

PENDLE HILL READING LISTS

May 2025



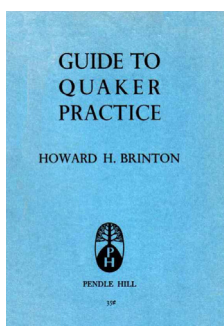
PENDLE HILL
A Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center



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Quaker Basics and Primers

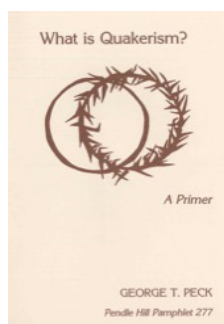


Guide to Quaker Practice

by Howard H. Brinton • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #20 • 1942

\$9.00

The author interprets the practices of the Society of Friends in his time. Revised editions released in 1950, 1993, and 2006. 72 pages.

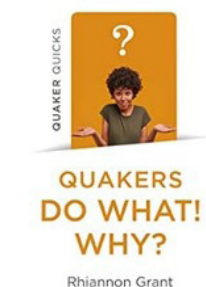


What is Quakerism? A Primer

by George Peck • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #277 • 1988

\$7.50

A book for beginners on understanding the tenets of the Society of Friends.

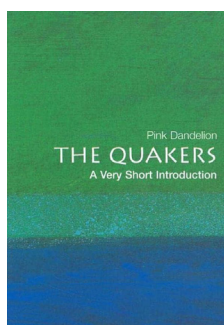


Quakers Do What! Why?

by Rhiannon Grant • [Quaker Quicks](#) • 2020

\$10.95

Structured around questions which non-Quakers often ask, this book explores Quaker practices, explaining them in the context of Quaker theology and present-day diversity. It describes how Quakers make decisions and why they have preferred this method, as well as looking at the Quaker rejection of common Christian practices like baptism. Each...

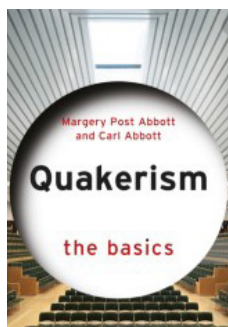


The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction

by Pink Dandelion • Oxford University Press • 2008

\$11.95

Here is the perfect introductory guide to the history and ideas of the Quakers, one of the world's most fascinating and enigmatic religious groups. Emerging in England in the 1650s as a radical sect challenging the status quo, the Quakers are now best known for their anti-slavery activities, their principled stance against war, and their pioneering work in...

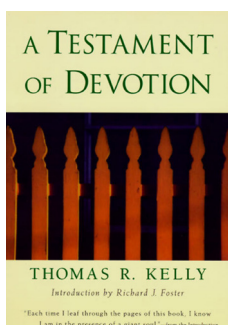


Quakerism: The Basics

by Margery Post Abbott and Carl Abbott • Routledge • 2020

\$24.95

An accessible and engaging introduction to the history and diverse approaches and ideas associated with the Religious Society of Friends. This small religion incorporates a wide geographic spread and varied beliefs that range from evangelical Christians to non-theists. With helpful features including suggested readings, timelines, a glossary, and a guide...

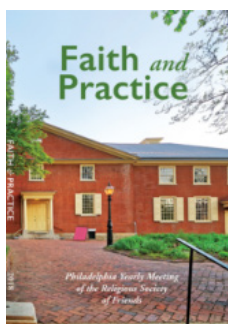


A Testament of Devotion

by Thomas R. Kelly • HarperOne • 1996

\$16.99

Since its first publication in 1941, A Testament of Devotion, by the renowned Quaker teacher Thomas Raymond Kelly, has been universally embraced as a truly enduring spiritual classic. Plainspoken and deeply inspirational, it gathers together five compelling essays that urge us to center our lives on God's presence, to find quiet and stillness...

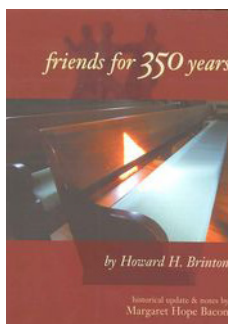


Faith & Practice (Philadelphia Yearly Meeting)

by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting • 2018

\$12.00

Faith & Practice is the written record of the collective sense of the Spirit for a yearly meeting body. Most books of faith and practice include advices on procedures within the faith, current practice for conducting the yearly meeting and monthly meeting business, and numerous quotations from prominent Friends on belief, worship, concerns, leadings...



