

Illinois Yearly Meeting

Fall Continuing Committee

Tenth Month 17, 2026, ILYM meetinghouse, McNabb, IL (hosted by Clear Creek Meeting)

Advance Documents

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Fall Continuing Committee

Tenth Month 17, 2026

ILYM meetinghouse, hosted by Clear Creek Friends Meeting
14365 N 350th Ave., McNabb, IL 61335

9:30 a.m.: Fellowship with coffee and snacks will be ready.

10:00 a.m.: Settling into Worship to seek Divine Guidance for business.

Lunch will be provided by our hosts, Clear Creek Friends. There will be a basket for contributions to cover the modest costs of the meal.

Conclusion: The meeting usually concludes between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m.

Continuing Committee is open to all who have concern about the work of ILYM. Each person's presence (whether delegated or not) will enrich the meeting's deliberations.

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Illinois Yearly Meeting

5615 S. Woodlawn Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637-1622

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Agenda

Decision items in bold.

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Naming Committee

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Treasurers Report
Illinois Yearly Meeting – Income Statement
July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 (FY26)

FY26	1 General Operating	2 Reserves	4 Payroll Reserve	5 FWCC World Mtgs	6 Maint. Reserve	8 Property Impr.	Total
Income							
Support from Meetings	98,975.00						98,975.00
Support from Individuals	47,461.52						47,461.52
Support from Meetings Restricted PIF						24,500.00	24,500.00
Support from Individuals Restricted PIF						29,062.90	29,062.90
Interest & Investment Income	18,717.72					609.28	19,327.00
Other Income	1,577.00	149.55					1,726.55
Gatherings-Retreats							
Annual Sessions Income							
AS Registrations	20,726.00						20,726.00
Gifts-Sessions	5,460.00						5,460.00
Total Annual Sessions Income	26,186.00						26,186.00
Other Gatherings Income							
WW Registrations	305.00						305.00
Gifts-Women's Weekend	326.26						326.26
Total Other Gthrings Income	631.26						631.26
Total Gatherings-Retreats	26,817.26						26,817.26
Total Income	193,548.50	149.55				54,172.18	247,870.23
Operating Expenses							
Personnel & Office							
Employee Dirct-Indirect Exp	72,779.78						72,779.78
Staff Travel	9,788.50						9,788.50
Office Expenses							
Corporation Fees, Registration	10.00						10.00
Office Supplies, Print, Postage	144.95	1,898.80					2,043.75
Webhosting, elec commcatns	738.62						738.62
Transaction Fees on Donations	265.91						265.91
Financial Asset Mangmnt fees	869.80						869.80
Officers-Employers Liability	647.00						647.00

FY26	1 General Operating	2 Reserves	4 Payroll Reserve	5 FWCC World Mtgs	6 Maint. Reserve	8 Property Impr.	Total
Insurance							
Total Office Expenses	2,676.28	1,898.80					4,575.08
Total Personnel & Office	85,244.56	1,898.80					87,143.36
YM Travel Support							
ILYM Reps Travel	929.32						929.32
ILYM Committee Travel	668.31						668.31
Total YM Travel Support	1,597.63						1,597.63
Site & Property Expenses							
Annual services-Property Taxes	2,042.95						2,042.95
Mowing, Tree Trimming	6,673.10					900.00	7,573.10
Repairs & Maintenance	4,005.06				350.00		4,355.06
Urgent Repairs-Maint	1,750.00						1,750.00
Site Insurance Expense	13,792.00						13,792.00
Caretaker Expenses	1,475.00						1,475.00
Major Equipment					7,192.04		7,192.04
Building Projects					2,070.00	80,000.00	82,070.00
Utilities	4,539.41						4,539.41
Work Weekend	559.23						559.23
Total Site & Property Expenses	34,836.75				9,612.04	80,900.00	125,348.79
Gatherings-Retreats Expenses							
Annual Sessions Expenses							
AS Site Prep Expenses	1,581.25						1,581.25
AS Infrastructure Coordination	6,799.58						6,799.58
AS Program Expenses	3,148.94						3,148.94
AS Cooking & Food	9,760.53						9,760.53
AS Children's Sessions Expns	2,978.75						2,978.75
AS Fee Reductions	1,170.00						1,170.00
Transaction Fees on Registrns	493.51						493.51
Total Annual Sessions Expenses	25,932.56						25,932.56
Other Gatherings Expenses	2,970.01						2,970.01
Total Gatherings-Retreats Exp	28,902.57						28,902.57
Committee Expenses							
Committees-General	493.93						493.93
Development Committee	462.45						462.45
Pub & Tech Committee	1,506.62						1,506.62

