

134th Annual Session
WILMINGTON YEARLY
MEETING

July 24-July 27, 2025
Held in Wilmington, OH
& Online Via Zoom

2025
MINUTES & REPORTS



Wilmington Yearly Meeting web-resources are located at:
<https://wilmingtonyearlymeeting.org/>.

Current committee assignments and Policies & Procedures can be found at <https://wilmingtonyearlymeeting.org/resources/>

This ONLINE version of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting 2025 Minute Book has been redacted, with personal addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses removed, and does not include the directory. It ends with page 162.

The minutes & reports of the 134th session of the new Yearly Meeting at Wilmington, Ohio, first convened on “the third Seventh Day in Eighth Month, 1892” (August 21, 1892).

Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Yearly Meeting Coordinator: Melodi Goff

Location: Room 6, Kelly Center, Wilmington College

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Wilmington, OH 45177

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2025 – 2026 CLERKS & OFFICERS

Presiding Clerk Patricia Thomas (4th yr.)

Asst Presiding Clerk Douglas Woodmansee (2nd yr.)

Recording Clerk Judy Leasure (4th yr.)

Asst Recording Clerk Robin Hansel (1st yr)

Treasurer J.P. Lund (1st yr)

Asst. to Treasurer Dicka Nye - employee

WYM Coordinator Melodi Goff – employee

2025 – 2026 MINISTRY & COUNSEL OFFICERS

Presiding Clerk Dave Goff (1st yr.)

Assistant Clerk Jonathan Goff (1st yr.)

Recording Clerk Miriam Speaight (1st yr.)

Asst Recording Clerk Becky Strafford (4th yr.)

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SECTION 1 ~ MINUTES

FIRST GATHERING

November 9, 2024: Pp. 1

SECOND GATHERING

March 8, 2025: Pp. 3 - 14

The 134th SESSION OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING

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**Wilmington Yearly Meeting
First Gathering
November 9, 2024**

The Fall Gathering of Wilmington Yearly Meeting was held in person at the T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse (*Campus Friends*) on the grounds of Wilmington College, and on Zoom.

There being no business brought before the Yearly Meeting, the Gathering was a time of Worship and Fellowship, focused around our theme, “We recognize the well-being of the Earth as a fundamental spiritual concern,” with the supporting scriptures, Genesis 1: 1 – 31, summarized as “God Created...and it was very good.”

Ministry & Counsel met prior to Worship.

**WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING
SECOND GATHERING
Held March 8, 2025**

Minutes of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Spring Gathering, March 8, 2025, at the T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse, Wilmington College Campus.

The clerk, Patricia Thomas, opened with a reading from George Fox:

LIVING GOD WHO MADE ALL THINGS

“One morning as I was sitting by the fire, a great cloud came over me, and a temptation beset me; but I sat still. It was said, ‘All things come by nature’; and the elements and stars came over me, so that I was in a manner quite clouded with it. ...And as I sat still under it, and let it alone, a living hope arose in me, and a true voice which said, ‘There is a living God who made all things.’” George Fox, Founder of the Religious Society of Friends.

After a time of prayerful reflection she offered a vocal prayer by Thomas Merton:

“O God,
We are one with You,
You have made us one with You
You have taught us that if we’re open to one another You will dwell in us.
Help us to preserve this openness and to fight for it with all our heart.

Help us to realize that there can be no understanding where there is mutual rejection. O God,
In accepting each other wholeheartedly, fully, completely, we accept You
And we thank You and adore You and love You with our whole being because our being is in your Being.
Our spirit is rooted in Your Spirit. Fill us then in Love,
United in this one Spirit which makes You present to the world
And makes You witness to the Ultimate Reality that is Love.
Love has overcome; Love is victorious
Amen."

[No roll call available]

The clerk then presented the following items to be adopted into the minutes of this meeting by consensus. (The committee reports and Wilmington College trustee biography are attached.)

- 1)Annual Gathering Minutes (July)
- 2)Fall Gathering Minutes (Oct.)
- 3)Committee Reports:
 - a)Executive Committee Report – March 2025
 - b)Training & Recording Report - March 2025
 - c)Peace and Social Concerns Report – March 2025
 - d)Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Report – March 2025
 - e)Finance Committee Report – March 2025
- 4)QK Visioning Task Force Report – March 2025
- 5)Consent to the appointment of Wilmington College Board Trustee (non-Quaker) Marcy Hawley

-The annual meeting minutes are to be amended to show the name of Micheal Anderson as part of the Yearly Meeting Finances Task Group.

-The Fall minutes report (as do the Executive Committee minutes submitted to that meeting) that David and Melodi Goff are appointed as office coordinators. David and Melodi are under the impression that Melodi is the actual employee. This matter was remanded to the Executive Committee for clarification and possible correction.

With these corrections and directions to committees, these items are approved for inclusion in the permanent records of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, as is the Yearly Meeting consent to the appointment of Marcy Hawley as a Wilmington College Trustee.

Ministry and Counsel report – Miriam Speaight (for Jonda Hamilton):

The Yearly Meeting on Ministry and Counsel met on 8 March 2025 before this meeting.

- --The visitation task force has visited Maryville and Ada Chappell Monthly Meetings.
- --There are currently no persons under the care of the Committee on Training and Recording. That committee is considering a seminar on how to respond well if approached by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency concerning a Meeting's possible ministry to refugees.
- --Samantha Monthly Meeting has been out of communication with Yearly Meeting for some decades. Patricia Thomas (clerk of Yearly meeting) and Jonda

Hamilton (clerk of Ministry and Counsel) are feeling led to meet with these Friends to discuss their level of interest in Yearly Meeting and to encourage greater participation with other Friends in the ministries of Yearly Meeting.

As information: Cincinnati Monthly Meeting has endorsed a lawsuit against the Immigration and Naturalization Service brought by 5 Quaker organizations regarding recent changes to immigration policy and the treatment of immigrants.

Chester Monthly Meeting will be seeking new pastoral leadership as Mike and Nancy McCormick are stepping down State of Society Reports are due March 31st.

This report was approved for inclusion in these minutes.

Website Task Force recommendation – Doug Woodmansee
During the office transition it was found that the Quaker Knoll website is not at all user friendly and that both it and the Yearly Meeting website are difficult to maintain and update. The developer of these websites no longer offers support. The Executive Committee appointed a task force to review the current internet service provider and determine if yearly meeting needs are being met. The website task force has determined that the websites need to be replaced and that Jonathan Vogel-Bourne is best suited to do this. (Jonathan Vogel-Bourne is a professional web developer and a former yearly meeting executive for New England Yearly Meeting). Since the Executive Committee will not be meeting for some weeks and time is short for camp registration, Yearly Meeting authorized the Website Task Force to engage Jonathan Vogel-Bourne for this task with costs not to exceed \$4500, and directed the Executive Committee to fund this out of trust funds that are appropriate and at its disposal.

Peace Resource Center Minute of Support – Miriam Speaight and Tanya Moss:

Miriam Speaight reported that the Peace Resource Center of Wilmington College is anticipating a major fund raising effort for needed maintenance on the exterior of the center's building on College Avenue. Tanya Moss, director of the center, thanked Yearly Meeting for its past support, summarized the history of the building, and described in more detail the need for a new roof, porch repairs, siding repair, and general painting. She also emphasized the appropriateness of making this effort during the 50th anniversary year of the Peace Resource Center. The following minute of support to assist Tanya Moss in her fund raising and promotional efforts has been approved by the College Committee which forwards it to Yearly Meeting for its review and approval.

The Peace Resource Center on the campus of Wilmington College is a unique and valuable part of the college and its curriculum. Nowhere else will one find a more comprehensive collection, with online access, of the materials documenting the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Visitors from Japan and other countries make the trip to Wilmington College Peace Resource Center to study the wealth of information contained in the Barbara Reynolds Memorial Collection.

Since its establishment in 1975, the members of Wilmington Yearly Meeting have served on the Peace Resource Center Board and provided programming as well as financial support. The work of the Peace Resource Center is living evidence of our Quaker Peace Testimony and Wilmington College's corresponding core value through educational programs such as

Project Trust, Alternatives to Violence, Mediation Training and the Westheimer Peace Symposium. Students and community members have the opportunity to learn ways to foster peace and social justice in their own communities.

The historic building which houses the Peace Resource Center was graciously donated to Wilmington College by the family of Elsie McCoy. The historical integrity of this beautiful house, with a grand staircase and porch veranda, complements the importance of all that transpires within its walls: the promotion of peace and social justice, both locally and globally.

This minute was approved.

Some concern was expressed about the wording of the final paragraph of the 2024 epistle from Yearly Meeting annual sessions. This paragraph is essentially a memorial for Neil Snarr who served the Yearly Meeting in many capacities for many years. **The Epistle Committee therefore submits this substitute version:**

“At our memorial service on Saturday, we remembered twelve Friends. Neil Snarr stood out as one Friend whom almost everyone in attendance had known, because of his energy and activities within the Yearly Meeting, at Wilmington College, and within Wilmington Monthly Meeting. Neil was often an encourager and driven in pursuit of ministries he was passionate about; he was someone whom we knew, without question, lived his life trying to figure out what the world needed and how to answer that need. He did that, one speaker noted, with an energy that seemed to indicate that he was

given 48 hours for every 24 the rest of us received. We remembered him fondly as an embodiment of our theme.”

This new wording was approved. This will appear in the minutes of the 2025 annual session along with the 2025 Epistle.

Micheal Anderson, clerk of the finance committee, directed the attention of Friends to the side by side budget comparison that is in the committee’s report approved earlier today, and asked that Friends take this to each of their monthly meetings. He asked us to consider prayerfully and faithfully how we want to have an office manager, a ministerial presence on Wilmington College’s Campus, and an effective Quaker Knoll. He also reminded us that budget request for the next year are due to the committee as soon as possible.

Yearly Meeting approved including this plea in our minutes.

Yearly Meeting in July of 2024 directed that the possibilities of more extensive ties and cooperation with Western Yearly Meeting and the New Association of Friends (Indiana) be considered at future meetings. Jonathan Goff noted that some Western Yearly Meeting clerks have been joining the regular zoom meeting of clerks in Wilmington Yearly meeting. Jordan Snarr said that there was going to be a joint conference of young Friends at Quaker Knoll the weekend before our annual sessions in July. Jonathan proposed that a formal invitation to New Association and Western Yearly Meeting to attend our annual sessions be issued. The clerk proposed that the Yearly Meeting Program Committee might organize a workshop to consider avenues for cooperative endeavor.

Yearly Meeting instructed its Program Committee to organize a workshop during our annual sessions in July on cooperation between the yearly meeting groups discussed, and to consider whether to issue a formal invitation to send observers to our annual sessions in July.

Christine Snyder described the **Braddock fund for Prison Ministry** developed by our Friends in Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting as a memorial to Raymond and Sara Braddock. The named Friends were graduates of Wilmington College and spent considerable energy on prison ministry during their lifetime. This fund has now been transferred to Wilmington College to support its prison education programs as the Braddock Fund for Prison Ministry of Wilmington College. Friends can contribute to this fund through Wilmington College.

Christine also reminded us of the **Merefa Fund**. Merefa is a city in the Kharkiv region of Ukraine and a sister city to Wilmington, OH. This fund was set up to support war victims in Merefa and Wilmington Yearly Meeting volunteered its bank account and services to this fund with Hannah Lutz as the volunteer agent and administrator. Thus far this fund has sent \$59,750 to an organization whose only work is war victim relief. Melodi Goff has more recently volunteered to administer this fund through the Yearly Meeting checking account. Christine asks that we send any contributions to this fund to the Yearly Meeting office, marked Merefa Fund.

She also asked that Yearly Meeting adopt a minute of commendation to Melodi Goff for volunteering to assume the

role of administrator of this fund and for doing so gladly and expeditiously.

It was approved to include these items of information in the Yearly Meeting Minutes.

It was approved for the clerk and recording clerk to draft and deliver a minute of commendation to Melodi Goff for her work on this fund.

Friends will gather in Wilmington, Ohio from July 24-27, 2025, for our Annual Summer Gathering - our 134th Annual Meeting as Wilmington Yearly Meeting of Friends.

For re-centering, the clerk read The Divine and the Natural World - Jeff Meyer, Quaker theologian:

"In my studies of the worlds various religions, I have noticed that miracle are important in all of them, miracles meaning events that go beyond any natural explanation and are believe to confirm the power and truth of each tradition.

In that respect I am no different than any other believer, except that my own miracles aren't so much walking on water or raising the dead, but the everyday miracles I experience all around me: the millions of microorganisms in a tablespoon of soil, the 200 miles of roots in a clump of rye grass, the improbable bill of a toucan or the crest of a quail, the silence of the mountains, the colors of a sunset.

For me, all of these things point to a mystery of 'deep down things.' The mystery has been given many names. Friends have called it the Light, Spirit, Inner Christ. Sometimes it is more satisfying for me to refrain from trying to name it, simply

maintaining a respectful silence. It is a presence I feel in the quiet of some of our gathered meetings. Since this presence is found not only in nature but in all of us, it binds us together in the kinship of a family.”

As a closing the clerk led us in the hymn For the Beauty of the Earth.

Submitted,
Gary Farlow, assistant recording clerk

APPENDICES - REPORTS

Peace and Society, March 8 2025:

We soon will hold a Zoom meeting to discuss a winter / spring project which, at least during the past few years, has been a custom for the committee.

At the same meeting, committee members will brainstorm and discuss potential candidates for the annual peace lecture, typically held during annual sessions in July. This is one of our specific responsibilities as a Yearly Meeting committee.

Submitted by Gary Huffenberger Peace & Society clerk

February 24, 2025

Report from Training and Recording Committee

At the present time there are no candidates seeking to matriculate in Training and Recording.

Respectfully submitted, Craig Strafford, Clerk

Executive Committee Report to Wilmington Yearly Meeting 2025 Spring Gathering Business Session

Since the 2024 Yearly Meeting Sessions in Maryville, the Executive Committee has met four times and taken the following actions.

We welcomed the following new members to the Executive Committee: Jonda Hamilton, Clerk of Ministry and Council; Gary Huffenberger, Clerk of Christian Concerns for Peace and Society Committee; Miriam Speaight, Clerk of Wilmington Yearly Meeting College Committee; Craig Stafford, Clerk of Training and Recording Committee; and Russel Kincaid, Clerk of Quaker Knoll Grounds and Facilities Committee.

The Executive Committee formally hired Melodi and David Goff to share the position of Office Coordinator. Melodi and David will work out which responsibilities will be handled by which person.

The committee named the following persons as new (or renewed) WYM representatives to other organizations: Megan Fair to Friends World Committee on Consultation, and Dana Dunseith to the Ohio Council of Churches.

The committee named the following persons to serve on the Nominating Committee: Cathy Hadley (Clerk), and Miriam Speaight.

The committee received a favorable report of an internal audit of the Yearly Meeting's financial records by Gary Farlow. The committee thanks Gary for his work.

The committee approved production of both electronic and paper versions of the 2024 Yearly Meeting Minute Book. Melodi Goff will be responsible for production and distribution of the Minute Book.

The committee approved a new questionnaire for collecting attendance and other statistics from the constituent Monthly Meetings.

The committee approved a new expenditure form to help the Financial Stewardship Committee track expenditures and disbursements.

The committee approved a one-time supplemental compensation of \$400 to Youth Pastor Jordan Snarr in recognition of additional work she took on while the Office Coordinator position was open.

The committee appointed a Web Design Task Force made up of Doug Woodmansee (Clerk), Patricia Thomas, Melodi Goff and J.P. Lund to seek out a new web designer to revise the websites of both Wilmington Yearly Meeting and Quaker Knoll camp. Particular attention is to be paid to improving the process for reserving and collecting payments for Quaker Knoll Camp.

The committee approved certain updates to the Policy and Procedures Manual related to the hiring and supervision of the Office Coordinator.

The committee approved updating the Domestic Agent listing for Wilmington Yearly Meeting with the Ohio Secretary of State. The committee also established a policy that the Presiding Clerk of Yearly Meeting will serve as the Yearly Meeting's Domestic Agent.

The Five-Year Financial Planning Committee was laid down because its work was complete and most of its members have joined the revitalized Financial Stewardship Committee.

Executive Committee minuted its appreciation to the following persons for their work: Michael Anderson, Jeanette Hamby, Mike Miller, and J.P. Lund.

Respectfully submitted by: Douglas Woodmansee, Clerk of Executive Committee February 21, 2025

Biography for Marcy Hawley, Wilmington College Trustee nominee:



Marcy is co-owner and publisher of Orange Frazer Press, Inc., an independent book publisher in its thirty-fourth year that serves a local, regional, and international author and client base. The company has won numerous awards for their product quality along with kudos from clients ranging from nonprofit organizations to universities to Fortune 500 companies. From 2009 through 2015 she was a member, then vice chair, then board chair of Clinton County's Clinton Memorial Hospital during which time she was integral in facilitating its sale (and thus its survival) to Regional Health Care Partners (Nashville, Tennessee). Marcy's local interest in Wilmington's downtown development has included purchasing and renovating four Main Street buildings, comanaging the Murphy Theatre in the early 90s, and serving fifteen years on the Downtown Community Improvement Corporation. She also served fifteen years on Wilmington City Schools Diversity Committee. Her degree is in education from The Defiance College, Defiance, Ohio, an institution she chose from one thousand miles away, thinking it would be the perfect place for her 1960s activist mindset. While that notion was quickly dispelled, her passion for education and social justice was not.

Notes Regarding Marcy's Prior Board Service

- Marcy previously served as a trustee from July 2019 until August 2023 when she resigned to address a family matter. In her resignation, she asked the Board to consider her for trustee service beginning in 2025.
- During her prior service, Marcy chaired a previous iteration of the Academic Affairs Committee (then the *Distinctive Academic Excellence Committee*) and served on the previous *Communication & Enrollment Management Committee* and the *Executive Committee*.
- If approved by Wilmington Yearly Meeting, Marcy will be invited to join the Board in July 2025 for a four-year term. Marcy would be eligible, with Board approval, for re-appointment to two additional, consecutive, four-year terms.

**(DRAFT) MINUTES OF
THE 134th ANNUAL SESSION
OF WILMINGTON YEARLY MEETING
Held July 24 – 27, 2025**

at Canby T. Jones Meetinghouse, Wilmington, OH & via Zoom
(These minutes will be approved at the Spring 2026 Gathering)

Friends gathered around the theme of God created and it was very good in worship with attention to business for the 2025 Annual Meeting of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, convening at the T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse/Campus Friends on the campus of Wilmington College on Friday, July 25; at Quaker Knoll Camp on Saturday, July 26; and at Wilmington Friends Meeting in Wilmington on Sunday, as well as online on Zoom from Maryville, Tennessee and other locations.

Sessions were convened by Wilmington Yearly Meeting Clerk Patricia Thomas, with centering silence and prayers, followed by various reflections, including thoughts on the Matter of Stewardship from Barclay Press and guiding words from George Fox ... sing and rejoice ye children of the day and of the light. She also shared thoughts related to our theme of stewardship with reflections from John Woolman (A Plea for the Poor), as well as a poem from e.e. cummings. We were urged to always be vigilant in our commitment to not use more of our earth's resources than we can replace.

Patricia called for consideration of naming the Epistle Committee for the Annual Meeting.

Minute 07:25:2025: Friends gathered for the beginning of Wilmington Yearly Meeting's 2025 Annual Meeting approved the Epistle Committee to be Jonathan Goff, Hannah Lutz, and Miriam Speaight.

Roll Call of Meetings: a semicolon separates Friday's attendance from Saturday's.

Ada Chapel: 2; 2	Jamestown: 2; 2
Campus : 4; 1	Knoxville: 0; 0
Chester: 1; 1	Maryville : 4
Cincinnati: 4; 7	Samantha: 0; 0
Dover: 0; 0	Springfield: 6; 2
Eastern Hills: 3; 2	Wilmington: 7: 7
Fairview: 4; 5	Xenia: 2; 2

We were blessed with the attendance of visitors, including Caleb and Sabina Wangia from Nairobi Friends Meeting (Kenya) and Chebuyusi Yearly Meeting; Karla Jay, Friends United Meeting; Terrell family members from New York and Massachusetts attending Yearly Meeting in celebration of the 86th birthday of David Terrell; Tom Rockwell, New Association of Friends/Western Yearly Meeting; and Andy Stanton-Henry, Lost Creek Quaker Church in Tennessee/Quaker Leadership Center at Earlham School of Religion.

Minute 07:25:2025: Friends approved the Minutes from the Winter/Spring Gathering of March 8, 2025, as presented.

Minute 07:25:2025: Friends heartily approved a Minute of Appreciation submitted by the Executive Committee in

recognition of the caring long-time faithful stewardship of Mike Miller who cheerfully and thoughtfully carried out the duties and responsibilities of Yearly Meeting Treasurer.

Mike Miller Minute of Appreciation:

It is within the pages of the Bible where we are first taught that stewardship is that responsibility entrusted to an individual to manage everything that God has placed under their care, utilizing and faithfully managing all resources, signifying our role as caretakers of God's creations, including these words from 1 Corinthians 4:2 – Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.

Wilmington Yearly Meeting hereby acknowledges the long-standing and faithful stewardship of Mike Miller and affirms this Minute of Appreciation in recognition of his fiduciary stewardship as Yearly Meeting Treasurer over so many years of challenges, changes, and service to the wider community of Friends, to Wilmington Yearly Meeting, individual meetings, and to the wider community that has been beneficiaries of his gifts of integrity, wisdom, financial and spiritual stewardship, grace, and good humor. It is through his example that we bear witness as Wilmington Yearly Meeting in affirming and assuming our responsibility to serve as caretakers of God's creation, following the leadings of Mike Miller, he whom we have found to be most faithful.