Friends for 350 Years

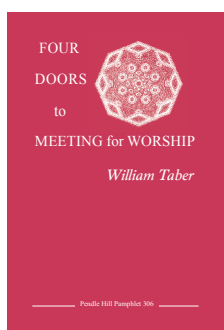
by Howard H. Brinton • Pendle Hill Publications • 2002

\$12.00

This is the updated edition of Brinton's classic overview of basic Quaker understandings, practices, and history. Topics covered include the Light within, meeting for worship, vocal ministry, reaching decisions, the meeting community, the meeting and the world, and the four periods of Quaker history (now updated to include the last 50 years). An essential book for every meeting and member.

Quaker Worship and Quaker Business Practice

Consider also: *Elements of Quakerism* (5-pamphlet set, \$30.00)

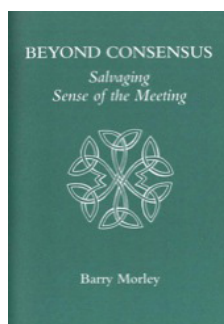


Four Doors to Meeting for Worship

by William Taber • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #306 • 1992

\$7.50

This essay describes four doors as thresholds into the heart of worship, understood as communion with the invisible but eternal stream of reality in which lives the eternal Christ.

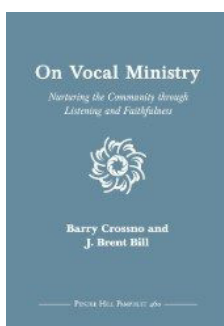


Beyond Consensus: Salvaging Sense of the Meeting

by Barry Morley • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #307 • 1993

\$7.50

The author discusses three essential components in discovering the sense of the meeting: release, long focus, and transition to light, all of which are nurtured by worship. Rich stories of life experiences, especially with adolescents, illustrate the process in a pamphlet that offers a true gift back to Friends.

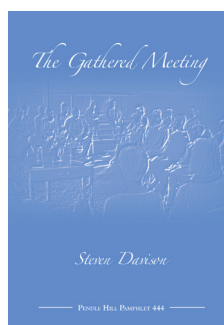


On Vocal Ministry: Nurturing the Community through Listening and Faithfulness

by Barry Crossno and J. Brent Bill • Pamphlet #460 • 2019

\$7.50

The authors describe in fresh language some of the traditional ways to tell if you're being used by the Spirit to give vocal ministry or if you're in the grip of a human desire to speak.

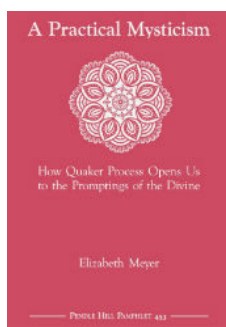


The Gathered Meeting

by Steven Davison • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #444 • 2017

\$7.50

Steven Davison lifts up the gathered meeting for worship as the essence of the Quaker way. He puts it in historical context within the Christian and Quaker traditions and considers the state of the gathered meeting in our own time. While describing the gathering in detail from his own experience, he also quotes Thomas Kelly, William Taber, and Patricia...

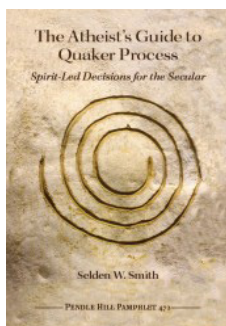


A Practical Mysticism: How Quaker Process Opens Us to the Promptings of the Divine

by Elizabeth Meyer • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #453 • 2018

\$7.50

The author identifies twelve Friendly practices that deepen our worship with attention to business.



The Atheist's Guide to Quaker Process: Spirit-Led Decisions for the Secular

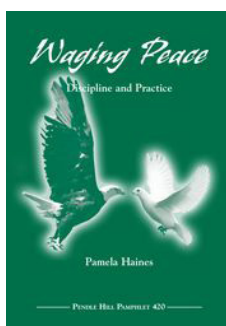
by Seldon W. Smith • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #472 • 2021

\$7.50

This essay offers a practical guide for those engaged with Quaker-led institutions who are not Quaker themselves, and who may not hold any religious beliefs at all.

Social Justice and Activism

Consider also: *Witness* (5-pamphlet set, \$30.00)

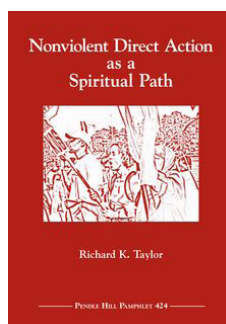


Waging Peace: Discipline and Practice

by Pamela Haines • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #420 • 2012

\$7.50

In a world of conflict, Pamela Haines calls for the development of skills to wage peace and an “army of nonviolent warriors.” Here she offers readers a window into how to become nonviolent warriors through practices that show us how to hope, grieve, listen, welcome conflict, mend, speak truth, and cultivate courage. Engaging stories bring these practices...

