

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Monthly Meeting Clerks Book List

Almost all titles are available from the FGC Bookstore at www.quakerbooks.org.

A Handbook for the Presiding Clerk, David O. Stanfield
Useful how-to manual written by an experienced clerk.

Where Should I Stand?: A Field Guide For Monthly Meeting Clerks, Elizabeth Boardman (e-book)

Answers questions including: How should I relate to the committees? What about my life and beliefs? How do I get support for this work? How do I help sustain the faith community? What will be my challenges and rewards?

Before the Meeting: a Handbook for Clerks, Keith Redfern
Good information from a British perspective – easily translated to U.S. use.

Quaker Process for Friends on the Benches, Mathilda Navias
A comprehensive look at all our Quaker meeting practices and procedures, how they came to be, what they are intended to do, and above all, great explanations and tips on how to do them well. Very readable.

Beyond Consensus – Salvaging Sense of the Meeting (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #307), Barry Morley

Gets to the essential components of discerning the sense of the Meeting, grounded in worship.

When Friends Attend to Business, Thomas S. Brown (trifold)
A helpful description of the various aspects of Quaker business and decision-making.

Unforeseen Joy: Serving a Friends Meeting as Recording Clerk, Damon Hickey.
An excellent and delightful guide for recording clerks. Practical advice with a spiritual basis.

Beyond Majority Rule: Voteless Decisions in the Religious Society of Friends, Michael J. Sheeran, S.J.

Friends may see in this study an outsider's understanding of the possibilities and pitfalls of the Quaker method of going beyond majority rule.

Conflict in Meetings: 2nd, Revised Edition, Committee on Eldership and Oversight of Britain Yearly Meeting

Conflict is inseparable from living. Whether it constrains or liberates depends on our response. This book is for clerks, elders or oversight committees, and anyone called to deal with conflict. It will enable Friends to identify the resources in their meetings and use them to forge a living peace testimony.

Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting, Edward Hoare
"How do we deepen the spiritual life of the meeting?" "Since there were no birthright Friends in the 1650s, what made them Quakers?" The author approaches these questions based on conviction, conversion, and conviction.

Fostering Vital Friends Meetings: A Handbook For Working With Quaker Meetings,
Jan Greene and Marty Walton

Growing from the common purpose of nurturing and encouraging meetings, this handbook provides carefully seasoned guidelines, tools and exercises that meetings can use to strengthen Quaker practice in a concise and user-friendly manual. Sections detail who, what, how and why people can be about the work of fostering vitality in Friends meetings everywhere.

Dealing with Difficult Behavior in Meeting For Worship: Meeting The Needs of the Many While Responding to the Needs of the Few, Ministry and Nurture Committee of Friends General Conference (e-book)

When someone disrupts meeting for worship, what can the meeting community do? Explore your options and find caring solutions.

Matthew 18: Wisdom For Living In Community (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #399), Connie McPeak Green and Marty Paxson Grundy

Friends are called to live in community, but difficult interactions with others challenge us to wrestle with our own strengths, weaknesses, and former experiences. The authors have spent years exploring the 18th chapter of Matthew, which contains Jesus's advice to his disciples about how to get along with one another. Living in accordance with this guidance may be the most difficult thing they have ever tried to do, but they've found the instructions straightforward and suffused with love.

Four Doors to Meeting for Worship (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #306), William Taber
"Some people 'find it' almost instantly when they attend their first Friends meeting for worship; as they settle into the silence they feel themselves gathered into a living Presence and they know they have come home at last. Others may experience their first Quaker worship as difficult and strange, but something keeps drawing them back until they gradually grown into a richer and richer experience of worship." William Taber offers four doors, or ways to access worship so as to experience the living Presence.

Members One Of Another: The Dynamics of Membership in Quaker Meeting (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #371), Tom Gates

A thoughtful and rich consideration of what it is to be a member of a meeting and the relationship between individuals and the body of the meeting.

Where The Wind Blows: Vitality Among Friends, Jay Marshall

Imagine two meetings located near to one another. Who can say with certainty why one thrives for generations and the other never does? A variety of factors influence patterns of growth and vitality. Where the Wind Blows is the result of surveys and conversations with nine flourishing Friends meetings (FGC) or churches (FUM) of Friends.

This list was compiled at the LEYM Clerks' Consultation in 2009 and added to in 2019.