

130th Annual Session  
WILMINGTON YEARLY  
MEETING

July 28-August 1, 2021  
Held online via ZOOM

2021  
MINUTES & REPORTS



The new Yearly Meeting at Wilmington, Ohio, held its first meeting on “the third Seventh Day in Eighth Month, 1892” (August 21, 1892). According to this, 2021 marks the 130th session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting annual gatherings.

## **Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**

Yearly Meeting Coordinator: Katie Ubry-Terrell  
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<https://quakerknoll.org/>

### 2021 CLERKS & OFFICERS

Presiding Clerk	J.P. Lund
Asst Presiding Clerk	Jeannette Hamby
Ex. Committee Clerk	Jeannette Hamby
Recording Clerk	Jennilou Grotevant
Asst Recording Clerk	Sharon Trivett
Treasurer	Billie Baker
Bookkeeper	Dicka Nye
WYM Coordinator	Katie Ubry-Terrell

### WYM on MINISTRY & COUNSEL

Clerk	Joan VanSickle Sloan
Asst Clerk	Patricia Thomas

Recording Clerk  
Asst Recording Clerk

Gary Farlow  
Julie Rudd

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**WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING**  
**MINUTES OF PERMANENT BOARD SESSION**  
**Held March 6, 2021, online via ZOOM**

Wilmington Yearly Meeting Permanent Board met at 10:30 am on Saturday March 6, 2021 via zoom with representatives in attendance from the following meetings:

Ada Chapel	2	Campus	2	Chester
1	Cincinnati	4		
Eastern Hills	3	Fairview	6	
Maryville	4	Springfield	3	
Wilmington	6	Xenia	2	

Visitors from Wilmington College: Trevor Bates and Peggy Sturdivant

The meeting was opened with worship led by Hannah Lutz.

**Minutes from the Permanent Board 10/24/2020 were approved as distributed.**  
**The meeting agenda was approved.**

Wilmington College Trustees

David Raizk, Taylor Stuckert and Christen Clougherty were presented as new trustees. **Approved**

## Consent Agenda

Reports from College Committee, Finance & Stewardship Committee, and Quaker Knoll Camp Board,

### **Approved as distributed**

Ministry and Counsel – Joan VanSickle Sloan reported:

-- Stephen Crouch has been recommended for Training & Recording. Katie Ubry-Terrell will remain in the training and recording process for another year. Ray Geers will be recorded at Yearly Meeting annual session this summer.

--They recommend that Friends consider donating their federal covid relief funds, or donating in honor of someone, to Yearly Meeting, food pantries or other charitable groups.

--Let Katie Ubry-Terrell know of special Easter worship opportunities so she can include that information in her weekly newsletters.

--Jamestown Meeting is in need of a pastor.

--Katie will compile a list of those willing to speak at meetings as needed.

Youth and Young Adults—Hannah Lutz reported:

--They have regretfully decided not to hold in-person camp at Quaker Knoll this coming summer. They are hoping to hire someone to lead some Quaker Knoll in-person activity days, and someone to lead some on-line summer youth programs. Please spread the word, and ask anyone who is interested to contact the committee.

--There will be a youth program today at 1:00 pm on zoom.

Peace and Society—Mary Ann Raizk reported:

--They are concentrating on immigrant issues and hoping to hold some workshops in conjunction with FCNL.

--The committee presented a Minute on Election Integrity which had been shared in advance. Fairview Friends Meeting had approved a revised version, which was also presented. After lengthy discussion and suggestions for changes to the draft, the minute was **Approved** in principle. The committee was charged with making the final edits and then publicizing the minute.

### **Announcements**

Campus Ministry—Nancy McCormick announced:

--March 11, 5 pm, a faculty panel on democratic stewardship

--March 18, 6 pm, Rick Pohlhamus will speak on, "Provoking One Another to Do Good"

Friends Response Team—Nancy McCormick reported:

--They are collecting money for Friends in Texas who were impacted by the severe winter storms. \$1000 has been received so far.

--Catholic Services in Dayton is asking for help in repairing the house used to provide a safe haven for immigrants. Additional information will be shared through the YM newsletter.

Executive Committee—the committee will meet April 19, 7 pm, via zoom.

--Yearly Meeting 2021 annual session will probably be via zoom.

The meeting was closed at noon with prayer by Jonathon Goff.

J. P. Lund, clerk

Jennilou Grotevant, recording clerk

## **ATTACHMENT 1: MINUTE ON ELECTION INTEGRITY**

The Religious Society of Friends, originally called “Friends of Truth”, has long held integrity as one of its chief testimonies. This testimony is not distinctive to Friends. Indeed, integrity with truthfulness is valued among all of the world’s religions.

The Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends commends the many election officials—local, state and federal—who successfully conducted a free and fair election under the extraordinary circumstances of the ongoing pandemic. They systematically investigated allegations of voting fraud and made conclusions based on the evidence. We further commend the judges who faithfully upheld the law by rejecting lawsuits based on rumor and innuendo. They also ruled against litigation that attempted to disenfranchise large numbers of voters. Our peaceful society depends on the courage and integrity of such men and women.

Wilmington Yearly Meeting joins other Americans in condemning the attempts to overturn the presidential election and the violent attack on the United States Capitol on January 6, 2021. Both actions are direct attacks on the integrity of a stable society and the peaceful transfer of power.

As Friends we must reject the use of misinformation and of violent protests. Lasting peace comes through the application of integrity and truth to resolve problems. The Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting are committed to encouraging integrity toward

elections that are inclusive and fair for all of our citizens.

*J.P. Lund, Presiding Clerk of Wilmington Yearly Meeting*

*Mary Ann Raizk, Clerk of WYM Board on Christian Concerns for Peace & Society*

## **ATTACHMENT 2: ADVANCE REPORTS**

### **BOARD ON YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS**

As much as we had hoped and prayed that we could resume having camp in 2021, there is simply too much up in the air right now. For the safety of campers, counselors, camp directors, the camp coordinator, cooks, their families and friends, and all others involved in the camping program, the Youth and Young Adults Committee has decided not to have camp again this summer. Join us in praying that next summer will be different.

In accordance with that decision, we are taking our job hunt for a 2021 camp coordinator in a different direction. This year, we are looking to hire two separate camp coordinators—one that can lead youth in online activities throughout the summer, and another that can lead and organize in-person, socially distanced Quaker Knoll days—similar to the ones that we had last year. As of now, we have not had any interest expressed in either position. Finding people who can do these two jobs during this strange time is essential to the future of our youth program, so please—if you know anyone who would be talented at either position—send them our way.

We are excited to see what this coming year will bring for Wilmington Yearly Meeting, and for the young people who we strive to serve.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hannah E. Lutz, clerk

## **COMMITTEE ON TRAINING, RECORDING, & EMPOWERING PASTORS & MINISTERS**

The Training and Recording Committee has been conducting classes throughout the fall and winter, 2020-21, for two candidates (Katie Ubry-Terrell and Stephen Crouch) who are seeking Recording in Wilmington Yearly Meeting. The courses have been as follows: The Hebrew and Christian Testaments, The Minister and Communication, Pastoral Care and Self Care, and Quakerism.

In March, our final session, we will focus on the personal credos that the candidates will write and share, where we ask, "What do I believe, and why do I believe it?"

Stephen Pottoff from Wilmington College helped to teach the class on The Hebrew and Christian Testaments, and Ron Rembert, retired professor from Wilmington College, helped to teach the class on Quakerism. Jim Newby and Patricia Thomas have taught the other classes.

At the Yearly Meeting Sessions this summer, we hope that the Yearly Meeting will approve the name of Ray Geers from Cincinnati Monthly Meeting of Friends, as a Minister of the Gospel. Ray has successfully completed all of the training required for such a recognition.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Newby, Clerk of the Training and Recording  
Committee of Wilmington Yearly Meeting

## **WILMINGTON COLLEGE COMMITTEE**

College Committee has been meeting on Zoom because of the continuing COVID-19 epidemic.

College Committee Clerk Doug Woodmansee served as one of two Wilmington Yearly Meeting representatives to the Wilmington College presidential search committee. The committee's work contributed to the successful hiring of Trevor Bates as the new President of Wilmington College.

Committee member Stephen Potthoff has kept the committee informed about the financial problems faced by Guilford College and Earlham College.

Nancy McCormick has been keeping the committee informed on the progress of the Quaker Cupboard program at the college. Committee members have contributed cash and goods to the cupboard and encourage Yearly Meeting members to consider doing the same. Nancy has provided the following list of items that the cupboard could use: tissues, toilet paper, laundry soap, household cleaner/disinfectant, air fresheners, women's razors & shaving cream, and mouthwash. Nancy can also help facilitate monetary donations. Her email address: [nancy\\_mccormick@wilmington.edu](mailto:nancy_mccormick@wilmington.edu).

The committee has been working on researching information for possible inclusion on a series of plaques which are being planned for attachment to buildings on the campus. The plaques are intended to educate readers about the individuals for whom buildings are

named. The committee is particularly interested in buildings named after Quakers. Committee members have divided up a list of names and are looking into these individual's backgrounds. Under Nancy McCormick's leadership the Quaker Leader Scholars have also gotten involved and have provided data on several individuals. This project is in partnership with the college's 150th Anniversary Planning Committee headed up by Matt Wahrhaftig. At the 2019 Yearly Meeting sessions, Yearly Meeting approved support for this project either in fundraising or in-kind support. College Committee intends to encourage YM members to make monetary contributions to the project when project costs become clearer.

The 150th Anniversary Planning Committee has also invited Friends to contribute items to a time capsule that is to be placed somewhere on campus as part of the anniversary celebration this fall. YM members are encouraged to contact Doug Woodmansee ([dbwoodmansee@gmail.com](mailto:dbwoodmansee@gmail.com)) if they have items or ideas for this project.

The college is in the process of printing a book about the history of the college on the occasion of the 150th anniversary. The book will be available for purchase through the college's website sometime in the spring.

The committee is working in concert with members of the Joint Trustee Nominating Committee to address issues of concern related to the nomination of Quakers to serve on the Wilmington College Board of Trustees. Discussions are underway with President Trevor Bates and Rich Sidwell, Clerk of the Trusteeship Committee of

the WC board. YM members are reminded that if they know of persons who would be good candidates for membership on the board, they should contact Mary Ellen Krisher at 4fmk22@copper.net to move those names forward.

The committee continues to work with its concern about the lack of a dedicated director of the Quaker Heritage Center.

Neil Snarr has announced that he does not wish to be reappointed to the committee for another term. The committee thanks Neil for his service. All other committee members whose first terms are expiring in July want to continue for a second term. Anyone interested in joining the committee can contact dbwoodmansee@gmail.com.

Submitted by Douglas B. Woodmansee, College Committee Clerk

## **BOARD ON FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

The Board on Financial Stewardship has not met formally since Yearly Meeting 2020. The Yearly Meeting, thru the generosity of both individuals and monthly meetings, has been able to meet its 2020 fiscal responsibilities and end the year with a small credit balance. Five quarters of donations to Wilmington College in support of the Campus Minister were met in response to Clerk J.P. Lund's December appeal for \$10,000.00, which raised exactly the suggested amount.

Historically, the majority of Yearly Meeting annual

operational budget was met thru Monthly Meeting contributions. This has shifted recently with individual contributions contributing an increasing percentage of the annual operating funds. Monthly meeting revenues are understandably reduced because of COVID restrictions on large gatherings. Therefore, individual contributions will have to be increased if the Yearly Meeting is to continue to offer the service we have all come to rely on. It has been suggested that all or a portion of the anticipated Stimulus monies to be distributed to individuals by the Federal government might be committed to the support of the Yearly Meeting.

Thanks to everyone: individuals, YM Committees, and Monthly Meetings who have supported the YM historically and in the past year. In three years the YM has successfully transitioned from using designated funds to support day-to-day operations to totally reimbursing those funds, retiring all annual commitments, and ending the fiscal year with a small, positive balance.

The YM is prepared to accept financial support via most any format, mail or any contemporary electronic methods for a single contribution or monthly donations. Contact Katie Ubry-Terrell in the yearly meeting office for details: [office@wymfriends.org](mailto:office@wymfriends.org); (937) 382-2491.

The Trustees were able to report an increase in the value of the investment portfolio they manage. If the market continues to cooperate and individuals continue to increase their financial support of the YM, a corner may have been turned which will allow the YM to be

more proactive in spreading the Quaker message.

Mike Miller, Clerk of Financial Stewardship

### **QUAKER KNOLL CAMP BOARD**

The COVID virus certainly made for a unique year for Quaker Knoll. The suggested guidelines for assembly and social distancing in effect closed the Camp for 2020. The one exception was disc golf. Most of the limited income generated by the use of the Camp came from disc golf events. To support this revenue source the camp is in the process of purchasing enough golf holes to permit 18 holes of golf without having to borrow equipment.

Most of the Camp expenses are fixed in nature, therefore there was little savings by having the camp closed.

There was a repair at the Camp that necessitated the employment of an outside contractor. A leak in the potable water supply to the camp bath house was discovered beneath the bath house floor late in the summer. The cost of the repair was approximately \$1,500.00. The camp tractor also needed repairs costing approximately \$700.00. The cost of those capitol repairs was borne by the Quaker Knoll quasi endowment. Quasi endowment funds come from memorial donations to Quaker Knoll.

Earmarked donations to Quaker Knoll are always appreciated.

Mike Miller, Clerk of Camp Board

**THE 130th ANNUAL SESSION  
OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING**

**Held July 28-August 1, 2021 via ZOOM**

**2021 THEME:**

*Compassion through Action*

**2021 SCRIPTURE:**

*“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” -Matthew 25:40*

**PROGRAMS & GUEST SPEAKERS**

**Thursday, July 29, “F/friends in Unlikely Places”**

*“F/friends in Unlikely Places: Engaging with Those Who Don’t Agree with You”, with Bobbie Trice and Alicia McBride of FCNL*

**Friday, July 30, USFW Lecture**

*“Salvation and the Kingdom of God” with Nikki Holland, Director of Belize Friends Mission*

**Saturday, July 31, Peace Lecture**

*“Compassion Through Action: Constituent Influence on Congress” with Diane Randall of FCNL*

**Sunday, August 1, Meeting for Worship**

*Guest Minister: Ray Geers of Cincinnati Friends  
Meeting*

**THE 130th ANNUAL SESSION  
OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPENING SESSION  
Friday, July 30, 2021**

Clerk J. P. Lund opened the business meeting via zoom at 10:15 am with the following remarks: Welcome Friends to the 130th annual session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. For the second time, we are conducting our annual sessions over the internet because of the pandemic. As grateful as we are for technology that enables us to get together in this way, we are looking forward to the day when we can safely break bread together. Our society now has vaccines that make it possible to bring the epidemic under control, but not the collective will to use them. Thus, the virus continues to spread, with new, more virulent strains becoming more prevalent. Our society needs to heal. That will require political action, but politics will never be enough. We will need a healthy church, one defined not by narrow dogma, but by the radical love that Christ has taught us, as in Mathew, Chapter 25, Verse 40: 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Today, we are about the mundane matters of our human institution. Let us remember that God is with us, and that our budgets, policies and procedures do not exist for their own sake, but to enable us to serve a higher purpose. As we take a moment to clear our minds and prepare to attend to the matters before us, I ask particularly that you lift up in prayer Franchot Ballinger, a member of my local meeting, who just recently

learned that his cancer has returned and is attacking his liver. Out of the silence, Miriam Speaight will lead us in prayer.

Following the prayer, J. P. Lund reminded attendees that since vocal approval does not work well in zoom meetings, approval should be indicated by holding up something green; non-approval indicated by holding up something red.

Representatives from monthly meetings responded to roll call:

Ada Chapel 1	Campus 1
Chester 1	
Cincinnati 3	Dover 3
Eastern Hills 3	
Fairview 3	Maryville 3
Springfield 4	
Wilmington 7	Xenia 1
Visitors 1	

A traveling minute from FCNL introducing Diane Randall, Alicia McBride and Bobby Trice as visitors to our gathering was read by recording clerk, Jennilou Grotevant.

**The business agenda was approved as shared on screen and in the preliminary documents.**

The Epistle Committee appointed by the Executive Committee was **approved**: Jonathan Goff, Dan Kasztelan, and Julie Rudd.

Minutes from Mini-yearly Meeting, March 2021, were **approved** as distributed in the advance documents.

**Finance Committee**—Mike Miller reported that the Finance Committee met July 12, and shared their proposed budget for 2022, noting that there is little change from the 2021 budget. It was requested that the YM Office line be separated into personnel and operating amounts. Budget approval is scheduled for Saturday.

**Task Force on Policies and Procedures**—Patricia Thomas referred to the recommendations in the document distributed in the advance information. Friendsville Quarterly Meeting on July 18 raised concerns about several of the recommendations including the suspension of quarterly meetings, changes to the training and recording process, and the appointment of a YM planning committee as a standing committee. Because of their concerns, it was decided to consider the items separately.

1. Suspend Permanent Board—approved

2. Suspend Quarterly Meetings—Friendsville Quarter has an active existence and wishes to continue. Each quarter needs to determine what business it conducts and whether meeting during one of the 4 YM sessions is adequate. Each quarter needs to decide how the Quarterly Meeting structure serves its needs. This discussion was tabled.

3. Gather 4 times a year as Yearly Meeting—Concern that summer continue to be the main gathering. If committees do their work, is it really necessary to meet four times per year?

Approval of the Task Force recommendations held over till the Saturday business session.

Recessed at 12:07 pm, following prayer by Nancy McCormick.

### **Friday, July 30, 2:00 pm**

The meeting resumed with centering silence, Jeannette Hamby clerking.

Friends added to the roll call:

Ada Chapel 1  
Knoxville 1

Chester 1

Springfield 1  
Xenia 1

Wilmington 3

Guests from Wilmington College: President Trevor Bates and Board Member Richard Sidwell

**Wilmington College President's Report**—Trevor Bates reported that the college is readying for fall semester. Student move-in begins next week, and classes begin August 23. Covid protocols in place for fall semester include masking for all indoor spaces and re-opening the campus to visitors. There is a new strategic plan in place emphasizing: student recruitment & retention; facility improvement; and educational program review.

A comprehensive funding campaign is underway.

Preparation has begun for a re-accreditation review.

New enrollment for fall has not met expectations (projected 400 new students, enrolled 300) but retention is good.

A signage project is underway which will emphasize the Quaker heritage of the College. The College Committee is working with the College on this project.

In response to a question about how the college experience develops the total person, Trevor replied that ongoing efforts include student portfolios, competence and confidence building.

**Trustee Candidates**—New Board of Trustee candidates: Edward Besong, Delores Hargrove Young, Ellen Hiatt, and Lucy Steinitz. **Approved.** Board of Trustee members to be re-appointed: Elizabeth Garvey, Jonathan McKay, William Shoecraft, and Nancy Summers. **Approved.**

**College Committee Report**—Doug Woodmansee presented a request from the Board of Trustees to approve changes to the Articles of Incorporation that would make the Yearly Meeting a non-voting member of the Corporation. The College Committee could not agree on a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting, but did articulate pros and cons of the change which were included in the advance documents. Discussion did not lead to a clear consensus, so YM requested a period of discernment before making a decision. Discussion points included the need to search ourselves, examining our mission and our role with the college in the future.

The issues include spiritual discernment, the role of YM in relationship to the college, what makes Wilmington a Quaker college, and the legal requirements faced by the college in its upcoming re-accreditation process. Trevor Bates stated that the current Articles of Incorporation are not in compliance with the Higher Learning Commission, the college's accrediting body, or with the laws of the state of Ohio. The YM Executive Committee was asked to consider a covenant relationship with the college similar to that of Earlham College with its board.

Mary Ellen Krisher, Doug Burks and Julie Rudd agreed to serve as steering committee to facilitate this decision making. They will meet on August 9, September 9, and October 9, and come to the WYM Permanent Board meeting on October 11 with a recommendation. Trevor Bates offered the presence of the college attorney at one of the committee meetings if that would be helpful.

Recessed with prayer at 4:00 pm.

