

THE MINUTES

and Accompanying Documents

Illinois Yearly Meeting Religious Society of Friends

2022
June
15-19



Sessions held in-person in the ILYM Meetinghouse
near McNabb, Illinois
and virtually via video conference

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ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

2023 Annual Sessions will be held from June 21 to 25
at the Illinois Yearly Meeting Meetinghouse

Website: ilym.org
Email: IllinoisYM@ilym.org

Office: 5615 S. Woodlawn Ave., Chicago, IL 60637; 773-288-3066

Meetinghouse: 14365 N. 350th Ave., McNabb, IL 61335; 815-882-2214

YEARLY MEETING OFFICERS AND OTHERS WITH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES 2022-2023

Presiding Clerk: Kent Busse

Assistant Clerk: Kevin Brubaker

Recording Clerk: David Shiner

Assistant Recording Clerk: Peter Lasersohn

Reading Clerk: Pam Kuhn

Co-Treasurers: Dawn Crimson & Ted Kuhn

Stewards: Beth Carpenter, Grayce Mesner, Chip Rorem, Chris Goode

Records Librarian: Brent Eckert

Among Friends Editors: Pam Kuhn

Field Secretary: Brad Laird

Administrative Coordinator: Wil Brant

Youth Coordinator: Liam Gardner

Children's Religious Education Coordinator:

Adult Young Friends Clerk:

High School Friends Co-Clerks: Lorelei Taylor-West and Zara Schobernd

High School Friends Recording Clerk: Alyrica Dew

:

Contact information can be found in the ILYM directory
or by contacting the ILYM Administrative Coordinator, Wil Brant
at IllinoisYM@ilym.org or 773-288-3066.

ILYM 2022 PROGRAM

Theme: *Creating Unity Despite Separation*

WEDNESDAY:

12:30-1:45 pm Registration table open
2:00-3:30 Opening Session:
Worship & Business Meeting
3:30-6:00 Free time/committee meetings
3:45-6:00 Registration table open
5:30-6:00 Singing on front porch
6:00-7:00 Dinner
6:30-7:30 Registration table open
7:15-9:00 Games for children
7:30-8:45 Presentation by Gretchen Castle
8:45-9:15 Registration table open
9:00 New Attenders Meeting (reg. desk)
9:00-9:45 Snacks (dining room)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:
3:45-4:15 pm Help think about next year's Annual Sessions
4:30-5:30 Variety Show
4:30-5:45 Registration table open
5:30-6:00 Singing on front porch
6:00-7:00 Dinner
6:45-9:00 Campfire
7:30-8:45 Presentation by Karen Tibbals
8:45-9:15 Registration table open
9:00-9:45 Snacks

THURSDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:

3:45-6:00 pm Free time/committee meetings
4:15-5:45 Registration table open
5:30-6:00 Singing on front porch
6:00-7:00 Dinner
7:30-8:45 Presentation by Bobby Trice
8:45-9:15 Registration table open
9:00-9:45 Snacks

SUNDAY

7:30-8:30 Breakfast
8:15-8:45 Registration table open
8:45-9:45 Reading of Epistles
10:00-12:15 Babysitting & childcare in play area
10:00-11:00 Plummer Lecture by Frank Young
11:15-12:15 Meeting for Worship
12:30-1:30 Lunch
1:30 Cleanup and Farewells

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY:

6:45-7:45 am Breakfast
7:30 New attenders meeting on Saturday (reg. desk)
7:45-8:45 Babysitting & childcare in play area
8:00-9:00 Meeting for Worship
(Memorials are read at Sat. MW)
8:45-noon Children's morning program
9:00-noon Meeting for Business
Snack served outside during dancing

FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING:

3:45-6:00 pm Free time/committee meetings
4:15-5:45 Registration table open
5:30-6:00 Singing on front porch
6:00-7:00 Dinner
6:30-7:30 Registration table open
7:30-10:00 Dancing on front lawn
8:45-9:15 Registration table open
9:00-9:45 Snack served outside during dancing

REGISTRATION REPORT FOR ILYM ANNUAL SESSIONS 2022

Total Registration: 150

Registration by Quarter/Geographic Grouping:

Blue River	38 Adults 15 Young Friends	Total: 53
Chicago North	33 Adults 10 Young Friends	Total: 43
Chicago South	30 Adults 5 Young Friends	Total: 35
Other	19 Adults 0 Young Friends	Total: 19

Fully Virtual: 9

Mixed Virtual and In-person: 9

RATES FOR USE OF ILYM FACILITIES

Site fee for ILYM groups:	\$ 25
Fee per person, per night:	\$ 5
Maximum fee per ILYM group:	\$500

Gas and electric startup fee, and dumpster fee
(at cost, according to size) if necessary.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING 7/2021-6/2022

BLUE RIVER QUARTERLY

B-N†	CC	Co	St.L	SoI	SR†	U-C	
							<u>Members & Attenders Statistics</u>
							Average Attendance
6	6	16	28	4	4	21	Adults
1	0	4	8	0	0	4	Under 18 years old
							<u>Membership Statistics</u>
11	26	7	37	3	3	50	Resident Adult Members
5	0	0	5	0	0	2	Resident Young Friends
3	24	17	78	1	3	64	Non-Resident Adult Members
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	Non-Resident Young Friends
19	50	24	120	4	6	119	TOTAL
							Total Adult Members
14	50	24	115	4	6	114	Total Young Friends
5	0	0	5	0	0	5	
							NEW MEMBERS
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	By Birth or Adoption
0	1	0	1	0	0	3	By Request
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	By Certificate of Transfer
0	1	0	1	1	0	4	TOTAL
							LOSSES
0	3	0	1	1	0	1	Deceased
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	Released or Withdrawn
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Transferred
0	3	0	2	2	0	2	TOTAL

MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

Blue River Quarterly	342
Metro Chicago	482
Wisconsin	<u>6</u>
TOTAL	830

NUMERICAL STRENGTH CHART

CHICAGO-Area										WI	TOTALS
DG*	Du	Ev	57*	FV†	LF	NS	OaP	RV†	SB	Osh*	
17	7	34	14	8	20	20	9	4	23	6	247
<1	0	9	0	0	6	1	0	0	6	0	40
33	8	59	18	7	57	19	18	9	21	6	392
0	1	2	1	0	8	1	0	0	2	0	25
8	1	45	34	16	62	19	0	2	15	0	395
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>19</u>
41	10	113	60	23	127	39	18	11	40	6	830
41	9	104	52	23	119	38	18	11	36	6	784
0	1	9	8	0	8	1	0	0	4	0	46
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>
2	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
0	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	12
0	0	2	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	12
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>
0	1	5	0	0	10	0	0	0	3	0	28

*Downers Grove and 57th Street have dual affiliation with ILYM and Western Yearly Meeting (Friends United Meeting). Oshkosh has dual affiliation with ILYM and Northern Yearly Meeting (Friends General Conference). *Please note:* ILYM does not report half-membership for dually affiliated meetings. The totals represent the full membership of dually affiliated meetings.

†Statistics were not received for 7/2021-6/2022: FV statistics from 7/2020-2021; B-N and SR statistics from 7/2019-6/2020; RV statistics from 7/2017-6/2018. No additions/losses are recorded for these meetings.

ADDITIONS AND LOSSES BY NAME AND MEETING

ADDITIONS

By Request

To Clear Creek: Vicky Krause
To Downers Grove: Ruth Fiedler
To Downers Grove: Ellen Maxson
To Evanston: Richard Graef (9/19/21)
To 57th Street: Trevor Brandt
To St. Louis: Abigail Stacy (Young Friend
6/12/2022)
To Urbana-Champaign: Vinod Gupta
(1/16/22)
To Urbana-Champaign: Kira Kyle
(3/20/22)
To Urbana-Champaign: Katie Clayton
(3/20/22)

By Transfer

To Duneland: Brad Laird from South
Bend (12/15/21)
To Evanston: Valerie Friedlander, Morgan
and Tristan Friedlander from Live
Oak (Houston) (9/19/21)
To Southern Illinois: Gary Marx from
Penn Valley Friends, MO (8/2021)
To Urbana-Champaign: Andrea Bretl from
Downers Grove (9/19/2021)

LOSSES

By Release or Withdrawal:

From Evanston: Tess Oberholtzer (6/3/22)
From Evanston: Rebecca Conover
(2/5/22)
From Lake Forest: Thomas Nelson Cima
(5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Kimball Rose Crangle
(5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Robert Dale Crangle,
Jr. (5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Scott Frankum Crangle
(5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Marc Mar-Yohana
(5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Jessica Hartshorne
Mills (5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Erin Rafael (5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Carole Slesnick
(5/6/2022)
From Lake Forest: Mari Willis (5/6/2022)
From Urbana-Champaign: Chirs Menard
(12/19/2021)

By Death

From Clear Creek: Georgina (Ruth
Hayward) Anzlovar (6/8/21)
From Clear Creek: Sidney Glover
(9/12/21)

From Clear Creek: Neil Mesner (3/26/22)
From Duneland: Marlou Carlson
(1/13/2022)
From Evanston: Jeannette Baker (8/4/21)
From Evanston: Roger Laughlin (1/26/22)
From Evanston: Leo Schelbert (3/30/22)
From: Lake Forest: David Jon "Lukan"
Paulus (9/9/2021)
From St. Louis: Stephen Rodenwald
(3/12/2021)
From South Bend: Douglas Kinsey
(5/2022)
From Southern Illinois: Maurine Pyle
(5/2022)
From Urbana-Champaign: Ellen
Baranowski (2/19/2022)

By Transfer:

From St. Louis: Sean Ricards Tikkun to
Durham Friends (10/10/2021)
From South Bend: Brad Laird to Duneland
Friends (11/2021)
From South Bend: William Martin to
Campus Friends, Wilmington OH
(12/2021)
From Southern Illinois: Michael Batinski
to Monadnock MM, NH (2/2022)

MINUTES OF THE ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

148th Annual Sessions

Sixth Month 15-19, ILYM Meetinghouse near McNabb, Illinois

MINUTES OF THE FIRST SESSION, Fourth Day, Sixth Month 15, 2022

Minute 1 The 2022 Annual Sessions opened with waiting worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Kent Busse welcomed Friends to the annual sessions, noting the blessing of our being able to be together in person after three years apart as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minute 3 The Clerk recognized and welcomed two visitors from outside ILYM, Justin Hurdle and Bobby Trice from the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL).

Minute 4 Phyllis Reynolds, Clerk of Ministry and Advancement Committee, reported that this year's Harassment Committee consists of herself, Kent Busse, Heather Evert, Brad Laird, and a member at large who has yet to be named. She explained the role of the committee, which will continue to function throughout these sessions.

Minute 5 The Clerk described the role and composition of the Epistle and Exercises Committees. He asked Friends to consider whether they are led to serve on either committee during these annual sessions, and to let him know if they are.

Minute 6 Acting Reading Clerk Pam Kuhn read an epistle from Uganda Friends Church that was produced at the conclusion of their annual conference in November 2021.

Minute 7 Brad Laird offered a report in his role as Field Secretary. He began by thanking a number of officers and other ILYM volunteers for their service in making it possible for us to meet, both in person and virtually, at this time. He noted various joys and challenges stemming from the complications of dealing with the pandemic, and the effects of those on both ILYM meetings and individual Friends. He spoke about our efforts to address the many "isms" with which we live. He reminded Friends that this will be his last year as Field Secretary, and encouraged anyone who might feel led to apply for the position to contact him about what it entails. He promised to assist the next Field Secretary in whatever ways he is asked and able to do.

Brad shared concerns about the short-term viability of some of our meetings, noting that some have ceased to function and that others will likely be laid down in the coming years. Nevertheless, he has found deep worship and fellowship in all our meetings. He believes there is room for additional worship groups in the ILYM area. Expressing his view that the future of North American unprogrammed Friends is not monolingual, Brad suggests we begin to prepare for outreach to Spanish speakers by undertaking to produce an "unofficial" translation of our Faith and Practice, with further steps to follow as we are led. Finally, he asked us to be tender to the many ways that the changes thrust on us by the pandemic require grieving that which we have lost. Report accepted.

Minute 8 Phyllis Reynolds presented the report from Ministry and Advancement. The committee continues to meet by Zoom monthly to report to each other, sharing their experiences with the meetings they visit as well as their own meetings. She echoed Brad's call for expressions of interest in the position of Field Secretary beginning in 2023. Report accepted.

Minute 9 Minutes 1-8 were approved.

Minute 10 Sharon Haworth reported for Nominating Committee in the absence of Clerk Bridget Rorem. The committee submitted the following names for approval, to assume their positions at the rise of this year’s annual sessions:

Assistant Clerk: Kevin Brubaker

Assistant Recording Clerk: Peter Lasersohn

Reading Clerk: Pam Kuhn

Co-Treasurer: Dawn Crimson

Records Librarian: Brent Eckert

Development: Kay Drake

Finance: Cynthia Harris

Ministry & Advancement Committee: Sarah Pavlovic, Virginia Schelbert, Steve Tamari

Ministry & Advancement Committee clerk: Janice Domanik (1 year)

Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning: Christina Schultz, Trevor Brandt, Margie Haworth-Davis

Peace Resources: Mark McGinnis (clerk), Jan Mullen, Don Moorman, Sarz Maxwell, Barry Feldman

Representative to AFSC Corporation Board: Steve Tamari

Representative to Friends Committee on National Legislation: Fariba Murray

Representatives to Friends General Conference: Janice Domanik, Lilith Swygart

Representative to Olney School: Grace Mesner

Sharon also announced that the 2022 Epistle Committee will consist of Pam Kuhn, Lilly Robinwhite, and a third Friend to be named soon. Nominations approved.

Friends were invited to inform the Nominating Committee if they have candidates to fill any of the many remaining unoccupied positions. The committee expects to present additional nominations on seventh day. Report accepted.

Minute 11 Ted Kuhn reported for Naming Committee. Meredith George has been named to the Nominating Committee. More members are expected to be named later on. Report accepted.

Minute 12 Frank Young reported for Development Committee. Friends are encouraged to look at the new “support pages” (ilym.org/supportingilym) to view information about opportunities for ensuring and supporting the future of the yearly meeting, and to contact Frank if they have any questions or suggestions. The committee expects to send its annual appeal letter asking for individual contributions earlier this year than last, hopefully by October. Individual contributions to ILYM have always been more than what was required, and that continues to be the case. Report accepted.

Minute 13 Janice Domanik reported for Friends General Conference (FGC). The annual gathering of FGC will be virtual again this year, although there will be a smaller in-person event for families with children through high school and Young Adults who are 37 years and younger. The report mentioned the many programs and services FGC provides in addition to the annual gathering. Report accepted.

Minute 14 Bobby Trice reported for Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). He outlined and briefly explained FCNL’s many current programs and activities. The advance report from an ILYM representative to FCNL noted that the annual general committee meeting and lobby visits were held over Zoom once again, with 800 people in attendance. Participants were educated on race issues and introduced to young FCNL fellows. Report accepted.

Minute 15 The Clerk asked Friends to review the material on the Peace Tax Fund in the red binders near the entrance to the meetinghouse in preparation for tomorrow's meeting for business. The Treasurer announced that the red binders also contain an updated financial report.

Minute 16 Minutes 10-15 were approved.

MINUTES OF THE SECOND SESSION, Fifth Day, Sixth Month 16, 2022

Minute 17 The day's session opened with waiting worship.

Minute 18 The Clerk recognized and welcomed the following visitors from outside of ILYM: David Eley from Ohio Yearly Meeting and Gretchen Castle from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting and the Earlham School of Religion (ESR). Two Friends from 57th Street Meeting introduced themselves: Lilith Swygert and Olivia Bustion.

Minute 19 Bob Cordova has joined the Epistle Committee. Fariba Murray has joined the Harassment Committee. Previous members of those committees are listed in yesterday's minutes. Committee membership was approved.

Minute 20 Acting Reading Clerk Pam Kuhn read a portion of an epistle entitled "Beautiful Façade or Strong Foundation" from the Swedish Society of Friends, which was produced at the conclusion of their annual conference in May 2021.

Minute 21 The Clerk announced that cooling areas are available, that volunteer assistance is needed for work during these annual sessions, and that at least one other member is needed for Exercises Committee.

Minute 22 Ted Kuhn gave the Treasurer's report, which included updated figures from the month-old report in the Advance Documents. On the whole, the ILYM balance sheet is healthy. Report accepted.

Minute 23 Val Lester presented the report from the Finance Committee. This year the committee funded work on the meetinghouse as well as the ongoing endeavors of the yearly meeting, while working collaboratively with Maintenance, Planning and Evisoning and Personnel as needs arose. The proposed budget for fiscal 2023 reflects an increase of approximately 11% in expenses, including a 6% increase in salaries for ILYM staff and a 20% increase in expenses for the ILYM campus. Monthly meetings are asked to increase their contributions by 6% for the coming year. The budget will be brought back for approval on seventh day. Report accepted.

Minute 24 Mark McGinnis reported for Peace Resources. The committee is meeting via Zoom once a month. Current activities include trying to contact indigenous people to provide support and supporting monthly meetings who are involved with prison ministry and related matters. It has been working with the ILYM Treasurer to secure the funds and gain access to the Peace Tax Fund account. The committee is planning to expand its role, and is refining the description in the ILYM Handbook to reflect its changing role. Report accepted.

Minute 25 Kent Busse and Mark McGinnis explained the function and current situation regarding the Peace Tax Fund. ILYM co-treasurer Dawn Crimson received notice from Providence Bank that the Peace Tax Fund amount (\$5,843.09) is about to escheat to the State of Illinois as abandoned funds. She asked the bank to give us time to deal with the account. The bank wants the fund to either be managed or liquidated. As a result of further research and discernment, the following minute is recommended:

To prevent more periods of dormancy and potential loss of the funds, it is therefore proposed that ILYM re-authorize users if necessary and direct them to liquidate the Providence account and donate the funds to a cause for peace. In the future Illinois Yearly Meeting could reconsider whether and how to have a peace tax witness.

Recommendation approved.

Various organizations were named as possible beneficiaries of the forthcoming donation(s). The Clerk proposed that Peace Resources Committee consider those and other ideas for recipients of these funds, which are being solicited from Friends attending these sessions, and that Meeting revisit this issue on seventh day. Recommendation approved.

Minute 26 Minutes 17-25 were approved.

Minute 27 Janice Domanik reported for the ad-hoc committee on Anti-Racism. The committee has provided a workshop series; information and opportunities for involvement with Line 3 pipeline resistance work; and an Anti-Racism Café, which is a monthly virtual open discussion group. They ask to be laid down at the conclusion of these annual sessions. They further request establishment of a standing committee of the yearly meeting, to be called the Racial Equity and Education Committee. The committee would be self-selecting for the coming year, with Nominating Committee naming the clerk. Nominating Committee would be responsible for nominating members to the committee thereafter. The Racial Equity and Education Committee and Nominating Committee are jointly charged with proposing a structure for the Racial Equity and Education committee, including matters such as number of members, term limits, and the like, and bringing that proposal to Fall Continuing Committee, which is authorized to make decisions on these matters. Recommendations approved. Report accepted.

Minute 28 Pam Kuhn reported for the Handbook Committee. The committee recommends the following:

1. Revising the description of the Reading Clerk so that it includes a three-year term limit, which will be renewable, and adding a statement to the effect that some duties other than those listed in the Handbook may be requested by the Presiding Clerk. Approved.
2. Noting that the Epistle Committee is to be chosen by the Nominating Committee just prior to annual sessions, and that it serves only during sessions or until the epistle is complete for that year. Approved.
3. Adding to relevant places in the Handbook language stating that the Presiding Clerk determines the date, place, and format of Continuing Committee with input from others to avoid as many Quaker scheduling conflicts as possible, and moving that statement to the Continuing Committee section. Approved.
4. Moving the Handbook Committee description of Continuing Committee from the section on Standing Committees to the Organization section. Approved.
5. Changing the title of the section called “Groups” to “ILYM Common Interest Gatherings” and adding a description for the women and gender minorities gathering in that section. Approved.
6. Adding a section to the Handbook that describes those organizations with which ILYM is affiliated by virtue of appointing representatives to them, and noting when we first affiliated with them. Approved.

The Handbook Committee report was accepted.

Minute 29 Wil Brant noted that the Publications and Distribution Committee report is in the advance documents. All print projects are up to date. Initial copies of Faith and Practice have all been distributed, and an additional 150 copies are being printed. General content update on the ILYM website is being done as needed. Report accepted.

Minute 30 Minutes 27-29 were approved. The second session closed with waiting worship.

MINUTES OF THE THIRD SESSION, Sixth Day, Sixth Month 17, 2022

Minute 31 The day's session opened with waiting worship.

Minute 32 The Clerk recognized and welcomed visitors from outside of ILYM, Sam and Amy Clark from Gallup Monthly Meeting in New Mexico. The following first-time attenders introduced themselves: Robin Harvey, Melissa Breed-Parks, and Hilarie Hunt from St. Louis; Trevor Brandt from 57th Street Meeting.

Minute 33 The Clerk reminded Friends about the Harassment Committee. Pam Timme has been added to the Exercises Committee, which completes the membership on that committee.

Minute 34 Acting Reading Clerk Pam Kuhn referred to epistles from two yearly meetings and recommended them, along with the other epistles in the red binders at the front of the meetinghouse, to Friends. She then read a portion of a greeting to Illinois Yearly Meeting from Tim Gee, General Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC).

Minute 35 Colleen Reardon reported for the Personnel Committee. The Personnel Committee has continued to consider the legal opinion it has received on taxes on income and fair wage practices.

In speaking with the ILYM Caretaker, Judy Reese, it was discovered that there has been ambiguity with respect to her understanding of her status. As a result of the opinion of legal counsel and Judy's own understanding of her role, her job description will be revised to be less extensive than previously, consisting of a list of volunteer responsibilities. Judy will continue to be provided with housing. A revised description of the caretaker position will be brought to Fall Continuing Committee for discernment and approval.

Personnel has also asked the Children's Religious Education Committee to consider two possible options with respect to the position of Children's Religious Education Coordinator. One option is for the coordinator to continue in the role of planning and implementing several events sponsored by ILYM, and thus be in the role of an independent contractor with compensation per project to be agreed upon and capped at the amount budgeted for the committee. The other option is for the Children's Religious Education Coordinator to be considered a part-time employee filling a broader role consistent with that of previous Religious Education Coordinators, in which case the coordinator would receive the same hourly wage as all other part-time staff with differentiation for the maximum number of hours allocated for the position. Report accepted.

Minute 36 Chris Goode offered the joint report from Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning and the Stewards. He began by thanking longtime MP&E stalwarts, including the late Neil Mesner and Bill and Alice Howenstine, who have now left the committee after many years of service. The fall and spring workdays each had about 16 workers, about half of whom were members of Clear Creek Meeting. Hired contractors accomplished various tasks during the year. The total expense was significantly higher than in most years, and it can be expected to increase again in the next year or two due to

the many and varied material needs of the campus. The fact that money has been set aside for larger future maintenance projects has helped in this regard, and ILYM is asked to consider increasing the regular set-aside amount to ensure future maintenance of the campus. The large number of ongoing maintenance projects has meant that revision of the 10-year-old campus plan has taken a back seat in the recent past. MP&E intends to return to that item in the near future, and asks Friends to tell the committee about their hopes for the future of the campus. Report accepted.

Minute 37 Pam Kuhn reported for the Ad hoc Committee to Consider How the 2022 Annual Sessions Will Be Held. The committee proposed and set up a system whereby these sessions would be held in person with some virtual aspects, which is taking place at this time. The yearly meeting will need to evaluate this year's experiment and make decisions concerning how future annual sessions will be held, and if the meeting is unable to make this determination during sessions it will need to designate who will make that decision and how it will be made. The committee mentioned several issues to be considered with respect to various aspects of that decision. Having fulfilled its charge, the committee requested to be laid down. Request approved. Report accepted.

Minute 38 Minutes 31-37 were approved.

Minute 39 Kent Busse suggested that the meeting consider formation of a committee or working group to collect, process, and promote ideas for the celebration of ILYM's 150th anniversary in 2025. Several Friends expressed their willingness to serve on such a committee, provided they would not have to serve as clerk. Kent offered to serve as organizer of future efforts in this direction. The Meeting approved having him form a working group to prepare for the celebration of ILYM's 150th anniversary, with members and initial plans to be presented at Fall Continuing Committee.

Minute 40 Kent announced that the Chat Board that he demonstrated at Spring 2022 Continuing Committee is now operational. He has offered to manage the Chat Board, which can provide online collaboration for the sesquicentennial topic. The overall Chat Board is at ilym.kentbusse.com. Various concerns were raised regarding this plan. Meeting will return to this issue later in these sessions.

Minute 41 Minutes 39-40 were approved. The third session closed with waiting worship.

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SESSION, Seventh Day, Sixth Month 18, 2022

Minute 42 The day's session opened with waiting worship.

Minute 43 The Clerk recognized a visitor, Jackie Stillwell from New England YM and Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR).

Minute 44 The Clerk requested that anyone who tests positive for COVID within the next week notify the Yearly Meeting Administrative Coordinator Wil Brant at admincoor@ilym.org as a safety precaution. He also announced that the Chat Board item discussed at yesterday's session (Minute 40) will be taken under advisement.

Minute 45 Acting Reading Clerk Pam Kuhn read an epistle produced by Britain Yearly Meeting at the conclusion of their annual gathering in May 2022.

Minute 46 The Planning Coordinators Group is charged with developing a proposal for how the 2023 annual sessions will be held. In its discernment, the group will receive

input from ILYM Friends, review the surveys submitted by this year's attenders, and consider the issues raised earlier in these annual sessions by the Ad hoc Committee to Consider How the 2022 Annual Sessions Will Be Held. The Planning Coordinators Group will be expected to give a progress report at Fall 2022 Continuing Committee and to make a final proposal at Spring 2023 Continuing Committee. Continuing Committee is authorized to act on that proposal. Approved.

Minute 47 The Clerk noted that the report from Youth Oversight is in the advance documents. The committee recently planned the first in-person High School Friends gathering since before the pandemic. The High School Friends (HSF) have participated in a workshop about suicide prevention training and in a high ropes course, where they learned communication and team-building skills. Report accepted.

Minute 48 Alex Lippitt reported as ILYM representative to Scattergood Friends School. Report accepted.

Minute 49 Pam Kuhn reported as ILYM representative to FWCC. Report accepted.

Minute 50 Mark McGinnis reported that the Peace Resources Committee recommends that the Peace Tax Fund money be disbursed equally to Friends Peace Teams and Community Peacemaker Teams. Recommendation approved. Report accepted.

