

# Community Companion

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

[www.communityfriendsmeeting.org](http://www.communityfriendsmeeting.org)  
<https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/community-friends-meeting>



Photo from a winter past

Volume 22, Issue 2 February, 2016

## 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:

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Submissions for the March newsletter due by: Monday, February 22, 2016 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**

### Midweek Meeting for worship Thursdays at 7pm

- Feb.7 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!
- Feb. 11 Food for Tender Mercies is the second Thursday
- Feb.14 Second Hour: Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
- Feb.17 5:30 pm Friends Committee on National Legislation Grassroots Advocacy Training workshop (see page 7)
- Feb. 21 Second Hour: Miami Quarterly Meeting Program: Wendy Waters-Connell from Quaker Heights Care Community
- Feb. 28 Second Hour: The FGC Gathering co-clerks, Mary Beth Neal and Paul Landskroener, will give an overview of the annual Gathering with highlights of the 2016 Gathering in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

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Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe Childcare: Rachel Piepsny

### Second Query from OYVM Book of Discipline, 1978: Prayer; Divine Relationship

Do you so order your life as to include reading, meditation and communion, that you may know more of the presence and guidance of the Divine Spirit? Do you remember the need to pray for others, holding them in the presence of God?

## January 10, 2016 Business Meeting Summary, submitted by Paul Buckley, recording clerk

Twenty Friends opened the business meeting with a period of worship during which the clerk read from *An Introduction to Quaker Business Practice* by Eden Grace: "[Quaker business practice] requires a humble and loving spirit, imputing purity of motive to all participants and offering our highest selves in return. We seek to create a safe space for sharing. We pray that we might listen carefully, respectfully, lovingly. We listen always for the presence of God through what someone is saying, knowing that each of us is endowed with some measure of Divine Light. The creation of the blessed community is both a necessary prerequisite and an inevitable by-product of corporate discernment."

The treasurer presented the end-of-the-year **Treasurer's Report** for 2015. More than \$7,500 in contributions were received in December. This allowed all obligations to be met and left a year-end balance of \$2,665 in the General Fund. We closed the year with 7% of the budgeted expenses on hand; slightly better than the target of 6%. The treasurer's summary: "It looks good."

Eastern Hills Meeting has agreed to co-host the Friends General Conference **Long Range Conference Planning** meetings with us on the last weekend in February. The coordinator has begun collecting information on people's ability to help in this work and will be in touch as we get closer to the meetings.

**The Statistician** passed out the current list of meeting members and described changes in our membership and weekly attendance numbers. The number of resident members (43), total membership (71), and average weekly attendance at meeting for worship (38) are all down from last year.

**The Unity with Nature Committee** has decided to host a half-day version of the "Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream" symposium at the meetinghouse on March 12 from 1:00 to 4:30PM.

They are continuing a conversation about possible ideas for the front yard, such as adding a community garden, meadow area, or fruit trees. Diverse opinions were expressed. They will continue to investigate possible options to propose to the Meeting for consideration and will continue to educate ourselves and the Meeting as a whole (e.g. through a newsletter article) about these possible options and the reasons for them.

A woods work day will take place in January on a date to be determined.

**The Ministry & Counsel Committee** continues to seek an additional member of the Nominating Committee. They are working on spelling out a process for requests for help from the newly created Meeting Reserves Fund.

In response to a question, some Friends shared positive reflections on the extended meeting for worship that was held on Sunday, January 3.

**The Outreach Working Group** will hold a second hour on January 24 on making the meeting more welcoming to newcomers. The meeting **approved** that the working group take over management of the meeting's Facebook account. They also asked to be given administrator privileges for the meeting website so that they can update it. Friends felt we should talk with the current web administrator before acting on this proposal.

The working group offered to hold sessions on various aspects of Quaker faith and practice each week before meeting for worship. These would be for both newcomers and longtime attenders of the meeting and may also serve to help incorporate younger Friends into the meeting. Several people spoke in support of the proposal. Coordination with the Adult Religious Education Committee is needed. Following a brief period of worship and additional discernment, the proposal was **approved**.

**The Religious Development Committee** reported that the nursery is freshly painted and looks very nice. The committee is still seeking the donation of a portable crib.