**THE 130th ANNUAL SESSION  
OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPENING SESSION  
Saturday, July 31, 2021**

Additions to roll call:

Chester 2

Cincinnati 2

**Youth & Young Adult Committee**—Hannah Lutz reported that in response to the work of the Policies and Procedures Task Force and the Committee’s own leadings, they are strongly recommending the hiring of a part time Youth Minister. They believe that the future of the Yearly Meeting is dependent on the nurture of its young people. They have drafted a job description and proposed budget. Initially, this would be a very part-time position, 10-15 hours per month during the school year coordinating a quarterly youth activity plus longer summer hours planning and participating in the Quaker Knoll camping program. The initial annual salary estimate is \$ 4275. The committee hopes the hours and salary will be increased as youth participation grows.

They are looking for a Quaker or someone who knows and will promote Quaker values. The position will require a background check and harassment training. Wilmington Yearly Meeting will be the employer of record, and the position would be covered by YM’s liability insurance. An anonymous donor has contributed \$5000 to establish this position. **Approved.** Anyone interested in the position or wanting to

recommend someone for the position should contact Hannah Lutz.

**Executive Committee**—Jeannette Hamby reported the following have agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee for 2022—Mary Ellen Krisher, Kathy Hadley, and Miriam Speaight. **Approved.**

**Nominating Committee**—Mary Ellen Krisher asked for approval of the slate shared in the Advance Documents and screen shared for attenders. **Approved.** She also noted that there is still a vacancy on Missions & Evangelism. Volunteers should contact her.

**Finance Committee**—Mike Miller requested approval of the budget as presented. **Approved.**

**Task Force on Policies and Procedures**—Patricia Thomas suggested that following the discussion yesterday of the value to some of Quarterly Meetings, the wording of the recommendation be changed to, *The Quarterly Meetings are authorized to suspend operations and transfer operations to the Yearly Meeting.* **Approved.**

This chart shows the process for placing an individual under the care of the Training & Recording Committee depending on whether there is an active Quarterly Meeting:

WIMINGTON YEARLY MEETING PROCESS FOR PLACING AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE CARE OF THE TRAINING & RECORDING COMMITTEE

Process with Active Quarterly Meeting: (1) Monthly meeting places a name before Quarterly Meeting M&C, (2) QM M&C reports decision to QM business session for approval, (3) QM reports decision to Yearly Meeting M&C, (4) YM M&C reports decision to Yearly Meeting business session for approval, (5) Yearly Meeting places the candidate under the care Training & Recording Committee

Process with Quarterly Meeting suspended: (1) Monthly Meeting places a name before Yearly Meeting M&C, (2) YM M&C appoints a clearness committee\*, (3) Clearness committee reports to YM M&C, (4) YM M&C reports decision to Yearly Meeting business session for approval, (5) Yearly Meeting places the candidate under the care of Training & Recording Committee.

\*It is important to note that in both cases, one clearness committee is appointed to meet with the candidate to consider the decision of the monthly meeting to start the process of placing an individual under the care of the T&R Committee. The process still flows through Yearly Meeting M&C and it is still the action of the Yearly Meeting which places a candidate under the care of the Training and Recording Committee.

Add the following wording to the description of the Training and Recording Committee: "For purposes of conducting an investigation into charges of misconduct against a pastor or recorded minister, the Clerk of Yearly Meeting Ministry & Counsel will call a special meeting of the Training and Recording Committee and serve as its clerk. Implementation of recommended and

appropriate discipline is assigned to the Yearly Meeting Executive Committee”. **Approved.**

Other items of the Task Force Recommendation: Gather four times a year as a Yearly Meeting. **Approved.**

Simplify the Training & Recording Process if the Quarterly Meeting is suspended by sending the name of a candidate directly from the Monthly Meeting to the Training & Recording Committee. **Approved.**

The statement about the procedure for conducting an investigation into charges of misconduct against a pastor to be added to the committee roles statements of both Training and Recording Committee and Ministry & Counsel. **Approved.**

Recessed at 4:30 pm

**THE 130th ANNUAL SESSION  
OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING  
MINUTES OF OPENING SESSION  
Sunday, August 1, 2021**

Gathered for business with centering silence and prayer for the Ballinger, Goff and Speaight families led by Joan Vansickle Sloan.

Additions to roll call:   Cincinnati 1   Fairview 1  
                                  Wilmington 1

**Ministry and Counsel**—Joan VanSickle Sloan reported that Ray Geers will be recorded and bring the message during worship this morning.

The last member of Londonderry Friends Meeting has died. The building has been sold to another church. Since there are no living trustees of the meeting, Yearly Meeting must lay down the meeting. **Approved**

J. P. Lund shared a minute of appreciation to Jane Brown, daughter of the last member of Londonderry Friends:

Wilmington Yearly Meeting expresses its sincere appreciation to Jane Brown for her stewardship of the resources of Londonderry Friends Church. Over the last few years, she did whatever needed to be done, whether it was cleaning the church in preparation for the annual community worship service on Memorial Day, to supervising needed upkeep. She oversaw the sale of the building, which will continue to be a center of worship. She is seeing to it that the proceeds of the

sale will be used as the members wished, to assure the cemetery will be properly cared for in the years to come. Laying down an institution that meant so much to her family had to be emotionally fraught. Given the reality that Londonderry Friends Church was not going to continue as a Quaker church, we could not have wished for a better outcome. Both the community of Londonderry and Wilmington Yearly Meeting have been blessed by her diligence. We are grateful for her service.

**The minute was approved.**

The theme and scripture for 2022 Yearly Meeting sessions have been chosen by Ministry & Counsel.

A motion to add written committee reports that were shared in the Advance Documents but not presented from the floor to the Consent Agenda. **Approved.**

**Policies and Procedures Task Force**—Patricia Thomas returned to the proposal for the YM Planning Committee to be a standing committee. After lengthy discussion J. P. Lund determined that we are not in unity on this proposal and proposed that the YM Executive Committee plan the first gathering for October 9, the date to determine the YM response to Wilmington College Board of Trustees regarding the changes to the College Articles of Incorporation. At that time, we can return to a discussion of the structure of the YM Planning Committee. **Approved.**

**The Yearly Meeting Epistle** was read by Julie Rudd. **Approved.**

**Minute of Appreciation**—Appreciation for Cincinnati Friends Wilmington Yearly Meeting: Thanks Cincinnati Friends Meeting for again serving as host for our 2021 yearly meeting sessions. We particularly thank Kristin Lally, who, for the second year in a row, provided the technical support that made success possible. We gratefully acknowledge the time and energy Cincinnati Friends devoted to our annual sessions, and we look forward to the day when we can safely break bread together.

**College Committee**—Doug Woodmansee shared a picture of the historical plaques being prepared for Wilmington College buildings. He noted that the College Committee, one of the Quaker Leader Scholars, and College staff have been working on the plan and plaque design. The Yearly Meeting is mentioned in the text on the plaques. The College is seeking donations for this project. Each plaque costs \$165.

**Clerk's closing remarks:** It seems an eon ago that I received the phone call from Nancy McCormick on behalf of the Nominating Committee asking me whether I would serve as yearly meeting clerk. I was taken by surprise. I took some time for discernment. It did not take long for the modern, pragmatic part of me to see that there was work to be done, and that I might be the one to do it. However, I also heard the resonance of something deeper, something more ancient, something I had sung about, something rooted in scripture, Isaiah 6:8, "Here I am. Send me." I felt called to this work. I cannot truthfully say I enjoyed every minute of it, (you Friends are sometimes really

exasperating), but the yoke was easy and the burden light. I felt I was serving a higher purpose. It was a blessing to do God's work. And I was blessed by the support of so many of you dedicated Friends that I hesitate to mention any by name for the fear I would leave so many out. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. I have been released from my calling. I am confident in the future of Wilmington Friends Meeting. Yes, we falter and we stumble. Yes, we are but a remnant of what we once were. But we have something, something that I think the world needs. We are the salt of the earth: just a little brightens the flavor of the entire dish. Our saltiness comes from our Quaker peculiarities. Things will change, as they always have. We must discern what is essential, and hold on to that, while we let go of that which is no longer serving a purpose. Then we will fulfill our part in God's plan. The light of God is within each of us. We need to understand that this light is not ours to hide; it is God's to brighten the darkness around us. Let us live in that light, that it may shine through us for all to see.

Business session closed at 11:00 am to begin Meeting for Worship to include the recording of Ray Geers and his bringing a message.

J. P. Lund, Clerk

Jennilou Grotevant, Recording Clerk

## **WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING EPISTLE 2021**

To All Friends Everywhere:

Earlier this year, every Monthly Meeting received the Wilmington Yearly Meeting State of Society queries, based on the Yearly Meeting theme of compassion through action. There were three queries:

1. How has God's compassion been present in your life, and in the life of your Meeting?
2. In what ways is your Meeting feeling called to put compassion into action, both within the Meeting, and in your community?
3. Recognizing the Light in others is an act of compassion. How do you give voice to that compassion—both in your Meeting and in your own life?

Throughout these sessions, we found ourselves considering the second query over and over, applied at the Yearly Meeting level: “In what ways is the Yearly Meeting called to put compassion into action, both within the Meeting, and in our community?”

We found this query to be especially relevant in the discussions we held on how Wilmington Yearly Meeting relates to Wilmington College—how we serve and are served by that relationship. As we considered a request to approve new Articles of Incorporation setting forth a new relationship between the College and the Yearly Meeting, we realized the questions we needed to answer were deeper than the wording of a legal

document. What are the most compassionate actions we could take for the College, and for the Yearly Meeting? Unable to come to a resolution of these questions, we have committed over the next three months to a process for further consideration of our relationship to the College. We are especially committed to discernment about whether this is a ministry to which Wilmington Yearly Meeting is still called, and, if we are, in what ways.

An underlying concern for compassionate action was also expressed in our discussion and decision on the fate of our three Quarterly Meetings. We eventually came to a sense that the Quarterly Meeting, when it has been valuable to Friends for fellowship and spiritual formation, may continue. In other places, we are able to release Friends from an obligation which carries no spiritual uplift or encouragement. We have left it to each Quarter to decide whether they want to continue to meet to carry out the business traditionally assumed by Quarterly Meetings; or whether they want to suspend activities, and use new pathways that allow the Yearly Meeting to fulfill the functions that have belonged to Quarterly Meetings.

We discovered the same deeper concern for compassion in action in the proposal that the Yearly Meeting gather four times a year: Will these meetings be meaningful times of worship, fellowship, and encouragement? We approved the proposal hopefully, amid much discussion about how to make sure these gatherings serve our souls and our spiritual life.

Our long discussions on proposed new procedures and processes is, at a deeper level, a consideration of this year's third query: "Recognizing the Light in others is an act of compassion. How do you give voice to that compassion—both in your Meeting and in your own life?" The question of how we recognize and encourage the Light in others is intrinsically connected with the questions raised by new processes: what are the purpose and mission of our Yearly Meeting? Is it to fulfill all the functions ceded to us by history and our forebears? Is it to discover new missions and functions? Little by little, through our consideration of all our business, and not necessarily by approval of specific Task Force recommendations, we are moving toward centering our concerns around our present world, and not obligations to the past. How will we use our energy? How will we conserve our energy? How will we make sure that we spend our time together on ministry work and spiritual discernment rather than on set forms and obligations? How will we call forth ministry from our gifts, rather than our numbers? Not necessarily intentionally, but inevitably, these questions became part of all our discussions.

Joyfully, we discovered we were able to change our framing as we discussed a proposal to hire a Yearly Meeting Youth Minister. Rather than considering the proposal as a wonderful idea that "we don't have the resources to do," we discovered that it is possible to look at the question while mindful of the resources we already have. In fact, we found it logistically difficult to even approve authorizing the Board on Youth and Young Adults to hire a youth minister—not out of a

sense of fear, but because Friends were so quickly offering potential resources and funding avenues.

In our USFW lecture, FUM Belize Director Nikki Holland taught us that when the New Testament speaks of “salvation,” the Greek word being translated is often *sozo*—which means “to rescue,” but also, “to heal.” When we say that Christ is our Savior, we are claiming Christ as our Healer. When we pray for healing within and among Friends, we are praying for that which will bring them salvation in the here-and-now. Healing is the power of Christ’s compassion in action.

We experienced the healing power of Christ in two very specific ways this year. As we began and ended our business, we offered heartfelt prayers for the healing and encouragement of some of our members, specifically. And we ended our Ministry and Counsel session with a time of worship-sharing on our Covid experiences, individually and as Meetings, and our Covid griefs of being separated from people important to us. There are some among us for whom “compassion through action” is a call to do, and to move forward now. There are some others for whom “compassion through action” is a call to yet sit in the ashes of grief, letting our presence—to others and to ourselves—be our action. Throughout our sessions, we noticed the tiredness and disconnection that has come to us alongside this pandemic. We experienced collective despair as we realized that restrictions on church and group gatherings may be reinstated in the near future. We long to sit down with each other in body as well as spirit, and pray that it will become possible.

Our first State of Society query, referencing our Yearly Meeting theme, Matthew 25:35–40, noted that a compassionate God is revealed to us in these verses. We were asked to consider how God’s compassion has been present in the personal lives of Friends and in the lives of our meetings. What we found in our annual sessions, in business and worship-sharing and fellowship alike, is the depth to which we are held in God’s healing compassion. We were able to pray fervently for healing, to consider potentially healthier ways forward, and—even through our own confusion—to envision a future of wholeness and life, in which we are clearly able to match compassion and action.

We pray for that same blessing for you, Friends: that you will be seeking and finding healing, and faithfully living Christ’s call to compassion. We pray especially for you in this time of Covid-19, that you are well and that your Meetings and ministries are prospering in the Light.

In Christ’s Compassionate Love,

Wilmington Yearly Meeting  
(Epistle Committee: Jonathan Goff, Dan Kasztelan, Julie Rudd)

Eighth month, First day, 2021.

## **WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING 2021 PROGRAMS AND GUEST SPEAKERS**

### **I Love, Therefore, I Do By Ray Geers**

Good morning, Friends! I invite you to open your hearts and listen to the scripture for this year's Wilmington Yearly Meeting. It is taken from the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel According to Matthew. It says:

*"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:37-40*

This reflection is sort of a sequel to the talk I gave last year, which I called "*A Science of Love in Action.*" Some of you may recall the central scripture last year from the prophet Micah, who reminded us to *act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God.* Old Micah was giving us a very clear formula for how to live like good human beings. So, how to be a good human is still my continuing concern. The crux of the problem last year was our typical human hesitation to move out in faith to do what we know is the right thing. Love in truth, or active love, is always leaning towards actions which bear good fruit. *Compassion Through Action* is the theme set before us this year to drive home, once again, the main thrust of both scripture and of our Quaker testimonies. I will examine this important theme creatively and then relate it to the quote from the gospel of Matthew above.

#### Thought Experiments Continued

Just as I did last year, I will be using thought experiments as a method of exploring the background to our selected theme. In the classic scientific method, each experiment begins with a hypothesis. I recently

told my daughter Rosie my hypothesis about a new definition of God. The definition came to me that morning out of the blue, and it seemed to answer a need I had for more clarity about who or what God is and how to share this with my family and friends. I wanted to discuss my idea that God is the opposite of violence. God the opposite of violence? We can't completely state who God is positively. Yes, God is love (1 John 4:7), but then what is love? We tend to know what violence is – unfortunately! Torture, killing, injustice, lying, cheating. We experience these things, either personally or through communications, every day. According to my definition, God is the opposite of these things. My hypothesis is that the more we can understand, truly understand, what violence is, its origins, its patterns, and its removal, the more we can know about a God who points a way out of all this. When we learn how to root out violence in and around us, we open a place for love. We open a place for God. This hypothesis has become the inspiration for my short message today. It is just the tip of an iceberg of wonder which I have been exploring for many years.

Compassion through action is wonderful, but here's a story for us to consider. Remember the news story of the British Petroleum crude oil disaster that left millions of gallons of black goopy liquid out into the ocean, choking and killing fish and birds and a host of other wildlife creatures? Try to imagine walking along the beach, near the oil spill. You notice some of the animal survivors pitifully gasping and writhing on the edge of the sea. The good human in you might reach out in compassion and begin to pick out, one by one, those creatures who could perhaps be saved. You went right to work on this spontaneous project of mercy and I, for one, would commend you for this. Of course, the other compassionate thing to do in this situation is to examine the root causes of this violent disaster. It is this other compassionate thing that I am experimenting with in this reflection. I want to delve into the question of how humans can learn to be less violent and more compassionate in their behavior towards one another. I will be the first to admit that the following reflection is merely one person's wading into a huge human problem with only "this little light of mine" to go by. Still, I'm going let it shine as best I can for now and

continue to pray for greater illumination. I invite others to join in the conversation and apologize ahead of time for any words of mine that may not fit well with your present condition.

### Scapegoats Ancient and Modern

It is interesting to me that almost every ancient human society that we can know about at one time practiced animal sacrifices under the pretext of appeasing their gods. Anthropologists will tell you that if you go far, far back in time you discover that animal sacrifices were substitutes for the original practice, which was human sacrifice. As time progressed, most societies stopped doing human sacrifices, but animal sacrifices and food and other, more symbolic, sacrifices still exist. Many religious sacrificial rites have their roots in the ritual banishment, or death, of innocent beings for the sake of the community's health and holiness, or righteousness. Such victimization of the defenseless has been given a name in modern times. The word for it is *"scapegoating"*.

Mob-lynching and ritual holocausts are the most extreme examples of modern scapegoating. The ancient practice is also alive and kicking in other troubling forms as well. Whenever the strong and the influential in a population blame, or put unequal burdens on, the weak and relatively defenseless, the phenomena of scapegoating has raised its distressful head out of the goop of man-made disasters. Some thinkers, looking at the execution of Jesus, the innocent “Lamb of God”, see it as a watershed event from an anthropological viewpoint. They tell us that covering up the errors and excesses of the rich and powerful and dumping the blame on defenseless individuals and targeted groups is simply wrong and irreconcilable with being fully human.

#### A Human Being with Nonviolent Awareness

Many people of faith now realized that the scapegoating system inherited from our ancestors - which tried to protect the lives of the many by the sacrifice of the few - is no longer necessary, or never was. This ground-breaking insight can gradually lead to a revolution in behavior: the abandonment of violent culture altogether and the letting go of the abuse of the

weak, of those who seem different, and of the foreigner. This change in outlook traces back to a certain strain in the Jewish prophetic tradition and to Jesus of Nazareth, who put these insights together in an original way and then lived the consequences of his convictions. In a way, Jesus is the great interpreter and capstone of a long and profound wisdom tradition, but his message remains marginalized and misunderstood. Present-day cultures often ignore the Copernican-like insights of Jesus about violence. Instead, their nearly unconscious tendency towards scapegoating preserves the “way of the ancestors” (Mark 7:5) –strengthening the powerful at the expense of the weak and ill-treated poor. Until they are willing to question cultural norms, both victims and victimizers remain stuck in sectarian confusion.

#### The Victorious Victim Forgives

We who are gifted with the good news of nonviolence would do well to examine how well we have understood the underpinnings of the original teaching. In a nutshell, only forgiveness can ultimately set both victims and victimizers free from the circle of

violence around and within us. Jesus undermined the traditional sacrificial system and flipped everything on its head. In Jesus' new vision, the victim becomes the forgiving victor. The new outlook entails a new freedom from fear, a new consciousness that radically cancels the law of retaliation for injury, the old "eye for an eye, tooth for a tooth." Compared to the inherited status quo of human society, this way of life is a veritable resurrection from the dead.

It's time for a quick self-test. Do we really understand the truth that fighting violence with violent methods can never attain the truth? I'm thinking about our Quaker testimonies about peace. Do we really understand that no war can ever end our habit of falling into war repeatedly? Quaker tradition (and difficult human experience) has taught us this, but have we plumbed the depths of this wisdom? When we fight on behalf of victims, do we stop short of becoming the new victimizers? How many movies have we watched in which the victims turn out to be just as evil as the evil ones they were opposing? When we disagree madly with our enemies, do we not become perversely

identical to whomever we oppose violently? How quickly we can lose our freedom when we become ruled by our blind imitation of the enemy. So, nonviolent wisdom informs us that the plight of the victims of violence will never be cured by using the tools of the violent ones. Jesus, Fox, Gandhi, King and Mandela all realized this. How do we keep this great anthropological wisdom alive in a world struggling mightily against it? Isn't this the kind of gospel we Quakers also try to live and preach?