Minute 51 Phyllis Reynolds reported for Ministry & Advancement. The committee has considered a call to action issued by the Urgent Call Steering Committee, which consists of former heads of Quaker organizations, regarding election integrity. M&A offers to season this call to action in consultation with ILYM's monthly meetings in preparation for a possible recommendation to Fall Continuing Committee. In the meantime, monthly meetings and individual members are encouraged to participate in endeavors involving ILYM's concern for election integrity, beginning with participation in the first of a series of national conversations on these issues to be hosted by the Earlham School of Religion on July 25 and 31. Details and registration for those events are at quakercall.net. Approved.

Minute 52 Val Lester presented the proposed budget, which is unchanged from the first presentation. This budget includes a recommended contribution from monthly meetings to ILYM of \$275 per adult resident member. Budget approved. On behalf of the Finance Committee, she asked that the Meeting approve moving \$50,000 from the Special Gifts fund to the Maintenance Reserve fund. Approved. Finally, she asked that we authorize holding six months of salary for payroll reserve for ILYM employees, with money coming out of the Special Gifts fund as needed. Approved.

Minute 53 Sharon Haworth offered the following names on behalf of the Nominating Committee for consideration for service beginning at the rise of these annual sessions:

Children's Religious Education: Anna Watson, Katherine Young, Quinn Parks

Scattergood Friends School Representative: Alex Lippitt (continuing)

Approved.

Minute 54 Ted Kuhn offered the following names on behalf of the Naming Committee for service on the Nominating Committee: Julia Pantoga and Lilith Swygert. Approved.

Minute 55 Minutes 42-54 were approved.

Minute 56 Peter Lasersohn reported for the ad hoc committee on the ILYM archives at the University of Illinois. The U of I library has proposed that the Yearly Meeting sign two agreements for which it has provided text, one covering the records of Illinois Yearly

Meeting itself and the other covering the records of laid-down meetings which used to be part of Illinois Yearly Meeting. The ad hoc committee recommended that the Yearly Meeting approve the proposed new agreements. While they are more favorable to the library than the original agreements from 1977, they conform to what is now standard practice and provide a number of advantages to ILYM. Approved, with Lilith Swygart asking to be recorded as standing aside. The committee also recommends that existing monthly meetings, and Blue River Quarterly Meeting, sign analogous agreements with the University of Illinois Library. Report accepted. The ad hoc committee asked to be laid down. Approved.

Minute 57 Bobbi Trist reported for Children's Religious Education. There have been no applications for the CRE Coordinator position since Joy Duncan laid down her service. Charlotta Koppanyi has done an excellent job as an independent contractor, but the events that Joy managed outside of the annual sessions are not currently being addressed. There is thus uncertainty about the future of the children's program, although Charlotta seems willing to continue as a contractor for the near future. Friends are asked to consider how we can best serve the children of ILYM going forward. Report accepted.

Minute 58 Noel Pavlovic reported for the Environmental Concerns Committee. The ECC has been developing the native plant wildflower pollinator garden at the southwest end of the prairie planting. There are several walking trails near the campus, which Friends are invited to explore. The committee is supporting two workshops during these Annual Sessions, a guided tour of the Dixon Wildlife Refuge and an explanatory tour of the prairie pollinator garden. Report accepted.

Minute 59 The Clerk mentioned the report from Olney Friends School in the advance documents. Report accepted.

Minute 60 Noel Pavlovic reported for Quaker Earthcare Witness. Their report is in the advance documents. Report accepted.

Minute 61 The Clerk announced the following dates for ILYM events: Fall CC, October 29 at Urbana Champaign; 2023 Annual Sessions, June 21-25, 2023.

Minute 62 Val Lester presented a statement prepared and minuted by Oak Park Meeting, supporting actions to reduce gun violence and affirming unity with FCNL's Gun Violence Prevention Principles. Oak Park Friends encourage ILYM Friends to make this issue a priority and to find ways to continue to advocate for progress. Minute approved.

Minute 63 Minutes 56-62 were approved. The fourth session closed with waiting worship.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH SESSION, First Day, Sixth Month 18, 2022

Minute 64 The day's session opened with waiting worship.

Minute 65 On behalf of Naming Committee, Clerk Kent Busse announced that Sharon Haworth will serve as Clerk of Nominating Committee for the coming year.

Minute 66 Friends heard epistles from the younger children, intermediate children, middle schoolers, preschoolers, and high schoolers.

Minute 67 On behalf of the Epistle Committee, Pam Kuhn read this year's ILYM epistle, which will be sent to other yearly meetings. Approved.

Minute 68 On behalf of the Exercises Committee, Lilith Swygert read this year's exercises. Approved.

Minute 69 Clerk Kent Busse acknowledged the extensive work of Administrative Coordinator Wil Brant in preparation for and during these annual sessions.

Minute 70 Outgoing Assistant Clerk Marcia Nelson advised Friends to be tender with their clerks, their committees, and each other, and to season proposals they regard as urgent before bringing them to the floor of the meeting.

Minute 71 Minutes 64-70 were approved.

Minute 72 The 148th annual sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting closed with grateful waiting worship.

ILYM Friends will reconvene for next year's annual sessions at the meetinghouse near McNabb on June 21-25, 2023.

Marcia Nelson
Presiding Clerk

Sarah Pavlovic
Recording Clerk

EXERCISES

“Creating Unity Despite Separation” was the theme of the 2022 ILYM Annual Sessions, in recognition of both physical separation over the last two years because of the pandemic and deepening political and social rifts in the country and the world. After two years of meeting via Zoom for annual sessions due to COVID-19, we were grateful to be able to gather in person once more at the ILYM campus. We had hybrid live and Zoom meetings for worship, business, and presentations with the Zoom attendees projected onto the meetinghouse wall. There were 150 attendees in total: approximately 141 on site and 15 online (with some participating via both methods).

Friends have been grateful for the blessings of both in person and virtual attendance. During business sessions, Friends expressed reverent, exuberant gratitude for the ILYM campus and for all of the work that has been done by the Maintenance, Planning, and Envisioning Committee, the Stewards, and countless other Friends over the years to maintain and develop it. The feeling of God’s presence in the meeting was both palpable and grounding. Because Friends were also able to attend virtually, we heard from and were with Friends far and near who might otherwise not have been able to attend. Their presence (and their patience with the meeting’s technological learning curve) helped us hear Spirit more clearly and helped us connect together with the Divine.

Friends enjoyed a variety of workshops, plenary sessions, and other activities. This year, as part of a workshop, some Friends took a field trip to the Dixon Wildlife Refuge to learn about a wetland restoration project and to enjoy the blessings of the natural world, including the hopeful rebounding of the rare, near-extinct monkey flower. Continuing the theme of finding joy in God’s creation, Friends also took time to Commune with Nature in the ILYM Prairie Pollinator Garden. Other workshops explored the right sharing of resources with queries from Jackie Stillwell, General Secretary of Right Sharing of World Resources, the relationship between Quakerism and class, how Quakers might witness against any potential military draft, and how Quaker values might be used as a basis for a Social Contract model of human rights.

In the evenings, Friends reflected on spiritual hospitality with Gretchen Castle, Dean of the Earlham School of Religion. Bobby Trice of Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) shared his spiritual journey and how it has led to his ministry at FCNL, which includes building relationships to make changes within and beyond Congress. Karen Tibbals invited Friends into loving, active ministry Saturday evening on Jesus’ call to “Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.” On Sunday, Frank Young, a longtime member of Spoon River Meeting, offered the Plummer Lecture. Friday evening, after the heat wave had subsided, we danced joyfully to the gifted accompaniment of square dance caller Jim Hicks and fellow musicians.

Friends arrived at the campus remembering that we are always connected, near or far. May Friends be renewed by these annual sessions in their faithfulness to Spirit in contemplation and action, within our meetings and in the wider world.

EPISTLE

2021 ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

Dear Friends Everywhere,

We send you love from amidst the cornfields and soybean of Illinois. Rejoicing in our in-person reunion for yearly meeting this year, we welcomed Friends to our 148-year-old meeting house and even met some babies who had not been born the last time we were together.

Great wind and great heat greeted us and we felt the abundant energy infused into our pores. That energy continued covering our sessions, evident in gathered meetings for worship, the children's happy shouts, and smiles while dancing on the lawn. We felt something of a resurrection from the anxiety of the past two years and recharged to face the future.

Today we celebrate Juneteenth, the anniversary of the order, at the end of the Civil War, freeing the last enslaved people in Texas, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. In our meeting for business, we approved moving an ad hoc committee on anti-racism to a standing committee, the Racial Equity and Education Committee, reflecting a new commitment to continue to work on these issues for as long as the leading is given.

Our theme for the annual sessions was Creating Unity Despite Separation. We had kept our yearly meeting alive and active for two years by meeting on Zoom because of threats from COVID. This year we appreciated coming together in-person all the more. Here we have a strong sense of belonging. The richness of the soil surrounding us seems to ground and center us. The trees provide a cover for our activities and a shelter from the heat. The old meeting house itself with its history, its architecture, and the care that it needs, seem to tie us together as the Spirit ties us in our worship.

We found a new sense of being present was also possible. Using technology, several Friends unable to come to the meetinghouse, joined us for worship, business, and speakers. Those on Zoom were glad that they were able to see the meetinghouse as those on campus were glad see the faces on Zoom. We will continue to work on finding ways in which the technology can serve us.

Unity, we learned, does not need to be static. Building relationships to find a new unity was a theme expanded by our speakers, Gretchen Castle, Bobby Trice, and Karen Tibbals. Offering spiritual hospitality can break down prophetic resistance. Using storytelling to tell our own truths help others to understand us. Living out Jesus words, "Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you" [Matthew 5:44] softens and opens our hearts.

Unity can be solemn. At the end of sessions, the heat wave broke and the wind quieted, just in time for our memorial meeting. We gave thanks for the lives of many pillars of our community this year. We continue to feel very close to them as we look around the campus.

Unity can be beautiful. The Environmental Concerns Committee planted a native pollinator garden on our property. It is a place of contemplation, hope, and renewed stewardship of the earth.

Unity can be active. Being in-person revitalized our children and teen programs. The high school bunk house, with air conditioning, became a refuge during the heat. Mixed ages made crafts together and created colorful peace wheels.

Mostly we found that unity is joyful. Over and over at our sessions this year, we felt a sense of joy. We understand many issues in the world seem insurmountable and yet we feel joy in searching for God's order. Perhaps the rustling that we hear in the corn fields and the trees is like "a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind" [Acts 2:2] and has inspired us like it inspired the early Apostles of Christ.

Illinois Yearly Meeting, Sixth Month, 19, 2022

TRAVEL POLICY

Friends are not to be hindered from traveling on ILYM business as official representatives or committee members due to lack of funds. However, in view of the limited amount of funds available in the budget for this purpose, the Travel Fund should be used according to the following guidelines:

1. Requests for travel funds should be made well in advance to the Treasurer.
2. The amount to be advanced or reimbursed is based on the current IRS rate per automobile mile driven in service of charitable organizations (14 cents per mile in 2022) or reasonable commercial fares. Friends are encouraged to be prudent.
3. Conference registration fees may be reimbursed.
4. Any ordinary expenses for food or lodging may be reimbursed.
5. Questions of travel reimbursement for committee business should be cleared through that committee in advance of the travel and reported to the Treasurer.
6. Friends World Committee for Consultation Triennial travel will be handled from its own fund.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING - BALANCE SHEET
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2022

	6/30/2022	6/30/2021
Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents		
Checking Account	68,878.18	*137,609.55
Friends Fiduciary-Temp. Restrct Proprty Imp	33,549.82	40,177.82
Friends Fiduciary-Unrestricted Designated	227,389.94	203,786.14
Paypal	<u>0.00</u>	<u>116.22</u>
Total Cash & Cash Equivalents	<u>329,817.94</u>	<u>381,689.73</u>
Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	180.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	<u>180.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total Assets	<u>329,997.94</u>	<u>381,689.73</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	6,935.62	5,788.03
Payroll Taxes	<u>698.00</u>	<u>698.00</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>7,633.62</u>	<u>6,486.03</u>
Net Assets		
1 Unrestricted Undesignated		Net Income
1 General Operating	<u>60,625.19</u>	<u>60,625.19</u>
Total 1 Unrestricted Undesignated	<u>60,625.19</u>	<u>60,625.19</u>
2 Unrestricted Designated		
2 Special Gifts	78,652.29	-61,804.73 140,430.02
3 CCH Accessible Add.	1,300.00	1,300.00
4 Payroll Reserve	33,750.00	-10,037.93 43,787.93
5 FWCC World Mtgs	7,000.00	1,000.00 6,000.00
6 Maint. Reserve	<u>103,790.03</u>	23,295.00 <u>80,495.03</u>
Total 2 Unrestricted Designated	<u>224,456.32</u>	<u>272,012.98</u>
8 Temporary Restrictred		
Property Impr.	<u>37,273.81</u>	-5,291.72 <u>42,565.53</u>
Total Temporary Restricted	<u>37,273.81</u>	<u>42,565.53</u>
Total Net Assets	<u>322,364.32</u>	<u>-52,839.38 375,203.70</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>329,997.94</u>	<u>381,689.73</u>

*Incorrect value of 137,609.50 appeared in 2021 Minute Book

Restricted (*Temporarily Restricted*) funds are received for a specific purpose and can only be used for that purpose. Endowments are permanently restricted funds for which the principle is invested and not spent, but the investment income is considered temporarily restricted and is used for a specific purpose.

Unrestricted (*Unrestricted Undesignated*) funds are received for general operating purposes and are made use of as determined by the business meeting, usually through the approved budget.

Designated (*Unrestricted Designated*) funds have been designated by the business meeting for a specific purpose. The business meeting can approve a change in the designation at any time, move the funds, or revert the funds to general operating purposes.

Friends Fiduciary Fund balances change daily. The value in the Assets section is a snapshot on this report date. Because it is difficult to appraise, the value of the ILYM site (land and buildings in McNabb, Ill.) is omitted from the Assets section above.

ILYM Income Statement 1 July 2021 to 30 Jun 2022

	1 General	2 Special	3 Payroll Resv	5 FWCC	6 Maint.	8 Property	Total
Revenue							
Misc Income	1,465.41						1,465.41
Support from Meetings	97,340.75						97,340.75
Support from Individuals	35,644.44						35,644.44
Interest & Investment Income	8,260.60					1,336.28	9,596.88
Gatherings-Retreats							
Annual Sessions Registrations	13,974.00						13,974.00
Gifts-Annual Sessions	4,755.00						4,755.00
Women's Wkend Registrations	<u>360.00</u>						<u>360.00</u>
Total Gatherings-Retreats	19,089.00						19,089.00
Total Revenue	<u>161,800.20</u>					<u>1,336.28</u>	<u>163,136.48</u>
Operating Expenses							
1 Personnel & Office							
Employee-Contractor Direct	49,162.23						49,162.23
Staff Travel	597.77						597.77
Office Expenses	<u>1,149.96</u>						<u>1,149.96</u>
Total Personnel & Office	50,909.96						50,909.96
3 Site & Property Expenses							
Ann. Services-Propy Taxes	2,226.47						2,226.47
Appliances-Equipment					5,835.00		5,835.00
Building Projects					-4,000.00		-4,000.00
Mowing, Tree Trimming	3,900.00						3,900.00
Repairs & Maintenance	4,219.69				36,370.00		40,589.69
Site Insurance Expense	12,860.00						12,860.00
Utilities	<u>5,997.63</u>						<u>5,997.63</u>
Total 3 Site & Property	29,203.79				38,205.00		67,408.79

ILYM Income Statement 1 July 2021 to 30 Jun 2022 (continued)

	1 General	2 Special	3 Payroll Resv	5 FWCC	6 Maint.	8 Property	Total
4 Gatherings-Retreats Expenses							
Other Gathering-Retreats	599.00						599.00
Annual Sessions (AS) Expenses							
AS Admin Coor	6,049.70	4,262.54					10,312.24
AS Cooking & Food	8,198.87						8,198.87
AS Program Expenses	3,119.72						3,119.72
AS Site Prep Expenses	2,345.99						2,345.99
Children's Sessions Expenses	323.00						323.00
Transaction Fees on Registration	331.61						331.61
Total Annual Sessions	<u>20,368.89</u>	<u>4,262.54</u>					<u>24,631.43</u>
Total Gatherings-Retreats	<u>20,967.89</u>	<u>4,262.54</u>					<u>25,230.43</u>
5 Committee Expenses							
Development	305.78						305.78
Environmental Concerns	36.00						36.00
Maint Plan & Evisioning	88.00						88.00
Personnel		3,027.50					3,027.50
Publications & Distribution	2,077.76	1,312.50					3,390.26
Youth Oversight	<u>58.00</u>						<u>58.00</u>
Total Committee Expenses	2,565.54	4,340.00					6,905.54
6 Support to Others	12,650.00						12,650.00
Total Operating Expenses	116,297.18	8,602.54			38,205.00		163,104.72
Operating Income/(Loss)	45,503.02	-8,602.54			-38,205.00	1,336.28	31.76

ILYM Income Statement 1 July 2021 to 30 Jun 2022 (continued)

	1 General	2 Special	3 Payroll Resv	5 FWCC	6 Maint.	8 Property	Total
Operating Income/(Loss)	45,503.02	-8,602.54			-38,205.00	1,336.28	31.76
Other Income and Expense							
Transfers - Budgeted	-12,500.00		1,000.00		11,500.00		0.00
Transfers - Other	-39,962.07	-10,037.93			50,000.00		0.00
Transfers - Net Operating	-33,003.02	33,003.02					0.00
Unrealized Gain/Loss		<u>-46,243.14</u>				<u>-6,628.00</u>	<u>-52,871.14</u>
Total Other Income & Expense	-45,503.02	-53,202.19	-10,037.93	1,000.00	61,500.00	-6,628.00	-52,871.14
Total Comprehensive Income/Loss	\$0.00	-61,804.73	-10,037.93	1,000.00	23,295.00	-5,291.72	-52,839.38

22	Fund Name	Oversight Committee Description
1	General Operating	Finance Annual budgeted income and expenses
2	Special Gifts	Finance Bequests, large unrestricted gifts, special projects
3	Next Projects	Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning Unrestricted gifts and transfers for renovation projects as approved at 2013 Annual Session
4	Payroll Reserves	Finance Self-insurance of Illinois Employment Security (unemployment)
5	FWCC World Meetings	Finance A reserve fund to provide travel assistance to ILYM's reps to FWCC World Gatherings
6	Maintenance Reserve	Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning Save for and pay for capital asset maintenance, repair and upgrades
7	Faith & Practice Reserve	Publications & Distribution To publish the ILYM book of <i>Faith and Practice</i>
8	Property Improvement	Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning with Development Restricted by donors for new building projects.

The **Financial Review Committee** is a subcommittee of Finance Committee. It is charged with reviewing any items going over budget and determining how to pay any items consistent with our budget.

**ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING - MONTHLY MEETING CONTRIBUTIONS
JULY 1, 2021 - JUNE 30, 2022**

	Contribution
Bloomington-Normal MM	2,520.00
Burlington WG	0.00
Clear Creek MM	5,500.00
Columbia FM	1,785.00
Downers Grove FM	7,900.00
Duneland FM	1,820.00
Evanston MMoF	19,745.75
57th Street MoF	4,680.00
Fox Valley QM	0.00
Lake Forest FM	17,325.00
Northside FM	4,335.00
Oak Park FM	5,300.00
Oshkosh MM	50.00
Rock Valley FM	0.00
St. Louis MM	9,600.00
South Bend FM	5,280.00
Southern Illinois QM	780.00
Spoon River QM	720.00
Urbana-Champaign FM	10,000.00
Total	<hr/> 97,340.75

FM: Friends Meeting; **MM:** Monthly Meeting; **MMoF:** Monthly Meeting of Friends; **MoF:** Meeting of Friends; **QM:** Quaker Meeting; **WG:** Worship Group

<p>MONTHLY MEETING RECOMMENDED ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION PER ADULT RESIDENT MEMBER IS <u>\$275.</u></p>
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ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING OPERATING BUDGET 2022-2023

	2022-2023 Budget	2021-2022 Budget	2021-2022 Actual
Revenue			
Support from Meetings	95,500	*90,000	97,341
Support from Individuals	42,000	34,000	35,644
Bank & Investment Income	5,500	5,500	8,261
Misc. Income	0	0	1,465
Gatherings-Retreats	18,000	<u>16,000</u>	<u>19,089</u>
<i>Total Income</i>	161,000	*145,500	161,800
Operating Expenses			
1 Personnel & Office	67,500	63,550	50,910
2 Yearly Meeting Travel Support	4,000	4,000	
3 Site & Property Expenses			
Annual Services-Property Taxes	1,500	1,500	2,226
Mowing, Tree Trimming	6,500	6,000	3,900
Routine Maintenance & Repairs	5,500	5,000	4,220
Urgent Repairs	2,000	2,000	0
Insurance	13,000	10,500	12,860
Utilities	5,000	<u>2,500</u>	<u>5,998</u>
<i>Total Site & Property</i>	33,500	28,000	29,204
4 Gatherings-Retreats (AS=Annual Sessions)			
AS Event Expenses (oversight: Admin Coor)	6,500	6,000	6,381
AS Cooking-Food (oversight: Planning Grp)	8,500	7,800	8,199
AS Aft/Eve Program (oversight: Planning Grp)	2,500	2,200	3,120
AS Children's Program (oversight: CRE Comm)	1,250	1,000	323
AS Site Preparation (oversight: Planning Grp)	1,250	1,000	2,346
Other Gatherings	0	<u>0</u>	<u>599</u>
<i>Total Gatherings-Retreats</i>	20,000	18,000	20,968
5 Committees			
Ad hoc	0	0	0
Adult Young Friends	150	150	0
Children's Religious Education	200	200	0
Development	400	700	306
Environmental Concerns	50	50	36
Faith & Practice	0	0	0
Finance	25	25	0
Handbook	25	25	0
Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning	50	50	88
Ministry & Advancement	50	50	0
Nominating	50	50	0
Peace Resources	50	50	0
Peace Tax Fund	25	25	0
Personnel	25	25	0
Publications & Distribution	3,000	3,000	2,078
Youth Oversight	2,400	<u>2,400</u>	<u>58</u>
<i>Total Committee Expenses</i>	6,500	6,800	2,566

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING, OPERATING BUDGET 2022-2023
EXPENSE LINE ITEM DETAILS (CONT.)

	2022-2023	2021-2022	2021-2022
	Budget	Budget	Actual
6 Support to Others			
Quaker organizations to which ILYM assigns representatives			
Friends General Conference (FGC)	4,400	*4,400	4,400
Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)	3,850	*3,850	3,850
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)	500	*500	500
Friends Cmte. on Natl Legislation (FCNL)	500	*500	500
Friends Peace Teams (FPT)	350	*350	350
Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)	300	*300	300
Friends for Lesbian & Gay Concerns (FLGBTQC)	100	*100	100
Regional Quaker educational institutions			
Chicago Friends School (CFS)	350	*350	350
Scattergood School and Farm	250	*250	250
Earlham College	250	*250	250
Earlham School of Religion (ESR)	125	*125	125
Olney Friends School	125	*125	125
Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR)	350	*350	350
Project Lakota	250	*250	250
Friends Journal	250	*250	250
National Relgs Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT)	100	*100	100
Black Lives Matter Chicago	500	*500	500
Quaker United Nations Office (QUNO)	100	*100	100
<i>Total Support to Others</i>	12,650	*12,650	12,650
Total Operating Expenses	144,150	*133,000	116,297
Transfers			
To Maintenance Reserve	15,850	11,500	11,500
To FWCC World Meetings	1,000	1,000	1,000
Operating Surplus/Deficit to Special Gifts	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>33,003</u>
<i>Total Transfers</i>	16,850	12,500	45,503
Net Income (Deficit)	0	0	0

*The 2021 Minute Book had incorrect budget numbers for these items (proposed not approved numbers). This list has the correct approved numbers for the FY2122 budget.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (See Minute 12)

The Development Committee has a very limited charge with very few required actions. As a result, the committee activities can be quickly described.

1. The committee prepares an annual appeal letter asking for individual contributions. This letter is sent to individual members, monthly meetings, and worship groups in the yearly meeting. This past year the letter was sent somewhat later than desirable. This coming year we expect the letter to be sent out earlier.
2. The committee provides input to the Finance Committee about the feasibility of raising the funds necessary to meet the budgetary needs for the coming year. In past years, when individual contributions have been needed to balance the annual budget, the total amount of individual contributions received has always been more than what was

required. There is strong support for the activities and the future of the yearly meeting. This is the real reason for the successes that the Development Committee has had.

3. Some older members of the yearly meeting may recall the years when there were no yearly meeting employees. But times change, and our employment practices have also changed. This has created a concern for ensuring that reserve funds are available to allow the yearly meeting to do long range planning and to deal with unexpected financial events. To help with making this possibility a reality, the Development Committee has revised the “Support” section of the yearly meeting web pages. This task is now almost fully completed. Please look at the new “support pages” (ilym.org/supportingilym/) to see information about opportunities for ensuring and supporting the future of the yearly meeting.

Frank Young (Clerk), Coco Colin, Kay Drake,
Dale Gardner, Marcy Harman, Alex Lippitt

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE (See Minute 58)

The ECC has been working on developing the native plant pollinator garden at the southwest end of the prairie planting. Recently, two willow shrubs were planted in the garden footprint. By Annual Sessions, most of the native plants will be planted in the garden. This garden will include pavers for walkways to the Leopold bench(es) located for quiet contemplation of the garden and the landscape.

In addition, a burr oak sapling (*Quercus macrocarpa*) was recently planted in the middle of the north edge of the old field. When it has grown substantially, it will shade a portion of the walk way from the Clear Creek House to the meetinghouse.

The ECC is supporting two workshops at Annual Sessions. On Thursday afternoon there will be a guided tour of the Dixon Wildlife Refuge: Connecting with Creation: A Tour of Dixon Waterfowl Refuge. The second is titled “Communing with nature in the prairie pollinator garden” will allow participants to learn about the garden, how it was designed and how it adds spiritual depth to the ILYM campus.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (See Minutes 23, 52)

This past year, we have funded work on the meetinghouse as well as the ongoing work of the yearly meeting. We have worked collaboratively with MP&E and Personnel as needs arose. We will not know how the fiscal year closes until after sessions and we are grateful to the generosity of Friends (individually and through our monthly meetings) for your support of the yearly meeting (as well as the Development Committee). Your giving (past & present) enable us to fund the work of the yearly meeting.

