

Community Companion

Quaker House:
3960 Winding Way, Cincinnati, OH 45229-1950
(513) 861-4353

www.communityfriendsmeeting.org
<https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/community-friends-meeting>



Sarah Crabtree, childcare person, took picture of Oliver and Kamirah counting cars one Sunday morning.

Volume 23, Issue 4 April, 2017

Presiding Clerk:

Lisa Cayard

Assistant Presiding Clerks:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Recording Clerk:

Rachel Moore

Treasurer:

Lynn Funck

Ministry & Counsel

Ken Bordwell

Lisa Cayard (ex officio)

Sarah Hoffmann

Frank Huss

Deborah Jordan

Tim Leonard

Sunny Rhein (SA)

John Sniegocki

Newsletter:

Deborah Jordan

Email: djordan@fuse.net

Editor & photographer unless noted

Jean Crocker-Lakness

j.crockerlakness@gmail.com

Submissions for the May newsletter due by: Monday, April 24, 2017 to Jean Crocker-Lakness

Calendar

All events and meetings take place at the Meeting House unless otherwise noted.

**Singing 9:45 am, Meeting
for Worship 10 am
Second Hour or Carry in Potluck @ 11:40 am**

- April 2, 2017 Carry In Potluck Meal after Meeting for Worship
FUN Committee appreciates and encourages locally grown food when possible. Community Committee asks that if you bring something that needs to be heated before eating, please attach brief instructions to your container. Also, it's helpful to mention the name & ingredients of the dish - thanks!
- April 3 Registration for FGC's Gathering opens (see page 3)
- April 8 Islamic Center Tour (see page 5)
- April 9 Second Hour: Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
- April 16 Second hour: Easter
- April 22 OVYM Spring Retreat
- April 23 Second Hour: Earth Day
- April 30 Second Hour: Spiritual Journey: Tom Bennett
- Save the dates: May 21: Quarterly Meeting (see page 3) June 14-18 OVYM at Earlham College July 2-8, FGC's Gathering
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Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe Childcare: Ellie Czejkowski & Sarah Rudolph

Fourth Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Sincerity; Simplicity; Moderation

Do you keep to simplicity and moderation in your speech, your manner of living, and your pursuit of business? Are you careful to keep your business and your outward activities from absorbing time and energy that should be given to spiritual growth and to the service of your religious society? Are you just in your dealing and careful to fulfill your promises? Do you take care of such members as need aid, and assist them, when possible, to become self-supporting?

March 2017 Business Meeting Summary,

Community Friends Monthly Meeting March 12, 2017 24 members were present

1. Opening Worship: “Quaker business process consisted of seeking God’s will and allowing the meeting to be brought into unity by the immediate presence and active power of God. This early understanding required each participant in the meeting to cast aside personal agendas, pet ideas and political positions and in so doing to seek the divine will. It was incumbent on all present to allow God to challenge and change hearts and minds, and bring a miraculous divine unity, where before there were human strife and division. First we must consider our business meetings primarily prayer meetings. As we consider each item on the agenda, we must pray for God’s will to be revealed, and conform our will to [that of God.] The goal should not be compromise, but instead transformation of hearts and attitudes.” From *Misunderstanding Quaker Faith and Practice*, by Terry Wallace, *Friends Journal*, Jan 2007

2. Treasurer’s Report: We are a 12% of our expense on hand, exceeding our goal of 6%. This is due to a substantial check we received from a settlement of a lawsuit against Duke Energy.

3. Adult Religious Education: Met 3/5/17. Second hours are scheduled through June with a few openings here and there. ARE is facing a transition with both committee members having to step down before the end of their term and newly nominated members are encouraged to begin service early.

4. Unity with Nature Committee: 20 people attended a screening of a documentary, *Inhabit*, on 3/10/17 at the meeting house, with 10 of these people being from outside of the meeting. The film was inspiring and encouraged good conversation.

