

Community Companion Monthly Newsletter of Community Friends Meeting

October 2018 Volume 24, Issue 10
Quaker Meeting House
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<https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/community-friends-meeting>



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The Lord showed me, so that I did see clearly, that he did not dwell in these temples which men had commanded and set up, but in people's hearts ... His people were his temple, and he dwelt in them.

~ *George Fox*

Our own brain, our own heart is our temple; the philosophy is kindness.

~ *The Dalai Lama*

Queries for October 2018:

How do I affirm that of God in everyone?

In what ways is our meeting an open and affirming community, welcoming to all?

In what ways do we need to grow?

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

**First Days: Singing 9:45 am, Meeting for Worship 10 am,
Second Hour at 11:40 am
First Sunday of Month: Carry-in Potluck**

*Community Committee asks that if you bring something that needs to be heated before eating,
please attach brief instructions to your container.
Also, it's helpful to mention the name & ingredients of the dish - thanks!
We appreciate and encourage locally grown food when possible.*

Oct 7- Sun	Carry-in Potluck
Oct 9 - Tues	Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) - 6:30 pm
Oct 11 - Thu	Tender Mercies - 2nd Thursday Dinner <i>Contact David or Lynn Funck for more information about contributing food or serving.</i> Holistic Mental Health Network meeting - 7:00 pm <i>A Musical Sneak Peek: Contemplating Songs from Next to Normal (the play)</i>
Oct 13 - Sat	Meeting House Work Day - 10am-4pm <i>Lunch provided.</i>
Oct 14 - Sun	Second Hour: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Oct 21 - Sun	Second Hour: Quaker Speaks clips and discussion Submissions for the November newsletter due to Elyce - elycefeliz@gmail.com
Oct 28 - Sun	Second Hour: Movie: "The Economics of Happiness " and discussion

October Birthdays

7 -Priscilla Thompson, 10-Newton Hatchett,
25-Mark Roberts, 27-Francis Ganance,
31-Eugene Marquis

Inreach Groups

Dance

Leader: Eric Wolff, Sarah Hoffmann, & Rich House

Meeting place: Various

Meeting times: There will be four meetings, once a month, on various days of the week.

Description: Visit Different Local Dance Groups

The group will meet once per month to visit different local dance groups that includes a short teaching session ahead of time. These will all be no partner, all age mixers. We will meet once to plan out what the group wants within our capabilities. Dance types could include Swing, Contra, Salsa, Vintage, Blues, Folk, and others. They will be all days of the week and possibly up past 11. We will meet and car pool from the meetinghouse. We could include dinner beforehand as the group chooses. Possibilities abound for continuation.

Each session is open to all. Come to as many sessions as you can.

Stitch & Reflect

Leader: Sue Brungs

Meeting place: Meetinghouse

Meeting times: We will meet monthly for about 90 minutes (Length, frequency and place might be changed based on group decision.)

Description: Bring your hand-stitching project. We will take turns reading from a favorite spiritual story, article, or book (one or more during each session). The group will decide how best to spend quiet time reflecting and seeking spiritual guidance together.

Each session is open to all. Come to as many sessions as you can.

Chant

Leader: Paulette Meier

Meeting place: Meetinghouse

Meeting times: Sunday mornings at 9:20 (before meeting for worship) on the third Sunday of each month

Description: After so many happy experiences over the last year leading chanting, both in England and with Cynthia Bourgeault's Wisdom School communities, I'd like to offer a chanting group. It could be both the singing of Quaker chants I've set to song plus other kinds of chants, followed by a period of gathered silence.

Quaker Book Group: *Primitive Quakerism Revived* by Paul Buckley

The group got together for a first meeting on Monday, September 10 at 10 am in the Community Friends Meetinghouse library for an organizational meeting. Paul will have copies of the book for sale.

Friends Journal / Quaker Speak / Quaker Blog Discussion

Leader: Paulette Meier

Meeting place: My home in Northside or other participants' homes, as offered.

Meeting times: 7:00 to 8:30 pm on the 2nd or 4th Wednesday of each month

Description: I have found myself so many times reading an article in Friends Journal or watching a Quaker Speak video, and wishing I had someone to talk about it with, but not really knowing who from our meeting would be interested. Coming together to read and discuss current day ideas and concerns among Friends can help us become more knowledgeable and feel more connected with the broader Quaker world. Different people will lead the sessions, choosing an article or other material for discussion.

God Seekers

Leader: Susan Gerke

Meeting place: Meetinghouse

Meeting times: We will meet monthly or every other week, possibly on a weekday during the day – there will be a brief organizing gathering after a meeting for worship on Sunday, September 30, to decide on frequency, day and time.

Description: We will be reading and discussing selections from “God Seekers: Twenty Centuries of Christian Spiritualities.” This book illustrates how diverse Christian thought really is. Each chapter has a short biography, followed by original words from the person, and discussion questions.

Complicated Conversations

Leader: Tim Leonard

Meeting place: Meetinghouse

Meeting times: 7:00-8:30 PM on two Monday evenings per month (see dates below). These dates can be adjusted if necessary.