FY26	1 General Operating	2 Reserves	4 Payroll Reserve	5 FWCC World Mtgs	6 Maint. Reserve	8 Property Impr.	Total
YO Committee	2,262.65						2,262.65
Total Committee Expenses	4,725.65						4,725.65
Support to Others	16,650.00						16,650.00
Total Operating Expenses	171,957.16	1,898.80			9,612.04	80,900.00	264,368.00
Operating Income (Loss)	21,591.34	(1,749.25)			(9,612.04)	(26,727.82)	(16,497.77)
Other Income / (Expense)							
Unrealized Gain/Loss		65,815.70				2,340.25	68,155.95
Transfers							
Transfers-Budgeted							
Transfers-FWCC World Mtgs	(1,000.00)			1,000.00			
Transfers-Maint Reserve	(15,900.00)				15,900.00		
Total Transfers-Budgeted	(16,900.00)			1,000.00	15,900.00		
Transfers-Payroll Reserve		(7,350.00)	7,350.00				
Transfers-Net Opertg to Rsrvs	(4,691.34)	4,691.34					
Total Transfers	(21,591.34)	(2,658.66)	7,350.00	1,000.00	15,900.00		
Net Income (Loss)	0.00	61,407.79	7,350.00	1,000.00	6,287.96	(24,387.57)	51,658.18

Illinois Yearly Meeting – Balance Sheet Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2026 (FY26)

FY26	6/30/2026		6/30/2025
Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents			
Checking Account	93,493.88		92,784.08
Friends Fiduciary-Temp. Restricted Property Impr.	10,321.72		40,481.47
Friends Fiduciary-Unrestricted Reserves	676,422.25		610,606.55
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	780,237.85		743,872.10
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	18,480.00		6,659.14
Total Current Assets	18,480.00		6,659.14
Total Assets	798,717.85		750,531.24
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	9,363.05		12,871.28
Payroll Taxes	0.00		(36.66)
Total Liabilities	9,363.05		12,834.62
Net Assets			
		FY26 Net Income	
Unrestricted Undesignated			
1 General Operating	60,000.00		60,000.00
Total Unrestricted Undesignated	60,000.00		60,000.00
Unrestricted Designated			
2 Unrestricted Reserves	550,754.02	61,407.79	489,346.23
3 Campus Accessibility	1,300.00		1,300.00
4 Payroll Reserve	46,200.00	7,350.00	38,850.00
5 FWCC World Mtgs.	2,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
6 Maint. Reserve	103,353.24	6,287.96	97,065.28
Total Unrestricted Designated	703,607.26		627,561.51
Temporarily Restricted			
8 Property Impr.	25,747.54	(24,387.57)	50,135.11
Total Temporarily Restricted	25,747.54		50,135.11
Total Net Assets	789,354.80	51,658.18	737,696.62
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	798,717.85		750,531.24

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Illinois Yearly Meeting – Income Statement
For the period July 1, 2026 to September 29, 2026 (FY27)