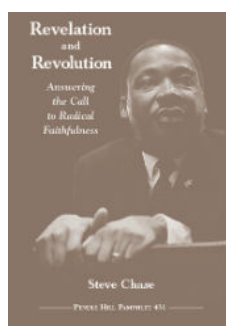


Nonviolent Direct Action as a Spiritual Path

by Richard K. Taylor • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #424 • 2014

\$7.50

Many of the world’s best known activists for peace and social justice have also been deeply religious people. Nonetheless, it is easy to think of social action as an afterthought to our spiritual lives, something we do to express our values, rather than as part of our spiritual practice. Lifelong nonviolent activist Dick Taylor has observed that spiritual...

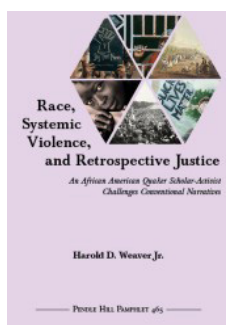


Revelation and Revolution: Answering the Call to Radical Faithfulness

by Steve Chase • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #431 • 2015

\$7.50

Steve distills the core features of the spiritual call to faithful activism and urges us to rise above the understandable, but debilitating, sins of denial, despair, and distraction.

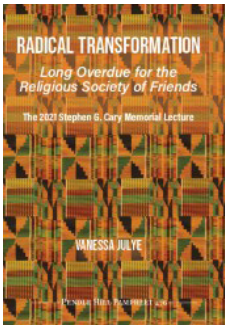


Race, Systemic Violence, and Retrospective Justice

by Harold D. Weaver, Jr. • Pamphlet #465 • 2020

\$7.50

Dr. Harold Weaver of the BlackQuaker Project asks Friends to look at societal problems through new lenses: confronting systemic violence with antiviolence; acknowledging institutional and systemic racism, rather than merely individual racism; considering a retrospective justice program that compensates for and helps remove the historical...

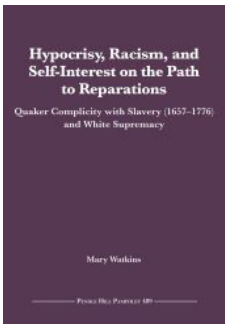


Radical Transformation: Long Overdue for the Religious Society of Friends

by Vanessa Julye • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #476 • 2022

\$7.50

The systems of White supremacy, racism, colonization, and capitalism continue to erect walls that prevent people of color from joining and remaining in our Quaker community.

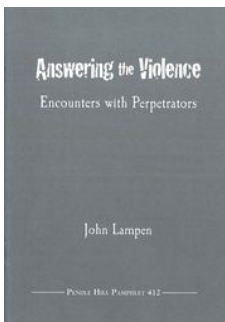


Hypocrisy, Racism, and Self-Interest on the Path to Reparations

by Mary Watkins • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #489 • 2024

\$7.50

Reparations must begin with an adequate grasp of Quakers' direct involvement in chattel slavery and white supremacy.



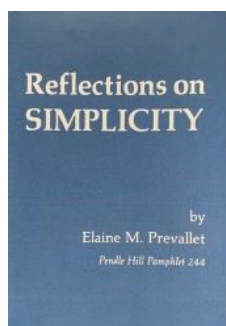
Answering the Violence: Encounters with Perpetrators

by John Lampen • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #412 • 2011

\$7.50

The author explores the controversies, risks, rewards, and possible benefits of reaching out in friendship to perpetrators of violence.

Quaker Testimonies

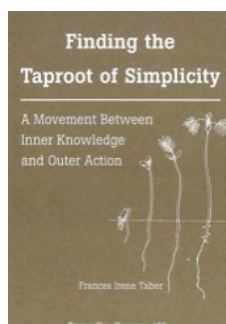


Reflections on Simplicity

by Elaine M. Prevallet • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #244 • 1982

\$7.50

A lifelong concern with the process of simplicity, a gift which eludes one's grasp.