**The Special Funds Archive Search Ad Hoc Committee** searched the meeting archives and were able to retrieve some information on our restricted funds. The Greening the Meetinghouse and Friends and Aging Grant Funds currently have zero balances. On the recommendation of the Stewardship Committee, Friends **approved** laying these funds down.

**The Stewardship Committee** also recommended that three small restricted funds: Youth Ministry, Teen Trip, and Prison Ministry Funds, be combined with the Cannon Fund. After considerable discussion, the meeting could not unite with this recommendation.

Among the points raised in the deliberation:

- The purposes of restricting some funds were discussed.
- We were reminded that when we accept restricted contributions, we need to spend such funds only in ways that are consistent with the donor's intent.
- We should only accept contributions to purposes that are consistent with our mission.
- If there are funds left over, the donors (or their estates) can ask to remove the restriction or to take back remaining monies.

January, 2016 Business Meeting Summary, Stewardship Committee report Continued

- Alternatively, the money could be transferred to another fund that will use it in a way consistent with the original intent. For example, the Teen Trip Fund could be transferred to the OVYM Teen Activities Committee.
- It was suggested that we could stop accepting new contributions to these funds and lay them down when they are empty.
- Some of these funds could be administered through our committee budgets.

The committee was asked to give these issues further seasoning and report back at our next business meeting.

Finally, the Stewardship Committee read a policy for accepting gifts that was approved in 1996. It was suggested that they review and revise this policy to meet our current needs. In particular, a new policy should directly address accepting restricted funds.

To address the lack of available second hours, the **Adult Religious Education Committee** proposed holding second hours into June this year and scheduling social event second hours on potluck Sunday whenever possible. **Approved.**

The committee is continuing to consider the possibility of holding business meeting and the monthly potluck lunch on the same day.

We are hosting **Miami Quarterly Meeting** on the afternoon of February 21, 2016.

**Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Committee** will meet by conference call on February 2.

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### **Here's how to sign your Kroger Card up to get Kroger to donate to Community Friends:**

- 1) Go to Kroger.com
- 2) Just under the Kroger name you will see a line of six blue words beginning with "Departments" and ending with "Community"
- 3) Click on "Community"
- 4) When you do so you will be given two choices: Community Rewards and In the Community
- 5) Click on "Community Rewards"
- 6) Click on "Create an Account"
- 7) This is tedious but not too difficult. After you have told them who you are, addresses etc., then you can select the organization that you want your rewards to go to. Writing in "Community Friends" will work, but if it's picky and you need our number, it is 80890.

If you make a password—remember it! You will need it when you sign up again April 2016 (but not a problem if you forget—you can always reset it).

#### **BEFORE YOU START:**

You'll need a Kroger card. Any Kroger cashier can get you one.

You may need an email connection to reset your password, or make a new one. This makes it somewhat hard for us to bring a computer and do it at Meetinghouse as has been requested.

You will know if you are already signed up—look at the very bottom on any Kroger receipt. If you're signed up, it will say Rewards go to Community Friends Meeting. Sadly, this is not 100% but it works well enough as a check.

You do not need to sign up now if you are already on. All enrollments will need to get re-upped April 2016.

Hope this helps! Thanks so much!

Sincerely,

Mary Anne Curtiss for the Stewardship Committee

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### **White Privilege Conference from Shannon Isaacs**

FGC, AFSC and several other Quaker orgs. are hosting the White Privilege Conference in Philly this year. I'm planning on going and was wondering if anyone else was interested. I've heard really good things about this and the registration is \$200 if you take the special Quaker discount.

I think they are encouraging people to register soon.

Here is a webpage describing about what the WPC is: <http://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/wpc.html>

**Friends General Conference pre-registration for the White Privilege Conference is now open. You must complete the Friends General Conference pre-registration form in order to receive the FGC group discount.** Instructions for how to complete the whole registration process are provided on our pre-registration form. Additionally, folks requiring home hospitality will have the opportunity to sign up on the pre-registration form. The following link will take you to our pre-registration form: <https://www.fgcquaker.org/fgc-pre-registration-white-privilege-conference-2016>