FY27	1 General Operating	2 Unrestricted Reserves	Total
Income			
Support from Meetings	7,297.50	0.00	7,297.50
Support from Individuals	1,020.00	0.00	1,020.00
Interest & Investment Income	81.59	0.00	81.59
Other Income	0.00	190.00	190.00
Total Income	8,399.09	190.00	8,589.09
Operating Expenses			
1 Personnel & Office			
1A Employee Direct-Indirect Expenses	19,623.70	0.00	19,623.70
1B Staff Travel	767.87	0.00	767.87
1C Office Expenses			
Office Supplies, Print, Postage	6.08	0.00	6.08
Webhosting, elec communication	21.19	0.00	21.19
Transaction Fees on Donations	2.40	0.00	2.40
Financial Asset Management fees	165.00	0.00	165.00
Total 1C Office Expenses	194.67	0.00	194.67
Total 1 Personnel & Office	20,586.24	0.00	20,586.24
2 YM Travel Support			
ILYM Committee Travel	891.45	0.00	891.45
Total 2 YM Travel Support	891.45	0.00	891.45
3 Site & Property Expenses			
Repairs & Maintenance	550.00	0.00	550.00
Utilities	1,640.21	0.00	1,640.21
Total 3 Site & Property Expenses	2,190.21	0.00	2,190.21
5 Committee Expenses			
Publications & Technology Committee	1,586.70	0.00	1,586.70
Total 5 Committee Expenses	1,586.70	0.00	1,586.70
Total Expenses	25,254.60	0.00	25,254.60
Net Income	(16,855.51)	190.00	(16,665.51)

Illinois Yearly Meeting - Balance Sheet as of September 29, 2026 (FY27)

FY27	Sep 29, 2026	Jun 30, 2026
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Checking Account	85,331.86	93,493.88
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	85,331.86	93,493.88
Accounts Receivable	1,041.00	18,480.00
Friends Fiduciary-Temp. Restricted Property Impr. ILYM3	10,321.72	10,321.72
Friends Fiduciary-Unrestricted Designated ILYM5	676,422.25	676,422.25
Total Current Assets	773,116.83	798,717.85
Total Assets	773,116.83	798,717.85
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	427.54	9,363.05
Fed PR Taxes, Income, Medicare, SS	(4,144.92)	(3,789.87)
IL PR Taxes	4,144.92	3,789.87
Total Current Liabilities	427.54	9,363.05
Total Liabilities	427.54	9,363.05
Equity		
1 General Operating	60,000.00	60,000.00
2 Unrestricted Reserves	550,754.02	550,754.02
3 Campus Accessibility	1,300.00	1,300.00
4 Payroll Reserve	46,200.00	46,200.00
5 FWCC World Mtgs.	2,000.00	2,000.00
6 Maint. Reserve	103,353.24	103,353.24
8 Property Impr.	25,747.54	25,747.54
Current Year Earnings	(16,665.51)	51,658.18
Net Assets	0.00	(51,658.18)
Total Equity	772,689.29	789,354.80
Total Liabilities and Equity	773,116.83	798,717.85

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Field Secretary's Report

It has taken a while to get used to my new role as the sole Field Secretary. Marcia was a good traveling companion, an insightful conversationalist, and someone with which to kick ideas around. I am enthusiastic about the increase in hours as well as flying solo. It is my challenge to visit every active meeting and worship group at least twice a year. If not all, then at least the far-flung ones.

By next Annual Sessions, I will be able to report on how many actual hours I have logged. I have attended three memorials, five meetings in person, two online regularly, discussed personal issues face-to-face, over the phone, and attended the Superintendents and Secretaries Retreat in Chautauqua, NY.

The meetings I have been able to attend have appeared healthy, even growing. St. Louis continues to mourn their inability to welcome unhoused people. Repairs are still an issue. Bloomington-Normal does not seem to have many attendees during the summer and is concerned about their First Day school as some of the youths are now teenagers. There is no program for them. South Bend is concerned about not being able to fill all the slots on their committees. Holly McCune, Clerk of South Bend, would like to meet with the clerks of other monthly meetings to compare notes.

There were two missed opportunities to visit meetings. I regretted not being able to stay overnight to attend meeting in St. Louis after June Soule's memorial, but I had pressing obligations that drew me home. Missing a train by mere seconds to Jefferson City to attend Columbia Meeting was, for an old train traveler like me, a great embarrassment.

I will update this report of Illinois monthly meetings and speak of the Quaker wider world at Continuing Committee.