Our Corporate Journey Towards Nonviolence  
We – Cincinnati Friends and Wilmington Yearly Meeting – have a wealth of good testimonies to guide us towards what I see as our essential journey, a journey towards nonviolence. These testimonies include that ingenious insight of George Fox that “there is that of God in everyone.” So, while we humans are born into a violent world which precedes us, our understanding of this can cross over into the belief that God’s nonviolent nature is also in us. If that of God is in everyone, then there is a nonviolent nature in everyone as well. It seems to me that our Yearly Meeting’s job, here and

going forward, is to dig into and live these and all our testimonies with love. I wish I could say more about it all here, but a thousand miles' journey begins with but a step!

The steering committee for this yearly meeting has chosen the guiding light saying in that part of the gospel of Matthew which says, among other things: "I was in prison and you visited me" (Matthew 25:36). In other words, Jesus himself is the prisoner. He is the victim of oppression and scapegoating, of poor choices, bad habits, and a trillion misguided, unfortunate circumstances. Blessed are you, he says, if you still somehow nonviolently love me in all of this! Blessed are you when you gaze into my face and see me as a human being and make a point not to blame me for all the ills of society which, in any case, pre-date my existence on this earth. Even though my case is disquieting to you -because it's easier to follow the majority report about me, and even though I continue to scare the hell out of you or cause you to despair - because if injustice can happen to me, its dark shadow could also fall across you, you at least are trying your

best not to let your fear and weakness overwhelm you. You are even letting my cries for compassion and for justice wake you up to try something different for a change. God bless you friends! Says such a one.

### I Love, Therefore I Do

The prophetic wisdom tradition that Jesus follows evidently has an intense concern for people who have been abused, neglected, deprived, and cheated by the harsh circumstances of life, including by not-so-loving people. We who try to imitate his compassion through action might get this from an overflow of love from our past. We might have had good parenting, good neighbors, and mostly positive formative experiences. But I wonder... Might such a concern also come from an unexpectedly enriched awareness which breaks forth, as if out of nowhere, in the present? I know this can happen because I've seen it! It happens to people whose lives up to a certain point seemed in no way to have been a Hallmark card picture of holiness or orderliness, or even of normalcy, in comparison with their contemporaries. But something unexplainable happened and these folks discovered new eyes for love,

new ears, and a new heart. I'm also talking about a new sensitivity to what I metaphorically call "the face of God," to the ultimate lover who may become, if we follow closely enough, the ultimate model of our nonviolent purpose in life.

Jesus speaks in this passage to folks we might call "anonymous Christians" --because they do their acts of love simply out of innate human goodness instead of in conformity to cultural norms. This sensitivity, with its paired loving actions for others, could begin to define for all of us --Christians, non-Christians, non-theists -- what joy is and what our life purpose is. It can change our identity, flipping it from being an immature person obsessed with being the recipient of love and part of the "in" crowd to a more mature person who reasons not "They think, therefore I am," but rather "I love, therefore I do."

#### A Local Quaker Garden of Hopes and Joys

I want to pause and remind myself of the purpose --and limits --of a reflection like this. I want to remind myself to get out of the way and allow my friends here enough

time and freedom to enter fully into worship. I respect the fact that all Quakers must let their lives speak in their own way. All of you already are beautiful, rich, loving, wise, and helpful to others in your own unique ways. So, I think it is best now for me to leave this message just as it is. It's a bit loose, maybe even wildly open-ended, but I think the loose quality may be just right for Quaker purposes. I invite you, my friends, to play with this loose framework however you like. Maybe it has given you time to percolate a bit and be inspired by something even more relevant for you or for us. If so, I hope you will share what you have been given from your own pantry of life experiences. I thank you for your time and patience and leave you with this short summary.

A nonviolent God is what I propose to you. Jesus' own nonviolent love for others is what I want to share with you. It is a beautiful thing. It springs up in this sometimes harsh world, like a flower climbs out from a crack in the pavement. I hope you don't mind this simple thing, this almost-impossible little message from

a local Quaker garden of hopes and joys. Thank you,  
friends!

**WYM MEMORIALS FOR DEPARTED FRIENDS, 2020-  
2021**

CAMPUS            ROBERT POWELL  
November 17, 1940- October 14, 2020

                         JAMES RAMSEY  
May 21, 1924- February 23, 2021

CHESTER           SAUNDRA MCMEANS CATES  
July 11, 1944- July 4, 2021

CINCINNATI       RICHARD E. READ  
November 11, 1931- June 25, 2021

DOVER             ANNE COBLE HARDIN ELLIS  
January 26, 1929- December 12, 2020

                         GARY LEE KERSEY  
April 12, 1946- March 25, 2021

                         JOHN BOYD TRIVETT  
June 23, 1940- June 16, 2021

FAIRVIEW         DOROTHY SWISSHELM CHRISTENSEN  
May 2, 1941- July 9, 2020

                         SARAH L. DAILEY FISHER  
July 6, 1933- December 31, 2020

LONDONDERRY    EVELYN MAE CLARY  
August 17, 1928- June 9, 2021

WEST KNOXVILLE

ELIZABETH SPENCER HOEFER  
July 12, 1932- January 14, 2021

WILMINGTON

MARY KATHERYN HILBERG  
Sept. 3, 1934- October 4, 2020

XENIA

MÁRCIA ÖSTERGREN BAITES  
October 24, 1944- April 2, 2021

**SECTION 2 ~ YEARLY MEETING  
REPORTS**

## **ADVANCE REPORTS**

### **WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSIONS, JULY 28- AUGUST 1, 2021**

#### **BOARD ON CHRISTIAN CONCERNS FOR PEACE AND SOCIETY**

WYM Board of Christian Concerns for Peace and Society  
The committee met several times this year on Zoom. We discussed the many issues our committee could tackle. Foremost in our minds was the rhetoric going around the country that the 2020 election was fraudulent. We came up with a minute on Election Integrity that we presented at mini yearly meeting. It was fine-tuned there and approved and is now on the WYM website. We sent the minute to newspapers from the areas of WYM members and as a thank you, to those areas' election boards.

We decided that another big issue in our country was the situation of migrants at our southern border. We decided the best way to make our opinions known was through contacting our government officials. FCNL Advocacy Organizer and Wilmington College student, Ariana Riccardi, provided a workshop on zoom about lobbying and then the group was able to lobby with an aide to Sherrod Brown.

We contacted and arranged to have Diane Randall, the Executive Secretary of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, to give our peace lecture for this

yearly meeting. We have appointed the representatives to the annual FCNL meeting in November. We are working on contacting people in the yearly meeting who would like to represent us at the American Friends Service Committee meeting in the spring of 2022.

Lastly, our committee is here to support the local meetings' agendas. If you need extra people to work or promote your project, please call on us.

*Clerk, Mary Ann Raizk*

## **BOARD ON FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

### **Approved Budget 2021**

#### **Income:**

Camp Rent: \$ 7,500.00

Aged Ministers: \$ 1,200.00

Monthly Meetings: \$55,000.00

Individuals: \$14,025.00

Mini, Yearly, College Banquets: \$ 5,000.00

**Needed Income: \$82,725.00**

#### **Expenses:**

Quaker Knoll Camp Board: \$18,375.00

Aged Ministers: \$ 4,500.00

Campus Minister: \$10,000.00

Mini, Yearly, College Banquets: \$ 3,500.00

Office Expenses: \$37,350.00

Travel: \$ 2,000.00

Memberships: \$ 500.00

Website: \$ 4,000.00

Miscellaneous & Contingency: \$ 2,500.00

**Total Projected Expenses: \$82,725.00**

### **WYM Proposed Budget 2022**

#### **Income:**

Camp Rent: \$7,500.00

Aged Ministers: \$1,500.00

Monthly Meetings: \$55,000.00

Individuals: \$14,880.00

Mini, Yearly & College Banquets: \$5,000.00

**Total Needed Income: \$83,025.00**

#### **Expenses:**

Quaker Knoll Camp Board: \$19,880.00

Aged Ministers: \$ 1,500.00

Campus Minister: \$10,000.00

Mini, Yearly & College Banquets: \$3,500.00

Office Expenses: \$40,000.00

Travel: \$2,000.00

Membership: \$500.00

Website: \$4,000.00

Miscellaneous & Contingency: \$2,500.00

**Total Projected Expenses: \$83,025.00**

As of June 30, 2021

<b>Current Assets</b>	
Peoples Checking Account	\$ 47,292.50
Investment Account	\$ 30,383.95
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$ 77,676.45</u></b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
<b>Designated Accounts</b>	
2020 FUM Triennial in Africa	\$ 776.00
Belize Missions	\$ 747.00
Campus Minister	\$ 925.05
College Food Bank	\$ 523.47
Fiduciary Transfer	\$ -
Friends Disaster Service	\$ 5,924.05
FUM	\$ 853.54
Health Insurance	\$ (1,885.83)
Missions	\$ 2,026.71
Nikki Holland Belize Mission	\$ 1,750.00
Pass Through	\$ -
Quaker Bakers	\$ 1,168.04
Quaker Knoll	\$ 10,025.10
Quaker Men	\$ 325.84
Training & Recording	\$ 295.49
Youth & Young Adult	\$ 4,112.76
<b>Total Designated Funds</b>	<b>\$ 27,567.22</b>
<b>Payroll Liabilities</b>	
Federal withholding	\$ 83.00
Medicare withholding	\$ 48.10
Social Security withholding	\$ 211.56
OH withholding	\$ 146.88
Wilmington City withholding	\$ 147.22
Wilmington Schools	\$ 34.49
<b>Total Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 671.25</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$ 28,238.47</u></b>
<b>Equity</b>	
Opening Balance Equity	\$ 64,560.65
Retained Earnings	\$ (21,789.61)
Net Income	\$ 6,666.94
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b><u>\$ 49,437.98</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b><u>\$ 77,676.45</u></b>

**BOARD ON MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM**

Board on Missions and Evangelism As with most committees this past year we have not met or had any organized activities. We hope all this changes soon!

We continue our support of Nikki Holland's ministry in Belize. Earlier this summer we helped with the planning for Oscar Mmbali's visit to Ohio.

As of this writing the Corn Festival is a go! This is the Quaker Bakers biggest fund raiser. This year the Corn Festival will be held Sept. 10-12. More information to follow. Thanks again to everyone who donated to our "virtual" bake sale last year.

We also hope to bring back the Sing for Missions event soon.

*Cathy Hadley, Clerk*

## **BOARD ON YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS**

Dear Friends:

In January of 2021, the Youth and Young Adults Committee made the difficult decision to not have traditional summer camp again in 2021. There was so much still up in the air with COVID-19 at that time that we felt that it would be safer to hold off for another year. We are hoping that things will be back to normal next year.

In lieu of summer camp, we have been offering alternative activities for the youth. On June 25, 2021, we had an in-person Quaker Knoll youth day—which was attended by 13 kids. We also offered some online activities on July 10, 2021 for the youth via Zoom.

Unfortunately, this did not garner much interest. The next in-person Quaker Knoll youth day will be on July 25, 2021, and the next youth Zoom event will be on August 14, 2021.

The Youth and Young Adults Committee has also been working on a job description for a WYM youth minister. The recommendation to hire a youth minister for the yearly meeting was originally included in the Envisioning Task Force's report, but it has since been placed under our care. Under the current structure of the WYM youth program, it is difficult for the Youth and Young Adults Committee to provide the youth of WYM with consistent, quality programming. A dedicated youth minister would have the time to invest into the youth that this committee does not have, and they would also provide structure and organization. We are very excited about this possibility.

Please continue to pray for our young people.

*Hannah E. Lutz, Clerk*

## **COLLEGE COMMITTEE**

A Report to Wilmington Yearly Meeting from The Wilmington Yearly Meeting College Committee Regarding Proposed Revisions and Restatements of the Wilmington College Articles of Incorporation and Code of Regulations.

July 14, 2021

Members of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting College Committee met with representatives of Wilmington

College on July 6, 2021, to discuss a proposal consisting of two documents: “Wilmington College Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation” and “Wilmington College Amended and Restated Code of Regulations”. Committee members present were Gary Farlow, Nancy McCormick, Christine Snyder, Miriam Speaight, Tabitha Speaight, and Doug Woodmansee (Clerk). Peggy Sturdivant, Chair of the Board of Trustees, Rich Sidwell, Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees, and Trevor Bates, President, represented the College. J. P. Lund, Presiding Clerk of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, Katie Terrell, Yearly Meeting Coordinator, and prospective committee member Summer McBrayer also attended. All attendees had access to the two documents prior to the meeting.

The committee attempted develop a recommendation to the Yearly Meeting as to whether the two documents should be approved during the business session of the 2021 Wilmington Yearly Meeting Annual Session. The committee was unable to reach unity on a recommendation. The committee clerk was then charged with writing this report outlining the pros and cons of the proposal.

Points in favor of the proposal:

- The proposal intends to establish the Wilmington College Board of Trustees as the final authority in the governance of the college, fully independent of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. College leaders believe this revision is necessary because of new Higher Learning Commission guidelines for accreditation. Wilmington

College will undergo a regularly scheduled reaccreditation process in 2023 - 2024.

- The proposal brings the college's Articles of Incorporation in line with current state requirements for such documents. In particular, the proposal adds language about the college's tax-exempt status and what happens to surplus assets in case the college goes out of business.
- The proposal streamlines, removes redundancies, and clarifies inconsistencies in the college's current Articles of Incorporation, Regulations, and Bylaws.
- The proposal reforms the committee structure of the Board to make it more flexible and responsive to ever-changing needs of the institution.
- The proposal includes specific language reinforcing the college's Quaker origins and ongoing commitment to Quaker values. The current versions of the documents do not contain such clear statements.
- The proposal does not immediately change the role of Wilmington Yearly Meeting in the governance of the college. A majority of Quakers on the Board, Yearly Meeting approval of all nominees to the Board, Yearly Meeting participation in generating the slate of nominees (through the Joint Trustee Nominating Committee), Yearly Meeting representation on Presidential Nominating Committees, and the right of Yearly Meeting representatives to bring concerns to the college's leadership are all retained. These rights are specified in the proposed Code of Regulations.

- The Board Chair, Vice-Chair, and President of the college sought input from the Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting and the Clerk and members of the College Committee and adjusted the proposal in response to some of their concerns.

Points of concern for committee members:

- Article IV, Section 3 of the proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation gives Wilmington Yearly Meeting the status of “Non-Voting Member” of the corporation. The Board of Trustees is given the status of “Voting Member”. The section goes on to state that the voting member will have “all of the authority, rights, and privileges reserved for a voting member ... under Chapter 1702 of the Ohio Revised Code ...”. The college’s representatives argued that the rights of the Yearly Meeting as listed above are adequately protected. Committee members however determined (and college officials later confirmed) that since a nonprofit corporation’s voting members approve amendments to the Articles of Incorporation (Ohio Revised Code Section 1702.38), some future Board of Trustees could unilaterally revoke the Yearly Meeting’s status as Non-Voting Member rendering the Yearly Meeting’s rights moot.
- Some committee members believe that the risk to the college’s accreditation is overblown and that the current requirement of Yearly Meeting approval of amendments to the Articles of Incorporation should not trigger action by the Higher Learning Commission. The college’s attorney however believes that our current arrangement is likely to trigger an HLC citation which

would force the college and the Yearly Meeting to amend the Articles of Incorporation in a way that would be dictated by the HLC.

- Some committee members believe that the brevity and legalistic language of the Restated Articles of Incorporation obscures and devalues Wilmington Yearly Meeting's role in the foundation and history of the college.

#### Additional Comments

- The committee appreciates that college leaders have conducted a respectful, good-faith dialogue that has been attentive to some of the committee's concerns. The committee has received their assurances that the current Board of Trustees values and intends to maintain the college's connection to the Religious Society of Friends in general and to Wilmington Yearly Meeting in particular.
- The committee understands that accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission is essential to the survival of the college. Loss of accreditation would, among other things, make Wilmington College students ineligible for federal financial aid, including loans. It would also make Wilmington College graduates ineligible for admission to most graduate and professional programs (MD, DVM, JD, etc.).
- The committee understands that the Higher Learning Commission is concerned about the issue of "undue influence" of outside entities on the governance of accredited colleges and universities. Such entities

include large donors, for-profit corporations who acquire a controlling interest in non-profit institutions of higher education, and religious organizations that may abuse their historical relationships with colleges to advance social agendas.

- The committee believes that the relationship between Wilmington College and Wilmington Yearly Meeting has generally operated within appropriate boundaries and that the Yearly Meeting has not tried to exert anything that could be interpreted as undue influence for many decades.
- The committee believes it is highly desirable to update the Articles of Incorporation to conform to current expectations for such documents by the State of Ohio.
- The committee is pleased by the language in the proposal about the importance of Quaker testimonies to the college.
- The committee is divided on the implications of the designation of Wilmington Yearly Meeting as a Non-Voting Member of the corporation. This designation would effectively pass control of the Articles of Incorporation from the Yearly Meeting to the Board of Trustees. Some believe such a passage of authority is a step too far and establishes a structure that could eventually result the loss of all Yearly Meeting influence on the college. Others believe it to be an appropriate “next step” in the evolution of the Yearly Meeting/College relationship. The history of Wilmington College shows a series of transfers of authority from the Friends organizations that founded

the college to the college's Board of Trustees in response to changing circumstances and to improve or clarify policy. Adoption of this proposal is arguably the most profound transfer of authority yet. Some committee members feel it is time to take that step.

### **COMMITTEE ON TRAINING, RECORDING, AND EMPOWERING PASTORS AND MINISTERS**

The Training and Recording Committee conducted classes throughout the fall and winter, 2020- 21, for two candidates (Katie Ubry-Terrell and Stephen Crouch) who are seeking Recording in Wilmington Yearly Meeting. The courses have been as follows: The Hebrew and Christian Testaments, The Minister and Communication, Pastoral Care and Self Care Quakerism, and Writing a Personal Credo...What do I believe and why do I believe it? At the Yearly Meeting Sessions, August 1, Ray Geers from Cincinnati Meeting will be given his Recording Certificate, having successfully completed all of the recording requirements.

*Jim Newby, Clerk*

### **ENVISIONING TASK FORCE**

Task Force for Policies and Procedures Full report A task force was formed to continue the work being done on articulating policies and procedures for the work of YM committees and boards. Appointed to serve: Dana Dunseith, Patricia Thomas, Katie Ubry-Terrell, Miriam Speaight, Jennilou Grotevant and a representative from Tennessee to be named. Approved March 6, 2020 by

the Executive Committee) NOTE: Jonathan Goff was appointed subsequently and Patricia Thomas as clerk

Committee responsibilities and tasks – a narrative

OPENING REMARKS: The Task Force recommends coming together as a yearly meeting four times a year for fellowship, worship, business, and programmatic activities: Wilmington Yearly Meeting will gather once a year for an extended period of time plus an additional three gatherings which would run from several hours to a full day depending on the nature of the event.

Committees are encouraged to plan a program once a year which speaks to the condition and concerns of their committee. Each committee will have a budget and is free to hold its own fund-raiser and distribute the funds as it sees fit. (see below)

A general statement on financial responsibility of committees:

- a. Each committee has a budget from which it can commit funds
- b. A committee may hold a fund-raiser and assign those funds as it sees fit
- c. Any commitment beyond what is in the committee fund must be approved by Coordinating Council

Monthly Meetings and/or individual Friends are invited to bring concerns to any committee or council of Yearly Meeting for consideration.

Recommendations: The Task Force recommends maintaining Ministry & Counsel and the following 10 committees:

- a. Yearly Meeting Planning Committee
- b. Campground Management
- c. Living in the Manner of Friends
- d. Youth Committee
- e. Wilmington College 2 Committee narrative included in the Advance Reports for Yearly Meeting July 2021
- f. Training, Recording and Oversight
- g. Quakers in the World
- h. Youth Minister Oversight
- i. Finance and Budget
- j. Nominating

#### Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

This committee is composed of 2-3 individuals with administrative skills plus ex officio members: Youth Minister, Yearly Meeting Presiding Clerk, Geek Squad, Yearly Meeting Coordinator.

