

Community Companion

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

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



Springtime
at the
Meeting

Volume 22, Issue 5 May, 2016

Presiding Clerk:

Lisa Cayard

Interim Assistant Clerk:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Recording Clerk:

Paul Buckley

Assistant recording clerk:

Rachel Moore

Treasurer:

Lynn Funck

Ministry and Counsel:

Ken Bordwell

Lisa Cayard (ex officio)

Frank Huss

Deborah Jordan

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John Sniegocki

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Submissions for the June newsletter due by: Monday,
May 30, 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

- May 1 Carry In Potluck Meal after Meeting for Worship. 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! **Hymn sing to welcome Alvin Jose**
- May 8 Second Hour: Meeting for Worship with attention to Business
- May 15 extended worship starting at 8AM, see page 3
- May 15 Miami Quarterly Meeting, Louisville Friends Meeting, see page 4
- May 15 Second Hour: ARE Movie: Quakers: 1 ½ hours
- May 22 Second Hour: Outreach Committee or TBD
- May 29 Second hour: TBD
- July 3-9, 2016 FGC's Gathering is at the College of Saint Benedict in St. Joseph, MN.
- July 27-31 OVYM sessions at Earlham College

Page 2-3	Summary of Minutes from the April 10 Meeting for Business
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Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe Childcare: Seeking childcare person for summer

Fifth Query from OVYM Book of Discipline, 1978: Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco; Use of Time, Recreation

Do you examine thoroughly your behavior in regard to work, leisure, diet and the use of drugs, alcoholic beverages and tobacco, thus trying to avoid and to discourage practices that interfere with health, sensitivity or social responsibility? Remembering the parable of the talents, do you exercise fully those that God has given you? Do you endeavor to minister humbly and sensitively to the needs of other that they may attain their full potential?

April 10, 2016 Business Meeting summary submitted by Paul Buckley, recording Clerk

Eighteen Friends opened the business meeting with a period of worship during which the presiding clerk read from *Guide to Quaker Practice* by Howard H. Brinton (1955):

"In both the meeting for worship and the meeting for business, guidance is sought from the Spirit of Truth and Life by whose operation the group is brought into love and unity... The members of the group discover experimentally that, as they become united with God, so also do they become united with one another. Unity is always possible because the same Light of Truth shines in some measure in every human heart, tending toward the same goal. By prayer, meditation, and worship, that goal gradually becomes apparent."

The **Treasurer's Report** for March 2016 showed that expenses for the month again substantially exceeded contributions to the meeting. As a result, the General Fund had a negative balance at the end of the month of -\$821.31. There were large expenditures for the water and sewer bill and to replace the thermostat.

The **Community Committee** is planning a survey of members and attenders to find out what kind of social activities members of the meeting are most interested in.

The **Religious Development Committee** reported that the intermediate class has raised more than enough money to buy a goat for their Heifer International fundraising project.

They were pleased to say that there are sufficient teachers for all classes in April and May.

A pack and play crib has been loaned to the meeting so babies can be put down for naps if needed.

The child care helpers will not be available over the summer. One is graduating, and her last day will be April 17; the other will be back in the fall. They are looking for an additional child care person.

The committee continues to discuss tentative plans for a middle youth overnight at the meetinghouse later this spring.

The **Outreach Working Group** presented the dates for the Inreach and Outreach Sessions. These sessions are designed to deepen the spiritual life of the meeting, providing spaces for deep sharing and educational content about specific components of Quaker Faith and Practice.

The **Nominating Committee** is close to filling all the meeting's positions, but the final report is not yet ready.

The **Stewardship Committee** proposed two minutes for action by the meeting:

First, they recommended that the budgeted \$417 monthly transfers from the General Fund to the Building Reserve Fund be stopped. This led to extensive discussion:

- House & Grounds Committee objected because there are many projects backed up.
- It was noted that the proposal is for a *temporary* halt until the General Fund stabilizes.
- At the clerk's suggestion, the meeting **approved** that the transfers be suspended for three months, during which time, Stewardship and House & Grounds Committees will consult together. They will jointly report back to the July Business Meeting.

Second, the committee proposed that the Meeting Reserve Fund currently held in our TruPartner Credit Union savings account be invested in the Parnassus Endeavor 350.org compliant mutual fund. Following a period of discussion, this was **approved**.

The committee also continues to work on revising the meeting gift policy. One issue that requires further discernment is the roles of the business meeting, Stewardship and other committees in handling large restricted gifts.

Those present expressed great appreciation for the committee's work.

The **House & Grounds Committee** is on the verge of selecting a painting contractor, but needs to have work on the box gutters completed first.

The **Unity with Nature Committee** is preparing lists of resources for green actions people can take at the individual, group, and yearly meeting levels to respond positively to the world-wide climate change crisis. The lists, inspired by Friends World Committee for Consultation's Sustainability Minute, will provide information on a variety of personal, technical, political, and/or spiritual options.

The **Ministry & Counsel Committee** met with the Cannon Fund trustees to seek further information about the structure of the Meeting Reserves Fund as they work to draft a proposal for the use of that money.