Mark (Nemo) McGinnis

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Development Committee Report

Our work has focused on editing and updating ILYM's materials on "Considerations for Giving to Illinois Yearly Meeting" to make them more clear, consistent and up-to-date. This will include a revised website section and pamphlet. The pamphlet information will also be laid out in a format suitable for including with a letter. The 2026 revised website page and pamphlets will be available shortly after Fall Continuing Committee. These will be helpful for Friends to contribute effectively to ILYM as they are led.

We continue to be thankful for the extremely generous and timely response from ILYM Friends contributing to the Property Improvement Fund last fall and winter, which enabled the construction of the new bunkhouse for its initial use last summer. Hooray!

Note that over 20% of our approved regular operating budget for 2026-2027 is anticipated to come from individual gifts, in addition to the bulk of it being contributed by monthly meetings. We will prepare an appeal letter to go out later this year (to individuals, MM's?), referencing or including the "Considerations for Giving" materials.

Cathy Garra

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Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee is grateful to the Treasurers for their ongoing work and care for the yearly meeting, and to the members of the yearly meeting for your generosity, supporting the new Bunkhouse and the on-going operations of the yearly meeting in FY 25/26.

At 2026 Annual Sessions, Friends approved a contribution to Chicago Friends School. Unfortunately, the school has since closed its doors. Given the unanticipated logistical and financial challenges associated with laying a school down, CFS greatly appreciates any support it receives. The Treasurer will make the approved 26/27 donation to the school after Continuing Committee, unless it is not the will of the Yearly Meeting.

Finance will continue hosting Treasurers' workshops. Our objective is to build a supportive community of Treasurers. We have sent list of potential future topics to the Treasurers for input.

A subcommittee of Finance will begin work reviewing the Handbook in the spirit of providing a more accurate explanation of the work Finance & the Treasurers do.

Valerie Lester

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Handbook Committee Report

Changes made to the Handbook from the ILYM annual sessions.

From the approved Handbook report at annual sessions [Minute ____], we have changed slightly the description of the Minute Book. We also added job descriptions for Children's Religious Education Coordinator.

Do we want to add M&A's "Mutual Respect and Living in Community at Yearly Sessions", p. 18 of Advance Documents? [2026, Minute ____]

Add the description of the Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator Position from M&A Advance Documents. [2026, Minute ____]

Add to the Ministry and Advancement Committee description: b. Recommending the appointment of and giving oversight to the Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator. [2026, Minute ____]

Add to M&A: The annual hours of the Field Secretary can be modified upon the discernment of the Ministry and Advancement Committee and the Personnel Committee. Ministry and Advancement will report any changes to Annual Sessions. [2026, Minute ____]

Add to Site Services Planning Group: coordinates overnight accommodations for those unable to stay on campus including hotel information and transportation. [from ad hoc committee report] [2026, Minute ____]

Add to Publications and Technology Committee responsibilities: For Annual Sessions: creating and distributing a poster touting the Annual Sessions at least three months in advance; writing and submitting a press release about Annual Sessions to local (Putnam County) new sources; and sending regular email messages to ILYM members and attenders encouraging them to attend Annual Sessions, starting a few months in advance. [from the ad hoc report] [2026, Minute ____]

Add to Youth Oversight Committee responsibilities: designating one member to be a liaison with Adult Young Friends (AYF) to provide support if AYF has a program. [2026, Minute ____]

Add to the Adult Young Friends description. A member of the Youth Oversight Committee is designated to be a liaison with AYF and provide support for the program. [2026, Minute ____]

Other proposed changes to the Handbook

p. 16: Under Presiding Clerk description (g) add final clause so it reads, “Determine the date, place, and format of Continuing Committee with input from others to avoid as many conflicts with the Wider Quaker World as possible and with consideration for those with disabilities.”

p. 16: Under Presiding Clerk description delete (f) serving *ex-officio* on Friends General Conference Central Committee.

p. 21: Under Field Secretary rewrite to “While traveling among monthly meetings and worship groups, the Field Secretary historically stayed in homes of Friends and that practice may be continued when possible.”

Does the *Among Friends* Editor have a term? One place, it seems to be three-years, another place not listed.

In the Policy for ILYM’s Finance Committee in Considering Gifts to Others. Remove Chicago Friends School and Chicago Alliance Against Racist Political Repression. Add Chi-Nations Youth Council and NABS Healing Coalition.