This committee will make all arrangements for Yearly Meeting for the longer annual session and for each of the three yearly meeting gatherings held throughout the year.

Tasks: 1) coordinate meals including refreshments 2) plan the over-all schedule for the gathering; 3) program specific pieces (plenary speakers, workshop subject/leadership; honorarium etc.) 4) make the arrangements and logistics for all events (location of events; fees, etc.) 4) arrange hospitality for guests; 5) provide publicity; 6) provide queries, theme and scripture for yearly meeting sessions.

#### Campground Management Committee

This committee is composed of 8-10 members with skills needed to maintain Quaker Knoll Campgrounds; Campsite Website Coordinator serves ex officio.

Tasks: 1) care for the grounds, buildings, and general upkeep of Quaker Knoll Camp; 2) appoint a website coordinator; 3) hire groundskeeper; 4) set a budget; 5) fundraising

#### Living in the Manner of Friends Committee

This committee is composed of 2-4 members knowledgeable about Friends' tradition/practices and contemporary events. The Youth Minister serves ex officio.

Tasks: 1) provide opportunities for Friends to share what it means to be a Quaker in the world today; 2) lift up our testimonies; 3) select the Peace Lecture speaker for Wilmington Yearly Meeting; 4) facilitate events at the three yearly meeting gatherings; 5) facilitate events throughout the year which highlight living in the manner of Friends; 6) appoint 2 members to a search committee for the Youth Minister.

## Youth Committee

This committee is staffed by the Youth Minister. It is composed of 6-7 members.

Tasks: 1) plan all camps including content and staffing; 2) coordinate youth and young adult activities throughout the year; 3) maintain and manage a budget for programming and fees.

## Quakers in the World Committee

This committee is composed of 3-4 members (some or all of whom are actively involved in one of the Quaker organizations WYM supports).

Tasks: 1) to receive and disseminate information from organizations such as: Right Sharing of World Resources; Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO); Quaker-affiliated colleges; Earlham School of Religion (ESR); Pendle Hill; various Quaker mission fields, Quaker Bakers etc. 1) to name representatives to those Quaker organizations to which the yearly meeting belongs: Friends United Meeting (FUM) Board; Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) representatives; Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) representatives; Friends Response Team; United Society of Friends Women; American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) 2) to name representative to organizations to which Wilmington Yearly Meeting chooses to belong such as the Ohio Council of Churches (OCC) 4) to create publicity opportunities for these organizations to address the Yearly Meeting Gathered such as: plenary speaker; workshop leader; information

on display tables; conversation tables at Yearly Meeting sessions; articles for the weekly Office Coordinator's email report, etc. 5) to raise awareness and support for local, national and international missions

It is NOTED that Wilmington Yearly Meeting functions as a pass-through for monthly meetings to contribute to these organization. Wilmington Yearly Meeting encourages individuals to support these organizations directly.

#### Training, and Recording Committee

This committee is composed of 4-5 members at least two of whom are recorded ministers.

Tasks:

- 1) to facilitate and oversee the training of prospective ministers.
- 2) create and maintain a manual on Training and Recording Procedures for WYM
- 3) record-keeping
- 4) coordinate the celebration of recording
- 5) educate Friends about a) Friends' practice of recording; b) the training and recording process itself
- 6) provide support for and oversight of pastoral leadership
- 7) when called together by the clerk of YM M&C, functions as the body which conducts an investigation into charges of misconduct against a pastor serving in

WYM. The Training and Recording procedure is as follows: a. Monthly meeting brings name and letter of support to TR&O. b. Yearly Meeting Ministry & Counsel appoints a clearness committee to meet with the candidate. c. Clearness committee reports its recommendation to Yearly Meeting M&C. d. If approved, Yearly Meeting M&C places the candidate under the care of the Training, Recording and Oversight Committee.

#### Youth Minister Oversight Committee

This committee is composed of 2-3 members.

Tasks: 1) to provide support and guidance to the Youth Minister; 2) participate in the annual review of the Youth Minister

#### Wilmington College Committee

This committee is composed of 4-5 members. Ex-officio members are the President of Wilmington College, or a representative, and the Campus Minister.

Tasks: 1) to facilitate and enhance the relationship between Wilmington College and Wilmington Yearly Meeting; 2) consult with and support the Campus Minister; 3) consult with, advise, and support the Coordinator of the Miriam Hare Quaker Heritage Center; 4) appoint Quakers to the Joint-Trustee Nominating Committee; 5) name Yearly Meeting representatives to the Wilmington College Presidential Search Committee

NOTE: Wilmington College provides office space for WYM; worship space for Campus Friends Meeting and serves as host for Wilmington Yearly Meeting in annual session.

### Nominating Committee

This committee is composed of 3-4 individuals appointed by the Yearly Meeting.

Tasks: 1) to secure nominees for all the committees of Wilmington Yearly Meeting; 2) to secure nominees for all Yearly Meeting Clerks; 3) submit these names to the Yearly Meeting for approval. 5 Committee narrative included in the Advance Reports for Yearly Meeting July 2021

NOTE: The Nominating Committee is appointed by the Coordinating Council

### Finance and Budget Committee

This committee is composed of 6 members plus the bookkeeper, Treasurer. The Development Clerk serves as clerk.

Tasks: to oversee investments, raise funds and manage general budget of the yearly meeting.

### Task Force for Policies and Procedures Full Report

A task force was formed to continue the work being done on articulating policies and procedures for the work of YM committees and boards. Appointed to serve: Dana Dunseith, Patricia Thomas, Katie Ubry-Terrell, Miriam Speaight, Jennilou Grotevant and a

representative from Tennessee to be named. Approved March 6, 2020 by the Executive Committee)

NOTE: Jonathan Goff was appointed subsequently and Patricia Thomas as clerk

Administrative Structure- Council responsibilities and tasks - a narrative

#### Administrative Council

This council is composed of the Yearly Meeting Coordinator, the technology person (Geek Squad), the Campsite Website Manager, the Treasurer, the bookkeeper, the newsletter editor, plus one member at large. These individuals are appointed by the Coordinating Council and approved at Yearly Meeting.

The Administrative Council will hold a staff meeting once a month.

Tasks: to 1) assist and encourage the Office Coordinator; 2) oversee the work of the bookkeeper; 3) produce financial reports; 4) produce a newsletter on a regular basis; 5) appoint 1 member to a search committee for the Yearly Meeting Coordinator when an opening occurs

NOTE: the decisions of this council shall be recorded and made available to members of WYM

#### Coordinating Council

This council shall consist of the clerks of all Yearly Meeting committees (except the Youth Minister Support Committee) PLUS the Yearly Meeting Presiding

and Assistant Presiding clerk, the Yearly Meeting Coordinator, the Youth Minister and the Development Clerk.\* and the Treasurer . The Assistant Presiding Clerk serves as clerk. The Yearly Meeting Recording Clerk will serve as recording clerk for Coordinating Council.

\*The Task Force recommends designating/appointing a Development Clerk who serves on the Coordinating Council.

The Coordinating Council will meet at least six times a year, more often as needed.

Tasks: to 1) provide fellowship and communication between the clerks who oversee the ministry of Wilmington Yearly Meeting; 2) act on behalf of the Yearly Meeting between business sessions; 3) consider financial commitments on behalf of the Yearly Meeting which are 2 Administrative Narrative included in Advance Reports for Wilmington Yearly Meeting July 2021 above the budget of the individual committees; 4) carry out the discipline of wayward pastors; 5) prepare and present a budget which reflects the needs and income of the committees; 6) appoint two members to a search committee for the position of Yearly Meeting Coordinator; 7) appoint two members to a search committee for Youth Minister; 8) provide written reports to the Trustees; 9) hire a bookkeeper; 10) appoint or hire a Geek Squad/technology person; 11) appoint a newsletter editor; 12) conduct an annual review of all Yearly Meeting employees.

NOTE: the decisions of this council shall be recorded and made available to members of WYM

## Clerks Council

This is a “Clerks’ Table” and shall consist of all Yearly Meeting Clerks: Presiding, Assistant Presiding, Recording and Assistant Recording

Tasks: 1) to provide fellowship and communication between the clerks who oversee the Yearly Meeting for Business; 2) to provide and encourage mutual support among the yearly meeting clerks; 3) to consider the agenda for business sessions; 4) to conduct the business sessions and keep complete minutes of the proceedings; 5) to assist the Presiding Clerk in specific duties; 6) to consider and decide next step(s) in responding to requests and concerns from the floor of the Yearly Meeting for Business, 7) meet at least four times a year.

## Fiduciary Corporation Board of Directors

This council shall consist of YM Presiding Clerk, Treasurer, clerk of Camp Management and Finance and Budget Committees.

Tasks: 1) to coordinate the property and investment interests of the Yearly Meeting; 2) to have exclusive management of the endowments; 3) to appoint the Auditing Committee; 4) provide written reports to Yearly Meeting; 6) upkeep of cemeteries

NOTE: the decisions of this council shall be recorded and made available to members of WYM

Ministry and Counsel –

The task force recommends placing Ministry & Counsel on the Administrative Structure Chart

Ministry & Counsel is composed of discerning Friends who coordinate activities to enhance and enable spiritual growth and may serve as Travelers in the Ministry. Ministry & Counsel serves as a clearness committee for individuals or monthly meetings.

Ministry & Counsel has a presiding and assistant presiding clerk; a recording and assistant recording clerk appointed by the Nominating Committee.

Every member of a monthly meeting Ministry & Counsel is a member of the Yearly Meeting Ministry & Counsel.

Tasks: 1) Carefully consider subjects which have reference to spiritual needs and report its judgment to Yearly Meeting for its action. 2) plan and implement events which enhance and enable spiritual growth in our monthly meetings. 3) provide lists of resources; 4) serve upon request as a clearness committee for individuals or monthly meetings; 5) oversee and schedule regular in-person or on-line fellowship gatherings for the yearly meeting throughout the year; 6) State of Society reports – queries/response to monthly meetings; 7) name and encourage gifts of individual members of our monthly meetings; 8) conduct the memorial meeting for worship at annual sessions; 9) lay down monthly meetings; 10) oversee the spiritual process of planting new monthly meetings; 10) the Clerk of Ministry & Counsel shall call a meeting of the Training & Recording Committee to conduct an investigation into charges of misconduct against a

pastor serving in Wilmington Yearly Meeting; the clerk of Ministry & Counsel serves as presiding clerk in this instance.

Administrative Structure- Paid Staff responsibilities and tasks – a narrative

### Yearly Meeting Coordinator

The Yearly Meeting Coordinator is accountable to the Administrative Council and the Coordinating Council to run the office of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. The Office Coordinator will attend Wilmington Yearly Meeting and council meetings as indicated.

#### Tasks:

- The YM Coordinator fosters communication among Friends in Wilmington Yearly Meeting through sharing of news and events via the Yearly Meeting list-serve, website and other social media. The YM Coordinator understands that communication requires multiple forms, from hard copies sent to those who do not use email to the latest app trending among the young. An essential part of this position is maintaining an up-to-date calendar on the WYM website & sharing up-to-date contact information, directories, & committee email lists.
- The YM Coordinator is a member of the Administrative Council and a member of the Coordinating Council and as such provides support to the Clerk and Recording Clerk of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, serving as a resource and assisting in preparation of information and documents for the

Yearly Meeting annual meeting and for three smaller Yearly Meeting gatherings as requested, and looks for ways to be helpful to monthly meeting, committees, and individuals.

- The YM Coordinator is responsible for collecting & organizing all materials related to Yearly Meeting and for publishing & distributing the annual Yearly Meeting Minute Book. The YM Coordinator also collects, organizes, publishes, shares/distributes YM wide documents, such as annual State of Society Reports, Advance Reports as requested, etc. 4 Administrative Narrative included in Advance Reports for Wilmington Yearly Meeting July 2021
- The YM Coordinator supports all committees as needed, regularly assisting and attending meetings of the Administrative Council, Coordinating Council, Fiduciary Corporation Board of Directors and the Yearly Meeting Program Committee.
- In addition to the annual Yearly Meeting, the YM Coordinator will attend the three Yearly Meeting gatherings held throughout the year.
- The YM Coordinator handles reservations for Quaker Knoll Camp & Retreat Center, sending out & receiving reservation forms, communicating with the QK caretaker, and Quaker Knoll website admin, and sharing an up-to-date online reservation calendar. (Ideally reservation capabilities and online calendar can soon be added to the QK website.)

- The YM Treasurer receives monies given to the YM or generated by YM sponsored activities for bank deposit and transmits to the YM bookkeeper records of all such collections and deposits. The Coordinator also receives receipts and authorizes payments from the YM accounts for YM activities.

### Youth Minister

This person is accountable to the Coordinating Committee. The youth minister serves ex officio on the Yearly Meeting Programming Committee and on the Living in the Manner of Friends Committee. The youth minister has an oversight committee for support and guidance.

Tasks: responsible for 1) plan all camp content and staffing; 2) responsibility for further yearly meeting-wide youth and young adult activities throughout the year; 3) maintain and manage a budget for programming and fees.

NOTE: The Youth Committee is developing a recommendation for this position, and it will be presented to Yearly Meeting in Session in July 2021 as a separate item for consideration.

### Report from the Task Force for Policies and Procedures

The Task Force is presenting the following two recommendations for approval:

Recommendation #1 to be approved as a unit. 1) Suspend the Quarterly Meetings 2) Suspend Permanent Board. 3) Gather four times a year as a Yearly Meeting.

4) Simplify the recording process (with the suspension of Quarterly Meeting) 5) Appoint a Yearly Meeting Planning Committee as a STANDING Committee

Recommendation #2 to be approved. Add the following wording to the description of the Training and Recording Committee: "For purposes of conducting an investigation into charges of misconduct against a pastor, the Clerk of Yearly Meeting Ministry & Counsel will call a special meeting of the Training and Recording Committee and serve as its clerk. Implementation of recommended and appropriate discipline is assigned to the Yearly Meeting Executive Committee." A copy of the full task force report is included in the Advance Reports.

*Patricia Thomas, Clerk*

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Yearly Meeting received a grant from FWCC to help with technology during the pandemic. A new laptop was purchased to aid our Yearly Meeting Coordinator, Katie UbryTerrell in her work.

The Executive Committee appreciates the dedication, energy, and joy that Katie brings to her position. She is an excellent representative of Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

Nothing has come to a standstill during the pandemic. Meetings are held using Zoom not only for the Executive Committee, but all committees. Amazingly, after the Corn Festival was cancelled, the Missions & Christian Outreach/Evangelism were still able to raise funds through the generosity of the YM members.

Meetings for worship were held by being outside when the weather permitted or by using Zoom or email. We were able to visit other meetings for worship, special programs, and workshops. It has been amazing how we were able to catch up to the technology that many of us had never used before.

At annual sessions this July we will be presented with some new ideas. This includes the relationship between Wilmington College and Wilmington Yearly Meeting, and recommendations for change within the YM from the Task Force on Policy and Procedures. My prayer is that all of our YM will be able to attend sessions and help the YM in discernment with these recommendations.

While preparing this report what I realized how blessed I am to have the opportunity to work with this committee. It is made up of faithful dedicated people willing to listen and hear, to respect and consider, to recognize the weight of issues yet share laughter, and most importantly-a willingness to serve. We share in a time of worship at our meetings which includes: silent worship, reading a query, and prayer for guidance and for the Lord to lead us in His way and to discern His direction. There are and will continue to be issues and struggles but I am confident that our Yearly Meeting will work with love and respect.

I would like to thank Kristin Lally for her help in planning and serving as our Zoom coordinator. I look forward to “seeing” you at YM.

*Jeannette Hamby, Clerk*

## **HISTORICAL MATERIALS**

As of June second, Watson Library can accept deposits again. In-person visits for archival research are also now possible.

The current Wilmington College policy for facial coverings and social distancing is that facial coverings are not required for vaccinated individuals but must be worn inside buildings by anyone who is unvaccinated. Social distancing is also required of those individuals who are not vaccinated. The college also recommends frequent hand washing.

Contact the library before bringing materials to deposit so that the library is prepared to accept them.

Anyone wishing to do archival research in person should contact Watson Library to schedule a visit.

Anyone uncomfortable visiting in person should reach out to Watson Library, as the library can also research archival questions and send the relevant information electronically.

In other business, the library now has a working cradle scanner. This allows the scanning of fragile books and documents that cannot be safely placed on a standard scanner, and the scanning of larger items than a standard scanner can safely handle. This will allow the library to move forward with the digitization of archive materials.

COVID-19 precautions meant that in-person visits to the archives were not possible for much of the past year, but the archives still saw quite a bit of use as Watson Librarians answered reference questions virtually. Some of the meeting minutes requested for archival research include Springfield, Clear Creek, Cincinnati, and Center. And as the state eased covid restrictions the number of archive visits increased; the archive is currently in the process of answering several questions from remote researchers and has had several in-person research visits this summer.

For questions about preservation or Quaker research, please contact Watson Library staff at 937-481- 2345 or Elizabeth at [elizabeth\\_house@wilmington.edu](mailto:elizabeth_house@wilmington.edu). The email [library@wilmington.edu](mailto:library@wilmington.edu) will also reach all three Watson Librarians – Lucinda Chandler, Elizabeth House, and Lee Bowman.

*Elizabeth House, Clerk*

## **MINISTRY & COUNSEL**

The Covid-19 coronavirus pandemic continues to remain very present among our communities bringing illness and death. However, there is more hope than in the past 18 months because nearly 70% of the nation has now been vaccinated, and that has permitted some meetings to resume inperson services and meetings. At most meetings, members are continuing to use masks and to observe other safety precautions, including not having singing or fellowship carry-in meals or buffets. For this annual 2021 session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, we are again grateful for Zoom virtual

technology so that we can meet online, just as we have also used Zoom for all meetings and gatherings of the yearly meeting this past year. So, for all of this ability to stay connected with each other, informed and involved, we are grateful.

**Zoom Opportunities for Speakers and Services:** We want to note that we have had increased attendance at yearly meeting sessions, and the virtual technology has also enabled us to attend various special programs, services and even regular Bible studies and services throughout our monthly meetings, Wilmington College campus ministry programs and yearly meeting. Wilmington College Campus Ministry speakers, organized by Nancy McCormick, gave interesting presentations. Phil Gulley, Quaker author and pastor, was hosted by Cincinnati Friends to talk about his latest book. Cincinnati has also hosted several other speakers and invited Friends from WYM, and Pastor Jim Newby gave a Christmas presentation about the book, "The First Christmas." Nancy and Mike McCormick led a Christmas Candlelight Service by Zoom, and Chester Friends invited WYM friends to participate in a Good Friday Zoom service. Several meetings have invited others to online services, Bible studies or special services, with Wilmington even offering a Zoom virtual tour of the open house for the historic Wilmington Friends parsonage. In the multiple times of gathered virtual worship during this past year, various people came forward to suggest ideas, host or lead services. At Christmastime, all meetings were invited to gather, virtually, for a candlelight service. The variety of

opportunities for gathered worship and fellowship has been a continuing blessing.

**Clearness Committee Workshop:** For pre-yearly meeting, Paul Buckley, of Community Friends Meeting in Ohio Valley Friends Yearly Meeting, led a workshop on the purpose and uses for Clearness Committees.

**Ways We Are Addressing Racism:** In addition to the statement on Racial Justice that the Yearly Meeting session developed and approved, Ministry and Counsel spent part of their time at Yearly Meeting for individuals to share various ways that individuals, groups and meetings are taking specific actions to address racism and bring about racial justice.

**Ways We Are Helping One Another During the Pandemic** was a sharing discussion at the October Ministry and Counsel Zoom session.

**Peace Workshop and Service:** This year of Presidential election has held unprecedented anger, civil unrest, riots and racial protests. Prior to the Presidential election, Gary Farlow, in response to the unrest and lack of civility among many folks with differing political positions, felt led to put together a workshop, “Ministering to Anxious People and how to have Peace in Troubled Times,” led by Linda Sears and Sharon Trivett, both with professional training and experience.

