

1-1-2005

Front Matter -- Quaker Religious Thought, no. 104

Howard R. Macy
hmacy@georgefox.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/qrt>

 Part of the [Christianity Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Macy, Howard R. (2005) "Front Matter -- Quaker Religious Thought, no. 104," *Quaker Religious Thought*: Vol. 104, Article 1.
Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/qrt/vol104/iss1/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Quaker Religious Thought by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University.

QUAKER RELIGIOUS THOUGHT

Cross-Cultural Outreach Among Friends

Reflections on Quaker *Mestizaje* 5
Pamela Calvert

The Voice of Friends Has
Many Accents 15
Kenneth E. Comfort

John Woolman Reconsidered

Two Reviews of *A Near Sympathy*
by Michael Birkel
Max L. Carter 21
T. Canby Jones 23

Response by the Author 31
Michael Birkel

Two Reviews of *The Tendering
Presence* by Mike Heller
Max L. Carter 35
T. Canby Jones 37

Response by the Author 51
Mike Heller

Cumulative No. 104

April 2005

QUAKER RELIGIOUS THOUGHT

Cumulative Number 104

April 2005

Sponsored by the Quaker Theological Discussion Group

(<http://theo-discuss.quaker.org/>)

The purpose of the Quaker Theological Discussion Group is to explore the meaning and implications of our Quaker faith and religious experience through discussion and publication. This search for unity in the claim of truth upon us concerns both the content and application of our faith.

Paul Anderson, *Editor* (panderso@georgefox.edu)

Arthur O. Roberts, *Associate Editor* (aroberts@georgefox.edu)

Gayle Beebe, *Associate Editor* (gbeebe@arbor.edu)

Phil Smith, *Business Manager* (psmith@georgefox.edu)

Susan Jeffers, *Website Manager* (susan@read-the-bible.org)

Advisory Council: David Johns, Howard Macy (Guest Editor of this issue), Ruth Pitman, John Punshon, Max Carter, and Susan Jeffers

Address editorial correspondence only to:

Paul Anderson

Box 6032 George Fox University

Newberg, OR 97132

Quaker Religious Thought is published two times each year.

(The Volume numbers were discontinued in 2003.)

Send all business and subscription matters to:

Quaker Religious Thought

c/o Phil Smith, Religion Department,

George Fox University, Newberg, OR 97132

Subscription rates:

Individuals/meetings—per year \$16, two years \$30

Students—per year \$12; Institutional libraries—per year \$20

Lifetime subscription \$300-500

Standing offer: A complementary issue
of your choice with a new or renewed subscription.

European distribution:

Friends Book Centre

Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ, England

International Standard Serial Number 0033-5088

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

The Friends family has expanded rapidly in the twentieth century, mostly in the Southern Hemisphere. In fact, newly convinced Friends in Latin America, Africa, and Asia now outnumber those who reached out to them by almost two to one and are still growing. I embrace this gladly. The good news about the power and love of the Present Christ is still reaching across boundaries and cultures around the world. Of course, this movement goes well beyond Friends. The burgeoning growth of Christianity, especially south of the Equator, is shared by many groups.

I do not share the pessimism of those who use this southern surge to conclude that in the Northern Hemisphere, the historic root of the Quaker movement, Friends are unfaithful or failing. These Friends have energetically reached into new regions for more than a century and continue to do so. Further, in the face of sharp challenges at home, I see sustained efforts to share the power of Christ with folk new to us. Some of that new outreach is to serve different cultural groups within our increasingly diverse societies. This will require new insights and creativity in communication, in sharing and listening.

The articles by Pamela Calvert and Ken Comfort will open the way, I hope, for more extensive conversation around the issues raised by the cultural diversity among Friends. Certainly groups like Evangelical Friends International, Friends United Meeting, Friends World Committee for Consultation, and others have been working with these realities, but I believe a more far-reaching dialogue on substantive issues of faith and practice would strengthen us all. Perhaps some of that could happen in the pages of *Quaker Religious Thought*.

The rest of this issue of QRT features reviews by Max Carter and T. Canby Jones of two recent books about John Woolman, Michael Birkel's *A Near Sympathy* and Mike Heller's *The Tendering Presence*. These reviews and authors' responses come out of the meetings of the Quaker Theological Discussion Group at George Fox University in June, 2004. They prompted rich discussion on that occasion, and they lay a foundation for continuing engagement with Woolman in both research and spiritual friendship. John Woolman is a treasure to Friends and Christians everywhere as we hear his witness about what it meant to order his life so he could pay "steady attention to the

voice of the True Shepherd.” The courage and grace he brought to the cultural challenges of his day still teach and inspire us in our own.

— *Howard R. Macy*
Guest Editor

***Announcing: Quaker Theological Discussion
Group sessions, Philadelphia Convention Center;
Friday afternoon (1–3:30) and evening (7–8:30),
November 18, 2005.***

(specific places to be announced on the website)

- Session I Quaker Influences upon American
Democracy—Theory and Praxis**
- Session II Reviews of *The Liturgies of Quakerism*
by Ben Pink Dandelion, and *Towards
Tragedy / Reclaiming Hope* by Ben
Pink Dandelion and others**