Patricia presented the Consensus Agenda which contains written committee reports for review prior to the business meeting and that do not require action during worship with attention to business. If there are questions about a written

report that require discussion, that concern is moved to the Action Agenda.

The Consensus Agenda included the following reports: 2025 Trustees Report; Nomination Committee; Peace and Society; Executive Committee; College Committee; Quaker Knoll Grounds and Facilities; Quaker Knoll Visioning Task Force; Youth and Young Adults; Missions and Evangelism; Monthly Meetings Visitation; Five Year Financial Planning; and Bookkeeper Job Duties.

In the spirit of meaningful stewardship, Miriam Speaight announced on behalf of the College Committee that Wilmington College has received a \$23,000,000 gift from the estate of Coach Jerry Scheve, the largest gift in College history. The gift includes support for the Quaker peace testimony through ongoing peace programming, as well as support for athletics.

Frank Levering will be the 2026 Quaker in Residence on the campus, with that program a partnership between Yearly Meeting and the College. Frank is an author, playwright, screenwriter, teacher and orchardist, and owner of Levering Orchard in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia.

The Nominating Committee report included the appointment of J.P. Lund to serve as Yearly Meeting Treasurer. He will continue to serve as an ex-officio member of Trustees. Lee Armlovich, Jamestown Friends, will begin her service as a member of the Finance Committee. There is still a need for Assistant Recording Clerk for Ministry and Counsel.

Minute 07:25:2025: Friends approved the report of the Nominating Committee, including the appointment of J.P. Lund as Treasurer and Lee Armlovich as a member of the

Finance Committee. In addition to his responsibilities as Treasurer, J.P. will continue to serve as an ex-officio member of Trustees.

Minute 07:25:2025: Noting the timeliness of the stewardship of Jerry Scheve during this time of Yearly Meeting's focus on God's calling for us to be stewards in all things, and with awe and appreciation to Coach Jerry Scheve, the Consensus Agenda was approved as presented.

Finance Committee Clerk Michael Anderson presented the proposed 2026 Yearly Meeting operating budget, noting that it is again a deficit budget. He expressed his personal gratitude and the gratitude of the Committee to those Committee Clerks who were attentive to the call for budget requests for their various committees so that the budget could be prepared and presented in as timely and as accurate measure as possible.

He noted that Yearly Meeting has 13 different Funds included in Wilmington Yearly Meeting and Wilmington Yearly Meeting Fiduciary Corporation, including \$180,294.28 in Permanently Restricted Funds that at this point cannot be used for the operating budget. There is also \$215,004.74 in Designated Funds which may be spent but only as specified by the donor(s.)

Doug Woodmansee, speaking for the Quaker Knoll Grounds and Facilities Committee, asked if an addition of \$1,500 could be added to the 2026 budget requests to cover a salary increase for grounds and facilities supervisor Jay Schroeder.

Michael strongly emphasized the importance of getting information to the Finance Committee in a timely manner prior to worship with attention to business so that they can fulfill their stewardship responsibilities and present a complete budget request.

Christine Snyder requested clarification in the budget area referencing the Merefa, Ukraine fund/monies. Michael clarified that there is no change in that area with how monies are received and donated. The change is that the Missions and Evangelism Committee has agreed to cover credit card expenses/fees associated with donations so that those costs do not come from the Yearly Meeting operating budget.

With some areas needing further clarification, the budget/financial report was tabled until the Saturday, July 26 session of worship with attention to business.

Speaking on behalf of Trustees, J.P. Lund announced that a new Fund has been established, The Living Faithfully Fund. Acting in generosity out of care for the future of WYM ministries, this new Fund has been established by gifts from Yearly Meeting Clerk Patricia Thomas, with an unrestricted balance of \$450,000, as well as a \$50,000 gift to support Yearly Meeting's Aged Ministers Fund. Patricia also made a gift to permanently endow the campus minister at Wilmington College.

Minute 07:25:2025: Friends gratefully acknowledged the generous stewardship of Friend Patricia Thomas through her gifts in support of Yearly Meeting, the Aged Ministers Fund, and the Campus Minister at Wilmington College and requested that a formal Minute of Appreciation be prepared by the Yearly Meeting Recording Clerk to be presented for approval at upcoming meeting(s).

As Saturday worship with attention to business got underway, Finance Committee Clerk Michael Anderson continued discussion and provided updates from Friday's session. He noted that there are some anticipated increases in costs for 2026, such as insurance, as well as unanticipated costs that may arise. There was an increase in the amount requested by the Youth and Young Adults Committee. The Quaker Knoll budget increased by \$1,500 to allow for the salary increase for the caretaker, Jay Schroeder.

Minute 07:26:2025: Due to the caring gift from Patricia Thomas to permanently endow Campus Ministry, Friends approved discontinuing the Yearly Meeting commitment of \$10,000 toward to the salary of the campus minister, resulting in an annual net savings of \$10,000 to the Yearly Meeting budget.

With those changes noted, Mike presented a request to approve the 2026 operating budget for Wilmington Yearly Meeting, noting that this budget reflects a deficit of \$12,850.

Minute 07:26:2025: Friends approved the 2026 operating budget of \$82,100 in total operating expenses for Wilmington Yearly Meeting.

Minute 07:26:2025: Based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, Friends approved the transfer of \$12,850 from Yearly Meeting Reserve Funds to cover the 2026 deficit in the approved operating budget.

Ministry and Counsel Assistant Clerk David Goff presented the recommendation from Ministry and Counsel for a theme and

scripture(s) for 2026 programming. He emphasized that upon approval these would serve as guideposts and leadings not **only** for our 2026 Annual Meeting but for individual meeting programming experiences throughout the year before Yearly Meeting to strengthen our bonds of community.

Minute 07:26:2025: Friends present approved the following theme for 2026: Called in Joy for These Times; with Scriptures to be Acts 10:14-15 and Esther 4:14. Our song/hymn will be All God's Creatures Got a Place in the Choir.

In other business, gathered Friends shared thoughts and concerns, asking for points of clarification, related to the make-up and terms of various committees within Yearly Meeting, including the ongoing concern of not having enough people to fill vacancies on various committees.

Friends discussed the current practice of an individual serving on a committee for two consecutive terms of three years, for a total of six years. After a one-year absence, the individual may be re-appointed.

Minute 07:26:2025: Following extensive discussion identifying several options, Friends approved keeping the current term limit for committee members as it is currently stated in Yearly Meeting Policies and Procedures (*two consecutive terms of three years per term*), with the Nominating Committee having the discretion to extend and/or continue the term of an individual on a committee for additional year(s) to meet the needs and responsibilities of the committee.

Friends also discussed the terms of Yearly Meeting officers, including Presiding Clerk, Assistant Presiding Clerk, Recording Clerk, Assistant Presiding Clerk, and Treasurer.

Minute 07:26:2025: Friends approved keeping the term limits for Yearly Meeting clerks/officers as stated currently in Faith and Practice: “The presiding clerk and assistant presiding clerk shall be appointed annually, but not to exceed six consecutive years in one office or a total of nine consecutive years for one person in both offices.” (p 76) The two recording clerks and treasurer may serve two consecutive 3-year terms.

Minute 07:26:2025: Friends approved adding the following statement to the Policy and Procedures Handbook:
Committees are encouraged to work with the Nominating Committee to identify potential new members for committees.

Joan Van Sickle Sloan and Jonathan Goff shared an update on the work of Maryville Friends in prayerfully and thoughtfully working with others to protect and preserve historical records from the Friendsville Academy in Tennessee.

In closing worship with attention to business on July 27, Young Friends Jillian Snarr and Evlin Nunes presented the Epistle from the Youth and Young Friends Committee, with the theme “God created Quaker Knoll, and it was good.”

Minute 07:27:2025: Friends approved the 2025 Epistle from Young Friends.

Miriam Speaight presented the 2025 Yearly Meeting Epistle, as written by the Epistle Committee, Miriam, Jonathan Goff, and Hannah Lutz.

Minute 07:27:2025: Friends approved the 2025 Yearly Meeting Epistle, with clarification as to the gifts to Yearly Meeting from Patricia Thomas:

Friends expressed deep appreciation to Clerk Patricia Thomas for her generous gifts to Yearly Meeting, in the form of an unrestricted fund, The Living Faithfully Fund, with a balance of \$450,000, and \$50,000 for the Aged Ministers Fund. Friend Patricia also endowed Campus Ministry at Wilmington College.

Minute 07:27:2025: The schedule for 2025-2026 gatherings and annual meeting was approved, to include: Fall/Winter Gathering, November 8, 2025, in Maryville, Tennessee; Spring Gathering, March 14, 2026, in Wilmington; and 2026 Annual Meeting, July 23-26 in Wilmington.

There being no further business, worship with attention for business for Wilmington Yearly Meeting for 2025 adjourned, with those gathered joining in fellowship to hear the inspiring message of stewardship of all that God has created presented by Steven Rodgers.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Leasure

Recording Clerk

2024 Epistle from Wilmington Yearly Meeting

To all Friends everywhere,

Greetings from Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, who gathered in Maryville, Tennessee, from July 25–28, 2024. We were gathered from East Tennessee, southwest and central Ohio, and other places as well, to be enriched together in fellowship, workshops, business, recreation, refreshments, and the simple act of being in each other's company. We were encouraged by our scripture for the gathering—Romans 8:18, “I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.”

Our theme was “Becoming the Quakers the World Needs.” We discovered, throughout our four days together, that we kept on being exactly that. Many of our presentations touched directly, not on theories of HOW to be the Quakers the world needs, but stories of where that is already happening.

One example was Gary Farlow's workshop on “Ministry of Meetinghouse.” Gary spoke about the long process that Xenia Friends Meeting went through to figure out how to make their meetinghouse a space that could help meet the needs of their neighborhood on the south side of Xenia, Ohio, even though the members of Xenia Friends felt themselves to be too few in number and too lacking in energy and strength to meet those needs directly. Though many of the ideas that were generated at their first community meeting failed to advance—because members of the community organizations present were already working at maximum capacity and could not take on another project—they eventually entered into partnership with another worship group that now actively shares their space with them.

President Corey Cockerill's report on Wilmington College showed us a number of ways in which the college is striving to become what the world needs. She spoke about the college's new strategic plan, which includes elevating the school's core values, many of which are based on Quaker testimonies. She also reported on the reconstitution of the college's prison education program. Wilmington was an educator inside Ohio prisons for nearly forty years before federal and state grants for prisoner education were reduced and then ended. When those grants were restored in the summer of 2023, Wilmington was the first Ohio college to offer the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction a proposal for prison education. The department accepted the proposal and Wilmington College resumed its prison education program this spring.

As the USFW speaker on Friday night, Karla Jay spoke about her family's experience as immigrants, and how Friends communities in California and Boston stepped in to help when her father, a widower with four young children, needed material support. In her current position as Global Ministries Coordinator for Friends United Meeting, she sees some of these same needs—for housing, for translating, for English education—among the immigrant community in Richmond, Indiana, where she now lives. Richmond churches and FUM's newly-formed Latino Friends in North America committee are partnering to provide greater support to this community, particularly to several families of Cuban refugees accepted into the United States through a recent refugee parole program. Karla believes that Friends in Indiana (and elsewhere) can be the support system that Latino immigrants need.

In a related vein, we had an experience of welcoming our neighbors who might sit beside us in the same pew. This year,

Wilmington Yearly Meeting recorded four persons for their gift of gospel ministry. In celebration, each of these persons brought with them family and Meeting members who were completely new to Yearly Meeting—somewhere between fifteen to twenty people who were, even if members of the Yearly Meeting, essentially “guests.” Veterans of Yearly Meeting found places for them to sit and eat, engaged them in conversation, shared stories and sometimes answered questions, and did not allow them to be outside the circle of participants.

In alignment with that ministry of spreading welcome, one of our items of business was to accept a volunteer coordinator for a ministry of travelling Friends within Wilmington Yearly Meeting—to find people called to visit other Meetings to build relationships among us, with no agenda other than encouragement.

We also took a few hours to remember the Quakers the world once needed. For our celebration of George Fox’s 400th birthday, Paul Buckley brought us an honest yet tender eulogy for George Fox through the eyes of William Penn. After the fun of the birthday party, playing hymns with bells, and a lively round of Quaker Jeopardy, Paul’s message brought us to a larger and closer understanding of George’s life.

In those moments where we were not talking or hearing about the ways we already are being the Quakers the world needs, we were considering ways to discover what that means for ourselves and our Yearly Meeting. Whether it was hearing and discussing Frederick Buechner’s idea that “your vocation is the place where your deep gladness meets the world’s deep hunger,” or a small group discussion on how we can—and whether we can—become perfect as Christ commands, we were encouraged to deeply

consider the ways our giftedness can serve the needs of this world.

On Saturday afternoon, our friend J.P. Lund gave us an example of deep gladness meeting deep hunger when he played for us his original piano composition, “The Amazing Variations,” in which he used the melodic elements of the hymns “Amazing Grace” and “Will the Circle be Unbroken,” reflecting them through a prism of blues, jazz, classical and other musical styles to create a piece of music which was comforting, comfortable, and joy-inducing.

We were likewise encouraged by our Peace Lecturer, Chip Woods, to always remain open to the unexpected callings of God’s Holy Spirit, and to be willing to accept a call into situations outside of our comfort zone where we may find truly deep satisfaction.

In our Saturday evening presentation, Miriam Speaight talked about George Fox’s history as a miracle worker, which she saw as a fulfillment of Jesus’s exhortation to his disciples to go and heal others. As Christians and as followers of George Fox, we have a legacy of healing one another to carry on, she said—and our silence and way of worship, which move us into different segments of our brain, prepare us to do this work.

At our memorial service on Saturday, we remembered twelve Friends. Neil Snarr stood out as one Friend whom almost everyone in attendance had known, because of his energy and activities within the Yearly Meeting, at Wilmington College, and within Wilmington Monthly Meeting. Neil was often an encourager, and driven in pursuit of ministries he was passionate about; he was someone whom we knew, without question, lived his life trying to figure out what the world needed and how to answer that need. He did that, one speaker noted, with an energy

that seemed to indicate that he was given 48 hours for every 24 the rest of us received. We remembered him fondly as an embodiment of our theme.

We hope this finds your Meeting discovering your own places within God's Light and leading.

On behalf of Wilmington Yearly Meeting,
the 2024 WYM Epistle Committee:
Jonathan Goff, Dan Kasztelan, Miriam Speaight

2025 Epistle from Wilmington Yearly Meeting Young Friends

To all friends everywhere,

On Friday, we gathered at the beloved Quaker Knoll Campground, where God's creation welcomed us with open arms. Our journey began with a visit to Great Council State Park, where we learned about the Shawnee tribe and how they lived in harmony with the land.

Our spirits were lifted at Young's Dairy, where we delighted in ice cream and the simple joy of feeding goats and watching others savor fresh cheese curds. In these moments of laughter and connection with God's creatures, we felt the Light working through everyday pleasures.

That evening, we deepened our understanding of devotional practice, learning not just what a devotion is, but how to create and share one. This prepared us for devotions for the adults the next morning. Katie and Jason Hollingsworth then shared stories from their work in Kenya, telling us of the profound gratitude of the Kenyan people, who gave them chickens as gifts. Their witness showed us how love transcends borders and how service opens our hearts to receive as much as we give.

On Saturday, we led devotions for the adults, sharing our theme: "God created Quaker Knoll and it was good, it gives us Peace." We then served a bountiful lunch with plenty of cookies.

During our trip to the lake, we began planning what would become our lily pad mission - more on that shortly! Ann Nunes blessed us with a "Faith and Play" story that helped us understand how God dwells within all of us, in our meeting, and all around us.

Next we moved to Cowan for swimming and disc golf but shortly after we were interrupted by thunderstorms and returned to Quaker Knoll, but shortly after our return we were gifted with a most wonderful rainbow - a reminder that God's beauty often follows life's storms. After some much-needed rest, we returned to the lake to complete our lily pad mission, collecting these gifts from Cowan Lake for Jack Hoefer to return to Tennessee.

Evening brought us together for more songs and a joyful time of recapping our weekend as we brainstormed for this very epistle. The non-stop giggling from our recent memories reminded us that joy is a form of worship.

On Sunday, we attended yearly meeting closing at Wilmington Friends, participating in Sunday service before our departure.

In the Light and love of Christ,
The Young Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting

Chaperons: Jordan Snarr, James Godfrey, Jon Goff

*Youth: Abigail Puckett, Fletcher James Donovan, Campbell
Donovan, Millie Bunganstock, Jillian Snarr, Evlin Nunes*

2025 Epistle from Wilmington Yearly Meeting

To all Friends everywhere,

Greetings from Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, who gathered in Wilmington, Ohio, from July 24–27, 2025. From southwest Ohio we came, but also from East Tennessee, Indiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Kenya. We gathered in the theme of “God Created... and it was Very Good,” with an intention of celebrating the creation and considering our stewardship thereof. Thus it was fitting that, while we gathered at the Campus Friends’ meetinghouse for our Friday programming, we spent Saturday the 26th at our Quaker Knoll Campground for all activities. Granted, it was because Wilmington College was undergoing maintenance on that day and it made connecting a challenge for our virtual attenders - but nonetheless it was a joy to be at that beautiful site in the middle of God’s Creation. Likewise, we began our activities on Thursday evening at Great Council State Park, the site of a historic Shawnee village for three years near Xenia.

It seemed that Friday’s activities could best be summed up as a “Day of Caring.” We began with a report from Tanya Maus of the Peace Resource Center, a great concern for our Yearly Meeting reflecting our care for all people. Our budget discussion Friday became complex - but as we see it, not from a lack of care, but from a surfeit of concern, because Friends spoke of a desire to, among other things, increase the compensation for our Quaker Knoll caretaker Jay Schroeder to reflect our appreciation and care for his services. Likewise in this theme of caring, we were deeply impressed by Wilmington College President Corey Cockerill’s report. Both because of the impressive work that she is leading regarding retention and growth, but for two particular items. A

Friend asked President Cockerill what the College would be doing regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives given the current environment in the country. To the delight of all, Corey responded - roughly quoting - "We are deeply grounded in our Quaker heritage, which says to be inclusive, to accept all persons, and to foster inclusivity." Likewise we find ourselves deeply impressed by the reported gift from Wilmington College Coach Jerry Scheve, who upon his recent passing gave \$23 million to the College (the largest single gift ever), including a significant portion of that towards ongoing peace programming for students which Coach Scheve cared deeply for as a ministry of the college.

Continuing on the theme of acting from a place of deep caring, Friends express our deep appreciation to Clerk Patricia Thomas for her generous gifts to the Yearly Meeting and related ministries. By establishing a permanent endowment for the Wilmington College Campus Minister, the Living Faithfully Fund with an unrestricted balance of \$450,000, and a \$50,000 gift to the Aged Ministers Fund, Friend Patricia like Coach Scheve acts in generosity out of care for the future of our ministries. We encourage friends to consider how we can best demonstrate our care for our joint ministries, whether a bequeathal at the end of life, or a gift of time, talent, or wealth while still among us. We recognize that showing care includes expressing our appreciation, and thus Friends saw fit to make a point of preparing and endorsing a Minute of Appreciation for Friend Mike Miller, for his long and excellent work as Treasurer. Our afternoon programs likewise demonstrated this emphasis on caring, as Karla Jay of Friends United Ministries sharing with us the work of FUM's Global Ministries and how, even in very difficult situations like Ramallah Friends School finds itself, or in times of transition that the Belize ministries are currently undergoing, FUM's concern extends to all. Our delicious USFW

Banquet preceded a moving presentation by Katie and Jason Hollingsworth about their trip to Kenya for the Friends Bringing Hope ministry. Katie and Jason shared stories, pictures, and both laughter and touching moments as they shared about their experience helping women who had been widowed and found themselves in difficult life situations, and an overriding theme was a sense of Joy.

If Friday was the Day of Caring, Saturday was a day of Looking Ahead, and of Possibilities. We opened our activities at Quaker Knoll with a worship service led by the Young Friends - including reading a scriptures, sharing moments of peace, and seeing images of a double rainbow they had seen, and admiring the recently-completed mural in the basement of the Quaker Knoll House. We appreciate the vision (and boundless energy) of Lydia Donovan, and the joyful industry of the young friends in producing this delightful piece. After multiple songs and open worship, there was a transition into Ministry and Counsel. After spending time being led by the future leadership of the Yearly Meeting, we began to talk more in earnest about Looking Ahead. In particular, an ongoing theme that popped up in multiple programs was the possibility of future collaboration, interaction, and cooperation with the New Association of Friends and Western Yearly Meeting. We noted quite a bit of energy and potential each time this came up, with an invitation to a program on spiritual formation of young adults and - perhaps - some sort of joint seasonal gathering, along with an afternoon discussion led by Dave Goff, Tom Hamm (of the New Association) and Tom Rockwell (of Western Yearly Meeting and the New Association) and ongoing plans for joint ministerial retreats and some youth activities.

