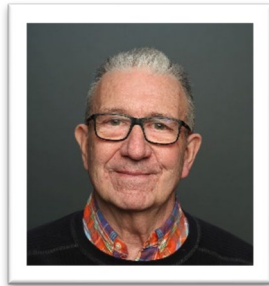


*"I saw also that there was an ocean of darkness and death, but an infinite ocean of light and love, which flowed over the ocean of darkness."* George Fox, Quaker Founder



The tragic murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis on Memorial Day demands comment and commitment from those whose lives are informed by the Quaker values of non-violence, peace and justice for all.

In the wake of Mr. Floyd's death and the anguished calls for dialog and real change, Quaker individuals and organizations are compelled to speak out and advocate for national reform in the nature of policing, especially as it impacts communities of color.

As a Quaker institution, RFS needs to add our voice to this national conversation and take concrete steps to counter racism in all its forms through advocacy, action and education.

In doing so, we renew our belief that death and injustice cannot and will not have the final word, that, in the end, life proves itself stronger than death. If we are able to confront injustice and death and not turn away in cynical despair, we witness our firm belief in the eternal significance of every human life. Our belief needs to find expression in the deeds of hope and justice.

As a result, our staff is united in intensifying our educational work of exposing, examining, and counteracting the unacknowledged roots of racism in privilege and social indifference. As a Friends school, we must ensure that we continue to address racism across the curriculum at every grade level, and that we help our entire community--students, staff and parents-- use their voices to advocate for peace, non-violence and justice.

-Joe McHugh, Interim Head of School