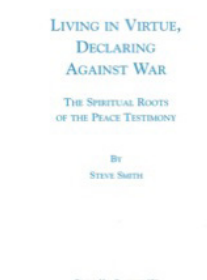


Finding the Taproot of Simplicity: A Movement Between Inner Knowledge and Outer Action

by Frances Taber • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #400 • 2009

\$7.50

This essay explores the spiritual basis of Friends' testimony of simplicity: how it evolved from the efforts of early Friends and how it continues to speak today.

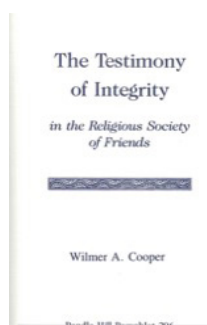


Living in Virtue, Declaring Against War: The Spiritual Roots of the Peace Testimony

by Steve Smith • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #378 • 2005

\$7.50

The Quaker Peace Testimony remains a radical challenge today to live Jesus' message of love, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

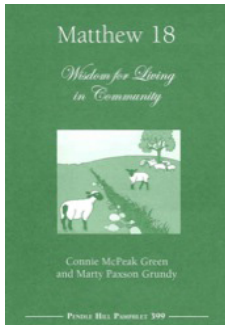


The Testimony of Integrity in the Religious Society of Friends

by Wilmer Cooper • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #296 • 1991

\$7.50

A cogent, insightful description of the central testimony among Friends from which all other testimonies evolve.

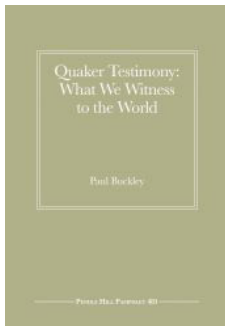


Matthew 18: Wisdom for Living in Community

by Connie Green and Marty Grundy • Pamphlet #399 • 2008

\$7.50

Friends are called to live in community, but being with other human beings does not always go smoothly. Our difficult interactions with others challenge us to wrestle with our personal strengths, weaknesses, and former experiences. Marty Grundy and Connie McPeak Green have spent years exploring the eighteenth chapter of the Gospel of...

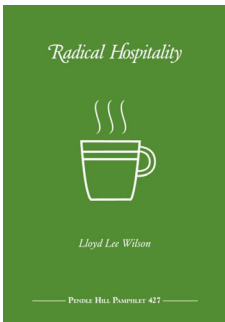


Quaker Testimony: What We Witness to the World

by Paul Buckley • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #481 • 2023

\$7.50

This pamphlet explores some historic and more recent roles played by testimonies in the Religious Society of Friends, and traces the emergence and development of testimonies since the 1940s – particularly the designation of SPICES and the challenges that poses.



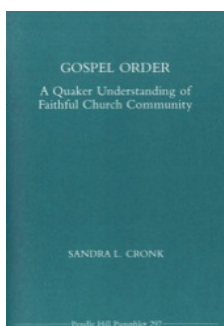
Radical Hospitality

by Lloyd Lee Wilson • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #427 • 2014

\$7.50

Radical hospitality is a way of being in the world that helps to bring the Kingdom of God into full realization. According to Lloyd Lee Wilson, we help to fulfill God's will for the creation by living as part of the Kingdom here and now. The author finds in the events of Jesus's life and in his parables lessons in how to be part of the Kingdom – through...

The Life of the Meeting

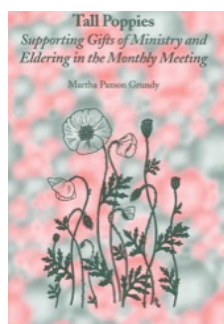


Gospel Order: A Quaker Understanding of Faithful Church Community

by Sandra L. Cronk • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #297 • 1991

\$7.50

This essay concentrates on the communal and societal aspects of gospel order as the foundation of meeting – or church – community life.

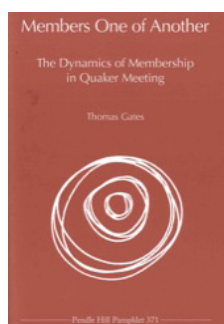


Tall Poppies: Supporting Gifts of Ministry and Eldering in the Monthly Meeting

by Martha Grundy • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #347 • 1999

\$7.50

Martha Paxson Grundy describes the traditional Quaker understanding of power and spiritual authority, and God's gifts in relation to them.

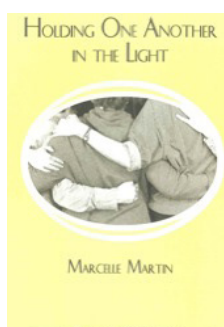


Members One of Another: The Dynamics of Membership in Quaker Meeting

by Thomas Gates • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #371 • 2004

\$7.50

In this essay, Tom Gates examines many of the factors affecting the relationship between the Seeker and the Meeting, before and during membership.

