

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>

Volume 21, Issue 12 December, 2015



We have fabulous new back steps thanks to Eric Wolff and Tom Zalla - To be painted by Elizabeth Groppe
photo by Elyce Feliz

Presiding Clerk:

Lisa Cayard

Interim Assistant Clerk:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Recording Clerk:

Paul Buckley

Assistant recording clerk:

Rachel Gill

Treasurer:

Lynn Funck

Ministry and Counsel:

Ken Bordwell

Lisa Cayard (ex officio)

Frank Huss

Deborah Jordan

Tim Leonard

Sunny Rhein (SA)

John Sniegocki

SA= special assignment

Newsletter:

Deborah Jordan

Email: djordan@fuse.net

Editor & photographer unless noted: Jean Crocker-Lakness

j.crockerlakness@gmail.com

Submissions for the January newsletter due by:

Monday, December 28, 2015 to Jean Crocker-Lakness

*** Please hold Jean in the light for recovery from her fall and injury**

(Editor Pro Tem for this issue: Elyce Benke)

Calendar

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

First Day: Singing 9:45 am, Meeting for Worship 10 am

Second Hour or Carry in Potluck @ 11:40 am

Unity with Nature 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!

- Dec. 6 SUN Carry In Potluck Meal after Meeting for Worship / Environmental - Solar Panels Party
(No Nature Walk AKA Meeting for Worship with attention to Nature this month, due to party)
- Dec. 9 WED 7 pm: Quaker Book Reading Group
- Dec. 12 SAT 1 pm: Showcasing Community's switch to Solar Electric with Third Sun Solar presenting. All are welcome - invite your friends. Snacks will be served.
- Dec. 13 SUN Second Hour: Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
- Dec 20 SUN Second Hour: Children's Christmas play A Super Christmas (always a highlight) Everyone bring your Christmas Spirit and Christmas Cookies and Snacks to share with the play.
- Dec 24 THU 6pm: Christmas program at Cincinnati Friends, 8075 Keller Rd., Cincinnati
- Dec 27 SUN Second hour: No Second Hour Planned
- Dec. 31 THU Our annual "White Elephant" gift exchange/party will follow a carry-in supper on New Year's Eve. Bring a wrapped gift and a dish to share.

Save the date: Sunday, Feb. 21, 2016 - Miami Quarterly Meeting after Carry In Meal.

In This Issue:

Page 2	Query for Twelfth Month	Page 5	Quaker Book Reading Group
Page 2-4	November Meeting for Business Minutes	Page 5	Free the Children
Page 4	Miami Quarter Meeting	Page 5	Monthly Nature Walk - Glenwood Gardens
Page 4	Eugenia Mills' new address	Page 6	Dec 12 Solar Panel Presentation

Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe

Childcare: Rachel Piepsny

Twelfth Query from Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice

Do you regard your possessions as given you in trust and do you part with freely for the needs of others? Are your means of livelihood in keeping with your ideals as Friends? Are you concerned that your business be primarily a service to people? What are you doing to foster upright practices in business relations? Do you maintain strict integrity in all business transactions? So you bear a faithful testimony against all forms of gambling?

November 8, 2015 Business Meeting Summary

Twenty Friends opened the meeting with a period of silent worship during which the clerk read a selection on the peacemaking in meeting for business – working through what divides us and moving toward unity – from Patricia Loring's *Listening Spirituality, Vol. II: Corporate Spiritual Practice Among Friends*.

The treasurer reported that at the end of October 2015, the General Fund still had a negative balance, although it is only -\$163. Contributions are still needed. We have received a little under 70% of the budgeted amount over the first ten months of the year. Our stated goal is to have 6% of the budget on hand, in other words, a positive balance of \$2326.

The repair of the nursery walls is a large expense coming up this month, which will most likely put the General Fund in a large deficit. We may have to hold back on making our budgeted contributions this month to keep the deficit from getting too large.