**Candlelight Service as Prayer for Peace:** On the eve of the inauguration of the new President of the United States, reports were prevalent that there could be violence and unrest, so Nancy McCormick and Miriam

Speaight again led a candlelight service of gathered yearly meeting Friends, asking God's leading and direction for our nation and its leaders and asking that all of us, as citizens, remain centered, calm and accepting of one another's political beliefs and respectful of each person, no matter what their beliefs or positions. On January 6, the day Congress was scheduled to certify electoral college results for the Presidential election, there was an unprecedented insurrection at the U.S. capitol where five people died and revolutionaries infiltrated the capitol while Congress was in session. Legislators were forced to take cover or go into shelter. We continue to pray for the protection of our legislators, staff, security personnel and the new Presidential administration. We pray for their wisdom in leading our deeply divided nation, and we pray for citizens that we may all seek peace and respect for one another. We as Friends have the opportunity to represent calm, patience and faith – and respect for one another, whether or not we agree with others.

WALHRADIO.COM: Although WYM Ministry & Counsel did not initiate this ministry, multiple pastors in the Wilmington area are providing regular services on "The Quaker Hour" which is aired twice on Sundays of each week. This online radio program has become a real ministry, especially in this time of being shut in by the pandemic.

Training and Recording: 1) At July session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, two were recorded: a) Miriam Speaight, of Springfield Meeting, as Minister of the Gospel with a

gift of Healing, and b) Hannah Lutz, currently pastor of Ada Chapel, as Minister of the Gospel. 2) Ray Geers from Cincinnati Friends Meeting has completed requirements and was approved in October for Recording as a Minister of the Gospel, and Training and Recording recommends that he be recorded at the summer session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. 3) Training and Recording has continued classes throughout the fall and winter 2020-21 for candidate, Katie Ubry-Terrell. 4) Stephen Crouch, Wilmington Friends, was recommended for training and recording by his monthly meeting and Miami Center Quarterly Meeting. The November session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting approved Stephen for Training and Recording, and he has been involved in that process for this past year. Stephen has agreed to lead devotions on the Friday and Saturday mornings of July Yearly Meeting gathering. 4) Jim Newby and Patricia Thomas have taught these Training and Recording classes: a) The Hebrew and Christian Testaments, b) The Minister and Communication, c) Pastoral Care and Self Care, d) Quakerism and e) a final March session will be personal credos and the candidates writing and sharing, What do I believe and Why do I believe it? Jim and Patricia were assisted by Stephen Pottoff, from Wilmington College, in the class on the Hebrew and Christian Testaments; and Ron Rembert, retired professor at Wilmington College, helped teach the class on Quakerism and Testimonies.

Inter-Visitation: Miriam Speaight continues to encourage intervisitation among meetings and individuals. She asks that people please contact her so

that she can record activities and visits that occur. We also appreciate the regular Friday email communications from Katie that help us know of formal events that are occurring throughout the year. In many ways, Zoom has helped us have 2021 WYM Ministry & Counsel Annual Report 3 opportunity to attend special programs and services throughout the yearly meeting that might not have been possible in person.

**Pastoral Care:** At summer sessions of WYM, we will continue discussion of need for a Pastoral Care Committee. We definitely want to recognize, though, that pastoral care continues to take place among pastors through fellowship meals, friendship, support and prayer.

**Londonderry Friends Meeting:** Although Londonderry has not held services for some years, we plan to lay the meeting down at the July 2021 yearly meeting session if, as we anticipate, all financial and legal obligations have been fulfilled related to conveyance of the building to another church group which is now holding services in the building. Evelyn Cleary, mother to Jane Brown, was the last living member of Londonderry. Evelyn passed away on June 9, 2021. Because her mother desired it, Jane Brown has asked that the monies from sale of the building be given to the nearby cemetery association to continue care of the cemetery. J. P. Lund, WYM Presiding Clerk, has been in dialogue with WYM Trustees and Jane Brown to assist her with the financial and legal obligations as per Faith and Practice, and Joan VanSickle Sloan, WYM M&C Clerk,

has been in touch with Jane to offer assistance with services or other spiritual assistance, if needed.

**Suggestion for Stimulus Check Funds:** If you have surplus funds from government stimulus checks or other funds, consider passing that money along to nonprofits, including Wilmington Yearly Meeting, to help those in need.

**Jamestown Friends Meeting:** Because Jamestown's pastor is leaving, we heard that Katie sent a list of potential pastors and speakers to Jamestown, and we agreed to offer other encouragement or support as needed. Fortunately, a new pastor is now serving Jamestown, and we want to extend a welcome to that pastor and family.

**Role of Ministry and Counsel:** At the request of the ad hoc Committee on Policies and Procedures, Ministry and Counsel Clerk wrote a document, "Role of Ministry and Counsel in Wilmington Yearly Meeting." That description is included in July 2021 materials for yearly meeting.

**Planning Committee for Wilmington Yearly Meeting:** With the goal of including and involving more young adults in yearly meeting, we coordinated with the Young Adult Committee to have one (or more, as needed) worship sharing group specifically for young adults at this YM session. Stephen Crouch will be giving devotions, so there is already interest among the young adult members of his meeting. As we continue to live through this pandemic, we continue in prayer for the rapid vaccination of people, worldwide, and we pray for

safety of people and comfort for those afflicted with illness or death. We continue to pray for a more peaceful United States, based on respect and integrity.

*Joan VanSickle Sloan Presiding Clerk for Ministry and Counsel*

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

AGREED TO SERVE:

### **2021-2022 OFFICERS**

- WYM Presiding Clerk: Jennilou Grotevant (**new appointment**)
- Assistant WYM Presiding Clerk: Jeannette Hamby (year 4)
- Recording Clerk: Judy Leasure (**new appointment**)
- Assistant Recording Clerk: Sharon Trivett (year 3)
- Treasurer: Mike Miller (**new appointment**)

### **2021-2022 WYM Ministry & Counsel**

- Clerk: Joan VanSickle-Sloan (year 4)
- Assistant Clerk: Jonda Hamilton (**new appointment**)
- Recording Clerk: Gary Farlow (year 6)
- Assistant Recording Clerk: Julie Rudd (year 6)

### **Training & Recording**

- Jim Newby (term 2)
- Craig Strafford (term 2)
- Patricia Thomas (term 2)

### **College Committee**

- Doug Woodmansee (term 2)
- Tabitha Speaight (term 2)
- Tanya Snarr (term 2)
- Christine Snyder (term 2)
- Summer McBrayer (**new appointment**)

### **Trustees**

- Mike Miller (**new appointment**)

### **Quaker Knoll Camp Board**

- Kevin Snarr (**new appointment**)
- Cody Camp (**new appointment**)

### **Historical Materials**

- Rebecca Godfrey (term 2)
- Virginia Vandervort (term 2)

### **Finance**

- Billie Baker (term 2)
- Duane Early (**new appointment**)
- Fanya Gilbert (**new appointment**)

- Mike Anderson (**new appointment**)

### **Board on Youth & Young Adults**

- Elise Snarr (**new appointment**)

### **Board on Missions & Evangelism**

- Cathy Hadley (term 2)
- Wayne Page (term 2)
- Gary Farlow (**new appointment**)

### **Board on Christian Concerns for Peace & Society**

- Michael Snarr (term 2)
- Becky Strafford (**new appointment**)

### **2021 Epistle Committee**

- Julie Rudd
- Dan Kasztelan
- Jonathan Goff

### **QUAKER KNOLL CAMP BOARD**

Due to COVID-19, we had many cancellations in 2020, resulting in a camp rental income of less than \$2,000 at year-end. A blessing that came out of that was an increase in time for our caretaker, Jay Schroeder, to build up our disc golf course and community. Golf courses were open throughout the pandemic, and we

were able to bring in nearly \$3,000 in donations for the year from disc golf alone. We charge \$5/person, and Jay was able to hold a tournament to bring in a larger audience and charge registration fees.

This led to the need for an advertising brochure that Jay could easily hand to people when they asked about renting the camp. We created a double-sided rack card that will be updated each year and be made available at the camp, to Meetings, at the local Chamber of Commerce, etc.

Because the majority of our costs are fixed – grounds maintenance, caretaker salary, base utilities – our expenses were equivalent to previous years. In addition, a leak was discovered under the floor of the bath house and an outside contractor had to come in to make repairs. A small amount of damage to the bath house also occurred when a tree limb came down on the roof, but that is being taken care of in-house. The deck rails of Quaker Knoll House have been painted, and new log benches were installed in the amphitheater, all performed by our caretaker.

Wilmington Friends Meeting began meeting outdoors at Quaker Knoll during the pandemic, and have continued to Zoom from there for their hybrid services. We feel grateful to have been able to provide this space so that they could continue to worship together.

Rentals in 2021 have picked up, particularly for weddings, but we still missed being able to hold camps for the youth. We look forward to increased business and in-person camps in 2022.

## **TRUSTEES**

The Trustees have taken action and continue to work on the following matters concerning Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

- The Trustees continue to work on obtaining the appropriate documentation to provide Meetings leaving Wilmington Yearly Meeting; to renounce any WYM ownership interest in those properties.
- The Trustees have asked Jon Walt to conduct a financial review of the 2020 WYM accounting records. This will be completed in August.
- Green Plains cemetery has seven broken stones and Gary is working with the caretaker to make these repairs that may cost \$2,000-\$2,500. They were also authorized to locate seminars related to these repairs that would provide them with the ability to complete the repairs without outside assistance.
- The Trustees were in agreement that earmarked funds being held by the Trustees should not be transferred to other organizations. In addition, if this type of action were to be pursued then the families of the donors should be contacted for approval before any transfers are made.

*Duane Earley, Clerk*

### **Summary of the Activity in the Fiduciary Accounts**

**Expenditures from the Fiduciary accounts since 1 January 2021:**

Fees 2502.40

Joel Armlovich mowing Greenplain Cemetery – 1 June  
2021 300.00

FCNL Peace Lecture – 14 June 2021 500.00

**Total as of 1 July 2021: 3302.40**

**Gains to the Funds as of 1 July 2021 (undistributed)\***

Income: 1753.97

Realized gain: 8966.95

Unrealized gain: 24101.24

**Total Gains to the Fund since as of 1 July 2021:  
34822.16**

**AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS**

**Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)**

The FWCC Section of the America met in sessions held virtually from March 12-21, 2021. Although the in-person meeting was missed, it was wonderful to have a much larger attendance, especially from South and Central America, than in the recent past. Preparation for the virtual sessions was exemplary, allowing us to have home groups, business, music, worship in many forms, and Bible study. Hangout spaces based on two different platforms offered opportunities for impromptu chats in the evenings. Interpretation was provided to permit full participation by Spanish speaking Friends.

FWCC approved two requests for affiliation from two recently formed Yearly Meetings: Sierra Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends and Friends Church of North Carolina. The strategic plan as described in "Weaving the Tapestry" has been completed. The underlying goals remain pertinent, but specific objectives set to help us attain these have served their purpose.

Wilmington YM Friends might remember the visit of Marty Smith in October, 2019. She was a part of the FWCC Traveling Ministry Corps. Obviously, once the pandemic hit, this corps had to adapt. FWCC has decided to re-imagine this ministry. Work is beginning on new ways to connect Friends of all traditions in the Americas.

Evident in many of the reports and advance documents, new ways of planning are being used that will help the organization respond agilely in the current world. As the executive Secretary Robin Mohr stated in her report, "So stay tuned. A change is gonna come."

submitted by JP Lund

### **Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)**

Dear Friends,

Our Quaker faith and practice call us to work for the peaceful, just, equitable, and sustainable world we seek. Since 1943, the Friends Committee on National Legislation has carried on this witness of the Spirit through action on Capitol Hill. Here are just some of the highlights of this year's work, made possible by your advocacy, engagement, and financial support. Learn

more about the legislative impact of FCNL's work at [www.fcnl.org/impact](http://www.fcnl.org/impact).

The COVID-19 pandemic shifted both how FCNL works and the urgency of our advocacy to heed God's call to care for people who are vulnerable. Thanks in part to our efforts, COVID-19 relief legislation will cut child poverty in half this year and increase food assistance.

The need to adapt in a pandemic also led to new opportunities. A record 700 people joined in our Annual Meeting, nearly half attending for the first time. At that gathering, General Committee members approved legislative priorities for the 117th Congress, a budget that builds on FCNL's strong financial footing, and revised bylaws to allow Friends to be considered for General Committee service regardless of immigration status. Meanwhile, online gathering gave FCNL valuable opportunities to be in community with Friends and offer a new level of trainings and support to Quaker meetings, churches, and gatherings across the country.

This year also brought a crisis for U.S. democracy and faith in our government. FCNL is nonpartisan, but we are not neutral about the harm caused when our government pursues racist, nationalist, and militaristic ideologies and practices. The January 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol was only one manifestation of the challenges to our democratic system. FCNL continues to pursue accountability, truth-seeking, and deep listening as we work for change.

The murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and so many other Black Americans by police gave new

urgency to FCNL's work on racial justice. Between two major FCNL lobby events, more than 1,000 people advocated to end police violence. FCNL advocacy helped restore access to Pell grants for incarcerated people and launch new initiatives to address the crisis of missing and murdered Native women. Internally, we began an intensive focus with staff and governors to address systemic racism and white supremacy as it manifests in our organization.

FCNL also helped move forward efforts to end support for violent conflict and to make peacebuilding a priority. President Biden's decision to end support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen is the culmination of years of tireless advocacy by FCNL and our allies. An extension of the New START agreement with Russia continues limits on the number of deployed nuclear weapons in each country, building on FCNL's lobbying to build bipartisan support for the agreement.

And efforts to repeal the 2002 Authorization for the Use of Military Force moved forward, thanks in large part to the work of more than 1,500 people on FCNL Advocacy Teams around the country who use their power as constituents to make change in Washington.

FCNL continues its decade-long work to press for bipartisan action on climate change. We are heartened by executive actions that led the United States to rejoin the Paris Climate Agreement and advance environmental justice initiatives.

We will build on this progress toward a sustainable, low-carbon economy as we bring on a new class of

young adult Advocacy Corps organizers this summer, who will focus on building bipartisan support for a price on carbon. They will need your partnership, support, and accompaniment in this work.

Advocacy Teams members are just some of the many people who enrich FCNL's work with their time and commitment. We are grateful for the nearly 200 Friends, representing 32 Yearly Meetings and Friends organizations, who govern FCNL as General Committee members.

We look forward to welcoming Friends to take part in the Friend in Washington program when travel is again safe; we benefit immensely from the seasoned Friends who volunteer on a short-term basis on specific projects and contribute to the spiritual richness of FCNL.

We also recognize the dedication of the people taking part in our Young Adult programs—as Young Fellows, Advocacy Corps organizers, interns, and Spring Lobby Weekend participants. Learn more about young adult program opportunities at [www.fcnl.org/youngadult](http://www.fcnl.org/youngadult).

The FCNL Education Fund assumed responsibility for ownership and operations of the William Penn House, a guest house on Capitol Hill, in September 2019. (The House continues to be a separate 501(c)(3) charitable organization with its own budget and governance.) We anticipate reopening the space and launching educational programming and advocacy trainings in the coming year.

Recognizing William Penn's history as an enslaver, the William Penn House board approved changing the venue's name to Friends Place on Capitol Hill. With this change, the board affirmed the need to continue reckoning with Quakers' complicity in slavery and racism and to use the facility in service of challenging and dismantling the foundations of white supremacy.

FCNL General Secretary Diane Randall has announced she will leave FCNL at the end of 2021. For the past ten years, Diane has fostered FCNL's growth and strength among Friends and on Capitol Hill. When she became the first woman to lead the organization, Diane told us that FCNL "must be bold, strategic, and relentless." Today, we are that and far more.

FCNL has begun a search process to select the next General Secretary. We hope to bring a candidate to the General Committee for approval at Annual Meeting in November 2021.

FCNL's work in the year ahead will be full of challenges and opportunities, both politically and organizationally. We are grateful to have a strong foundation on which to build. Thank you for your prayers, participation, and support, and—above all—for your faithfulness.

Ron Ferguson

### **Friends United Meeting (FUM)**

In 2021, Friends United Meeting has adopted the theme of "Hope and Light" to reflect the spiritual message we want to convey to our FUM members and the world. The Scriptures remind us, "God is light, and in him,

there is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5) The people of the world continue to experience the multiple stresses of global pandemic, racial tension, political division, financial inequality, war and violence, and environmental disruption—yet, as a community, FUM affirms a life-giving hope that light will overcome the shadows of darkness and despair. We witness this through the amazing work being done by the members, staff, and ministry partners of Friends United Meeting. This is a season of hope and light.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, “To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.” These ancient words remind us of the natural order and changing circumstances of life. Friends United Meeting is experiencing several significant seasonal changes.

During the last three years nearly every program and department of FUM has to reinvasion staffing responsibilities, restructure departments, and welcome new team members.

In the Finance Department, Kira Young was hired as Financial Services Manager, and then promoted to serve as FUM’s Financial Services Director. Emonse Muhindi joined the Africa Ministries Office (AMO) staff as the Operations Manager. He works closely with AMO staff and Kira to oversee the daily operations of the office, including financial management.

Global Ministries Department. Eden Grace’s departure created a significant void in our global ministries programs. To provide more support and oversight for these programs, FUM formed the new Global Ministries

(GM) team. Colin Saxton returned to FUM to oversee North American engagement. He oversees leadership and spiritual formation among North American Friends, as well as development programs. Karla Jay was hired to serve as the coordinator of the Global Ministries team, and provide administrative support for field staff and team directors, including Kira Young (GM finance), Colin Saxton (GM fundraising), and myself (GM programs and personnel).

The COVID-19 pandemic has shaped the priorities and ministries of FUM for nearly eighteen months. FUM is experiencing the creativity and generosity of our community. Responding to the need for remote learning, friends of Ramallah Friends School donated 125 laptops for teachers, and Friends Theological College launched its new e-learning program. FUM established the Solidarity Fund, and African Friends formed a collaboration of FUM, Friends Church Kenya, and FWCC–Africa to respond to the humanitarian and spiritual needs of vulnerable communities. Friends gave generously, and FUM distributed \$96,000 for PPEs for Friends medical work, flood relief, feeding programs, teachers' support, hospital expenses, funeral expenses, and other emergency needs. We are thankful for the generosity of all those who have enabled FUM to connect the global family of Friends and serve vulnerable communities.

FUM continues its commitment to connecting the global community of Friends to resources that enhance the spiritual life and identity of Friends.

This year FUM has expanded the production of our weekly E-news. This email newsletter is released on Wednesdays, containing highlights from member Yearly Meetings and Associations, field staff updates, program activities, job postings, and much more. The editorial team includes staff members from both the AMO and Richmond offices.

Quaker Life continues to be an important publication for FUM. In this triennium, each issue of Quaker Life focused on a single theme of spiritual life. Recent issues have included the topics Hope, Joy, Mercy, Crisis, Peace, Abide, and Light; Community is the theme for the summer 2021 issue. Friends are invited to write Biblical reflections, life experiences, and wisdom around each theme.

In the coming year, FUM will expand our commitment to energize and equip Friends. In January 2021, we welcomed Colin Saxton back to FUM as the Director of North American Ministries. He is launching a series of new ministries to support the spiritual health of North American Friends. John Muhanji also has a new ministry focus to oversee new leadership development, fundraising, and mission mobilization initiatives among African Friends. Spiritually equipped leaders and energized Meetings and churches are God-given pathways for the hope and light of Christ to transform lives and change the world. This is why Friends United Meeting is committing to serve our members in new ways. This is a season of new life for Friends United Meeting, and it is exciting to prayerfully anticipate the possibilities that will spring forth.

My father and I are very different. He is mechanically minded, I am not. He works on cars and motors, I don't. When I was child my job to hold the flashlight while my father worked in dark places. In many ways, my work has not changed as God continues to call FUM to shine Christ's hope and light in the world. Thank you for your partnership in this vital work.