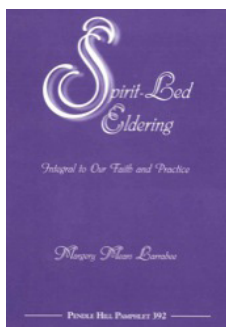


Holding One Another in the Light

by Marcelle Martin • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #382 • 2006

\$7.50

Praying for each other, or intercessory prayer, can deepen our connection to the Divine Presence and help bring healing to individuals and our communities. Marcelle Martin offers a personal account of her discovery of and experiences with intercessory prayer and describes the many forms it takes among Friends today, from interpersonal prayer support to meetings for healing to a prayerful witness for peace on earth. Calling readers...

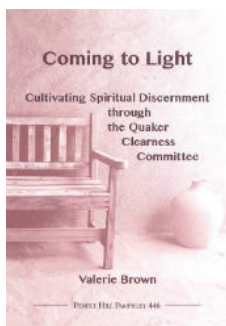


Spirit-Led Eldering: Integral to Our Faith and Practice

by Margery Larrabee • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #392 • 2007

\$7.50

Rediscover eldering as a valuable practice that can nurture the spiritual lives of individual Friends and of Friends meetings.



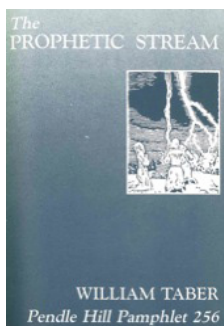
Coming to Light: Cultivating Spiritual Discernment through the Quaker Clearness Committee

by Valerie Brown • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #446 • 2017

\$7.50

The author explores the practice and process of the clearness committee, a means of spiritual discernment used by Quakers that has also proved helpful to many others.

Staff Favorites

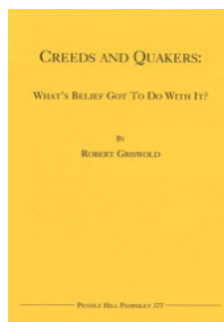


The Prophetic Stream

by William Taber • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #256 • 1984

\$9.00

A shout out to revive the prophetic message in Quaker worship and ministry and in Christianity.

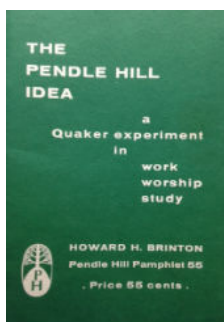


Creeds and Quakers: What's Belief Got To Do With It?

by Robert Griswold • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #377 • 2005

\$7.50

The pamphlet's author asserts that Friends too often hold Quaker testimonies as ideals, as ends in themselves, rather than as fruits of the Spirit.

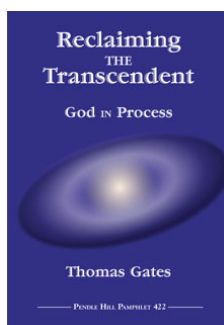


The Pendle Hill Idea: A Quaker Experiment in Work, Worship, and Study

by Howard H. Brinton • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #55 • 1950

\$7.50

By fusing of the divine, the liberal, the useful and the spiritual, the community of Pendle Hill was founded in 1930.

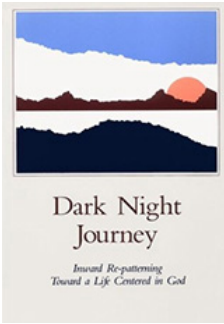


Reclaiming the Transcendent: God in Process

by Thomas Gates • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #422 • 2013

\$7.50

God is commonly imagined as a supreme Being, acting from afar to influence events in the world. For many people today, this image of God has become unbelievable. Tom Gates presents process theology as another way of understanding God that is more congruent with a scientific worldview, as well as with the biblical witness and with the...

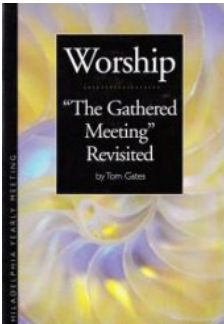


Dark Night Journey: Inward Re-Patterning Toward a Life Centered in God

by Sandra Cronk • Pendle Hill Publications • 1991

\$9.95

The author brings a unique Quaker perspective to the hard, 'dark night' passages of aridity, meaninglessness, loss, and pain within the journey toward God.



