



# One in Spirit: Becoming a More Inclusive Religious Society

## 2016 Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions

### Earlham College, July 27 - 31

Join us for five days of spiritual refreshment, Friendly fellowship, intellectual stimulation, and fun for all ages at the Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting annual sessions at Earlham College.

Worshipful attention to business is at the heart of our yearly meeting, but there is so much more, from Wednesday's get acquainted activity and welcoming worship, through worship sharing, plenaries, and workshops, to Sunday's sharing of epistles and closing worship. See our full schedule of events for adults and separate schedules for youth programming, and check the Registrar's Notes for tips on what to bring (don't forget to pack for air-conditioned rooms!) and how to register.

Those who have attended in the past will find much that is familiar, such as evening speakers and the Saturday talent show (be brave and sign up!). This year, we welcome our own Michael Birkel and singer, spiritual activist, and former dean of Pendle Hill Niyonu Spann as our plenary speakers.

New things in store for us arise from sharing the campus with Friends Music Camp. Our rooms will be in Barrett Hall, all activities for adults will be in the Runyan Center, and the children's program will be in the lounge area of Earlham Hall, just upstairs from the cafeteria.

Sessions begin Wednesday afternoon with child safety and abuse prevention training and the initial business sessions. The child safety program (formerly FAP training or workshop) is required for anyone volunteering with youth during the annual sessions and recommended for anyone involved with youth in their monthly meeting. Wednesday evening features a welcoming activity for all ages and worship. This year's schedule follows the reorganization instituted last year, with Carl Hyde as our Living Witness on Thursday and workshops on Friday and Saturday. The all-ages service project has been discontinued.

In spite of the full schedule, you will have time for solitude or socializing, naps or walks. Come and engage with your Yearly Meeting! If you like the experience, there are many ways for you to lend a hand during sessions and throughout the year.

For information: [MarthaViehmam @fuse.net](mailto:MarthaViehmam@fuse.net) (513) 324-8953  
or [Heather Snediker-Morscheck at hsnedmo@gmail.com](mailto:HeatherSnediker-Morscheck@hsnedmo@gmail.com) (614) 214-4639

## Dear Friends: Greetings from the Clerk

By Rex Sprouse



Have you ever tried to explain to someone why an experience in your life was exciting or hilarious or frightening, but you just had to give up and say "I guess that you just had to be there"? That is how I feel when I try to tell new Friends about Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting annual sessions. Nevertheless, I will give it a try.

Most of us attend local meetings with at most a couple dozen others, and many of us see other Quakers only once a week for an hour or two. It is easy for us to become atomized in our Quakerism. Annual sessions of the Yearly Meeting give us a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a wider Quaker community. We gather to worship, to fellowship, to open our minds, hearts, and spirits to the Guidance of the Inner Light for ourselves and for the gathered body. The annual sessions give us opportunities for listening, learning, and sharing. Our children and youth love the time they spend together, and their ties to and identify with the Religious Society of Friends are significantly deepened.

At the same time, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting sessions are relatively small and intimate. Everyone is invited. There is no need to be shy. If you are new to the Yearly Meeting, you will immediately be welcome. There are no A-Tables and B-Tables in the Earlham dining hall. You are invited to join a worship sharing group, come to workshops and interest group sessions, and join conversations in the public lounges. You will come to know and to be known by other Friends. And you will have daily opportunities for waiting worship and meeting for business in the manner of Friends.

I am looking forward to seeing you at Earlham. I hope that you will come and experience this facet of our experiential religion.

# FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISIONS

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## From the OVYM Faith & Practice Committee May 2016

As you may know, at last summer's sessions Friends decided to step up the pace of our Faith & Practice revision, a process in which we have been engaged since 2000. As a step in that process, five pieces of material to be considered for approval during this year's annual sessions are printed below. **They are also available on the [OVYM website \(annual sessions area\)](#) along with surrounding material so you can see them in context.** An earlier draft of each of these sections was sent to the monthly meetings last November for review. Ten meetings sent comments and suggested changes. The committee has attempted to produce final drafts that, to the greatest extent possible, incorporate meeting suggestions.

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### Community

*Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.*

*1 John 4:11*

*Our life is love, and peace, and tenderness; and bearing one with another, and forgiving one another, and not laying accusations one against another; but praying one for another, and helping one another up with a tender hand.*

*Isaac Penington, 1667*

*In a true community we will not choose our companions, for our choices are so often limited by self-serving motives. Instead, our companions will be given to us by grace. Often they will be persons who will upset our settled view of self and world. In fact, we might define true community as the place where the person you least want to live with always lives!*

*Parker J. Palmer, 1977*

*A well-functioning meeting acts as one, as a body.... It means understanding the meeting community as an organism that is responsive to God as a whole, rather than just as a collection of individuals.*

*Fran Taber, 2004*

Each of us lives in multiple overlapping and interconnected communities. Some we are born into, while others we choose to join. Each one provides us with an opportunity to test, refine, and express our beliefs, attitudes, and preferences. Claiming membership in a community is a way to define ourselves to others. As we live into that commitment, community can be more than just a group of people. It can embody our testimonies – a way we witness to the world about what we believe to be most important.

