

Timeline on the Birth of Friends

- 1439 - Gutenberg develops first printing press in Europe
- 1517 - Martin Luther posts 95 theses on a church door launching Protestant Reformation
- 1533 - Henry VIII breaks with Rome launching Reformation in England
- 1535 - Tyndale Bible published (first mass printed in English)
- 1600 - Elizabeth Hooten born
- 1611 - King James Bible published
- 1614 - Margaret Fell born
- 1616 - James Nayler born
- 1624 - George Fox born
- 1642-51 - English Civil War
- 1643 - George Fox leaves home to search for spiritual answers
- 1648 - Hooten & Fox begin gathering converts & forming first local Friends meetings
- 1649 - King Charles I is convicted of treason, sentenced to death by Parliament and beheaded
- 1652 - Fox has a vision of a "great people to be gathered" from atop Pendle hill, preaches to 1000 Seekers on Firbank Fell. Fox meets Margaret Fell.
- 1656 - James Nayler arrested and convicted of blasphemy
First organized gathering of Friends from across Britain held in Balby in Yorkshire
- 1659-60 - Four Quakers hung on Boston Common after violating their banishment
- 1660 - Restoration of monarchy (Charles II), Fifth Monarchists abortive uprising
Declaration to Charles II (first Quaker public statement of "Peace Testimony")
James Nayler is beaten by robbers and dies
- 1661 - first annual session of New England YM (first yearly meeting in the world)
- 1662 - Quaker Act - requires Quakers to swear allegiance to king
leading to imprisonment of many Friends unwilling to swear oaths
- 1664 - Conventicle Act - bans worship of five or more unrelated individuals outside standard worship services of Church of England
- 1676 - *Apology for the True Christian Divinity* by Robert Barclay is published
- 1682 - William Penn founds the colony Pennsylvania and many Quakers settle there
- 1688 - Glorious Revolution (James II is out, William & Mary are in), Act of Toleration
Germantown Quaker Petition against Slavery (first corporate church statement)
- 1691 - George Fox dies
- 1702 - Margaret Fell dies