Worship: "The Gathered Meeting" Revisited

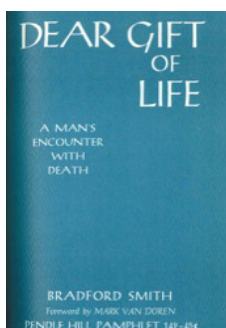
by Thomas Gates • Philadelphia Yearly Meeting • 2008

\$7.00

The first in the Arch Street Series of PYM Annual Sessions lectures, this 2006 talk by Tom Gates asks why the experience of the gathered meeting is so rare. Gates encourages Friends to develop the Covenant Community, out of which the gathered meeting is generated. He then outlines the conditions necessary to achieve it.

Quakers and Aging

Consider also: *End-of-Life Reflections* (5-pamphlet set, \$30.00)

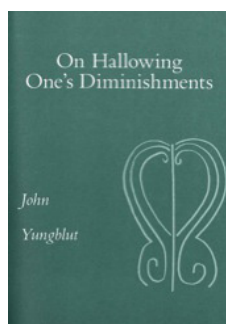


Dear Gift of Life: A Man's Encounter with Death

by Bradford Smith • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #142 • 1965

\$7.50

The author wrote this while dying of cancer, facing his own mortality.

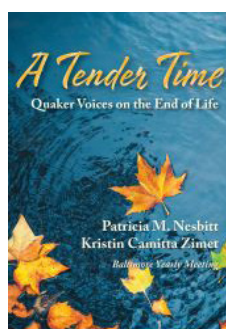


On Hallowing One's Diminishments

by John Yungblut • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #292 • 1990

\$7.50

A lifelong student of mysticism shares the experience of contemplative prayer in facing many forms of diminishment: birth defects, natural disasters, aging, and death itself.

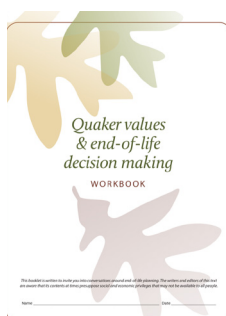


A Tender Time: Quaker Voices on the End of Life

by Patricia M. Nesbitt and Kristin Camitta Zimet • 2024

\$18.00

A Tender Time is a unique collection of Quaker voices, historical and contemporary, that explores practical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of aging and dying well. It moves in widening circles, from aging to dying, and from primary caregiver to friends to the whole faith community. It illustrates how individual Friends make end of life decisions guided...

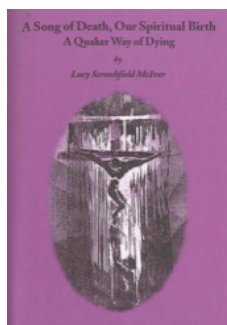


Quaker Values & End-of-Life Decision Making Workbook

by New York Yearly Meeting ARCH Program • 2023

\$15.00

A comprehensive, step-by-step planner for various aspects we may need to contemplate regarding the end of our lives.

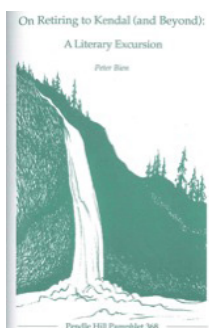


A Song of Death, Our Spiritual Birth: A Quaker Way of Dying

by Lucy McIver • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #340 • 1998

\$7.50

The author researched seventeenth century and modern experiences of death and dying among Friends. She offers guidance for pastoral care in our meeting communities.

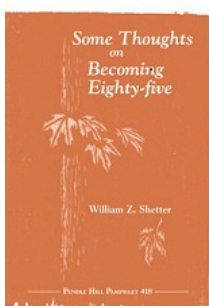


On Retiring to Kendal (and Beyond): A Literary Excursion

by Peter Bien • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #368 • 2003

\$7.50

The author employs poetry and literature to reflect on the meaning of retirement and whether death is an unmitigated calamity. He concludes it is not better to live forever.

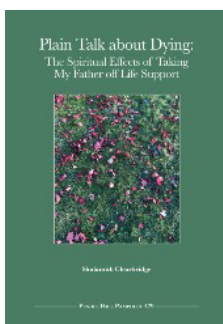


Some Thoughts on Becoming Eighty-five

by William Shetter • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #418 • 2012

\$7.50

The experience of long life and spiritual fruits of aging are the focus of this meditative walk through eighty-five years of William Shetter's life experience: among Friends, in relationship, as an ongoing seeker and keen observer of the world. Reflections on death, impermanence, and increasing physical limitation are leavened with humor and a sense...

