

Religious Education Meeting
November 11, 2025

In attendance: Lisa Craig, Roberta Russell, Dale Keairns, Bill Wilkinson, Rachael Cundey, Suzanne Cole Sullivan, and Rebecca Cole Sullivan

Topics Discussed:

1. We discussed how we functioned as a committee this year and where there could be improvements.
2. We went over the results of the Survey that we handed out in October.
3. Major takeaway for First Day programming:
 - a. Parents like the topics discussed this year but some parents would like more hands on and experiential learning.
4. Major takeaway for forums:
 - a. Participants would like more information on Quakerism.
5. Bill Wilkinson discussed some overlapping concerns with Ministry and Care.
 - a. We need to start thinking about safety issues for First Day programming.
 - b. Parents would like to see writing about our First Day program before the articles are published.
6. We broke into two groups to work on curriculum and forums.
 - a. Our forum group developed topics for the next 6 months. The Second Sunday forums will be Quaker topics. The Fourth Sunday forums will cover other topics.
 - b. The First Day Curriculum group worked on lesson plan ideas. Work continued after the meeting, and we now have 36 lesson plans developed. Twenty-four of the lessons often have an emphasis on the environment with an attention to Quaker Values. Twelve of these lessons are cooking classes with an attention to Quaker Values. Lesson plans have many arts, craft, science, mindfulness, stewardship, and game options that can be incorporated into the curriculum.
7. Suzanne informed us that her work life has become increasingly demanding and she will be stepping down at the end of this year.
8. Next year we plan to have Gary teach the first Sunday of the month, Gretchen, Roberta, and Lisa will teach the other three Sundays and if there is a 5th Sunday, Renata will be in charge.
9. The committee also talked about the vital role Renata plays in our First Day program, and we would like to see her receive a cost of living and a merit increase for next year. We would like to see her receive an increase from \$20/ hour to \$30/hour. We would also like to keep the budget for 2026 the same as 2025.