

Central City Friends Meeting  
State of Society – May 2023

Greetings from Central City Friends Meeting!

We are pleased to say that we are once again meeting in person after what seems to be a very long time of Covid-19 isolation and precautions. We began meeting in August of 2022. It felt very good to be able to greet each other in person!

We continue to meet on the third Sunday of each month and have made some changes to the schedule. We begin at 1 pm with an hour of silence in the sanctuary followed by social time and programmed worship/discussion time/singing in the Mott Room.

We hosted the Nebraska Friends Gathering on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The day included silent worship, potluck lunch and a program led by Lynn Zeleski about the history of Quakers and the Quaker testimonies, including songs to highlight the testimonies. About 20 F(f)riends from Lincoln, Omaha and central Nebraska were present. We had one person who heard of the event through a Facebook ad who had an interest in learning about Quakers since she had many ancestors that were Friends. It was lovely to have a good gathering in the Meeting House. It was the first time since the pandemic that Nebraska Friends had gotten together in person. We were so pleased to have GPYM clerk. Sara Scribner, make the long trip to attend.

We joined Lincoln and Omaha Friends in December for hymn singing by Zoom from the Meeting House during our 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday meeting. The singing was difficult based on the limits of technology, but it was nice to feel a part of the larger network of Friends.

We continue to work individually and as a group for social justice issues in Nebraska and nationally. We had a table at the LGBTQ pride event in neighboring Aurora last summer and marched at the Harvest of Harmony event in Grand Island last fall. We provided a statement from the Meeting on abortion rights to FCNL earlier this spring.

Slow work continues on the Meeting House with a goal that we may share our space with another group or groups.

Though our Meeting has challenges, we look forward to the future with a hopeful heart. As Texas Friend Sara shared “Oh Be Encouraged Y’all”

Blessings to all!

Central City Monthly Meeting