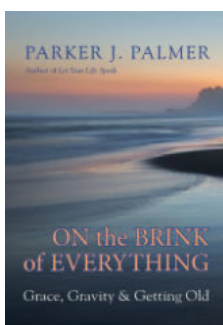


Plain Talk about Dying: The Spiritual Effects of Taking My Father off Life Support

by Shulamith Clearbridge • Pamphlet #479 • 2023

\$7.50

In this essay, Shulamith Clearbridge recounts the story of having to decide for another person whether they will live or die.

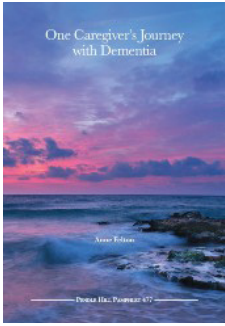


On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity & Getting Old

by Parker J. Palmer • Berrett-Koehler Publishers • 2018

\$17.95

From beloved and bestselling author Parker J. Palmer comes a beautiful book of reflections about grace, gravity, and growing old.



One Caregiver's Journey With Dementia

by Anne Felton • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #477 • 2022

\$7.50

Anne Felton writes eloquently about how her life changed as she and her husband, Keith, grappled with his dementia diagnosis, and how her fear and despair transformed to deep peace and joy during her journey with caregiving. She shares how the spiritual dimension of the dementia journey with Keith led to transformation and thanksgiving...



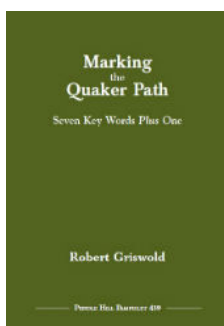
Without Nightfall Upon the Spirit

by Mary Morrison • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #311 • 1993

\$7.50

Reflections on aging, its physical, spiritual, and religious effects, by an 83-year-old author.

Modern Quakers and Contemporary Practice

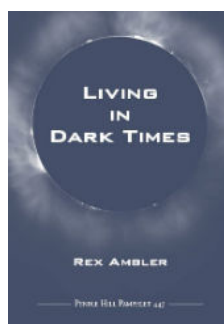


Marking the Quaker Path: Seven Key Words Plus One

by Robert Griswold • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #439 • 2016

\$7.50

Robert Griswold describes the life of a fully-committed Quaker as a series of passages, beginning with a truthful understanding of one's spiritual condition.

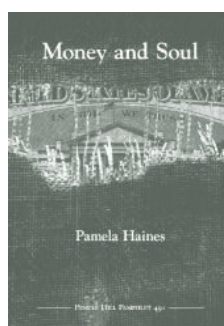


Living in Dark Times

by Rex Ambler • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #447 • 2017

\$7.50

How can we effect positive change in our current difficult world situation? In this pamphlet based on his talk at the 2016 Friends General Conference Gathering, Rex Ambler shares his reflections and insights. Citing William Penn, he urges readers to avoid objectifying the world, focus within, and live lives that reflect the truth they discover.

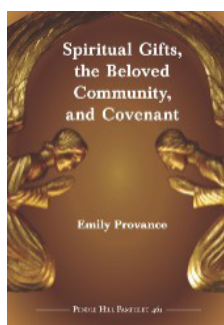


Money and Soul

by Pamela Haines • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #450 • 2018

\$7.50

Money and Soul explores our troubled relationship with money, with finance, and with the economic system in which we are all entangled. It invites readers to consider how childhood experiences with money can shape attitudes, and how attention to individual conscience and shared Quaker values can illuminate big finance and economics...

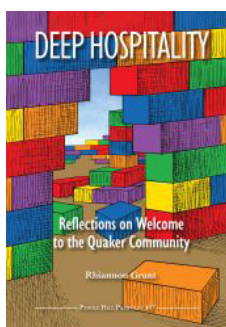


Spiritual Gifts, the Beloved Community, and Covenant

by Emily Provance • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #461 • 2020

\$7.50

An essay exploring what it means to be a covenant people, to honor and hone spiritual gifts, and to become the Beloved Community.

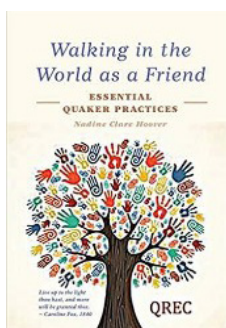


Deep Hospitality: Reflections on Welcome to the Quaker Community

by Rhiannon Grant • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #487 • 2024

\$7.50

How can we truly welcome others – and ourselves – to the Quaker community? What if offering a deeper hospitality means demolishing and rebuilding our structures?