In Affiliations: Delete Chicago Friends School description.

Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator Job Description

Purpose: The Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator assists Illinois Yearly Meeting by sourcing, coordinating, and actively promoting programming geared to the needs of its meetings and worship groups. An over-arching goal of this position is to encourage inter-meeting connections; therefore, offerings should serve a cross section of the ILYM community.

Oversight: ILYM Ministry and Advancement Committee

The Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator’s service is under the oversight of the Ministry and Advancement Committee. The coordinator is supervised by the Clerk of Ministry and Advancement, who provides an annual evaluation of the Coordinator in consultation with the committee. To be effective, the Coordinator is expected to seek counsel from individual members of Ministry and Advancement, from the Field Secretary, and from ILYM meetings’ and worship groups’ clerks and representatives.

Qualifications:

- Evidence of active engagement in the ILYM community.
- Experience in providing on-line, in-person, and hybrid events.
- Knowledge of Quaker heritage, practices and processes, the Bible, and Quaker writings.
- Knowledge of the resources and organizations in the wider Quaker world that can support their offerings.
- Creative communication approaches that will engage the diverse ILYM community members, both on-line and in-person, utilizing social media and traditional vehicles.
- Ability to proactively encourage participation in their offerings.

Responsibilities: The Programming Coordinator is an employee of ILYM. Their offerings will seek to address the expressed needs and requests of meetings and worship groups, and Ministry and Advancement Committee’s discernment of priorities. Their individual skills, leadings, and personal style will inform their work. They are not expected to deliver all the programming which they initiate, but to manage those programs.

Responsibilities are as follows:

- Initiate, provide, and oversee online, in-person, and hybrid educational and spiritual programming that contributes to the sustainability of the ILYM community. The Programming Coordinator is expected to discern and offer programs that will feed the community’s thirst and hunger. The following possibilities for such programs are not intended to be regarded as prescriptive; rather,

detail is given in order to show the breadth of opportunities: Quakerism 101 and 102, Bible study groups, book discussion groups, clerking techniques, supporting aging Friends, childcare management, Quaker processes, Meeting for Healing, introduction to ILYM *Faith and Practice*, dealing with confrontation, etc. The Program Coordinator may also be led to offer programs for groups with similar functions, such as clerks, treasurers, and ILYM representatives; and to cohort groups, such as men, women, high schoolers, and Adult Young Friends. In addition, the Coordinator might be led to offer a one-off program spontaneously, in reaction to an external event.

- Develop and maintain an ILYM listserv.
- Develop and publish an ILYM programming calendar.
- Coordinate World Quaker Day activities within ILYM.
- Provide Ministry and Advancement Committee with a written report of hours spent each month, specifically detailing their activities.
- Provide a written report of their work during Continuing Committee's fall and spring sessions, and during Yearly Meeting's Annual Sessions.
- Develop their programming budget, and request approval for that budget during Annual Sessions.

Compensation: The Inter-Meeting Engagement Coordinator is compensated up to 400 hours yearly, allocated as required. Travel expenses are reimbursed.

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Maintenance, Planning & Envisioning Committee Report

The committee members are Carol Bartles, Marie White, Dennis McQueen, Christina Schulz, Noel Pavlovic, Sam Davis, Diane Clark Dennis, Liam Gardner, Dick Ashdown, and the Stewards: Mark Robinson, Chip Rorem, Grayce Haworth, Beth Carpenter, and Chris Goode. We have formally met at Annual Sessions and on September 15.

Fall Workday: Will be held on Saturday October 3. Tasks will include moving furniture from old to new Bunkhouse and storage shed, removing the air conditioners from windows at Clear Creek House (CCH), trimming shrubs and vegetation near buildings, fallen branch and tree removal and stick pickup, repairs at the cabin steps and screen doors, clean-up at the tool room and the meetinghouse (MH), light fixture install at the MH bath hallway, and more. A program, Contemplating Earthcare at ILYM, will be held after our lunch.

Spring Workday: Will be held on Saturday, May 1. Please mark your calendars and join us. If you have ideas about a short after lunch program please let us know.