Kelly Kellum

### **Friends United Meeting (FUM) Triennial**

Friends, I am humbled and grateful to serve as the General Secretary of Friends United Meeting. This triennial report allows me to reflect on FUM's work and challenges during the last triennium and prayerfully consider how FUM is being called to embody our mission and ministry priorities for the next three years. This is not the triennial reunion we envisioned when the Representative Body left our gathering in Wichita, Kansas, four years ago. At that time, we looked forward to our next gathering in July 2020, in person, in Kenya. We did not envision a virtual triennial, a year late, with Friends gathering by video conference or telephone. Neither did we envision the disruptions, griefs, and stresses of a global pandemic. This season is teaching Friends to hold plans lightly, adapt to shifting conditions, embrace new technologies and opportunities, and rely on God's faithfulness.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." These ancient words remind us of the natural order and

changing circumstances of life. Friends United Meeting is experiencing several significant seasonal changes.

During the last three years nearly every program and department of FUM has adjusted to multiple staff changes and transitions:

- Kristna Evens resigned as the Manager of Friends United Press.
- Barbara Smith retired as our Finance Manager.
- Candi Young left her position at Belize Friends School.
- Ben Snyder, Coordinator of North American Ministries, and Julie Rudd, Media Specialist, left FUM to focus on their pastoral callings.
- Andy Albertini, RFS Advancement Officer, resigned to become the director of a nonprofit in Dallas.
- Ken Saina was released from his position as the Finance Manager at the Africa Ministries Office.
- Sammy Letoole, Samburu Mission Director, resigned to accept an appointment to a position in the county government.
- Eden Grace resigned in December 2020, after sixteen years of service as FUM Field Staff and Director of Global Ministries.
- Adrian Moody will be leaving his position as Head of Ramallah Friends School on June 30, 2021.
- This summer, John Moru will leave his work as the Director of Turkana Friends Mission.

- Next March, Africa Programme Officers Katrina and Shawn McConaughy will return to the United States, where Shawn will become the Superintendent for Western Yearly Meeting.

These transitions are challenging Friends United Meeting to reenvision staffing responsibilities, restructure departments, and welcome new team members.

In the Finance Department, Kira Young was hired as Financial Services Manager, and then promoted to serve as FUM's Financial Services Director. Kira oversees the financial operations of FUM, specifically charged to simplify FUM's accounting and reporting procedures, manage financial records and implement financial control, collaborate with other directors and department heads, and oversee the implementation of the multi-year budget. Emonse Muhindi joined the Africa Ministries Office (AMO) staff as the Operations Manager. He works closely with AMO staff and Kira to oversee the daily operations of the office, including financial management.

Communications Department. In May 2019, FUM expanded Shari Veach's responsibilities to include serving as the Interim Press and Bookstore Manager. This allowed FUM to continue press and bookstore operations as we marked Friends United Press's fifty years of service. Additionally this triennium, FUM worked to expand our communications and social media presence with African Friends. Kate Gunza, of the Africa Ministries Office, was promoted into a new position as the Communications and Events

Coordinator. She is actively working to expand FUM's Whatsapp, Facebook, and Telegram Groups.

Global Ministries Department. Eden Grace's departure created a significant void in our global ministries programs. To provide more support and oversight for these programs, FUM formed the new Global Ministries (GM) team. Colin Saxton returned to FUM to oversee North American engagement. He oversees leadership and spiritual formation among North American Friends, as well as development programs. Karla Jay was hired to serve as the coordinator of the Global Ministries team, and provide administrative support for field staff and team directors, including Kira Young (GM finance), Colin Saxton (GM fundraising), and myself (GM programs and personnel). Among Project Partner personnel, FUM is pleased to welcome Frank Tench, Principal of Belize Friends School; Rania Maayeh, the incoming head of Ramallah Friends School; Daniel Lentirangoi, the new Director of Samburu Friends Mission, and Peter Lotenga, appointed to be the Director of Turkana Friends Mission.

During the coming weeks, FUM will finalize staffing plans to ensure Shawn and Katrina's vital work among Friends in East Africa continues, as they plan to leave in less than a year. It remains my joy to support the work and ministries of FUM's amazing, dedicated, and highly gifted staff team.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shaped the priorities and ministries of FUM for nearly eighteen months. At the beginning of this triennium, FUM did not anticipate a singular crisis that would impact every Yearly Meeting,

association, project partner, and program of FUM. Local Meetings and churches are adopting new ways of gathering, schools are responding by innovating new educational platforms, and stay-at-home orders are changing how many of us work. For nearly a year, most Richmond staff worked remotely from their homes.

The pandemic compounds the disparities and vulnerabilities experienced by people in the communities we serve. Getry Agizah, Programme Coordinator for the Friends Church Peace Team, offers pastoral care and support for young girls who are victims of sexual assault. Oscar Mmbali and Nikki Holland, FUM's staff in Belize City, deliver food parcels with love to families on the South Side, a community experiencing an unemployment rate of 68%. Adrian Moody, Head of Ramallah Friends School, is working tirelessly to ensure that the school continues to offer a world-class Quaker education despite Covid restrictions, school closures, and military occupation.

This triennium, FUM is experiencing the creativity and generosity of our community. Responding to the need for remote learning, friends of Ramallah Friends School donated 125 laptops for teachers, and Friends Theological College launched its new e-learning program. FUM established the Solidarity Fund, and African Friends formed a collaboration of FUM, Friends Church Kenya, and FWCC–Africa to respond to the humanitarian and spiritual needs of vulnerable communities. Friends gave generously, and FUM distributed \$96,000 for PPEs for Friends medical work, flood relief, feeding programs, teachers' support,

hospital expenses, funeral expenses, and other emergency needs. We are thankful for the generosity of all those who have enabled FUM to connect the global family of Friends and serve vulnerable communities.

FUM continues its commitment to connecting the global community of Friends to resources that enhance the spiritual life and identity of Friends. This triennium, the Communications team launched a new website. While this site continues to be built, <https://www.friendsunitedmeeting.org/> features staff pages, a new giving platform, a governance page for board members, contact information for member Yearly Meetings and Associations, field staff pages, and a news blog. More and more churches and groups are discovering FUM through the internet. This includes a group from southern Tanzania who found us online, and another group who call themselves Friends United Meeting Haiti. FUM's website is a front door to our ministry and a tool for outreach.

Additionally, FUM has expanded the production of our weekly E-news. This email newsletter is released on Wednesdays, containing highlights from member Yearly Meetings and Associations, field staff updates, program activities, job postings, and much more. The editorial team includes staff members from both the AMO and Richmond offices. Please sign up to receive FUM's E-news.

Quaker Life continues to be an important publication for FUM. In this triennium, each issue of Quaker Life focused on a single theme of spiritual life. Recent issues have included the topics Hope, Joy, Mercy, Crisis, Peace,

Abide, and Light; Community is the theme for the summer 2021 issue. Friends are invited to write Biblical reflections, life experiences, and wisdom around each theme.

One of the ways FUM is keeping Friends connected is through prayer. Currently, FUM is hosting monthly international prayer gatherings on Zoom and WhatsApp to learn how we can pray for our fellow members. Ron Bryan, presiding clerk of FUM writes, "It is powerful praying as a global community, to listen to the cares and concerns of people from around the world, and pray together with one voice."

At its meeting in March 2019, the FUM General Board discussed the fact that no Board committee had a designated responsibility for the long-term financial welfare of Friends United Meeting. The Long Range Financial Planning Task Group was formed to look at FUM's long-term financial welfare and make recommendations regarding ways to strengthen that welfare. Members of this group include the Clerk and Assistant Clerk— Africa; one representative each from the Finance Committee, Advancement Committee, and Trustees; and the General Secretary. The final report of this group is found in the documents hosted on Box.

Among the Task Force recommendations approved by the General Board is the adoption of a new sustainability policy. The mission of Friends United Meeting is to "energize and equip Friends through the power of the Holy Spirit to gather people into fellowships where Jesus Christ is known, loved, and obeyed as Teacher and Lord." To encourage long-term

financial dependence is not a strong model of energizing and equipping Friends. Rather, FUM hopes to support the development of long-term financial sustainability in all of our ministries. This will mean coming alongside local leadership of ministries to help those ministries become increasingly sustainable over time. This absolutely does not imply a diminishing of our spiritual partnership with any given ministry. Rather, we believe that a genuine spiritual partnership is one in which neither party is dependent on the other.

Sustainability will look different for different ministries. Some ministries will be best served by developing endowments; others will be best served by developing a local business that generates income; others may have yet a different path to sustainment. During the coming triennium, Friends will learn about the appointment and work of the new Sustainability Committee, and the job description for a new, standing Sustainability Committee.

In the coming triennium, FUM will expand our commitment to energize and equip Friends. In January 2021, we welcomed Colin Saxton back to FUM as the Director of North American Ministries. He is launching a series of new ministries to support the spiritual health of North American Friends. Through his work with Everence and the Lake Institute, he will provide stewardship and generosity resources for Yearly Meetings and local congregations. Over Pentecost weekend (May 21-23) this year, FUM hosted Stoking the Fire, a “virtual” spiritual retreat for Friends eager to deepen their relationships with God. In the coming

triennium, you will learn about other workshops, renewal opportunities, and resources to support North American Meetings and churches, and Yearly Meetings and Associations.

John Muhanji also has a new ministry focus. While he continues to serve as the Director of African Ministries, other staff members are now overseeing the daily operations of the office. This frees John up to focus on leadership development, fundraising, and mission mobilization among African Friends. Recently, John participated in the Transformational Leadership Conference hosted by Friends Theological College. He is working to equip the new African Missions Committee, which is planning a significant missions conference this year. This year, you will learn about new outreach strategies and leadership opportunities to support the ministries of our African Yearly Meetings and churches.

Spiritually equipped leaders and energized Meetings and churches are God-given pathways for the hope and light of Christ to transform lives and change the world. This is why Friends United Meeting is making a commitment to serve our members in new ways. This is a season of new life for Friends United Meeting, and it is exciting to prayerfully anticipate the possibilities that will spring forth.

During these sessions, John and Colin will expand on FUM's vision to energize and equip Friends.

In 2021, Friends United Meeting has adopted the theme "Hope and Light" to reflect the spiritual message we want to convey to our FUM members and the world.

The Scriptures remind us, “God is light, and in him, there is no darkness at all.” (1 John 1:5) The people of the world continue to experience the multiple stresses of global pandemic, racial tension, political division, financial inequality, war and violence, and environmental disruption—yet, as a community, FUM affirms a life-giving hope that light will overcome the shadows of darkness and despair. We witness this through the amazing work being done by the members, staff, and ministry partners of Friends United Meeting. This is a season of hope and light.

Kelly Kellum

## STATISTICAL REPORT

MEETING	ADULT MEMBERS	JUNIOR MEMBERS	REGULAR ATTENDERS (NON-MEMBERS)	AVERAGE WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	SUNDAY SCHOOL
Ada Chapel	43	2	1	8	N/A
Campus	13	0	3	3	N/A
Cincinnati	64	4	28	38	18
Chester	31	2	21	45	0
Dover	13	0	1	7	N/A
Eastern Hills	21	3	4	19	2
Fairview	53	0	5	18	10
Jamestown	36	0	4	14	4
Knoxville	19	4	0	3	3
Londonderry					
Martinsville					
Maryville	16	6	3	12	6
Sabina					
Samantha					
Springfield	51	19	19	22	10
Wilmington	103	17	15	47	10
Xenia	36	7	1	8	N/A
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>63</b>

## STATE OF SOCIETY REPORTS

**2021 Theme:** Compassion Through Action

**2021 Scripture:** Matthew 25:35-40 – *For when I was hungry, you gave me food; when thirsty, you gave me drink; when I was a stranger you took me into your home; when naked, you clothed me; when I was ill you came to my help; when I was in prison you visited me. Then the righteous will reply: Lord, When was it that we saw you hungry, and fed you, or thirsty and gave you drink, or a stranger and took you home; or naked and clothed you. When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you? And the King will answer, I tell you this: anything you do for my brothers here, however humble, you do unto me. (NIV)*

### **2021 Queries:**

1. We see in this passage that God is a compassionate God. How has God's compassion been present in your life, and in the life of your meeting?
2. In what ways is your meeting feeling called to put compassion into action, both within the meeting, and in your community?
3. Recognizing the Light in others is an act of compassion. How do you give voice to that compassion--both in your meeting and in your own life?

**Ada Chapel Friends Meeting**

Like just about everyone on planet earth, Ada Chapel found this past year to be difficult in many ways, but to also be full of unexpected surprises, and abundant joy.

Due to Covid-19, we stopped meeting for in-person worship in March 2020. During the time that we were not physically meeting, we worshiped together via blog posts, and via the Quaker Hour on WALH radio. In July 2020, many of us returned to the meetinghouse. One of the advantages to being a small meeting is that it makes social distancing very easy. However, returning to in-person worship was not an option for all of us. So, at that time, we shifted to recording our Sunday morning worship on Facebook Live. Facebook Live surprised us—as we discovered that not only were our Friends who were homebound by the pandemic tuning in, but so were Friends who had moved away, and who couldn't typically join us because of their work schedules, or for other reasons. As light begins to appear at the end of the pandemic tunnel, the question of what pandemic adaptations might be beneficial to carry with us into a post-pandemic world is on our minds.

Over the course of this historical year, we have seen evidence of God's great compassion through His faithfulness to us. Many Friends in our meeting experienced seasons of fear, uncertainty, illness, financial insecurity, grief, celebration, growth, peace, and joy in 2020, and through it all—God's presence in our lives has not wavered. We know that when God's beloved suffers, He suffers with us. When God's beloved rejoices, He rejoices with us. And we are all

God's beloved—no ifs, ands, or buts about it. Jesus's steady hand continues to hold us up, and it is a constant reminder of how very much God loves His creation.

One thing that the pandemic has not changed is the essence of who we are at Ada Chapel. At Ada Chapel, we are very laid back. We don't have a multitude of active committees to help shape our focus, and we don't necessarily plan acts of compassion or of generosity in advance. But we do keep our eyes open to the community, our ears open to the Spirit, and we have big hearts. Because of the surrounding neighborhood, and because of Ada Chapel's history, we often find ourselves led towards acts of compassion that will help those who are experiencing poverty. In 2020, we contributed to Sugartree Ministries, the Clinton County Ho-Ho Shop, and the Wilmington High School Food Pantry. We have also been active with our diaper program—providing diapers to families in the community that are in need of them. Recently, some Friends at Ada Chapel have become dismayed by the prevailing attitude about homelessness and poverty in Clinton County. In the same spirit of the Quaker testimony of equality, Friends at Ada Chapel feel very strongly about treating all people with dignity and with respect no matter what. And some Friends do not feel that homeless and impoverished people in Clinton County are currently being treated that way. We are still discussing it, but this is an issue that Ada Chapel could be led to work on in 2021.

It is our fervent hope and prayer that all of us will be able to be back together again in 2021, and that Ada Chapel will lean into this resurrection moment—that we will shed away the things that are no longer serving us, and that we will step into this “new” world, filled with Light, wonder, and with the love of Christ.

### **Campus Friends Meeting**

Campus Friends Meeting ceased holding Meeting for Worship when Wilmington College closed in March 2020. We began meeting outside during the summer months at the Campus Pavilion in view of the Community Gardens. When the campus re-opened in the fall of 2020 and the weather turned colder, we returned to the Meetinghouse. Whether inside or outside, Friends maintain face coverings and social distancing during meeting for worship which made us realize how much we miss the hugs and handshakes which are so much a part of our connectedness.

Our times of fellowship outside meeting for worship have also been adversely affected by the pandemic. Campus Friends grieve the suspension of our semi-monthly Tuesday evening worship at Cape May Retirement Community here in Wilmington. We miss seeing not only our members who live at Cape May, but also all the Friends who attended worship there with us. We have suspended our after-worship monthly fellowship meals and postponed the annual Eastern Hills/Campus Friends joint retreat.

In November Campus Friends did gather at the rise of worship for our traditional Fifth Sunday discussion to

share our Covid-19 experiences. We shared individual responses to two queries: How have you stayed centered during the pandemic? and What have you learned during the time of Covid-19? There is consensus that this was a valued time of community connection especially since our ability to fellowship has been so limited over the past year. Friends are looking forward to May 30 and our next opportunity for a Fifth Sunday Discussion.

Campus Friends Meeting has been meeting faithfully in person and supporting each other as much as possible within the limitations of Covid-19. We have not been led to any particular outreach during this time. Through our First Sunday offerings, Campus Meeting continues to provide monetary support to the Isaac Harvey Fund and the Quaker Leader Scholars at Wilmington College. We also support Hope House: a safe place for women and children and the Clinton County Youth Council. Friends are actively involved with these community organizations.

The ministry and outreach of Campus Friends Meeting is a composite of the contributions our members and attenders make to the wider community. In this way, Campus Friends Meeting provides active support of Hope House: a low barrier shelter for women and children; King George VI School for children with disabilities in Zimbabwe; leadership in Friends Association for Higher Education; involvement with the Wilmington College community; participation in local organizations that speak to our conditions. As one of

the Quaker Lectures at Wilmington College last fall, two members presented virtually a reflection and discussion about the relevance of challenges posed to Friends by Black Friend Barrington Dunbar. Our clerk contributes to the Quaker Hour on the local internet radio station. Friends also seek to let our lives speak through the work we do in our careers. Our size - 12 resident members, one non-resident member – plus three faithful attenders, limits the nature of our outreach.

Friends have expressed a desire to increase our visibility through creation or revision of websites. As the only unprogrammed meeting for worship in Wilmington Yearly Meeting outside Cincinnati, Campus Friends Meeting wants to be more visible to people seeking an experience of Quaker worship in the expectant waiting silence of open worship.

### **Chester Friends Meeting**

- 1. We see in this passage that God is a compassionate God. How has God's compassion been present in your life, and in the life of your meeting?*

After the lock down was over, we had a couple of our older members drive around and make outdoor visit calls; with car windows rolled down and recipient at a safe distance, it was pure joy to have this couple check in on folks. Phone calls, beautiful cards might seem like an ordinary thing – but during a pandemic, it became a glorious way to check in on one another, a beautiful way to stay connected.

- 2. In what ways is your meeting feeling called to put compassion into action, both within the meeting, and in your community?*

Gretchen Barney, one of our RNs at Chester, works at a hospital in the Cincinnati area and asked if we could fill out compassionate greeting cards to front line workers who were taking care of COVID-19 patients, during the beginning stages of the pandemic. She would always keep these co-workers before us asking us to hold them in God's tender care, as well as the patients they worked with.

We showed compassion and respect to one another when it was suggested we take worship outside in our pavilion area; in fact you might say it was truly a joy filled experience to sit outside under the canopy of our trees enjoying our surroundings as we gathered in fellowship with one another as we worshipped. Many of us remember one Sunday morning, when a hummingbird flew into the gathering and hovered there with us for quite some time, it was truly a joy filled moment.

- 3. Recognizing the Light in others is an act of compassion. How do you give voice to that compassion, both in your meeting and in your own life?*

Renee Quallen works for the Clinton County Health Department. She worked tirelessly with long and arduous hours during this difficult time. She never

hesitated to answer concerns sent her way during unusual times of the day from the leadership of Chester.

We were grateful for the group from Chester who gathered to volunteer at a COVID-19 testing site in Clinton County. It was a great way to serve those in our community.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace continued to deliver beds to those in need; even in a pandemic children need to comfortably sleep! Thanks for your compassionate hearts during this time.

### **Cincinnati Friends Meeting**

A community of growing compassion in action

As individuals, as a congregation, as a country and as a global community, 2020 was a year of being:

*triggered, yet touched;*

*divided, yet gathered;*

*uncertain, yet hopeful;*

*angry, yet peaceful; and*

*absorbed, yet prayerful.*

It was a time of great paradox, one that we at Cincinnati Friends Meeting gleaned the lessons and wisdom from leaning on our testimonies, our direct relationship with Spirit and one another.

Stripped in lockdown, we were forced into living simply.

With a world, and especially a country, in tumult we sought peace. With integrity, we carried on in new ways of outreach and connecting. We forged community in unlikely places, cherishing in-person exchanges. We looked for the inequities and mediated them when and

as we could. We collectively witnessed the planet flourish under lockdown and nurtured our weary souls on Meetinghouse grounds, recognizing the fruits of stewardship.