5. Ministry & Counsel: Committee approved a request from Marjorie Isaacs for a traveling companion as she travels to present her work on meditation for children. A companion was named. The committee continues to work on communication with lapsed or inactive members and the format for the threshing session to be held on 3/19/17 was set.

6. Outreach Committee: Friends approved a cover design for the welcome sign-in book by Jennifer Wolff. They are looking into finalizing a brochure to be given to visitors and facilitating a visioning session to identify metaphors and symbols for the meeting.

7. Peace & Social Concerns: No Report.

8. Ad Hoc Committee on Signage: The Ad Hoc committee had the following proposed actions: The first is that Meeting put up two signs, one on each end of the driveway, stating in English, Spanish, and Arabic “No matter where you are from, we’re glad you are our neighbor.” The signs are from available from a few locations and the cost is roughly \$7 per sign. Friends encouraged that we do a bulk order so that members can put them up at our homes as well. John Sniegocki volunteered to organize getting the signs. This action was approved. The second is that Community Friends Meeting signs on as a Cincinnati Sanctuary Solidarity Congregation. A Sanctuary Solidarity Congregation would support people in sanctuary, support sanctuary congregations, public witness, and congregational training. The importance of creating a line in the budget that would support this action and would insure that this would be more than a symbolic gesture. Many Friends spoke out of silence the actions they would be willing to do in order for our meeting to be able to make this commitment. The meeting approved becoming a Solidarity Congregation and creating a line in the budget for donations to support this work and seeding it with \$500 from our general fund.

9. Community Committee: A kitchen cleaning meeting will be held next Saturday afternoon.

10. Religious Development: The committee met on March 5. Marjorie Isaacs attended to share the revised version of her beautiful book, *Finding the Light in You: Bright Silent Worship with Young Friends*, and to encourage the committee to use this approach with the children in our classes. We reviewed plans for purchasing mulch for the playground. Jim Rhein has been busy with maintenance in the basement. The committee is still trying to fill in a few teaching spots for the intermediate class. The primary class is covered for the rest of the year. Cecilia and Elana Branson have been helping out with child care.

11. Nominating Committee Report and Action: The Nominating Committee held a successful Second Hour discussion about service to the meeting and how best to support and staff our committees. Of particular concern was the Peace and Social Concern committee that is currently inactive due to lack of leadership. While not everyone agreed, there was a sense from many friends that this committee works as more of a support committee for members who are active in Peace and Social Concern groups outside of meeting. There was also a suggestion that Adult Religious Education could merge with Outreach. We don’t feel that it is Nominating Committee’s role to request action on these changes but did want to share the suggestions with the Meeting. Nominating Committee met on 3/10 to discuss the results of second hour and to begin nominating. Some vital roles that will need to be filled for the coming year are Assistant Recording Clerk, House and Grounds, Adult Religious Education, Peace and Social Concerns, and we need a photographer for the Newsletter and a reporter to the Quaker Quill. Nominating requests that the meeting approve Wilhelmina Branson as a Cannon Fund Trustee effective immediately. This was approved. Nominating

12. Stewardship Committee: No Report

Summary of the March Meeting for Business Minutes, continued

13. House and Grounds: Meeting was held to get ready for the upcoming work day. The closer was installed on the door to the basement. There will be a new designated spot in the woods for compost debris larger than leaves. The electric work was completed. A final check for \$650 was paid by the caretakers and they will be reimbursed by the meeting. The dishwasher runs long so a sign will be added to tell you to use the express mode.

14. Library Committee: The library received a donation of the full 12 volumes of the Interpreter's Bible.

15. Tenderer Mercies: The help and support of the meeting is greatly appreciated. Susan Gerke and Lynn Funck have increased their work in the past two months. It is under consideration to ask that people who are interested providing food are encouraged to attend a meal beforehand to get a feel for what is needed.