The committee clerk will write a letter of introduction for a member who will be visiting St. Louis Meeting in Illinois Yearly Meeting to help lead a retreat.

Although the number of attenders at extended worship has been small, the response is positive and the practice will be continued on the third Sunday or each month until June.

A draft state of the meeting report was presented. With some editorial changes, the report was **approved**.

Summary of minutes from 4/10/16, continued

The **Peace & Social Concerns Committee** reported the list of legislative priorities approved at the March business meeting has been submitted to the Friends Committee on National Legislation.

The state of the meeting report will be sent to the next meeting of **Miami Quarterly Meeting** at Louisville MM on May 15. A representative to that meeting is still needed.

The **Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting** Executive Committee met on April 2. The draft yearly meeting budget for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2016 was discussed. The proposed per member share is \$120. This is \$5 less than in the current year. Whitewater Quarter sent a number of proposals about the budget process and responsibilities of the quarterly meetings which received considerable consideration. The committee **approved** holding an annual discernment session about the budget during the annual sessions to inform the following year's budget. The proposals will be forwarded to Miami Quarter for discussion. The Executive Committee discussed what, if any, yearly meeting restructuring was needed, but was unable to come to any conclusions. The yearly meeting clerks were asked to discern and prioritize recommendations for changes.

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Extended worship

Extended worship on Sunday, May 15th starting at 8am. Come when you can; stay as long as makes sense. This will move into the regular worship at 10am.

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From: Mary Anne Curtiss, for the Stewardship Committee

it is time to re-register your Kroger card

If you shop at Kroger and wish to participate, it is time to re-register your Kroger card so that Community Friends can benefit from Kroger's Community Rewards Program. It's good for us, good for Kroger's karma (so to speak), and relatively painless. If you do not remember the password you created for your Kroger Account (if you ever registered for this before), you will need email to reset your password.

Be forewarned – if you do not have a Kroger Plus card you will need to get one during this process.

- 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" or "sign in" if you already have 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. Our number is: 80890

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**Hymn Sing to Welcome Alvin Jose on Sunday May 1st**

We will welcome Alvin Jose into membership on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> with a "Hymn Sing." Alvin is a very long time attender who seemed like a member, but now it's official. The Hymn Sing will take place after Carry In Meal so join in celebrating and singing Alvin into the Meeting.



The following is being referred to Miami Quarter for their discussion and discernment at the May 15 meeting

**Minute 1** (OVYM budget process and timeline)

Whitewater Quarterly asks the Yearly Meeting (OVYM) to review the calendar timeline and the procedures of the Budget Committee stated in the handbook. We ask that a procedure be drafted outlining the way in which concerns are presented to the Budget Committee, and that the outlines be well circulated among the Monthly Meetings.

**Minute 2** (re-assignment of certain functions from the Quarterly Meetings to the Yearly Meeting)

- (1) The Quarterly Meetings would no longer play a role in the endorsement of traveling minutes. Traveling minutes would continue to arise within monthly meetings; monthly meetings would endorse traveling minutes for service within Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting. Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting would consider endorsement of traveling minutes for service beyond the Yearly Meeting.
- (2) Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (for example, through Committee for Religious Nurture and Education) would assume the primary responsibility for shepherding new meetings into the Yearly Meeting, with the Quarterly Meetings also participating as led.
- (3) Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (for example, through Committee for Religious Nurture and Education) would share with the Quarterly Meetings the ministry of offering spiritual support to troubled monthly meetings.
- (4) Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting (for example, through Peace and Social Concerns Committee) would share with the Quarterly Meetings the responsibility for acting as a regional body of Friends in speaking to the wider society. (This is already de facto the case. We propose that this be stated clearly in the Book of Faith and Practice.)

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**SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, September 15 – Sunday, September 18**

**Quakers in Pastoral Care & Counseling**

**26<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference: "Centered in Wholeness: Body & Spirit"**

Join Friends / friends in the ministry of pastoral care, counseling, and healing in our 26th annual gathering in Richmond, IN. This year [Stephanie Ford](#), former professor of Christian spirituality at the Earlham School of Religion, will lead us in a weekend of learning, reconnecting, and restoration.

Date: **Thursday, September 15 – Sunday, September 18**

Place: [Quaker Hill Conference Center](#) – Richmond, Indiana

After teaching Christian spirituality for a decade at ESR, Stephanie Ford returned to her home state of North Carolina, and in 2011 joined the staff of Binkley Baptist Church in Chapel Hill. There, she now serves as Minister of Christian Formation, which includes Christian education, intergenerational offerings, retreat and small group leadership, and preaching. Stephanie also teaches with the Friends of Christ School (a local ecumenical group), as well as with the Upper Room Academy for Spiritual Formation.

