

SALT LAKE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

State of the Meeting Report to Intermountain Yearly Meeting, May 31, 2021

Salt Lake Friends have weathered the worst of the Covid 19 pandemic and are again gathering at our meetinghouse, but with Zoom available on a large screen with an Owl Pro mic/camera for Friends who do not, for whatever reason, attend in person. We see a steady 12 worshippers in person and usually one or two via Zoom, although we have seen as many as four and on some First Days, none.

For about a year, from March 2020 to April 2021, we met via Zoom, courtesy of a Friend who informed us of the possibility and donated her account. A few Friends did not care for such meetings and we have not seen them since. We now have two or three attenders who found us with Zoom.

Three notable material changes have occurred in our Meeting during the last year.

1. **As of June, 2021, we will have fully paid our 15-year mortgage note with which we purchased our Meetinghouse.** Many Friends who were instrumental in the acquisition 15 years ago are no longer with the mMeeting, having moved away, but they and Friends old and new are celebrating.
2. **The Salt Lake Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends has been incorporated as a Utah charitable corporation and is awaiting approval as a 501.c.3 entity by the IRS.** We purchased the Meetinghouse through another nonprofit, which will now be dissolved, with the title to the property transferred directly to the Meeting.
3. **The Voice of Jesus Church for All Nations, a Pentecostal meeting of African immigrants living in the Salt Lake area, is no longer meeting in the meetinghouse.** We welcomed them two years ago, but, even though they were willing to wear masks, observe social distance, and limit attendance, they thought we were going too far when we asked them to terminate their meetings completely during the Covid surge last December and January.

As for the spiritual state of the Meeting, we can report that at the rise of meeting each First Day, whether there was frequent vocal ministry or silence throughout, the gathering seems light, suffused with goodwill and welcoming for each other and the occasional new face.

No deaths or marriages have occurred nor have new members joined during this period.