## Special Funds of Community Friends Meeting

January 2016

	When started	How started/ purpose	Most recent activity	Who oversees	How money gets in (currently; there have been changes)
Building Reserve	1968	Emergency repairs & capital projects	2015	Business Meeting In Emergency: H&G, but needs approval ASAP	\$5,000/yr. from unrestricted donations leftover funds at the year-end credit union interest
Stephenson Fund	1970s	Est. by Hale Stephenson in memory of his wife, Charlotte.  Makes loans to Friends in need	2015	Ministry & Counsel	none--could get restricted donations
FUN fund	Jul-97	To fund composting toilet.  Environmental ministry	2015	Unity with Nature Committee	fundraisers (plants) restricted donations
Traveling Music Ministry Fund	Sep-08	Donations inspired by Paulette's music Ministry	2015	Anchoring Committee under Ministry & Counsel [business rules need clarification]	Restricted donations
Youth Ministry to help those in need	4-Jun	Eileen Bagus; replaced "Travelling Ministry Fund"	2012 (dormant)	Ministry & Counsel	Restricted donations
Teen Trip Fund	May-11	for Wider Quaker Body teen activities	2013	Religious Development Committee	Restricted donations
Prison Ministry Fund	2011	Eileen Bagus' original ministry	2014	Peace & Social Concerns	Restricted donations
Greening the Meetinghouse Fund	off and on since 2007	Laid down at January Meeting for Business  Current balance is 0	2015	ad hoc committees	Restricted donations
Friends and Aging Grant	2013	one time grant- has been laid down, current balance is 0	2015	ad hoc committee	none; grant used up

Friend Jones sat down to his breakfast with the day's newspaper. He was shocked when he turned to the obituaries page, to find an announcement of his own demise. He immediately pulled out his cell phone and called the clerk of his Friend's Meeting. "Has thee seen the announcement of my death in the newspaper?" he asked the clerk. "Errr, yes," responded the clerk. Then after an uncomfortable pause he added, "... Um, where exactly is thee calling from?"

### **Stoffregen Family to Visit Cincinnati for David's 25th Birthday on February 28**

Tom and some of the rest of the family of David and Jean Stoffregen plan to attend Meeting on Sunday Feb. 28, and look forward to meeting with Friends, especially those who knew the family. (David and Jean were some of the founders and longtime members of our Meeting before their deaths). This is in connection with David's 25th birthday on Feb. 29th which would be 100 years in all, but who's counting.

### **Digesting my experience with Local Loans for Local Foods**

A lively, intergenerational, interracial gathering of about 40 people met at Quaker house on Sunday, January 24th from 2:00-5:00 PM. Local Loans for Local Foods (LL4LF) is a [Slow Money](#) peer-to-peer lending network. In their words:

Our purpose is to connect people who have capital available to lend, with local food enterprises that have need for low-interest loans. We embrace the importance of keeping our dollars local and supporting the production and distribution of local, healthy food in the process.

The meeting started with some mingling, then introductions, followed by a lot of (too many) interesting presentations, long and short. Some of these included: A fascinating tomato operation in Delhi (west side) where the grower understands the importance of seed saving. Two women from Covington creating "the yogi and farmer" business with plans to purchase vacant lots. A couple with a thriving Community Supported Herbal business ready to expand. The space literally hummed with networking at the end. This group has met 8 times in all and is looking for the right combination of presenters and potential investors for each meeting; it's a work in progress.

While I don't consider myself a potential investor right now, I am very interested in the local food system and how to build it. I also wonder how we reinvision our economic model, which isn't working for many. Our Quaker group *Right Sharing of World Resources* (among others) has modelled how effective microloans can be. The idea of a gift economy rather than an exchange economy is a further reach and discussion; after all, some of us have been fortunate to have families and relatives as a safety net, while others haven't.

And the LL4LF Steering Committee was appreciative to Community Friends:

Just wanted to thank you and Friends for inviting us to have our event at your Meeting House yesterday. It was a wonderful venue, with great energy, very convenient accommodations, and I personally love the scene out the back - I'm a tree person.

Please pass our thanks on to all Friends. And let us know if you or others have any questions we can answer regarding our experiences with local investing.

Might we consider this model in some way with the resources we're given?

Deborah Jordan

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Elyce Benke is in Tucson AZ with her mother after her father died. She wanted to share some of the Arizona LIGHT with us. This is a picture of an Arizona sunrise. Beautiful, thanks for sharing Elyce





# BLOWN AWAY BY CLIMATE CHANGE?

Are you disillusioned by the inability of many to grasp the seriousness of Climate Change?  
Do you have a spark of hope that Americans might finally “get it?”