The Finance Committee wants to make sure all members of the yearly meeting are able to understand our financial reports and engage in the decisions about how we choose to spend. In this spirit, we are hosting a webinar on June 5 at 3:00 p.m. to walk Friends through our reports and answer questions. We hope that this helps everyone to feel able to engage in the budget and financial decisions we make during Annual Sessions.

As the Treasurer’s report shows, we have drawn down the Maintenance Reserve to paint the meetinghouse. We also expect to further draw it down for upcoming roofwork. This is the reason we set aside funds—because this work does not come in evenly year to year.

As has been our practice, we are proposing in the upcoming budget to raise our staff pay rate according to the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) used by the Federal Government or a 5.9% increase this coming year.

Val Lester

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE (See Minute 28)

Committee members: Pam Kuhn, Julia Pantoga, Sue Styer

Give the Reading Clerk a three-year term limit, which would be renewable. Also add that some other duties may be requested by the Presiding Clerk.

The Epistle Committee be chosen by the Nominating Committee just prior to annual sessions and serves only during sessions or until the epistle is complete for that year.

Continuing Committee date. Add to Presiding Clerk description. “g) Determine the date, place, and format of Continuing Committee with input from others to avoid as many Quaker conflicts as possible.” Add to Continuing Committee description after first sentence in the introduction. “The Presiding Clerk determines the date, place, and format of the committee meeting avoiding as many Quaker conflicts as possible.”

Continuing Committee description. The Continuing Committee description is currently in the Standing Committee section. The Continuing Committee functions as a standing committee in that it continues the business as charged by the yearly meeting and it prepares the business for the yearly meeting at annual sessions. Continuing Committee is different from a standing committee because the members are not chosen by the Nominating Committee and because it shares information across all of the committees during the year. The Handbook Committee recommends that the description be moved to the first section called Organization under the subhead of Illinois Yearly Meeting. We are NOT recommending any change to the description except as noted above.

Change section formerly called “Groups” to “ILYM Common Interest Gatherings.” In addition to Adult Young Friends, we will add a description for the women and gender minorities gathering as follows.

Women and Gender Minorities Weekend. The women and gender minorities of Illinois Yearly Meeting gather together each spring. The time provides the opportunity to share journeys, to enlarge our circle of friendship with other Friends, to hold each other in loving support, and to honor each other as we seek to grow in the depth of our being and in Light. We find our voices, sing our songs, and tell our stories, mingling the rich varied stories of young and old and in-between as we reveal together ourselves and our lives. All women and gender minorities are invited to become part of the gathering.

Affiliations. The Handbook Committee recommends that we add a section to the Handbook that describes those organizations to which we are affiliated. In this list, we used the definition of “affiliated” to mean those organizations to which we send representatives (page 84 of the 2021 Minute Book.) However, it is not the same list that the Finance Committee uses in the Support to Others (page 28 of the 2021 Minute Book.) Using the organizations’ websites and other resources we have put together descriptions in a new “Representatives to Affiliated Organizations” section (text in Other Documents section below). We recommend making this section fall after the standing committee descriptions and before the annual sessions planning section.

MAINTENANCE, PLANNING AND ENVISIONING COMMITTEE & STEWARDS

(See Minute 36)

The committee members are Carol Bartles, Mark Robinson, Marie White, Dennis McQueen, Casey Kashnig, Bill Howenstine, Noel Pavlovic, Caretaker Judy Reese, and the Stewards: Chip Rorem, Grayce Mesner, Beth Carpenter, and Chris Goode. Our committee has met via zoom three times so far this year.

We lost Neil Mesner in March. He was a true example of a Steward. His quiet ways were a guide for us. We will miss him. His memory will continue to lead us. Thank you, Neil.

Workdays: We organized two workdays, on October 16 and on May 7 and had about 16 workers at each, about half were members of Clear Creek Meeting. Workday tasks are limited by our skills and what we can get done in a day. This year we cleaned out and re-organized the tool shed after repairs and painting it last year due to raccoon invasions. We also cleaned out junk from the large shed, cleaned up in the meetinghouse (MH) kitchen. We picked up sticks thru-out the campus and trimmed brush growth around buildings and elsewhere. We re-built a landing at the HS Bunkhouse, repaired the ramp and cleaned up inside after three years of animal occupation. Reminder: We would like to arrange for an earlier October Fall Workday and a later October Fall Continuing Committee Meeting.

Maintenance Update: Much was accomplished this year by contractors. This included roof repairs at the barn and machine Shed (~\$3,450), repairs to the MH steps and porch floors (~\$6500), installation of a new water conditioner at Clear Creek House (CCH) (~\$2600), painting the exteriors of the MH and all the buildings at the campground area (~\$24,600) and the MH porch floors (~\$1800). This is more than we want to spend in a typical year but it has been needed.

Upcoming Maintenance: Several more items have come up and will need attention very soon. The MH roof, especially the south side is shedding shingles in the wind, and the CCH roof, roof insulation, chimney, and fascia are in poor condition too. We are gathering roofing estimates and have had an insurance adjuster visit. We hope that at least the MH south roof may be replaced prior to Annual Sessions, as well as some MH window repairs, if we can arrange it in time and at a reasonable cost, and the other work will need to be attended to prior to winter. The lowest roofing costs received so far are \$28,500 for the MH, and \$25,000 for CCH. CCH siding will need attention in the not distant future. The dining room and stairway block needs painting and the kitchen vinyl base needs replacement. We have an engineer's plan to stabilize the HS bunkhouse foundation and are awaiting pricing, but discovered that the timber resting on the piers is soft and rotting along much of its length on the east side and at places on all the other sides and has other issues. We have some downed trees that need to be cut up and removed and may have a volunteer to help with that later this year.

Future Maintenance Plan: Our decision from several years back to put money aside for larger future maintenance projects has been a good one and we have taken advantage of it this year. We might want to increase our regular set-aside amount to insure our future maintenance as prices increase. We have also wanted to put together a usable maintenance plan so that we can better predict upcoming maintenance and associated expenses in order to be better prepared and less surprised moving forward. But we do not have people with either the skills or the available time on our committee to organize this, which would be a joint project with the Finance Committee. Maybe a person will choose to take that on and it will happen someday, or maybe we will continue to react and deal with things as they come up.

Revising the Campus Plan: Planning for what we want in the future has taken a back seat to fixing what we already have. We hope to come back to it soon. We are still collecting thoughts and ideas from the whole meeting so please pass those on to a member. Dick Ashdown and Chris Goode plan to make an effort to obtain the ¾ acre piece of the adjacent farm directly behind the MH from Matthew Nelson this year.

Christopher Goode, clerk

MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE (See Minutes 8, 51)

Ministry and Advancement Committee continues to meet by Zoom monthly to report to each other, share our experiences with the meetings we visit as well as our own meetings. We appreciate the opportunity not only to work with Brad Laird, our Field Secretary but also to participate with him in his annual evaluation. Next year will be his third year in this role. If you know a person who feels led to undertake this role, please let Brad, or me, or any member of M&A know.

Phyllis Reynolds, Clerk of Ministry and Advancement

FIELD SECRETARY (See Minute 7)

I hope to convey to you with this report the following:

1. A sense of how ILYM as a whole is doing
2. A sense of how our monthly meetings and worship groups are doing
3. The descriptive details of the job
4. And a sense of the Field Secretary's work so we can all keep our eyes open for who will be the next Field Secretary as of June 2023.

I remain deeply grateful to be in a role to serve you. In less than a month many of us might well be able to be face to face at annual sessions. I have heard from so many of us of our craving for this contact, the desire to have both structured and unstructured time to be together, practice our Friendly disciplines together, watch our children play and dance on the lawn. At the same time one variant or another of COVID is again increasing causing some of us to worry that we are putting vulnerable persons at risk. In my report to you last year I indicated that I was ready to begin traveling again, which I did briefly before the next COVID surge. Finally, I am traveling again, and yet again COVID is on the rise. We shall see what this means for this work. I am double boosted and so my personal risk for serious complications is small. I have loved ones who are more at risk. We are at a new phase of the pandemic, some say that we are entering an endemic, and that our expectations around risk therefore must shift. So, I am cautiously beginning to travel.

Overall, there is increased intervisitation by members/attenders between meetings. Both ILYM meetings and other meetings have been attended from Hong Kong and Mexico City to Kiev. The ease on traveling virtually, the attraction of resources that some meetings have like first day school and various other gatherings from adult religious education to hand work groups make some of these efforts likely to remain even after the pandemic becomes an endemic. Many of our meetings have online attenders who are home bound or who are living, working, and/or schooling at a significant distance. These have been causes for joy, fellowship, and deep worship for many of us. Warmer weather means some will return to outdoor meeting where COVID disperses quickly.

There are many, perhaps most of us, who find some level of discomfort with online meetings and technology. For some online worship just does not seem to work. For some any electronic intrusion takes away from the immediacy of in person worship. There are many positions along several vectors of concern. Coming to unity about how to include virtual services and the range of possible electronic supports, and when to be in person, and whether to by hybrid has taken center stage at many meetings for worship with attention to business. Some meetings have been able to come to unity for interim decisions about hybrid/online only/ in person only by setting periodic reviews. Other meetings make decisions as the data about COVID changes. Some are spending serious amounts of money on technology to be able to continue with hybrid services for the foreseeable future.

I share in these feelings. I can say what a joy it has been to spend lots of time when I am offered hospitality and long rides to meetings. The unstructured conversations, the meals, the opportunities for a moment or longer of sinking into stillness with another is precious. Listening to the spiritual paths of Friends is a deeply intimate and rewarding experience. While my observation is that most meetings will continue to have virtual options for the foreseeable future, the in-person experience is dear to many of us.

There are a good number of us who have found virtual worship to be increasingly valuable because of practicing it for years now. Each of us has our mental tactics for sinking into stillness. What I hear from others and have experienced myself is how we set that worship space in our minds. For example, when in an in-person worship, I would imagine wrapping each person in love and light and then having that light enwrap the whole meeting as my mind stilled itself. I was able to adjust my mental process to do the same with each Zoom box and extend that loving light through the spacetime continuum around us all, so that this exercise toward contributing to corporate stillness felt effective, and my ability to sink deeper improved over the months of practice. How have your mental tactics changed due to virtual meetings?

All our meetings have had struggles in the past year to manage the pandemic. Some of our attenders and members have drifted away while we have gained a significant number of persons who attend virtually. Many of our meetings have had a robust response, putting hearts and minds into planning, checking on how members and attenders are doing, and expanding roles or committees like tech host and technology committees. Several of our twenty monthly meetings and worship groups are doing no or little virtual services. Several simply have a laptop computer as the only technology engaged for Zoom meetings. What a meeting does and how they do it is to some degree a function of scale, with smaller meetings having no or minimal electronic engagement, moving up in size and financial resources, to increasing levels of technology engagement.

There does seem to be a stream of persons checking Quakerism out. The disruptions of COVID in our broader communities has many people and families seeking meaning and connection. It is a good time to make sure we are seen, to make sure people can find us. There are many spiritual seekers out there. COVID at first caused a decrease in the birthrate in the US, but the numbers have climbed again. This means that we can still expect families to need good First Day School options when they are checking us out.

We have several meetings that are small and aging, making the next decade decisive for whether a meeting is able to continue. Some in more urban areas should be able to attract more members, whereas our more rural meetings may have more difficulty. I do know that we need to engage these truths creatively head on with neither pride nor shame as decision points come to us. There is also the possibility of encouraging more persons, more meetings, to start more worship groups and for worship groups to become preparative meetings. Burlington Iowa, Springfield Illinois, and Elkhart River worship groups are steady and offer three examples of how to start a meeting. I have been involved with the Elkhart River worship group from the start, and I am happy to consult with persons or meetings that want to start a meeting. I encourage especially meetings in BIPOC (Black and Indigenous People of Color), working-class, and Spanish speaking communities. Starting worship groups can also help us to set them up in a way that we can resist better the class, ethnic, racial, and gender divisions in our broader community that affect our meetings.

I have found deep worship and fellowship in all our meetings. Many meetings are working on some aspect of anti-racism work. ILYM's impact in supporting the water protectors in Minnesota and those that went to D.C. has been a highlight of spirit-filled action this year.

I have attended between four and twelve meetings for worship each month in this last year. Working across two time zones it is easy virtually to attend two meetings and still catch an in-person meeting in the afternoon. Many of our meetings have midweek meetings. I attend meetings for worship with attention to business two to four times per month. I had started to travel a year ago, spending time with St. Louis Friends, and then COVID soared and I went back to virtual meetings with in-person attendance at the Elkhart River worship group. Lately I have been able to travel to Clear Creek, Evanston, and Oshkosh. I intend to travel on about half the weekends in the coming year, COVID permitting.

I have led workshops or worship sharing events at last year's Annual Sessions and Blue River Quarterly sessions. Charley Earp and I will lead a workshop at the 2022 Annual Sessions on Quakers and class. We have held periodic monthly meeting clerk meetings and will resume them shortly.

Daily, I read many emails and committee and meeting for worship with attention to business minutes. This keeps me attuned to what meetings are working on.

I continue to have accompanying elders attend with me just over half the time. And I encourage all of you to consider the role of accompanying elder. It does not require special training; it does ask of you to hold the Field Secretary in prayer as he attends to the meeting. A short preparation and a debriefing is all that is needed. You can do this with each other too as you visit other meetings, in-person or virtually.

I offer a shout out to Maurine Pyle who showed me that one can do this job using public transportation and riding with members who are accompanying me. So, I use Amtrak, the South Shore, the El, busses, and I get lots more steps in. Maurine, at the time of this writing, is in hospice moving toward her transition out of chronos and into the ultimate Kairos.

In my two years as Field Secretary, I have gotten to meet virtually with the North American Superintendents and Secretaries retreat. This September I am looking forward to meeting in-person at Quaker Haven Retreat center, an FUM retreat site in Indiana.

In my concern that we become as inclusive as possible, one effort has to do with language, and on of my efforts to that end is to consider how we think about language. Specifically, I posit that the future of North American unprogrammed Friends is not monolingual. I have spoken to folks at both Pacific YM and NEYM. In both cases translation of writing material into Spanish, including their respective Faith and Practice volumes, were done at the request of and by volunteers. Pacific YM has several Spanish only meetings in Mexico City and, if I remember correctly, Guatemala and El Salvador. The Elkhart River Worship Group (ERWG) and Northside have translated some of their online presence into Spanish. The ERWG follows this guidance: One is encouraged to offer ministry in the language that in which it is given one. The one having spoken ministry might or might not, as their discernment goes, translate that message into another language. Another attender might discern that they should translate. The frame is abundance and following where Spirit leads.

In the Kyiv worship I have heard Ukrainian, Polish, and English languages spoken. Listening to the Spanish-only Mexico City Monthly Meeting leaves me listening to tone and depth of the message even when my Spanish comprehension is lacking (which is my usual position). This form of listening I have found to be a valuable part of ministry.

It seems that a volunteer of an "unofficial" translation of our Faith and Practice is a reasonable first step. Later, perhaps when we are revising section of Faith and Practice, we can commit the funds to also have a well-written translation into Spanish.

This is my last year as your Field Secretary. The Ministry and Advancement Committee will be seeking the next person for the job. If you have interest or are not

sure, come with me in-person or virtually to some meetings. Let's talk about feeling a call, about the nuts and bolts, about the joys and difficulties. One can do this without a car. It is not just for elderly, financially secure persons.

I have practiced accountability and self-care via a Faithfulness group and in my engagement with the Ministry and Advancement Committee that formally oversees this position. I have the support of my monthly meeting which is very important. Beyond that I exercise, joined a gym, go to therapy and a 12 step group, and meet my medical concerns head on. I also have the support of my family, listen to music, read spiritual literature, write poetry at times, and listen for what might feed my soul. I am fallible, and so I am grateful for the many Friends who help me stay the path.

Finally, I want to repeat briefly what I noted at the last Continuing Committee meeting, and that is to be tender to the many ways that the changes thrust on us due to COVID requires grieving that which we have lost, recognizing and being tender to the truth that each of us does this grieving uniquely. Part of our grieving involves lamenting, feeling the pain of what we have lost. Listen like Moses to the lamentations of your Friends. Like Moses many of us don't feel up to the task of our calling (or like me, run from it only to get the Jonah treatment). But it is from listening to the lamentations, really hearing them, that prophetic voice and action can be brought forth.

Even with grieving in our lives we find joy too in our unity, in being a part of each other. I am grateful to be a part of you.

Respectfully Submitted, Brad Laird

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (See Minutes 10, 53)

The Nominating Committee submits to Illinois Yearly Meeting the following names for approval:

For Assistant Recording Clerk: Peter Lasersohn

For Reading Clerk: Pam Kuhn

For Co-Treasurer: Dawn Crimson

For 2022 Epistle Committee: Pam Kuhn

For Ministry & Advancement Committee: Sarah Pavlovic and Virginia Schelbert

For Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning: Trevor Brandt and

Margie Haworth Davis

For Development: Kay Drake

For Olney School Representative: Grace Mesner

For Representative to FCNL: Fariba Murray

For Representatives to Friends General Conference: Janice Domanik and

Lilith Swygert

There are many appointments still to be made, and the committee will continue to work on those. If you wish to serve ILYM or know of someone whom the committee should contact about serving, please be in touch with a member of Nominating Committee: Dale Garner, Sharon Haworth, Amal Tamari, Judy Wolicki, or Bridget Rorem.

Respectfully submitted, Bridget Rorem for Nominating Committee

PEACE RESOURCES COMMITTEE (See Minute 24, 25, 50)

Peace Resources Committee is meeting via Zoom once a month. The committee feels we need to be more responsive with peace, justice, and social concerns issues. Our current activities include:

- One is to reach out to local Indigenous People to offer positive support for their continuous struggle for fairness and justice.
- Two is to support those monthly meetings who have contact with prisons, incarcerated people, and those returning to society through half-way houses.
- Three, we are working with ILYM Treasurer to secure the funds and gain access to the Peace Tax Fund account.
- Four, we also plan to hold another workshop for young people on draft registration, conscientious objection, military recruitment, and if a renewal of conscription is likely. While it will be focused on young people, all are welcome.
- Five, we will be redefining our description in ILYM Handbook to reflect our changing role.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE (See Minute 35)

The Personnel Committee has continued to consider the legal opinion we received on both taxes on income and fair wage practices. The legal opinion was sought for the Caretaker in light of the fact that she has been receiving housing in lieu of cash wages. The committee met several times to consider what options would be best for both ILYM and the Caretaker. Chris Goode, who is her supervisor has met with her several times and shared information about her view of the position as well as that of the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee. Our caretaker has been considering her role to be one of volunteer.

We considered her view of the position as well as implications of her serving as a part-time employee from a legal perspective. Given this reconsideration of her role, she will no longer be considered an employee and what had been her job description will be revised to be less extensive and in the form of a list of volunteer responsibilities. A Volunteer Handbook is being developed to provide clarity of the responsibilities of the Yearly Meeting to the volunteer as well as the expectations of the volunteer. The committee is in unity about continuing to provide the caretaker with housing. This would not be precedent setting as there has been a history of Quakers across the country and among Clear Creek Meeting to provide housing at least on a temporary basis to those in need of such support.

Personnel Committee has also spent quite a bit of time considering the job description for the Children's Religious Education Coordinator that the Children's Religious Education Committee forwarded. The Personnel Committee sent feedback to the CREC on issues regarding the status of the Children's Religious Education Coordinator. There are two major issues for the Children's Religious Education Committee to consider. One option is for the coordinator to continue in the role of planning and implementing several events sponsored by ILYM and thus be in the role of an independent contractor at a pay rate to be agreed upon and capped at the amount budgeted for the position. The other option is for the Children's Religious Education Coordinator to be considered a part-time employee filling a broader role consistent with that of our previous Religious Education Coordinator. In this position, the coordinator would receive the hourly wage that all part-time staff with differentiation for the maximum number of hours allocated for this position.

Once the Personnel Committee hears back from the Children's Religious Education Committee, next steps will be determined.

PUBLICATIONS AND DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE (See Minute 29)

Website: No notable changes. General content update being done as needed.

Print: Everything is up to date. We went through the initial copies of Faith and

Practice a little quicker than we were expecting. An additional 150 copies, which should last 2-4 years, are being printed.

STEWARDS (See Minute 36)

Combined with the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee report (p. 27)

YOUTH OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (See Minute 47)

Committee Members: Allison Boyaris, Diane Clarke-Dennis, Warwick Daw, Jasmine Dennis, Michael Dennis, Dale Gardner, Liam Gardner, Mars Harroun, Choz Howard-Mckinney, Daniel Lakemacher, Fariba Murray.

Updates: The Youth Oversight Committee over the past few weeks, anxiously and excitedly, planned the first in-person High School Friends gathering since pre-pandemic. For this year's Annual Sessions, with mental health awareness being this year's focus, the High School Friends (HSF) will have participated in a workshop about suicide prevention training. They will also have participated in a high ropes course, where they will learn communication and team-building skills in order to reach their goal.

It will also be time to select new HSF officers—all four positions will be available: both co-clerk positions, recording clerk, and nurturing clerk. There will be a clerk training/lecture in order to prepare our new speculative officers for their new roles.

Contact: If you would like to contact Youth Oversight about any questions or concerns, please send your message to us via the ILYM website's contact page: ilym.org/contact.

AD HOC ANTI-RACISM COMMITTEE (See Minute 27)

The Ad Hoc Anti-racism Committee has provided a workshop series, information and opportunities for involvement with Line 3 pipeline resistance work, and the Anti-Racism Café (a monthly virtual open discussion group). We would like to become a regular committee of the yearly meeting called the Racial Equity and Education Committee. We believe it is the best interest of the yearly meeting for the new committee to be open to all who are interested or working on this concern. This means there will not be additional work for the Nominating Committee. This is a time when racism is clearly causing tremendous difficulty in communities throughout ILYM as well as nationally. It involves individuals of many backgrounds who are being harmed by white supremacy and structural racism. This is important work which we are called to focus on at this time.

Possible minute: The Racial Equity and Education Committee is established to guide the work of the yearly meeting around issues of racism. Membership on the committee is open to all who want to work on this issue. The committee will provide information, workshops and opportunities for yearly meeting members. The Nominating Committee will appoint a clerk to serve for 1 year and after that the committee will discern the clerk providing the opportunity for others to experience clerking a committee.

AD HOC COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER HOW THE 2022 ANNUAL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD (See Minutes 37, 46)

The ad hoc was formed during sessions in 2021 (Minute 54, 2021) "to consider how 2022 Annual Sessions will be held, to allow us to gather as a spiritual community." At the Fall Continuing Committee 2021, we reported on a gathering of information that we had collected from monthly meetings and individuals. At the Spring Continuing Committee, we recommended going forward with an in-person event with virtual aspects

including extra responsibilities for some planning groups and specific individuals and staff at Continuing Committee.

Components for video streaming were purchased, this included 2 cameras, a camera control panel, camera switching device, and cables. A computer and monitor were donated. A new wireless microphone system was also purchased to replace the former one that had only one working wireless microphone. Under \$4,300 was spent of the \$5,000 budgeted.

The plan was to offer a basic setup without a meetingroom-wide viewable projector/TV display of those attending via Zoom. However, 57th Street Meeting has loaned the yearly meeting a projector and therefore a fuller setup with the display of virtual attendees has been set up for hybrid sessions use.

We ran into some problems because the phone line that runs to the meetinghouse is still copper wire and not due to be upgraded to fiber optics until 2024. This means limited internet speed. In order to use Zoom, we may need to turn off the ILYM wireless connections during the hybrid programs.

Future Considerations

At the end of the 2022 sessions, the yearly meeting needs to make an evaluation of the in-person and virtual aspects of the sessions. The decision needs to be made concerning the continuation of an in-person meeting with virtual components. If the meeting is unable to make this determination during sessions, we will need to designate who will be making that decision.

The ad hoc committee also brings forward other decisions-to-be-made and considerations that arose in our work and should now be taken up by various committees and individuals.

- Are there other changes that need to be made to the planning groups for in-person? See the Spring Continuing Committee report for suggestions such as virtual workshops and worship-sharing offered at different times during the year.
- Concerning the technology, what additional changes (such as the purchase of a projector) need to be made and under which committee's care would that be?
- Who will nominate the Overall AV Coordinator* for Annual Sessions?
- Do the clerks need to make additional adjustments when clerking Annual Sessions?
- How is our testimony of community growing in the Spirit as a yearly meeting at Annual Sessions?

The ad hoc Considering Committee charge was for the 2022 sessions. We have set up a system to be in-person with some components virtual. The committee has met the charge and requests to be laid down.

- * The Overall AV coordinator for the next sessions should be identified as with other sessions planning, well ahead of sessions, either at previous year's sessions or by the time of Fall Continuing Committee. This person would be in charge of set up/take down and overseeing A/V operations for hybrid offerings during sessions as well as training and overseeing those assisting with the A/V aspects of hybrid offerings.

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON ILYM ARCHIVES AGREEMENT WITH UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY (See Minute 56)

Report to the 2022 sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting from the ad hoc committee appointed in 2020 to work with the representatives of the University of Illinois Library to develop a new agreement for the deposit of ILYM records

The committee, consisting of Beth Carpenter, Brent Eckert (ex officio as Records Librarian), Peter Lasersohn, and Carol Neely has not met in person, but has engaged in regular email correspondence with Krista Gray, Archives Program Officer for the University of Illinois Library.

The Library proposes that the Yearly Meeting sign two agreements, which it has provided text for: one covering the records of Illinois Yearly Meeting itself, and a separate one covering the records of laid-down meetings which were part of Illinois Yearly Meeting. The two agreements are essentially identical in the terms they lay out. Agreements with essentially the same terms would also be made available for existing monthly meetings, and for Blue River Quarterly Meeting, to sign if they so choose.

The text of the agreements is attached. The differences between the terms of these agreements and those of the old agreement signed in 1977 may be summarized as follows:

- Under the old agreement, materials were deposited on loan; under the new agreement, materials are donated to the library.
- Under the old agreement, the yearly meeting retained the right to remove materials from the library, but in such a case was obligated to compensate the library for its processing, maintenance, microfilming, and overhead costs during the entire time the materials were in the library. Under the new agreement, the yearly meeting does not retain a right to remove materials from the library.
- Under the old agreement, the library was obliged not to discard or destroy any materials. Under the new agreement, the library may choose to dispose of items, which would then be returned to the meeting (or destroyed, at the meeting's option).
- Under the old agreement, there was no transfer of copyright. Under the new agreement, the copyright is assigned to the library. However, the library grants the meeting the right to use the materials for any purpose, including publication, for the duration of the copyright.
- The old agreement was unclear whether it applied only to materials deposited at the time it was signed, or also to later materials. The new agreement makes clear that materials deposited after signing are covered under the same terms.