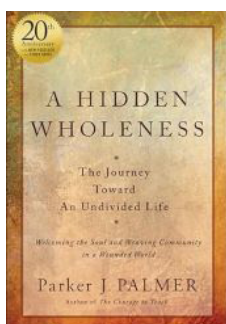


Walking in the World as a Friend: Essential Quaker Practices

by Nadine Clare Hoover • Conscience Studio • 2020

\$14.99

Essential Quaker practices for today's audiences.



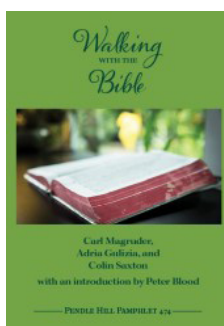
A Hidden Wholeness: The Journey Toward an Undivided Life

by Parker J. Palmer • Wiley • 2024

\$19.99

Parker Palmer peaks to our yearning to live undivided lives – lives that are congruent with our inner truth – in a world filled with the forces of fragmentation.

Quakers and Scripture

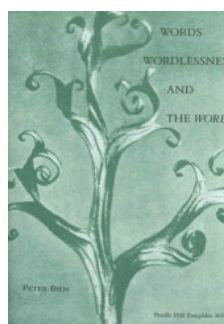


Walking with the Bible

by Carl Magruder et al. • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #474 • 2022

\$7.50

In 2020, Woolman Hill and Beacon Hill Friends House hosted a series of monthly Bible hours in which speakers talked about the role the Bible plays in their lives, reflected on a Bible passage, and shared ministry rising from it. The ministry and queries shared by the first three speakers in the series make up this pamphlet.

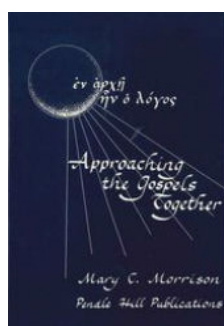


Words, Wordlessness, and the Word: Silence Reconsidered from a Literary Point of View

by Peter Bien • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #303 • 1992

\$7.50

A literary scholar considers the relationship of silence and words in Quaker worship, drawing on the work of E. M. Forster, Samuel Beckett, and classical Greek writers for insight.

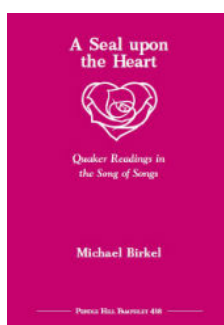


Approaching the Gospels Together: A Leaders' Guide for Group Gospels Study

by Mary Morrison • Pendle Hill Publications • 1986

\$10.95

A leader's guide intended for use in group studying the life of Jesus and the gospels. Pamphlet #219, an excerpt from this book, can be purchased [here](#).

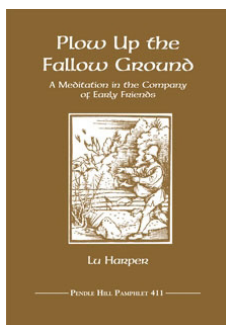


A Seal upon the Heart: Quaker Readings in the Song of Songs

by Michael Birkel • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #438 • 2016

\$7.50

Michael Birkel celebrates the poetry of love and the allegory of spiritual intimacy found in this anomalous book and explores its usage by early Friends.

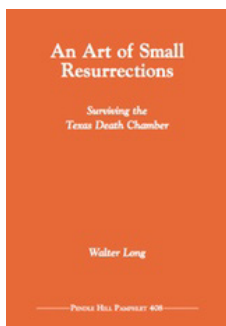


Plow Up the Fallow Ground

by Lu Harper • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #411 • 2011

\$7.50

Following on examples from the writings of early Friends, Lu Harper explores the depth and variety of insights that can be found in biblical images of field and vineyard. What wisdom did early Friends find in these passages, and what do they say to us today? Through this extended exploration, and by offering rich queries for personal meditation...



An Art of Small Resurrections: Surviving the Texas Death Chamber

by Walter Long • Pendle Hill Pamphlet #408 • 2010

\$7.50

The author wrestles the contradiction between the teachings of Jesus and widespread tolerance for government violence in a state where most identify themselves as Christian.

Thanks to the generous support of the Friends Foundation for the Aging, we're able to make this and other free, online resources and programs accessible to f/Friends of all ages.

