

Queries for October

Queries Related to Indigenous Peoples

Plymouth Meeting Friends are acutely aware of the settler-driven history of our country that violently removed Indigenous peoples from their land and actively worked to erase their culture and history. We seek to understand the role that the Religious Society of Friends played in that history. We seek to recreate relationship with all Indigenous peoples to create opportunities of cultural learning, advocating for justice in current Indigenous issues, and joining in the reestablishment of right relationship with The Creation.

We commit ourselves to prayerfully consider the following queries:

- How are we seeking to understand the role that prior generations of Quakers played in displacing Lenape peoples from Lenapehoking and in participating in programs of cultural erasure (such as Boarding Schools)?
- How are we seeking to renounce those Christian Church ideologies that legitimized colonization, genocide, and cultural erasure of Indigenous peoples in Lenapehoking and elsewhere (such as the Doctrine of Discovery)?
- In what ways do we seek opportunities to meet Lenape peoples and to learn directly from them about their history, culture, and current concerns?
- In what practical ways (monetary or other) have we supported Lenape or other Indigenous peoples in their initiatives and challenges?
- In what ways have we embraced Lenape perspectives and knowledge of the land, water, and air in the stewardship of the land where our Meetinghouse is located