Friends General Conference Long Range Conference Planning Committee would like to hold their late winter/early spring meeting in Cincinnati, possibly co-sponsored by Cincinnati Friends Meeting and/or EH. They will need housing for about 30 people and meeting space. Some may also need transportation to and from the airport. Our meetinghouse is currently available on February 26-28 and March 5-7 and a Friend volunteered to coordinate the work. The clerk will contact FGC and the other Cincinnati meetings.

Community Committee reported the Friendly 6s are just getting started. Family Movie Night is set for November 20 at 6:30. "Inside-Out" was proposed. After consulting with the children, it was chosen. Friends are asked to bring a snack to share.

The committee formerly known as Friends in Unity with Nature (FUN) and Earthcare Committee has adopted the name Unity with Nature Committee. A celebration of hope-inspiring environmental successes is planned following meeting on November 22. In addition to our planned solar panels, these include green retrofitting of the meetinghouse and Earth Quaker Action Team persuading PNC Bank to stop making loans for Mountain Top Removal coal mining. They are also considering hosting a workshop about changing the consumptive nature of current society.

Two Friends described the possibility of having a community garden in front of the meetinghouse. They met with the community garden coordinator at the Civic Garden Center. Friends expressed interest in the Unity with Nature Committee exploring alternatives.

The Ministry & Counsel Committee is seeking someone to serve on the meeting nominating committee. M&C recommends approving an application for membership. She was born into a Quaker meeting in Pennsylvania, was a youth member of Cincinnati Friends, and a regular attender here for the past year. She is committed to Quaker principles and to participating in our meeting. Approved. A welcoming committee was named.

The committee brought a Traveling Minute for a member who has been traveling to share her Quaker chants and has more recently expanded her ministry to spread a broader message of peacemaking (attached). Approved. The minute will be forwarded to Miami Quarterly Meeting for their consideration.

The Outreach Working Group is developing materials, including a packet for newcomers and new information cards for greeters and closers. New materials will be referred to M&C for review and may be brought to business meeting, as needed. They are also organizing a second hour to discuss what it means to be a Quaker in Community Friends Meeting.

The Religious Development Committee is grateful that so many Friends have stepped forward to teach First Day School. There are only a few openings left in the spring. The Intermediate Class will be collecting donations for Free the Children, an anti-slavery organization which has a holistic "Adopt a Village" model to partner with communities. They are also collecting pop tabs to support Ronald McDonald House. They have cleared out the nursery in preparation for renovation work starting soon. The broken crib needs to be replaced. If anyone has a gently used "Pack and Play" crib, please let the committee know. The children's Christmas Play, which will be presented on December 20.

The Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Teen Activities Committee is seeking a new yearly meeting Teen Secretary. OVYM is considering combining this position with the unfilled Middle Youth position.

The Solar Panel Working Group is waiting on a permit from the city before starting installation.

The Stewardship Committee has determined that an audit would be too expensive, so they are discussing a less-costly review of our financial documents.

The House & Grounds Committee has scheduled a work day on November 14 from 10AM to 4PM, mostly to prepare for the house painting.

In the past, a member who has moved away used her own equipment for audio recordings of spiritual journeys. The committee approved purchasing equipment, possibly audio/visual, to have on-hand at the meetinghouse. They will also purchase a new easel. In addition, they will research dishwashers, since they are getting reports that it is not cleaning as it should.

A standard paint requirements has been sent out to all the house painters to level the field. Bids given were too different to compare and evaluate.

The Adult Religious Education Committee reported that all second hours have been filled into 2016.

Miami Quarterly Meeting met on October 18 at Yellow Springs Meeting. The office manager, an Advisory Board member, and 3 interns described the Dayton American Friends Service Committee office's program for African immigrants.

The Miami Quarter business meeting included discussion of future joint quarterly meetings. The next one is due to be hosted by Miami Quarter next fall. A committee has been appointed to investigate other sites in our region. Monthly Meetings were asked to respond whether Friends are interested in attending a joint quarterly weekend at Happy Hollow or elsewhere next October. The CFM representative invited Friends to give him their preferences for future joint quarterly meetings.

Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions are set for July 27 to 31 at Earlham College.