A Quaker Community is many things. It is where we seek and worship the divine. It is a body of Friends who provide temporal support and spiritual nurture for each other. It is where we test our sense of what God has called us to do individually and as a people. By shouldering the responsibilities of membership, we declare our willingness to wrestle together with what it means to be a Quaker and to help each other put what we discover into practice. It daily tests us to stay centered in compassion as we encounter the varieties of human experience. A Quaker community declares that each has a unique relationship with God and with each other; it challenges us to faithfully live into those relationships. It is where we risk being transformed.

Community life exposes our own and others' foibles and failures. It reminds us to look to the Inward Light for guidance in our everyday lives. God brought our companions to us; living with them in community, we learn and relearn to love and forgive, to be patient, accepting, and generous. It provides a space for us to safely engage with beliefs that are different from our own.

If we only observe those principles within our Quaker community, it can be an excuse to withdraw into ourselves. The testimony of community requires that we also live out what we believe in the wider world.

When community is our testimony, we love our neighbor as ourselves. Our outward actions reveal spiritually-rooted alternatives to the ways of the wider culture – we model growing spiritually and help others do the same. The Quaker Testimony of Community proclaims a different way to live with others. It challenges each of us to put a relationship with God at the center of our lives and to let that bond shape all of our relationships with each other and with the larger world.

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### Equality

*God does not show favoritism.*

*Romans 2:11*

*And God hath put no such difference between the Male and Female as men would make.*

*Margaret Fell, Women's Speaking Justified, 1666*

*To consider mankind otherwise than brethren, to think favors are peculiar to one nation and exclude others, plainly supposes a darkness in the understanding. For as God's love is universal, so where the mind is sufficiently influenced by it, it begets a likeness of itself and the heart is enlarged towards all men.*

*John Woolman, Considerations on the Keeping of Negroes, 1754*

*The roots of racial prejudice lie deep within us, and in seeking a solution to the evil results of racial tensions we need to search our own hearts. Our belief in the significance of every individual in the sight of God and his need for an abundant life can guide us even when we shrink before the vastness of the problem.*

*1952 Proceedings of London Yearly Meeting*

Early Friends based their treatment of others on scripture and continuing revelation. In the Bible, they saw that God created and cares for all humans equally. Continuing revelation led Quakers to see that believing in spiritual equality carries implications for how we live our outward lives. We recognize that of God in all people, and believe that each person has equal access to the divine.

This fundamental belief led early Friends to recognize women's spiritual gifts and to reject practices designed to maintain distinctions among social classes. Friends also came to recognize that no one could justly hold another in slavery. Over time, they dis-

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covered it was necessary to give up slaveholding and, for many, to work actively for its abolition. This work continues today.

In the 19th and 20th centuries, many Friends – both women and men – were active advocates for women’s rights. Since women’s ministry had been recognized and encouraged from the Society’s earliest days, Quaker women had the confidence and leadership skills in organizing efforts for women’s suffrage and in the still-ongoing work for full equality with men in all aspects of their lives.

In a process that continues today, many Friends also came to recognize that social class distinctions are rooted in the unequal and often inequitable distribution of wealth and resources – an inequality that many of us benefit from. Some Friends choose to live very simply in terms of material goods and many advocate for a fairer distribution of resources and for programs to help the disadvantaged. We need to acknowledge these advantages in our own lives and ask what love requires of us.

In recent decades, Friends have also come to reject other forms of inequality. In particular, many have joined with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer Friends in calling for full equality for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations, and for the elimination of legal barriers to their full equality.

More recently, Friends are confronting the continuing racism and white privilege that has too often influenced our attitudes and behaviors. When we face up to these uncomfortable attitudes, we learn how ignorant we are of hidden, unfair, and harmful biases in our lives, our relationships, and our institutions.

To be faithful, we must be willing to confront anything in our lives, our religious society, and in the surrounding culture that unjustly holds one person up and holds another back. We need to live up to our understanding that all are equally children of God. Our calling as Friends is to seek more Light and let that guide us in testifying to equality in our lives.

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## Worship Sharing

Worship sharing is an opportunity for a group of Friends to focus on a particular question under divine guidance. This may be an especially troubling issue within a meeting or a query inviting personal reflection. It can be helpful in a variety of situations when we need a chance to share more deeply with each other than we would in ordinary conversation. Worship sharing opens a sacred space, where we can take down our usual defenses and encounter each other in “that which is eternal.” In that place, we are mindful of the personal nature of the sharing and do not repeat outside the session things that are meant only for that particular time.