#### PRESENCE OF COMPASSION

As we hurt, we were opened to deeper compassion for God's blessings, our faith community, each other, Mother Nature, those falling sick with Covid-19 and conspiracy, separated and caged children, the marginalized, the unemployed, the hungry and the isolated.

Our weekly worship, over Facebook then Zoom thanks to the technical talents of our newest member and our administrative assistant, centered and bound us, sometimes as a gathered experience, in an uncertain world.

A tireless Public Health Committee quickly formed to research current medical and governmental advice and prayerfully discern guidelines for outdoor gatherings and small-group indoor meetings. Those members worked with Trustees on cleaning practices and considered when the Meetinghouse, mostly closed during lockdown, might be opened, partially or fully, for corporate worship. We are grateful for their care, compassion and concern for the wellbeing of the entire community.

Our diligent Trustees maintained the building and grounds throughout the pandemic, ensuring our spiritual home was ready when we were. They cleared

trees and branches for outside gatherings, replaced signs and updated the septic system for environmental compliance.

Sacred Sunday mornings have been rich, even gathered, as about 50-something join from around the world. Our minister Jim Newby and facing-bench companion Jeff Arnold, a member of Ministry and Counsel, have guided us through a brief message, silence and vocal ministry from the Meetinghouse for weeks on end.

We appreciated seeing faces, debating whether or not worshippers should be encouraged to make themselves known on camera, but discerned that as an individual choice.

When Sundays felt short, we hosted conversation after the rise of meeting as we would over a meal in the Fireside Room. Gracefully filling a gap, those exchanges grew to a once-a month discussion on matters of spiritual nurture: how we worship; what practices buoy us; and how we cope during dark times.

#### COMPASSION IN ACTION

While working out the Zoom kinks and navigating the breadth of Covid-19, we initiated a phone-tree check in and our creative card maker continued to remember birthdays. The conversations were welcome, tender and revealing. Tangible gestures such as mail and a voice on the other end held greater meaning. As we grew to understand our confinement would last, we planned a series of distanced, outdoor Saturday gatherings in late summer that blossomed around a donated fire pit with pumpkin carving and marshmallow roasting.

During warmer months, Walking Meditation and Everyday Mysticism participants met outside, reveling in the woods, sunset and longed-for in-person respites. Permaganic Co., the youth-and-urban-farming ministry the Meeting supports, hosted an outdoor work session. Fire-pit soirees ended as cold weather and Covid cases mounted, yet individual leadings creatively filled voids. In anticipation of a virtual Christmas-Eve service, members orchestrated a cookie-baking-and-delivery project, reaching those for whom the meeting carried a special concern. Masked bakers dropped off their carefully packaged goodies in the morning, greeted with a festive Fireside Room, later reserved for delivery volunteers. Connecting via a live, distanced visit and home-baked sweets kindled our Christmas Spirit(s).

The Christmas Eve service was, perhaps, more precious because it extended our reach across miles and into homes, keeping an annual tradition with a new twist. Our children and gifted musicians lifted us in song. While our closing candle lighting and rendition of Silent Night may have been far from perfect, it had the same ring as if we occupied the Meetinghouse. We were together. Worshipping the birth of Jesus. In a pandemic.

#### GIVING VOICE TO & CONNECTING THE LIGHT OF OTHERS

We attracted interest beyond worship as our social-media became more vital with a video of the weekly message, invitations to virtual classes, mask sewing, a Friends United Meeting prayer gathering, American

Friends Service Committee workshops and Wilmington College lectures. Facebook posts, some viewed by hundreds, tripled as our blog grew in content, where we responded and doubled subscribers. We traded methods of coping with pandemic anxiety, shared our experiences and spiritual reflections and leaned into historic Quaker response to crises. We successfully hosted the Wilmington Yearly Meeting sessions virtually, drawing 100 participants.

Our Daytime Spirituality group went online for an author chat with Elizabeth Newby, clerk of Peace and Social Concerns, on her updated *A Migrant with Hope: A Memoir of Peril and Promise*. Quaker Max Carter shared from his new book *Palestine and Israel, A Personal Encounter* over two Zoom sessions. They offered new perspectives and a wider understanding of marginalized groups.

Our Peace and Social Concerns committee took a struggling family, members and a member's ailing brother under its financial care while maintaining its assistance to Bethany House, Tender Mercies and the Freestore Food Bank. With Ministry and Counsel, they advised spending unanticipated funds on members' ministries under the care of the meeting, Permaganic Co. and Artsy Fartsy Saturdays, and wider Quaker organizations. Hoping for a new administration, the committee prepared for action against caged children at the border, discriminatory immigration policies and inequality.

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, Cincinnati Friends Meeting remained in strong financial condition, thanks in part to the generous support of members and regular attenders, in 2020 and was able to exhibit “compassion through action” with financial support totaling \$32,729 to Quaker organizations, local charities that support Quaker ideals, and in support of several local families. These donations, including one to the Ramallah Friends School in Max Carter’s name, represented 21 percent of the meeting’s income for the year. The scholarship committee also awarded funding to its one applicant, born into the meeting and a senior at Ohio University. We paid our childcare workers even though we were not physically meeting because it was the right thing to do.

Sadly, we said less-public goodbyes to five members and an attender who died in 2020, but warmly remembered their deep faith, love and care of this community. And, in an effort to be more flexible, inclusive and compassionate, we approved a burial-committee recommendation making non-member spouses eligible to share a plot in our Quaker section of Spring Grove Cemetery.

As ministry and counsel brainstormed this report, one member articulated this year of paradox and connecting remotely:

*“The vibrancy of our being together is embedded in the life of the meeting.”*

We held ourselves, each other, our community and those hurting to become richer in this action, leaning

into Jesus' ideal of "...whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

### **Dover Friends Meeting**

Dover Friends Meeting suspended Meeting for Worship as a whole group for several months in 2020. We attempted to gather again in the fall, but when Clinton County spiked in COVID cases we made the decision to wait until Easter 2021 to begin gathering again regularly. In the meantime, two of our members continued to hold worship in the meetinghouse privately each Sunday morning. We remained connected through email, phone calls, texts, and cards. We Zoomed with other monthly meetings and were able to join in their fellowship. We sent flowers and cards and made phone calls to individuals in nursing homes. One of those individuals was Anne Ellis, who passed away in December 2020. We also lost John Trivett in June 2021. We were blessed that John was able to join us in person for Meeting for Worship just two days before he passed away. The extended time of fellowship that we shared that day was precious and reminded us that time with one another is so important. We missed that togetherness immensely during the pandemic.

As we have returned to regular worship, we continue to send cards each week to individuals who are on our hearts. Repeatedly we hear how much our simple cards are appreciated. This is how we put our compassion in action. We also support local, national, and

international missions in our response to care for the least of these and pray that God will continue to use us to grow the church.

### **Eastern Hills Friends Meeting**

The State of our meeting reflects the state of our members. In these trying times, we've seen ourselves as the object of Matthew 25: Which of us has not felt poor in spirit? Hungry for community? In the prison of our houses or feeling bound by masks? If compassion means to "suffer with", we have had many opportunities to minister to each other. We put much effort into connecting with each other, being patient and kind in balancing the differences of technology expertise and risk tolerance. Every member and regular attendee has been called to check on their physical, emotional and spiritual condition. One Friend who used to offer one suggestion for spiritual practice in our monthly newsletter has now increased that to twice monthly. When it was pleasant outside, back yard and deck gatherings brought small groups together. We call and email each other. One couple visited local members' homes delivering Christmas greetings and small bags of sweets and homemade face masks.

All of our committees have remained active but function remotely. There and in our weekly Zoom Meetings for Worship we see, speak, and sit with each other. Our meetinghouse receives attention and our grounds beautify our neighborhood while using native plants and environmental sensitivity. There, too, we can safely be with a few others and enjoy working together.

Ministry and Counsel Committee and individual Friends have tried various ideas to keep the spirit of community alive.

We miss members that do not participate in our Zoom meetings but benefit from the regular presence of previously distant Friends. We have attempted hybrid Meetings for Worship with 5 or 6 people in the meetinghouse parking lot while connected to the Zoom meeting. We had a little more success with fewer than 10 people inside the meetinghouse for hybrid meetings this fall. We have done some second hour programs online and this has been another way to reconnect with each other. We pray for patience as we navigate this new mode of interaction. While some are feeling spiritually fulfilled and connected to others in spite of not being able to worship in person, there are some of us who are feeling a spiritual hunger that cannot be fully fed until we are able to worship together in person again.

Our compassion has also extended to the wider community. We miss not being able to serve and eat lunch with the struggling folks at Jimmy Heath House each month. We are grateful to have enough resources to make extra donations this year to the Freestore Foodbank and the homeless at the Shelterhouse Drop In Center. We've continued our ministries to a women's hospital in Haiti. We have continued supporting the Appalachian diaspora here in Cincinnati. Letters are still being written under the guidance of FCNL. Greater Anderson Promotes Peace and the Martin Luther King

Coalition continue to receive our financial support and the active participation of some of our members.

We are feeling grateful that many Friends have still felt a connection to our community during these challenging times. It has helped them during the isolation. We hope these lessons in compassion will help us reach out to those in the world who act and believe in ways we do not yet comprehend.

### **Fairview Friends Meeting**

The year 2020 has been a challenge for Fairview. A challenge not of our making, but a challenge met. Though a small Meeting, we feel stronger when we are connected. Covid-19 was/is our main challenge. Prohibited from meeting in person, we struggled with technology to “Zoom” our way to staying connected. The existence of technology enabling us to meet virtually is evidence of a compassionate God.

Sunday School continued with the same give-and-take we experienced when seated around a table. Worship continues to challenge our patience in trying to maintain a sense of normalcy as music and participation originating from the Meetinghouse is not of the best quality. Resolving these glitches calls for patience and compassion for ourselves as we learn together.

The Good News? Sunday School attendance is as usual with excellent lessons led by Patricia Thomas. Worship messages from Patricia and Dan Kasztelan are thoughtful and cause us to think beyond ourselves.

Even somewhat flawed, technology delivers a home-based Fairview experience to more than double our usual onsite attendance. Extended families join from coast-to-coast and we have drawn strength knowing that we are not alone. Our technology reach extended worldwide as a number of our members said farewell to Pastor Ramon Longoria (Gibara, Cuba) during an international memorial service.

This year Fairview made a concerted effort to strengthen its leadership bench strength with committee rotations and additions. Examples of this include positioning Linda Achor as Assistant Presiding Clerk to transition to Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk in 2022, the addition of Dan Kasztelan to Ministry & Council, Gary Page to Trustees, new member Rand Ubry-Terrell to Trustees and Finance, and Wayne Page to Nominating.

As we move through 2021, Fairview will always seek for the Light in all others. We ask for help especially in seeing it in others who have different approaches to our common problems, in our community and country.

### **Jamestown Friends Meeting**

God's compassion for Jamestown Friends was shown in the sacrifice of his Son for our sins. It is the same compassion that He shows every church, every country, every race, and every person. It is manifest in our meeting in the love we have for each other.

We here at Jamestown Friends show our concern and compassion for our members and attenders in many ways. For the people who are unable to attend worship, we pray for them, call and send cards, send them bulletins and Upper Room devotionals to let them know they are not forgotten. For those of us who are able to attend, we greet each other warmly, we pray for each other and our extended families, we offer help when needed. Some of the most recent help and outreach has been giving grocery gift cards and Valentine's Day treat plates to some elderly neighbors. We also make a regular monthly donation to our local food pantry. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we laid down meeting until Mother's Day, and when we resumed meeting for worship we were, and continue to be, very careful to allow distance between ourselves, to wear face coverings and to avoid close contact with each other. The pandemic also caused European countries to close their borders, which caused hardship for our pastor, Steven, and his wife, keeping them apart far longer than they ever expected. The Meeting offered to let him leave before his term was completed so that he could join her before the last border closed making it so he would be unable to join her.

In some people the Light is much more apparent than in others. We seek to recognize the Light in all of them and we do that through getting to know them better. We have welcomed many different people to our Meeting, and never turned one away.

### **Knoxville Monthly Meeting**

Knoxville Monthly Meeting continued during 2019 with three regular attenders. Although Sabbath Day meetings for worship in 2020 have not gathered at the appointed time at the Meeting House since pandemic rulings, members have contact by phone. One member collects the mail and checks the Meeting House. We are sustained by memories and a long tradition and fervent hope. We have passionate feelings about the need in Knoxville for a Friends Church.

We have continued our service project at the men's group home at Christmas time. We continue to support a missionary family with World Gospel Mission. And one of our members continues to be involved in local peace activities.

God's work has continued in spite of the logistics of the current world situation.

### **Maryville Friends Church**

As for everyone, the year preceding has been quite a challenge, with the Covid-19 Pandemic, albeit not without opportunities for ministry. We share in grief with others for lost opportunities to fellowship, for the loss of "normalcy," and for the difficulties of maintaining a faithful, godly presence in times of trial and turmoil. Maryville Friends chose to act relatively swiftly in 2020, suspending in-person worship services beginning in March - sadly preceding Easter, but we felt it was in the interests of public health for our congregation, and as an act of public witness to the Maryville community. In its place, we offered virtual

“worship services” – not live, but recorded and shared on our church Facebook page, so that both our local Friends and anyone else who might be interested could have access to the songs and the weekly message.

We felt motivated by Matthew 25, from which the Yearly Meeting theme “Compassion Through Action” was drawn, and to maintain connections within the congregation, some members of Ministry & Council put together “care packages” which could be distributed to our families to show our continued connection and faithful care for one another. We also are making personal phone calls to members and attenders in order to maintain connections and relationships, to share news and love with one another.

As we all know however, summer of 2020 brought its own challenges, as the deaths of George Floyd, Brionna Taylor, and other African American police victims drew sharp attention to the racialized violence often directed from the police towards American citizenry. As the nation cried out in shared pain and outrage, some of our members felt led to join in a peaceful march from a prominent African American church in Alcoa to the Blount County Courthouse, where we heard speakers encourage racial justice. The march was remarkable - for its size (3,000-5,000), the diverse makeup and character of the crowd, the attitude which blended cries for justice with optimism and friendliness towards all - there truly was neither black nor white, male nor female, Christian or non-Christian, young or old, but a collected feeling of crying for justice. We were likewise

appreciative for the police forces of Maryville and Alcoa, there to provide traffic management while walking along a major road, and their peaceful, accepting, and even at times companionable attitude towards the marchers.

At Yearly Meeting we appreciated hearing ways that meetings and individuals are addressing racial injustice. We appreciated the fact that many were able to attend Yearly Meeting via Zoom that might not otherwise have been able, whether for health or distance reasons, or the challenge that it is for some folks to get out.

Shortly after the march for racial justice, Maryville Friends returned in late summer 2020 to in-person but outdoors and socially distanced worship services, meeting under the “Zacchaeus Tree” with masks, hand sanitizing, and other measures of health protection. It was truly a blessing, and also we felt a joyful opportunity to worship in a manner not entirely unlike that practiced by early Christians - for that matter, by early Friends, in God’s creation. We had a shared spirit, a buzz, of motivation to work towards ending things like racialized police violence and other systemic inequalities, and as the weather began to cool moved indoors. Still motivated by that same scripture, and the desire to demonstrate compassion to all as Jesus commands in Matthew 25, we reconnected or further connected with local ministries that helped in various supportive ways.

Along with most other denominations in Blount County, Maryville Friends participates in the Blount County Ecumenical Action Council where the ongoing work is to assist with support and funding for Good Neighbors (provides counsel and some emergency monetary assistance to folks who have emergencies arise that can threaten their ability to pay utilities, rent, house payments or repairs); Family Promise (provides temporary housing for families with children who have newly lost housing); and Community Food Connection (a local food pantry). In addition, the program for each monthly BCEAC gathering is a speaker who represents and informs about a local or regional organization that provides services for the local community. That permits members the ability to volunteer or help in other ways if they so desire.

We also began to make plans for our regular partnership with the Salvation Army of Blount County in joint services and volunteer opportunities. Sadly, due to increasing and more virulent Covid-19 activity, few of those opportunities came to fruition, though our members did actively help the Salvation Army with their compassionate fundraising efforts to help those in need along with their Friday lunches for the needy. We also were able to financially contribute to their Gifts ministry and with the registration of kiddoes for that and look forward to further cooperation in the future. Despite these disappointments, our meeting found ways to minister in the holiday season, with a delivery of gifts to Fair Park Nursing Home by one of our members. We also were able to prepare and distribute

gifts to youth in our Meeting despite being unable to have our traditional Christmas programming.

We could speak further of lost opportunities, which we know are myriad throughout the Yearly Meeting, but would rather speak of our hope for future opportunities - as the pandemic rages, we look with a mixture of trepidation and hope towards enhanced vaccine rollouts and know that the people of God have passed through trials before, as has Wilmington Yearly Meeting. And to close this and finish with something positive, a silver lining if you will, one of our joys over the past year has been the opportunity that we've been given to participate in other gatherings of Friends via Zoom - whether it be other Sunday morning or evening worship services, meetings of FCNL, or Yearly Meeting gatherings, it's been a blessing to have technology that allows us to be connected in ways we never realized we could.

### **Springfield Friends Meeting**

*Query 1: We see in this passage that God is a compassionate God. How has God's compassion been present in your life and in the life of your meeting?*

During this time of pandemic over the last year, isolating in our homes and wearing masks when out in public is the compassionate act we have been doing. We also met for worship in person, with masks, outside under the trees beside our Meeting House when the weather was warm. We kept up with those who are not able to attend either by zoom or outside. Cards are sent

to those not able to attend. We hold each other in loving care.

*Query 2: In what ways is your meeting feeling called to put compassion into action, both within the meeting and in your community?*

Keeping ourselves in isolation and wearing masks when in public places has been our act of compassion. One of our members helped the Historical Society clean up the garden area on the grounds and also helped clean up the Springfield Cemetery. Another member planted two new trees in the Cemetery. One member brings food to My Father's Kitchen on a quarterly basis, although volunteers are not helping with the serving of food during the pandemic. Last fall, before the pandemic, we collected food and 3 members distributed the food to local food pantries. We have also contributed food and funds to the Quaker Cupboard at Wilmington College. We gave emergency funds to a local wildlife officer who was the victim of gun violence and member of our community, and to Friendswood Quakers in Texas who were victims of the big freeze in February and lack of government oversight for this disaster. Our pastors and two members have prepared messages for Quaker Hour broadcast on WALHRADIO.com Sundays at 10 and 3.

*Query 3: Recognizing the Light in others is an act of compassion. How do you give voice to that compassion, both in your meeting and in your own life?*

Mentoring young people and recognizing their talents and their needs is recognizing the Light in them. We have one member who is helping a Wilmington College graduating senior who has been accepted into a graduate program in a faraway state where she knew no one. This member is creating connections with Quakers in the area who are looking forward to her arrival and helping her feel more comfortable. Another member works with troubled youth who are sentenced by the court for community service. He counsels and directs them in doing various jobs for the community theatre. These young people benefit from working with someone who recognizes the Light in them, and they learn how to recognize it in others. We also monetarily support our Clinton County Youth Council. Weekly, when we see each other on zoom, we hold each other in the Light, pray for each other and often testify to that which brings us joy. This is how we practice compassion.

### **Xenia Friends Meeting**

Xenia Meeting has been affected very severely from COVID19. We have not met since March 15 of 2020 until Easter Sunday of 2021. But we have kept in touch with each other regularly usually by email and have used email to ask for prayer, give praise make announcements and provide Sunday morning music. We bring loved ones to prayer when we know to do so. We especially appreciate news about the wider Quaker area sent from the office by Katie and others. Some of our congregation enjoyed participating in the Zoom sessions of Yearly Meeting, Mini Yearly

Meeting, committee sessions and prayer meetings; and have listened to the live radio broadcasts and podcasts.

Considering Matthew 25, we usually think of the poor and those imprisoned, but we need to include all of God's people. The rich can be just as spiritually needy as the ones living in the poorest conditions. In fact, maybe more so in certain conditions. Just like the widow who gave her last coins to the church: She was doing the Lord's work. What could be more gratifying? As Christians we need to always be alert to how we can be His disciples even during this epidemic. We can send cards, write notes, or call those who are ill, lonely, or just to tell people we are thinking of them.