Description: "Complicated Conversations" is offered in the hope Friends will engage with some fundamental questions related to what it means to be a Quaker in Cincinnati in 2018. Before each meeting I will send a prompt about the topic to get conversation going.

The topics are:

October 8: Reverence

October 22: God

November 5: Faith

November 19: Respect, love, and sexuality

December 3: "In what lies our hope?"

December 17: Politics and imagination among Friends.

Friends can come to any or all of the meetings, but I would appreciate it if you sign up and try to come to each meeting.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Ninth Month, September 9, 2018

1. **Opening worship:** M.A.C., presiding clerk read the following during opening worship: *"As we advance more deeply into the life of goodness we discover more and more the beauty of holiness, the attractive power of duty, and the glory and radiance of the good life. Both beauty and goodness take us out beyond our usual finite limits and open windows for us into the eternal and the infinite."* From Rufus Jones, Some Problems of Life (Cokesbury Press, 1937), page 72.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** L.F., treasurer, reported that income exceeded expenses in August. We have 9% of expenses on hand, above our goal of 6%. Payments to parent bodies and contributions to charities are paid up to date. \$62.29 in costs for copying and mailing archive material was moved to Administrative/clerical expenses, even though there are no funds budgeted for those expenses. The treasurer's report was accepted with this change.
3. **Community Committee:** L.F. reported that plans are being made for the 50th anniversary celebration. They are seeking volunteers for various tasks. The report was accepted.
4. **House and Grounds Committee:** E.W. reported that they purchased a weed whacker and the elevator inspection passed. Appreciation was expressed to S.B. for working on the garden planters in front of the meetinghouse. Caretakers' meetinghouse land line is not working well, and the committee is considering replacing it with a cell phone. This option is being explored. The utility pole in front of the meetinghouse is leaning, and Duke Energy will be contacted. The A/C condensers will be cleaned to eliminate concerns about mold. The awning should be installed in the next few weeks. House and Grounds would like to have more members. There are about 100 chairs available for the 50th Anniversary Celebration, which should be enough. The committee plans to purchase two new coffeepots, unless they are donated. Two additional windows may be replaced this year. The next work day will be October 13 from 10:00 to 4:00. The report was accepted.
5. **Ministry and Counsel:** L.C. reported that the committee met on August 19 and reviewed pastoral care needs in the meeting. Plans for the Fall Renewal on September 29 were reviewed, with the theme of Celebrating and Strengthening Spiritual Connections, facilitated by K.A. and J.F. Registration for the catered lunch is due by September 15. A coffeehouse is being planned in the evening following the renewal. The committee also reviewed plans for the threshing session on sexual harassment, which was held on August 26. Notes were taken at the threshing session for an ad hoc committee to use in developing a sexual harassment policy. A clearness committee met with P.B., and he feels clear that he is called to travel among Friends to share a message about revitalizing Quakerism.

Action Item: A traveling minute for P.B. was prepared and presented for the Meeting's approval. The traveling minute was approved. It was suggested that the Meeting should purchase ten of P.'s books so he can give them away as part of his traveling ministry. The meeting approved the expenditure of \$100 for ten books out of the Outreach Committee's budget for this purpose. J.W. offered to inscribe the books as a donation from Community Friends Meeting. The report was accepted.

6. **Religious Development Committee:** L.C. reported that the committee met on September 2 to review plans for First Day School. There will be a primary class with four to six children, with the theme of Quaker

values. T.L. and W.B. will meet with the teens twice a month to share stories of Quaker history. The classroom and the basement playroom were cleaned and prepared for the school year. The report was accepted.

7. **Outreach Committee:** J.S. reported that the committee participated in organizing and presenting events commemorating Bayard Rustin at the Harriet Beecher Stowe house. The report was accepted.
8. **Stewardship Committee:** No report
9. **Library Committee:** No report
10. **Newsletter Committee:** No report
11. **Unity with Nature:** No report
12. **Adult Religious Education:** P.B. reported that the committee will meet tomorrow. They are making progress on planning a joint event with Eastern Hills and Cincinnati Friends to host a presentation with David Fankhauser about his experiences as a Freedom Rider. The report was accepted.
13. **Peace and Social Concerns:** D.R. reported that they would like to take on the issue of the homeless in Cincinnati. They plan to talk with homeless individuals in person to learn about their concerns. The report was accepted.