We come to a meeting for worship open to speaking or not speaking, as we are led. In worship sharing, we come aware that we will probably speak, although no one is compelled to do so. We enter as though we have all the time in the world—yet mindful of how much time we actually have. All are individually responsible for keeping within the available time, so that each has an opportunity to speak and to listen to what others say. It is often helpful for one participant to be aware of the time and to gently shepherd those present.

We speak only for ourselves and from our own experiences, attempting to distill the promptings of the Spirit into a single statement. Our goal is to speak from the heart; not to answer, discuss, or correct one another, which can serve to separate us from one another and from what is said. Each person should speak only once before all have had an opportunity to do so. This opens space for those who are more reticent to share in the process.

While others are speaking, we are open and attentive. We listen to others as children of God, each one a unique gift to us. We try to hear how the Holy Spirit might be speaking to us personally in the other’s words, in their situation, even—and especially—when we find ourselves resistant to those words.

As each person finishes speaking, we allow time in contemplation to take in what has been said and to be sure we have truly heard it. This is an opportunity to identify our resonances and resistances before the next person speaks.

As we listen, we may become mindful of a pattern emerging that reflects the movement of the Spirit among us.

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## Clearness Committees

A Clearness Committee is created when one or more individuals who are seeking clearness ask three or four other Friends to join with them in a spirit of worship, listening, and loving concern. Anyone can request a clearness committee from the meeting that he or she attends.

Traditionally, clearness committees involved consideration of a concern that might be brought formally under a meeting’s care and discernment, such as a request for membership or marriage. In these cases, clearness is sought on behalf of both the meeting and the individual(s). (See the sections on Membership and Marriage.)

Clearness committees may also be used to test personal decisions or transitions. The clearness process may be used to discern the nature of a call to public ministry or witness, whether there is a leading of the Spirit, what faithfulness requires, and whether way is open for responding. This process may reveal that submitting the leading to the meeting’s care and accountability would be empowering.

Clearness is a collective process of discerning the leadings of the Inward Light. The process is simple. Members of the committee ask questions that might help the seeker’s own discernment – without offering advice, sharing personal anecdotes, or counseling. Testing for clearness is a spiritual exercise. It requires a spirit of openness and trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

A clearness process that has been favored by the movement of the Spirit may produce an unexpected or surprising outcome.

**(more Faith and Practice next page)**

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# FAITH AND PRACTICE REVISIONS, continued

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## OTHER QUAKER ORGANIZATIONS (New Material only)

Over the course of the last hundred years, dozens of Quaker organizations have grown up to provide service to Friends and to promote Friends' values in the wider world. OVYM has made financial contributions to many, and members of OVYM meetings were involved in many more. A few of the larger and more influential organizations are listed below. Further information about Quaker organizations can be found at their websites.

### Friends Journal

Quakers have been publishing fliers, pamphlets, and tracts since the 1650s. Periodicals became particularly important to the North American Friends in the 19th century as Quakers settled across the continent and visitation by traveling ministers became more difficult. With the separations of the 1820s and later, Friends in different branches produced publications to serve their own members. Two of these were published by Friends in the two Philadelphia Yearly Meetings: *The Friends Intelligencer* (Hicksite) and *The Friend* (Orthodox). After these meetings reunited in 1955, *Friends Journal* was created as an independent organization "for the purpose of promoting religious concerns of the Religious Society of Friends and the education and information of its members and others by means of the written or spoken word." In 2015, the Journal had readers in all 50 states and more than 40 other countries.

### Quaker Earthcare Witness

Originally named *Friends Committee on Unity with Nature*, this organization was established in 1987. A workshop was held at the FGC Gathering that year on the importance of living in harmony with the earth and with all of God's creation. Its name was officially changed to Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) in 2003. Although it started at an FGC Gathering, the organization works with all Quaker branches.

QEW's purpose is to call on all people to live in right relationship with all Creation, recognizing that the entire world is interconnected and is a manifestation of God. The organization works to integrate into the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends the Truth that God's Creation is to be respected, protected, and held in reverence in its own right; and the Truth that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the earth's ecological integrity. It promotes these Truths by being patterns and examples, by communicating its message, and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in the compelling task of transforming our relationship to the earth.

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## Suggestions for Hearing Assistance in Meeting for Worship

A request came from Bloomington Meeting for Friends "to share various ways your Meeting has addressed the need for hearing assistance in Worship." Several Meetings responded this was an important concern to them as well. Below are quotes from the responses.

Community has put a hearing aid device in our meeting room with several mobile units that anyone can use when coming into the meeting. The hearing units are placed on credenza (the front hall table) that is the first thing people see when they walk in our front door. It is a system that sends out the sounds in the room to several receivers with earphones and adjustable volume. We have three of the receivers, so three people could use the system at the same time. And presumably we can buy more receivers if needed. Currently no one has been regularly using the system, though it was used regularly by one member several years ago.

