

The Ad hoc Committee on Health met a total of 11 times between March 2020 and June 2021. Over the course of the year, members have included Cynthia Jacelon, Kate Green, Steve Ball, Gretchen Plotkin, Sandi Albertson-Shea, Ruth Hazzard, Paul Spence, Mary-Ellen Cohane, Cat Chapin-Bishop, and Susan Conger. The large number of friends serving on this committee is related to 2020 clerks retiring and 2021 clerks joining the Committee. Kate Green left the Committee at the end of April, and has been replaced by Gretchen Plotkin. Each meeting has had six friends in attendance.

On May 16 and June 6, meeting for worship was held face to face at the meeting house. On June 6, 40 friends met for worship in four socially distanced worship circles. There was also a virtual meeting hosted by Alethea Tschetterwood; a member of Ministry and Worship held the virtual meeting, and two greeters from Care and Council facilitated entry into the virtual worship space. On June 6, indoor and outdoor worship took place simultaneously at Mount Toby. Forty-three friends pre-registered for the 50 available spaces. There were three outdoor worship circles of up to 8 friends each, and 20 friends met in the worship room. An additional 13 friends met virtually for worship, again hosted by friend Alethea, held by a member of Ministry and Worship, and greeted by members of Care and Council.

On the evening of the 6th, the Ad hoc Health Committee met to discuss the next steps in re-opening the meetinghouse, now that doing so is fully allowed by state public health guidelines. We set June 20, 2021 as the date to fully reopen the Meeting House. This will include most First Day activities and all committee meetings. Pre-registration is no longer required. Social hour can take place in the fellowship room but food and beverage hospitality, and fellowship lunch, will be deferred until at least September. We ask that friends wear masks while in the meeting house, use hand sanitizer and sanitizer wipes (for high use surfaces) when indicated. Meeting for business will resume in the Meeting House starting in July. We are joyful at the prospect of being together in person in the Light.