“Looking Ahead” also seems to apply to the theme that we settled on for 2026; “Called in Joy For These Times” with the scriptures Acts 10: 14-15 and Esther 4:14. Likewise the resolution of our budget discussion, as Friend Michael Anderson led us in a discussion and conclusion that seemed to be animated less by worry over what we don’t have, than the potential of what we could have with clear eyes. Our Memorial Service was, as always, meaningful and touching to Friends, and included attendance by Friends who had not been around in some time from Massachusetts and New York. We find ourselves encouraged that we’ve come to a decision that committee membership will be more flexible as we Look Ahead, after some discussion and, dare we say, wrangling. After this discussion one Friend shared that it felt familiar to be at a place where our focus is less on survival but rather hashing out specifics; another who recently arrived from another Yearly Meeting shared her perspective that that sort of lively discussion would not have been permitted and that, delightfully, our method felt more like family working matters out.

Our afternoon clerking workshop also struck friends as feeling like “Looking Ahead” - or perhaps rather “Going beyond.” Rather than seeking mechanical consensus, friend Dave Goff’s workshop focused on going beyond mechanics and reminding friends that leading a meeting should be emphasized as “worship with attention to business,” to seek the leading of God rather than consensus per se. Our Saturday lunch was provided by the young friends, and many friends partook for dinner as well. Not quite feeding the 5000, but the leftovers were enough to feed the disciples.

We found ourselves moved by Ursula McTaggert, whose Peace Lecture was focused on the Wilmington College Prison Education

Program. She spoke first about how Quakers have been “seeing injustices and establishing a committee to deal with it” since the 1798 establishment of the Committee on Indian Affairs. We found ourselves strongly encouraged by Wilmington College’s commitment to the prison education program, established by Neil Snarr in 1967. It’s estimated there will be up to 140 students registered in this program for the fall between three different facilities. To quote Ursula, “Friends are the first to do something and the last to give up,” and this persistence and resilience was shown in the restart of the Wilmington College prison education program. We see this, likewise, as a case of Looking Ahead by providing these incarcerated people with tools and hope for a positive future. To quote Ursula again, “All long-term relationships involve conflict; the only people who don’t make mistakes are the ones who don’t try.”

After two and a half fulfilling days together, Friends gathered at Wilmington Friends Meeting for a brief closing business session, leading directly into joyful worship.

Prayerfully Submitted,

Jonathan Goff

Hannah Lutz

Miriam Speaight

MEMORIALS FOR DEPARTED FRIENDS, 2024-2025

ADA CHAPEL:

Carrie K. Lieurance

CINCINNATI:

Judy Kearnns

JAMESTOWN:

Janice E. (McDowell) Bailey
Jean S. Hartsock
Jeremy E. Jacks

WILMINGTON:

Philip Augustus Fay
Rita E. Carey
Nancy F. Pickard
C. T. "Ted" Vandervort, Jr.

*Death cannot kill what never dies.
Nor can spirits ever be divided,
that love and live in the same divine principle."*
William Penn

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WYM Ministry and Counsel

2024-25 Theme: “God created....and it was very good” (*Genesis 1: 1-31*). We recognize the well-being of the earth as a fundamental spiritual concern.”

Committee to Visit all WYM Monthly Meetings, M&C Advance Report, July 2025

Committee Members: Miriam Speaight and Rebecca Godfrey

In April, after worshipping with Ada Chapel in the morning where Miriam brought the message, we drove to Cincinnati Friends Meeting and attended a Concert of Celtic Music with a Fellowship Tea afterwards. The music and fellowship were both enjoyable. We may return to Cincinnati again to experience worship with that group.

In May, we attended worship at Campus Friends Meeting where we both were uplifted and touched by the Spirit in personally significant ways.

June and July were just too busy to schedule a visit. We plan to visit Dover Meeting August 3rd. And we are planning to join Fairview Meeting at Quaker Knoll for their yearly worship retreat on Sunday August 17th.

This ministry has been a blessing to both committee members and we welcome anyone to join us by contacting either Miriam or Becky.

WYN Nominating Committee Advance Report

New Appointments:

WYM Asst. Recording Clerk—needs to be filled

Treasurer--JP Lund

WYM M&C—Asst. Clerk—Dave Goff

WYM M&C—Recording Clerk—Miriam Speight

WYM Trustees—David Hackney

Wilmington College Committee—Jennilou Grotevant

Missions and Evangelism—Mary Ellen Krisher

Yearly Meeting Program Committee—Dave Goff

Youth and Young Adult Committee (complete listing)

Jonathan Goff

Becky Godfrey

James Godfrey

Nancy McCormick

Vicky Powers (In her first year)

Eric Guindon (newly appointed as of June 2025)

Jordan Snarr (ex officio, YM Youth Minister)

WYM College Committee: July 2025

Wilmington College Committee's purpose is to be supportive of Wilmington College President, Faculty, Staff, Students and the Board of Trustees to promote the Quaker Values that the College was founded upon and to keep the lines of communication open between the members of Wilmington Yearly Meeting and Wilmington College. The Committee meets monthly via Zoom and we have notified the President's office of our schedule. In turn, President Corey Cockerill has joined our meeting a few times and sent other representatives at other times to keep us informed of what is happening on campus, new developments and so on. This gives the opportunity for committee members to ask questions or express concerns. Mostly the committee members are amazed at all the exciting ways these faculty and staff have developed programs and services for each student to succeed at Wilmington College and do their best work.

The WC Board of Trustees has established the Quaker Connections Committee within the Board headed by BOT member Nancy Summers. As clerk of WCC, I attend these meetings. This Committee was formed to increase knowledge and use of Quaker practices within the Board. Recently, all Board members were encouraged to read and discuss Paul Buckley's Pendel Hill Pamphlet "Quaker Testimony: What We Witness to the World".

Our Quaker in Residence Program continues into its fourth year. This past February (2025), Katrina McQuail of Meeting Place Organic Farm, a Quaker from Ontario, Canada, came to spend time with students and faculty, sharing her experience as a farmer and a Quaker. And it was a great success! We are happy to announce that our Quaker in Residence for 2026 is Frank

Levering, author, playwright, screen writer, teacher and orchardist. He owns and operates Levering Orchard in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, the farm where he grew up and was established by his Quaker grandfather, handed down to Frank's Quaker parents, Sam and Miriam Levering, and now provides Cherries and Apples to local customers. Frank also does theater productions at the orchard during the summer. The dates for Frank's visit are January 26-29, 2026. Frank is excited about coming to Wilmington College to share his life and Quaker Values with the WC Community.

College Committee members are grateful we have a good connection with the college. But we are aware that difficult times are ahead. Changes are being made to the student loan system which will make college less affordable for students who want the Wilmington College experience. This could affect enrollment. Financial support becomes important. We bemoan the fact that many of us are older and that our Yearly Meeting resources are dwindling. How can you help to leave a legacy for our Yearly Meeting or our college to continue to be a Testimony of our Quaker Faith. Pray about it. How are you being led?

Submitted by WCC Clerk, Miriam Speaight

WYM Executive Committee

Executive Committee Report to Wilmington Yearly Meeting 2025 Summer Gathering Business Session

Since the 2024 Yearly Meeting Spring Gathering business session, the Executive Committee has met three times and has taken the following actions.

The committee approved funding for the revision of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting and Quaker Knoll websites at a level not exceeding \$4,500. The committee instructed the Trustees to transfer the money from the Schutt-Beck Fund to the Yearly Meeting's checking account.

The committee tasked the Program Committee to develop a form for securing permission from speakers at Yearly Meeting gatherings for the posting of presentations to the Yearly Meeting website, should such postings be deemed desirable. This process only applies to speakers/presenters. Yearly Meeting business sessions, memorials, Ministry and Counsel sessions or any other presentations related to the business of the Yearly Meeting are not to be recorded or posted.

Friends Gary Huffenberger, J.P. Lund and Patricia Thomas served on an ad hoc committee to conduct an evaluation of Melodi Goff's work as Yearly Meeting Coordinator. The ad hoc committee produced a favorable report, and Executive Committee approved the continuation of Melodi's employment for a period of one year.

The committee reviewed and approved a position description, developed by the Finance Committee, for the bookkeeper and asked the Quaker Knoll Facilities and Grounds Committee to develop a similar position description for the Camp Caretaker.

Executive Committee reviewed and approved the following financial policies as developed by the Finance Committee:

- Excess donations designated for a specific event should be deposited into the general fund.
- If a committee needs more than their budgeted amount and has designated reserve funds, those designated funds need to be used to cover any shortfall.
- If a committee's needs exceed their operating budget and their reserve, the committee clerk should notify the treasurer.
- Payment processing fees, which are currently combined and charged to the YM general fund, are to be charged to the appropriate committee.

Executive Committee approved placing the Merefah funds under the care of the Missions and Evangelism Committee, with that Committee to cover the PayPal fees associated with gifts/donations to the fund from their committee budget.

Executive Committee approved a proposal brought by Melodi Goff to end the practice of the Yearly Meeting purchasing telephone and internet service from Spectrum and join the Wilmington College communications network for our telephone and internet access. The college will provide this service free of charge eliminating the expense of the Spectrum services. The transfer will require the Yearly Meeting to change its office phone number. Going forward the office phone number will be (937) 481-2491.

Mike Miller has resigned as Treasurer of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. The Executive Committee asked Nominating Committee to work on identifying candidates that may be interested in the position. Executive Committee tasked Doug Woodmansee and Judy Leisure with writing a minute of appreciation for Mike's long service in this role. That minute is attached to this report. Mike will continue to serve on Trustees.

Executive Committee approved request from the Trustees to transfer \$10,000 from the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Reserve Fund to the checking account to cover ongoing expenses.

Executive Committee approved using up to \$400 from the website transition funds for the use of the Wilmington College drone to take aerial photos of the Quaker Knoll campgrounds, contingent upon the availability of funds available in that account after other expenses. If there are not sufficient funds in the website transition fund, the Camp Board will be asked to cover the expenses from their budget.

Respectfully submitted by:

Douglas Woodmansee, Clerk of Executive Committee

July 16, 2025

Minute of Appreciation:

It is within the pages of the Bible where we are first taught that stewardship is that responsibility entrusted to an individual to manage everything God has placed under their care, utilizing and faithfully managing all resources, signifying our role as caretakers of God's creations, including these words from 1 Corinthians 4:2 – *Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.*

Wilmington Yearly Meeting hereby acknowledges the long-standing and faithful stewardship of Mike Miller and affirms this Minute of Appreciation in recognition of his fiduciary stewardship as Yearly Meeting Treasurer over so many years of challenges, changes, and service to the wider community of Friends, to Wilmington Yearly Meeting, individual Meetings, and to the wider community that have been beneficiaries of his gifts of integrity, wisdom, financial and spiritual stewardship, grace, and good humor. It is through his example that we bear witness as Wilmington Yearly Meeting in affirming and assuming our responsibility to serve as caretakers of God's creation, following the leadings of Mike Miller, he who we have found to be most faithful.

Drafted Judy Leisure,

Recording Clerk of Executive Committee, at the Request of the
Wilmington Yearly Meeting Executive Committee,

July 2025.

WYM Missions & Evangelism Committee

The committee made the following donations using Quaker Baker funds.

\$500 to Cuba Friends Meeting for Youth activities

\$500 to Sugartree Ministries for bunk beds

\$500 to Belize for their grocery program

\$250 for Ukraine

\$250 to Karen Bauer for Friends Bringing Hope

All the money we raised at the Holidazzle weekend went to support Katie and Jason's trip to Africa with Friends Bringing Hope. This was \$835.

We also sent \$2000 to Western Yearly Meeting for the Pastor's Conference. This was from funds the Trustees hold. We have a number of people from WYM who attend this conference.

We look forward to seeing you at the Corn Festival in September.

Cathy Hadley

Clerk

WYM Peace & Social Concerns Committee

Over this report's time span since the adjournment of 2024 Annual Sessions, the Peace & Society Committee has taken on its specified responsibilities.

First, the committee nominated four Yearly Meeting members who were willing to take part, either in person or online, in the 2024 Friends Committee on National Legislation's (FCNL's) annual assembly in the nation's capital. All four outstanding women were appointed as Wilmington Yearly Meeting representatives to FCNL, three of whom previously had served in the capacity, with the fourth person a new appointee. Our committee authorized financial assistance to fund each rep's online or in-person registration fee, and in one instance the committee allotted the amount to cover a representative's airfare to be there in person. Financial assistance totaled \$943.95.

While we did not find somebody to be the Yearly Meeting's designated representative to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), we did reach out to a person who ultimately declined. In the upcoming nomination cycle, we may announce the vacancy in the Yearly Meeting's weekly newsletter. The appointee would be asked to participate, probably online, in the AFSC Corporate Program 2026 in the spring.

Second, the committee procured Wilmington College English Professor Ursula C. McTaggart to present the annual peace lecture during the 2025 Annual Sessions. She will speak about the college's new Prison Education Program.

Also, as an optional service project, available committee members may help the college's Peace Resource Center

recognize its 50-year anniversary by helping to register and greet attendees of a Sept. 30-Oct. 1, 2025 conference titled "ARCHIVES AS WITNESS: Preserving History, Memory, and Art".

In peace,

Gary Huffenberger, Clerk

Wilmington Yearly Meeting's Peace & Society Committee

WYM Quaker Knoll Grounds & Facilities Committee

Quaker Knoll Camp Board Report FY24

Physical Accomplishments

During the course of the last fiscal year, members of the Camp Board, supplemented by members of the broader community, helped to maintain and enhance the functionality of the Quaker Knoll camp. Additions and improvements to the camp include but are not limited to: 1) purchase and planting of 5 new trees to replace some of the trees that have been lost over the recent past, 2) repairs to playground equipment including the pirate ship, 3) replacing the shutters on the Clark Lodge, 4) painting in the basement of the Quaker Knoll House, 5) repair to allow full functionality of the cooking stove in Clark Lodge, 6) repair and solidifying Quaker Knoll sign at the intersection with 730, 7) replacement of several mattresses for use in the cabins, 8) Picnic tables were rebuilt using new wood, 9) significant and deep cleaning of the Quaker Knoll House was accomplished.

- 1) Over the last several years, the property has lost several notable trees, particularly maples. The board determined to replace 5 of those trees this year, with an emphasis on planting native trees to promote sustainable practices. The trees that were selected included two varieties of tulip poplars and three varieties of oaks. These were planted as a part of the work day that was engaged by members of the Camp Board and members of the YAYA group in late April.
- 2) The pirate ship and associated playground equipment required some major repairs in order to maintain functionality, and these repairs were accomplished

through a donation of time and skill by members of the local Quaker community.

- 3) The shutters and doors of the Lodge were in a state of disrepair, and these were repaired by a group of workers from the Amish community as engaged by a member of the Quaker Community. This work was NOT donated but was contracted with these individuals.
- 4) The group of Senior campers undertook painting and organization in the downstairs of the Quaker Knoll House as a service project during the months of June and July. Pictures showing the work are attached at the end of this report.
- 5) Half of the cooking stove was not functioning properly, but this was repaired through a donation of time and skill by a member of the local Quaker Community.
- 6) The Quaker Knoll sign at the intersection with State Route 730 has been the victim of severe weather over the years and has been knocked down numerous times. Camp Board discussed how we could solidify the structure and Jay Schroeder implemented the ideas in what appear to now be a structure that will stand up to intense weather. We reserve judgment on whether it will last forever.
- 7) As is typically the case, some of the mattresses used in the cabins reach the end of their productive lifetime and are replaced. These are typically replaced as donations by a member of the local Quaker community.
- 8) The picnic tables with steel bases had wood that was mostly rotting. These were stripped and the wood was

replaced with treated wood during the work day in late April by members of the local Quaker community.

- 9) The Quaker Knoll house underwent a thorough cleaning during the work day in late April by members of the local Quaker community.

Marketing Accomplishments

The rental of the property by guests was modified by 1) changing the website, 2) increasing the rental rates (roughly 10%, with an intent to increase again in 2026), 3) establishing a policy document to govern rentals starting in 2025.

- 1) The website is still undergoing changes and enhancements. We have opted to abandon point of sale payments on the website itself, as this 1) created additional expense, 2) tended to create confusion, 3) usually led to the renter needing to speak directly to the YM Coordinator to complete the rental. The website still maintains a calendar of rentals so that potential renters can assess availability, and then sends potential renters directly to the phone of the YM coordinator to make reservations. In addition, we are in the process of contracting with an individual with a drone to create aerial footage and other videography and photography to enhance the website experience and hopefully increase our marketability.

- 2) The rental rates are now as reflected below:
- 3) After a few instances in recent years that exposed our vulnerability to potentially being legally exposed if we refused rental to particular groups (Aryan Nation, KKK, etc.), we found it to be prudent to establish a specific policy statement that would help protect us legally. The policy statements follow:

POLICY STATEMENTS:

Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) reserves the right to refuse rental of Quaker Knoll Campground and Retreat Center to organizations and persons whose ideology and practices exclude individuals based upon race, ethnicity, or gender.

Grounds include use of playground, benches and picnic table, bath house (toilets and showers), gazebo, amphitheater, two fire

FEE SCHEDULE: DAY USE (12 hours)		OVERNIGHT USE (24 hours)	
Grounds only	\$85	Grounds only	\$125
Grounds Plus Quaker Knoll House	\$160	Grounds Plus Quaker Knoll House	\$280
Grounds Plus Clark Lodge	\$245	Grounds Plus Clark Lodge	\$330
Grounds, Quaker Knoll House, and Clark Lodge	\$330	Grounds, Quaker Knoll House, and Clark Lodge	\$485
Disc Golf only (4 person minimum)	\$6 per person	Cabins added to any of the above packages.	\$35 each

pits, baseball diamond, walking trails, and 18-hole disc golf course, space for tents and campers (no utilities). Bath house toilets are not handicap accessible.

Guests are responsible for providing their own linens.

Maximum overnight occupancy of Quaker Knoll house is 19 persons. Quaker Knoll bathrooms are handicap accessible.

Clark Lodge is not intended for overnight occupancy and is only available from April to October.

Maximum overnight occupancy of each cabin is 8 persons. 10 cabins are available from April to October.

Clark Lodge rental includes use of its kitchen.

No more than 10 tents/pop-up trailers will be permitted on the grounds overnight.

No more than 4 campers will be permitted on grounds overnight. Campers are to be parked on gravel area next to Clark Lodge.

Pets are not permitted on the premises. Service animals that are trained to perform a task that is related to a person's disability are permitted.

All buildings are smoke-free.

Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the premises.

Weapons are not permitted on the premises, including concealed carry weapons. Fireworks are not permitted on the premises.

Damage beyond ordinary wear and tear will be billed to the person/organization renting the facility.

\$275 deposit required.

Members of Wilmington Yearly Meeting are exempt from Disc Golf fee.

Future and Vision Accomplishments

The vision of the future of Quaker Knoll was enhanced by the establishment of a visioning task force including members of the Camp Board and members of the YAYA group. This group has met almost every month since it was established in spring. Members of both groups participated in the April workday and an additional work day is anticipated in October. Enhancements to the camp that can keep it up to date, including modern WiFi technology, adequate electrical charging facilities, etc. are being discussed and their implementation will be rolled out over the coming months and years.

Respectfully submitted
on behalf of the Quaker Knoll Camp board,

Russell Kincaid

WYM Quaker Knoll Visioning Task Force

The Quaker Knoll Visioning Task Force is a joint venture of the Quaker Knoll Camp Board and the WYM Youth and Young Adults Committee. Established in February of 2025, the Task Force was formed to “develop a preliminary multi-stage vision, spanning up to forty years, with several concrete goals for the near future, to present for discussion and input at our Annual Gathering in July of this year. “Recognizing that a clearly stated vision, supported by a solid plan to achieve it, is essential for the continued and future stewardship of Quaker Knoll, the Camp Board and YAYA have formed this Task Force to pursue development of such a vision and plan.” [Quoted from joint email from Jonathan Goff, Clerk of YAYA and Russell Kincaid, Clerk, Quaker Knoll Grounds & Facilities Committee].

Though initially formed in hopes of presenting a vision and plan at the 2025 Annual Session of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, the Task Force is still in its early stages. The first meeting was held in February of 2025, and has met monthly (with a few exceptions) since that time. The first task completed has been to establish a Mission Statement for Quaker Knoll, which reads as follows:

Quaker Knoll Camp and Retreat Center provides a welcoming place for Wilmington Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, its constituent Monthly Meetings, and its individual members to conduct religious, educational, and recreational programs. Quaker Knoll's facilities and grounds are also available for rent to persons and organizations not affiliated with the Yearly Meeting. All activities at the Center are required to be consistent with the traditional Quaker values of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship.

The Task Force will meet again August 11, 2025 at 6:00 pm by Zoom. Anyone interested in participating in this visioning process is invited to join us!

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Goff, Clerk
Quaker Knoll Visioning Task Force
July 21, 2025

WYM Training & Recording Committee

The T & R Committee has not met since the last gathering of the WYM.

At the present time, there are no candidates known to be seeking Training or Recording.

Respectfully submitted, Craig Strafford, Clerk
July 6, 2025

WYM Youth & Young Adults Committee

July 2025

To all Friends of Wilmington Yearly Meeting,

It has been a full and successful year for the Youth and Young Adult (YAYA) Committee of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, and we appreciate all the prayers and support and participation of everybody. Our ministries have had a successful year, and have included some new forms in addition to the summer camping program and season gatherings. Our committee feels encouraged and vital, and we encourage all of you to support the work of youth ministry. We likewise thank the continued support of the Yearly Meeting financially and in spirit for your Youth Pastor, as Jordan Snarr continues to do a wonderful job.

