

Friends Women Annual Report January 2022

Our mission as RMYM Friends Women is to **unite the women in our local churches and across our Yearly Meeting to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ and to support mission fields and missionaries. We endeavor to help women be more aware of EFM and other mission fields.**

We presently have five active Friends Women's groups: two from Denver Friends, one each in New Hope Friends Church in Hay Springs, First Friends of Colorado Springs and Country Side Friends Church meeting in Arvada. We desire to also encourage our other local Friends churches to have groups in their church where women can meet together for fellowship and encouragement and hopefully to develop an interest and desire to pray for and support mission fields and missionaries across the world. It is not important for them to be a part of our local Friends Women's groups but it is important for them to meet together regularly with women within their church congregations and communities.

One of our main ministries to women and their friends and family is holding women's retreat every September. In 2021 we had 76 women join together at Quaker Ridge Camp to hear Rhonda Hinshaw from Neighborhood Friends speak on the topic of having 2020 Vision – the Guiding Light. The 2021 retreat was originally planned for 2020 but because of COVID-19 related reasons, it was postponed for a year. It was such a blessing to have so many women come and be blessed by Rhonda and the women from Neighborhood Friends Church that hosted the retreat. We were all given passports as we started our cruise that was full of spiritual growth, fun time together, amazing workshops and fellowship. Each year our Project funds come from the Silent Auction that is held every year during the retreat. One of the great things we all experienced was knowing that some of the ladies at the retreat would not have been there in 2020 and the messages we heard would have been different. This year's RMYM FW Project funds will go to funding Widows and Orphans or to the women and children's projects in the 2021 Christmas Catalog.

Friends Women continues to grow spiritually but our groups are losing faithful members. This year we would like to honor and recognize Eleanor Harrison. She faithfully supported RM Friends Women as well as her local group in Colorado Springs. If you are interested in giving money in memory of her, we are sending a donation to Quaker Ridge Camp and Conference Center in her name. She was one of the few women in our yearly meeting that made it a priority to start having a yearly Women's Retreat. Besides her work with Friends Women, she also served as a counselor for Friends youth camps.

The 2021-2022 school year Friends Women Scholarship was awarded for the second time to Isaac Wright from Colorado Spring Friends Church. He is a member of First Friends Church of Colorado Springs and a sophomore at Barclay College. Each year Friends Women awards a scholarship to a student attending a Friends College or University seeking to serve others through missions. The scholarship application and reference letter form can be downloaded from the RMYM.org website

We are looking for someone who would like to be the editor of our Friends Women's Newsletter – the Quaker Nugget, an electronic newsletter on the RMYM FW website. Please contact Judy Van Meter budnjudy1@q.com or Debbie Clowe dkclowe@gmail.com if you are interested in gathering news articles and photos for the newsletter.

We are also looking for someone to manage our Facebook page. Please like us on Facebook and comment on our articles, activities and pictures. If you have any pictures or articles for our Facebook page or newsletter, please post them on your personal Facebook page and tag Judy Van Meter. **Our goal for having a quarterly newsletter and a current Facebook page is to keep RMYMFW and their friends and family connected with each other, with mission fields and missionaries.**

Karen Fulbright continues to keep the RMYM FW website updated. Our reports and resources are all available to download from the website including our Retreat Guidelines and our Friends Women Brochure. We appreciate the time commitment that Karen Fulbright puts in to help us keep our information up to date. [Friends Women – Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting \(rmym.org\)](http://FriendsWomen-RockyMountainYearlyMeeting(rmym.org)) Please let the women in your churches know about this great resource that introduces Friends Women to your visitors and has all the FW forms and FW Scholarship information and application forms available to download. The Reading list for 2022 is also on the website. Terry Semones from Denver Friends has

developed a great 2022 reading list of books for women. We have three books in each of the six categories: Friends, Missions, Biographies, Devotionals, Christian Life and Fiction.

The 2022 Retreat will be Strength to Overcome on the weekend of September 16 – 18 2022 at Quaker Ridge Camp. Delphina Johnson will be our speaker this year. She works for Navigators and lives in Flagstaff, AZ with her husband Tom and their 3 children. The RMFW Retreat Brochure and registration form will be available to download from our WEB page in January.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Van Meter
RMYM FW President

“I lift up my eyes to the mountains-Where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, Maker of heaven and earth.” Psalm 121:1-2.