Lexington: This is an important issue as many Friends in our meeting require hearing aids. We try to keep the circle as tight as possible. We certainly ask Friends to speak up. As the clerk I chose where I stand to be sure that no one is behind me so that my voice projects well. We have purchased one or two sets of portable microphones and amplifiers connected to head phones. They don't get used very much.

Dayton has one Friend who brings her own device. We (Ministry and Oversight) also remind people every month or two to speak up so that others can hear, as part of our report.

Oxford: I would say also that that is a concern at Oxford Meeting, and we are currently looking for ways to address the concern. We have not done so in any fully satisfactory way to this point. In terms of positive solutions, I was visiting Poughkeepsie Meeting (in New York Yearly Meeting). Everybody sat in a big circle; there were about twenty persons present. In the middle of the circle was a small table, with a vase of flowers and a microphone. Those of us who spoke during meeting walked to the table to pick up the microphone. It amplified the sound such that all could hear.

If you have further thoughts or ideas, please email or call me: Deborah Jordan [ovymsec@fuse.net](mailto:ovymsec@fuse.net) or 513-251-2558



### **Important: OVYM Seeking Youth Secretary**

OVYM is currently seeking a Friend to work 1/2 time with both our Middle and High School youth in a year round position (although there will be more hours spent during certain months of the year). The job description can also be viewed on the OVYM website (see home page, bottom right under Quaker Job Openings) or contact Deborah Jordan [ovymsec@fuse.net](mailto:ovymsec@fuse.net)

#### **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

A secretary of youth programs is sought to nurture and provide programs for young Friends of middle school and high school ages throughout the year. This includes offering of new experiences, spiritual nurture and opportunities for service and leadership.

#### Responsibilities:

- Work with Youth Activities Committee and with designated youth leadership in Whitewater and Miami Quarterly Meetings to organize and publicize youth activities at the Yearly Meeting level and to attend such sessions and youth activities.
- Attend appropriate committee meetings and work with the Middle Youth and Teen Committees to assist transitional activities for twelve and thirteen year old children into the Teen Group.
- Provide assistance and leadership in organizing work camps, service projects and other special opportunities.
- Organize and attend middle youth teen retreats and other related activities.
- Encourage youth participation in wider Friends youth activities and coordinate with other area Friends youth workers.
- Maintain communications with youth activities and needs in monthly Meetings of OVYM and be available to assist and visit.
- Assist and lead in the spiritual nurture of Young Friends in OVYM.
- Directly assist teen age members of OVYM to work within their communities; to network with each other throughout Yearly Meeting; attain an understanding and vision of Quakerism; develop activities; be a mentor.

#### Qualifications:

- Active membership in the Religious Society of Friends.
- A working knowledge of the Bible and Friends' testimonies, writings, Faith and Practice, and other procedures as developed by OVYM.
- Aware of Friends' social concerns and organizations and be adept at understanding concerns of teen age youth.
- Exhibit the ability to interact effectively with youth.
- Experience with all major Friends' traditions and an understanding of religious diversity.
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent course work and experience.
- Access to an automobile, available for weekend travel and be willing to accept overnight hospitality.
- Energetic, friendly and able to have fun and be serious. Leadership qualities are required.
- Submit to periodic background checks as designated by OVYM and any periodic background checks which OVYM may determine to be appropriate.

Interested individuals should send a cover letter stating their interest and reasons for applying as well as a resume to: Deborah Jordan, Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting, [ovymsec@fuse.net](mailto:ovymsec@fuse.net).

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
**Joint Quarterly Mtg. Oct. 29th to 30th**  
**at Camp Kern near Lebanon, OH**

# News from Monthly Meetings

## Bloomington

### Welcome Morning

There is joy  
in all:  
in the hair I brush each morning,  
in the Cannon towel, newly washed,  
that I rub my body with each morning,  
in the chapel of eggs I cook  
each morning,  
in the outcry from the kettle  
that heats my coffee  
each morning,  
in the spoon and the chair  
that cry “hello there, Anne”  
each morning,  
in the godhead of the table  
that I set my silver, plate, cup upon  
each morning.

All this is God,  
right here in my pea-green house  
each morning  
and I mean,  
though often forget,  
to give thanks,  
to faint down by the kitchen table  
in a prayer of rejoicing  
as the holy birds at the kitchen window  
peck into their marriage of seeds.

So while I think of it,  
let me paint a thank-you on my palm  
for this God, this laughter of the morning,  
lest it go unspoken.

The Joy that isn't shared, I've heard,  
dies young.