This year's Quaker Knoll camping season was very successful again, with growth over last year. There were 66 campers across the five camps, with the usual concentration at the younger age group. Something you'll particularly notice when we have our meetings at Quaker Knoll on Saturday is the new appearance of the basement in the Quaker Knoll House. Under the direction of Lydia Donovan, who directed the Adventure Camp, the young people - campers and counselors alike - contributed a lot of time and talent to the mural and the colored wall panels in the basement. We appreciate Lydia's vision, and the young people's passion in helping to bring it to life. By all accounts the weeks were enjoyed by everybody, from the very youngest Explorer campers to the elderly grandparents and other Friends who came by simply to visit.

We also have restarted a Young Adult Friends program this year, and hope that this can be a vital source of life for younger friends

who may have aged out of the camping program but still yearn for connection and fellowship. The name of this committee does specifically include young adult ministry, after all. The first meeting of this group coincided with a workday out at Quaker Knoll, and a lot of work got done then. In other events, we appreciate the Program Committee allowing us to host the luncheon at the last seasonal gathering and Saturday this year as well. We also have been supporting our Youth Pastor in her working together with Friends in the New Association and Western Yearly Meeting to provide cross-yearly-meeting opportunities for fellowship, including the Charism Camp that took place recently. Charism Camp had over 50 in attendance, with 16 from Wilmington YM.

The other major item worth reporting is that some of our members have been working together with members of the Camp Board and other interested Friends as well on a joint Quaker Knoll Visioning Task Force. The goal of this group is to sketch out a programmed look at the current state and the possible growth and future of the campground. That is, to see how we can make it even better for our needs but also for the benefit of anybody in Clinton County or southwest Ohio generally. We have had a number of meetings and will have much to share in the future.

As we reported last year, we feel like God has greatly blessed our work. If Friends have questions, insights, ideas, or simply want to talk about the Youth and Young Adults programs, feel free to contact Presiding Clerk Jonathan Goff or Youth Minister Jordan Snarr.

In peace,
Jonathan Goff, Presiding Clerk

WYM FINANCIAL REPORTS & BUDGET

Wilmington Yearly Meeting seeks to maintain fiscal responsibility and clarity in all aspects of financial stewardship. To this end, the Yearly Meeting has two primary financial committees: the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Finance Committee, and the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Fiduciary Corporation's Trustees. The following reports include materials from both of these committees.

The Finance Committee, working with the Yearly Meeting treasurer, has primary oversight of the general funds budget (monies deposited in and expended from a business checking account), and presents a budget at each Yearly Meeting Session (Summer Session) for approval. The Yearly Meeting has contracted with a bookkeeper to maintain records and complete bill payment. Deposits are made by the YM coordinator.

The Yearly Meeting Trustees provide annually to the Yearly Meeting an account of the Trust Funds including earnings from the investments, dispersals during the previous year, and the amounts available to various Yearly Meeting programs. Trustees also provide for an audit of all Yearly Meeting and Fiduciary Corporation books on a regular schedule set by the Trustees, and appoint a representative from their membership to serve on the Quaker Knoll Grounds and Facilities." Additionally, Wilmington Yearly Meeting Trustees act as the Board of Directors of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Fiduciary Corporation with the following responsibilities:

1. Hold title to all Wilmington Yearly Meeting property and have power to receive, buy, sell and transfer real property;
2. Receive, disperse, buy, sell, invest and transfer all Trust Funds held for the benefit of the Yearly Meeting;

3. Provide for the care of, and access to, the cemeteries in the care of the Yearly Meeting; and
4. Maintain the Corporation in active status with the State of OH.
5. Trustees appoint a Fiduciary Treasurer.

The above description of the Trustees for Wilmington Yearly Meeting is taken from the Policies & Procedures Handbook, section 5, pg. 3. This entire document can be found in pdf format on the Wilmington Yearly Meeting website.

WYM Finance Committee

July 2025 report

Bookkeeper Job Duties: June 24, 2025

Under the direction of the Treasurer:

- Uses QuickBooks to record expenses and income including deposits of donations, checks, and cash.
- Completes bank reconciliation.
- Prints and delivers monthly reports to WYM office. Reports include checking register, deposit data, check detail, transaction detail by account, profit/loss, and balance sheet, and may include supporting documentation.
- Sends electronic financial reports to the Executive Committee and other financial reports at the request of WYM committee clerks.
- Attends WYM meetings when requested.
- Pays bills (by check and electronically) and provides supporting documentation to the Coordinator.
- Completes employee payroll including bi-weekly and monthly paycheck issuing, withholding records for all applicable taxes, obtaining and maintaining employee's W-4s, and annual filing and distribution of employees W-2s.
- Files federal, state, and local tax reports. Makes payments to all applicable taxing entities in accordance with their respective assignments.

Bookkeeper is contracted for a monthly rate.

This description was approved by the Executive Committee on June 24, 2025. It was presented with the Consent Agenda for informational purposes, and it along with the proposed 2026 budget serve as the report from the Finance Committee.

Wilmington Yearly Meeting Fiduciary Corporation

(Editor's note: in the interest of maintaining readability and integrity of the charts provided in these reports, page breaks may be placed that leave significant blank space before a chart.)

Financial Report for 2025

Overview

This document reports the financial status of the funds managed by the WYM trustees at the end of the fiscal year ending Jan. 1, 2025. Since this report is being presented in July, we also report on expenditures that have occurred during the first half of 2025.

The funds are mingled together into one account. The investments are managed by People's Bank, using a set of investment criteria developed by Wilmington Monthly Meeting in keeping with Friends' testimonies.

The trustees track the balance of each separate fund and apportion investment gains (or loss) to each fund proportionally.

For most of the funds, the principal is restricted. It cannot be spent.

The return on the investment is available for use. Usually, if not all of the available money is spent, it is carried over to the next year. Obviously, for most funds, spending all of the money that has accumulated over several years all at once would significantly affect the long term stability of the fund.

For each fund, there is a board or committee that governs the use of the money. In this report, funds governed by the same committee are grouped together.

To spend the money, the governing committee initiates a request to the trustees. The trustees examine the request to make sure it is within the requirements of the fund. If it is, the trustees direct the payment to be made. Usually, funds are transferred to the WYM checking account and then paid at the direction of the governing committee.

In 2024, the yearly meeting decided to transfer \$10,000 into the funds managed by the trustees.

Trustees Investment Account	2021	2022	2023	2024
Beginning Balance	\$ 484,726.61	\$ 532,754.74	\$ 438,957.85	\$ 489,468.86
Funds Paid Out	\$ (5,185.00)	\$ (5,950.00)	\$ (8,200.00)	\$ (9,210.95)
Fees and Expenses	\$ (5,121.32)	\$ (4,628.90)	\$ (4,628.14)	\$ (5,140.47)
Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00
Investment Gains (Loss)	\$ 58,334.45	\$ (83,217.99)	\$ 63,339.15	\$ 45,683.75
Ending Balance	\$ 532,754.74	\$ 438,957.85	\$ 489,468.86	\$ 530,801.19

Evangelism and Missions Committee

The Evangelism and Missions Committee was formed from two different committees, each of which governed multiple funds. Now, this single committee administers the proceeds from five different funds: the Aged Ministers & Others Fund, the Annie E. Terrell Fund, the Hadley/Haworth Fund, the Hadley Missions Fund, and the Ministry Development Fund.

Aged Ministers and Others: This fund is to support retired pastors and others in need.

Aged Ministers and Others	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 18,299.27
Restricted	\$ 8,957.05
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 9,342.22
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,544.82
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 19,844.09
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 10,887.04
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Annie E. Terrell Fund: This fund supports “Foreign Missionary work engaged in by the Yearly Meeting”,

Annie E. Terrell	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 2,083.25
Restricted	\$ 922.67
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 1,160.58
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 175.87
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 2,259.12
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 1,336.45
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Hadley/Haworth Fund: This fund supports church extension, meaning evangelism and outreach.

Hadley/Haworth Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 6,692.11
Restricted	\$ 960.67
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 5,731.44
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 564.95
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 7,257.06
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 6,296.39
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Hadley Missions Fund: This fund is directed toward Missions and Indian Affairs.

Hadley Missions Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 2,264.73
Restricted	\$ 941.94
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 1,322.79
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 191.19
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 2,455.92
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 1,513.98
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Ministry Development: This fund was designed to aid those who were equipping themselves in public ministry through a post-baccalaureate program. Over the years, money from this fund has been used to aid those involved in public ministry to attend training and or other workshops that enhanced their ability to carry out their public ministry.

The principle of this fund is not restricted.

On Feb. 23, 2024, \$3,000 was used to support the Pastor's Conference.

Ministry Development Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 16,968.44
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 16,968.44
Actually Used during 2024	\$ 3,000.00
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,179.21
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 15,147.65
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 15,147.65
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ 4,000.00

Payments in 2025:

Jan. 2025 \$2000 trip to Kenya

Mar. 2025 \$2000 Pastor's Conference

Board on Christian Concerns for Peace & Society

This board, sometimes referred to as Peace and Social Concerns, is responsible for the administration of two funds: the Peace Lecture Fund and the Elsie McCoy Funds.

Peace Lecture Fund: This fund covers expenses associated with the annual Peace Lecture, usually presented at the annual sessions.

On July 11, 2024, \$500 was transferred to the yearly meeting's checking account for the Peace Lecture.

On May 30, 2025, \$550 was transferred to the yearly meeting's checking account for the Peace Lecture.

Peace Lecture Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 13,223.12
Restricted	\$ 3,556.16
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 9,666.96
Actually Used during 2024	\$ 500.00
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 1,074.08
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 13,797.20
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 10,241.04
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ 550.00

Elsie McCoy Fund: This fund was created by the “loving gift of Elsie McCoy for education in the area of peace “

On 12-Dec, 2024, \$943.95 was spent to support travel to the FCNL annual meeting.

Elsie McCoy Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 4,099.52
Restricted	\$ 2,850.52
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 1,249.00
Actually Used during 2024	\$ 943.95
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 266.39
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 3,421.96
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 571.44
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Quaker Knoll Grounds & Facilities Committee (a.k.a. “Camp Board”, renamed in 2022). The Camp Board oversees the operations at Quaker Knoll. The camp receives income from rents on the facilities and from the WYM general fund, as well as the two funds described below

Quaker Knoll Endowment: This is for the maintenance and improvement of the camp facilities.

Quaker Knoll Endowment	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 33,099.32
Restricted	\$ 12,780.12
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 20,319.20
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 2,794.24
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 35,893.56
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 23,113.44
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Second Century Quaker Knoll Fund: This fund is unrestricted: the entire principle is available for use at the discretion of the Camp Board

2nd Century Quaker Knoll Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 4,528.71
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 4,528.71
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 382.31
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 4,911.02
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 4,911.02
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Youth and Young Adult Committee

This committee used to be called the Christian Educational Concerns Board. This committee oversees the expenditure of one fund.

Highland Scholarship Fund: This fund is for camp scholarships for the youth of Wilmington Yearly Meeting, with priority given to the Highland Community and Fairfield Quarterly Meeting.

Unlike most funds, any unused proceeds from one year are added to the principle. They are not available for the following year. Because there is no carryover, if the investment loses money one year, there is nothing available to spend the next year.

Highland Scholarship Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 49,460.16
Restricted	\$ 47,020.74
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 2,439.42
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 4,175.42
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 53,635.58
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 4,175.42
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Executive Committee

Funds of a more general nature, or ones that do not fall in the domain of a specific committee, are governed by the Executive Committee.

Anna F. Terrell: This is a contingency fund to be used for the Yearly Meeting as needed. The original bequest was \$7,352.

Anna F. Terrell Fund:	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 7,610.01
Restricted	\$ 4,027.10
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 3,582.91
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 642.44
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 8,252.45
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 4,225.35
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Schutt-Beck Fund: There are no restrictions on this fund other than the fund is to be used for “outreach”. The principle for this fund is not restricted.

Schutt-Beck Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 7,390.19
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 7,390.19
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 623.88
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 8,014.07
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 8,014.07
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ 4,500.00

Second Century Grant Fund: an endowment to underwrite creative programs of ministry. It is hoped that local meetings will develop special projects which can have matching funding from the endowment. Yearly Meeting committees are encouraged to submit projects to enhance their work.

2nd Century Grant Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 185,052.44
Restricted	\$ 95,837.89
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 89,214.55
Actually Used during 2024	\$ 2,500.00
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 15,411.04
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 197,963.48
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 102,125.59

Second Century Leadership Development Fund: is to “promote leadership development through workshops, retreats, service opportunities and educational programs to be held throughout the Yearly Meeting.” The principle of this fund is not restricted.

2nd Century Leadership	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 10,813.51
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 10,813.51
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 912.88
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 11,726.39
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 11,726.39
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

WYM Trustees

There are some funds that the trustees administer directly.

Green Plain Fund: This fund is used for cemetery maintenance. The fiduciary corporation owns the cemeteries, such as Green Plain (orthodox), that the yearly meeting acquired from monthly meetings that have been laid down. At the present rate of expenditure, this fund will be completely exhausted in about 7 years.

Green Plain Fund	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 12,151.98
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 12,151.98
Actually Used during 2024	\$ 2,267.00
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 834.49
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 10,719.47
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 10,719.47
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ 700.00

Payments from Green Plain Fund

2024:

For mowing Green Plain:

May 14: Joel Armlovich: \$ 200

July 15: Joel Armlovich: \$ 400

Aug 22: Joel Armlovich: \$ 300

Nov 13: Joel Armlovich: \$ 200

For Harveysburg: No charges

For Waynesville:

Dec 5: Miami Mo. Mtg: \$1167

Total for 2024: \$2,267

2025:

For mowing Green Plain:

Jun. 11: Joel Armlovich: \$ 200

Jun. 24 : Joel Armlovich: \$ 200

For Harveysburg:

Jan 5: Harold Gross:\$300

Total, first half of 2025: \$700

Yearly Meeting Credit Reserve: This is money set aside as a credit reserve for the yearly meeting. The idea is that the yearly meeting could dip into this reserve if the need arises.

In 2024, the yearly meeting decided to transfer \$10,000 from its investment account into funds managed by the trustees. That money was put into this account. This \$10,000 was returned to the bank account this year.

YM Credit Reserve	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 64,212.44
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 64,212.44
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 5,420.80
Income	\$ 10,000.00
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 79,633.24
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 79,633.24
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ 10,000.00

Undesignated: This money is available for use at the discretion of the trustees.

Undesignated Funds	2024
Beginning Balance Jan 1, 2024	\$ 51,519.65
Restricted	\$ -
Available for Use during 2024	\$ 51,519.65
Actually Used during 2024	\$ -
Investment Gain (Loss)	\$ 4,349.28
Ending Balance, Jan. 1 2025	\$ 55,868.93
Available for Use in 2025	\$ 55,868.93
Approved before July 1, 2025	\$ -

Officers of WYM Fiduciary Corporation

JP Lund, Clerk

Hannah Lutz, Treasurer

Jim Newby, Secretary

Gary Farlow, Trustee

Mike Miller, Trustee

Mary Ann Raisk, Trustee

Respectfully Submitted

JP Lund

WYM Overview of Financial Assets

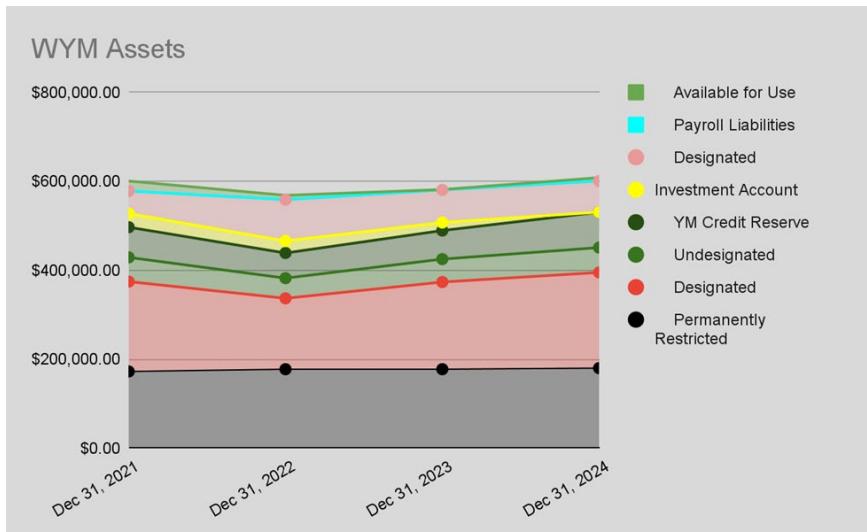
2025 Report

In 2024, the ad hoc Five Year Financial Planning Committee (FYFPC) was laid down. However, many found the FYFPC report useful. It presented a consolidated view of the financial assets of Wilmington Yearly Meeting and the WYM Fiduciary Corporation. The substance of that report is reproduced here, with the addition of information from the most recent year.

	Dec 31, 2021	Dec 31, 2022	Dec 31, 2023	Dec 31, 2024
Operating Funds				
Available for Use	\$22,493.38	\$9,354.50	\$971.61	\$7,151.32
Designated	\$50,562.01	\$92,700.39	\$73,139.60	\$69,926.44
Payroll Liabilities	\$2.06	\$416.97	\$4.43	\$490.28
Checking Account Total	\$73,057.45	\$102,471.86	\$74,115.64	\$77,568.04
Investment Account	\$30,739.17	\$27,064.70	\$18,027.52	\$0.00
Operating Funds Total	\$103,796.62	\$129,536.56	\$92,143.16	\$77,568.04
Trustees				
YM Credit Reserve	\$67,819.43	\$56,510.26	\$64,212.44	\$79,633.24
Undesignated	\$54,413.56	\$45,339.95	\$51,519.65	\$55,868.93
Designated	\$201,977.05	\$159,252.28	\$195,881.91	\$215,004.74
Permanently Restricted	\$172,725.47	\$177,854.86	\$177,854.86	\$180,294.28
Trustees Total	\$496,935.51	\$438,957.35	\$489,468.86	\$530,801.19
Combined Total	\$600,732.13	\$568,493.91	\$581,612.02	\$608,369.23

[Ed. Note: see pp 81-83 for color-coded chart & key]

This information can be easier to digest in a chart:



In the above chart, the layers below the yellow “investment account” are Fiduciary Corporation funds. Above the yellow is the checking account.

Let us look at this one layer at a time.

Permanently Restricted.

This is like an endowment. This money cannot be spent. It is the original principle of various funds.

The value of the permanently restricted funds can increase when someone donates money specifically for a particular fund, or establishes a new fund.

The permanently restricted value of a fund can also increase if the fund specifies that proceeds not spent in one year are to be added to the principle of the fund. The Highland Scholarship Fund has such a stipulation.

Designated (Trustee Funds)

Investment income from the restricted funds can be spent, but only for the purposes specified by the fund. This money is designated. For example, income from the Highland Scholarship Fund can be spent on scholarships to Quaker Knoll Camp, at the direction of the Youth Committee.

Undesignated (Trustee Funds)

This is money managed by the Trustees for the benefit of the yearly meeting. There are no special restraints on how this money can be used.

Yearly Meeting Credit Reserve

A few years ago, the WYM Trustees decided to set aside some money as a reserve that the yearly meeting could borrow from if the need arose. This came from the 2nd Century Funds.

Investment Account

Last year, FYFPC recommended that this account be dissolved, with \$10,000 transferred to the Trustees and the rest to the yearly meeting checking account to alleviate our tight cash flow. This was approved by the yearly meeting.

The \$10,000 was added to the credit reserve. In 2025, the \$10,000 has already been transferred back to the yearly meeting, in the checking account.

Designated (Checking Account)

This money has been designated for specific things. It is in the yearly meeting's checking account, ready to be spent, but cannot be used for just anything. For example, the money raised by the Quaker Bakers goes into the checking account, and can only be

spent at the direction of the Missions and Evangelism Committee.

Payroll Liabilities

This is money that is, in essence, already spent. For *example*, it might be taxes withheld from a paycheck but not yet sent to the government.

It is such a small amount, it cannot be accurately represented in the graph.

Available to Spend

This is the undesignated money in the checking account, the free cash flow. This is used to pay any bill that comes up that does not have designated funds already allocated to it, for example, the salary of the WYM coordinator, or insurance.

Given the size of the yearly meeting budget and the irregularities in its income stream, this free cash flow is woefully inadequate. FYFPC's proposal to transfer money from the investment account into the checking account addressed this problem in the short term. However, the this has already gotten low enough in 2025 that the Executive Committee has seen fit to take \$10,000 from the credit reserve to alleviate the cash flow.

Summary

The credit line that the trustees have already extended to the yearly meeting should give the yearly meeting time to recover from the reduction in its membership. However, the yearly meeting cannot sustain the large deficits in our annual budget for long. Eventually, we will have to increase our income or reduce our expenses to balance the budget. The sooner the better.