## **SECTION 3~ LISTS AND DIRECTORIES**

## **MEETINGHOUSE LOCATIONS & WORSHIP TIMES**

### Fairfield Quarter

#### Fairview

6796 Antioch Rd. New Vienna, OH

Worship 11:00 AM

Sunday School 10:00 AM 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

#### Londonderry

35226 US 50 Londonderry, OH

(Inactive)

#### Martinsville

112 E. Main St., OH 28, Martinsville, OH

Worship 9:30 AM

#### Samantha

8074 Fall Creek Rd. Leesburg, OH 45135

Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM

### Friendsville Quarter

#### Knoxville

4325 Pinehurst Dr. Knoxville, TN

Worship 11:00 AM

Maryville

2044 Sequoyah Ave. Maryville, TN 37802

Worship 10:45 Am, Sunday School 9:45 AM

Miami-Center Quarter

Ada Chapel

332 Grant St. Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 10:00 AM

Campus

T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse

Wilmington College

Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School 9:00 AM

Chester

3451 Gurneyville Rd., 8 miles N off St. Rt. 68N,

Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 9:45 AM, Sunday School 9:00 AM

Dover

Dover Rd. E of OH 134, 5 miles N of Wilmington

Worship 9:30 AM

Eastern Hills

1671 Nagel Rd. Cincinnati, OH

Worship 10:00 AM

Jamestown

48 E. Washington St. Jamestown, OH

Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 9:30 AM

Sabina

Corner of W. Elm and Vine St. Sabina, OH

(Inactive)

Springfield

121 Todd's Fork Rd. Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 10:00 AM, Sunday School 11:00 AM

Wilmington

66 N Mulberry St. Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 10:00 AM, Fellowship 11:00 AM

Sunday School 11:15 AM

Xenia

502 Chestnut St. Xenia, OH 45385

Worship 9:45 AM, Sunday School 9:00 AM

## **MINISTERS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS**

+ Recorded Minister

Ada Chapel

+Hannah Lutz (Lead)

+ Violeta Gwynn (Emeritus)

Campus

Unprogrammed

Chester

+Mike McCormick

+Nancy McCormick

Cincinnati

+James Newby

Dover

+Dan Kasztelan

Katie Terrell

Eastern Hills

Unprogrammed

Fairview

+Dan Kasztelan

+Patricia Thomas

Jamestown

Steven Farsaci

Martinsville

Dennis Delaney

Maryville

+Jonathan Goff

Samantha

Rick Smith

Wilmington

+Julie Rudd

Xenia

Other Recorded Ministers in Wilmington Yearly Meeting

Ed Balogh, Larry Barker, David Brindle, Timothy Carter, Mike Daye, Craig Dove, Trish Edwards-Konic, James Ellison, Mike French, Doug Haag, Regina Haag, Elisabeth Hangartner-Evert, Donne Hayden, Martha Hinshaw-Sheldon, Ray Geers, David Johns, Felicity Kelcourse, Bill Medlin, Joseph Neal, Francis Parks, Rusty Parsons, Richard Roberts, Clo Robinson, Kenneth Shirk, Miriam Speaight, David Terrell, Matthew Zuehlke, Michelle Zuehlke.

## **QUARTERLY MEETING CLERKS & SCHEDULES**

### Fairfield Quarter

Inactive~ Representative: Dana Dunsieith

### Friendsville Quarter

Third Sunday~ February, April, July, October

Clerk: Jonathan Goff

### Miami-Center Quarter

First Sunday~ March, June, August, November

Clerk: Miriam Speaight

## **CLERKS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS**

### Fairfield Quarter

Fairview-Linda Achor 685 Prairie Ave. Wilmington, OH  
45177

Martinsville- Barb Shutts 1466 Rapid Run Rd.

Martinsville, OH 45146

Samantha- Sheila Parshall 8095 Fall Creek Rd. Leesburg,  
OH 45135

### Friendsville Quarter

Knoxville- Gus Johnson (Please contact Recording Clerk,  
Georgene Waddell, 4604 Barbara Dr. Knoxville, TN  
37918)

Maryville- Jeannette Hamby 120 Bellas Way Maryville,  
TN 37801

### Miami-Center Quarter

Ada Chapel- Michael Anderson 5514 Concord Rd.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

Campus- Patricia Thomas 292 Alumni Cir. Wilmington,  
OH 45177

Chester - David Hackney 1432 Hackney Rd. Wilmington,  
OH 45177

Cincinnati- Michael Ramos 7615 Miami Ave. Madeira,  
OH 45243

Dover- Mike Miller 442 Dover Rd. Wilmington, OH  
45177

Eastern Hills- Dale Hayes 408 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Newport, KY  
41071

Jamestown- Keith Cavender 33 W. Xenia St. Jamestown,  
OH 45335

Sabina- Rick Kendall 9810 Sabina Rd. Sabina, OH 45169

Springfield- Miriam Speaight 3593 W. St. Rt. 3 & US 22  
Wilmington, OH 45177

Wilmington- Bob Henson 12252 St. Rt. 729 New Vienna,  
OH 45159

Xenia- Gary Farlow 1037 Meadow Dr. Beavercreek, OH  
45434

## **CLERKS OF MONTHLY MEETING MINISTRY AND COUNSELS**

### Fairfield Quarter

Fairview- Becky Strafford 1081 Bernard Rd. New Vienna,  
OH 45159

Martinsville- Barb Shutts 1466 Rapid Run Rd.  
Martinsville, OH 45146

Samantha- Tom Caldwell 2760 Cedar Chapel Rd.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

### Friendsville Quarter

Knoxville- Jack Hoefler 12018 Couch Mill Rd. Knoxville,  
TN 37932

Maryville- Joan VanSickle Sloan 1246 Edinburgh Dr.  
Maryville, TN 37803

### Miami-Center Quarter

Ada Chapel- Michael Anderson 5514 Concord Rd.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

Campus- Summer McBrayer 416 Shepherd's Way  
Morrow, OH 45152

Chester- Jonda Hamilton 1271 McKay Rd. Wilmington,  
OH 45177

Cincinnati- Cathy Barney 903 Walnut St. Milford, OH  
45150

Dover- Cathy Hadley 301 Haws Chapel Rd. Wilmington,  
OH 45177

Eastern Hills- Henrietta Ballinger 3632 Burch Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45208

Jamestown- Darla Geis 770 St. Rt. 72 S Jamestown, OH  
45335

Sabina- Virginia Vandervort 8768 St. Rt. 3 Sabina, OH  
45169

Springfield- Hesperia Bevan 738 Lebanon Rd. Clarksville,  
OH 45113

Wilmington- Michael Snarr 45 Faculty Pl. Wilmington,  
OH 45177

Xenia- Karren Smith 2371 Elam Rd. Xenia, OH 45385

## **A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WYM COMMITTEES**

### Board On Christian Concerns For Peace & Society

The duties of this Board shall be to carry forward concerns of Friends for peace, public morals, and the improvement of the social order.

### Board On Financial Stewardship

This Board incorporates raising (finding ways of acquiring financial resources) funds and management of the general budget of Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

### Board On Missions & Evangelism

This committee works on behalf of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, supporting missionary work outside and beyond Wilmington Yearly Meeting. This Board is responsible for evangelism and outreach activities within the Yearly Meeting, such as workshops, family and/or pastor (minister) exchange, monthly meeting visitation, or assimilation of new members.

### Boards On Property

- Yearly Meeting Trustees
  - The Trustees shall coordinate the property and financial interests of the Yearly Meeting. The Trustees work exclusively with endowments. The Yearly Meeting Trustees will appoint the Auditing Committee.
  
- Quaker Knoll Camp Board

- The Camp Board is responsible for the grounds and buildings at the camp and hiring the caretaker.

#### Board On Youth & Young Adults

This Board will be responsible for youth camps, youth programs, and young adult programs. Sub-committees could be appointed as needed.

#### College Committee

This committee plans and oversees activities that strengthen our relationship with Wilmington College. It is also a support for the Campus Minister.

#### Committee On Pastoral Care

This committee will be concerned with caring for Monthly Meetings and the congregants.

#### Committee On Training, Recording, And Empowering Pastors And Ministers

This committee already has a handbook on the training and recording process. This committee will need to define and outline the task of empowering Ministers who need support to continue after being recorded. Many times it seems that the “help” stops after being recorded.

#### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of WYM will designate appointments to all organizations to which representatives are sent. Such appointments would be: FUM, FWCC, Ohio Council of Churches, and Friends

Disaster Service. FCNL and AFSC representatives will come from the Board on Christian Concerns for Peace & Society.

#### Historical Materials Committee

This committee preserves Wilmington Yearly Meeting's history for future generations.

#### Ministry & Counsel

This committee will meet during the Mini-Yearly Meeting and Yearly Meeting. The Executive Committee of Ministry & Counsel will meet at times between Mini-Yearly Meeting and Yearly Meeting as needed.

#### Music Committee

This Committee is responsible for the music at Yearly Meeting and Mini-Yearly Meeting.

#### Nominating Committee

This committee is responsible for filling the positions of YM Presiding Clerk, Assistant Presiding Clerk, Recording Clerk, Assistant Recording Clerk, Treasurer, Ministry and Counsel Presiding Clerk, Ministry and Counsel Assistant Presiding Clerk, Ministry and Counsel Recording Clerk, Ministry and Counsel Assistant Recording Clerk and any other positions not filled by appointments from Quarterly Meeting.

#### Yearly Meeting Planning Committee

WYM Presiding Clerk; WYM Coordinator; Clerk of Youth & Young Adults; Clerk of Ministry & Counsel; USFW President; Quaker Men President; Music Committee rep

## **CURRENT COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (2020-2021)**

### **2020-2021 OFFICERS**

<b>WYM Presiding Clerk</b>	JP Lund (year 3)
<b>Asst WYM Presiding Clerk</b> (year 3)	Jeannette Hamby
<b>Recording Clerk</b> Grotevant (year 3)	Jennilou
<b>Asst Recording Clerk</b> (year 2)	Sharon Trivett
<b>Treasurer</b>	Billie Baker
<b>Asst to Treasurer</b> (employee)	Dicka Nye
<b>WYM Coordinator</b> (employee)	Katie Ubry-Terrell

### **2020-2021 WYM MINISTRY & COUNSEL**

<b>WYM Ministry &amp; Counsel Clerk</b> Sloan (year 3)	Joan VanSickle
<b>WYM Ministry &amp; Counsel Asst Clerk</b> (year 3)	Patricia Thomas
<b>WYM Ministry &amp; Counsel Recording Clerk</b> (year 5)	Gary Farlow
<b>WYM Ministry &amp; Counsel Asst Rec Clerk</b> (year 5)	Julie Rudd (year 5)

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Jeannette Hamby, Presiding Clerk  
Jennilou Grotevant, Recording Clerk  
Billie Baker, Treasurer  
Dicka Nye, Bookkeeper  
JP Lund, WYM Presiding Clerk  
Joan VanSickle Sloan, Clerk, WYM on M&C  
Becky Miller, USFW President  
Katie Ubry-Terrell, WYM Coordinator (*ex officio*)

Jim Newby, Clerk, Training & Recording  
Mike Miller, Clerk, Quaker Knoll Camp Board  
Mike Miller, Clerk, Finance & Stewardship  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk, Pastoral Care  
Mary Ellen Krisher, Clerk, Nominating Committee  
Duane Earley, Co-Clerk, Trustees  
Gary Farlow, Co-Clerk, Trustees (Fiduciary)  
Doug Woodmansee, Clerk, College Committee  
Elizabeth House (Archivist at Wilmington College Library),  
Clerk, Historical Materials  
Cathy Hadley, Clerk, Missions & Evangelism  
Hannah Lutz, Clerk, Youth & Young Adults  
Mary Ann Raizk, Clerk, Board on Peace & Society

*Members-at-Large:*

Dana Dunsieith, Fairfield Qtr  
Miriam Speaight, Miami-Center Qtr  
Jeannette Hamby, Friendsville Qtr

**PERMANENT BOARD**

*Includes all the Executive Committee members, the Wilmington College President or Appointed Representative, and one designated representative from each monthly meeting as follows:*

Ada Chapel, Hannah Lutz  
Campus, Patricia Thomas  
Chester, Libbie Curry  
Cincinnati, Judy Leasure  
Dover, Mike Miller  
Eastern Hills, Franchot Ballinger  
Fairview, Dana Dunsieith  
Jamestown, Lee Armlovich  
Knoxville, Jack Hoeffler  
Martinsville, Barb Shutts  
Maryville, Jonathan Goff  
Sabina, Virginia Vandervort  
Samantha, Tom Caldwell  
Springfield, Miriam Speaight  
Wilmington Friends, Mary Ann Raizk  
Xenia, Gary Farlow

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WYM  
ON MINISTRY & COUNSEL**

Joan VanSickle Sloan, Presiding Clerk  
Patricia Thomas, Asst Clerk  
Gary Farlow, Recording Clerk  
Julie Rudd, Asst Recording Clerk  
Jeannette Hamby, Clerk, Friendsville Qtr  
Miriam Speaight, Clerk, Miami-Center Qtr  
Dana Dunsieith, Rep, Fairfield Qtr  
Jim Newby, Clerk, Training & Recording  
\_\_\_\_\_, Clerk, Pastoral Care  
Cathy Hadley, Clerk, Missions & Evangelism  
Hannah Lutz, Clerk, Youth & Young Adults  
*Ex officio Members:*  
JP Lund, WYM Presiding Clerk

Katie Ubry-Terrell, WYM Coordinator

**TRAINING & RECORDING COMMITTEE**

Jim Newby, Clerk	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jonathan Goff	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Craig Strafford	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Patricia Thomas	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
David Brindle	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**2020-21 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Mary Ellen Krisher  
Jonathan Goff  
Nancy McCormick  
Cathy Hadley

**PASTORAL CARE COMMITTEE**

Gary Page	2023 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Sue Motz	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**WILMINGTON COLLEGE COMMITTEE**

Doug Woodmansee, Clerk	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Miriam Speaight	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Tabitha Speaight	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Tanya Snarr	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Neil Snarr	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Christine Snyder	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Stephen Pottoff	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Terry Miller	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Gary Farlow	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

Nancy McCormick, Campus Minister

**BOARD ON PROPERTY (TRUSTEES)**

Duane Earley, Co-Clerk	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Gary Farlow, Co-Clerk (Fiduciary)	2023 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Sharon Trivett	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
David Hackney	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)

Cathy Hadley

2023 (3<sup>rd</sup> term)

**QUAKER KNOLL CAMP BOARD**

Mike Miller, Clerk	2021 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Bob Sargent	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Larry Roddy	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Richard Baker	2022 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Doug Woodmansee	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Mandi Fast	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Hannah Lutz	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
David Hackney, Rep. from WYM Trustees	

**HISTORICAL MATERIALS COMMITTEE**

Elizabeth House, Clerk	(WC Archivist)
Rebecca Godfrey	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Virginia Vandervort	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
James Hackney	2022 (4 <sup>th</sup> term)
Christine Snyder	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP**

Mike Miller, Clerk	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Bill Andrews	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Billie Baker	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Libbie Curry	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Cindy Peterson	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Lee Armlovich	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Dicka Nye	Bookkeeper

**BOARD ON YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS**

Hannah Lutz, Clerk	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jeannette Hamby	2022 (4 <sup>th</sup> term)
Tanya Snarr	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Jonathan Goff	2022 (4 <sup>th</sup> term)
Mandi Fast	2023 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Jordan Snarr	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**BOARD ON MISSIONS & EVANGELISM**

Cathy Hadley, Clerk	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Wayne Page	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Barb Shutts	2021 (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Barb Napier	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**BOARD ON CHRISTIAN CONCERNS  
FOR PEACE & SOCIETY**

Mary Ann Raizk, Clerk	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Elizabeth Newby	2022 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
James Hackney	2022 (3 <sup>rd</sup> term)
Bill Andrews	2023 (3 <sup>rd</sup> term)
Jack Hoefler	2023 (3 <sup>rd</sup> term)
Michael Snarr	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Poh Medlin	2021 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Gary Huffenberg	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Scilla Wahrhaftig	2023 (1 <sup>st</sup> term)

**USFW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/OFFICERS 2020**

Becky Miller, President  
 Rebecca Godfrey, Vice President  
 Libbie Curry, Secretary  
 Mary Ellen Krisher, Assistant Secretary  
 Ruby Porter, Treasurer  
 Wanetta Hartman, Assistant Treasurer  
 Ellen Gilbert, Christian Service  
 Hesperia Bevan, Literature & Reading  
 Judy Sargent, Newsletter  
 Christine Snyder, Peace and Social Concerns  
 \_\_\_\_\_, Stewardship  
 Mary Ann Raizk, Missions - Youth & Children's Education  
 Cathy Hadley, Missions - Adult Education

**WILMINGTON COLLEGE JOINT TRUSTEE NOMINATING  
COMMITTEE**

Mary Ellen Krisher  
 Scilla Wahrhaftig  
 Gary Farlow, College Committee

**FUM 2017-21 Triennium**

Mike Miller

Katie Ubry-Terrell (WYM Coordinator)

**OHIO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES**

Dana Dunseith, Representative

Anne Hutchinson, Alternate

**FWCC**

JP Lund

Glen Williams

**FRIENDS RESPONSE TEAM**

Mike McCormick

Jeannette Hamby

Rand Ubry-Terrell

**FCNL**

Michael Snarr

Neil Snarr

Joan VanSickle Sloan

Lucy Enge

**AFSC**

**2021 YEARLY MEETING**

**PLANNING COMMITTEE**

JP Lund

Katie Ubry-Terrell

Hannah Lutz

Joan VanSickle Sloan

Becky Miller

*WYM Presiding Clerk; WYM Coordinator;  
Clerk of Youth & Young Adults; Clerk of  
Ministry & Counsel; USFW President; Quaker  
Men President (none at this time); Music  
Committee representative*

Doug Woodmansee, Local Rep (Mini Sessions)

Jeannette Hamby, Local Rep (Annual Sessions)

**2021 YEARLY MEETING MUSIC COMMITTEE**

**2021 EPISTLE COMMITTEE**

Julie Rudd, Dan Kasztelan & Jonathan Goff

**2021 HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

## WILMINGTON COLLEGE TRUSTEES

Edmund Besong+..... New York, New York  
J. Brent Bill..... Mooresville, Indiana  
Daniel J. Buckley..... Cincinnati, Ohio  
Timothy A. Buren..... Westerville, Ohio  
Christen Clougherty..... Savannah, Georgia  
Aaron DeNu..... Washington, D.C.  
Henry B. Freeman..... Richmond, Indiana  
Elizabeth J. Garvey..... Howell, Michigan  
Jeremiah Guappone..... Cleveland, Ohio  
Delores Hargrove-Young+..... Cincinnati, Ohio  
Marcy Hawley..... Wilmington, Ohio  
Ellen Hiatt+..... St. Louis, Missouri  
Jonathan C. McKay..... Wilmington, Ohio  
Evans N. Nwanko..... Cincinnati, Ohio  
David Raizk..... Wilmington, Ohio  
JR Reid..... Columbus, Ohio  
William P. Shaw..... Sidney, Ohio  
William D. Shoecraft..... Wyoming, Ohio  
Lawrence W. Sidwell..... West Des Moines, Iowa  
Richard F. Sidwell..... Beallsville, Ohio

Daniel Smith-Christopher..... Redondo Beach, California  
Lucy Steinitz+..... Baltimore, Maryland  
Taylor Stuckert..... Wilmington, Ohio  
Nancy Summers..... Harrisburg, Pennsylvania  
Tyrone C. Taylor..... Laurel, Maryland  
Evan Williams..... Milpitas, California

+Trustee named at 2021 WYM Business Sessions

\*Alumni of Wilmington College

Life Trustee (Deceased)

David A. Harcum\* (Named First Life Trustee,  
2008).....Reynoldsburg, Ohio

Sidney Mishkin (Named Second Life Trustee,  
2014)..... Indianapolis, Indiana