

1955 Epistles

Epistle of Canadian Yearly Meeting

This epistle from Canadian Yearly Meeting of Friends, in session at Pickering College, Newmarket, June 23 to 27, 1955, was presented and approved at the final session of the Yearly Meeting on Monday morning, June 27.

Dear Friends Everywhere,

In our last epistle we were happy to share with you the hope that the three Yearly Meetings in Canada might become united. During the intervening time a committee has been at work on the primary changes in procedure involved in such a union. At this Yearly Meeting, the decision was reached to take this momentous step and to become the Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. "The Lord our God be with us as He was with our fathers that He may incline our hearts unto Him ... to walk in all His ways." For He is our peace who is breaking down the middle wall of partition between us. In this reconciliation our Canadian youth have led the way. May we all become one in Christ Jesus!

A memorial regarding one of our older friends useful in many fields of service pointed up the concern we feel that our young Friends seek God's plan for their lives and go forward in His guidance.

We unite with the expressed desire of Friends everywhere for the elimination of tensions and the adoption of peaceful means for ending international disputes.

With a salutation of love, we are your friends,

Signed in and on behalf of Canadian Yearly Meeting,
Howard W. Clayton, Clerk

Epistle to Canadian Young Friends

The following Epistle to Canadian Yearly Meeting of Young Friends in session at Camp Neekaunis, July 1-3, 1955, was approved at the final session of Yearly Meeting.

Dear Friends,

We love you and appreciate that you have helped to lead the way for the formation at this time of "The Canadian Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends," of which, in a few years, you will be the active members.

We are thankful for your concern to, individually and collectively, become deeper spiritually and grow in usefulness in the church and the world.

As you worship, work and play together at camp Neekaunis we hope that you may be refreshed and inspired for the services in God's plan for you.

Your older brothers and sisters
The Senior Yearly Meeting
Howard W. Clayton, Clerk

ADVICES AND QUERIES #4: The Religious Society of Friends is rooted in Christianity and has always found inspiration in the life and teachings of Jesus. How do you interpret your faith in the light of this heritage? How does Jesus speak to you today? Are you following Jesus' example of love in action? Are you learning from his life the reality and cost of obedience to God? How does his relationship with God challenge and inspire you?