Canadian arts organizations and a few Friends' Schools in the US. In 2013, she was the featured speaker at Canadian Yearly Meeting, Caroline will present and read from *The Heron Spirals, A Commonplace Book*, her memoir. Visit her website at www.carolinebalderstonparry.com/site/.

Cecilia Yocum: *Help for Moral Injury: Strategies and Interventions*

4:30PM – 5:30PM

In the United States, we have been late to recognize and provide supportive services to victims of post-traumatic stress disorder, and are only beginning to recognize a need to address moral injury – debilitating guilt, shame and self-condemnation secondary to inflicting violence State-sanctioned or otherwise, on others. Celia works with Quaker House to make training available to those returning from military service.

Discover the Ministry of the Word. Visit QuakerBooks.org to explore our online store (including books and pamphlets by the authors presenting at this year's FGC Gathering), place an order, set up a book table for your meeting, or contact us!