Presiding Clerk:

Mary Anne Curtiss

Assistant Presiding Clerk:

Doug Burks

Recording Clerk:

Lisa Cayard

Treasurer:

Lynn Funck

Ministry and Counsel:

Lisa Cayard

Sarah Hoffmann

Frank Huss

Deborah Jordan

Tim Leonard

John Sniegocki

Mary Anne Curtiss (ex officio)

Sunny Rhein (SA)

SA= special assignment

Caretakers: John Sniegocki and Elizabeth Groppe

Directory Editor: Frank Huss

Newsletter: Elyce Benke elycefeliz@gmail.com

WebClerk/Community Emails:

Chuck Moore charlierambles@gmail.com

Quaker Quill: Deborah Jordan djordan@fuse.net

14. **Cannon Fund Report:** E.W. reported that the Cannon Fund would like to approve \$2,000 for expenses for the 50th Anniversary, but this would need approval from the Meeting since it is over \$1,000. Eric explained that \$12,225 was available to give away this year. The \$2,000 for the Anniversary Celebration would come out of the discretionary category. There would still be about \$3,000 remaining to give away in all three categories for this calendar year. The expenditure of \$2,000 for Celebration expenses was approved. It was noted that this fund has allowed our Meeting to support many valuable experiences for so many people over the years, and appreciation was expressed to the original donors, Beulah Arndt and Josephine Johnson Cannon.
15. **Tender Mercies:** D.F. reported that everything is going well, with good spiritual support and participation by the meeting. The report was accepted

16. **MARCC Delegates Council:** F.H. reported that the MARCC Executive Committee will bring a recommendation for endorsing Ohio legislation to reduce drug offenses of incarcerated individuals to misdemeanors. The city of Hamilton now accepts MARRC ID cards. F.H. will attend the 50th Anniversary dinner at the Cintas Center. The report was accepted.
17. **FCNL Lobbying group:** D.R. reported that the group met with Representative Steve Chabot to urge him to support House Resolution 4837 for Congress to take back responsibility for declaring any military action against North Korea. H.T. made a presentation about the 2,000 70-ton tanks in storage in the Mohave Desert while the military continues to build more tanks, an example of waste and corruption in the government. There was also discussion about cutting back the troops in Afghanistan. It was a lively discussion, and Chabot was very engaged in the conversation. The report was accepted.
18. **OVYM:** W.B. reported that K.J., the new Youth Secretary, is working on planning events for youth at Quarterly Meeting, and would like to know names and contacts for teens in each meeting. She would like to visit meetings to introduce herself. Also, F.H. noted that the revised Faith and Practice is available on the OVYM website. E.W. noted that Executive Committee is successfully using Zoom for virtual meetings. E. will try to set up our meeting house as a Zoom meeting site. The report was accepted.
19. **Miami Quarterly Meeting:** D.F. noted that October 20 and 21 will be Joint Quarterly Meeting at Happy Hollow Camp in Indiana. There may be a workshop with K.J. and P.H., Miami Quarterly Meeting clerk, about Lexington Meeting's success in increasing meeting membership. The report was accepted.
20. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes were approved
21. **Closing Worship:** The meeting closed with silent worship.

Joint Quarterly Meeting

More information is available on the website: <http://quaker.org/legacy/ovym/>

Jt. Quarterly Meeting at Happy Hollow Camp in Brown County Oct. 20 and 21, 2018

Children under age 6 attend at no cost. There is a \$190.00 maximum cost per family. Cost is \$95.00 per individual. This includes registration, three meals: Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Sunday lunch, and a bed in a cabin.

If you are not staying overnight, registration is \$25.00 per person and \$12.50 per meal.

For Questions, contact:

David Duvall	Terre Holada
7811 Kimlough Dr.	email terreholada@yahoo.com
Indianapolis, IN 46240	or call 260-436-8050

MARCC - Metropolitan Area Religious Coalition of Cincinnati

Displacement/Affordable Housing/Homelessness is one of MARCC's social concerns. MARCC is currently working with other organizations advocating for an Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the City and in the future a separate fund for Hamilton County. Other housing issues MARCC is advocating for include a series of policies that will address Just Cause Eviction, Pay to Stay and funding for permanent supportive housing units and more affordable housing units in the City of Cincinnati and in the surrounding municipalities and Hamilton County.

Recently, MARCC has been asked by housing advocates to encourage its members to take action now regarding the homeless camps, by emailing mayor.cranley@cincinnati-oh.gov , Joseph.Deters@hccpros.org , CityCouncil@cincinnati-oh.gov ; (which goes to all of City Council) and say:

"As a person of faith and as someone who cares about the rights and dignity of all, I urge you to take immediate action to protect the most vulnerable in our community, by addressing the underlying causes of homelessness, instead of criminalizing poor people."

Please take a few moments to send this quote or compose your own either by itself or along with the quote as soon as possible. MARCC advocates for remedies to the root cause of homelessness. Here is another opportunity to make your voice heard.

Judiciary delegates voted to support and endorse the following November 6th ballot issues:

STATE ISSUE 1, Section 12 to Article XV: The state constitutional amendment to reduce sentences, expunge misdemeanors, and provide resources for community rehabilitation services.

HAMILTON COUNTY ISSUE 1 - CHILDREN SERVICES ADDITIONAL LEVY: Levy pays for services for abused and neglected children and is managed by Hamilton County Job and Family Services for a period of 3 years.

SCHOOL DISTRICT LEVY ISSUES FOR:

- Mariemont City Schools
- Reading School District
- St. Bernard/Elmwood Place City Schools
- Winton Woods City School District
- Great Oaks Career Campuses

We encourage each MARCC member to get out and cast your important vote this General Election, November 6, 2018.