Respectfully Submitted
JP Lund

Wilmington Yearly Meeting
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2025

Current Assets		
Peoples Checking Account		\$ 79,418.27
Total Assets		<u>\$ 79,418.27</u>
Liabilities & Equity		
Current Liabilities		
Designated Accounts		
Aged Ministers	\$ 750.00	
Amigos House	\$ 50.00	
Belize Missions	\$ -	
Campus Minister	\$ 2,400.00	
College Food Bank	\$ 406.56	
Fiduciary Transfer	\$ 550.00	
Friends Response Team	\$ 8,157.16	
FUM	\$ 1,560.00	
Health Insurance	\$ (1,512.98)	
Historical Materials	\$ 42.20	
Missions Triennial Fund	\$ 2,026.71	
Nikki Holland Belize Mission	\$ -	
Pass Through	\$ -	
Peace Committee	\$ 227.00	
Plaque Project		
Quaker Bakers	\$ 2,106.15	
Quaker in Residence	\$ 4,983.30	
Quaker Knoll	\$ 16,495.87	
Quaker Men	\$ 325.84	
Sleep In Heavenly Peace	\$ -	
Training & Recording	\$ 151.15	
Triennial Travel Donations	\$ 921.00	
Ukraine	\$ 20.26	
Website UpGrade	\$ 4,500.00	
Youth & Young Adult	\$ 7,193.56	
Y&YA Camp Scholarship	\$ 10,310.00	
Youth Minister	\$ 4,665.38	
Total Designated Funds		\$ 66,329.16
Payroll Liabilities		
Federal withholding	\$ 361.82	
Medicare withholding	\$ 69.04	
Social Security withholding	\$ 300.88	
OH withholding	\$ 131.69	
Wilmington City withholding	\$ 204.06	
Wilmington Schools	\$ (2.13)	
Total Payroll Liabilities		\$ 1,065.36
Total Current Liabilities		\$ 67,394.52
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity	\$ 64,560.65	
Retained Earnings	\$ (57,409.33)	
Net Income	\$ 4,872.43	
Total Equity		<u>\$ 12,023.75</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity		<u>\$ 79,418.27</u>

Wilmington Yearly Meeting
Executive Committee June 30, 2025

Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	Totals
Ada Chapel	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
Campus Friends	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 675.00
Chester Friends	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	\$ 3,500.00
Cincinnati Friends	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00
Dover Friends	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00
Eastern Hills	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Fairview Friends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
Jamestown Friends	\$ 250.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Martinsville Friends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mayville Friends	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Springfield Friends	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,200.00
Wilmington Friends	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
Xenia Friends	\$ 300.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,300.00
Individual Donations	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20.00	\$ -	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 501.00	\$ 4,621.00
Aged Ministers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Mini, Yearly, College Banquet Meals	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 391.81	\$ 50.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 391.85	\$ 963.66
Youth & Young Adults	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Refunds/Reimburse/Memorials	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fiduciary Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Camp Rent	\$ 610.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 1,275.00	\$ 825.00	\$ 1,420.00	\$ 165.00	\$ 5,245.00
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Income	\$ 2,235.00	\$ 10,835.00	\$ 3,836.81	\$ 2,275.00	\$ 9,465.00	\$ 17,307.85	\$ 45,954.66
Expenses							
Advertising	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bookkeeper	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 530.00	\$ 265.00	\$ 265.00	\$ -	\$ 1,060.00
Committee Meetings	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Campus Minister	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Evangelism	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
FUM Board Representation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,399.00	\$ 8,399.00
Mini, Yearly, College Banquet Meals	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Office Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
WYM Coordinator	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 2,666.68	\$ 16,000.08
FICA - payroll taxes	\$ 251.80	\$ 221.20	\$ 221.20	\$ 221.20	\$ 221.20	\$ 261.34	\$ 1,397.94
Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 89.80	\$ -	\$ 73.00	\$ -	\$ 162.80
Office Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 69.37	\$ 58.99	\$ 65.15	\$ 406.46	\$ 599.97
Electric	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
Telephone/Internet	\$ 144.98	\$ 144.98	\$ 144.99	\$ 144.99	\$ 139.99	\$ -	\$ 719.93
Website	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 252.00
Workers Compensation	\$ -	\$ 30.82	\$ -	\$ 30.90	\$ -	\$ 34.82	\$ 96.54
Zoom	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 65.12	\$ 15.99	\$ -	\$ 16.99	\$ 98.10
Ohio Council of Churches	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Pastor's Conference	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
PayPal/Square Fees	\$ 20.59	\$ 13.80	\$ 4.77	\$ 1.49	\$ 77.47	\$ 8.91	\$ 127.03
Printing Minute Books	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Quaker Knoll	\$ 435.82	\$ 452.43	\$ 997.98	\$ 2,431.30	\$ 2,657.18	\$ 2,144.13	\$ 9,118.84
\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ 3,561.87	\$ 3,571.91	\$ 4,831.91	\$ 6,378.54	\$ 6,207.67	\$ 15,980.33	\$ 40,532.23
	\$ (1,326.87)	\$ 7,263.09	\$ (995.10)	\$ (4,103.54)	\$ 3,257.33	\$ 1,327.52	\$ 5,422.43
Designated Funds Paid Out							
DF Aged Ministers	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 750.00
DF Campus Minister	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,900.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,900.00
DF Friends Response Team	\$ -	\$ 900.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900.00
DF FUM	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 840.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 840.00
DF Health Insurance	\$ -	\$ 1,168.25	\$ 1,168.25	\$ 1,168.25	\$ 1,168.25	\$ 1,168.25	\$ 5,841.25
DF Pass Thru	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00
DF Payroll Deposits	\$ 422.45	\$ 376.85	\$ 376.85	\$ 747.05	\$ 991.47	\$ 1,086.79	\$ 4,001.46
DF Peace Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 550.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 550.00
DF Quaker in Residence	\$ -	\$ 3,800.45	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,800.45
DF Quaker Knoll Paid Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,300.48	\$ 3,155.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 4,855.48
DF Ukraine	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,160.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,060.00	\$ 12,220.00
DF Youth Minister	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 2,400.00

2026 Budget APPROVED July 26, 2025:

General Funds Budget	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2026 Budget
Income			
Camp Rent	\$ 15,905.00	\$ 15,924.00	\$ 18,000.00
Monthly Meetings	\$ 34,800.00	\$ 40,765.00	\$ 40,000.00
Individuals	\$ 8,952.00	\$ 12,980.00	\$ 10,000.00
Yearly Meeting/ Seasonal Gatherings	\$ 3,130.58	\$ 2,518.50	\$ 1,250.00
Total Income	\$ 62,787.58	\$ 72,187.50	\$ 69,250.00
Expenses			
Campus Minister	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
College Committee	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -
Insurance	\$ 7,930.00	\$ 7,650.00	\$ 8,500.00
Miscellaneous and Contingencies	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
WYM Coordinator	\$ 25,376.88	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 32,000.00
Payroll Taxes and Workers Compensation	\$ 2,224.65	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,800.00
Office Expenses	\$ 5,987.08	\$ 5,710.80	\$ 3,875.00
Quaker Knoll	\$ 23,898.51	\$ 21,610.00	\$ 23,110.00
Quaker Knoll Credit Card Expenses			\$ 320.00
Travel	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Yearly Meeting/seasonal Gatherings	\$ 1,989.50	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 2,450.00
Youth and Young Adults	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,000.00
Bookkeeper	\$ 3,445.00	\$ 3,180.00	\$ 3,445.00
Concerns for Peace & Society Committee	\$ 420.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
Ohio Council of Churches	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Total Expenses	\$ 71,371.62	\$ 89,950.80	\$ 82,100.00
General Funds Balance	\$ (8,584.04)	\$ (17,763.30)	\$ (12,850.00)
Yearly Meeting Reserves	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 12,850.00
Final Balance	\$ (584.04)	\$ (7,763.30)	\$ -

WYM Report on Preservation & Digitization of Historic Records for Friendsville Academy and Friendsville Quarterly Meeting

In April, 2024, Joan VanSickle Sloan received a phone call from the pastor of the Friendsville Friends Meeting in which he said that the Tennessee Quarterly Meeting (Friendsville and Oak Grove Meetings) had met and concurred that Friendsville no longer wanted to store or be responsible for the historic records, materials and books belonging to Friendsville Quarterly Meeting and Friendsville Academy. He asked that the materials be removed from Friendsville within one month's time. Fortunately, two officers from the Friendsville Academy Alumni Association, Linda Churchwell Shults and Andrea Hill Scott, agreed to help Joan, and we boxed more than 30 banker's boxes of materials to be removed:

- Friendsville Quarterly Meeting minutes, some dating from the late 1700s and early 1800s,
- some individual meeting minutes,
- some miscellaneous documents, letters, wills, brochures, news clippings and materials,
- a box of 50+ photographers high-quality historic photographs (with identifications),
- several scrapbooks,
- Friendsville Academy student transcripts,

- Friendsville Academy yearbooks,
- several boxes of correspondence and student applications for Friendsville Academy,
- historic Quaker books from Friendsville Academy Library,
- a small box of printer's plates with wooden blocks and metal/copper photo plates,
- a metal Friendsville Academy sign,
- a few cloth sports letters,
- some miscellaneous items.

When we met with the Blount County Public Library, they were interested in the local history, but do not have room to store that much physical archival material. They did accept the donation of as many Friendsville Academy yearbooks as we could gather, however.

Greg McClain, City Manager for the City of Maryville, has been a blessing to us in providing storage space at the Maryville City Municipal Building as well as space to work to sort, organize and review materials. Jonathan Goff at times joined Andrea, Linda and I in the work. Greg McClain has also become a partner as we work toward researching history of Maryville in preparation for writing a book about contributions of Quakers in East Tennessee because he has hired an archivist to research deeds for each lot in

downtown Maryville, and Quakers owned many of those lots, post-Civil War.

When we met with the Blount County Genealogical and Historical Society, they were enthusiastic about the local historical materials, and they were in the process of installing new digitization equipment at the library. They really wanted us to digitize the Friendsville Academy and Friendsville Quarterly Meeting materials – because of the local historical value – and they have been helpful in training volunteers to use the scanning equipment that is in the genealogy area at the Blount County Public Library. Digitization will give the public access to the materials so that they don't have to go to wherever the hard copies are stored. And that's exciting! We continue to work at recruiting volunteers. The actual digitization policy will be made with the Blount County Public Library, but that is on hold because there is a brand new Library Director, and he needs some time to get his feet on the ground before he can meet to make a policy that melds a digitization policy for one entity with physical storage of materials with another entity, an unusual arrangement.

For permanent archival storage of the hard copies of the Friendsville Academy and Friendsville Quarterly Meeting historic minutes, records and materials, the McClung Library in Knoxville has agreed to accept these materials along with the printer's plates, metal sign and sports letters.

Dottie Churchwell, Linda Shults's sister-in-law, made contact with Earlham College for us, and they accepted the

historic Quaker books from Friendsville Academy. Dottie and Ed transported the books to Earlham where they will be either archived or given to students.

Although some Friendsville Academy transcripts are lost, the remaining transcripts were not able to be given to local public schools because they would not accept them. But the schools told us that the schools are required by law to retain transcripts in perpetuity in a safe place. So Maryville Friends Church agreed to house the Friendsville Academy transcripts in a locked cherry wood file cabinet purchased by the Friendsville Academy Alumni Association.

So far, the Friendsville Quarterly Meeting has sponsored this project with a beginning commitment to donate \$20,000.00. Thus far, we have spent about \$2,500.00 for two laptop computers, digitization software and two external hard drives so that we can work with the Blount County Public Library, the McClung Library, and Blount County Genealogical and Historical Society to accomplish digitization of materials that Linda Shults, Jonathan Goff and I have designated pertinent to be digitized - for materials to be accessible to the public!

II. The next phase of this project is that Jonathan Goff, Scott Knight and I have begun the process of writing a book to record the history of the impact and importance of the Quakers in settling East Tennessee, their part in the Underground Railroad, the significance of "monied Quakers

from the North" in rebuilding East Tennessee after the Civil War, and the ever-continuing influence of Quakers in education of whites and blacks after the Civil War – and the continuing impact of Quakers on our society through today.

Report respectfully submitted by
Joan VanSickle Sloan
Friendsville Quarterly Meeting, July 21, 2025

STATISTICAL REPORT

FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR

MEETING	ADULT MEMBERS	JUNIOR MEMBERS	TOTAL MEMBERS	AVGERAGE ATTENDANCE		TOTAL AVERAGE ATTENDANCE
				IN- PERSON	VIRTUAL	
Ada Chapel	39	4	43	13.9	1	14.9
Campus	15	2	17	7.9	n/a	7.9
Cincinnati	43	3	46	37	n/a	37
Chester	96	0	96	46	10	56
Dover	9		9	16		16
Eastern Hills	22	0	22	9.4	3.5	12.9
Fairview	32	0	32	8	8	16
Jamestown	36	0	36	15	n/a	15
Knoxville	19	4	23	3	n/a	3
Maryville	12	2	14	10	n/a	10
Samantha						
Springfield	48	28	76	23		23
Wilmington	85	20	105	43	6	49
Xenia	43	0	43	6	n/a	6
WYM TOTAL	499	63	562	238.2	28.5	266.7

STATE OF SOCIETY REPORTS

ALL MEETING REPORTS AS OF June 24, 2025

2024 - 2025 Theme: "We recognize the well-being of the Earth as a fundamental spiritual concern

2024-2025 Queries:

1. How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship and care for the earth?
2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?
3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?

Purpose of State of Society Report

State of Society reports are intended to be developed by each meeting as a spiritual "status" of the meeting for this period of time. To assist members in arriving at that status, the yearly meeting ministry and counsel provides a theme, scripture and some queries each year. Then it is hoped that the Ministry and Counsel members of each meeting will meet and review the past year, using the scripture and queries, to determine the spiritual condition - through ministries, community involvement and outreach, spiritual growth through Bible study, home study groups, Sunday School, worship service and more.

Ada Chapel: Pp. 95-96	First Friends (Knoxville): Pg. 114
Campus: Pp. 97-99	Jamestown: Pg. 115
Chester: Pp. 100-101	Maryville: Pp. 116- 120
Cincinnati: Pp. 102-109	Samantha: no report
Dover: none, pg. 110	Springfield: Pg. 121
Eastern Hills: Pp. 111- 112	Wilmington: Pp. 122 – 125
Fairview: Pg. 113	Xenia: Pg. 126-127

Ada Chapel Friends Meeting

Sometimes, the more pointed queries are, the more difficult they are to answer. It was harder than usual to discern what to say in this year's State of Society report. Ada Chapel is a small meeting. While we all appreciate God's creation and we care for it in the unique ways that we have each been all called to do, the meeting as a whole does not do anything intentional or special to live out God's commands to care for His very good Creation. Ada Chapel has a fabulous flower garden, which is primarily taken care of by members Larry and Rose Smedley. Besides that, the only things that we could really think of to say was that we take care of one another, we take care of our neighborhood, and we try to be careful and gracious stewards of the resources that we have been given.

But that's not really "nothing", is it? Perhaps in the minds of some, it is, but there is something beautiful about quietly and faithfully and simply following the path that God has set out before us. We don't love each other perfectly all of the time, but we do our best. We endeavor to see one another as the beloved children of God that we are, and we seek to love one another as our Father in Heaven loves us. When we fail, we admit that we were wrong. We make amends. And we rely on God's grace to both mend the relationship and to mend our own brokenness.

Most of our active members grew up in the neighborhood that surrounds Ada Chapel. Very few of us still live in "the neighborhood", but our relationship with our neighborhood is not one that is marked by fear or disdain. Rather, we love it. Our hearts are in the neighborhood even if we physically are not. We love our heritage. We love our place in southeast Wilmington. We love our neighbors and the people who surround us who we interact with. We love being where we are.

We love that we get to *be a meeting* in this particular location and time.

One of the carry-overs that many of our members have brought with them into their adult lives as a result of growing up in the neighborhood is knowing what it is like to go without. As a meeting, we try to take care of what we have rather than rushing out to buy brand new stuff. We try not to be wasteful. We are mindful of our resources and of the community's resources and factor that into our decision-making. We try to leave our corner of the world a better place than how we found it.

Ada Chapel doesn't have committees that are dedicated to environmental stewardship. We don't have book clubs. We don't have a special group or ministry that leads the charge on caring for God's Creation. But we have love. And God—in His grace—makes sure that our love does not go to waste.

Campus Friends Meeting

We'll begin with our responses to the three queries we received from Wilmington Yearly Meeting related to the theme, "God created...and it was very good."

1. How is our monthly meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of stewardship and care for the Earth?

As a meeting, we wholeheartedly embrace the testimony of stewardship toward the Earth, but have not had any recent corporate leadings that were primarily focused on stewardship. Individuals in the meeting, however, have been led to take a variety of actions in this regard. For example, one of our members always travels to meeting by bicycle and another family is committed to eating a plant-based diet.

2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?

Many or all of us in the meeting consider ourselves co-creators with the divine, and seek to honor the beauty and balance of God's creation through the gardening and landscaping around our homes. We regularly see an example of this when we gather for a monthly potluck at one member's home, and watch the birds visit the many bird feeders in the backyard. Another project related to honoring the beauty of God's creation that we have recently been encouraging and supporting is the creation of a new "testimonies garden" near the meetinghouse where we meet on the campus of Wilmington College.

3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?

During our unprogrammed Meeting for Worship, we sometimes bring up the natural world in vocal ministry. In recent months, participants have spoken of having more deeply noticed bird calls

or songs while walking; of being mindful and slowing down and smelling the roses so to speak; and of the calming effects that come with recollecting trees and other natural landmarks experienced during walks from days past. Since we meet on the beautiful grounds of Wilmington College, we have plenty of space to take the children in our First Day School outdoors when weather permits (six- and three-year-old siblings were running on campus with their arms outstretched on one recent Sunday morning). We also had “Finding God in Nature” as the theme for a month of First Day School lessons that included looking at an amazing collection of seeds of all shapes and sizes.

Moving on from responding to queries, there are three specific activities from the past year that we’d like to highlight:

1. We began a First Day School for the children of the meeting. After a workshop led by a Friend from Fall Creek Meeting to help us get started, we now have four members volunteering as teachers, and a fifth who reads a children’s story each week at the beginning of meeting. Through this effort, we’ve all gotten to know each other better, and the children are learning more about their identity as members of the Religious Society of Friends. Monthly themes from the past year have included, “A God of Surprises,” “A God of New Beginnings,” and “A God of Love.”
2. Three Campus Friends are part of an informal group of four area Friends they call the “Quaker Quartet”. They attend Wilmington City Council meetings where they deliver supportive comments concerning the local homeless population, a vulnerable minority eyed by some municipal officials as suitable subjects for repressive legislation. This is an issue that has produced

social divisiveness among the housed citizens in town. The Quaker Quartet tries to be solution-oriented, through telling the human stories of the homeless, speaking truth to power, doing legwork and coming up with relevant data, and recommending a "middle ground" where the goal is to help the homeless while also being mindful of citizens' anxieties and concerns. The Quaker Quartet has received encouragement and insight from Campus Meeting, and one member has begun providing transitional housing for women.

3. We recorded a minute on the conflict between Israel and Palestine. In doing so, we reaffirmed our belief that all people have the Inner Light, that of God and the universe in all living beings, and restated our opposition to acts of state violence that undermine our shared humanity. Additionally, one of our members collaborated with local Friends to conduct virtual lobby visits with Congressional leaders advocating for a ceasefire and a halt to U.S. funding for the Israeli military. This member also participated in a panel discussion as part of FCNL's Quaker Changemaker series, "So, You've Written a Minute on Gaza, What Now?" This event encouraged Friends to turn faithfulness into deliberate action and advocacy in and beyond their communities.

While Campus Friends Meeting is a small meeting, it feels vibrant and active with new opportunities arising regularly for engagement with our two yearly meetings and the wider community. We're looking forward to seeing where the Light leads us in the coming year.

Chester Friends Meeting

Chester Friends Meeting State of Society--2025

1. How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship and care for the earth?
2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?
3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?

Chester Friends Meeting is conscientious of the earth's resources and the care of the earth. When preparing a meal or refreshments for fellowship we endeavor to avoid the overuse of styrofoam plates and other single use, disposable items. Besides being mindful of the wastefulness this also provides another opportunity for service and community. Friendships can develop and deepen when standing elbow to elbow while one is washing dishes, and another is drying.

We honor the beauty and balance of God's creation frequently in the spoken word as well as the practices of caring for the physical grounds around our meetinghouse. Our trustees take great care in maintaining the beautiful greenspace and in the spring and summer we are blessed with blooming shrubbery and flowers tenderly planted and care for season to season. We are joined in the care and appreciation of our grounds by one of the local 4-H clubs that uses our meetinghouse for their gatherings. They prepare the flowerbeds every spring laying mulch and edging. We are so grateful for their act of service.

And our gratitude does not end there. We are humbled and grateful when we consider the beauty and intricacies of God's creation. Being a rural meeting in a largely agrarian area our meeting includes many who farm the ground, tend to livestock

and grow vegetables for the local community making stewardship of the earth their vocation as well as their avocation. Their labors of love include conservation of all of creation.

We are also humbled and grateful when we remember those who for 200 years before us cared for this little patch on which our meetinghouse rests. It is in that spirit that we continue in loving stewardship as we continue to seek the Light in all of God's creation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonda Carey Hamilton, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel

Cincinnati Friends Meeting

2025 State of Society Report April, 2025

2024-25 Theme: We recognize the well-being of the Earth as a fundamental spiritual concern.

Scripture: God created...and it was very good. Genesis 1:1-31

2024-25 Queries:

1. How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship and care for the earth?
2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?
3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?

"The produce of the earth is a gift from our gracious creator to the inhabitants, and to impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age." - John Woolman

In so many ways, large ones and small, Wilmington Yearly Meeting's theme has been the center of activity at Cincinnati Friends Meeting this year. We are so fortunate to own a property that is one-half forested, and our growing sense of stewardship in recent years has led us to be more intentional about caring for that woodlot and for the life with which we share it. That sensibility has spread into nearly every corner of life in our community this year.

