

Friends Women Annual Report February 2021

It is safe to say 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone, and it has certainly been hard for our local groups to meet in person. Fortunately, some of our groups have used Zoom meetings to conduct their business and to keep in contact with each other. We have five active Friends Women's groups, one each in; Colorado Springs, Country Side, and Hay Springs churches and two at Denver Friends. Although it has been challenging, our mission as Friends Women has not changed despite our having been unable to meet in person at our churches. Our mission remains: **uniting women in Jesus Christ, while raising money and awareness for our EFM and other mission fields.**

We sent \$1,300 from our Project funds to EFM to help fund the Bangladesh Widow and Orphan Support. The funding for our yearly projects comes from the FW Retreat Silent Auction and from the \$20.00 we ask each member of a Friends Women's group to pay as dues each year. On behalf of Friends Women I want to thank the women in our local groups for being willing to help us to meet our budget in 2020. The dues that are paid in 2021 will fund our 2022 Project.

It was a very hard decision for the FW Executive Council to postpone the 2020 Women's Retreat, because of the COVID-19 guidelines until September 2021. This year's Retreat will be hosted by Neighborhood Friends. The "Guided by the One" RMYM FW Women's retreat is scheduled for September 17 – 19 at Quaker Ridge Camp. I will send each church brochures when they are available and let you know when they are posted on our WEB Site.

The 2020 – 2021 school year Friends Women Scholarship was, again awarded, to Isaac Wright. Isaac is a member of First Friends Church of Colorado Springs and is attending Barclay College as a sophomore. We encourage you all to inform your High School Seniors and graduates to submit an application for the Scholarship if they are seeking to serve others through missions. The scholarship application and reference letter form can be downloaded from the RMYM.org website:

<https://rmym.org/resources/friends-women-2/>

Laurie Mortimore is the editor for our newsletter, Quaker Nugget, which is available for you on the RMYM FW website. Laurie would love to include original articles and photos that help us keep informed about the activities and ministries of our local groups, the various ways we raise funds for our local projects, and the activities our local groups engage in to support and encourage the women within our local churches. We encourage you to submit your own photos and articles to our editor at Clamort.lm@gmail.com for publication in our newsletter. **Our goal for the Quaker Nugget is to keep Friends women connected with each other and with missions and missionaries.**

Our reports and resources are available to download from the FW website including our Retreat Guidelines and our Friends Women brochure. Our churches are encouraged to use our downloadable brochure to introduce Friends Women to their visitors. In addition to our brochure and Retreat Guidelines, the FW Scholarship information and application forms, the Reading list for 2021, and our report forms are all available to download. The 2021 Retreat brochure will be available to download in January. We appreciate the time Karen Fulbright puts in to keep our link to the RMYM website up to date.

Don't forget to "like us" on **Facebook!**  on the [RMYM Friends Women Facebook page](#) and comment on our articles, activities, and photos. We invite you to send your photos and articles to Judy Van Meter at budnjudy1@q.com, or to our Facebook editor Karen Cordova, at karen.bea@comcast.net. If you have any photos or articles for our Facebook page or newsletter please also feel free to post them on your personal Facebook page and tag [Karen Cordova](#), Laurie Mortimore or Judy Van Meter.

We have a national [Friends Women Program Book](#) as a PDF file on our [RMYM](#) website used in 2020 that is still available. You may download it for your local groups to use or for a monthly devotional.

In closing I want to mention that I attended the International Friends Church Multiplication Conference and the 2020 Virtual Mission Trip put on by Kale Academy and EFM at the end of December. I hope in 2021 to be able to pass on to each of the local FW groups the things I learned by virtually attending these great events.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Van Meter
RMYM FW President