Maintenance Items: We are looking to have repairs made at the roof of the Clear Creek House garage that was damaged by wind and tree fall. Repairs also need to be made to replace wood rot at the meetinghouse east porch and other possible locations. We are seeking a contractor to do those repairs.

Future Projects and Maintenance: Possible projects for this year include tightening up the attic trusses, and installing new fan/lights at the meetinghouse. Longer term, we are considering what to do with the barn buildings, and possible electrification of some or all of the cabins, and additional pedestals for campers once the area of the existing bunkhouse is cleared. We would like to hear your thoughts on these two future projects.

New Bunkhouse: It is nearly complete except for interior wall and ceiling finishes. Final cost for the construction should be about \$90,000. We are still working on finding a contractor for the demolition which we hope to have completed by next spring. We hope to complete the entire project for under \$100,000.

Respectfully Submitted: Christopher Goode, MP&E Clerk and Steward

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Ministry and Advancement Committee Report

Ministry and Advancement will have met three times since the annual sessions. We have heard from Rock Valley Meeting that they believe this is the time to lay down the meeting. They are still discerning where to move their memberships so we recommended postponing laying the meeting down until the spring Continuing Committee Meeting.

Ministry and Advancement Committee shares the following minute from South Bend Monthly Meeting. We feel this minute shows a desire to become more aware of the yearly meeting which could lead to more active participation.

Virtual Participation in Illinois Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions. Holly McCune presented a proposal that South Bend Meeting strengthen its connection to ILYM by replacing our local Meeting for Worship on the Sunday of ILYM's Annual Sessions with virtual participation in the Plummer Lecture and Meeting for Worship at Annual Sessions. Holly noted several benefits to this participation but also some logistical issues that would need to be addressed for virtual participation to work smoothly for the meeting. The written text of the proposal is attached below. Friends expressed support for the proposal and suggested that the logistical challenges could be referred to the relevant committees or addressed directly by Business Meeting. Friends decided that the next step should be to season the proposal by presenting it at an upcoming potluck, after which it would return to Business Meeting for formal approval.

Ministry and Advancement is sponsoring a Bible study:

A monthly Bible Study for ILYM Friends will take place via Zoom on the 20th of each month, starting in November 2026. This first series of sessions will focus on Chapters 5-7 of the Gospel of St. Matthew, known as The Sermon on the Mount. This seems appropriate, given that early Friends regarded these chapters to contain most of Jesus' central teachings. Each session will begin at 7 p.m. (Central). The series will continue through the spring of 2027.

Those interested in participating will be asked to commit to attending at least four of the first six sessions. Those who do so will be given a Zoom invitation and the readings in advance of that session. The readings will include several verses from the Sermon on the Mount along with a Quaker commentary and perhaps one or two selected Bible passages that are related to the main text. Participants will be expected to read all of those materials in advance of each session.

Anyone interested in more information is welcome to contact David Shiner at d.shiner1927@gmail.com.

Ministry and Advancement has had applications for the Inter-meeting Engagement Coordinator. Reviewing of the applications and interviews should be completed before Continuing Committee and we expect to bring a recommendation for an appointment at that time.

Janice Domanik for the Committee

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Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is starting another year of identifying Friends' gifts to serve the yearly meeting. During this previous Annual Sessions of the Yearly Meeting, the Nominating Committee was granted the ability to bring forth names for approval at Continuing Committee for items that were not yet filled during Annual Session. We bring forward one nomination for Continuing Committee to approve.

We nominate Kyr Esler as Clerk of the Racial Equity and Education Committee.

Please reach out to any member of the Nominating Committee if you feel led to serve in any capacity for the yearly meeting.

Respectfully submitted by the members of Nominating Committee: Margie Haworth-Davis (clerk), Brandon Harrington, Sarah Pavlovic (approval pending)

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Peace Resources Committee Report

The purpose of this report is to summarize the accomplishments, challenges, and future goals of the Peace Resource Committee.