Note that materials already in the library would come under the new agreement if signed; they would not remain under the terms of the old agreement.

The committee recommends that the Yearly Meeting approve the proposed new agreements. Although the terms are more favorable to the library than those of the old agreement, our understanding is that they conform to what is now standard practice. Advantages of renewing our relationship with the University of Illinois Library include continued storage, maintenance, organization, and preservation of the materials according to professional archival practices; the central location of the library in the territory of the yearly meeting; the stability and convenience of maintaining continuity in our archiving practices; and the substantial costs which the yearly meeting would incur by deciding to move its records.

The committee also recommends that existing monthly meetings, and Blue River Quarterly Meeting, sign analogous agreements with the University of Illinois Library. Many meetings have deposited materials in the library without explicit agreements. While it has often been assumed that such materials were covered under the terms of the yearly meeting's 1977 agreement, the text of that agreement does not make that clear. Signing new agreements will clarify the status of these materials.

FCNL REPRESENTATIVES (See Minute 14)

Friends Committee on National Legislation's annual general committee meeting and lobby visits were held over zoom once again. As an unforeseen benefit, due to this year's format and therefore reduced cost, over 800 people were in attendance.

Consultants from Freedom Fellowship were on hand as previous year, to monitor and educate the group on race issues. This is FCNL's effort to hold ourselves accountable. We were reminded at the beginning of every of the agreement that was shared with us and we were to adhere to. A consultant was in attendance at every meeting as an observer. We were told to write "ouch" in the chat if something was said during the meeting that was offensive to us and that it would be discussed at a later point. Also to write "oops" in the chat if we said something that we realized was inappropriate.

Each year one of the highlights is meeting the young FCNL fellows. Once again they were a passionate, informed and committed group of young people.

This year we said goodbye to Diane Randall as she retired. Diane did an outstanding job as General Secretary and she will be dearly missed. The General Committee has named Bridget Moix as the incoming FCNL General Secretary.

Our lobbying was focused on the Build Back Better act. The Illinois delegation met with staff members of senators Duckworth and Durbin. We individually met with staff members of our congressmen.

FGC REPRESENTATIVES (See Minute 13)

The Friends General Conference annual gathering of Friends will be virtual again this year. There will be a smaller in-person event for families with children through high school and Young Adults who are 37 years and younger. The decision to have a largely virtual event with a smaller in person event for families and YAF's was difficult and made due to the concern about having sufficient volunteers to hold a typical gathering, and concern about health safety for all attending. Registration for the in-person event opened before the registration for the virtual gathering. As we meet for our annual sessions there is still time to register for the virtual gathering. You will be able to choose participation in all or part of the gathering.

The many programs and services FGC provides in addition to the annual gathering include:

The launch this spring was of the new website which is much easier to use.

Quakerbooks: offers books and pamphlets for sale, RE materials for youth and adults. Quakerpress publishes books unique to Quakerism.

Spiritual Deepening Program: Spiritual Deepening e-retreats available on-line allow people to explore a topic of interest with others. FGC website indicates the planned offerings. A meeting can also arrange to have a specific e-retreat offered for them. There is a spiritual deepening library available for use.

Mentorship Program: pairing experienced Quakers with youth and young adults who are developing their gifts for clerking and leadership.

Regular support for yearly meeting clerks with virtual meetings.

Christian and Interfaith Relations carries on a continuing relationship with the World Council of Churches and connects FGC Quakers with other inter-religious organizations

Language Justice working group provides Spanish language translation during the Gathering for plenaries, Bible Half Hour, as well a Spanish language workshop and worship sharing. The new website has a plug in for language translation to Spanish, French, Arabic and Amharic (Ethiopian official language)

Ministry on Racism Program: Provides support for meetings working on increasing their awareness of the impact of structural racism on society and meetings. Provides workshops, retreats, resources and assistance to meetings learning about racism's impact.

It offers opportunities for Friends of Color to be together for worship, fellowship and sharing. In addition, there are 2 weekly times for European American Friends working on racism to gather for worship and sharing (Thursday evening and Friday midday). Pre-registration is required to participate in activities for Friends of Color or European American Friends (ministryonracismassistant@fgcquaker.org).

Institutional Assessment and Implementation Committee assists FGC Committees in being aware of the ways structural racism interferes with our work.

FGC continues to host meeting websites. Those interested in exploring this opportunity should contact FGC.

Janice Domanik, Lilith Swygert

SECONDARY SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVES

Olney (See Minute 59)

Olney Friends School is a unique educational institution that leaves a deep and lasting impression on students, alumni, and other stakeholders. The 350-acre farm provides much more than the organic food served at meals; it provides the basis for exploring such questions as “what is knowledge?” and “what does it mean to be a global citizen?” In addition, global stewardship and environmental sustainability issues inform the Olney experience. Throughout its 184-year history, farming and farm-to-table concepts have been an integral part of Olney’s curriculum.

Olney’s Guest Speaker Series is inspired by the tradition of their Literary Society and adapted to video conference format due to the pandemic. There were five this past fall including “Working Creatively” led by Halie Gary ’13 and “Detective Fiction—Therein Lies the Mystery: Edgar Allen Poe’s The Murders in Rue Morgue” led by Mimi Kramer ’64. They are open to the greater Olney community. For more information about the series or for invitation links contact Anna Marie Taber, Director of Development and Library, 740-425-3655, mainoffice@olneyfriends.org or alumni@olneyfriends.org

In March Olney held their annual Gymnastics Exhibition (Gym-Ex.) The theme for this year was PAX (Peace) and the tee-shirts used had the theme translated into the languages our students and faculty speak. This past school year Olney had 26 students: four freshman, four sophomores, thirteen juniors and five seniors. Of these students, twelve were from the U.S., two each from China, South Africa, and Uganda, three from Ethiopia, and one each from Afghanistan, Germany, Spain, South Korea, and Malawa. Truly an international society!

The May 28, 2022, commencement was the first in-person graduation since May 2019, though there was also a virtual alternative.

Olney is an ISACS accredited, progressive, co-educational boarding and day school for grades 9-12, located in Barnesville, Ohio. It is also a member of the Friends Council on Education (FCE), the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the Ohio Association of Independent Schools (OAIS), and The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS). It is also a member of the Friends Council on Education (FCE), the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), the Ohio Association of Independent Schools (OAIS), and The Association of Boarding Schools (TABS).

Olney Friends School seeks talented educators for the 2022-2023 school year and beyond who have a passion for trans-disciplinary education and boarding school life. The school seeks to fill one position in its foreign language program, with an emphasis on Spanish. It also seeks to fill another position in its art and music programs. The ideal candidates will be self-starters who have the desire and drive to challenge our students to grow intellectually, emotionally, and socially.

To learn more about Olney, use above phone numbers or emails, go to olneyfriends.org or write to Olney Friends School, 61830 Sandy Ridge Rd., Barnesville, OH 43713.

Scattergood (See Minute 48)

The mission of Scattergood Friends School and Farm (SFS) is to challenge students with a college preparatory curriculum, farm experiences, a shared work program, and community living in the spirit of Quaker faith. As a middle to high-school program, the school is unique in the Midwest with boarding as well as day students, largely nourished by a certified organic farm on campus. With their teachers, students utilize their school, farm, pond, and prairie as living laboratories for study and experimentation.

In its 131st year, even during COVID protocols, SFS remained rich and vibrant with 30 High School boarding students and 12 students in the Middle School day program. Adapted school modes carried out academic changes in commitment to the SFS students, in a combined mission of in-person classes, off-campus trips, shared crew work and community living. Resolute staff combined with new and returning students and their parents as lively and joyous stewards of Friends' testimonies, as follows:

- Head of School John Zimmerman initiated academic accreditation processes this year. He is striving to stabilize SFS resources in a sustainable fashion. He also took time to direct the Middle School play *Boss Boudica* and the High School play *Godspell* for large, blended audiences.
 - Internal and School Committees began to examine efforts and policies for DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion).
 - Four international students were welcomed by SFS and their local sponsors—2 from England, 1 from France, and 1 from Germany.
 - In its second year, the Middle School day program began to integrate classes and crew with the High School. Transitional classes were shared, and each Middle School student was assigned a High School mentor.
 - Middle School students studied thematically the science, history and politics of water, soil, food, humans, and labor.
 - Senior reflective treatises tackled critical subjects, e.g. diversity, healthcare, globalism, contextual racism and more.
 - In 2022, planned trips away began with great anticipation. The High School's five Intersession trips were very successful. An example was three weeks on the Appalachian Trail. All students (except for Seniors) made their way off campus for May Trips Week.
 - Seven of nine graduating seniors were accepted into respected colleges, two plan a gap year and one returns to France.
 - Four scholarships are available for youth affiliated with Quaker Meetings or following Quaker testimonies.
 - SFS interactions continued to local and regional communities through farm shares and food shelf donations.
 - SFS continued operating under the guidance of the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan. Highlights included completion of the Community Healing Project, beginning of the preliminary planning phase for the Comprehensive Campaign, improved staff health insurance by outsourcing human resources, and reopening campus to alumni and visitors.
 - Expanded this summer, Camp Scattergood offers weekly outdoor day experiences for grades 1-6. Some 40 students per each of 5 sessions are expected.
 - Expected back on campus this summer will be the Swarm Artist Residency and the IYM (Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative) Annual Sessions.
- Shared SFS commitments continue with the School Committee and Iowa Yearly

Meeting as well as the affiliations with Illinois and Northern Yearly Meetings. SFS is looking to do youth retreats with the yearly meetings. To search for an uncertain future, it is essential that programmatic planning connect students, parents, alums, and their communities in conversations and shared work amongst the different and changing circumstances ahead in a new normal.

Now is a time for ILYM families to connect with educational paths to Scattergood Friends School and Farm! To get on the Scatterings Newsletter list email development@scattergood.org.

Alex Lippitt, ILYM Rep to SFS School Committee,
with John Zimmerman, Head of School

FWCC REPRESENTATIVES (See Minute 49)

Representatives: Pam Kuhn, Julia Pantoga, David Shiner

Friends over the years have described a communal experience of the Divine outside of meeting for worship as an Opportunity. Over the past pandemic year, Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) has sought out such Opportunities using video conferencing. This was especially true of the Section of the Americas, one of the four geographical sections of FWCC. Friends from North, Central, and South America were able to join together virtually in a year when travel was so difficult.

With “Hope and Resilience: Drawing strength from our Quaker faith” as our theme, the Section of the Americas returned to having an annual spring section meeting with a one-day meeting in March. Friends welcomed the new World Office General Secretary, Tim Gee who has just begun work from the London office. We met together in meeting for business. Valerie Anderson from Green Street Meeting in Philadelphia gave the Bible study finding passages that reflected hope as an expectation for a certain thing to happen, and resilience as the capacity to recover from difficulty. Mike Huber from Portland, Oregon gave a sermon in the evening based on Luke 5: 17-26, emphasizing that sometimes structures need to be broken in the name of hope. He left us with these queries: “What is your experience of the Light? What is the structure that helps you stay rounded in the Light? If someone disrupts that structure in the name of hope, what are we to do?” Recognizing all the Quaker traditions in the Americas, we had a combined worship with open worship, singing, messages from Friends not just at our worship time but throughout the day. The day’s events were rich and well attended.

In addition to the section meeting, the Section collaborated with Beacon Hill Friends House in Boston to hold a series of online gatherings called Walking with the Bible. There was also a Consultation on Climate Change, with speakers and a chance to gather in small groups in break-out rooms. It was a time to step back and examine our work on sustainability. More such events and gatherings are planned for later this year.

The next world gathering of FWCC will be a week-long event, to be held in South Africa in the summer of 2024 with a virtual component. The next section meeting will take place in Haw River State Park Greensboro, North Carolina, March 23-26, 2023. Whether meeting in person or virtually, FWCC has continued to enable Friends across all branches to find opportunities to seek God together.

QEW REPRESENTATIVES (See Minute 60)

David Wixom and Noel Pavlovic continue to serve as representatives of ILYM to Quaker Earthcare Witness (QuakerEarthcare.org). Noel was asked to extend his service as recording clerk for QEW last fall and will do so until fall 2022. The spring 2022 steering committee meeting of QEW was held virtually but QEW is planning to meet in the fall in person at Pendle Hill Retreat Center outside Philadelphia.

“We are sorely in need of a different way to live on this planet, and a different way to relate to each other. Spiritually we are called to do this work. Ecologically, we have no other choice, if we are to survive with a healthy ecosystem that equitably supports all beings.”—Shelley Tanenbaum, General Secretary, Quaker Earthcare Witness

This past year QEW has accomplished much activism work focusing on indigenous tribal rights and opposition to the Line 3 pipeline in Minnesota. QEW continues to host once monthly Wednesday online worship sharing on Zoom in collaboration with Friends General Conference to address earthcare issues.

A 2021 priority was to consider racial and environmental justice in all of QEW’s work. Its publications (for example, *Befriending Creation*) showcased environmental justice concerns, and included both authors and activists who are Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC). Several sessions of online worship-sharing included queries that address racial and environmental justice. This work is ongoing. In 2021, QEW released its new website which is full of information in an easily accessible format: <https://quakerearthcare.org>. Last year a new ‘Direct Action Working Group’ was formed to engage in and support direct environmental actions.

QEW is partnering with Earth Quaker Action Team (EQAT) and Eileen Flanagan to support their campaign to pressure the Vanguard Investments Group to divest from fossil fuels. Vanguard is the world’s biggest investor in coal and one of the two biggest investors in gas and oil. EQAT is not yet asking Friends to divest but is taking information about Friends who are interested in doing so.

Each year, QEW offers mini-grants of \$500 to Quaker meetings, churches, and other Quaker organizations to support hands-on projects that foster Earthcare. Perhaps your monthly meeting has a project you would like to partially fund (50%) with the help of QEW.

Lastly members of the QEW steering committee are excited to present ‘QEW Presents!’ workshops to your meeting. Topics include: environmental justice in a rapidly changing world, regenerative agriculture: sustainability is not enough, population concerns, building the heart muscle to take on threats to the earth and gratitude, pain, and transformation: grieving and dreaming, to mention a few.

We hope you find these issues and resources to be engaging.

Noel Pavlovic and David Wixom

NEW HANDBOOK SECTION

Representatives to Affiliated Organizations

Illinois Yearly Meeting is affiliated with various organizations. Although some of these organizations are not explicitly Quaker, all reflect our values and our association with them has been approved at annual sessions. Sometimes of the affiliated organizations request a certain number of representatives and sometimes ILYM chooses to appoint representatives out of an active interest in the organization. The organizations listed below are not the complete list of affiliated organizations, but are those that ask for representatives. When requested by an affiliated organization, it is the responsibility of Nominating Committee to find representatives to the organizations. If representatives cannot be found, the Nominating Committee should notify the ILYM Presiding Clerk so that the yearly meeting can consider if we want to continue our affiliation with that organization.

Number of Representatives. For some organizations, the number of representatives depends on the size of the yearly meeting, which varies over the years. For other organizations, ILYM appoints a representative because we are interested in updates about their work.

Travel Expense Reimbursement. Many appointments require travel to participate as a representative to the organizations. Unless indicated otherwise in these descriptions, Illinois Yearly reimburses these expenses in accordance with the ILYM Travel Policy (see section 5, Specific Practices and Policies).

Reporting. Representatives provide communication from ILYM to the organization and from the organization to ILYM. Representatives report on the activities of those organizations to the yearly meeting at Annual Sessions (or more frequently when appropriate) and send a written report to the Advanced Documents. There may be time set aside during annual (i.e. workshops or evening program) for further discussion of an organization's concerns.

Financial support of ILYM. At this time, ILYM makes an annual contribution to support the work of each of the organizations with which it is affiliated. Donation amounts are shown in the minutes in the approved budget.

Friends General Conference (FGC)

Mission Statement. Friends General Conference, with Divine guidance, nurtures the spiritual vitality of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) by providing programs and services for Friends, meetings, and seekers.

Description and Additional Information. FGC is an association of sixteen yearly meetings (including ILYM) or regional groups, and thirteen directly affiliated monthly meetings. FGC exists to increase communication among unprogrammed Friends, to bring Friends together across yearly meeting lines, to enrich the spiritual life of the Religious Society of Friends, and to provide resources and services to Friends and Friends meetings. As an affiliate, ILYM representatives serve on the Central Committee.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length. Based on the number of members in ILYM, we appoint four representatives who serve for 3 years.

Expectations of ILYM representatives other than those described at the beginning of this section. Serve on FGC's Central Committee and attend the semi-annual meetings.

Minute Reference. ILYM is one of the FGC founding meetings in 1900 (Check date.)

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)

Mission Statement. Answering God's call to universal love, FWCC brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communications, and consultation, to express our common heritage and our Quaker message to the world.

Description and Additional Information. Representatives of affiliated yearly meetings conduct the business of FWCC at Section Meetings and World Gatherings, as well as populate FWCC's committees. ILYM is a member of FWCC as well as the FWCC Section of the Americas (FWCC SOA). Further activities and responsibilities of FWCC representatives is reviewed in detail in a representative handbook on the FWCC Section of the Americas website.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length. Based on the number of members in ILYM, FWCC requests that we appoint four representatives who serve for 3 years. We generally appoint three.

Expectations of ILYM representatives other than those described at the beginning of this section. ILYM representatives to FWCC are expected to attend all Section of Americas and World FWCC meetings and gatherings. Additionally, they are expected to serve on FWCC committees as requested by FWCC.

Additional Reimbursement Information. ILYM sets aside funds each year to assist our representatives with travel expenses FWCC for attending World Gatherings (every 3-5 yrs). ILYM representatives may request support from this fund, which is not expected to cover the participant's full costs. Other potential sources of funding for this

travel include Monthly Meetings and individual donations. If the entire fund is not used by ILYM reps, the remaining balance will be sent to FWCC to help Friends who otherwise would not be able to attend.

Minute Reference

American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) Corporation

Mission Statement. Guided by the Quaker belief in the divine light of each person, AFSC works with communities and partners worldwide to challenge unjust systems and promote lasting peace.

Description and Additional Information. FSC is an independent Quaker organization which carries on programs of service, development, justice, and peace, on behalf of several branches of Friends in America. The Corporation of the AFSC is the organizing body that chooses the AFSC Board, which in turn sets the direction of the organization. The Corporation meets annually.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length. Based on the number of members in ILYM, we appoint four representatives who serve for 3 years.

Expectations of ILYM representatives other than those described at the beginning of this section. Representatives are members of the AFSC Corporation. Together with “at large” members, they are responsible for the governance of AFSC. Corporation members attend the annual AFSC Corporation Meeting, National Board Meeting, and Annual Public Meeting.

Minute Reference

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

Mission Statement. FCNL is a national, nonpartisan Quaker organization that lobbies Congress for peace, justice, and environmental stewardship. It brings together tens of thousands of people—Quakers and friends—who share a belief in the power of relationship-building to advance the world we seek.

Description and Additional Information. Founded in 1943 and governed by members of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), FCNL’s multi-faceted approach is powered by the expertise of registered lobbyists in Washington, D.C., the commitment and passion of people around the country in our advocacy network, the integrity of our positions, and the relationships we cultivate with elected officials and community leaders. Our advocacy flows out of the Quaker belief in the inherent dignity and worth of each person. Working from that clear vision of the better world we want to build, we are persistent in advocating for policies to bring it closer to reality.

Through FCNL’s virtual “travel” to yearly meetings, we join in meeting for business and meeting for worship, hear leadings and concerns, and share the broader work of the Religious Society of Friends as it manifests through FCNL’s advocacy.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length

Expectations of ILYM representatives other than those described at the beginning of this section. ILYM representatives are expected to attend the FCNL Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute. Other Friends may also attend this meeting. Representatives should also be aware of Advocacy Teams within the ILYM geographic area and make these known to Friends.

Minute Reference

Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQ)

Mission Statement. FLGBTQ is a Quaker faith community within the Religious Society of Friends. FLGBTQC deeply honors, affirms, and upholds that of God in all people.

Description and Additional Information. FLGBTQ gathers twice a year, at a Mid-Winter gathering and at the FGC Annual Gathering of Friends in the summer. At these

times Friends worship together, discern our corporate witness through Meeting for Worship with attention to business, sharing individual journeys, celebrating lives, healing old wounds, and drawing sustenance from the Spirit for work and life in the world. Friends have found faith and voice to speak truth to power and the courage to be open to new revelation.

Number of Representatives and term length: Some yearly meetings send representatives, who are welcomed but not required.

Minute Reference

Friends Peace Teams (FPT)

Mission Statement. Friends Peace Teams is a Spirit-led organization working to develop long-term relationships with communities in conflict around the world to create programs for peace building, healing and reconciliation.

Description and Additional Information. FPT carries a concern for peace to difficult places—geographically, politically, and emotionally. Their intent is to bring people together from different backgrounds, orientations, affiliations, ethnicities, religions, and ages and contribute to healing the effects of trauma and deprivation in their many forms across boundaries.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length. FPT requests three representatives serving 3 years each. The actual number of representatives appointed, and terms of appointment, are discerned by the Nominating Committee of ILYM.

Expectations of ILYM representatives other than those described at the beginning of this section. ILYM representatives to FPT are expected to serve on the Coordinating Council of FPT.

Minute Reference

National Religious Campaign Against Torture (NRCAT)

Mission Statement. NRCAT mobilizes people of faith to end torture in U.S. policy, practice, and culture.

Description and Additional Information. A nationally recognized interfaith membership organization based in Washington, DC, NRCAT is comprised of more than 300 religious organizations and more than 75,000 individuals have participated in our programs and activities. NRCAT's diverse partners share a common commitment to advancing the values of human dignity, human rights and an end to torture, without exception. To achieve its mission, NRCAT engages in grassroots organizing, public education, and state and national policy advocacy.

NRCAT began as a response amongst 150 faith leaders convened by Dr. George Hunsinger, professor at Princeton Theological Seminary, seeking a moral response to harrowing reports of prisoner abuse at Abu Ghraib. From this hunger for a collective moral voice to end U.S.-sponsored torture, NRCAT was founded in 2006.

Today, NRCAT's national membership includes representatives from the Catholic, evangelical Christian, mainline Protestant, Unitarian Universalist, Quaker, Orthodox Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Baha'i, Buddhist, and Sikh communities. Members include national denominations and religious groups, regional interfaith and ecumenical organizations, and local congregations.

Number of Representatives and Term Length. This is not a Quaker organization and there is not an expectation of ILYM involvement. However, their mission statement notes membership includes Quakers. The actual number of representatives approved, and terms of appointment, are discerned by the Nominating Committee.

Minute Reference

Olney Friends School (OFS)

Mission Statement. OFS provides a transdisciplinary, college-preparatory curriculum within a supportive community that enables students to develop the skills to care for and thrive in a changing world.

Description and Additional Information. OFS was founded in 1837 by a group of newly settled Ohio Quakers, most of whom migrated north in protest of the institution of slavery in the South. They made plans for a boarding school for both boys and girls, to be modeled on Quaker boarding schools in Philadelphia. This early school, which was simply known as the Friends Boarding School, was located at Mount Pleasant, Ohio, northeast of its current location. The name “Olney” was informally adopted from a poem entitled “Olney Green,” written by Louis Taber, a visiting minister from Vermont and teacher at the school in the 1840s. Olney Friends School originally served only students from Quaker families. By the 1960s students from a variety of religious, cultural, and geographic backgrounds began attending the school. In 1978 the school’s official name was changed to Olney Friends School.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length. OFS has not requested a representative from ILYM, although they welcome our input. The actual number of representatives approved, and terms of appointment, are discerned by the Nominating Committee.

Minute Reference

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)

Mission Statement. QEW works to inspire Spirit-led action toward ecological sustainability and environmental justice. QEW has grown out of a strong leading among Friends that our future depends on a spiritual transformation in our relationships with each other and the natural world. For over 30 years, it has helped Friends in North America integrate Earthcare into their daily lives.

Description and Additional Information. Business of QEW is conducted by the Steering Committee, on which representatives serve.

Number of Representatives and Term Length: QEW asks for not more than two representatives from yearly meetings to serve on the Steering Committee.

Minute Reference

Scattergood Friends School (SFS)

Mission Statement. SFS challenges students with a college-preparatory curriculum, farm experience, a shared work program, and community living in the spirit of Quaker faith.

Description and Additional Information. Quaker pioneers arriving in Iowa from Ohio longed to create a boarding school where their children could receive a “guarded education,” free from “early knowledge of, or contact with, the evils of the world.” While initial preparations began in 1870, it was 20 years before SFS would open in 1890. According to early notes, “...the aim of the school is to give a substantial English education, suited to fit the average person for the ordinary duties of life, and at the same time prepare students for higher institutions of learning, yet it is still its distinctive purpose to shield the young from hurtful temptations and distracting tendencies during the character-forming period.” The first student body was exclusively Quaker and consisted of 25 pupils, each of whom paid a full tuition of \$100 per year.

In 1929, Scattergood, like the rest of the country, was caught in the wake of the Great Depression. The decision was made to close the school in 1931, with hope it would only be a one-year closure. Unfortunately, Scattergood remained closed until 1938 when the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) suggested Scattergood be utilized as a hostel for European refugees fleeing the Nazis. The campus was renovated and in 1939, the first refugees arrived. Refugees represented various backgrounds and Scattergood

was once again operated in the Quaker spirit with which it was conceived. In addition to taking English classes, those living at Scattergood were also expected to take part in work crews as well as helping to grow and prepare their food. The need for the hostel subsided in 1943 and by 1944 Scattergood Friends School was open once again.

Number of ILYM representatives and term length: SFS does not request a representative from ILYM, although they welcome our input. The actual number of representatives approved, and terms of appointment, are discerned by the Nominating Committee.

Minute Reference

AGREEMENTS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY

[For records of Illinois Yearly Meeting, current monthly meetings not part of this agreement]

ILLINOIS HISTORY AND LINCOLN COLLECTIONS
University Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

DEED OF GIFT

The undersigned NAME of CITY, STATE, as POSITION/TITLE of the Illinois Yearly Meeting as donor hereby gives, grants, and conveys without consideration and as a gift in perpetuity to the University of Illinois Foundation at Urbana-Champaign (hereinafter referred to as the Donee) for the benefit of the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit, a Division of the University Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign the papers, photographs, books and other historical material of the Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (hereafter described as the Materials) which are described in Appendix A, attached hereunto.

The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit in return undertakes to house, save, protect and otherwise administer according to accepted archival practice all the Materials in the best interests of impartial scholarship, subject to the conditions specified below.

