Nontheist Friends Events
All Friends Are Invited to Attend
Friends General Conference Gathering 2016
St. Joseph, Minnesota
Events held in Henrita, Room 107

Monday, July 4  1:30 PM  Nontheism among Friends: Nontheism is one of many forms of diversity among Friends and is even widely varied under that rubric. Where do we fit in, as we seek to support all Friends? Presentation, Q&A, and discussion.
  John Hunter
  3:15 PM  Belief, Commitment, Trust: Where Do You Hang Your Halo? We’ll explore creative and positive terminology to use in establishing common ground with those who think they disagree with us.
  Kitty Rush

Tuesday, July 5  1:30 PM  The Lives, Values, and Beliefs of 199 Non-Theist Friends (2002). We will review some of their thoughts about belief, religious experience, and other aspects of their lives as Quakers, with a summary of the overall findings. See https://universalistfriends.org/rush.html for the survey itself.
  David Rush
  3:15 PM  Drop-In Session. All Friends are invited to drop by to meet and greet. Join informal conversations. Bring lots of questions.

Wednesday, July 6  4:30 PM  Meeting for Worship. All Friends are invited to join in worship for an hour and, if desired, to stay afterwards for discussion.

Thursday, July 7  1:30 PM  A Message for Quakers in the Future: Work for all Friends, Not Just Your Friends. A conversation about the current condition of theists and nontheists among Friends, what the Religious Society of Friends could become, and how to get there from here.
  Os Cresson
  3:15 PM  Nontheism and Religious Freedom: How do we handle discrimination in the name of religious liberty? Come share your suggestions on how to respond without making things worse!
  Rosemary Coffey
  4:30 PM  Drop-In Session. All Friends are invited to drop by to meet and greet. Join informal conversations.

Friday, July 8  1:30 PM  The Practice of Quakerism. What are the habits and phrases of Friends that make Quakerism suitable for theists and nontheists alike? We’ll look at the marriage process, Meeting for Worship, “holding in the Light,” proceeding “as Way opens.”
  Margaret Conrow
  3:15 PM  Theological Diversity in the Society of Friends. Quakers today hold a wide spectrum of personal theological beliefs. How is this diversity a source of strength for us? What canst thou say?
  John Hunter
  4:30 PM  Quaker Nontheists: What’s next? An open discussion of what lies ahead for nontheist Friends, covering both general and specific issues.