



# Quaker Religious Education Collaborative

*Joining Hands in Service to Quaker Religious Education*

April 21, 2017

Dear Friends in the Northwest:

The Quaker Religious Education Collaborative (QREC) sends its greetings, prayers, and love at this time of new beginning! We trust your faithful work and witness going forward will become clear. We look forward to opportunities to work together in ways that support and complement your mission and ministries. As a cross-branch, grassroots network of over 300 Friends from 20 yearly meetings, QREC values the richness that rises from our differences and seeks areas of common purpose where we can act in concert.

Along with our greetings, we send word of exciting new conversations about possibilities for cross-yearly meeting collaboration. You are invited to engage with these, if and when, the time is right. So generative have these first forays into cross-yearly meeting collaboration been, that we wonder what else would be useful for smaller yearly meetings? The Collaborative will host Conversation Circles using virtual conferencing software to explore these needs. Some of these will be happening soon and, again, we invite your participation, if you are so moved.

Energy and interest in a collaboratively-created Quaker Outreach E-newsletter has arisen organically. We expect it to begin soon. The content will be created in a centralized, collaborative way. NEYM and NYYM, already engaged in a shared outreach research project, will hold primary responsibility for this work. The dissemination will be decentralized by sharing the template for the newsletter with yearly meetings and letting them add or subtract content to customize it for their readers and send it out to whomever they wish. All a yearly meeting would need is a MailChimp or Vertical Response account and a mailing list. Ultimately, we would love to see articles and case studies shared from beyond the northeast!

Blessings on your journey as a new yearly meeting! Please let us know how we can support you in this adventure.

In faith and friendship,

Beth Collea, NEYM, for the Steering Circle

Joy Duncan, ILYM and Western YM

Marsha Holliday, Baltimore YM

Melinda Wenner Bradley, NYYM

Liz Yeats, SCYM

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