Coming soon: registration information for our 2016 QPCC conference, and updates on the creation of our new QPCC website ([www.qpcc.us](http://www.qpcc.us))

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**Inreach and Outreach Sessions**

Discernment and Clearness

When: 9:00 a.m. May 1

Facilitators: Pam Richards and Shannon Isaacs

Faithfulness and Following Leadings

When: 9:00 a.m. May 8

Facilitators: Rachel Ernst-Stahlhut and Paulette Meier

TBD

When: 9:00 a.m. May 22, Facilitator: TBD

## Summary of Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Executive Meeting for Community Friends 4/2/2016

1. Whitewater Quarter brought a number of proposals about the budget process and quarterly meetings. We agreed that there would be a discernment session about the budget at YM to inform the following year's budget. The other proposals will go to Miami Quarter for discussion.
  2. The ad hoc committee on Yearly Meeting concerns/restructuring shared one member's proposals and the other 2 members' feedback. Some are basic such as making the handbook consistent with the evolving Faith and Practice document; others are larger. The clerk's table will discern and prioritize recommendations from the discussion and list.
  3. The draft budget was discussed. The proposed proportional share per person was reduced to \$120. We approved reminding our YM body at annual sessions that we agreed to periodically review YM donations.
  4. Nominating Committee is in need of help. We approved 2 Friends joining the Naming Committee that brings names for the Nominating Committee. One of them is David Funck.
- Next Executive Meeting June 4<sup>th</sup> at North Meadow Circle of Friends.

Submitted by Deborah Jordan, one of Community Friends representatives to the OVYM Executive Committee

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The Community Committee requested this survey be included in the newsletter

### Community Committee Activity Survey

We have listed activities we have held in the past as well as activities we are thinking about doing.

Please check activities below you would be interested in doing and would like to see repeated?

- ☐ New Year's Eve Party
- ☐ Game Night
- ☐ Movie Night
- ☐ Reds Game
- ☐ Friendly Sixes
- ☐ Summer Picnic
- ☐ Fall Harvest/Halloween Party

1. Please suggest activities you would participate in, to build community, at Meeting?
2. How is your Friendly Six group going? Make suggestions how you would like to see it continue or any changes you would like to recommend going forward regarding the Friendly Six groups.

3. Please suggest activities you would participate in, to build community, at Meeting?

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#### FCNL Lobbying Group

Tuesday May 24 at 6:30 PM, the Ohio FCNL Lobbying Group is meeting at Meetinghouse? Those who would like to lobby in Northern Kentucky should call Tom Bennett (number in the directory) for time and place of their meeting.



**Quaker Religious Education Collaboration presents: "Instilling Quaker Identity through Religious Education" here in Indiana June 10, 11, and 12** submitted by Marjorie Isaacs, OVYM Contact, Conference Planning Committee, Quaker Religious Education Collaboration Attachments area

Q. What is the difference between Pendle Hill in Philadelphia and Quaker Hill in Richmond?

A. About 500 miles.

June 10-12 this year Quaker Hill Conference Center will be the site for a dynamic inclusive national conference that was held at Pendle Hill last year.

For: Anyone in OVYM interested in religious education to discover and share new skills and information without traveling farther than we go for yearly meeting.

Topic: INSTILLING QUAKER IDENTITY THROUGH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Register online at [www.quakers4re.org/2016registration](http://www.quakers4re.org/2016registration) (a print registration form is also available at <http://quakers4re.org/2016paperregistrationform>) Please send questions to the Registrar at [registrar2016@quakers4re.org](mailto:registrar2016@quakers4re.org).  
Web: [www.quakers4re.org](http://www.quakers4re.org) • Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Quakers4RE](https://www.facebook.com/Quakers4RE) • Email: [quakercollaborative4re@gmail.com](mailto:quakercollaborative4re@gmail.com)



"Oliver was welcomed as a youth member of Community Friends Meeting on April 24 with a blueberry-themed party. I'm so grateful to have a spiritual community where he can be nurtured and loved. And that will take seriously his love for blueberries and run with it!" from Rachel Ernst Stahlhut with Brad Stahlhut and new youth member Oliver.  
Photographer Unknown

Cincinnati Friends Meeting invites members and attenders of Community Friends Meeting to the Quakerism 101 classes given by their new Minister: Jim Newby

May 3: The Genius of John Woolman...1720-1772

May 10: The Quaker Meeting for Worship and Testimonies

May 17: Quaker Educational Institutions and Umbrella Organizations

May 24: Quakers Today and Cincinnati Monthly Meeting of Friends

Guest speaker: Sabrina Darnowsky, Author of *Friends Past and Present*

Call the office to register: 791-0788, or email Jim Newby: [jnewby@cincinnati4friends.org](mailto:jnewby@cincinnati4friends.org)

Or visit their website for more details: [www.cincinnati4friends.org](http://www.cincinnati4friends.org) Classes begin at 7:00

Mt. Gilead Friends Retreat presents  
**MINDFULNESS IN NATURE WORKSHOP**  
May 28, 2016 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

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Join us for an afternoon of meditative walking, observation, and journal writing to explore mindfulness.

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

Led by Leslie Bishop: retired biology professor from Earlham College, student of meditation and mindfulness of Thich Nhat Hanh, and in training as facilitator through 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](mailto:mtgileadretreat@gmail.com).