1. Title to the Materials shall pass to the Donee upon their delivery.

2. At any time after delivery the Donor shall be permitted to examine any of the Materials during the regular working hours of the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit. Specific items needed by the Donor will be copied by the Donee or charged out to the Donor for administrative or legal purposes.

3. It is the Donor's wish that the Materials be made available for research as soon as possible following their deposit in the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit. Researchers who follow rules established by the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit for handling and using archival material may have full access to these Materials, including the right to make single copies in lieu of note-taking unless limiting conditions are stated as follows:

NONE

4. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit may dispose of any items that it determines to have insufficient enduring value. Such items will be (circle one):

DESTROYED

RETURNED TO DONOR

5. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit may transfer items included in these Materials to a different physical form to facilitate their preservation and accessibility.

6. To facilitate the research use of the Materials, the Donor hereby give and assign to the Donee those rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials as well as any

rights of privacy and publicity in the materials which the Donor may hold. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit is hereby authorized to administer any copyright permissions related to the Materials. In return, Donee hereby grants to the Donor for the duration of the copyright the right to use the Materials for any purpose, including publication. Donor and Donee shall, to the extent possible, inform each other of any major publications.

7. In the event that the Donor or the Donor's estate may from time to time hereafter give, grant, and convey additional papers, and other historical Materials, title to such additional papers and other historical Materials shall pass to the Donee upon their delivery, and all of the provisions of this agreement shall be applicable to such additional items which shall become part of the Materials.

8. The Donor affirms that they own said material and that to the best of their knowledge they have good and complete right and title (including the rights noted in paragraph 6) to give the materials to the University of Illinois.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Deed of gift has been signed and delivered this ___ day of _____, 2022.

Donor, NAME, POSITION/TITLE, Illinois Yearly Meeting

Archives Program Officer, for Illinois History and Lincoln Collections, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

For the University of Illinois Foundation

Appendix A.

Records documenting role, administration, and activities of the Illinois Yearly Meeting from the late nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century. These records include minutes, publications, committee documents, financial records, correspondence, and other materials. They document events and membership as well as the ongoing work and activities of the Illinois Yearly Meeting. Records also include publications, reports, and other documents from various monthly meetings.

A detailed inventory of records concerning the Illinois Yearly Meeting is included within the finding aid for the Religious Society of Friends Records (MS 960) held at the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections.

The full finding aid is available online at:

<https://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php?p=collections/findingaid&id=873>

[For records of laid down monthly meetings that were part of Illinois Yearly Meeting]

ILLINOIS HISTORY AND LINCOLN COLLECTIONS
University Library, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

DEED OF GIFT

The undersigned NAME of CITY AND STATE, as POSITION/TITLE of the Illinois Yearly Meeting as donor hereby gives, grants, and conveys without consideration and as a

gift in perpetuity to the University of Illinois Foundation at Urbana-Champaign (hereinafter referred to as the Donee) for the benefit of the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit, a Division of the University Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign the papers and other historical material of laid down Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of the Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (hereafter described as the Materials) which are described in Appendix A, attached hereunto.

The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit in return undertakes to house, save, protect and otherwise administer according to accepted archival practice all the Materials in the best interests of impartial scholarship, subject to the conditions specified below.

1. Title to the Materials shall pass to the Donee upon their delivery.

2. At any time after delivery the Donor shall be permitted to examine any of the Materials during the regular working hours of the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit. Specific items needed by the Donor will be copied by the Donee or charged out to the Donor for administrative or legal purposes.

3. It is the Donor's wish that the Materials be made available for research as soon as possible following their deposit in the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit. Researchers who follow rules established by the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit for handling and using archival material may have full access to these Materials, including the right to make single copies in lieu of note-taking unless limiting conditions are stated as follows:

NONE

4. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit may dispose of any items that it determines to have insufficient enduring value. Such items will be (circle one):

DESTROYED

RETURNED TO DONOR

5. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit may transfer items included in these Materials to a different physical form to facilitate their preservation and accessibility.

6. To facilitate the research use of the Materials, the Donor hereby give and assign to the Donee those rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials as well as any rights of privacy and publicity in the materials which the Donor may hold. The Illinois History and Lincoln Collections unit is hereby authorized to administer any copyright permissions related to the Materials. In return, Donee hereby grants to the Donor for the duration of the copyright the right to use the Materials for any purpose, including publication. Donor and Donee shall, to the extent possible, inform each other of any major publications.

7. In the event that the Donor or the Donor's estate may from time to time hereafter give, grant, and convey additional papers, and other historical Materials, title to such additional papers and other historical Materials shall pass to the Donee upon their delivery, and all of the provisions of this agreement shall be applicable to such additional items which shall become part of the Materials.

8. The Donor affirms that they own said material and that to the best of their knowledge they have good and complete right and title (including the rights noted in paragraph 6) to give the materials to the University of Illinois.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Deed of gift has been signed and delivered this day of _____, 2022.

Donor, NAME, POSITION, Illinois Yearly Meeting

Archives Program Officer for Illinois History and Lincoln Collections, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University Librarian, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

For the University of Illinois Foundation

Appendix A.

Records from the nineteenth through the early twenty-first century documenting the administration and activities of the following laid down Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of the Illinois Yearly Meeting:

Fox Valley Quarterly Meeting

Decatur Monthly Meeting

DeKalb Monthly Meeting

East Jordan Monthly Meeting

Freeport Worship Group

Friends Hill Monthly Meeting

Honey Creek Monthly Meeting

Richland Monthly Meeting

Thorn Creek/South Suburban Monthly Meeting

These records include minutes, publications, committee documents, financial records, correspondence, and other materials. They document events and membership as well as the ongoing work and activities of the respective Quarterly and Monthly Meetings.

A detailed inventory of records concerning these Quarterly and Monthly Meetings is included within the finding aid for the Religious Society of Friends Records (MS 960) held at the Illinois History and Lincoln Collections.

The full finding aid is available online at:

https://www.library.illinois.edu/ihx/archon/index.php?p_collections/findingaid&id 873

Scan of previous agreement follows

Deposit Agreement Involving the
Illinois Yearly Meeting and the Blue River Quarterly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
and The Board of Trustees of The University of Illinois

The Illinois Yearly Meeting and the Blue River Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), (hereafter named as Depositors) and The Board of Trustees of The University of Illinois (hereafter named University) hereby agree to the deposit of the records of the Illinois Yearly Meeting and of the Blue River Quarterly Meeting at the University of Illinois Library, subject to the following conditions:

1. The University will organize the records, maintain them under close security, and will provide the Depositors an inventory of the records.
2. The University will make the records available to scholars, students, and other qualified and interested persons subject to standard archival practices and to the general policies governing access to manuscript material adopted by the Association of College and Research Libraries.
3. The University will provide the Depositors a microfilm copy of the record, and will maintain a master microfilm negative for producing additional copies.
4. The University will identify each archival container (whether box or carton) with a label identifying the records as the property of the Depositors placed on permanent deposit at the University.
5. The University will not willfully destroy or dispose of the deposited records.
6. The Depositors will bear the loss of the records under any circumstances other than those described in condition five above.
7. The Depositors may withdraw the records from the University if the above conditions are not observed only after (a) notifying the University that one or more conditions of deposit has been violated and allowing the University six months to correct the situation, and (b) on the Library's failure to correct the situation, declaring the Depositor's intention to withdraw the records after an interval of at least one month.
8. The Depositors may withdraw the records from the University for a reason other than that specified in condition above any time after five years from the date of the agreement if the Depositors reimburse the University for the processing, maintenance, microfilming, and Library overhead expenses incurred by the University in its custody of the records. The amount of the reimbursement will be negotiated at the time of withdrawal.

MINUTE OF OAK PARK MONTHLY MEETING

Oak Park Monthly Meeting believes that Friends need a more persistent voice supporting actions to reduce gun violence. Our Peace testimony calls us to not be complacent. We are in unity with FCNL's Gun Violence Prevention Principles.

FCNL's Gun Violence Prevention Principles

Gun violence in the United States is so common that it rarely makes the news. As a nation, we have seemingly accepted that ordinary activities – going to a house of worship, a nightclub, a school – carry the risk of violent death.

But our current levels of gun violence are not inevitable. Policymakers' failure to pass common sense, responsible legislation contributes to appalling rates of gun violence in the United States.

Lawmakers must take every available step to reduce harm and loss of life. Easy access to guns will continue to make it horrifyingly easy to escalate fear, hatred, and rage into slaughter.

We support efforts to reduce gun violence by limiting gun ownership, possession, and use. In particular, a comprehensive gun violence prevention strategy will:

- Address the many forms of gun violence, including mass shootings, accidental shootings, police shootings, domestic and intimate partner violence, and suicide, through context-sensitive approaches
- Advance evidence-based gun violence prevention
- Preserve civil liberties and anti-discrimination protections
- Prioritize systemic changes over individual punishment
- Limit access to equipment that makes mass shootings deadlier
- Implement safety checks for all gun buyers
- Promote and strengthen community engagement by implementing community-based violence intervention and prevention programs

The gun violence epidemic is both a public health crisis and a troubling reflection on our country's spiritual state. As we seek policy solutions, we must also look critically at the culture that enables so many people to kill each other with guns. As Quakers, we believe that there is that of God in every person and that all creation has worth and dignity. We call on Congress to act immediately to protect each sacred life.

We support the stronger House bill and are grateful to those who worked in the Senate to move something forward. This limited progress is not enough.

We hope that creative proposals at the State and National level can emerge (for example, patterning gun ownership requirements and regulations after car ownership requirements and regulations. Should gun owners be required to pass safety tests, register all weapons and have liability insurance?)

We encourage ILYM Friends to make this issue a priority and to find ways to continue to advocate for progress.

Oak Park Monthly Meeting of Friends

MEMORIALS

JEANETTE H. BAKER (1932-2021)

Alice Jeanette Harcourt Baker, 89, died on August 4, 2021, in Burlington, Vermont. Jeanette was born on March 25, 1932, to Dr. Allan Kenneth Harcourt and Alice Louise Shaw Harcourt in Indianapolis, Indiana, where she and her brother grew up. Indianapolis First Friends Meeting was her spiritual home as a child, and she went on to graduate from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. After being introduced by mutual friends, she married Clyde N. Baker, Jr., in October, 1955, the last couple married at First Friends Meeting's location at 13th and Alabama Streets.

Jeanette and Clyde spent most of their married life in Chicago's northern suburbs, where they raised their three children, Mark, Lynn, and Glen. They subsequently welcomed six grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Sadly, Lynn predeceased Jeanette in 2015 as did her grandson Mark-Allan Baker, Jr., in 2010.

Extended summer visits to their property on Lake Champlain, Vermont, were a tradition for the Bakers. Clyde has spent time there every year of his life, and relatives live on the same road and nearby. Jeanette enjoyed being at the cottage, and this is where she spent her final days before a brief hospitalization.

A lifelong Quaker, Jeanette transferred her membership to Evanston Friends Meeting in 1967, when the Bakers moved to Evanston, Illinois. Over many decades, Jeanette was continuously and deeply engaged in Evanston Meeting. She served in many capacities, including several terms as Clerk of the Meeting and participation at some point in every committee. She clerked the First Day School Committee and actively engaged in its education programs for young persons. Following her belief in the importance of the religious education of children, Jeanette enrolled at age fifty-six in Garrett Evangelical Seminary in Evanston and earned a Master's Degree of Religious Education.

Beyond the meetinghouse doors, Jeanette was Evanston Meeting's delegate to Interfaith Action of Evanston for more than a decade and received its Vision Keeper Award in 2014. She also served on the administrative councils of affiliated yearly meetings and was the monthly meeting's representative to quarterly meeting, FCNL, AFSC, Evanston Council of Churches, and other organizations.

Jeanette held several positions dealing with the education of children, particularly those with disabilities and mental problems. She was cited for her work in open housing on Chicago's North Shore and, over time, opened her home to thirty-two people from other countries and three people with serious problems.

Known for her beautiful voice, Jeanette employed it in varied capacities—she traveled internationally as a member of the Community Renewal Chorus, beautifully sang “Oh, Holy Night” at Christmas Eve services, and arranged carol singing and visitation with elderly or homebound members of the meeting. Along another artistic path, Jeanette liked to paint in watercolor or oil, generally depicting flowers, houses, and landscapes.

Jeanette tended and collected people, with a special place for family members. For many years, she and Clyde made annual trips to Florida and to the southwest, where they visited former members of Evanston Meeting, friends of hers from Indianapolis, and elementary school friends of Clyde's, among others. Once you were a friend, she retained you forever.

Without doubt, Jeanette took seriously the guidance found in James 1:22: “Be doers of the Word and not hearers only.” Jeanette is survived by her beloved husband and sweetheart Clyde, two sons, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews. Memorial services in Burlington, Vermont, Evanston, Illinois, and

Indianapolis, Indiana, gave witness to the many lives she touched and graced during her years on earth.

ELLEN BARANOWSKI (1956-2022)

Ellen Baranowski was a member of Urbana-Champaign Friends Meeting, an outstanding teacher, amazing artist, lover of nature, and a giving friend. Ellen earned a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago and a Master's Degree in Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ellen spent the majority of her teaching career at Kenwood Elementary School. In 1995, she worked in the BOAST after-school program at Kenwood, which provided science enrichment for academically at-risk children. In 2001, she received the Women of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts-Green Meadows Council for her outstanding work as director of the program.

In 2000, Ellen began teaching second and third grade classes, while continuing to direct the BOAST program. Several Friends volunteered in her classroom over the years and witnessed her creative and active educational approach. She showed a remarkable understanding and respect for children who struggled both academically and socially. She found ways to incorporate her love of nature, art, and peacemaking in her classroom and to create hands-on learning projects. In 2005, the Champaign-Urbana Schools Foundation awarded Ellen a grant for a project integrating history, science, and writing into her classroom.

Over a period of several summers beginning in 2002, Ellen and a friend traveled to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota where they participated in work camps, organized by Project Lakota. Under the care of St. Louis Friends Meeting, Project Lakota partnered with non-profit agencies to build new homes and rehab others for the Lakota Nation. Although federal loans were available for first-time home buyers, many individuals needed assistance in filling out applications for the loans. Ellen and a friend donated their van, which served as a private space for volunteer financial advisors to meet with the applicants. Over the years, Ellen collected and delivered thousands of books to the Oglala Community College.

Ellen's love of nature led her to explore other places, near and far. Fear did not slow her down. Sometimes she traveled with a friend, camping in her tiny Scamp trailer; other times she was happy to go by herself. Although she enjoyed researching possible destinations, she allowed her curiosity to lead her. She often ended up in fascinating places and had wonderful adventures. She could sit for hours in one place, watching Monarch butterflies mate or waiting patiently in case a bear or a wolf should appear.

After Ellen retired in 2018, she spent her summers as a volunteer in national, state, and local parks, including the Gila Cliff Dwellings in New Mexico, Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in Nevada, Middle Fork River Forest Preserve in Champaign County, Illinois, and Clam Gulch State Recreation Area in Alaska. Her duties ranged from cleaning toilets to serving as a camp host. Closer to home, she completed training for the Master Naturalist program at the University of Illinois Extension in 2021. As part of her service requirements for the program, she volunteered at the Anita Purves Nature Center.

Ellen was a talented and creative artist. She took photographs of nature wherever she was. Her photos were featured in the most recent Master Naturalist Calendar and in the calendars she made for her family and friends. Ellen enjoyed Zentangle, a method of drawing that combines art and meditation. She became a certified teacher and taught classes in a variety of venues, including the Champaign County Jail. Ellen's co-teacher

recalled one of the women in the jail telling Ellen, “You don’t know this, but you have saved my life. When I feel the need to use (drugs), I just take up my pen and paper and Zentangle instead.”

Ellen enjoyed visiting with friends, watching basketball games together, and doing Zentangle, among other things. She found so many ways to give to people: tending to memorial objects, taking people for walks, building and fixing things, accompanying people to medical visits, helping them with therapies, giving away her art and finding gifts to gladden hearts.

Ellen Baranowski found her path by doing the things she loved. At the same time, she enriched the lives of many and worked to protect the natural world.

MARLOU CALRSON (1940-2022)

Marlou Jane Malone Carlson was born on September 10, 1940 in Hammond, Indiana to John Thomas Malone and Ethel Davidson Malone, both of whom were teachers. Her family was deeply involved with the local Methodist Church, which enriched her early life with knowledge of the Bible, with the centering of the spiritual life, and with music. Marlou died on January 13, 2022 in Valparaiso, Indiana.

Marlou inspired to become a teacher as early as her first grade year. She earned her BS in elementary education at IU, Bloomington, where she also met Roy Dean Carlson. They married in 1963. Their son Otter (nee John Sydney Carlson) was born in 1964. In 1967, the family moved to Valparaiso, Indiana, and Marlou began teaching elementary school in Chesterton, a career that lasted 30 years and included earning a Masters Degree along the way. In 1970, Marlou and Roy divorced, but they both began attending Duneland Friends Meeting in in 1979 and later chose to remarry under the care of Duneland Friends in 1988. Whether married or not, both shared in the life of the Meeting. Roy died in 1991,

Teaching and learning were central to Marlou’s life. When she and Roy began attending Duneland Friends Meeting, Marlou quickly became active in organizing a First Day School program there. .

Marlou also served Duneland Friends Meeting as a member of the Ministry and Counsel Committee, as Treasurer, and as Clerk over the years. Another gift Marlou brought to Duneland Friends was her joy in music. She encouraged Friends to sing, Marlou was also responsible for bringing Spears Friendly Bible Study format to Duneland, Duneland Friends began meeting for Bible study in the mid-1990’s, During those decades, Marlou was the host, opening her home for the gathering

Marlou generously shared her gifts with (ILYM). She clerked the Religious Education committee for many years. she also traveled to other meetings to assist in setting up First Day Schools. Marlou offered hands-on workshops on “The Teacher Within” at ILYM annual sessions to encourage Friends to feel supported in working with children. In 2001, Marlou presented ILYM’s annual Plummer Lecture, with the title “Seek Ye First the Kingdom”. In it, she reflected on her spiritual journey and concluded with an invitation to all present to join in singing the hymn by that name.

Beyond ILYM, Marlou participated in the School of the Spirit during 1998-2000, an experience in which, in her words, “[her] inner life changed forever,” She served on the Friends General Conference Religious Education Committee and helped to organize national conferences on Quaker religious education. She also served on the writers committee for Paths to Quaker Parenting, a book published in 2009 by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting’s Quaker Parenting Initiative.

In 2006, Marlou's life changed abruptly when she suffered a stroke. She recovered much of her physical strength; however, the stroke resulted the diminishment of her ability to speak the thoughts that took shape in her mind. Through therapy, plus her own courage and determination, she was able to continue to live independently, to drive, to attend meeting, She continued to host Duneland Friends Bible Study at her home

Marlou was also a perfectionist. In her zeal for perfection and her strong desire to have every project go in the way she had envisioned, Following her stroke, Friends observed Marlou's understandable frustration with her limited ability to speak, and were warmed by her apparent acceptance of her limitations and a sense of graciousness and peace that she appeared to have found.

Unfortunately, Marlou suffered a second stroke in 2016 which left her partially paralyzed and further limited her ability to speak. Duneland Friends continued to meet for Bible Study at her home, where she participated from her wheelchair, sharing her reactions through facial expressions and small gestures. Through the final years of her life, she was cared for in her home by her son Otter and by full-time caregivers.

Marlou will be lovingly remembered by many in Illinois Yearly Meeting for her faithful dedication to religious education, for her meticulous attention to detail in whatever she did, and as a teacher and mentor for many, both young and old.

MARJORY WOOD CRAWFORD (1930-2021)

Marjory Wood Crawford was born on May 30, 1932, in Chicago to John Curtis Wood and Nancy (Farley) Wood. She passed away on May 2, 2021 at the age of 88. Marjory's father was a member of 57th Street Meeting in Hyde Park in Chicago and both her parents were active in conservation and social issues, setting Marjory on a similar path of activism and an affinity for Quaker spirituality.

As a resident of Chesterton, Indiana, Marjory first came to Duneland Friends Meeting in 2001 seeking a spiritual community for worship and social activism. She became a member of Duneland Friends Meeting on March 16, 2003.

While Marjory felt led to explore a variety of worship communities in northwest Indiana, she faithfully attended Duneland's Bible study for many years. She enjoyed conversation about matters of importance. She was clear in her beliefs and forthright in expressing her views. She sometimes expressed impatience that others were not as eager as she to take action. Among her many causes, Marjory joined protests against capital punishment at the State Prison in Michigan City. She was active in local political, conservation, and arts organizations and was a frequent contributor of letters to the editor in the local newspaper. In recognition of her efforts, Save The Dunes awarded her the Paul H. Douglas award in 2007 for her service to the cause of preserving and protecting the Indiana Dunes.

Marjory was a talented artist; a plein-air painter and a sculptor, having studied at Indiana University and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Later in life, the sale of her family's business allowed her to buy the historic Chesterton Town Hall and turn it into Coffee Creek Studios. It became an art gallery and meeting place in downtown Chesterton. At Marjory's invitation, Duneland Friends held meeting for worship and potluck meals there several times. Her studio was also the site of concerts, poetry readings, peace vigils, and gatherings of local activists for social justice.

Marjory will be remembered among Duneland Friends for her contribution to our Bible study, for her plain speech and for her example of putting her beliefs into action.

ROGER HAGEN LAUGHLIN (1926-2022)

Roger Laughlin was born in Evanston, Illinois on March 2, 1926 to Thora Hagen and Owen Seth Laughlin, a third-generation Quaker family. His brother, Owen, Jr. was 4 years old. His father was a civil engineer working for the railroad.

Living in Des Plaines, the family regularly attended Chicago Monthly Meeting on the south side until 1936 when Evanston Monthly Meeting was formed, his father being one of the charter members.

After graduating from high school in Hanna, Indiana, Roger joined the USNR, reporting for duty on March 1, 1944 in Madison where he studied Naval Engineering at the University of Wisconsin.

The resident dorm students let on that the best-looking girls were at the local Methodist church, and they were right. His first date with Jinny was on October 12, 1945.

He was discharged in June of 1946 and returned to Madison where he graduated in 1947 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and got his first job at Western Electric in Chicago. Jinny and Roger became engaged on October 12, 1947 and were married the following year on March 20th in Madison.

After returning to the Chicago area, they both attended Evanston Meeting regularly. Roger served on many different committees at Evanston Meeting, including Trustees, House & Grounds, Religious Education, Ministry & Counsel, Nominating, and as Treasurer for over 25 years. He also served as Treasurer for Illinois Yearly Meeting and for other organizations.

Roger and Jinny's first child, Luanne Kay, born in 1950, died shortly after birth. Kenneth Roger was born in 1952. In 1953, Jinny suffered a ruptured uterus causing them to lose a baby boy. They adopted Laurie Kay in 1956.

Roger began working at H.M. Harper, and he and Jinny purchased a house in Prospect Heights in 1955. In 1958, Roger began a job at Signode Steel Strapping (now ITW), where he worked until his retirement in 1986, the same year granddaughter Allison was born. In 1964, they moved to a larger house in Prospect Heights, where they lived until Jinny passed in 2015. They were involved with the AFS program and hosted several exchange students. They loved hosting Memorial Day Picnics that always included the Evanston Meeting community (a tradition his parents started in the fifties). They were active in the peace movement and enjoyed hosting hootenannies where Roger and Jinny both loved singing folk songs and playing guitar. Roger had a particular wit about him and wrote poems and limericks for friends and relatives on special occasions. They both kept busy with their antique business. Roger enjoyed restoring furniture and making lamps using objects such as coffee pots, tea pots, and converting old oil lamps to electric. He also had a strong interest in cars and bought, fixed, and sold over 30 cars.

Roger and Jinny loved traveling with the family all around the country. They also visited the homes of former AFS students overseas.

After Jinny passed in 2015, Roger closed the business, sold the house, and moved into a rental condo in Des Plaines. He maintained his independence for almost five years, but with the progression of his Alzheimer's, Laurie left Seattle and moved in with him in July of 2020. By the following summer, it became clear that he needed to be in a facility that could care for his medical needs. He became a resident of Dobson Plaza in Evanston in August of 2021.

He spoke about his paternal grandfather, Preston, who on the day of his death, had worked in the garden, eaten a good meal, and laid down to rest, then passed. He always thought that would be the way he'd like to go. On his first day of hospice care on January

26th, the family learned he had a good day; he was able to eat a little bit and interact with other residents. At 5:15 that evening, he passed... very much like his grandfather.

Roger was preceded in death by his wife, Virginia; his brother, Owen; and two infant children. He is survived by his son, Kenneth; daughter, Laurie; and granddaughter, Allison. A Memorial Meeting for Worship was held May 14, 2022 at Evanston Monthly Meeting.

NEIL MESNER (1929-2022)

Neil Mesner was born to a Quaker family near Central City, Nebraska on July 1, 1929. He always said he was born in the “middle of a corn field” on a hot day, his explanation of why he liked the summer and not the cold weather of winter. His parents were Raymond and Erma (Marsh) Mesner. He was one of seven children and was in the middle—Dale, Warren and Elizabeth older and Helen, Philip and William younger. They had good times together, but when the Marsh/Mesner families got together they had extra special times with their many cousins.

Neil graduated from the Central City High School, then attended college at the local Nebraska Central College, a good Quaker connection with the local ceeting, an FUM Meeting. When the college closed, Neil continued college at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln and got his degree in Agriculture. He farmed with his father, then spent two years as the dairy farmer at Scattergood School in West Branch, Iowa. He returned to Nebraska and worked for other farmers before he joined his cousin, Don Reeves, for a 30 year stint of togetherness. He always thought that working that long with someone and not having any big disagreements was a huge accomplishment. In a May 3, 2022 phone call, Don told Grayce “our farming operation would not have survived without Neil being there.”

Neil and his first wife, Kay Roberts Mesner had 40 years together, joined as a family with Miriam, Brian, and Cheryl, eventually joined by in-laws then grandchildren. They were active in the local Friends Church and in Nebraska Yearly Meeting, later known as Great Plains Yearly Meeting. The two spread out their responsibilities to other Quaker organizations—American Friends Service Committee, Friends United Meeting, Nebraskans for Peace and occasionally to other yearly meetings. Kay passed away in 1999.

Kay Mesner along with Dick Haworth were representatives from their respective yearly meetings to the World Conference of Friends in Greensboro, North Carolina in 1965. Their spouses, Neil Mesner and Grayce Haworth were part of the non-delegate contingent. A conversation was started when Grayce asked if Neil knew Phil Mesner, a fellow Earlham College student. Neil’s response? I should—he’s my brother. And as they say, “The rest is history.”