16. Miami Quarterly Meeting Report, MQM rotation schedule: Miami Quarterly Meeting met at Eastern Hills Meeting House on February 19, 2017. There was a program for adults provided by Lexington Monthly Meeting. The main issue that was addressed was making plans to lay down Green Plains Meeting and what to do with the historic meeting house and cemetery that belong to that meeting. The ad-hoc committee created to deal with it proposed that during the 10th Month Miami Quarterly Meeting we accept a minute laying down the meeting immediately after accepting a deed of transfer of the grounds, meetinghouse and burial grounds. Miami Quarterly is exploring partnering with Clark County Historical Society to offer tours and other possible uses for the property. The Meeting also approved the signing of an Amicus Brief in support of Transgender Rights. The next Miami Quarterly meeting will be Fifth Month 21st day at Miami Meeting with Oxford Monthly Meeting co-hosting and Dayton Monthly Meeting providing Adult Program about the State of Society reports. The new rotation schedule through 2019 was presented.

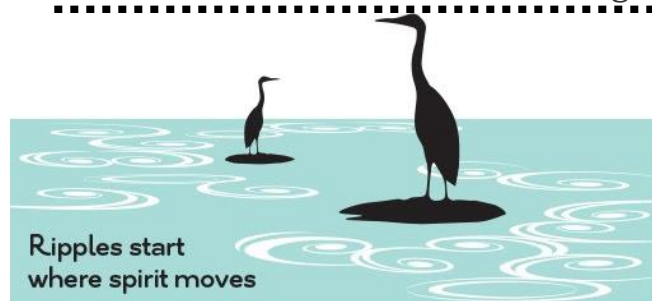
17. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting: There is a survey out on OVYM contributions to other organizations. It was sent via email and individuals are encouraged to complete it. The Youth Services committee is looking for a new youth secretary. It is a part time paid position that we are looking to fill ASAP. The committee has reached out to several Quaker colleges to advertise the position. If Friends know of someone who would be interested in applying please contact David Funck or Peter Hardy.

18. Announcements: The next sanctuary meeting is an AMOS Meeting April 6th, 6:30-8:30 pm at New Prospect Baptist Church 1580 Summit Rd.

19. Minutes were approved.

20. Closing Worship. Lisa Cayard, Presiding Clerk Rachel Moore, Recording Clerk

2017 FGC's Gathering at Niagara Univ.in New York State July 2-8

**2017 FGC Gathering**

A week of Quaker worship, workshops, and community for all ages.

July 2 to 8, 2017

Niagara University, Niagara Falls, New York



Registration opens April 3, 2017. Register early to maximize access to workshops and financial aid.

The week of the Gathering is packed with programs and events, from small group morning workshops to public evening plenaries, and programs for children, teens and young adults. For more information, check out FGC's website: www.fgcquaker.org

SAVE THE DATE!!

FOR

QUARTERLY MEETING FUN

MAY 21, 2017

AT

MIAMI FRIENDS MEETING

WAYNESVILLE OH

Worship, food, fellowship and, oh yes, a little business - get the inside scoop on what other meetings are doing... Join us on May 21st!

Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat presents
MINDFULNESS IN NATURE EVENTS:

April 22, 2017: Comfort in Silence
May 27, 2017: The Power of Observation
Sept. 23, 2017: Seeking Balance
Each 1:00 - 4:30 pm



Join us for an afternoon of meditative walking, observation, and journal writing to explore mindfulness. Each date will have a different theme. Come for one or all!

- Unplug from the busyness and stress of our daily lives
- Take time to observe the details of nature's beauty
- Reconnect with ourselves through intentional awareness of the natural world

Led by Leslie Bishop: retired biology professor from Earlham College, student of meditation and mindfulness of Thich Nhat Hanh, and certified facilitator with Women Writing for (a) Change Bloomington.

Location: Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat, 3363 N. Mt. Gilead Rd., Bloomington 47408

To register, send a check for \$25 payable to Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat to the above address. Please register in advance, as space is limited. Childcare is available upon request for an additional fee. For more information call 812-332-4074 or email mtgileadretreat@gmail.com.