The committee meets once per month to discuss how we can be a resource to help build peace in our lives as Quakers, at our monthly meetings, and in the world around us. The committee has accomplished the following peacebuilding activities:

1. **Hosting of Monthly Meeting for Healing for the Future of America:** This event continues to take place the second Monday of every month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (Central) at the Downers Grove Friends' virtual meetinghouse. Friends gather in waiting worship to hold those suffering under current government policies, those who commit to protecting them, those who are causing suffering, and one another in the Light. A brief time of sharing blessings and concerns takes place at the close of the meeting. Attendees thus far have been from Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Missouri, and New Jersey meetings.

2. **Publication of Friends Call to Action:** On the first Sunday of every month, a Friends Call To Action is sent to the clerks of ILYM monthly meetings and individuals who have requested to be on the contact list. The call to action is aimed to offer Friends practical ways to peacefully protest inequality, discrimination, and oppression of marginalized groups as individuals and Meeting communities.

3. **Planning an Online De-escalation Training:** The committee is planning an online de-escalation training for Friends within ILYM. This request was brought to the committee by the Peace, Environment, and Social Concern Committee of Downers Grove Friends Meeting. De-escalation training helps individuals safely manage potentially volatile interactions involving the public & Federal Immigration Officials, agitators at protests or places of worship, and conflict in other public spaces. The committee agreed to utilize the Kingian Nonviolence model for this training. Kingian Nonviolence is a structured curriculum based on the strategies and learning from the Southern Freedom Movement under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and many others. The curriculum was developed by Dr. Bernard Lafayette Jr. and David Jehnsen. Dr. Lafayette was part of the Nashville Workshops and Sit-ins. Training Details:

- **Presenter:** Dr. Joshua Brockman, an ordained Church of the Brethren faith leader, trained trainer in Kingian Nonviolence, instructor at Elgin PD, and advisor to the Elgin Area Immigrant Alliance.
- **Format & Costs:** The training will be 2 hours long and held online. There is a \$100.00 fee for the use of copyrighted materials. Friends also discussed an honorarium for Dr. Brockman, recommended at \$250.00. We are awaiting a reply from the treasurer of ILYM to see if there is a budget available for this event.

4. Conscientious Objection Training: Based on requests received from Friends, the committee together with the Racial Equity & Education Committee (REEC) is planning to offer an online Conscientious Objection training. Both PRC and REEC agree that the training should be held even if the government has not proceeded with selective service registration at this time.

PRC Future Goals:

1. Promote and provide an online de-escalation training.
2. Prepare and provide online Conscientious Objection training.
3. Continued assessment of threats to peace in the US and in the world, and finding non-violent ways for Quakers to respond as peacemakers.
4. Support monthly meetings in peace actions that they are undertaking.

Prepared by: Mark Philip Masi, Committee Clerk

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Personnel Committee Report

Personnel Committee continues to work to make sure things are in order for and with our employees. We are monitoring staff evaluations to make sure they are happening in a helpful and timely manner and making sure staff are trained as needed. We will soon begin working with a Human Resources Consultant to help get our Employee Manual in compliance with both the law and with our actual practice.

Committee members: Sharon Haworth (Clerk), Kate Gunnell, Becky Lucas, Val Lester (Finance), Dale Gardner (Children's RE), Ted Kuhn (Publications), Mike Dennis (Youth Oversight), Janice Domanik (Ministry and Advancement)

Sharon Haworth, Clerk

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Publications and Technology Committee Report

Among Friends is ready for publication for the first time in many years. Copies will be mailed to monthly meetings and posted on the website. The committee hopes to print this publication twice per year, if a sufficient number of items are received. *Among Friends* can include photographs, art, or poetry in addition to news articles. Please contact the *Among Friends* editor if you have any items you would like to submit. Future work for the committee includes updating future budget requests to account for publication costs. In addition, the committee is reviewing feedback on hybrid workshops and worship sharing during Annual Sessions in an attempt to improve that experience.