Septic system

Probably the most impactful project we have undertaken this year has been the replacement of a septic system that dates from the building of our meetinghouse in 1963. The outdated

system was found to have been releasing E. coli bacteria into the stream that borders our property, and it was clear that it needed to be modernized. After much research and investigation by our Trustees, we installed a new mound-style septic system in September, honoring God's creation by treating and filtering all of our waste and converting it to clean water which is then circulated to the earth beneath.

Stewardship of the Earth Committee

A second major commitment to our environment this year was realized in the formalization of a new Stewardship of the Earth Committee, which was launched in August. The committee arose from a recent initiative, overseen by Trustees, to make our property more environmentally friendly by planting a small plot of Ohio native prairie plants, providing food and habitat for native pollinating insects and the animals and plants that are supported by them. The work of this "Native Plant ad hoc committee" expanded into caring for our woodlot by aggressive removal of invasive plants, notably honeysuckle and European privet. As we began to see exciting results from our work, and ideas about other ways to care for our environment proliferated, it was a natural next step to create a new Committee that could oversee these efforts, as well as begin to address other issues of environmental concern.

As the newly-formed Stewardship of the Earth Committee began to consider its role in our community, an early realization was the sheer magnitude of the task, which can feel overwhelming. The Committee has begun by educating themselves about which efforts are most likely to make a significant difference, and to begin there. First steps have been taken at fellowship meals to introduce or consider composting, recycling, using reusable tableware rather than paper and plastic, and encouraging plant-

rich diets. A next step is to educate the community, so that members and attenders see the need for this work and see practical ways they can participate, both at the meetinghouse and at home. The idea is to “lower the bar” for people, so they can easily see ways to be involved.

Peace and Social Concerns

Spirit is showing us that God’s creation encompasses all people, and its elements are so very interconnected. We are seeing how racism, inequality, poverty, violence, illness, death, and more are interwoven with stewardship of the earth. As we open ourselves to learning about how we have contributed to all these problems, we are moving into an ever-deeper awareness of God’s creation.

This year, our Peace and Social Concerns (P&SC) Committee prioritized community and individual or family needs, peace efforts and immigration concerns. The P&SC Committee also “lowers the bar” for participation by gaining knowledge about the needs of our greater community and making those needs known to members and attenders.

In 2024, through its budget, as well as through directed donations from individuals, P&SC has provided Bethany House with two complete home kits for families transitioning from homelessness to independent living, as well as holiday gift cards for residents. Monetary donations were also provided to four local food banks, the Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati (MARCC), Tender Mercies, the Wilmington College food assistance program and Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati. The Committee also responded to expressed needs by making monetary or gift card donations to ten families within our community. In support of peace efforts and immigration concerns, donations were also provided to Ignite Peace, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Native Hope, American Friends

Service Committee, and the Haitian Community in Springfield, Ohio.

We Care Committee

As our community grows in number, the responsibility to care for one another has also grown and has propelled us to approach care in a more intentional and coordinated way. In recent years, an ad hoc committee we've called "We Care" has been identifying needs and creating pathways for members and attenders to address those needs efficiently. This year, the We Care ad hoc committee was formalized to become the We Care Committee. Officially launched with new leadership in September, the We Care Committee oversees, coordinates and encourages Cincinnati Friends to care for one another. Since its September launch, the committee has coordinated assistance with meals for several families, sent cards expressing love and support to people experiencing difficult times, and organized or offered transportation for two members. A representative of the committee attended our December 21 Longest Night service, to offer support where needed. The committee recently requested the purchase a wheelchair to have on hand at the meetinghouse with the aim of encouraging attendance by those with ambulatory difficulties.

First Day School

An equally important part of God's creation is our youngest members and attenders. Cincinnati Friends First Day School is a vibrant, growing spiritual community where children are supported in their personal journeys toward understanding and living out the core tenets of Quakerism. The flexibility in teaching style, the emphasis on personal experience, and the spirit of inclusion all contribute to a meaningful learning experience for the children. By focusing on stewardship, peace, and the

teachings of Jesus, First Day School helps young people deepen their faith, connect with their peers, and grow in their commitment to living out Quaker values.

Busy family schedules, siblings and a broad age range are challenging. However, the children are aware of each other's uniqueness, and are encouraged to value and listen to one another, welcoming the newcomers and embracing new teachers with openness and curiosity.

This year, we added assistant Anita Zupin, who plays an important role in maintaining a calm, respectful classroom environment. A new, ad hoc education committee recently gathered to support these efforts, as well as adult education and spiritual nurture. The First Day School Coordinator and Spiritual Nurturer developed a teaching guide to encourage more members and attenders to help with teaching, as we embrace our children as a valued part of the community and steward this precious resource.

Spiritual Nurture

Care for our community surpasses physical needs to address the spiritual lives of our members and attenders. Our Nurturer for Spiritual Growth and Outreach, Cathy Barney, has had a busy year, completing the process to become a Recorded Minister in the presence of many supportive Cincinnati Meeting Friends at annual sessions in Maryville, Tennessee. Spiritual-nurture groups flourished this year, culminating in a full end-of-year retreat. Additionally, Cathy organized a youth camp with our sister church Beulah Missionary Baptist Church at our beautiful Quaker Knoll Camp, engaged in anti- racism work in our meeting and helped revamp our First Day School program.

A highlight of Cathy's year was to organize and lead a trip to 1652 Country in the United Kingdom, tracing George Fox's journey near his 400th birthday. The fifteen pilgrims making the trek

became their own spiritual-nurture group, meeting months ahead of their departure. Sharing our rich history amidst the natural beauty of Lancashire and the Lake District in England with our hosts/guides Wendy Hampton and Ben Pink Dandelion created a new bond, cemented in daily worship. Wendy is Programme Coordinator for Supporting Quaker Communities at Woodbrooke Quaker Centre, and Ben directs post-graduate Quaker studies at Birmingham University, and leads research at Woodbrooke.

With a richer understanding of founding Quakers, we deepened our faith and community, and we are drawing inspiration from those early Quakers as we consider our response to the new political landscape in the United States.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee did some heavy lifting this year, tasked with filling two new Committees and nominating a new Music Coordinator, who will oversee a quarterly series of concerts after worship. The goal of the committee has been to ensure that a broad range of voices and talents are represented in leadership roles, and that our leadership structure continues to evolve with the needs of the Meeting. The committee engaged in a thoughtful discernment process, using the results of an all-member and attender survey of gifts to guide decisions about placements. A strong emphasis was placed on inclusivity and balance throughout the year. Special attention was given to ensuring that newer members of the meeting are engaged in leadership opportunities, while also maintaining a sense of continuity by retaining experienced members. Care was taken to keep lines of communication open, ensuring that the process remained transparent and collaborative, with feedback and insights gathered from all members of the committee.

Work of the Minister

Minister Jim Newby's messages continue to challenge and encourage our community. His participation in Wilmington Yearly Meeting supports Quakerism locally, and this year he represented Quakers to the greater world by delivering an Opening Prayer at the Festival of Faiths, serving as emcee for both Ohio Open Doors and Sacred Connections gatherings at our meetinghouse, delivering the opening prayer at a meeting of MARCC, through his work with the Cincinnati interfaith collaborative EquaSion, and by speaking with religion students at local high schools. Partly because of Jim Newby's leadership and outreach, our Meeting continues to grow in numbers and in spiritual depth. In 2024 we added five new members, added a sixth by transfer from another Meeting, and transferred the membership of one member to another Meeting.

Other Projects

This year the Trustees engaged in several short-term projects that enhanced the environment in which we work and worship. They spearheaded the design and installation of a conversation circle in the lawn behind our meetinghouse. Constructed in February of paving stones in warm earth tones, the circle honors God's creation in its simplicity and beauty, and offers a comfortable space for connections to be made and strengthened. Each chair in the circle was donated to the Meeting with a plaque that remembers or honors a loved one, encouraging thankful awareness each time we sit down. During warmer months, many of our nurture groups have enjoyed meeting in the conversation circle.

Another project undertaken by the Trustees this year was to replace our old acoustic piano with a new electric piano. The old piano did not thrive in the fluctuating temperatures of our meeting room, and required constant tuning. The new piano

stays in tune, and connects with our existing sound system, producing a more beautiful and balanced sound. This piano was funded entirely by contributions from the meeting, thus providing stewardship of our investments. Careful stewardship of all of the Meetings investments by Trustees ensures that Cincinnati Friends Meeting will be in the world for as far as we can see into the future.

Care of our earth is foundational. If we damage our planet to the point that it is uninhabitable, all of our other plans and dreams will not be realized. We are confirmed in our recent emphasis on stewardship of the earth by the knowledge that Wilmington Yearly Meeting has been led to the same emphasis independently.

Dover Friends Meeting

No Report Submitted

Eastern Hills Friends Meeting

What is the state of our community? Asking such an introspective question generates a creative tension that leads to deeper personal and communal understanding. Each member and attender with they/their beautiful uniqueness has a different experience and view of how our beloved community is doing. We have worked hard to discern the state of our meeting through second hour discussions and a member survey.

We have found both shared and divergent insights. There is a strong sense that we are a loving community that supports each other in spiritual life, but also a sense that meeting for worship is an important component of our community life. One member stated, “A loving community, and regular attendance at worship provide good support for spiritual well-being.” As with many meetings, the COVID pandemic has changed how we do Meeting for Worship. We now use a hybrid format with in- person and Zoom attendance. Some members and attenders believe it has strengthened the quality of our worship but others see it as weakening the quality of worship. Also, some members see our community as solely centered on Meeting for Worship. They question whether the community is actively sharing and working together outside of Sunday morning. Others feel the Meeting is fully engaged daily. There is a sense that we need to address this concern more fully.

A joy for the Meeting has been the robust Second Hours which members and attenders feel have spoken to their spiritual and secular daily living needs. One member stated, “Second Hours seem well directed with specific topics or goals.”

As the Meeting has lost members over the past few years, we have labored over the loss of individuals whose voices contributed to our deep spirituality. One member stated:

“Meeting for Worship is a shadow of its former self to me.” The loss of members impacts the depth of our spirituality as we have fewer voices through which the Divine can speak to us. We have begun to discuss how we might grow our community. We have also asked if we continue to lose members whether eventually we will need to lay the Meeting down. This concern is felt deeply in our Meeting. As one member stated, “The Meeting is made up of good people. It is worth saving.”

Over the past year, we have nurtured our spiritual and natural gardens as a community. As one member stated, “The Meeting provides a community of people with a commitment to spiritual growth. It provides context and support for our own spiritual journeys.” Friends have been known as seekers of the Truth. They believe that each person has access to the Divine. In silent meetings members of the community listen expectantly for the Divine to speak to them. They share that message with others in the community. We have grown spiritually, faced joy and sadness, felt the Divine's presence and absence, and experienced successes and failures. Through it all, we support each other in our shared life with the Divine. Eastern Hills Friends Meeting works to provide support to all in enriching their spiritual lives and to give testimony to the world of the power of goodness..

Fairview Friends Meeting

The theme chosen this year for Meetings to consider resonates deeply with Fairview Friends. As a Meeting we are gathered from a rural community whose families are devoted to caring for the earth and sharing its resources. From its beginnings, Fairview has lived this quotation from John Woolman, "The produce of the earth is a gift from our gracious creator to the inhabitants, and to impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age." Stewardship is a recurring theme in the messages heard and lived by Fairview members throughout the years.

In response to the queries asked of us:

1. We are led and inspired by messages from Dan Kasztelan and others who are ever mindful of the components of Stewardship of the earth and for the people of the earth.
2. The blessing of living our daily lives immersed in the beauty of creation allows Fairview members to stay aware of the need to balance what we wish for with the reality of what the earth can provide, now and into the future. To protect clean air, clean water and the health of the soil are not just slogans on posters, they are vital demands recognized by our community.
3. Thankful awareness is a daily feature of rural life. We join together in the awe of living within the cycles of days, seasons and years.

First Friends Knoxville

Due to the aging of our attending members, it became impossible to keep up with the physical demands of the church building. For this reason, in 2024, the First Friends Church building and property were sold to a non-profit organization. At the time, their intent was to allow the church building to continue to be used as another church. Plans for the remainder of the property were not expressed.

Knoxville Monthly Meeting has not been “laid down”, just the physical building sold. As described in last year’s report, we do stay active within Friendsville Quarterly Meeting and continue to support our various outreaches.

Jamestown Friends Meeting

Many of our members grew up on farms or in farming communities, so care of the earth is not really a spiritual concern but more just a natural part of what we do. Most of us recycle and compost but it's not a conscious "we're taking care of the earth" decision but just doing what our families did and what is right.

When we honor God we are honoring all that He is and does, and His creation is part of that. We often mention our gratitude for the weather, the flowers, the beauty of sunshine during our Joys and Concerns time. Again, as a farming community we live close to the weather – it affects our lives and our livelihoods. We are well aware of how the irresponsible use or overuse of chemicals is bad for the earth and bad for us.

It seems like much of God's creation is disappearing today—there is new construction everywhere. Many of us find relaxation and peace, as well as an awareness of the beauty around us in our yards and gardens. So many people have no access to growing things – where will they find relaxation and peace? We hope that our meeting can be a place of peace—a garden of the soul where peace, love, hope, and joy still can grow side by side.

Maryville Friends Meeting

March 5, 2025

Genesis 1:1-31 (NIV) - "God created... and it was very good."

Theme: "We recognize the well-being of the earth as a fundamental spiritual concern."

Queries:

1. How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship and care for the earth?
2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?
3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?

Hello to all Friends from East Tennessee! It's a blessing to write to you in the late winter of 2025, reflecting on 2024 in the beauty of our foothills. Reflecting on the past year, and on the theme and queries for the year, we find there is much to be joyful about... and much to be concerned about. It's difficult to live and worship within sight of the Smokey Mountains and not have a joyful, thankful awareness of the goodness that is God's creation. Members and visitors alike have shared about being drawn to Maryville, and to East Tennessee in general, because of the beauty and glory of God's creation. Members, former members and Friends no longer with us have been active to greater and lesser degrees in actively guarding against abuse of the wonders of God's creation and strive to be good Stewards as responsible co-creators.

We consider the responsible use of land to be a part of the Quaker testimony of Stewardship; one of the challenges that faces the folks of Blount County generally is balancing the various needs which people face in having places to work, to live, and to celebrate and honor the beauty of God's creation for re-creative purposes. We at Maryville have been blessed with a surfeit of property, and after some discussion and consideration about responsible use for both ourselves and the health of the community, we made a decision to sell a significant portion of our property. One portion we sold to Maryville City Schools for development into tennis courts (what good neighbors, to hear the sound of healthy exertion), and the other for development into housing, for which Blount County has a significant need. We continue to recycle paper products as well.

In other ways, this year has seen quite a bit of focus on stewardship and caretaking by Friends of Maryville, albeit not always to do with the natural creation or the land in and of itself. After decades of having a steeple on our building, we were faced with a question of what to do and after some discussion, chose to remove it rather than invest the resources required to clean and repair it - we feel like George Fox would approve.

Some of our members have been extremely focused in 2024 - and continuing still - in a major project of preservation. The full collection of Friendsville Quarterly Meeting records and Friendsville Academy records were given to us for caretaking, and there has been a major investment of time, energy, and love in sorting, organizing, digitizing, and donating the many texts and materials from the late 1700s to the present day. We're especially thankful to Blount County Library, the Maryville Municipal Building and City Manager, McClung Library/East Tennessee History Center, and Earlham School of Religion for their help as institutions in this process, and to the many

individuals who have been and continue to be donating their time and energy.

Good stewardship of God's creation means supporting His children in their many needs as well, and we continue to operate our Blessing Box on the property, for anybody in the local community that may have need. Whether it be food insecurity or a need for assistance with hygienic products, we try to do our small part with the resources that we have. Likewise, we are grateful once again to Susan Graves and her grandson Gabe for their delivery of socks to the nearby Fairpark Nursing Home in Maryville. And we thank the Friends of Knoxville First Friends for their generous donation to all Meetings current and former of Friendsville Quarterly Meeting, and accepting the offer from Habitat for Humanity as they sought to sell their building - such an organization which some of our members have a very deep history with is famous for their good stewardship practices.

Spiritual stewardship and concern for God's creation extends to relationships as well. In that, we continue to uplift and support the family of our dear Friend Barry Kolp, whose passing in 2024 was unexpected and tragic, and the well-being of all our members who may find themselves in times of self-doubt. Our spiritual fellowship is enriched, not only through our Sunday morning worship services and Sunday School studying the book "Believe," but by our Wednesday night fellowship meals and Bible studies, whether we're studying Scripture, watching "The Chosen," or discussing the history of the church. And it includes fellowshipping with other Christians as well - for example, though we were not able to host The Word Players in 2024 due to scheduling conflicts, several members made a point to travel to visit Fifth Avenue Baptist Church in Knoxville to watch the story of Jackie Robinson. Likewise, our annual Quarterly Meeting

Christmas Program was a great joy, welcoming Friends and others from the community.

Honoring the beauty and balance of God's creation, and living in thankful awareness thereof, can come in many forms - both close to our own homes, as well as celebrating in far-off places. Fall 2024 saw our pastor and the Yearly Meeting's office coordinator Melodi Goff - his mother - take a trip to Ireland, and we sent our greetings to Friends of Dublin, and received a very friendly letter in return. Our fellow Quakers in the Emerald Isle are very attuned to the beauty and the goodness of creation care, and of course the stewardship of relationships between people, which the Irish have come to demonstrate so well. For us in Maryville, that also gave us an opportunity to get to know Andy Stanton-Henry - friend of many in Wilmington, and co-pastor of Lost Creek Friends with his wife Ashley - when he came to speak for Jonathan one Sunday.

Of course, when it comes to celebrating fellowship with other Friends, nothing was more exciting in 2024 than getting to host Wilmington Yearly Meeting summer sessions. It's always a great joy for us to welcome our Friends from Ohio, to share southern hospitality, and this year to allow for a second celebration of George Fox's birthday. We enjoyed fellowship and food, the ringing of bells and the positive conduct of business. It was exciting to be able to host the recording of four individuals in ministry among Wilmington Yearly Meeting, and to hear those Friends share in one way or another a measure of their gifts. It was also a joy to consider, if in brief, the possible future and mutual fellowship with other Yearly Meetings, and to acknowledge growing ties such as the Ministers' Retreats, that our Pastor was able to attend this past fall.

But finally, and to return to the theme of Genesis 1, while we join in proclaiming “God created... and it was good” we also must acknowledge with sadness that “good” does not always mean “safe.” We live in thankful awareness of God’s creation, but we mourn the abuse that has taken place of it in both large and small ways - and the ongoing effects that has had and will have going forward. In September, the eastern part of East Tennessee and western North Carolina bore witness to devastating storms, flooding, and widespread destruction from Hurricane Helene. Towns were flattened, homes and highways were washed away, and the effects are still being felt months later. For many people, thoughts of climate change and hurricanes in particular meant that the Appalachians could serve as a place of some refuge - but in fact, Helene was far more devastating.

We look forward to continuing to live in a spirit of stewardship and care for all of God’s creation - the natural world, the social order, and Christian fellowship. We welcome you always to come and partake in the rivers, the lakes, and the mountains, and we remain, in peace,

Maryville Friends Church

Springfield Friends Meeting

March 2025

“God created...and it was very good.” Genesis 1:1-31

“We recognize the well-being of the Earth as a fundamental spiritual concern” (PYM)

1. How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship and care for the earth?

We are making changes to the building we worship in and have the opportunity to choose according to the care for the greater good of God’s good earth. Spiritually, we continue in faith to learn about our testimonies of Simplicity, Integrity and Equality and how we can live them out to honor God’s good green earth.

2. How do we honor the beauty and balance of God’s creation, guarding against all abuse?

We humbly confess we have not instituted policies or changes to guard against abuse of God’s very good creation. Individually, we can make choices to honor the beauty and balance of the earth.

3. How do we live in thankful awareness of God’s creation?

When weather permits, we meet for worship outside under our maple tree. This brings us closer to the awareness of God and all the goodness of creation. It brings to our awareness that we share this creation with others. That includes birds, trees, flowers, insects, squirrels, rabbits and humans. We share the worship space with our pole that says “May Peace Prevail” in several languages. This brings awareness of other humans all over the world that are sharing in the abundance of God’s earth.

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Before discerning Wilmington Monthly Meeting's leading on Stewardship and care for the earth, it seems prudent to acknowledge the relational changes that took place in 2024.

We entered 2024 as a programmed meeting without any formal relationship with a pastor. In the final entry of 2023's state of society, we wrote:

Much of our energy of late has been devoted to keeping our meeting afloat and focusing on our own needs. It is our hope and prayer that this time of self-care and reflection will strengthen our meeting, leading us to grow in our faith and discern how best to serve God by identifying and meeting the challenges of our beloved world as we follow the teachings of Jesus.

That time of self-care and reflection did strengthen our meeting. It seems fitting that those months of introspection corresponded with the season of winter. In preparation for embarking on the search for a new pastor, we reflected on who we are as a meeting. What are our priorities? How do we care for the community around us? What are we doing to prepare fertile ground for spiritual growth?

In June 2024, Hannah Lutz joined us in the role of pastor. Hannah brings a fresh perspective to our meeting and gently encourages us to be our best selves. During 2024, the state of the meeting became vibrant, supportive, light-hearted, caring, and energized. It is with this foundation that we stand in gratitude for the beauty of all God's creation and turn our energy toward care of the world around us.