*by Ann Sexton, from The Awful Rowing Toward God, 1975*

*This poem was reprinted in a recent issue of the Bloomington Friends Newsletter. Excerpted by Quill Editor*



## Clear Creek

Worship at Clear Creek is often completely silent except for some difficult-to-interpret utterances from the heating system, and the sounds of toy car wheels on the oak parquet floor when the very youngest attenders join us towards the end of the hour.

The silence in this meeting is deep and it is kind.

When there is vocal ministry from time to time, it is usually brief and very personal and free of spiritual competitiveness. (To me, this is remarkable since probably half or more of our regular attenders have studied religion professionally.)

At the end of our silent worship time, our tradition is to share personal “Joys and Concerns” to be held in the Light during the coming week:

Those who have watched this Meeting over the decades remember times when there were many more attenders and occasionally remind us of the activism that thrived among us in earlier times. These days it seems there is less collective activism, but many of us have jobs or personal projects that align with Quaker concerns for the larger human community, and we often ask for spiritual support for these endeavors during this time at rise of meeting.

As quiet as worship tends to be at Clear Creek, the fellowship hour afterwards tends to be noisy. People rush in to get their preferred hits of coffee or tea and various goodies. Folks usually cluster in dyads and small groups, checking in with each other, laughing, and herding small children as they forage at the snack table.

We tend to be unusually rowdy at times of celebration, such as the recent Meeting's 60th birthday. There were even a few people present who were around when a volunteer crew raised this building six decades ago!

We have also, in recent months, celebrated the life of Helen Cope in a well attended memorial service, and the transitions of two of our long term members from their professorships at Earlham College, to the next phase of their lives. Michael Birkel will move to a professorship at Earlham School of Religion and Mary Garman is retiring at the end of this school year. Luckily both will remain active in our Meeting's life.

The nature of this Meeting is that people tend to come into the Meeting for a period of time and then move on to other roles and other parts of the world. The current crop of graduates and visiting faculty from both Earlham College and ESR have all contributed in many ways to the life of the Meeting and will be missed.

*Submitted by Palline Plum.*

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## Eastern Hills

Eastern Hills Meeting is in the process of updating our website. Here are a couple photos that were taken to possibly use on the website. We hope to show that we are a welcoming community. We also enjoy singing together.

This past year, along with Greater Anderson Promotes Peace (GAPP), our Meeting hosted monthly inter-denominational meetings to pray for peace at our Meeting House.

For almost five years we have furnished lunch once a month to Jimmy Heath House. JHH is run with a “housing first” principle. Homeless people are given homes because it is believed that they can become clinically and socially stable faster when homelessness is eliminated.

Before lunch chess games may be played and those from Eastern Hills who serve lunch join the residents for the meal and for socializing.

*Submitted by Henrietta Ballinger*



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## Lexington Friends Meeting Explores Racial Issues

Lexington Friends have decided to engage in a number of activities to expand our understanding of racial issues and to develop relationships with people of color. Many liberal Friends recognize that the members and attenders of our meetings tend to be overwhelmingly white. For a number of years, Friends General Conference has engaged in a ministry on racism and other efforts to help Friends challenge racism, work for racial diversity, and facilitate connections with Friends of color.

Lexington Friends have developed a relationship with St. Andrews Episcopal Church, a small church a few blocks from our meetinghouse that has a diverse congregation. In the fall, we got together to sing and socialize at their church. We are planning a second similar event that we will host at our meetinghouse. Some of their young people attend a knitting group we host.

In October we hosted a potluck at which Carol Taylor, a social justice educator at the University of Kentucky, talked with us about her experiences as a Black woman growing up and living in Lexington. It was an illuminating evening for many of us.

Four Lexington Friends recently attended a 2-day conference on diversity hosted by a number of local colleges and universities. The pastor of St. Andrews and one of her parishioners also attended that conference, and after the conference the six of us got together to talk about our experiences at the conference. From that meeting, we decided to form a book group to read the book, *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debbie Irving. Irving's memoir includes queries at the end of each chapter to actively engage readers in their own journey of awakening.

Several Lexington Friends have begun attending the monthly luncheons of the Black Church Coalition, which is a local coalition of both Black and white congregations that meet to socialize, educate themselves about local social services, and maintain a fund for people who need help meeting expenses, e.g. paying a utility or medical bill.

And finally, a number of Lexington Friends are planning to attend the White Privilege Conference, which is being held this year in Louisville on March 11-14, 2015. Friends who register through Friends General Conference get a large discount on the registration fee. Vanessa Julye spoke about this conference at last summer's OVYM sessions. This is a wonderful opportunity for Friends in our region. We hope to see other OVYM Friends at the conference.

Speaking for myself, it feels good to be engaging in these activities and developing new relationships after years of feeling uncomfortable about how segregated my life and understanding are. I feel empowered and optimistic about tackling topics like white privilege, oppression, and multicultural understanding. I hope that OVYM Friends can also engage in such efforts and share with us what they are doing and learning.

