

Central City Friends Meeting
State of Society – May 2024

1 John 4:7-8: “Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”

Greetings from Central City Friends Meeting!

Our core group continues to meet on the third Sunday of the month at the Meeting House. We begin at 1 pm with a half hour of silence, followed by discussion of a topic and singing, ending with refreshments. We have begun offering Zoom connections for those unable to attend in person. We hold faithful attender, Kathy Umphress, in the light as she encounters some health challenges. We have welcomed occasional attenders from the area. We were grateful to have GPYM Clerk Sara Scribner join us in April. A joy that was celebrated in our May meeting was the graduation of William McConnell from Lincoln East High School.

In December we gathered at the Long-Term Care Center in Central City to worship with Selma Mesner and other residents. William McConnell played Christmas carols on his cello as we sang along. Lynn Zeleski provided a narrative with the carols. The residents and visitors were very appreciative of the music and message. We are planning another service there in the coming months.

We continue to do our best to “love one another” in our Meeting and individually. We had a table at the annual PRIDE gathering and march in Aurora in June and marched at the Harvest of Harmony event in Grand Island in October. We continue to participate individually in other groups such as Central Nebraska Peace Workers and Nebraskans for Peace.

We were so blessed to receive a bequest from June Webb’s estate in December of approximately \$1500. We have used the money to invest in roofing materials for the Meeting House.

Over the past year Lynn Zeleski and Steve McConnell have worked on an application to have the Meeting House listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The initial application was submitted in April, and we are pleased to say that we have passed the first round of the process! The state historical society has said we should continue the application focusing on Criterion A (association with historical events or broad patterns - religion) and Criterion C (architecture). The next step is the complete application which may require some money to hire a consultant. We are currently pondering the possibilities. We would be grateful for any documents, information, memories, expertise (and donations) related to the Meeting House. We continue to be very appreciative to

GPYM for re-taking ownership and preventing the razing of the building by the local historical society.

Although we face challenges, we feel grateful to be able to continue the rich legacy of Quakers in Nebraska.

Blessings to all!

Steve McConnell, Treasurer
Central City Monthly Meeting