We recognize the importance of connecting with God's creation to enjoy its beauty and uplift us spiritually. For a second year, we held an Earth Day hike open to all in the meeting. Friends enjoyed

the hiking trails and the Visitor Center at Caesar Creek State Park. In the fall, an outing to Great Council State Park provided the opportunity to learn about the history of the Native Americans and early European settlers in southwest Ohio and their relationship to the land. Friends enjoyed visiting the interpretive center and walked the trails outside.

Honoring all of the earth includes caring for those in need in our own community and across the world. Our meeting supported local food pantries monetarily and served a Saturday lunch at Your Father's Kitchen multiple times a year. Each week after the Children's Message, our youth collected food, hygiene and other items from worship attenders for donation to local organizations, including the Quaker Cupboard at Wilmington College. We held collection drives to support teenagers served by the Clinton County Youth Council and women transitioning from Hope House to their own apartments.

In addition, we supported a bed-building project for children in need in our community with "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" and donated funds to Quaker organizations including Belize Friends School, Ramallah Friends School, Right Sharing of World Resources, and Friends Bringing Hope.

We watched seeds planted long ago bear fruit as our younger generation continued doing good work in the world. Young Friends traveled to Belize City to work with children and perform service projects at Friends School and City Center. They participated in Spring Lobby activities at FCNL. They held leadership positions in Quaker youth programs and at the local farmers' market. Two of our Young Adult Friends were recorded during the Summer Annual Meeting Gathering in Maryville.

The meeting also participated in Amnesty International's annual "Write for Rights" event. We signed letters to government

officials worldwide on behalf of those who have been persecuted or unfairly jailed because of their work to fight injustice and support people whose human or land rights are under threat.

There are practical ways Wilmington Friends Meeting attempts to guard against abuse of our earth. We choose to purchase electricity generated from “green” sources such as wind and solar. This electricity is more expensive than that generated from other sources, but several of our members believe strongly that we should strive to minimize our carbon footprint. The meeting also chooses to manage their investment portfolio by focusing on socially responsible funds. Another way our meeting is a good steward of resources is using mugs, china, and silverware for fellowship times and potlucks, which are washed after each use rather than opting for disposable items that end up in the landfill.

Honoring all of the earth and its creatures also means tending to each other. The Sunshine Committee continues to help with the care and support of the meeting by sending light and love to our meeting family through various greeting cards including thinking of you, birthday, congratulations, get well, encouragement, and sympathy. In 2024, over 350 cards were sent out. Additionally, the committee maintains the meeting directory and birthday list as this information helps to foster community and, in turn, gratitude for each other.

Beyond our card outreach, we host a Sunday Supper on the first Sunday evening of the month. This gathering is open to anyone in the community who would like to share a meal. We also take turns providing rides to Sunday morning worship for folks who do not drive.

Those who attend Wilmington Friends Meeting have long recognized a desire to create a safe space for spiritual sojourners. All are welcome here. In 2024, we welcomed several new faces

to the meeting. Old and new Friends joined together in co-creation of a blessed community, deepened by our care for each other and the world around us.

God created...and it was very good.

Submitted by

Wilmington Friends Meeting

Ministry & Counsel

Andrea Tacoronte, Clerk

*Approved at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business -
April 13, 2025*

Xenia Friends Meeting

THE STATE OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS AT XENIA, OH - 2024

- *How is your meeting being led regarding the spiritual concern of Stewardship, and care for the earth?*
- *How do we honor the beauty and balance of God's creation, guarding against all abuse?*
- *How do we live in thankful awareness of God's creation?*

Xenia Friends has been gifted over time with a very fine and functional meetinghouse that we have not used fully for nearly two decades. We became concerned last year that this was not good stewardship and that the meetinghouse should not become a scar upon the earth. We also were concerned that it be a beacon of care and good stewardship to community, which should rightly include care for 'the least of these' as the most important part of God's creation. We considered community gardens to raise food among other things. It has pleased God to send to us a group of people who minister directly to those in great physical, emotional and spiritual pain; and who needed a place to center the spiritual part of their ministry. The meetinghouse and grounds are now clean and bright, well tended, and well used. We have been gratified and uplifted as the seeds that have been sown in good ground are bearing fruit – a hundredfold. We have found, as did George Fox, that 'all creation has a new smell'.

We have begun to sort through the detritus of decades of ministry at Xenia Friends, keeping that which is of continuing value; reusing, re-purposing or recycling that which no longer serves God's kingdom. We have reached out to those who have

suffered the devastation of unbalanced nature, including Friends in Swananoa, NC who lost their meetinghouse. We seek in all things to use well that part of creation which has been placed in our hands.

We began our year with a study of Genesis, giving extensive attention to the various creation stories there how they echo throughout Genesis and rest of the new and old testaments. We came to appreciate that creation is continuing and that 'God is not finished with us yet'. As we met in the meetinghouse lobby, we observed and gloried in the green lawns and flowering trees of the meetinghouse and of our neighbors during spring, the colorful tableau during fall, and the pristine snows of winter. We began to look for the neighborhood cat and the squirrels who would sometimes grace us with curiosity about our meetings for worship. We have been uplifted and charmed as we followed the healing of two miniature service donkeys from our neighborhood after they were attacked by a dog pack.

The state of society in the Meeting of Friends at Xenia is good, though we a small in number and long of tooth. We feel energized and ready to address the ministries that God lays at our feet.

Approved 9th day of 3rd month, 2025

Xenia Friends Meeting

Gary Farlow, clerk

Archives Update 2025

Watson Library, Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio

Quaker Research

Some of the meeting minutes requested for archival research in the past year were: Lost Creek; Friendsville; Springfield; Caesars Creek; Elk; Green Plain; Jamestown; Miami; New Burlington; Xenia; Yellow Springs; Chester; Bloomington; Alum Creek; Western (Yearly Meeting) and Cincinnati.

Visiting researchers were also interested in Hinshaw's Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy; local community cookbooks; Quaker abolitionists in Clinton County; Quaker abolitionists in Tennessee; and Levi Coffin.

Library Renovations

The renovation of a portion of the first floor of the library was completed in summer 2024. This shifted the location of our service desk, created space for an ADA compliant entry and restrooms, and added a new library classroom.

Kari Siders New Library Director

Kari Siders, Wilmington College alumna, is Watson Library's new director as of July 2024. She looks forward to directing the library for decades to come, including supporting the repository of Quaker Meeting Minutes and other Quaker materials.

Library System Migration

In 2023, OhioLINK determined they would move to Ex Libris' Alma library services platform and Primo catalog for all library systems who are a part of OhioLINK. In early 2024 the library staff began preparations to move from our current

library system to the new system. Our migration to the new system occurred in June 2025. The library catalog and website now have a new look! If you need assistance using the new system, please let us know and we will be happy to assist.

Ongoing Archive Projects

Library student workers have completed several projects to better organize our Quaker and Quaker Archive collections, and are working on several more, including:

- A full inventory of the Quaker circulating collection, completed summer 2024.
- An inventory of all books in the Quaker Vault that have not yet been entered in the library catalog.
- An inventory of our archive collections on Quaker Topics; Peace; Quaker Local & State History; and Quaker Biographies.
- Scanning and digitization of archival records, especially Monthly Meeting minutes. We hope to eventually have digital scans of all older, fragile documents, to better enable access to the records while preserving the originals.

Deposits & Access Information

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. We need to coordinate staff schedules and identify and pull needed books and documents to be used during the research visit.

Anyone unable to visit the archives in-person should reach out to Watson Library, as the library can research archival questions and send the relevant information electronically.

Questions?

For questions about preservation, depositing material, or Quaker research, please contact Watson Library staff at 937-481-2345 or library@wilmington.edu or contact Elizabeth House at elizabeth_house@wilmington.edu

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS



American
Friends
Service
Committee

Quaker action for a just world

1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102
afsc.org

Dear Friends Everywhere,

Greetings from the American Friends Service Committee. May this epistle be received wrapped in our care for the wellness and safety of your community. With unprecedented climate destruction, the erosion of democratic principles around the world, and the loss of countless human lives due to armed conflict and economic injustice, we are mindful of how challenging it can be to maintain hope, resilience, and the pursuit of peace. AFSC's staff, governance members, and volunteers wish to express our deepest gratitude to the many Friends who courageously and persistently speak out in the name of nonviolence, stand up for justice, and care for vulnerable communities. Thank you for being the people of peace and compassion that our world needs right now.

This epistle intends to briefly describe our annual Corporation meeting and a few updates about our programs that have occurred since our last epistle was sent in 2023. Far short of being comprehensive of AFSC's work, this epistle seeks to spread awareness among Friends about AFSC's presence in the world as well as call upon Friends to act in partnership with us to promote peace and justice.

AFSC Annual Meeting of the Corporation

This year, the theme of our annual Corporation meeting was "Weaving the Threads of Peace and Democracy in an Age of Conflict." We were delighted to host Jose Antonio Vargas as our keynote speaker. A Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker, Tony-nominated theatrical producer, and

a leading voice for the human rights of immigrants, Jose is also the founder of Define American. This organization empowers diverse and nuanced storytelling about immigrant experiences across many media. Our Corporation meeting received spiritual grounding through programmed worship led by Cherice Bock and Christy Randazzo with a focus on climate justice. In addition to worshipful business and a reception for AFSC alumni, workshops at the 2024 Corporation meeting presented information about our Palestine Activism Program, our efforts to stop Cop City in Atlanta (one of the largest militarized police training facilities in the world), AFSC's strategies for advocacy on public policy, and our Emerging Leaders for Liberation program, which mentors young (Quaker) adults in social change projects. We also hosted a screening of "The Movement and the Madman," a documentary about two major antiwar protests in 1969 that stopped President Nixon from escalating the U.S. war in Vietnam. The filmmaker, Robert Levering, and Friends who took a stand against war along with him, including AFSC alumni, shared their experiences and the lessons they are passing on to the next generation of peacemakers.

Calling for peace in Palestine and Israel

AFSC has had a historic presence in Gaza, dating back to 1948 when the United Nations commissioned AFSC to lead humanitarian work in Gaza after 750,000 Palestinians were displaced from their homes. Since then, our programs have provided agricultural development, kindergartens, midwife training, humanitarian aid, trauma healing, and intercommunal exchanges in Gaza for over seven decades. The devastating attack conducted by Hamas on Oct. 7, 2023, and Israel's subsequent assault on the people of Gaza amounting to genocide has left AFSC in a mode of constant grief and steadfast action. To meet urgent needs, AFSC has provided life-saving aid to more than 900,000 people, including hot meals, food parcels,

fresh vegetables, hygiene kits, toothbrushes, women's hygiene products, blankets, mattresses, and other critical supplies.

We have joined our humanitarian work with a strong call for peace based on justice and recognition of human rights. General Secretary Joyce Ajlouny, a Palestinian-American and former head of Ramallah Friends School, has engaged the American public through national television interviews, met with Pope Francis at the Vatican, and talked with President Biden's staff to call for a cease-fire. Our Palestinian Activism Team has been hosting an Action Hour every week on Fridays at 12 p.m. ET, where they are offering guidance on how to advocate for an immediate and permanent cease-fire, unrestricted humanitarian access, and the cessation of U.S. tax dollars for the Israel military. Our Quaker Engagement office is holding space for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Peace in Israel and Palestine every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. ET to offer spiritual renewal for Friends who are committed to taking action for peace. We have also organized numerous events, including vigils in front of elected officials' offices, educational programs, soccer tournaments, and a kite-flying action on the National Mall in Washington D.C. in coordination with children flying kites on Rafah beach in Gaza. We are also providing leadership on how individuals, companies, and institutions can withdraw their support from Israel's military. We thank Friends for participating in these efforts, which have been well-attended and supported by so many. We also ask for your persistence in calling elected officials to demand a permanent cease-fire, unrestricted humanitarian access, and the cessation of U.S. tax dollars to support Israel's military. More information about our work in Gaza and our advocacy in the U.S. can be found at <https://afsc.org/crisis-gaza>.

AFSC is also proud to help amplify Quaker voices for peace in response to the devastation in Gaza. On Oct. 17, AFSC and six other Quaker organizations released a statement, which said: "As Quaker organizations, we mourn all lives lost and lament with everyone who is suffering. We grieve for those in Israel and Palestine who have lost precious lives. We pray with those waiting for the return of loved ones and those living under siege and bombardment." In April 2024, these same Quaker organizations released an updated statement. A different future is possible: Quaker organizations share a vision for peace in Palestine and Israel, and AFSC started to collect signatures of endorsement for this statement from Quaker meetings, churches, and other Quaker organizations. To date, we have received over 120 signatures from Quaker communities! Friends can read the statement, see the list of signatories, and add their support here: <https://afsc.org/newsroom/different-future-possible-quaker-organizations-share-vision-peace-Palestine-and-Israel>.

Ending child hunger

In the fall of 2023, AFSC celebrated the U.S. Department of Agriculture's policy change that would allow 3,000 more school districts to provide free school meals to all their students. As many as 5 million more students now have access to free lunch and breakfast. However, many kids don't get enough food when school is out for summer. Congress created the SUN Bucks program (also known as Summer EBT) to fill that gap. The new program provides \$120 in grocery-buying benefits to low-income families with school-age children. While most states opted into the SUN Bucks program in 2024 and others plan to the following year, 11 states have chosen not to implement the program by the summer of 2025. Those states include Alaska,

Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. In addition, Tennessee is participating in 2024 but has announced that it will not continue the program after this summer. In response to the failure of our elected officials to responsibly distribute funding for low-income families, AFSC has launched a No Hunger Summer campaign. We are organizing Friends and other community partners into action teams to encourage state governors to accept federal dollars to feed kids. Friends are encouraged to get involved, and they can express interest in doing so by writing to nohungersummer@afsc.org.

Defending migrant rights

AFSC deplores the Biden Administration's many cruel anti-immigrant and anti-asylum policies, which have mobilized record levels of funding for inhumane detention, immoral deportations, and deadly and ineffective border walls. We need Friends to spread positive messages about immigrant communities and to take action for legislative change. Based on AFSC's experience at borders, in several countries, and in communities helping to welcome migrants, AFSC's staff offered a webinar series in 2024 on a variety of migration justice issues, including the processes used for detention and deportation, U.S. border policies, and how to engage with friends and family about the experiences of migrants. We ask that Friends become more informed about the U.S. migration system and watch our past webinars at <https://afsc.org/migration-justice-webinar-series>.

And more . . .

There is so much more news from AFSC to share. For example, last December, AFSC organized a delegation of peacebuilders

from Africa in Washington, D.C., who met with members of Congress and the State Department to discuss nonviolent and inclusive approaches to peacebuilding. Our Emerging Leaders for Liberation program is in its third year of operation with young adult Friends from many Quaker meetings and Quaker colleges. Brian Blackmore has also completed one year as AFSC's director of Quaker Engagement. Among many other projects and initiatives, Brian conducted a speaking tour in early 2024. He visited over 20 Quaker meetings, schools, and colleges in over 10 states throughout the South and Midwest. We encourage Friends to sign up for our weekly newsletter and our monthly "Acting in Faith" newsletter to learn more about AFSC's work and how Friends can get involved. More information can also be found at <https://afsc.org/friends-engage>.

There are so many ways for Friends to partner with AFSC towards creating a more just, sustainable, and peaceful world. Our staff will be visiting over 20 Yearly Meetings this year and we will be present at the FGC Gathering and the FWCC World Plenary of Friends, hoping to talk with as many Quakers as possible about ways we can work together.

From AFSC to all Friends worldwide, we send peace, a call for justice, and our solidarity. Striving forth together, we will build the beloved community that this wounded world needs now.

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

Epistle of the 97th Assembly of the Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) in Cuba

Greetings to our friends around the world from the 97th Annual Assembly of the Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) in Cuba.

Guided by the theme "A Family United in Mission" and inspired by the biblical passage found in Acts 2:42: "And they decided to live as one great family. And every day the apostles shared with them the teachings about God and Jesus, and they also celebrated the Lord's Supper and prayed together." TLA

We gathered at the Gibara Monthly Meeting and were warmly welcomed by our youth. Filled with joy, we witnessed the church's joy because, despite the challenges inherent in our times, a full year of intense work accompanied by the hand of our good God has been evident. Evidence of this work was the recognition of Brother Luis Carlos Jomarrón Rivero's pastoral gifts, as well as the moving tribute to Pastor Mileydis Batista Sintes, who has reached retirement age after a lifetime of arduous service in the work of Friends.

The messages received during this period invited us to consider what is essential in nurturing spirituality. The passage that guided us led to a minute recognizing the value of the Bridge of Love through the presence of Dover, Portland, Durham, and Providence meetings.

In addition, recommendations were made to promote evangelistic work, encouraged by the text that accompanied the Assembly. Filled with gratitude to the Lord, we were able to hear everything related to the wonderful work carried out by the ICCP throughout this year, work of which we are all part as a family united in mission.

May the Lord of love and truth inspire us to be living witnesses of this sentiment.

In the light, Yearly Meeting in Cuba



To Friends Everywhere,

Loving greetings from the 365th annual Sessions of the New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. From August 1 to 6, 2025, we gathered for the first time on the campus of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, as well as over Zoom, and we humbly recognize that the lands on which we met are the unceded homelands of the Pocumtuc Nation. 420 adult Friends as well as 69 children and youth gathered here in the valley of the Long River (the Connecticut), with 116 Friends joining us over Zoom.

We were especially glad to welcome 67 newcomers to our annual Sessions!

Our theme this year was “Streams in the Desert” (Isaiah 43:19). This theme has felt deeply relevant to us and has been woven through our worship and conversations. With the sorrow and concern that we carry, many Friends feel that we are living in a desert. Yet Friends feel called to stand against injustice and sense a readiness for our community to take action. And we need to find those streams that will replenish our souls.

Kirenia Criado Pérez of our sister yearly meeting in Cuba joined us as our Bible Half Hour speaker. Kirenia serves as pastor of the Friends church in La Habana and as a professor at Matanzas Theological Seminary. Kirenia spoke powerfully to us on our theme as she invited us to join her on a journey through the desert, reminding us that God’s map seldom takes the easy route. And she noted that, when God brought the Hebrew people out of Egypt, they also had to remove Egypt from their hearts,

reminding us that while most colonial empires have ended today, we continue to struggle to remove empire from our own hearts.

Our plenary speaker was Gretchen Baker-Smith of Westport Friends Meeting. Gretchen has worked for many years nurturing youth and adults throughout New England Yearly Meeting and beyond, and is beloved as a bastion of the youth programs that have long been such an important part of NEYM. She spoke to us of the grief that many of us are feeling today but reminded us to hold on to what remains constant and what grounds us. We are called to be faithful, not perfect, successful, or even effective. Hope, she said, is how we balance the awfulness, pain, suffering, and grief, with the Love and Joy. Our challenge is to be present to the awfulness, but not forgetting where the watering holes are that we need. She offered us some words to keep in our toolbox: “What do you need?” “What can I do to help?” “Thank you for being here!”

Our musical plenary was provided by Kim Moberg, from the Tlingit people of Alaska, who shared with us her suite of songs called “The Seven Fires Prophecy: Suite for Humanity,” which is based on a legend of the Anishanaabe peoples. She closed with her belief that all races and peoples of Turtle Island will learn to live together because “we are one,” and “our superpower is love.”

We came together with spirits again heavy with the loss of life in Gaza, and we are also burdened this year by the harm to cherished friends, neighbors, and community members by unjust policies of the current administration of our nation regarding immigrants and transgender and other LGBTQIA+ people. We heard a call to act to help at-risk people in our communities. Through a number of gatherings for Worship Sharing we have voiced our despair over the genocide occurring in Gaza as its people are being displaced, starved, and killed, struggling simply

to survive the continuing attacks on their land and communities. We also heard a powerful message from Rania Maayeh of Ramallah Friends School describing the resilience of the students and teachers in facing incredibly difficult conditions under military occupation. We look for hope and ways that we as a community and as individuals can act to help alleviate the suffering and recognize the human dignity of the Palestinian people.

Both here and in many other countries we see these and other deep challenges to Friends' Testimonies. As we gathered together as a body of New England Friends, we have sought directions for our community to address these challenges, sharing ways to move beyond our despair through individual acts and group efforts in love and service. We have been reminded of Friends' long history of standing with those experiencing great losses to help alleviate their suffering and despair, and we have asked what we are called to today.

Our Quaker Indigenous Boarding School Research Group has completed the painful research that they were tasked with in 2022, and the group has now been laid down. Now it is time for the Yearly Meeting, monthly meetings, and individual Quakers to use what we have learned as we move forward with the work of retrospective, reparative justice and of building right relationships with our Indigenous neighbors. As we embark on this next phase of the work with our Indigenous neighbors, we are also reminded of the unfinished reparative work NEYM still has before us with African Americans and other marginalized peoples. We will endeavor to do this with humility and a consciousness of past mistakes.

Throughout our time together we have been reminded that our work in the world as Quakers must be motivated by careful attentiveness to the will of the Divine, not by human fear and

anger. We know that we must move from a foundation of faith and love, and find hope and joy in the presence of Spirit. The Living Water is a stream which sustains and guides us. Through it we hope to be the hands of God and become streams in the desert ourselves, bearing waters of hope and comfort to others who need them.

Let us recall the words of Isaiah (43:19 NIV) from which our theme this year was drawn:

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.

Kirenia explained that God is advising us, here, not to get stuck in grieving for the past, but to learn to live in the desert and to build, with hope, a better future. We can do this, as Kim Moberg said, because “Our Superpower is Love!”