Neil and Grayce were married Sept. 9, 2001 at Clear Creek Meeting near McNabb, Illinois. He moved to Lacon, Illinois where he and Grayce were both active in the local meeting, had dual membership in Clear Creek and Central City, and both held dear the responsibility of keeping up the Illinois Yearly Meeting campus, which by 2009 had grown to 12 acres, with buildings to care for and lots of trees and weeds to “pick up after.” Neil’s special project was to eradicate the water hemlock plant, an invasive species that was found on all 3 “lots” of the beloved campus. It was Bill Howenstine’s plea 20 years ago that someone would take on that project. Neil hoped that someone would follow in his footsteps who would continue to uproot the plants before the seeds matured. In a sympathy card, Alice and Bill Howenstine wrote, “With his quiet, loving and capable manner he contributed so much to ILYM. His presence will long be felt.”

Other Friends have commented that Neil was a down-to-earth person; he was such a gentle soul; he will be missed at any yearly meeting activity, he was an anchor spiritually

and in terms of the physical plant in McNabb; he was also a great listener. Friend Judy Erickson summed up Neil's life very well. She said, "I remember his smile, quiet humor, his willingness to help in doing anything to fix ILYM/Clear Creek buildings and grounds, and his awesome skills that he shared so generously. He leaves a beautiful legacy."

DAVID JON LUKAN PAULUS (1969-2021)

David Jon Lukan Paulus (Lukan) was born on the South Pacific island of Guam on September 27, 1969 while his parents, Ellen Ewing and David Paulus, were serving in the Peace Corps on the nearby island of Yap. He died unexpectedly September 9, 2021. Lukan joined Lake Forest Friends meeting in 2006 and was married under the care of the meeting. He was active on the Hospitality Committee and with children's Religious Education. He loved dogs, the White Sox, crossword puzzles and was devoted to the children of the meeting. He had an uncanny ability to match movies, books, magazine articles and TV programs with the particular interests of people he knew.

Lukan received a B.A. from Evergreen State College and he completed certifications in Sustainable Agriculture from the College of Lake County, in Horticultural Therapy at the Chicago Botanical Garden and Compassion-Focus Therapy from University of Wisconsin, Stephens Point. Lukan was co-founder of the non-profit Growing Healthy Veterans (GHV) which established two gardens, one in Burnee and the other in North Chicago. Veterans and active duty military from the Lovell Federal Health Care Center, the Lake County Veterans Court Program, the Naval Station Great Lakes, and from throughout Lake County engage with members of the community in gardening as a healthy, therapeutic activity.

Veterans and others struggling with alcoholism and addiction dominated Lukan's life for the last 10 years. No one knew the despair, self-hate and depression that can accompany these behaviors better than he did. Though he was not a vet, he had looked into that deep abyss enough times himself to know how difficult it can be to find a way out. He established close relationships through gardening and accepting them on a deep level. Numerous veterans have publicly stated that Lukan and GHV helped to turn their lives around.

Lukan was also very involved helping the homeless and others in Lake County. He began this work through the LFFM PADS committee. He expanded it to include the distribution of healthy food from the Department of Agriculture and other sources to needy Lake County residents.

In 2021 Lukan was given posthumously the Volunteer of the Year Award in recognition of his dedication to PADS in Lake County and the guests they served. Prior to starting GHV, Lukan worked as a social worker at Thresholds and for One Hope United.

He is survived by his mother, Ellen Ewing and her life partner Wallace Winter, cherished partner Sarah McVey, brother Matthew Paulus, niece Madison Paulus, nephew Julien Paulus, step-sister Brittany Balough, uncle Rick Ewing, many cousins and innumerable friends.

MAURINE PYLE (1949-2022)

Mildred Maurine Pyle (Maurine) passed away at her assisted living facility in Terre Haute, Indiana, on May 21, 2022. At the time of her death, Logan Elisha Plummer, a student and member of Southern Illinois Quaker Meeting, and his spouse, Sage Moffett, were with her. Because right eldership and mentoring youth were among her deepest callings, their companionship was a blessing as she approached her transition.

Maurine was born on July 5, 1949, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, into a large Cajun Catholic family. She was one of eight children. Although she always felt mystically close to God, the traditional Catholic church did not nurture her relationship with Spirit. She was moved by Dietrich Bonhoeffer—a Christian who actively opposed Hitler’s rise to power even though it cost him his freedom and his life. Bonhoeffer’s writing portrayed Christianity as more than the patriarchal hierarchy that frustrated her as a young adult. Maurine was drawn to Quakers in part because of their long history of equality for women. Later in life, she made peace with her Catholic heritage, becoming an associate member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, a Catholic order committed to empowering others—especially women and the poor.

When Maurine came across the meeting house in Annapolis, Maryland, she decided to attend, becoming a member and a Quaker in 1975. Later she moved to Illinois, joined Lake Forest Meeting, and after raising her family she became active in Illinois Yearly Meeting. In addition to giving the 1998 Plummer lecture, she served as ILYM Clerk in 2003-2004 and Field Secretary from 2005 to 2008. Maurine moved to Carbondale in 2009, transferring her membership to Southern Illinois Quaker Meeting.

Not long after reading Bonhoeffer, Maurine had a mystical vision. Describing it in her Plummer Lecture, she wrote: “For the first time, in that moment of pure ecstasy, I became Christian.” Maurine’s Christianity was not a narrow one: “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering fish of every kind...” (Matthew 13:47) Maurine felt especially called to help Friends of all backgrounds perceive the universal meanings behind the specific words we use, so that one Friend’s “Christ” could be felt as the next Friend’s “God” and the next Friend’s “Spirit” or “Light.” Maurine recounted that shortly after her vision, she heard a clear, insistent Voice telling her to “Record your ministry.” Drawing upon older Quaker faith and practice, in 2009 Southern Illinois Friends recorded her ministry as a leading, a calling, and a gift of the Spirit.

She wrote, “God has called us to be companions to one another. We are asked simply to walk with the person in need, to offer our hand, to be present and compassionate in sharing their pain. They will also be walking with us, giving us strength and encouragement...” Throughout her life, Maurine’s work focused on community development and reconciliation, whether that was within the Quaker Community or in the world at large. She worked on prison reform with the John Howard Association. She served as a facilitator for various religious and civic organizations that had unresolved divisions within them. She traveled the world as a facilitator for Play for Peace and went to Russia to present at an international peace conference. She attended the Parliament of the World’s Religions in 2015. She always sought elders and companions to assure her path was one properly reflecting her leadings.

Maurine was a graduate of the University of Kentucky and held master’s degrees from National Louis University and Southern Illinois University Carbondale. She authored two books, *New Children of the Light* which explores metaphors used by Millennial Quakers and *Making Change: Facilitating Community Action* (co-author Jeanne L. Hites Anderson).

She is survived by two sons, Ned and Nick Pyle, four siblings and a large extended family. Her parents and three siblings pre-deceased her.

Maurine lived simply, calling herself a “Quaker Hobo” because she did not always know where she would find material support. She adopted the metaphor, “As the way opens” as her guide. She asked to be remembered, “as a peacemaker, a follower of Jesus, and a loving family member and friend.”

JOHANN LEO SCHELBERT (1929-2022)

Leo Schelbert, the seventh of eleven children, was born in the small town of Kaltbrunn, Switzerland to Joseph and Magdalena Cahenzli Schelbert on March 16, 1929. The family moved several times during the Depression, necessitating that Leo spend five years living with his uncle in the Alps, where he herded goats. Long hours alone with these delightful animals developed Leo's love of solitude, love of nature, appreciation of all types of weather, and the simple living conditions of life in the mountains.

Leo studied Latin and Greek while attending boarding school, preparing to study theology at a nearby Roman Catholic seminary. After completing seminary, he came to the United States. He completed a doctorate in American History at Columbia University and began his teaching career at Rutgers University. Leo began teaching at the University of Illinois at Chicago in 1971, retiring from full-time teaching in 2003.

Leo and senior nursing student Virginia Branin met at Rutgers when Virginia took Leo's Western Civilization course. Leo and Virginia married a year later, in 1965, at Mt. Holly Friends Meeting in New Jersey. They became the parents of Kenneth, Erik, Kirsten, and Gion Matthias. Thanks to these four children, there are now nine wonderful grandchildren.

Professionally, Leo became intrigued with the concepts of migration, or why people decide to leave their home country for another. He focused his teaching and research on migration issues related to Switzerland, which encompasses four languages and two faith traditions. As a scholar, Leo received many honors, including the Ellis Island Award in 1986, and the International Swiss-Abroad of the Year Award in 2006. He served as president of the Swiss-American Historical Society.

Leo's study of migration gave him an appreciation of patterns of migration which displaced groups of people and their cultures. He developed an appreciation of native American stewardship of the natural world, and of the cycle of life.

Leo saw his work as a gift to be shared with others and was generous in sharing his time with students. In 2015, his students honored him with a Festschrift, a book celebrating his academic career. A student said of him, "Spirits never die, they merely take up residence in the work and people they leave behind." Another student remembers with gratitude his loving friend who was a passionate and nurturing historian, humanitarian, and scholar of exemplary modesty and kindness.

Leo found joy in others' accomplishments. A former student recalls, "I didn't agree with anything he said or taught, but I appreciated his ability to listen deeply and provide support." He was able to maintain dialogue with those with whom he had significant differences of opinion. He could teach anybody something by encouraging and mentoring.

Leo's personality is reflected in the sense of wonder and curiosity he shared with family, students, and friends. He cherished the Hindu concept of Namaste—the the Divine in me greets the Divine in you. He treasured the Quaker decision process of discernment. He was also drawn to the Japanese concept of Wabi Sabi—the a unique way of seeing the world, appreciating that which is old, used, simple, and often imperfect, and at the same time, offers warmth, comfort, and security. Leo had a sense of order, often saying, "Everything has its place and there's a place for everything." His sense of order was challenged by living with five active family members, but order prevailed.

Leo loved music, especially Bach's solo cello suites, and poetry, citing the work of Rilke and Rumi. A stanza from the poetry of each had a permanent place on his desk. His taste in art was eclectic, ranging from van Gogh to Klee to Bacon.

Leo enjoyed socializing after meeting and especially liked Second Hour programs, particularly individual spiritual journeys. One of his favorite Quaker quotations was

George Fox's exhortation to "Let your life speak." He was a good person with a good long life—well done, good and faithful servant.

STATES OF SOCIETY

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL MONTHLY MEETING

This year finds us with eight formal members and several active attenders. All of our members have participated generously in the worship and financial areas of the meeting. In this year we have continued to deal with the COVID-19 virus and variants. We have met online during times of increased community virus and in person during low times. We end the year meeting in person. All of our members are vaccinated with booster shots.

We are holding First Day School on the first Sunday of each month and are pleased with the participation of our three young Quakers. We have continued our monthly "Meeting for Eating" women's group which includes members from the Clear Creek and Urbana-Champaign meetings. The quality of food at these meetings has been beyond belief. Heather Evert has continued to lead monthly religious education sessions for adults which have focused on racism and segments of the new Illinois Faith and Practice Book.

Meeting members have participated in the community effort to welcome Afghan immigrants and help them establish a furnished residence. We again provided Christmas gifts to an immigrant family with whom we have a continuing relationship. We have elected Heather Evert as our clerk for the next three years. We recognize her participation in both the yearly and local meetings and look forward to her tenure.

CLEAR CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

The second year of the pandemic found Clear Creek continuing on much as always. We have been worshipping in person at the meetinghouse during the warmer months and at Clear Creek House when the weather is cooler. We have been utilizing Zoom for business and worship on the third Sunday of each month and enjoy seeing those who cannot be present with us in person, either due to distance or to pandemic restrictions. Our biggest change this past year has been the move of Grayce and Neil Mesner to Urbana for the winter. We miss their regular participation but are glad they can be closer to Grayce's family.

When asked by Illinois Yearly Meeting to discuss the future of worship post-pandemic, we struggled between our aversion to the invasiveness of technology and our desire to maintain connections with our remote worshipers who joined us on business meeting Sundays. We particularly have enjoyed being able to have our members who leave the area for the winter join us on those occasions. A suitable system has been identified for our use in Clear Creek House, where we have a year-round internet connection, and we will decide whether or not to move forward with that March 20, 2022.

Clear Creek Friends always have on-going projects at the meetinghouse grounds. This year, the big one was cleaning out the tool room on the east side of the meetinghouse after the raccoons tore through the floor and made a huge mess. We emptied the tool room into the east side of the meetinghouse, sorted through the contents and decided what to keep and what to recycle. After the room was painted, we helped reload the usable tools and other hardware back into the room during fall workday. And we continue to pick up sticks after every wind. Having the caretaker, Judy Reese, on site helps us keep track of what jobs need to be done.

Since most of us are older and we are widely dispersed, we are not always able to participate in person in efforts to help others. We try to make up for that by contributing funds where appropriate. Those causes on our hearts this year included Asian-Americans targeted in Georgia, Afghan refugees being settled in Bloomington-Normal, and a Flutes for Vets program in Putnam County.

Our worship ends each week with the sharing of joys and concerns. This year we have been particularly grateful for the news of a new grandson for Judy Reese, a baby due in August for Peyton and Rose (Dennis) Johnson, and a scholarship for Kiva Schobernd to attend Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Our primary concern has been for the health of our dear Friend Neil Mesner and the care of his family.

COLUMBIA FRIENDS MEETING

2021 surprised us. We have continued meeting on Zoom due to COVID-19, and our meetings are attended by several people who do not reside in Columbia. While we hope to meet in person in coming months, we are dedicated to continuing the option to Zoom in given the connections we have built with friends who join from afar (e.g., Seattle, Washington, Lohman, Missouri, and Clinton, Missouri) and who have become a vital part of our meeting. We were also able to have reoccurring visitors such as Brad Laird (ILYM Secretary), and David Wixom from St. Louis meeting. About 15 people join each First Day, and we also have Midweek meetings on Wednesdays.

Although First Day School has not been held in person, children have continued to engage in the Zoom meetings in their own special ways—showing toys they are playing with and sometimes sharing messages. We have also initiated a new project involving the children, filling “Blessing Boxes” that serve people who are impacted by food insecurity.

We have continued to hold masked and socially distant monthly “Black Lives Matter” vigils, and the Peace and Justice Committee has revived its efforts to initiate topics of discussion. We read Thomas Kelly’s *Testament of Devotion*. We also held a discussion series of films concerning racial justice, organized by a meeting attender with a background in film studies. David Shiner presented about the history and publication of ILYM *Faith and Practice*. At a subsequent Meeting for Learning, we read and discussed the history of IYLM as detailed in *Faith and Practice*.

This year our longtime member Carolyn Doll lost her husband Jack. Although he did not attend meeting, Carolyn’s stories about their life together have animated our meeting, and we will miss his presence in the world.

One unexpected development was that due to rising construction costs, we made the difficult decision not to proceed with building a meetinghouse on our property on Rollins Road at this time. We had a wonderful ground breaking ceremony, but as we moved further in the process of working with contractors, it became clear that we did not have the funds to carry through with construction. We then considered buying two different houses—one centrally located on Broadway, and another house that belongs to a family long connected with meeting in the same neighborhood. After careful consideration of these two properties, we decided to purchase the house on Broadway in December 2021. This house will allow us to begin meeting in person as soon as COVID conditions allow, and to have a home-base for our meeting, even as we consider what use we might have for the property on Rollins Road in the future.

The decision to buy the new meeting house was unexpected and required us to make decisions at a fast pace we were not used to, but our meeting weathered the challenge and emerged from that process united in purpose. We are excited to have a new home so visible and centrally located, and to offer a gathering space for our community.

DOWNERS GROVE FRIENDS MEETING

This year made evident the challenges of moving forward through the COVID pandemic. In the early part of 2021, we began discussion of how to re-open the meetinghouse for in-person worship. We were mindful that we wanted to hear from all Friends about exploring the safe return to the meetinghouse. To hear the concerns of everyone during this time of transition, we created queries on “how do we move forward” for all DGFm Friends to consider. In early June, after asking Friends to respond to these queries, we held threshing sessions on “How we reopen the meetinghouse safely.”

Friends agreed to begin a provisional/experimental period beginning on June 27, 2021, which consisted of holding two simultaneous meetings at the meetinghouse, one in-person without the use of electronic devices, and one in-person that permits Friends to attend using Zoom. For safety, we made the decision to require masks and vaccinations for everyone entering the meetinghouse. The two groups alternate use of space at the meetinghouse. At the same time, we began an ad hoc committee on how to resume the Meeting for Worship as a community. In November, the ad hoc committee began to organize small worship sharing sessions made of 6-8 Friends to discuss “how we meet for worship.” The groups began to meet in 2022.

We had several noteworthy events over the year. The Thursday Meeting for Worship resumed in person gathering during the summer, the Aging and Saging, and the Sewing groups began to meet in person once again as well. In May, we offered a virtual workshop led by Karen Tibbals, of Rahway Plainfield (NJ) Monthly Meeting, “Seeing that of God in People we Dislike.” The workshop was based on her book, *Persuade, Don't Preach*. Some Friends began (completed in 2022) the four-session AFSC e-program entitled “Radical Acting in Faith for White People.” A study group for the new Illinois Yearly Meeting *Faith and Practice* will begin in 2022. Marcia Nelson led an online version of Q101. Worship sharing resumed on the third Sunday in September in the Virtual Meetinghouse. The Peace Environmental and Social Concerns Committee held several Meetings for Worship with a Concern for Social and Environmental Healing. They also presented the video “The Need to Grow” about regenerative agriculture.

We welcomed two new members, Ellen Maxson and Ruth Fiedler. In October, we held a COVID-appropriate social time with refreshments at the meetinghouse for Ellen, Ruth, and Mark Masi (Mark was welcomed as a member in December 2020). Andrea Wolfe Bretl, daughter of Bruce and Pam Wolfe, requested transfer of her membership to Urbana-Champaign (Illinois) Friends Meeting.

The effects of not being able to see and interact in person due to the pandemic are still unknown in the wider society and at DGFm as well. At the same time, being able to worship on Zoom has shown that through technology there is “a way” for all of us to gather on First Day even when external forces block us from physically being present at the meetinghouse. Discovering how God is leading us to resume Meeting for Worship has been a challenge for DGFm this year. There are some who feel that hybrid Meeting causes a secularization of the worship and can impede hearing God speak to us, while others feel that the hybrid meeting allows Friends and visitors to attend who would otherwise miss M for Worship due to a variety of reasons (health, travel, inclement weather, distance, etc.). We hold in the Light our intention that together we will come to a sense of how the Divine is leading us to resume Meeting for Worship in a way that meets the spiritual needs of the entire community. Our desire is that all may feel welcome here and worship “in Spirit and in Truth.”

DUNELAND FRIENDS MEETING

Duneland Friends Meeting continued to be small but faithful in 2021. We started the year with regular Wednesday evening midweek meetings via Zoom, plus twice-monthly Sunday morning worship, also via Zoom. We began to have in-person meetings on Sunday mornings with a laptop in the room to connect with others virtually during the summer. When cases of COVID began to rise again, we returned to all virtual meetings throughout the rest of the year.

Early in the year, we responded to queries from ILYM about meeting virtually and observed that, while we missed hugs, potluck meals, and joining our voices in song, our virtual sessions allowed for more frequent meetings, more regular attention to business, for distant members to participate, and even resulted in increased attendance. In 2021, we mourned the death of one member who had not been able to attend our meetings for several years. We gained one faithful attender who moved to the area and one member by transfer from another meeting. No matter our format, we remained committed to seeking together, listening to one another with open hearts, and caring for each other.

We spent much of our Wednesday evening time together exploring concerns and interests that had touched the hearts of meeting members. One member shared the hopeful messages he found in *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu through several sessions. Another member generously donated copies of Jemar Tisby's book *How to Fight Racism*. We spent several meetings exploring the book and examining our own lives regarding systemic racism. The following is an excerpt from our April 2021 response to ILYM's queries on racism: "...Duneland Friends Meeting was clear that we need to respond from our hearts. We believe that racism is an important issue to address, that it is very complex, and that we need be careful not to seek quick action to feel good. We feel that the heart of the issue is to dismantle the cultures, attitudes, and policies that prevent us from seeing all humans with the respect and love they deserve. Many in our society are not being affirmed and have unmet needs that include spiritual, physical, employment, educational, and social justice. As individual members, it is our position that we strive to minister to others we encounter in the way we feel the spirit is leading. As a meeting, we will strive to discern how we can be supportive to all people locally."

We have observed from time to time that our meeting's spiritual concerns and values are reflected in how we spend our modest budget. Because of our small size, the geographic spread of our members and attenders, plus the recent pandemic, we have found it difficult to discern ways to be hands-on in service to the Valparaiso community where we hold our in-person worship; thus, we have looked for other ways to support local needs and initiatives. In 2021, we continued our annual giving to a local food pantry and a local pet pantry. We also supported Mobility Ministries, whose workshop in nearby Wheatfield, Indiana, builds hand-powered carts for mobility-challenged people in developing countries. One way we have shown our concern for the environment is our voluntary "carbon tax" fund which allowed us to make donations in 2021 to the Haiti Tree Project, to the local Woodland Savanna Land Conservancy, to FCNL's Advocacy Corps, which supports young people working for environmental justice, and to Quaker Earthcare Witness. We were interested in reports from ILYM's Anti-Racism Committee about several ILYM members working with the indigenous-led protests of the Line 3 pipeline construction impacting indigenous lands and water in Minnesota. We were subsequently led to donate our budgeted sufferings funds to support the travel of indigenous people to attend the People Versus Fossil Fuels protest in Washington, D.C.

We find meaning in our discernment process as we prayerfully consider how to express our values through our contributions. In contributing even small amounts to these organizations, we unite with their valuable work and send our bit of Light out into the world.

EVANSTON MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

Evanston Meeting continues to adjust to a world in which COVID remains a constraining factor in our lives and affects our ability as a spiritual community to practice such cherished activities as gathering for in-person worship, mingling after worship, sharing meals together, interacting often with the meeting's young people, and holding face-to-face committee meetings.

We seem ever aware—on both the individual and corporate levels—of the importance of our spiritual community and of Quaker values and ways during a time of turmoil and change in our broader community, nation, and world. How to translate this sentiment into effective action and witness is an ongoing challenge. An Antiracism Working Group formed to focus on bringing ourselves into right relationships with our neighbors.

Some traditional opportunities for spiritual enrichment and community building continued. An off-site silent retreat was enriching to attendees. Meetings for Learning held during Second Hours covered varied topics, and spiritual nurture groups fostered participants' development. An Inquirers Group drew an encouraging number of seekers, and a reading group found insights from discussing *Being a Quaker*.

Yet we dearly missed in-home dinner groups, movie nights, potluck meals, preparing meals for homeless teens in Chicago, and spending time in McNabb with Quakers from around the Midwest. Without these, we lacked previously-welcomed opportunities to socialize and get to know each other more deeply as well as interact with the larger Quaker world and serve, in a small way, some of the unfortunate persons in our midst.

As COVID persisted, there was a sense that "We are all in this together and together we will make it work." Behind that sentiment, however, are differing opinions about what is needed to "make it work." Ministry and Counsel Committee has been charged with being keenly tuned to the meeting's spiritual health as we address sustained public health concerns, meet to worship using a hybrid format, and respond to the awareness of how remote participation can play a role in meeting activities.

About 35 to 40 persons gather to worship each First Day, in person and via Zoom, which is comparable to pre-COVID times even as the composition and geographical spread changed slightly. Meetings for Worship often encompassed significant periods of silent waiting and worship. Ministry messages were varied and heartfelt but typically arose from a rather small and steadfast group of individuals. Even so, Meetings for Worship remain a time of spiritual refreshment, and a sense of shared worship and community often arises amidst the silence.

At times, the work of "running" Evanston Meeting felt burdensome and unevenly distributed rather than joyful, spirit-led work. A relatively small number of persons devoted considerable service to committee work. Several committees became especially busy after the departure of the meeting's live-in caretaker, which led to a wider understanding of what is involved in the stewardship of meeting's physical and financial resources. A paid, part-time coordinator successfully sustains our religious education program, and the meeting engaged someone as a part-time administrator. Various members, including some relative newcomers, renovated our website and put in place a system to enable hybrid Meetings for Worship. Steps are under way to develop a

framework for better offering pastoral care as a corporate undertaking, an area where the meeting may have fallen short in recent years.

Breaking from ILYM's tradition, we wish to explicitly mention the deaths of Jeanette Baker and Roger Laughlin, members loved and appreciated beyond our doors for the ways they lived their lives and for their sustained contributions to many Quaker organizations. In late March, the meeting sustained the loss of another cherished member, Leo Schelbert. Earlier in the year, we welcomed one new member by conviction and another by transfer, with two new associate (junior) members also joining the meeting.

In summary, the spiritual health of Evanston Meeting held rather steady in the past year. The ever-present concerns remain about the quality of worship and how the Spirit is working within and among us.

FOX VALLEY QUAKER MEETING

Our small, committed meeting, accustomed to worship in member homes, was seriously challenged by our desire to avoid COVID-19. It was a blessing for us, however, that for most of the year we were able to meet outdoors at Howenstines ' Pioneer Farm. (The lovely little slope on which we set up our folding chairs is now referred to as "Quaker Slope"). During colder weather at the end of the year our members, Pat and Bill Mueller, graciously allowed us to meet in their Woodstock home (with masks on, even though we all have chosen COVID vaccination). We conduct business on the first Sunday of the month, or whenever we need to decide something.

We lost our long-time member, Ellen Hackman, who followed her husband, John, in death after about a year. We Quakers attended a lovely memorial for them at the Unity Center in Woodstock. Their ashes were buried by family and close friends under an oak tree at Pioneer Farm. We were also saddened by the unexpected death in December of Emelyn Piotter, 24 year-old daughter of Debra, and granddaughter of Alice and Bill Howenstine. though living in Missouri, Debra joins our Meetings for Worship on returns to Fox Valley.

Because of COVID we did not hold our traditional "Chicagoland Friends Old-Fashioned Corn Roast and Pot Luck Picnic," but hope to sponsor it again in 2022. Though our numbers are still small (generally 4-8 persons at Meeting for Worship) our Friendship is warm, and our spirits are high. We do regret that our distance from McNabb and increasing ages limit our participation in ILYM events so much.

LAKE FOREST FRIENDS MEETING

We have struggled this year to remain a vibrant spiritual community as the COVID-19 pandemic continued to stick its ugly head into the world and into the meeting. Despite our strong efforts to keep the meetinghouse open for worship and to provide ways to worship online, attendance at meetings for worship has decreased. We struggle with the intrusion of masks and technology into the meetinghouse; we struggle with centering and connection as we worship from our individual homes. We are slowly, slowly learning how to create a living silence as we worship without being all together in one room.