Know Your Neighbor

#IAMAMERICA

Saturday April 8th at
Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati

Please join us at 1:00pm for a tour of the mosque, followed by conversation and refreshments at the International Academy

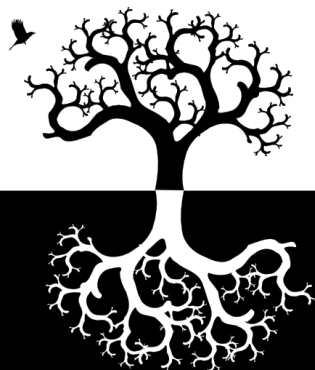
Please RSVP with # of guest attending at
toursandtalks@cincinnatiislamiccenter.org

Deadline for RSVP is April 6th

Islamic Center of Greater Cincinnati
8092 Plantation Drive, West Chester OH. 45069
513-755-3280

www.cincinnatiislamiccenter.org

OVYM Spring Retreat

*Nourishment from Quaker Roots**for Witness in these Times*

Facilitator: Brian Drayton,
New England YM

Sponsored by Religious Nurture and
Education Committee

Many of us are anxious about the future of our country. What sources of strength and wisdom might we discover within our Quaker tradition? How might our Quaker practices become deeper grounding for witness? Facilitator Brian Drayton, New England YM Friend, has written on Quaker practices and has traveled in the ministry among Friends. His recent book is “*On Living with a Concern for Gospel Ministry.*” We will have time for relaxation as well as reflection on the topic.

Benedict Inn Retreat Center, Beech Grove (Indianapolis area) Indiana

April 22, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

\$20, scholarships available

The retreat center is located in suburban Indianapolis, and has a labyrinth and a Peace & Nature Garden which they describe as “a serene environment for meditation and reflection, a welcoming gateway to the Beech Grove neighborhood, and a native plant oasis.” They are accessible. Friends traveling from a distance can arrange to stay at Benedict Inn overnight for \$30-55, depending on whether you are willing to share a bath and/or room.

To register, please email or write nikkitousley@hotmail.com 175 Indiana Ave., Dayton OH 45310, 937-253-3366 if you plan to attend. Please make arrangements directly with Benedict Inn if you need overnight accommodations 317-788-7581.

NAME: _____ Meeting: _____

Dietary Restrictions or other special needs: _____

Deconstructing the Culture of White Supremacy and Privilege: Creating Peace, Equity and Opportunity in the Heartland.

<http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com>

18th Annual White Privilege Conference

Thursday, April 27 - Sunday, April 30, 2017

Kansas City, Missouri



THE WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE

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Upcoming workshop "Life Lessons from a Bad Quaker"
at Cincinnati Friends Meeting
8075 Keller road

Brent Bill will be leading this workshop on Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 9:30 am- 4:00 pm

"A light-hearted, but serious workshop for anyone who is bad at being good. "

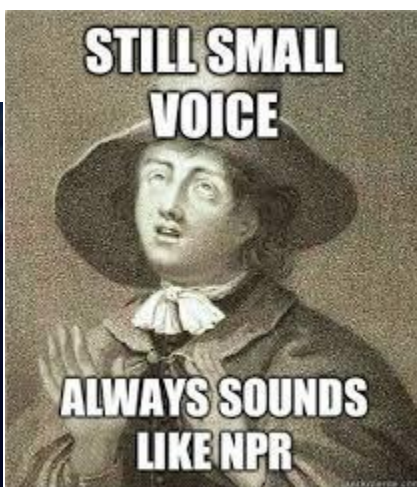
Copies of his book: *Life Lessons from a Bad Quaker* are available at the Meetinghouse of a discounted price of \$10.00.

The book is not required for the workshop

To register: Call the meeting house at 513-791-0788

Lunch will be a carry-in meal, drinks will be provided
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Quaker Humor:



Lastly, there's the Quaker store manager who refused to sell liquor, at least he said, not until he was in the "Spirits."

Instead, he sold tea—and sold so much of that he loved totaling up his earnings!

Because you see, he was a 'tea-totaler.'