*Submitted by Betsy Neale in January. The editor regrets the omission of this section from the February Quill.*

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## Miami Meeting

We were deeply saddened at the passing of William Hoch on March 10th. Bill served as Treasurer of the Meeting for 15 years as well as contributing to discussions and worship. His memorial was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at Elmcroft Senior Living in Miamisburg.

Travis Cook has taken on the project of creating a documentary film of the History of Miami Monthly Meeting for eventual entry into Ohio's History Archives. Research is currently underway to write a script and plans are being made for filming the interviews. More information will be available as the project progresses.

Our annual Worship and Picnic at Fort Ancient is scheduled for July 17th. Members of Meetings in Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting are invited to join us. We will gather at 10 a.m. for worship with the picnic to follow. Please enter via the driveway to the Caretaker's house and follow the signs to the pavilion. Those wishing to tour the grounds of this historic Native American site are welcome to do so following the picnic.

Our membership has grown in the last quarter with the addition of the Pfaltzgraff-Carlson family and they have shared their experiences of traveling ministry in Japan and Rhonda's experiences with the School of the Spirit.

We continue to work on our facilities and grounds. We have improved the insulation of the White Brick Meetinghouse and are moving forward with plans for additional shrubbery for the grounds around that facility.

*Lonny Burger*

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## Yellow Springs

Life at Yellow Springs continues to be rich! We have built community with an intergenerational soup supper and game night. We have mourned the passings of member Jean Putnam and attender George Mueller. We have celebrated the marriage of Tasha Pakhrin and Shawn Tulecke. We have welcomed Carol Simmons into membership. Member Ellen Duell was celebrated as she moved to New York to live with her daughter. The meeting's first day schedule had been revamped to allow more time and greater depth in the adult meeting for learning. The library committee has been hard at work clearing out and improving our library. And the kitchen now has a dishwashing machine with a new refrigerator is on the way. We are looking forward to celebrating the graduation of some of our college students and an intergenerational talent show.

*Submitted by Heather Snediker-Morscheck*

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## OTHER REGIONAL FRIENDS

### Children's Books Published by Regional Friend

Leland Gamson is a member of the Wabash, IN Friends Meeting and has five children's books published by Sojourn Publishing of Sedona, AZ. They are "Lokael: The Donkey Who Carried Jesus", "Samson at the Olympics", "Why Can't Dogs Talk", "Where is Grandpa?", and "If Your Dog Were a Human". He is also writing a column for "Hope In Him" magazine.

*Submitted by Leland (cell 765-603-0996)*

### Indiana Yearly Meeting meets July 28 through July 30 Quaker Haven

Changes from previous years: 1) Our sessions will end with the "Feast of Faith" on Saturday evening rather than continuing through Sunday morning. (There is an "Afterglow" option for those who would like to stay for worship with Dewart Lake Community Friends on Sunday morning.) 2) We are streamlining business and reports to allow more time for additional workshops, fellowship, and enjoyment of the camp.

Worship at our Indiana Yearly Meeting sessions is the most important thing we do. This year, we are blessed to have as our worship leaders, "The Kramer's," a musically gifted family from Peoria, IL. The Kramer's will also be our featured entertainers for the "Feast of Faith" on Saturday night. You will likely enjoy their music, but more importantly, we believe they will help us experience the presence of Jesus in times of gathered worship. Don't miss our 2016 IYM sessions, July 28-30!

*Excerpted by Quill editor from IYM Communicator*

## 2016 Yearly Meeting Program and Presenters

### Plenary Session: Thursday, July 28, 7:00 – 8:30 pm



#### Michael Birkel: Hospitality Among Religious Communities: What I Learned as a Guest Among American Muslims

Michael Birkel is a member of Clear Creek Monthly Meeting and has taught for many years at Earlham. His writings include an introduction to Quaker spirituality entitled *Silence and Witness*, a study of John Woolman's spirituality, *A Near Sympathy*, an exploration of early Quaker meditative reading of the Bible, *Engaging Scripture*, and *Genius of the Transcendent: Mystical Writings of Jakob Boehme*. Michael is active in interfaith relations, particular-

ly Muslim-Christian dialogue, and in his most recent book, *Qur'an in Conversation*, Muslim religious leaders and scholars offer interpretations of key passages of the Qur'an.

### Plenary Session: Friday, July 29, 7:00 – 8:30 pm



#### Niyonu Spann: Trusting the Broken Heart

Everyday we choose to face, dismiss, engage or disregard the brokenness all around us. We therefore lose our capacity to discern its source. Dis-acknowledging the interwoven journeys, the choices made that have brought us to today, means that we lose not only our capacity to discern the source of dis-ease but we also lose the ability to prepare and apply the healing balm. Acknowledging that *my wholeness is bound to your wholeness* amplifies healing vibrations. Acting from this reality creates and sustains community. Spirit guides us in seeing, in acknowledging, in discerning right action so that we might truly remember Oneness.