Circumstances force us to adapt and metamorphose. After much laboring for discernment, the meeting committed to having "hybrid" meeting for worship for the long-term and to do what we can to strengthen this type of worship, trying to make the best possible environment both for Friends in the meetinghouse and for Friends online. We are spending quite a lot of money and effort in order to use this adversity as an opportunity,

connecting with homebound Friends and Friends in the wider Quaker world while maintaining and growing in-person worship in our beloved meetinghouse. We have hope.

Many of the messages and queries that came to us this year spoke to finding the Divine during difficult times. Still, we have many simple joys, and we take comfort in our community, with support groups, a weekly online gathering where we share each other's company while doing handwork, online game nights, the sharing of happenings in our newsletter, and reaching out with cards and calls. These connections help us to recognize and enjoy the Inner Light in each other. We are glad to have some new frequent attenders at our meetings for worship and other activities. Our membership numbers have stayed the same, with the exception of the unexpected and untimely death of our Friend Lukan Paulus.

A number of determined individual Friends have worked doggedly for the meeting this year, and their efforts have been the spiritual and practical lifeblood of the meeting. We also benefit from the labors of our committees, and serving in those committees helps to foster community. Our First Day School rolled with the waves of the pandemic, deciding whether to have classes online or at the meetinghouse and providing engaging lessons that spark the Inner Light in our children. The adult religious education program gave us opportunities to learn and reflect together; we studied the ILYM *Faith & Practice* and topics including call and discernment, answering that of God, and U.S. history related to the abolition of slavery. We cared for our meetinghouse and grounds. We ministered as a meeting and as individuals to our local community, especially in providing food and other donations to the homeless and to those oppressed by racism. Our children learned about the work of our various committees as part of their First Day School curriculum, and while they were at it, they helped with planting and maintaining and ministering. Several Friends served ILYM and the wider Quaker community.

We continue our work as individuals and as a meeting to address racism, learning to become more welcoming to all and to change our thinking, our feelings, our behavior, and our culture. We read poems and other writings to each other at the rise of meeting during Gay Pride month, Indigenous Americans month, and Black History month. We listen to each other. We recognize that we have a long way to go on this journey.

We watch with trepidation as Russia invades Ukraine, the latest of many conflicts in the world. We need to find more ways to bear testimony and to express our faith through action.

As Spring arrives, the meetinghouse waits in expectant silence for more Friendly faces as we work to discern whether to make mask-wearing optional and to allow ourselves to share food together again. We want to return to our meeting's traditions and to create new ones. As we live our days with their troubles and joys, let us remember to ever seek guidance and comfort from the Divine that connects us.

NORTHSIDE FRIENDS MEETING

In this second year of lockdown we have struggled with feelings of disconnection. Said one Friend, "The pandemic transformed us from a small town in a big city into a ship... I gratefully enjoy the scenery, having points of interest pointed out, [but] I don't know how things work in the boiler room or on the captain's bridge. I wonder how much of a tourist I am in our meeting. I would be useless in the boiler room or on the bridge, [but] this is my home too." New attenders report we are uniquely welcoming, but Friends recognize it can be difficult to weave oneself into the tapestry of the meeting.

Yet, "Zoom has been a gift to the meeting in the richness of sharing. I hope we can bring some of that with us when we return to meeting in person." "Meeting for Worship

check-ins and introductions get me to know different personalities.” “More of us know significantly more details of one another’s lives than pre-COVID.” And we love worshipping with Friends’ cats. Friends challenged by dealing with large groups found Zooming more comfortable.

Although “historically we have had a hard time coming to unity around our witness to the world,” now “we’re still able to work together on leadings.... Spirit is with us, nudging and pinching, but definitely with us.” Spirit led us to champion Tribal rights, both in Treaty camps of Minnesota and at the People vs. Fossil Fuels event in Washington, D.C. (two NFM Friends were led to be arrested alongside our indigenous relatives). In addition, we continued to acknowledge the white privilege benefiting many of us. We also actively insisted on correct gendering, and we supported our Justice and Service Committee through letter-writing campaigns to abolish cash bail and to battle environmental racism. Friends continued to serve on the ILYM Anti-Racism Workgroup, including planning and participating in the Monthly Anti-Racism Café and AFSC’s Radical Acting in Faith for White People workshop.

Fellowship occurred primarily through committee work during lockdown. We found interpersonal issues/conflicts more difficult to resolve without in-person connections. Perhaps Spirit has been leading us to make extra efforts towards intentional interpersonal communications, even online. Moving toward in-person worship involves much discernment and experimentation. Worship by the Lake was lovely but weather-contingent. An ad-hoc committee is exploring options for inclusive (hybrid) worship. We provided technical support and hosting for Evanston Meeting’s Midweek Meeting for Worship. We miss our Japanese American Service Committee partners.

We discovered Friends have a limited appetite for Zooming; we have observed dwindling attendance at events. Some drew close to the NFM ‘fire’ while others remained comfortably on the periphery. Painfully, despite efforts, Zoom has not been able to keep our children engaged in our community. Our remarkable Technology Committee kept our website engaging, easy to navigate, and reliably current. The website attracted new attenders, and worship was enhanced by these Seekers. Spirit was generous, giving us an abundance of Friends with technical gifts.

As anticipated, committees needed time to embrace the 2020 reconfiguration of committee structures. So, 2021 Nominating Committee remained active all year, supporting committees’ readjustments and welcoming newcomers’ gifts. Ministry of Mutual Care Committee transformed the Sufferings Fund, created in response to COVID-19, into a less stigmatizing and more accessible Community Cash Fund. Its availability is announced at Meeting for Worship alongside a request for contributions. Attention to the lives of Friends, and focus on abundant worldview, deeply enriched our past year.

Before each Meeting for Business we read Crossroad’s Transforming Institutional Values: Both/And Thinking vs Either/or Thinking, Abundant Worldview vs Scarcity, Transparent Communication/Decision-Making vs Secrecy, Collaboration/Cooperation vs Competitive Individualism. Aspiring to actually live these values makes us an ever more stable, loving, welcoming community.

Milestones: Birth - Beckett Andrew Henley, born 11/13/21, to Ted & John Henley; 4/2021, Minute passed endorsing “Empowering Communities for Public Safety” ordinance; 4/2021, Weekly special Meeting for Worship in Memory of George Floyd and all Victims of Police Brutality; 8/2021, Minute supporting Anishinaabe Water Protectors and Stop Line 3; 10/2021, Welcoming celebration at the Lake for Erica Dix and Arcenia Harmon; 10/2021, People vs. Fossil Fuels protest / event, Washington, D.C.

OAK PARK FRIENDS MEETING

The third year of the pandemic seems less overwhelming. Meeting in person (as well as online) for almost a year has helped us reconnect socially as well as spiritually. The Spirit has moved among us in vocal ministry that has resonated with truth and love. Monthly worship sharing focuses on written reflections submitted by members and attenders. A nearly weekly, spiritually deepening Sharing Circle began last Fall. Our Peace, Justice, and Environment Committee continues to lead us in various discussions and activities, including worship sharing on encouraging anti-racism awareness both personally and in our meeting. Service work opportunities have enabled us to experience Quaker testimonies in action. We have started planning a memorial service for our oldest member, Burke Shipley, who died in April of 2021.

Last June we started meeting in a different space, 350 Harrison St. in Oak Park. Although it does not have a kitchen, it gives us more light and a more open, welcoming feeling than we had in our previous meeting space. There are two sound-proofed rooms adequate for First-Day School, but we still have no children among us. Outreach is being discussed by the Ministry & Care Committee.

We have joyfully welcomed two new members who have given abundant time, creativity, and positive energy to meeting committees and activities. One of them led an especially rich discussion of the 12/2021 Pendle Hill Pamphlet *The Atheist's Guide to Quaker Process: Spirit-Led Decisions for the Secular* by Selden W. Smith. It gave us all a chance to dive more deeply into the spirituality of our decision-making process.

However, difficult conversations were held with a member who, disagreeing with current pandemic guidelines, has been attending a different church. We feel sad about this rift, but are open to and hopeful for the Spirit to lead us all to healing.

Despite our small number, we have a strong sense of community supported by commitments from long-timers to not only attend but also to earnestly participate. Overall, we feel relief, gratitude, and joy that having endured unexpected hardships and difficulties the past couple of years, we can sense opportunities ahead.

OSHKOSH

We have six people making up our membership (we have occasionally had one seven-year-old child at this time). We have visited other meetings by Zoom. We have had no deaths or births this year.

We practice worship in person on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. Masks are required due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We have adult education once a week on Thursday afternoons. We are having some difficulty staying in touch with Friends we have not seen for months.

Our community loan fund is active and has helped many in the community. We have been active with local service organizations like the Salvation Army, Day by Day Warming Shelter, etc. We have not had a problem with racism to date. ALL are welcome.

SAINT LOUIS MONTHLY MEETING

A great joy for the St. Louis Friends Meeting this year has been worshiping inside the meetinghouse again. Friends who were joining from afar, or were ill, or who did not wish to worship in-person have had the option of joining on Zoom. For many there is a sense of the community coming together that was missing when exclusively on Zoom. However, others welcomed the possibility to join via Zoom since it has allowed Friends who have moved away to join in and they spoke to the sense of gathering and community

also experienced online. Another joy was renewed sense of wonder at the workings of the “Quaker process,” which allows decisions and issues to be worked through, albeit not always as rapidly as some would like, but that nevertheless allows for seasoning and inclusion of many perspectives. The Query Discussions each month are also a joy. Friends also expressed the joy of having children in the meeting as well and expressed gratitude for the dedication and sacrifice of First Day School Teachers who teach the children during Meeting for Worship. Friends also shared the joy of being able to continue serving as a Winter Shelter through the use of our meetinghouse. The maintenance and related costs of the meetinghouse are both a joy and a challenge.

As far as challenges faced, the use of technology during meeting has made some uncomfortable and also challenged the clerks who have had to deal with sound issues and connectivity. These are new skills that the clerk, committee clerks and First Day teachers have often had to learn, along with methods to hold the sense of community together. Many have felt that the sense of “gathering” has been fractured and that there has been less vocal sharing or ministry. A sense of loss of Quaker identity, perhaps due to cultural or generational differences has been voiced. Community outreach and individual leadings have also suffered, thanks in part to the pandemic or lack of leadership in committees in the meeting. Another challenge has been keeping up committee work and being able to communicate in a Friendly way. Emails, texts, and zoom meetings have made us aware of how much we depended on face to face communication to avoid misunderstandings or conflicts.

Over the past year, the meeting has struggled with how to deal with issues and conflict between members. The result of meetings and committee work was a policy statement with guidelines on how to help Friends who feel harmed by another. A key point brought up was how to support all persons involved in a conflict. The role of the Ministry and Caring committee in this process has been questioned because of the weighty responsibilities the members face. Overall, the meeting has found that the discussion on how to create a safe space for worship, both in person and online, is a continual process, and work still needs to be done, both at an individual level and as a group. In the end, there is a sense that having to face the challenges to gather in the Spirit has helped strengthen us as a meeting.

SOUTH BEND FRIENDS MEETING

In mid-2021 South Bend Friends Meeting resumed worship in-person and met for the first time in our new meeting home. It is a joy to gather together and to be in our new space which we find lovely in its peaceful simplicity. We continue to offer blended worship to those who wish to use it and we find most meetings include remote worshippers. Friends in our community also worship synchronously in their homes without a technology link. We are gladdened that our average attendance at meeting for worship has increased slightly despite the pandemic. We briefly returned to remote worship in January and February as the Omicron COVID variant caused a surge in cases in our area. Elkhart River Worship Group which is under the care of our meeting resumed meeting in-person in fall 2021. Worship in Elkhart and South Bend continues to be rich and nurturing.

We are grateful to ILYM’s Ministry and Advancement, they have helped us to discern a path forward as we have named a struggle to provide the structures to support our community. ILYM’s Ministry and Advancement has also provided advice and resources as we have worked to strengthen community care in South Bend and establish

conflict transformation processes in our meeting. South Bend Friends discerned this spring that we may not have the resources to continue to provide care for Elkhart River Worship Group. ILYM's Ministry and Advancement is providing support to the Elkhart River Worship Group as the worship group attenders discern their path forward.

Our online Quaker Conversations Group continues to be a place of enriching discussions and an entry point for new attenders. Our Peace and Social Concerns Committee together with Fellowship Study and Outreach organized a meeting for worship with attention to peace in Ukraine, and intergenerational book discussions in collaboration with Children's Religious Education. Peace and Social Concerns helps us collaborate with Faith in Indiana; together we have influenced policy for unhoused people, a jail diversion program for people in mental health crises, and support for home health visitors. Communications and Technology Committee supports our blended meetings. Ministry and Counsel Committee labored for ten months in 2021 to restore right-relationship with a member of our meeting. Those efforts included our Meeting discerning that this individual should step away from any participation in our meeting for at least one year. Children's Religious Education engaged our energetic youth in reflection on religious history, in service projects, and by producing two marvelous holiday pageants.

Two of the three potluck gatherings we planned this year were canceled because of COVID cases. We enjoy the increased opportunities for fellowship each week after the rise of in-person worship.

Meeting approved Brad Laird's request for a transfer of his membership to Duneland Friends Meeting in October. William Martin moved to Ohio several years ago and, in November, we approved his request for a transfer of his membership to Campus Friends Meeting in Wilmington, Ohio near his new home. We welcomed the Kamanayo family back to our meeting with joy as they returned to South Bend from New York state. We mourned with the Falb Devonshire family when Melissa's mother died on March 4. We mourn Douglas Kinsey a long-time member and a founder of South Bend Friends Meeting; he died peacefully on May 21. We welcome several new attenders this year and the vitality they bring to our community.

We are grateful that Light and love move among us whenever we gather in community whether in Spirit, via the internet, or in-person

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS QUAKER MEETING

The Southern Illinois Friends meet in Carbondale, a university town, where people come and go. To the extent that our regular attenders have been "townies" for well over twenty years, we have seen reduced participation during the second year of the pandemic but we are keeping the hearth lit. We began meeting regularly in person in spring of 2021 and nearly always set up a "Zoom station" for a hybrid meeting format. This has facilitated connection to Blue River Quarterly and Illinois Yearly Meeting Friends, including several virtual visits from Field Secretary Brad Laird. Most notably, our long time member Maurine Pyle has participated by voice for most First Days from her senior care home in Terre Haute. Most recently, however, Maurine's health has prevented her from joining us.

With fewer attending—typically three to five each week—we have spent Second Hour in a more social and casual format that nurtures our relationships and sense of family, which feels like the necessary healing modality in these chaotic times.

The only youth in the meeting for the past several years has also been unable to participate due to the pandemic and the family's schedule, but we enjoy their company at

our periodic Life of the Meeting potlucks, which we have held outdoors until the COVID vaccine was widely adopted. Many of us see each other socially almost weekly along with “Quaker-adjacent” locals, often during Illinois Ozarks hikes that have expanded our appreciation for the Creation at our back doorsteps.

Transitions have affected us deeply. In October 2021, we moved our weekly worship back to our long-time location, the Gaia House Interfaith Center, after nearly five years at the excellent Dayemi Family Center. Three of us have experienced very serious health issues. Three moved out of state, including Michael Batinski who transferred his membership to Monadnock Quaker Meeting in New Hampshire. One retired, while the “youngest” member turned sixty. Gary Marx transferred his membership to us from Penn Valley Friends Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri. Elisha Logan Plummer and Sage Moffett married, and we have taken their marriage under the care of the meeting.

Even though our meeting’s budget has declined, we continue our tradition of supporting ministry projects as our Friends are led. We contributed to Elisha’s education in the ministry at Earlham School of Religion, and have sponsored a Humanitarian Parole application for a family of five Afghans who are still in hiding in Afghanistan after having worked for the U.S. before the withdrawal in August 2021. The adults in this family are the same age group as most of our own young adult children, with a 4 year-old and an infant to protect. We hold them in the Light daily while we all endure the glacial U.S. refugee management systems. This is the nature of the patience and faith that has been required of us.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN FRIENDS MEETING

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to challenge us as we seek to create a worship space that welcomes Friends and visitors with differing needs and preferences and to give witness to our Quaker values. In spite of these challenges, our Friends’ community has been strengthened in ways we could have never imagined.

In the spring of 2021, some Friends met outdoors at the meetinghouse while others worshipped via Zoom. Several Friends wanted to use the meetinghouse for indoor worship if that could be done safely, while others wanted to continue to meet outdoors. Many Friends wanted to integrate Zoom and in-person worship, and others were skeptical about the impact of technology on in-person worship. Despite differing views, Friends agreed to an experimental approach: we gradually began connecting in-person meeting with the Zoom group, first outdoors and then indoors. Friends vary in their acceptance of the changes brought about by integrating Zoom with the in-person Meeting. Some Friends feel more connected to each other now that we can hear ministry from Friends in-person and on Zoom. We can see and hear each other as we share joys and sorrows. On the other hand, some in the meetinghouse find the lengthier sharing time, which became a practice with the Zoom group, may not meet the needs of young children and their parents, visitors, and those who wish to converse with each other in-person.

We are grateful for the many Friends who have put an amazing amount of energy into our meeting throughout the year. A Friend brings his personal laptop to indoor worship every Sunday and connects us through Zoom. Multiple Friends have facilitated our Sunday Zoom meetings, regular mid-week gatherings, and several Adult Religious Education events. Many Friends have also worked together to care for and support our elders, who have transitioned from living at home to assisted living, nursing care facilities, and into a Friend’s home.

We are thrilled that our First Day School is meeting again in the meetinghouse after a long stint on Zoom. Our Youth Religious Education Committee has enlisted volunteers from our meeting to teach the older children; one of our teens provides childcare for the younger ones. The children have enjoyed learning about the testimonies, Quaker history, and the Bible. Baking cookies and playing games have been appreciated, too.

We are delighted that three people have joined our meeting this year. We welcome the new energy these Friends and their families bring to our meeting. Although each of them live a distance from the meetinghouse, they are able to attend regularly either at the meetinghouse or on Zoom. We mourn the loss of a long-time member, Ellen Baranowski, who died on February 19, 2022. Ellen was an outstanding teacher (retired), amazing artist, lover of nature, and a giving friend.

During 2021-2022, many Friends focused their attention on anti-racism work, including confronting the ways we perpetuate white supremacy and building skills to follow the leadership of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Several Friends participated in ILYM Ad Hoc Anti-Racism Committee's activities. One Friend participated as an ally at the Red Lake Treaty Camp in Minnesota, where Indigenous people led protests against the Line 3 Pipeline which was built to carry tar sands oil from Alberta to Wisconsin. The protests were in defense of the water and Indigenous communities' treaty rights. At his suggestion, many Friends made donations supporting the camp and the participation of Indigenous leaders in the People vs. Fossil Fuels action in Washington, D.C.

An anonymous donor provided our meeting with an opportunity to contribute to the welfare of our community. The donor requested we give one-half of their large donation to local and environmental organizations. Many Friends researched various groups and made recommendations to our Peace and Service Committee during a Called Meeting. The committee continued to raise funds for additional organizations through our annual Stone Soup Supper (virtual this year).

Friends remain committed to deepening the spirit of the meeting and providing a welcoming space for worship and sharing, both on Zoom and in-person. We hope to continue our care for each other and to work for peace, justice, and a sustainable environment.

FALL CONTINUING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Tenth Month 2, 2021

Held virtually via videoconference

In Attendance: Wil Brant, Beth Burbank, Kent Busse (Clerk), Beth Carpenter, Dawn Crimson, Janice Domanik, Jessica Easter, Heather Evert, Dale Gardner, Cathy Garra, Chris Goode, Steve Hinson, Margaret Katranides, Pam Kuhn, Ted Kuhn, Brad Laird, Daniel Lakemacher, Valerie Lester, Mark McGinnis, Rachel Mershon, Grayce Mesner, Neil Mesner, Fariba Murray, Marcia Nelson, Noel Pavlovic, Sarah Pavlovic, Colleen Reardon, Judy Reese, Phyllis Reynolds, Bridget Rorem, Chip Rorem, Virginia Shelbert, David Shiner, Monica Tetzlaff, Bobbi Trist, Judy Wolicki, Frank Young

Minute 1 Fall 2021 Continuing Committee meeting opened with an extended period of expectant waiting worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Kent Busse reminded Friends that Continuing Committee exists all of the time outside of the annual sessions, with two regularly scheduled meetings during the year and the option for additional called meetings. He added that Assistant Clerk Marcia Nelson will be calling on Friends who have raised their hands to be called upon, and he reviewed several other Zoom logistics.

Minute 3 Treasurer's Report, Ted Kuhn reporting. ILYM increased its assets by approximately \$82,000 in the 2021 fiscal year while lowering liabilities by about \$4000. The yearly meeting had budgeted for a deficit of more than \$21,000, but in fact income exceeded operating expenses by almost \$29,000. We closed the books on the 2021 fiscal year with income being transferred to reserves. A printed report that shows income and expenses at the conclusion of the 2021 fiscal year and the ILYM approved budget for this year was included in submitted reports. Report accepted.

Minute 4 Finance Committee, Ted Kuhn reporting. The committee thanked monthly meetings and individuals, as both of those groups supported the Yearly Meeting last year at higher levels than had been budgeted. The committee believes that our approved budgets seem reasonable based on history and year-to-date trends. Report accepted.

Minute 5 Development Committee, Frank Young reporting. The committee is in the process of revising the proposed ilym.org web pages that provide information about supporting ILYM. This project should be completed in the next few months. The annual appeal letter will be created soon with a goal of sending it out in November. The committee plans to examine historic contribution amounts with the goal of determining the normal expectation for individual contributions. Frank and other members of the committee stand ready to offer a short presentation regarding the financial needs of ILYM to any interested monthly meeting. Report accepted.

Minute 6 Minutes 1-5 were approved.

Minute 7 Naming Committee, Kent Busse reporting. Kent noted that the Naming Committee description has been revised in the Handbook to indicate that its term begins at Spring Continuing Committee, as was approved at the 2021 Annual Sessions. Last year's Naming Committee has therefore had its term extended by several months. The committee proposes that Judy Wolicki serve a 1-year term on the Nominating Committee (ending 2022), with the option of continuing for an additional year if Judy's work schedule permits. Approved.

Minute 8 Nominating Committee, Bridget Rorem reporting. The committee nominates Mark McGinnis as Clerk of the Peace Resources Committee (committee term ending 2024). Approved. As there are formally no other members on Peace Resources

Committee at present, Bridget clarified that former members are working on the committee's issues at this time and that Nominating Committee will bring forward additional names for the committee at Continuing Committee in the Spring. She also clarified that this is her last year on the committee. Report accepted.

Minute 9 Minutes 7-8 were approved.

Minute 10 Youth Oversight Committee. No one from the committee was present to give a verbal report. The committee's written report stated that High School Friends had tentatively planned to meet on Labor Day weekend to paint the mural they have been planning for the past two years. Renewed COVID-19 outbreaks and concerns meant that those plans were again placed on hold. The Youth Oversight Committee will soon meet to discuss what its plans should be going forward. Report accepted.

Minute 11 Personnel Committee, Colleen Reardon reporting. The committee has been reviewing decisions from the past year concerning the status of staff members, all of whom are part-time and are currently regarded as yearly meeting employees rather than independent contractors, as well as the job descriptions of the Children's Religious Education Coordinator and the Caretaker. The ILYM caretaker, Judy Reese, has now been with us for a year, and her first evaluation has now been completed. The committee has been considering issues about staff compensation that have been of concern for several years and which are explained in a white paper that is included with submitted reports. It expects to bring recommendations on this matter to the 2022 Annual Sessions. Report accepted. It was noted that our current practice and stated policy on salary equity for all ILYM employees are not in alignment. Colleen agreed to bring this concern to Personnel Committee to include in its deliberations and future recommendations.

Minute 12 Children's Religious Education Committee, Dale Gardner reporting. The Children's Religious Education program during the 2021 Annual Sessions took place virtually on the weekend after the business sessions. There were four different classes, ranging from preschool to middle school. Numbers were down from 2020, with 13 children participating. The committee strongly favors in-person programming at Annual Sessions next summer, fearing that another year of virtual sessions could destroy CRE programming entirely. The committee will soon be discussing a revised job description for the CRE Coordinator and plans to make a draft available soon. Dale offered thanks on behalf of the committee to Charlotta Koppanyi, Joy Duncan, and Monica Tetzlaff for their service to the ILYM children's religious education program. Report accepted.

Minute 13 Minutes 10-12 were approved.

Minute 14 Environmental Concerns Committee, Noel Pavlovic reporting. The committee confirmed that the trial prairie pollinator garden will be placed at the southwest corner of the existing prairie planting between the Clear Creek House and the ILYM meetinghouse at ILYM workday on October 16. The committee is also considering redoing the nature pathways that were installed more than a decade ago. Report accepted.

Minute 15 Stewards, Chip Rorem reporting. The refrigerator replacement project took longer than expected due to miscommunication. All refrigeration is now ready for service when we once again gather as a group. Chip and Chris Goode met with structural engineer Bruce Miller to discuss stabilizing the foundation of the High School Bunkhouse. Dick Ashdown, our Steward Emeritus, continues to convey details of site care to our caretaker, Judy Reese. Report accepted.

Minute 16 Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee, Chris Goode reporting. The committee is happy to have Judy Reese on board as caretaker. Judy's presence on the grounds during the past year has been very helpful. Fall Workday will take place on Saturday, October 16. All are invited to participate. The committee is attending to various projects including repair work, painting, prevention of raccoon invasions, and updating the 2012 campus plan. The Caretaker job description is being submitted for final review and approval by Continuing Committee, as authorized at the 2021 Annual Sessions. The job description was approved. Relevant committees will consider the addition of a statement in the compensation section that ILYM will provide the caretaker with housing, and will bring a recommendation to Spring Continuing Committee. The committee reiterated its request from the 2021 Annual Sessions to consider scheduling future Fall Continuing Committee meetings for a date later than the first Saturday in October, in part so that fall workday could be scheduled at that time. This request was approved. Kent will lead the process of considering this matter. Report accepted.

Minute 17 Continuing Committee affirms Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee's authority in allocating funds that have been designated for maintenance of the yearly meeting property. Approved.

Minute 18 Minutes 14-17 were approved.