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Racial Equity and Education Committee Report

The Racial Equity and Education Committee continues to see strong participation both at our open committee meetings and the monthly Anti-racism Cafe. The Anti-racism Cafe saw an average attendance of 12 people per month over the last three months. Since Annual Sessions the topics covered have been: In July, Billie Wade in a QuakerSpeak video on "Are Quaker Meetings Safe for Black People" and Daquanna Harrison in a

QuakerSpeak video on “Living Up to Our Radical Past”; In August, a Native Bidaske video interview with Julian Brave Noisecat on his book *We Survived the Night*; For September, a recording of the Maternal Gift Economy Movement Salon #99 “Settler Colonialism and Immigration, Whose Lives? Whose Land? Whose Gifts?” specifically the section featuring human rights activist Jennifer Harbury.

The committee sent a letter of deep appreciation to Alaska Friends Conference (AFC) for the ministry of Cathy Walling and Maia Genaus from Alaska Quakers Seeking Right Relations With Indigenous People. The Clerk of AFC thanked us for this moving letter and shared it with Alaska Friends at their Annual Sessions.

American Friends Service Committee’s Love as Action in Chicago is well attended by Friends from ILYM meetings both within the city and from the surrounding suburbs, as well as a few non-Quaker participants. Attenders find it a powerful form of witness. With silent action, the passersby are prompted to listen, reading our signs and offering their support by signing our Declaration of Resistance.

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Annual Session Planning Groups

BRQ, Food: The Food Planning Group met on September 19 during the Blue River Quarterly fall gathering. We filled our remaining coordinator positions. Cooks Zach and Kelly Schobernd have agreed to return and feed us for the 2027 Annual Sessions.

Beth Carpenter

Chicago South, Program: Chicago South Program Planning has been working on themes and speakers for Annual Sessions 2027. We are delighted that next year’s Plummer Lecture will be given by Kent Busse, longtime 57th Street Meeting member and former ILYM presiding clerk. We have a working theme of “Seeking the Light in All.” Several possible speakers have been brought forward, but none yet decided on. Workshop ideas have also been proposed by some members of the group, and discussions around these suggestions will continue.

We have many coordinator positions filled and are still in need of the following:

- Before-dinner singing
- Children's Afternoon Activities:
- Recreation
- Variety show
- Children's Evening Activities
- Wednesday games
- Thursday special program
- Campfire back-up plan
- Sunday children's programming

We are meeting online regularly and welcome additional volunteers from Chicago South. Contact Brandon Harrington (312-447-1778, harrington.brandon@gmail.com) for more info or to be added to the volunteer roster.

Brandon Harrington, Planning Group Overall Coordinator

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Ad Hoc Committee to Review *Faith and Practice*

ILYM Ad Hoc Committee to Review *Faith and Practice* has begun working. We have looked closely at the first third of the book, compiling a list of passages that merit closer examination and discussion. Our next meeting in October will focus on a second chunk of the book to identify such passages. We expect to complete our first full pass through the book before inviting Friends to an online workshop on Saturday, Jan. 23, 10 a.m.-noon (Central), as a way to gather input from Friends. In the meantime committee members are asking ILYM meeting reps to informally solicit input from members in ways convenient for reps. Here are queries we recommend:

1. Are there things that *Faith and Practice* should address that the current edition does not?
2. What do you see as the purpose of *Faith and Practice*?
3. How can *Faith and Practice* best address changing times and continuing revelation?

Member input can be sent by reps or members themselves to any member of the committee: Janet Fair and Bridget Rorem, both of 57th Street; Erin Taylor of Clear Creek; and Marcia Nelson of Downers Grove. We four hope that a fifth person will join us. The original committee appointment included five members, but one had to bow out because of other ILYM commitments.

Submitted in friendship, Marcia Nelson, convener, for the committee

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Adult Young Friends

Clerk: Anya Gardner, Co-Clerk: Liam Gardner, Recording Clerk: Nathan Lasersohn

On 8-31-2026, the AYF at ILYM convened via Google Meets for our scheduled follow-up meeting for business after Annual Sessions.

Our primary topic of discussion included finalizing logistical plans for a potluck to be held at Evanston Friends Meeting, which by the time of this Continuing Committee meeting being held, would have already taken place on 10-11-26.

We reaffirmed our goal for restoring our annual budget by the 2027 Annual Sessions, and as such, are committing to scheduling and planning more frequent events to warrant a budget.

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