



# Friends World Committee for Consultation

## WORLD OFFICE

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Dear Friends,

*“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ... Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.” – 1 Corinthians 12: 12 & 27*

Loving greetings from the FWCC World Office. You are in our prayers as you gather.

We are grateful of your prayers also, as we make plans on behalf of Friends worldwide to gather as a global Quaker family once again, after a period extended by the pandemic.

Accordingly this letter of greeting is also a letter of invitation, to the World Plenary Meeting from 5 – 13 August 2024 in Southern Africa and online, the first for nearly 9 years.

The theme is *Living the Spirit of Ubuntu: Responding with Love to God’s Call to Cherish Creation and One-another*, which will also be the theme of World Quaker Day this year on 1 October.

*Ubuntu* is a word centrally important to Friends in Southern Africa, reflecting the belief that ‘I am because you are’. It resonates strongly with the Quaker recognition of ‘that of God in everyone’, Jesus’ command to ‘love your neighbour as yourself’, and Paul’s words to the early church which are at the top of this letter.

*Ubuntu* also reflects the kind of Quaker community FWCC tries to foster, rooted in mutual respect and inspiring steps towards greater equality. It also informs the kind of world we seek to build, in which everyone has the essentials for a dignified life, and where the environment we share is protected.

As part of your gathering, please prayerfully consider who you would like to nominate to take part on your behalf to the World Plenary Meeting, and whether you are able to sponsor others to take part too. All details, including a full Question and Answer sheet, are on the FWCC website.

Again please receive our heartfelt greetings, as we pray we may be united both in spirit and in person, as the body of Christ.

In Friendship,

Tim Gee  
General Secretary, Friends World Committee for Consultation