Minute 19 Handbook Committee, Pam Kuhn reporting. The Handbook Committee recommended the following changes to the ILYM Handbook:

Add the Field Secretary description to the Paid Staff section of the Handbook. This will be taken verbatim from the 2021 Advanced Documents with the following changes. In the introduction, change "Committee Supervisor" to "Field Secretary Supervisor." Also add [2021, Minute 24]

Add to the Exercises Committee description. "If no volunteers are available, another creative solution for writing the exercises may be brought forward and decided upon. [2021, Minute 20]"

Add to the Clerk's duties under d) Prepares the agenda... "In some cases, the clerk may decide to use a "unity agenda." In a unity agenda, those reports which do not require action other than acceptance are grouped together without reading them to the body and brought for acceptance together, generally with a joyful noise to recognize and give thanks for the work each of these reports signifies. [2020, Minute 34; 2021, Minute 5 & 34]"

Add to the Clerk's duties, "Nominates at least two Friends to serve on the Naming Committee. Brings these names to the Spring Continuing Committee for approval. [2021, Minute 26]"

Change the Continuing Committee duties moving "considering names for the Naming Committee that the Presiding Clerk brings forward" from Specific Duties ... in the Fall to Specific Duties in the Spring.

Add to Ministry and Advancement Committee description. "When specific concerns or practices are being dealt with by several monthly meetings or worship groups, M&A may facilitate communication between the meetings. [2021, from Minute 25]"

Remove from the Ministry and Advancement Committee the second sentence of their oversight of the Field Secretary. This refers to when the Field Secretary was an independent contractor. At this time, the Field Secretary falls under paid staff.

Add the description of the Caretaker that was approved earlier in today's meeting (Minute 16).

All of the recommended changes and additions were approved.

The Handbook Committee is working on detailing expectations for representatives to other Quaker organizations with which we are affiliated. Report accepted.

Minute 20 Field Secretary, Brad Laird reporting. Brad's wide-ranging report touched on a number of matters. Brad and Pam Kuhn are planning three online events later this month for ILYM Friends to discuss how each of our recent and current meeting experiments are going. Brad concluded the verbal report with a prayer from Thomas Merton. Much more detail is given in the submitted written. Report accepted.

Minute 21 Ministry and Advancement Committee, Phyllis Reynolds reporting. Ministry and Advancement continues to meet monthly online, also visiting monthly meetings both in person and via Zoom. The committee recently hosted an online workshop given by Friend Marcelle Martin, who offered a similar workshop at the 2021 Annual Sessions. Accepted.

Minute 22 Peace Resources Committee, Mark McGinnis reporting. The committee will host an online Meeting for Healing our World on October 16, and a workshop on registration and the draft at the 2022 Annual Sessions. The committee is in the process of discerning whether and how to expand its role and plans to propose changes to its description in the near future. Report accepted.

Minute 23 Minutes 19-22 were approved.

Minute 24 The Publications and Distribution Committee report in the Advance Documents was accepted.

Minute 25 The Clerk reported that the UIUC Records Archiving Project is still pending.

Minute 26 The Clerk announced that Spring Continuing Committee will take place on March 5, 2022, at a location to be announced in the near future.

Minute 27 Ad hoc Anti-Racism Committee, Janice Domanik reporting. The committee invites ILYM Friends to the Anti-Racism Café, which take place on the evening of the 15th of every month. The Café is an opportunity to learn about the experiences of Friends in other Meetings, to share resources, and to come together in worship and fellowship to build a wider Quaker community. Members of the committee have recently joined Daniel Lakemacher of Urbana Champaign Meeting at the Line 3 Pipeline protest. Report accepted.

Minute 28 Annual Session Planning Groups, Marcia Nelson reporting. Each of the three planning groups has fulfilled expectations at this point in the year. The planning groups for food, site, and program are being coordinated by Janice Document, Noel Pavlovic, and Beth Carpenter respectively. The theme of the 2022 Annual Sessions will be "Creating Unity Despite Separation." Karen Tibbals, who has conducted workshops and presentations on the topic of "having civil and constructive conversations even when we disagree," will be our Saturday evening speaker. Frank Young will deliver the 2022 Plummer Lecture. Report accepted.

Minute 29 Ad hoc Committee on 2022 Annual Sessions Format, Pam Kuhn reporting. The ad hoc committee recommends that, if public health considerations permit, we plan to resume in-person annual session gatherings on the ILYM campus in McNabb with our usual program, beginning in 2022. The committee further recommends including a

virtual component to activities that take place in the meeting room. Report accepted. The committee is authorized to continue its work in accordance with its recommendations and will plan to offer a detailed progress report at Spring Continuing Committee.

Minute 30 Minutes 24-29 were approved.

Minute 31 Fall 2021 Continuing Committee concluded with waiting worship.

SPRING CONTINUING COMMITTEE

Third Month 5, 2022

Held Virtually via Zoom Videoconferencing

In Attendance: Wil Brant, Kent Busse (Presiding Clerk), Beth Carpenter, Mary Cunningham, Helen Dickinson, Janice Domanik, Heather Evert, Dale Gardner, Cathy Garra, Chris Goode, Sharon Haworth, Judy Jager, Bruce Kanarek, Margaret Katranides, Pam Kuhn, Ted Kuhn, Brad Laird, Mark McGinnis, Marcia Nelson (Assistant Clerk), Julia Pantoga, Noel Pavlovic, Sarah Pavlovic (Assistant Recording Clerk), Colleen Reardon, Phyllis Reynolds, Bridget Rorem, Virginia Schelbert, David Shiner (Recording Clerk), Bobbi Trist, David Wixom, Frank Young

Minute 1 Spring 2022 Continuing Committee meeting opened with expectant waiting worship.

Minute 2 Presiding Clerk Kent Busse welcomed those present, expressing regret that we are not able to be together in person but also gratitude for the fact that we are able to gather online. He explained changes to the written agenda.

Minute 3 Publications and Distribution Committee reported in writing that it has printed and distributed all Fall yearly meeting publications (*Minute Book*, Plummer Lecture, and directory). Report accepted.

Minute 4 The Clerk expressed gratitude to the Publications and Distribution Committee for its work. He also reported that the Handbook Committee has completed a full update of the Handbook. He asked Friends to minute our gratitude to both committees for their good work. Approved.

Minute 5 Colleen Reardon reported for the Personnel Committee. The committee has been reviewing job descriptions to ensure they all are up to date and complete. As part of their work in continuing to discern on matters of pay equity, they have contacted other yearly meetings in order to understand their agreements and expectations of part-time employees. The issues involved are complex and require further discernment. The committee will be providing further feedback to the Children's Religious Education Committee on the job description and related issues for an RE Coordinator. They are also working with the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee to consider the legal and tax implications of our agreement with the caretaker, Judy Reese. Report accepted.

Minute 6 Dale Gardner reported for the Youth Oversight Committee. The YO Coordinator, Liam Gardner, took a leave of absence from his position last fall. He has since returned to his role, and is currently working with the committee on a program for ILYM Annual Sessions. They hope that those sessions will be held in person, but are preparing alternative programming in case that is not possible. Liam and members of the committee will be reaching out to the clerks of each meeting to identify any youth entering or already in high school and how to best reach them about participating. Those who know of such youth are asked to send contact information for them and/or their parents to Liam Gardner via the ILYM website. Report accepted.

Minute 7 Dale Gardner reported for the Children's Religious Education Committee. The committee is hoping for more-or-less normal annual sessions at McNabb this year. Children's numbers have dwindled during the pandemic years, and the committee does not believe that will improve until we return to meeting in person. If annual sessions are not held at McNabb this summer, they will consider sponsoring a gathering for youth and their families on the meetinghouse grounds. The committee is pleased with the work that Charlotta Koppanyi has done and looks forward to another summer under her tutorship. They are updating the CRE coordinator's job description to clarify some issues brought up by Personnel Committee. Dale asked for meetings to forward contact information for any new families in meeting to any committee member. Report accepted.

Minute 8 Noel Pavlovic reported for the Environmental Concerns Committee. The committee has finalized the general layout of the wildflower pollinator garden at the ILYM campus, and has agreed on which plants will be planted there. Planting is planned for early June. Report accepted.

Minute 9 Treasurer Ted Kuhn reported that the financial state of the yearly meeting is good. He expects that we will make budget by the end of the fiscal year. As of mid-February, net assets were up approximately \$35,000 from the end of fiscal '21. He noted that the budget that was printed in the 2021 Minute Book was not the one that was approved. The approved budget for 21-22 is at ilym.org/minute-books. Report accepted.

Minute 10 Ted Kuhn reported on behalf of the Finance Committee. As the Treasurer's report shows, the yearly meeting is blessed with support from meetings and individuals that are covering our needs, and there are reserves that can support any initiatives the yearly meeting agrees to support. Since Fall Continuing Committee, the Finance Committee and Finance Review Committee have approved funding above the approved budget for several items. Committees are asked to send their budget requests to Ted by mid-April for possible inclusion in his draft budget. Finance Committee will season the Treasurer's draft budget at its spring meeting and forward it in time to be included in advance documents for the annual sessions in June. The committee plans to host a Budget Preview Webinar on June 5 for those who want to better understand the budget proposal in the advance documents before the annual sessions. Report accepted.

Minute 11 Frank Young reported on behalf of the Development Committee. Work on the ilym.org website that deals with support for the yearly meeting is now completed. Friends are asked to contact the Development Committee if they believe that anything on the site is amiss. The link is ilym.org/SupportingILYM. Contributions from individuals for the current fiscal year are on track to exceed the budgeted amount of \$34,000. Since the yearly meeting typically underspends its budget in certain areas, this will result in welcome additions to our reserves. However, since it is possible that we have been neglecting certain items that may need attention, the Meeting might want to consider whether appeals for specific projects (perhaps ones not yet authorized by the yearly meeting) would be appropriate. Report accepted.

Minute 12 Minutes 1-11 were approved.

Minute 13 The Stewards reported in writing that they are assisting the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee in completing their work, which includes coordinating the work of the Caretaker, Judy Reese. Report accepted.

Minute 14 Chris Goode reported for the Maintenance, Planning and Envisioning Committee. The work to repair the barn and shed roofs and replace a skylight was done

in the fall at a slightly lower cost than expected. Due to unexpected water system issues at Clear Creek House, a new water conditioner was installed, the water tank and some plumbing hardware were repaired, and the tankless water heater was flushed out. The committee will schedule Tieman Builders to do repairs to the meetinghouse east and front porch and steps this spring prior to Annual Sessions, and hopefully prior to Women's Weekend. The committee is also procuring pricing to finish other ongoing projects on the campus and to paint many of the buildings on the meetinghouse grounds. Several other projects will need attention in the next year or two. The committee will start to organize those projects and obtain pricing on them to present at Annual Sessions. Development of a Maintenance Planning Guide is planned for later this year. MP&E cordially invites everyone to participate in Spring Workday, which will be on Saturday, May 7. The committee would also like to revise and update the campus plan soon, with the help of the meeting. Friends are invited to send their views on the subject to an MP&E member or a Steward. The committee reiterated its recommendation to hold Fall Continuing Committee later in October so that Fall Workday can be held earlier, thus allowing more participation in the latter. Report accepted.

Minute 15 Minutes 12-14 were approved.

Minute 16 In response to the MP&E request, and in order to have Fall Workday take place when the weather is conducive to it, Friends agreed to recommend to the Annual Sessions that Fall Continuing Committee in 2022 take place later in October than has been the case in recent years, with the expectation of continuing this practice into the future. Approved.

Minute 17 Field Secretary Brad Laird encouraged us to listen to each other's grief, stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic, and to let the poetry of shared grief nurture us. He reminded us that we as Quakers remain committed to undertaking action toward social justice. He is working on the issue of how ILYM meetings can become more welcoming. Since Fall Continuing Committee, he has attended 47 worship events with ILYM Friends, almost all of them online. He plans to begin some in-person travel again now that some COVID restrictions are loosening. He will not be continuing as Field Secretary beyond his current three-year term, which will conclude in June of 2023, and he encourages Friends to consider whether they are led to consider taking on this role. Report accepted.

Minute 18 Phyllis Reynolds reported for the Ministry and Advancement Committee, which continues to meet monthly via Zoom. Committee members are visiting meetings other than their own and sharing experiences with each other. They appreciate working with Brad in his capacity as Field Secretary. They are holding all meetings of ILYM in prayer and want them to know that they are cared for. Report accepted.

Minute 19 A written report from Peace Resources Committee expressed the committees' desire to be more responsive to peace, justice, and social concerns issues. Current activities include reaching out to local indigenous people to offer positive support; supporting monthly meetings who have contact with prisons, incarcerated people, and those returning to society through half-way houses; and working with the ILYM Treasurer to secure the funds and gain access to the Peace Tax Fund account. The committee is planning some events, and is in the process of redefining the committee's description in the ILYM Handbook to reflect its changing role. Friends with questions about the report may contact Mark McGinnis at dark_dove_2000@yahoo.com. Report accepted.

Minute 20 Janice Domanik reported for the Ad-hoc Anti-Racism Committee, which has provided a monthly café for Friends to meet and discuss their anti-racism and racial justice work and concerns. There have been 5-15 participants at each such event. Last fall the committee continued to support Friends involved in Indigenous-led action to protest Line 3. The committee hosted a workshop on Radical Acting in Faith for White People, which was originally developed and presented by American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in the summer of 2020. Those who missed the workshop can complete it as a self-study on AFSC's website: afsc.org/radicalAIF. Report accepted.

Minute 21 Bridget Rorem reported for the Nominating Committee. The committee requested the approval of Sarah Pavlovic to fill an open position brought about by an unfinished term on Ministry & Advancement Committee, from today until the closing of Annual Sessions in June. They are still working on finding an Assistant Clerk and an Assistant Recording Clerk, as well as members of many committees and appointees to wider Quaker bodies to begin terms of service at the rise of this summer's Annual Sessions. They ask Friends to contact a member of Nominating Committee if they are interested in serving on a committee or as an officer or representative. Report accepted. The request for Sarah Pavlovic to serve on Ministry & Advancement was approved.

Minute 22 The Clerk brought forth the following names for Naming Committee: Andrea Kintree, Ted Kuhn, and Monica Tetzlaff. Each of these Friends represents a different region of the Yearly Meeting. Approved.

Minute 23 Minutes 15-22 were approved.

Minute 24 Annual Session Planning Groups reported that they are proceeding with their work. Site (Chicago South) is still seeking volunteers for site prep, including a site prep coordinator to be on site from June 13 to 15. Anyone interested in this service should contact Noel Pavlovic. Program (Blue River Quarterly) has completed the program of evening events, and is still working on the children's program. There has been a call for workshops, and queries for Worship Sharing are being prepared. Frank Young will give the Plummer Lecture on Sunday morning. Food (Chicago North) reports that it has everything in hand. Reports accepted.

Minute 25 Pam Kuhn reported for the Ad hoc Committee to Consider How the 2022 Annual Sessions will be Held. On the assumption that the COVID-19 threat will continue to decrease, the committee is planning for the annual sessions to be held in person, including a virtual component for events held inside the meetingroom. The ad hoc committee strongly recommends that all eligible Friends follow whatever CDC and State of Illinois guidelines, such as those involving vaccinations and boosters, are current at the time of Annual Sessions. Children who are currently not eligible for vaccinations will be welcome to attend Annual Sessions. The Site Planning Group is asked to consider COVID-19 safety requirements and procedures. The Food Planning Group is asked to check with our caterer and Putnam County Health Department to be sure all food making and serving requirements are followed. The Program Planning Group is asked to plan for a program in which everyone is present in person at McNabb, including speakers, and to consider whether to include some Zoom-only worship-sharing and workshops, preferably outside of the annual sessions weekend. The ad-hoc committee's report noted that many new tasks, practices, and other considerations will need to be undertaken in order for the virtual component of yearly meeting to function effectively, and that costs beyond the ordinary, estimated at approximately \$5000, will be needed in order to facilitate the

virtual component. Report accepted. The committee's plan for the 2022 Annual Sessions was approved.

Minute 26 Minutes 23-25 were approved.

Minute 27 Kent Busse presented the prototype of an online bulletin board he has developed for the purpose of facilitating communication among meetings. It provides a platform to share ideas, events, activities, etc. at various levels of specialization. Kent would be the moderator. Kent is eager to offer it as an informal experiment that could evolve organically or wither away if no one accesses it. Those present agreed that this project needs further seasoning by ILYM committees, including the Publications and Distribution Committee and the Ministry and Advancement Committee. Friends who would be interested in testing the system and reporting back to those committees may contact Kent.

Minute 28 Minute 27 was approved.

Minute 29 Meeting concluded with worship and prayers for healing and strength.

ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING 2022-2023 APPOINTMENTS

For mailing and additional contact information consult the ILYM directory or contact the ILYM Administrative Coordinator, Wil Brant, at IllinoisYM@ilym.org or 773-288-3066.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Childrens Religious Education Committee

Clerk: Dale Gardner
2023: Jason Shenk, Bobbi Trist
2024: Dale Gardner, Coco Colin
2025: Anna Watson, Katherine Young,
Quinn Parks

Development Committee

Clerk: Frank Young
2023: Coco Colin, Dale Gardner, Alex
Lippitt
2024: Marcy Harman, Frank Young
2022: Kay Drake

Environmental Concerns Committee

Clerk: Noel Pavlovic
2023: Adrian Fisher, Nancy Halliday,
David Wixom
2024: Sarah Pavlovic, Noel Pavlovic, Chris
Goode, Fariba Murray

Finance Committee

Clerk: Val Lester
2023: Kevin Brubaker
2024: Judy Jager, Ashlee Miller-Berry,
Val Lester
2025: Cynthia Harris
ex-officio: Co-Treasurers, Dawn
Crimson & Ted Kuhn

Handbook Committee

Clerk: Pam Kuhn
2024: Pam Kuhn, Julia Pantoga, Sue Styer

Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning Committee

Clerk: Chris Goode
2023: Carol Bartles, Casey Kashnig,
Noel Pavlovic, Marie White
2024: Chris Goode, Dennis McQueen
2025: Christiana Schulz, Trevor Brandt,
Margie Haworth-Davis
ex-officio: all Stewards

Ministry and Advancement Committee

Clerk: Janice Domanik
2023: Janice Domanik, Mark McGinnis,
Heather Evert
2024: David Wixom
2025: Sarah Pavlovic, Virginia
Schelbert, Steve Tamari

Nominating Committee

Clerk: Sharon Haworth
2023: Sharon Haworth
2024: Amal Tamari
2025: Meredith George, Julia Pantoga,
Lilith Swygert

Peace Resources Committee

Clerk: Mark McGinnis
Mark McGinnis, Jan Mullen, Kent
Busse, Don Moorman, Sarz Maxwell,
Barry Feldman

Personnel Committee

Clerk: Colleen Reardon
2023: Audrey French, Kate Gunnell,
Sharon Haworth, Colleen Reardon
Designated members of Youth
Oversight, Finance, CREC,
Publications

Publications and Distribution Committee

Clerk: Sean West
2023: Sean West
ex-officio: Admin. Coord., Wil Brant
ex-officio: Editor of *Among Friends*,
Pam Kuhn

Racial Equity and Education Committee

(Membership pending; for committee
information contact Janice Domanik)

Youth Oversight Committee

Clerk: Mike Dennis
2023: Diane Dennis, Choz Howard-
McKinney
2024: Allison Boyaris, Mike Dennis,
Daniel Rakemacher

APPOINTMENTS TO WIDER QUAKER & OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

American Friends Service Committee
Corporation
2023: Fariba Murray
2024: Coco Collin, Frank Young
2025: Steve Tamari

Friends Committee on National Legislation
2023: Garnet Fay, Dale Gardner, David
Wixom
2024: Kevin Brubaker
2022: Fariba Murray

Friends General Conference Central Committee
2025: Janice Domanik, Lilith Swygert

Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender
& Queer Concerns
2023: Jad Tamari

Friends Peace Teams
2025:

Friends Secondary School Liaison
2025 Olney: Grayce Mesner
2022 Scattergood: Alex Lippitt

Friends World Committee for Consultation
2023: David Shiner, Pam Kuhn
2024: Julia Pantoga

National Religious Campaign Against Torture
2025:

Quaker Earthcare Witness
2024: David Wixom

INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

Records Librarian: Brent Eckert
Web Contact: Sean West
Among Friends Editor: Pam Kuhn

Blue River Quarterly Clerk:

YEARLY MEETING SESSIONS COMMITTEES

2022 Exercises Committee: Pam Timme,
Lilith Swygert

2022 Epistle Committee: Pam Kuhn, Lilly
Robinwhite, Bob Cordova

2023 ANNUAL SESSIONS RESPONSIBILITIES

Food: Chicago South
Program: Chicago North
Site Services: Blue River Quarterly

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND WORSHIP GROUPS IN ILLINOIS YEARLY MEETING

with meeting locations and times

For mailing and additional contact information consult the ILYM directory or contact the ILYM
Administrative Coordinator, Wil Brant, at IlliniosYM@ilym.org or 773-288-3066.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL MONTHLY MEETING

1100 N. Beech St #7, Normal, IL 61761
10:30 am
bnquakers.wordpress.com/
Business: varies

BURLINGTON WORSHIP GROUP

(under the care of Clear Creek)
Burlington Arts Center,
301 Jefferson St., Burlington, IA 52601
8:30 am

CLEAR CREEK MONTHLY MEETING

14365 N 350th Ave., McNabb, IL 61335
11:00 am 815-882-2214
clearcreek.ilym.org
Business: 3rd First Day, 9:45am

COLUMBIA FRIENDS MEETING

505 W. Broadway, Columbia, MO 65203
10:00 am
comoquakers.org
Business: 1st First Day, 11:30am

DOWNERS GROVE FRIENDS MEETING

5710 Lomond Ave, Downers Grove, IL 60516
 10:30 am 630-968-3861
www.dgquakers.org
 Business: 2nd First Day, 12:15 pm

DUNELAND FRIENDS MEETING

2nd & 4th First Days, 10:00 am
duneland.ilym.org
 Business: 3rd Fourth Day, 7:00 pm

ELKHART RIVER WORSHIP GROUP

(under the care of South Bend)
 413 South 7th St., Goshen, IN 46526
 1st & 3rd First Days, 3:00 pm

EVANSTON MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

1010 Greenleaf Street, Evanston, IL 60202
 10:00 am 847-864-8511
EvanstonQuakers.org
 Business: 3rd First Day, 11:30 am

57TH STREET MEETING OF FRIENDS

5615 S. Woodlawn, Chicago, IL 60637
 10:30 am 773-288-3066
57thstreetmeeting.org
 Business: 3rd First Day, 12:45 pm

FOX VALLEY QUAKER MEETING

Pioneer Tree Farm,
 4614 Pioneer Road, McHenry, IL 60051
 10:00 am 815-385-8512
 Business: 1st First Day, 11:00 am

LAKE FOREST FRIENDS MEETING

101 West Old Elm Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045
 10:30 am First Day, 8:00 am Fifth Day
 847-234-8410
quakercloud/cloud/lake-forest-friends-meeting
 Business: 1st First Day, 9:00 am

MACOMB WORSHIP GROUP

(under the care of Clear Creek)
 Contact Erin Taylor for meeting information

NORTHSIDE FRIENDS MEETING

Japanese American Service Center
 4427 N. Clark, Chicago, IL 60640
 10:00 am 773-980-6734
northsidefriends.org
 Business: 1st First Day, 12:30 pm

OAK PARK FRIENDS MEETING

Oak Park Art League,
 720 Chicago Ave., Oak Park, IL 60303
 10:00 am 708-445-8201
oakparkfriends.org
 Business: 2nd First Day 11:30am

OSHKOSH MONTHLY MEETING

419 Boyd St., Oshkosh WI 54901
 4:00 pm
 Business: 2nd First Day after meeting

ROCK VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING

201 Seventh St., Rockford, IL 61107
 Worship: 1st First Days, 11:00 am
 Business: as needed

SOUTH BEND FRIENDS MEETING

1st Presbyterian Church Campus,
 333 W. Colfax Ave South Bend, IN 46601
 10:30 a.m. 574-232-8258
fgcquaker.org/cloud/south-bend-friends-monthly-meeting
 Business: 2nd First Day, 12:00 noon

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS QUAKER MEETING

Gaia House Interfaith Center,
 913 S. Illinois Ave., Carbondale, IL 62901
 10:00 am 618-303-1040
siquaker.org
 Business: 4th First Days, 11:00 am

SPOON RIVER QUAKER MEETING

In homes 309-734-5848
 10:00 am
srqm.wordpress.com
 Business: Second First Days, 11:30 am

SPRINGFIELD WORSHIP GROUP

(under the care of Urbana-Champaign)
 10:30 am in homes

ST. LOUIS MONTHLY MEETING

1001 Park Ave., St. Louis MO 63104
 10:00 am 314-588-1122
stlouisfriends.org
 Business: 2nd First Day, 11:15 am

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN FRIEND MEETING

1904 E. Main St., Urbana, IL 61802
 10:30 am 217-328-5853
ilym.org/urbana
 Business: 3rd First Day, 12:15 pm

CONTINUING COMMITTEE

The Continuing Committee, a subset of the Yearly Meeting, generally meets once each fall and once each spring to prayerfully consider and review the activities of Illinois Yearly Meeting between sessions. The Committee speaks officially for the Meeting during the year within the established practices, procedures, and statements of faith of the Yearly Meeting. The Presiding Clerk presides over the Committee and the Recording Clerk takes minutes.

MEMBERS OF THE CONTINUING COMMITTEE INCLUDE:

- Any Friend who is part of Illinois Yearly Meeting
- A representative of High School Young Friends and the Adult Young Friends
- The Presiding Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Recording Clerk, Assistant Recording Clerk, Stewards, Treasurers, and the Administrative Coordinator
- The clerks of all Illinois Yearly Meeting standing and ad hoc committees
- The Clerk of Blue River Quarterly
- ILYM Planning Group Coordinators
- The following appointed representatives* from each meeting:

Bloomington-Normal	Fariba Murray
Clear Creek	Grayce Mesner
Columbia	Nigel & Jenny Church
Downers Grove	Chris Goode
Duneland	Sarah Pavlovic
Evanston	Colleen Reardon
57th Street	
Fox Valley	
Lake Forest	Ted Kuhn
Northside	Marie White
Oak Park	Valerie Lester
Oshkosh	Nan MacDonald
Rock Valley	Ann & Brent Eckert
St. Louis	Anna Kintree
South Bend	David Tabor
Southern Illinois	Dawn Crimson
Spoon River	Jackie Urban
Urbana-Champaign	Bobbi Trist & Dale Gardner

*Burlington (WG), Elkhart (WG), Macomb (WG), & Springfield (WG)
do not have appointed representatives

All listings of names, addresses, and contact information in this book are for the sole use of Illinois Yearly Meeting, and may not be used for any other purpose without approval of the business meeting. Contact information is specifically not to be used for commercial purposes.

Cover Painting of ILYM Meetinghouse: M. Richie