Tender Mercies Annual Meeting was held last week. The organization was started in 1985 and CFM has been involved since the 1990s.

~~~~~

**Miami Quarter Meeting**

**Oct. 18th, 2015 at Yellow Springs Monthly Meeting**

Yellow Springs Meeting was full of Friends from near and farther. After the refreshment of worship, we enjoyed a delicious potluck lunch. The program followed about the work of Dayton American Friends Service Committee while the children proceeded outside to enjoy the beautiful day.

From their website: "AFSC's Dayton Program works to transform Dayton into a global village of peace and prosperity and without discrimination for all the city's residents." Migwe Kimemia, accompanied by an Advisory Board member and 3 interns, gave a powerpoint talk about his work as director of the Dayton office. He included his own sense of calling to this work with African immigrants as he is from Kenya with extensive business and religious training. His work has been a family affair involving his young adult children as well.

Migwe is involved with organizing structural support for African immigrants, also called sojourners, in the Dayton community. His office has participated in and promoted Welcome Dayton as part of the vision of affirmative inclusion, an approach which has gained national attention. He is also involved with helping promote entrepreneurship, particularly female entrepreneurship, and fair trade cooperatives. Migwe has worked hard on this economic initiative and is proud of AFSC as a prophetic voice. He welcomes invitations to speak.

The Miami Quarter business meeting was short. Besides updates on Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Meeting (Yearly Meeting annual sessions are set for July 27 to July 31st at Earlham College) and on the recently passed Divestment Minute, there was discussion about the future of Joint Quarterly that is due to be hosted by Miami Quarter next fall. To recap, last fall, attendance was low at Happy Hollow Camp in Indiana, including a decreased number of youth. Some possible factors were poor timing, busy youth, once a year is too often, too costly for families since youth aren't subsidized as at Yearly Meeting. Also, Bloomington MM had a retreat that same weekend that conflicted with Jt. Q. MQ decided to postpone hosting this year and regroup. Our MQ co-clerk, Faith Morgan, will talk to the committee who investigated other sites for Jt. Quarterly that are in our region. Monthly Meetings are asked to respond whether Friends are interested in attending an Oct. Joint Quarterly weekend at Happy Hollow or elsewhere next fall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Jordan  
Miami Quarter Representative for the day

~~~~~

Below is Eugenia Mills' new address, phone number and email address.
2030 Chester Blvd IH 17 Richmond, IN 47374
765-373-8195
millsem@comcast.net
Visitors welcome

The Quaker Book Reading Group will be meeting monthly on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm in the Community Friends Meetinghouse. For December, we will be reading Marcelle Martin's *Invitation to a Deeper Communion*.

Submitted by Paul Buckley

FREE THE CHILDREN

If you would like to learn more about the Free the Children organization that the intermediate children are currently raising funds for, you can find their website at <http://www.freethechildren.com/about-us>. It is a fascinating organization, founded by a 12-year old Canadian boy, Craig Kielburger, after he learned of the realities of child slavery and child labor. His parents permitted him to travel around the world with a college-age friend meeting with working children. In the past two decades the organization has started hundreds of chapters in schools throughout the U.S. and Canada educating children about these realities and training children in leadership skills. Free the Children funds very well-planned projects in communities around the world addressing issues of health, education, clean water and sanitation, income-generating activities, agriculture, etc. A box for donations will be available again this coming Sunday.

Submitted by John Sniegocki

November Nature Walk AKA Meeting for Worship with Attention to Nature Glenwood Gardens



Solarize Cincinnati



Community Friends Meeting has gone solar.

Come find out how and why, including a presentation by our installer, Third Sun Solar.

We have 33 panels generating nearly all of our electric usage. See what you have to gain by “going solar” whether as a household or faith community.

Different people go solar for different reasons. But the outcome is all the same: more sunshine equals a lower electric bill, more local reliance and less destructive coal mining dependence and negative global climate change effects.

Saturday, December 12th 1pm – 2:30pm

**Community Friends Meeting
3960 Winding Way
Cincinnati, OH 45229**

Questions? Call 861-4353

Snacks provided