Join us for

## Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream

- Learn where we are as a human family and how we got here.
- Discover your role in creating a sustainable future.

Participate in a free workshop sponsored by

**The Peace and Justice Committee of the Sisters of Divine Providence**

Facilitated by Jim Vogt and Sr. Jean Miller, SC of Pachamama Alliance of Cincinnati Area

We are committed to bringing forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, socially just human presence on this planet.

**Date:** Saturday, February 6, 2016

**Time:** 9:00 AM--coffee and rolls;

9:30—12:30 - Program

(Donations welcome; bring your own mug)

**Location:** St. Anne Province Center

5300 St. Anne Dr., Melbourne, KY

**RSVP:** By Feb. 2 to Maria Lauer

[secast@cdpkentucky.org](mailto:secast@cdpkentucky.org)

(859)441-0700 Ext.10

This workshop will be hosted at our Meeting on Saturday March 12, 1pm to 4:30pm

**Would you like your voice to make more of a difference in today's world?**

Are you sick of this mass incarceration that keeps our young people locked away, and want to change it?

Please join Community Friends Meeting in a free Friends Committee on National Legislation Grassroots Advocacy Training workshop.

Place: Community Friends Meetinghouse  
3960 Winding Way  
Cincinnati, OH 45229

Time: Wednesday February 17 at 5:30 PM to begin to gather and get to know each other, then the workshop is 6:30-9:30 PM.

Purpose: To learn to lobby at the offices of our local Congress people (Mr. Chabot, Dr. Wenstrup, Mr. Portman, and Mr. Sherrod Brown) to end the mass incarceration policies that have warped our community and our future.

*Who is the Friends Committee on National Legislation (fcnl.org)? FCNL is a highly respected Quaker Lobbying group located in Washington DC which has supporters throughout the United States. You do not have to be a Quaker to work with FCNL---just an American seeking justice and truth and willing to speak respectfully but clearly with our government officials to build a better world. All forms of diversity, especially youth, are particularly welcome.*

Questions? Call Mary Anne Curtiss 513 560-1251

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**Photos from the New Year's Eve White Elephant Event from Lynn Funck**

Paul Buckley and Peggy Spohr



Patrick McKelvey, Marjorie's husband



**The Long Range Conference Planning Committee** of Friends General Conference will hold their winter meeting at **Community Friends Meetinghouse on February 26-28, 2016**. We are delighted to co-host this gathering with **Eastern Hills Friends** and to welcome participants into our homes for overnight hospitality during their stay. We expect about 30 committee members, many of whom will need to arrive on Thursday and stay through Sunday, though others will be arriving on Friday. We will provide meals during the weekend, as well as transportation from/to airports, trains and busses. Please consider hosting one or more committee members in your home, providing bed and breakfast, and rides to/from the meetinghouse. Peggy is coordinating hospitality, so if you have not yet completed a survey of your availability, please contact her with offers or questions: [peggy.spohr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:peggy.spohr@sbcglobal.net) or 513-221-1827. This is an opportunity to meet or reacquaint with Friends as you support the important Quaker work of this vital committee. We need everyone to help as they are able. Thank you!

**LRCP Weekend Approximate Schedule**

Wednesday, February 24, 2016	Cleaning and set-up of rooms at Community Friends Meetinghouse (contact Peggy for times)
Thursday, February 25, 2016	Committee members begin arriving, brought to meetinghouse by volunteers, provided with bag supper if needed, picked up/met by hosts
Friday, February 26, 2016	Committee members continue arriving, brought to meetinghouse by volunteers or hosts, provided cold plate lunch by volunteers at noon, meetings begin at 1:30, hot dinner provided by volunteers at 6:00, meetings continue from 7-9:00, picked up/met by hosts
Saturday, February 27, 2016	Breakfast in home of hosts then brought to meetinghouse, meetings begin at 9:00, catered lunch provided by volunteers at noon, meeting continues until 6:00, then dinner out at local restaurants with help from volunteer drivers, 9:00 picked up at meetinghouse by hosts
Sunday, February 28, 2016	Breakfast in home of hosts then brought either to Community Friends or Eastern Hills for worship or taken to transportation by host/volunteers/ taxi, Second hour on outreach at Eastern Hills and second hour on 2016 FGC Gathering at Community Friends provided by LRCP, transportation to airport/train/bus throughout the day by hosts or volunteers

