



Monteverde Monthly Meeting of Friends
Asociación de los Amigos de Monteverde
Monteverde 5655, Costa Rica
(506) 2645-5302
MonteverdeQuakers@gmail.com

June 2010

Greetings to Friends everywhere,

Many of you have visited us here in the highlands of Costa Rica, and some of us may have visited your meeting. We invite you to join us in worship, and in our community, as way may open in the future. May your paths bring you to our door.

In the measure that we have been open to changes in the life of the Meeting, we have been fertilized by the results. Since we have begun holding monthly meeting for business on Sunday instead of Wednesday, we are enjoying more involvement by members and attenders. We have also experienced an increase in the spiritual energy in our midst as newcomers and others have developed more interdenominational discussion groups, yoga classes, and have participated regularly as meeting attenders.

The main ministry of our meeting is our bicultural Monteverde Friends School (K through 12), which, with support from many friends near and far, has now stabilized at about 120 students. We are blessed to have a close relationship between the Monthly Meeting and the school. Our staff includes a number of Quakers, and we deeply appreciate the whole staff which strongly values the Quaker aspects of the school. The school is enriched with a broad range of parents and volunteers from diverse backgrounds who actively engage in school workdays, fundraisers and cultural activities. In recent months, we have invited people from the entire community to be involved in reviewing the school's mission and vision statements. We have made major efforts to include English and Spanish speaking families, and this has stimulated thoughtful cross-cultural sharing.

We strive to be an inclusive meeting. To that end we have sought to strengthen our translating of spoken messages in midweek and Sunday meetings for worship. We continue the eternal challenge of learning from each other, sharing ideas, and building community. We have appreciated several visits with other Costa Rican Quakers. In recent months, our spiritual life has been blessed with an increase in student and teacher participation in spoken messages during meetings for worship.

Since we are a small Friends meeting, we especially value opportunities to draw energy and new thinking from our visitors and sojourners. We value their input and are blessed by the nourishment they bring. As we welcome these new connections, we also recognize the need to husband our energy in order to sustain the spiritual fabric of our community and meeting projects, and to preserve space for individual spiritual reflection and renewal.

We look forward to receiving your epistles and your wisdom drawn from experiencing the Spirit in the life of your meetings, and perhaps one day to sharing from your presence here in our meetings for worship.

Katy VanDusen (clerk)

Heather Gosse (recording clerk)

2010 Epistle Committee: Carol Letson, Lucille Guindon, Joe Stuckey

Please inform us if your address has changed and if you are willing to receive this epistle by email.