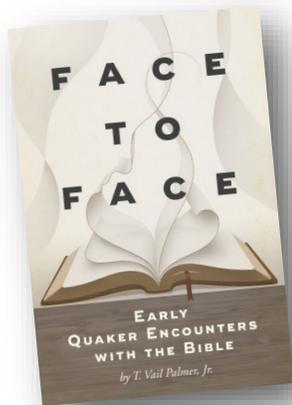


# Face to Face:

## Early Quaker Encounters with the Bible



*Talk and Book-signing by author T. Vail Palmer, Jr.*

**Thursday, September 29, 2016 - 7:00-8:30 pm**

**The Barn at Pendle Hill**

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC · NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

Pendle Hill and QuakerBooks of FGC invite you to hear T. Vail Palmer read from his new book, *Face to Face: Early Quaker Encounters with the Bible*, and talk about his process in preparing for and writing this book. Vail will also sign copies of his book following his talk. Refreshments will be served.

The writings of George Fox, Edward Burrough, and Margaret Fell demonstrate that at least these three, first-generation Friends, were reading the Bible with empathy. They stood within the thought and life-world of the earliest Christians and looked at the world through the window of biblical faith. For them the heart of the Bible lay in its personal narratives—the stories of living men, women, and communities; unlike many Christians, then and now, they did not look at the Bible as a legal constitution. They reveled in the poetic language of the Bible's rich symbol and metaphor. Out of this empathetic reading emerged not only some of their strange behaviors, such as going naked in public "as a sign," but also their innovative understanding of the Christian way of life—their anti-war testimony and commitment to social justice (through their empathetic "Lamb's War" reading of the Book of Revelation), their insistence on the full equality of women and men in preaching and declaring the Christian message.

**T. Vail Palmer, Jr.** grew up as a member of Concord Meeting (PA). He holds a BA in mathematics and philosophy from Penn and his PhD in ethics and society from the University of Chicago Divinity School. He also held a postdoctoral T. Wistar Brown Fellowship in Quaker studies at Haverford. A former editor of *Quaker Religious Thought*, Vail has been recorded as a minister by yearly meetings in Friends General Conference, Friends United Meeting, and Evangelical Friends Church International. He is now a member and recorded minister of the convergent Freedom Friends Church (unaffiliated) in Salem, Oregon. For a fuller biography of Vail, visit [www.barclaypress.com/vailpalmer](http://www.barclaypress.com/vailpalmer).



**COPIES OF THE BOOK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE ON PREMISES / BOOKSIGNING TO FOLLOW THE TALK**

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# Pendle Hill

A Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center