Niyonu D. Spann is a member of Chester Monthly Meeting in Chester, PA. She founded and directed the musical group Tribe 1, who has performed songs of peace, justice and transformation in the US and in Nicaragua. In 2007, Niyonu completed four years as Dean of Pendle Hill. Upon leaving Pendle Hill, she felt a strong call to move to the city of Chester, PA (rated "the poorest [district] in Pennsylvania"). While living in Chester, Niyonu developed a non-profit called *4 Circles Beyond, Inc.* Under *4 Circles*, she is building community collaborations for providing programming that fosters peaceful living through the arts and youth leadership.

Niyonu is currently directing *CEIO - Co-Creating Effective & Inclusive Organizations*, which she co-founded with Bill Graustein in New Haven, CT. This has been a tremendous opportunity to bring together much of what she has learned through her years of work in organization and community transformation as well as in spiritual activism toward social and economic justice.

# Workshops *Sign up for workshops at the registration table when you arrive.*

## ***Friday 1:45 – 3:15***

### **1. Encountering The Qur'an - Michael Birkel**

This workshop will be an opportunity to explore some of the Scriptures of Islam. How as Quakers might we approach another community's holy book?

### **2. Say it, Do it, Be it: Nurturing an Inclusive Society – Riley Robinson**

What progress have we seen in the Religious Society of Friends in inclusion and diversity? In our Yearly and Monthly Meetings? In Quaker organizations? Does your yearly or monthly meeting have a statement on inclusion and diversity? What does it say? Do you have it on your website? Does it have a plan of action? What work has been done? Is there a document or a project that could be of help to other Friends? What is each one of us led to do?

Recommended advanced reading: see the Friends Committee on National Legislation's Statement on Diversity and Inclusion at [http://fcn.org/about/statement\\_of\\_diversity\\_and\\_inclusion/](http://fcn.org/about/statement_of_diversity_and_inclusion/) (for our own organizational community) and our Legislative Policy at <http://fcn.org/about/govern/policy/>, especially Part 2 (our goals in working for change)..

### **3. Choral Singing: The Path to Justice, Inclusion and Love - Catherine Roma**

How do we connect with one another? Choral singing holds a vital key that can activate and connect us across faiths and differences. What is faith? What is radical empathy and inclusion? What is justice and love? Can we investigate and get closer to the answers through the repertoire we choose to sing together in community? Can choral singing help us “interfere with injustice” as Rabbi Heschel asks? Does choral singing allow us to be “creatively maladjusted” as Dr. King spoke of when he says “human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted?” Can singing in diverse ensembles help us to manifest and understand what Dr. Cornell West means when he says, “justice is what love looks like in public?” Dr. Roma's work forming and directing prison choirs will be a key source of reference for this workshop. Come sing and learn repertoire. Any and all ages who want to raise their voices are welcome.

### **4. Waking Up to the Living World: An Animist Quakerism – Bill Cahalan**

Animism is the belief and felt sense that the natural world is alive and sacred. The eclipse of this old sense of belonging to a living, sacred world has paved the way for us in industrial cultures to ravage the natural world as we live our consumerist lives. Consumerism tends to see nature as property, as resource, or as mere scenery. Quakerism's deep listening practice and affirmation of the Light within seem ripe for including aspects of a new animism supported by science. Could such a turning bring us into a more direct, inspiring engagement with the natural world, as a living creation which must be honored and nurtured, as it nurtures us? How might we become true inhabitants of our land community, rather than mere occupants and consumers, living a faith grounded in life?

Recommended reading in advance if people are interested: *Seeing Nature: Deliberate Encounters with the Visible World*, by Paul Krafel; *Gentle Action: Bringing Creative Change to a Turbulent World*, by F. David Peat; *Finding God in the Singing River*, by Mark Wallace.

## ***Saturday 1:45 – 3:15***

### **5. Singing Our Souls - Niyonu Spann**

Bring your voices and instruments and let us join in learning a few songs that open the heart, soothe the spirit and inspire the body to move! (All ages welcome!)

### **6. Friendly Bible Study: Ruth – Rod Dixon**

The workshop will explore the Book of Ruth using a revised form of the Friendly Bible Study Method. Ruth is a fitting book to read given this year's theme of inclusivity, as one of the predominant themes of the story is the struggle of an outsider assimilating into a suspicious and sometimes openly hostile society. Workshop participants are strongly encouraged to (re-)read Ruth prior to the workshop.