Yours In Peace, Love, and Light,

M. Rebecca Leuchak

New England Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Rebecca Leuchak, Presiding Clerk

SECTION 3~ LISTS AND DIRECTORIES

Listings are alphabetical unless otherwise indicated.

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COMMITTEES

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*Nominations by Nominating Committee, approved
by Yearly Meeting.*

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MEETINGHOUSE LOCATIONS & WORSHIP TIMES

Ada Chapel Friends Meeting

332 Grant St. Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 9:30 AM

Campus

T. Canby Jones Meetinghouse

Wilmington College

1870 Quaker Way, Box 651, Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 10:00 AM, Children's Sunday School 10:00 AM

Adult Sunday School 9:00 AM, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Chester

3451 Gurneyville Rd. Wilmington, OH 45177

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

Cincinnati

8075 Keller Rd. Cincinnati, OH 45243

Worship 11:00 AM, Centering Down 10 AM

Dover

257 Dover Rd. Wilmington, OH 45177

PO Box 166 Port William, OH 45164

Worship 9:30 AM

Eastern Hills

1671 Nagel Rd. Cincinnati, OH

PO Box 54565 Cincinnati, OH 45254

Worship 10:00 AM

Fairview Friends Meeting

6796 Antioch Rd. New Vienna, OH 45159

PO Box 189 New Vienna, OH 45159

Worship 11:00 AM

Sunday School 10:00 AM, 1st & 3rd Sundays

First Friends Church - Knoxville

Meeting in homes

Jamestown Friends Church

48 E. Washington St. Jamestown, OH 45335

Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM

Lakeway Friends Meeting (Preparative)

PO Box 5, New Market, TN 37820

721 West Old AJ Highway, New Market, TN 37820

Worship 11:00 AM, Fellowship 10:30 AM

Samantha Friends Church

8074 Fall Creek Rd. Leesburg, OH 45135

Maryville Friends

2044 Sequoyah Ave. Maryville, TN 37802

PO Box 4754 Maryville, TN 37802

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

Samantha Friends Church

8074 Fall Creek Rd. Leesburg, OH 45135

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

Springfield

121 Todd's Fork Rd. Wilmington, OH 45177

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

Wilmington

66 N Mulberry St. Wilmington, OH 45177

Worship 10:30 AM, Fellowship 11:30 AM

Sunday School 11:45 AM

Xenia Friends Meeting

502 Chestnut St. Xenia, OH 45385

Worship 9:45 AM

MINISTERS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

+ Recorded Minister

Ada Chapel: +Hannah Lutz (Lead)
+ Violeta Gwynn (Emeritus)

Campus: Unprogrammed

Chester: weekly guest speakers
during this season of discernment

Cincinnati: +James Newby

Dover: +Katie Hollingsworth

Eastern Hills: Unprogrammed

Fairview: +Dan Kasztelan

Jamestown: +Dave Goff
Mel Goff

Lakeway Preparative: Andy Stanton-Henry
Ashlyn Stanton-Henry

Maryville +Jonathan Goff

Samantha: Rick Smith

Springfield: +Mike McCormick
+Nancy McCormick

Wilmington: +Hannah Lutz

Xenia: Led by members

Other Recorded Ministers in Wilmington Yearly Meeting

Cathy Barney
David Brindle
Mike Daye
Craig Dove
Doug Haag
Ray Geers
David Johns
Felicity Kelcourse
Bill Medlin
Joseph Neal
Francis Parks
Rusty Parsons
Richard Roberts
Clo Robinson
Julie Rudd
Kenneth Shirk
Miriam Speaight
David Terrell
Matthew Zuehlke
Michelle Zuehlke

QUARTERLY MEETING CLERKS & SCHEDULES

Friendsville Quarter

Clerk: Jonathan Goff

Meets on the Third Sunday of February, April, July, October

CLERKS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS

Ada Chapel: Michael Anderson Hillsboro, OH 45133

Campus: David Pfaltzgraft-Carlson Cincinnati, OH 45208

Chester: David Hackney Wilmington, OH 45177

Cincinnati: Carole Barnhart Loveland, OH 45140

Dover: Mike Miller Wilmington, OH 45177

****Eastern Hills:** Martha Viehman Cincinnati, OH 45230

***Fairview:** Dana Dunsieith Leesburg, OH 45135

***Jamestown:** Keith Cavender Jamestown, OH 45335

Lakeway Preparatory: Bambi Pelham

Knoxville: Gus Johnson; Contact Georgene Waddell
Knoxville, TN 37918

Maryville: Jeannette Hamby Maryville, TN 37801

Samantha: Sheila Parshall Leesburg, OH 45135

***Springfield:** Miriam Speaight Wilmington, OH 45177

Wilmington: Bob Henson New Vienna, OH 45159

Xenia: *no appointment at time of printing*

** Meeting appointments follow the calendar year.*

***Meeting appointments run April – March.*

**CLERKS OF MONTHLY MEETINGS'
MINISTRY AND COUNSEL COMMITTEES**

Ada Chapel: Michael Anderson Hillsboro, OH 45133

Campus: Scilla Wahrhaftig Wilmington, OH 45177

Chester: Jonda Hamilton Wilmington OH 45177

Cincinnati: Vicki Culler Milford, OH 45150

Dover: Cathy Hadley Wilmington, OH 45177

****Eastern Hills:** Douglas Burks Cincinnati, OH 45212

***Fairview:** Becky Strafford New Vienna, OH 45159

***Jamestown:** Alma Herbert Jamestown, OH 45335

Knoxville: Jack Hoefer Knoxville, TN 37932

Maryville: Joan VanSickle Sloan Maryville, TN 37803

Samantha: Tom Caldwell Hillsboro, OH 45133

***Springfield:** Guy Ashmore Wilmington, OH 45177

***Wilmington:** Michael Snarr Wilmington, OH 45177

Xenia: Karren Smith Xenia, OH 45385

** Meeting appointments follow the calendar year.*

***Meeting appointments run April – March.*

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF WYM COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise specified, yearly meeting committees have staggered three-year terms. No committee member should serve for more than two consecutive terms without rotating off the committee for at least a year. After a year off, a person may be nominated to the position again. If a committee member resigns before their 3-year term is completed, the Nominating Committee appoints a new member to complete the term of service.

CHRISTIAN CONCERNS FOR PEACE & SOCIETY COMMITTEE

1. Our duty is to carry out concerns of Friends for peace, public morals, and improvement of the social order.
2. This committee is responsible for procuring a person or group to present the peace lecture, usually at the Summer Annual Meeting of WYM.
3. This committee nominates representatives to attend the yearly meetings of FCNL and AFSC.
4. Once these appointments are made, the Clerk of Peace & Society sends the names to the Yearly Meeting Office.

EPISTLE COMMITTEE

The Epistle Committee is approved at the beginning of business sessions during the Summer Annual Meeting.

It consists of three members who serve for the purpose of writing the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Annual Epistle.

Duties: To compose and read the Yearly Meeting Epistle for approval at the closing business session of the Summer Annual Meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of Wilmington Yearly Meeting acts on behalf of the Yearly Meeting on those matters of business referred to it by the Yearly Meeting in session.

Appoints yearly meeting representatives to the Ohio Council of Churches (OCC), Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Friends United Meeting Board (FUM), and any other wider-Quaker family representatives.

Names an oversight committee for the Office Coordinator. Following the annual review in March of the work of the Office Coordinator, it shall make recommendations to the business meeting at the Spring Gathering concerning employment, salary, and other matters.

Is responsible for the hiring and supervision of the Office Coordinator.

A called meeting of the Executive Committee should provide a five-days in advance written notice.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

The finance committee of Wilmington Yearly Meeting is charged with assisting the Yearly Meeting Treasurer in all aspects of financial management to ensure fiscal responsibility and sustainability.

MINISTRY & COUNSEL

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

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

This committee works to make the Yearly Meeting more familiar with Quaker missions. This includes raising funds for those missions.

The committee raises funds each year by holding the Quaker Bakers sale at the Clinton County Corn Festival.

The committee also helps facilitate bringing speakers from FUM and other Quaker organizations to talk about missions at Yearly Meeting events.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is composed of 3 members named by the Executive Committee and approved by Yearly Meeting. Each member will serve a three-year term. One new member will be appointed each year.

The Nominating Committee nominates Yearly Meeting Presiding and Recording Clerks, the Treasurer, and the clerks for Ministry & Counsel. All these clerks serve one-year terms not to exceed six consecutive terms.

The Nominating Committee also nominates the members of yearly meeting committees. Consent must be obtained from each nominee before presenting the name for approval.

The Nominating Committee presents a report of committee nominees for approval at the Summer Annual Meeting business sessions. This report should be submitted to the YM Presiding Clerk and to the WYM Coordinator in time to be included on the agenda and in the advance materials.

QUAKER KNOLL GROUNDS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

The committee is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the physical facilities of Quaker Knoll Camp. The committee formulates long-term goals and plans for the buildings and grounds.

The committee hires and supervises caretaking staff. The committee can terminate the employee serving as caretaker.

It oversees any funds designated for use by Quaker Knoll Camp.

It sets policies and pricing for rental of the facilities by non-Yearly Meeting customers. It works with the Office Coordinator to schedule outside rentals, promote the facilities and maintain the camp's website.

The committee gives a financial report annually to the Summer Annual Meeting.

TRAINING AND RECORDING COMMITTEE

The Training and Recording Committee is composed of a presiding clerk and five members, three of whom are recorded ministers. They appoint their own clerk.

The Training and Recording Committee guides all candidates for Recording by Wilmington Yearly Meeting placed under its care by Yearly Meeting Ministry & Counsel.

The Committee provides a series of Workshops to be taken over the course of two years covering biblical studies, ministerial responsibilities for visitation, pastoral care, memorial and marriage ceremonies, and pulpit responsibilities. In addition, the curriculum provides Quaker history and our testimonies and practices.

The Committee meets regularly with the candidates Counselor Friend as well as with the candidates to monitor progress, answer questions and provide counsel when needed.

The Committee is responsible for determining the readiness of a candidate for Recording and oversees the Recording itself in a meeting for worship held during a Seasonal Gathering of the Yearly Meeting.

The Committee plays a lead role in handling cases of harassment which come to the attention of an individual leader in the yearly meeting. **See the Harassment Policies of Wilmington Yearly Meeting for specifics.**

TRUSTEES

The Yearly Meeting Trustees (a) provide annually to the Yearly Meeting an account of the Trust Funds including earnings from the investments, dispersals during the previous year, and the amounts available to various Yearly Meeting programs; and (b) provides for an audit of all Yearly Meeting and Fiduciary Corporation books on a regular schedule set by the Trustees, (c) appoint a representative from their membership to serve on the Quaker Knoll Grounds and Facilities Committee.

The Wilmington Yearly Meeting Trustees act as the Board of Directors of the Wilmington Yearly Meeting Fiduciary Corporation. Acting as the Fiduciary Corporation, the Trustees:

1. Hold title to all Wilmington Yearly Meeting property and have power to receive, buy, sell and transfer real property;
2. Receive, disperse, buy, sell, invest and transfer all Trust Funds held for the benefit of the Yearly Meeting;

3. Provide for the care of, and access to, the cemeteries in the care of the Yearly Meeting; and
4. Maintain the Corporation in active status with the State of OH.
5. Trustees appoint a Fiduciary Treasurer.

NOTE: The bylaws of the Fiduciary Corporation are on file in the yearly meeting office under the Fiduciary Corporation.

WILMINGTON COLLEGE COMMITTEE

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

YEARLY MEETING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The Program Committee is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the planning of all aspects of the three Seasonal Gatherings of Wilmington Yearly Meeting. The format is as follows:

Fall and Spring Gatherings meet on the second Saturday of November and March. These gatherings consist of worship, program, lunch break and meeting for worship with attention to business (as needed). These three Gatherings begin at 10:00 am with worship and conclude at 2:00pm. YM Ministry & Counsel might precede Worship.

The *Summer Annual Meeting* follows the general outline of activities of the Annual Session. (See below for pre-COVID 19 basic schedule). It is held in July over the course of four days beginning with an Opening Fellowship on Thursday afternoon and concluding with worship and a fellowship meal on Sunday.

Thursday: Opening Fellowship to include an activity, meal and semi-programmed worship

Friday: Singing; Bible Study; Worship Sharing Groups; first business session; M&C meeting; Lunch (as a fund raiser as appropriate) Workshop(s); Choir Practice; USFW banquet

Saturday: Singing; Bible Study; Worship Sharing Groups; business session; Lunch (as a fund raiser as appropriate) Memorial Meeting; Choir Practice; workshop(s); Fellowship meal; Peace Lecture

Sunday: Closing business; epistle reading; worship (to include recording if appropriate)

Closing Fellowship meal

NOTE: Friends may decide to keep a Hybrid practice of offering both in person and zoom meetings.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE

This committee is responsible for all aspects of planning for youth camps, youth programs, and young adult programs.

This committee hires and supervises the Camp Cook and Youth Minister.

OFFICERS: 2025-2026 Appointments

All Wilmington Yearly Meeting officers are appointed for terms of one year. Officers may serve six terms. This listing is current as of November 26, 2025.

WYM OFFICERS

Presiding Clerk:	Patricia Thomas (year 4)
Asst .Presiding Clerk:	Douglas Woodmansee (year 3)
Recording Clerk:	Judy Leasure (year 4)
Asst Recording Clerk:	Robin Hansel (year 1)
Treasurer:	J.P. Lund (year 1)
Bookkeeper :	<i>Dicka Nye (employee)</i>
WYM Coordinator:	<i>Melodi Goff (employee)</i>

WYM MINISTRY & COUNSEL OFFICERS:

Presiding Clerk:	Dave Goff (year 1)
Asst Clerk	Jonathan Goff (year 1)
Recording Clerk	Miriam Speaight (year 1)
Asst Rec Clerk	Becky Strafford (year 2)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SEE SPECIFIC COMMITTEE APPTS. FOR TERMS)

Patricia Thomas, WYM Presiding Clerk
Doug Woodmansee, Asst Presiding Clerk, Clerk of Exec Comm
Judy Leasure, Recording Clerk
J. P. Lund, Treasurer
Dave Goff, Clerk, Ministry & Counsel
Gary Huffenberger, Clerk, Christian Concerns for Peace & Society
Michael Anderson, Clerk, Finance & Stewardship
Cathy Hadley, Clerk, Missions & Evangelism
Dave Goff, Clerk, Nominating Committee
Craig Strafford, Clerk, Training & Recording
J. P. Lund, Trustees
Russell Kincaid, Clerk, Quaker Knoll Grounds & Facilities
Miriam Speaight, Clerk, Wilmington College Committee
Marla Stewart, Clerk, Yearly Meeting Program Committee
Jonathan Goff, Clerk, Youth & Young Adults
Melodi Goff, Office Coordinator (ex officio)

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (2025-2026)

Committee appointment terms are for three-year. Friends may be appointed for two consecutive terms. Some exceptions have been made.

The dates following the member's name indicates the year in which the current term, as noted, ends. Monthly meeting association is listed when known.

CHRISTIAN CONCERN FOR PEACE & SOCIETY

Jonathan Goff, 2026, 1st term; Maryville
Melodi Goff, 2028, 1st term; Jamestown
Gary Huffenberger, 2026, 2nd term; Campus
Penny Kincaid, 2027, 1st term; Wilmington
Christine Snyder, 2025, 1st term; Springfield
Becky Strafford, 2027, 2nd term; Fairview
Scilla Wahrhaftig, 2026, 2nd term; Campus

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mike Anderson, 2027, 2nd term; Ada Chapel
Lee Armlovich, 2028, 1st term; Jamestown
Duane Earley, 2027, 2nd term; Wilmington
Jeannette Hamby, 2027, 1st term; Maryville
J. P Lund, Treasurer, ex-officio
Melodi Goff, WYM Coordinator, ex-officio

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Cathy Hadley, 2027, 3rd term; Dover
Katie Hollingsworth, 2025, 1st term
Jeannette Hamby, 2027, 2nd term; Maryville
Rick Kendell, 2027, 1st term;
Mary Ellen Krisher, 2028, 1st term; Springfield

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Megan Fair, 2027, 1st term; Wilmington
Dave Goff, 2028, 1st term; Jamestown
Cathy Hadley, 2027, 2nd term; Dover
Miriam Speaight, 2026, 1st term; Springfield

QUAKER KNOLL GROUNDS & FACILITIES

Cody Camp, 2027, 2nd term
Lydia Donovan, 2028, 1st term
David Hackney, 2028, 1st term; Chester
Russell Kincaid, 2028, 2nd term; Wilmington
Kevin Snarr, 2027, 2nd term; Wilmington
Doug Woodmansee, 2026 2nd term; Wilmington
Mike Miller, Rep. from WYM Trustees; Dover
J. P Lund, Treasurer, ex-officio
Melodi Goff, WYM Coordinator, ex-officio

TRAINING AND RECORDING COMMITTEE

Jennilou Grotevant, 2028, 2nd term; Wilmington
Nancy McCormick, 2028, 2nd term; Springfield
Jim Newby, 2027, 3rd term; Cincinnati
Craig Strafford, 2027, 3rd term; Fairview
Patricia Thomas, 2027, 3rd term; Campus

TRUSTEES

David Hackey, 2028, 1st term; Chester
J. P. Lund, 2028, 2nd term; Eastern Hills
Hannah Lutz, Treasurer, 2028, 2nd term
Mike Miller, 2027, 2nd term; Dover
Jim Newby, 2026, 1st term; Cincinnati
Mary Ann Raizk, 2026, 1st term; Wilmington
Melodi Goff, WYM Coordinator, ex-officio

WILMINGTON COLLEGE COMMITTEE

Nancy Bernard, 2026, 1st term; Wilmington
Doug Burks, 2027, 1st term; Eastern Hills
Jennilou Grotevant, 2028, 1st term; Wilmington
Bill Kincaid Jr., 2026, 1st term; Wilmington
Terry Miller, 2026, 2nd term; Eastern Hills
Paul Moke, 2027, 1st term; Wilmington
Stephen Pottoff, 2026, 3rd term; Campus
Miriam Speaight, 2026, 3rd term; Springfield
Nancy McCormick, Campus Minister, ex-officio

YEARLY MEETING PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Dave Goff, 2028, 1st term
Marla Stewart, 2027, 2nd term
Penny Kincaid
Mary Ann Raizk
Melodi Goff, WYM Coordinator, ex-officio

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT COMMITTEE

Eric Guindon, 2028, 1st term
Becky Godfrey, 2028, 2nd term
James Godfrey, 2027, 2nd term
Jonathan Goff, 2026, 1st term
Nancy McCormick, 2028, 2nd term
Ashlyn Stanton-Henry, 2028, 1st term
Jordan Snarr, Youth Minister, Ex. Officio

HISTORICAL MATERIALS RESOURCE CONTACTS: The committee was laid down, but please contact the following individuals with any questions regarding WYM historical materials:

Joan Van Sickle Sloan, Maryville
Christine Snyder, Springfield
Elizabeth House, Reference & Quaker Collection Librarian, *Wilmington College, elizabeth_house@wilmington.edu*

COMMITTEE & OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION APPOINTMENTS:

These committees and/or appointments are filled by WYM committees, as noted.

WILMINGTON COLLEGE JOINT TRUSTEE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

(appointed by College Committee, 3 year rotation)

Terry Miller
Christine Snyder
vacancy

WILMINGTON YM USFW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/OFFICERS

(internally appointed)

Nancy McCormick and Penny Kincaid, co-clerks
Rebecca Godfrey, Vice President
Cathy Hadley, Secretary
Mary Ann Raizk, Assistant Secretary
Hannah Lutz, Treasurer

American Friends Service Committee (AFC)

(appointed by Christian Concerns for Peace & Society)

Kelsey Swindler

FUM 2024-26 Executive Board

(appointed by Executive Committee)

Mike Miller
Nancy McCormick

OHIO COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

(appointed by Executive Committee)

Dana Dunseith, Representative

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

(appointed by Executive Committee)

Megan Fair
JP Lund

Friends Response Team

Mike McCormick

Jeannette Hamby

Rand Ubry-Terrell

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

(appointed by Christian Concerns for Peace & Society)

Lucy Enge

Joan VanSickle Sloan

Jordan Snarr

Kelsey Swindler

WILMINGTON COLLEGE TRUSTEES

J. Brent Bill	Mooresville, Indiana
Daniel J. Buckley	Cincinnati, Ohio
Timothy A. Buren	Westerville, Ohio
Christopher Che	Cincinnati, Ohio
Lucy Enge	Richmond, Indiana
Elizabeth J. Garvey	Howell, Michigan
Jeremiah Guappone	Cleveland, Ohio
Marcy Hawley	Wilmington, Ohio
Pam McCoy	Wilmington, Ohio
Jonathan C. McKay	Wilmington, Ohio
Elizabeth Newby	Cincinnati, Ohio
Ruth Olmsted	Cincinnati, Ohio
Kellye Pinkleton	Yellow Springs, Ohio
David Raizk	Wilmington, Ohio
Lawrence W. Sidwell	West Des Moines, Iowa
Lucy Steinitz	Baltimore, Maryland
Taylor Stuckert	Wilmington, Ohio
Nancy Summers	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Evan Williams	Milpitas, California
Glenn Williams	Cold Spring, Kentucky

Life Trustee (Deceased)

David A. Harcum*	Reynoldsburg, Ohio
	Named First Life Trustee, 2008
Sidney Mishkin.....	Indianapolis, Indiana
	Named Second Life Trustee, 2014