**Please look for ways you may be able to help. Thanks so much!**



Eastern Hills Meeting House



Community Friends Meeting House



## QUAKER HERITAGE CENTER AT WILMINGTON COLLEGE

## 50 YEARS OF SERVICE: PEACE CORPS, BRINGING THE WORLD HOME

From the application process to returning home after two years abroad, this exhibit explores what it is like to serve with the Peace Corps. Covering everything from where volunteers live to what they eat and the work they do, the pictures and first-person stories in this exhibit bring the Peace Corps experience to life. Later in the semester, we'll be adding information to the exhibit to tell the specific Wilmington College/Peace Corps story, including a video featuring interviews with local Return Peace Corps Volunteers.

With each exhibit, we strive to connect the Wilmington College student experience to the wider world of Friends and Quakerism. This exhibit reflects Wilmington College's Quaker-inspired values of Community, Diversity, Peace & Social Justice, and Service & Civic Engagement.

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**Thanks Be**

*(From being stranded to being funded: Kate and Jamie were stranded for 17 hours in their car on I 75 North in Kentucky during a snow emergency. They made it to Cincinnati in time for the benefit dinner and concert for Kate's upcoming Christian Peacemaker's trip. Co-editor's note)*

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!! My U.S. Mexico - Borderlands Peacemaker trip is now fully funded, thanks to the generosity of so many people, contributing time and energy and financial aid. Our dinner/concert fundraiser was a great success and a wonderful evening. Thanks so much to Just Earth ([Jamie Fota](#), [Paulette Meier](#), [Leonard Webb](#), [Diana Porter](#)) for performing their wonderful songs, making a reason for people to want to come. Thanks galore to [Hannah Branson](#), [David Funck](#), [Lynn Daily-Funck](#), [John Sniegocki](#) (and any others I may not be aware of), who pitched in and did all those dishes by hand, since the dishwasher broke down, just at the crucial moment. All told I received financial contributions from thirty individuals, couples, and groups (the Cannon Fund and the Congregation of Divine Providence nuns). The dinner/concert raised over \$800, so even the expenses of groceries for the dinner and gas for the trip were covered. I feel so surrounded by loving support! Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Kate Anthony

In Search of: Photographer for our newsletter, no pay but lots of appreciation. Talk to Jean or Deborah. It would be nice to have a winter photo of our meeting house with the solar panels, and other events for the newsletter

**Quaker Humor**

A particular professor was known to have a sour disposition, and one day he barked at his class, "If there are any utter ignoramuses here, please stand up!" After a long silence, one friend in gray slowly stood up. "I see," said the professor, "so you admit to being a total ignoramus, then?" "Um, not exactly, Friend," replied the boy, "but I *do* hate to see thee standing up there by thyself."

*Please join Friends from Southern Ohio and Kentucky at*

### **Miami Quarterly Meeting**

of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

**21<sup>th</sup> Day, Second Month, 2016**

**COMMUNITY FRIENDS MEETING**

**3960 Winding Way**

**Cincinnati OH 45229**

### **WELCOME & HOSPITALITY**

Overnight lodging can be arranged by contacting Lisa Cayard at [lisacayard@embarqmail.com](mailto:lisacayard@embarqmail.com) or 513-899-4217.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

For a map to Eastern Hill's Meetinghouse, go to-  
[http://ovym.quaker.org/index\\_files/CommunityFriends.htm](http://ovym.quaker.org/index_files/CommunityFriends.htm).

### **SUMMARY**

On First Day there will be Meeting for Worship, followed by a delicious potluck. The children will either be going to the Cincinnati Zoo or the Museum Center. The adults will have a program and then conclude with Miami Quarterly Meeting's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. The schedule for 2/21 follows:

### **SCHEDULE**

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 10:00 | Meeting for Worship  |
| 11:30 | Potluck lunch – out-of-town visitors should bring items that do not require heating (e.g., breads, salads, desserts).  |
| 12:45 | Program: Wendy Waters-Connell from Quaker Heights Care Community   |
| 12:45 | Community Meeting will provide childcare.  |
| 1:45  | <b>Miami Quarterly Meeting</b> – Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (please send agenda items to Veronica Frost, Co-Clerk at <a href="mailto:eclectictwelve@hotmail.com">eclectictwelve@hotmail.com</a> ). |
| 3:00  | Depart.  |