***Saturday workshops continued next page***

## ***Saturday workshops continued***

### **7. Quaker Social Change Ministry: Strengthening the Connection Between Social Change and Spiritual Growth - Shannon Effler, Erin Polley and Kevin Angell**

This workshop will share North Meadow Circle of Friends experience piloting a new model of social change developed by AFSC called Quaker Social Change Ministry. As Quakers, our faith calls us to be agents for social change. Without a supportive community, social change work can be draining, confusing, unsustainable, frustrating, and scattered. Quaker Social Change Ministry (QSCM) provides a simple but transformative approach to doing social change work, bringing together small groups of Friends to focus on an issue that connects the congregation, the local community, and AFSC. Leaders of this workshop will share their experience piloting the model through a partnership for social change with the Kheprw Institute (KI). KI is an Indianapolis community-based empowerment center. Participants will learn the model and explore how to implement the model in their home Meeting.

### **8. What Can the Apostle Paul Tell Us About Finding Unity in Diversity? - Dale Hayes**

Using verses from Paul's letters, Friends will explore how, contrary to the view of many, Paul was a radical egalitarian seeking unity in diversity. Reading and discussion will draw on the authentic Pauline letters and notions of unity and inclusiveness as understood by Paul and early Friends to inform our understanding of modern Quaker community.

Recommended (not required) background reading: *The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan

### **9. Who Do You Say That I Am? A Conversation About Jesus - Nikki Coffey Tousley**

Friends have deep roots in the Christian tradition, but contemporary Friends vary greatly in how we understand and relate to Jesus and the Biblical story. This workshop will be a chance to share our experiences and reflect on the challenges and/or wisdom we and earlier Friends find in the Christian tradition. Come prepared to be honest and open with other Friends.

## **OVYM SEEKS ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM SESSIONS ATTENDEES**

### **Round Up Your Registration and Make a Difference**

Last year, OVYM received a substantial increase in gifts made during annual sessions, allowing the Budget and Finance Committee to balance the overall budget much more easily. Continued donations from those who attend the annual sessions and can afford to give remain an essential part of the budget projections. Based on the difference between receipts and expenses for the annual session, Budget and Finance calculates that a donation of up to \$60 per day (or \$240 for the whole session) in addition to regular registration fees for every adult who pays the full cost will cover all expenses for the annual sessions. However, any amount that is comfortable for you will be gratefully received and will make a difference. Thank you for your consideration and for your past contributions.

# OVYM 196<sup>th</sup> Annual Sessions

## ONE IN SPIRIT: BECOMING A MORE INCLUSIVE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY

**July 27 – July 31, 2016 at Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana**

### MAIN SCHEDULE

**General Information:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Bookstore is in Leeds Gallery, Runyan  | • Registration Desk is in Runyan                   |
| Wi-Fi is available campus wide         | • Interest Groups info posted at registration desk |
| Use Guest Access. There is no password | • Coffee & Exhibits are in Runyan hallway          |

**REMINDER: Turn in room keys to staff at Runyan Center desk when leaving**

<p><b>DAILY EVENTS:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All meals will be in the dining hall in Runyan.</li> <li>Breakfast: 7:30 – 8:30am</li> <li>Lunch: 12:30 – 1:30pm</li> <li>Dinner: 5:30 – 6:30pm</li> <li>• <b>Stout Meeting House will be available all day for Worship beginning at 7:00am.</b></li> <li>• Facilities at the Wellness Center available for a daypass. See Earlham staff for details</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>Registration Hours:</u></b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">•Wed. 12:00-6:00pm</td> <td style="width: 33%;">•Sun. 7:30 – 8:00am</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6:30-9:00pm</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>•Thurs. - Sat. 8:00-8:30am</td> <td>Eric Wolff – Registrar</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1:00-1:30pm</td> <td>(513) 378-8730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6:00-6:30pm</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	•Wed. 12:00-6:00pm	•Sun. 7:30 – 8:00am	6:30-9:00pm		•Thurs. - Sat. 8:00-8:30am	Eric Wolff – Registrar	1:00-1:30pm	(513) 378-8730	6:00-6:30pm	
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<b><u>FRIDAY WORKSHOPS: 1:45 – 3:15pm</u></b>	<b><u>SATURDAY WORKSHOPS: 1:45 – 3:15pm</u></b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encountering The Qur’an - Michael Birkel</li> <li>2. Say it, Do it, Be it: Nurturing an Inclusive Society – Riley Robinson</li> <li>3. Choral Singing: The Path to Justice, Inclusion and Love - Catherine Roma</li> <li>4. Waking Up to the Living World: An Animist Quakerism – Bill Cahalan</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Singing Our Souls - Niyonu Spann</li> <li>6. Friendly Bible Study: Ruth – Rod Dixon</li> <li>7. Quaker Social Change Ministry: Strengthening the Connection Between Social Change and Spiritual Growth - Shannon Effler, Erin Polley and Kevin Angell</li> <li>8. What Can the Apostle Paul Tell Us About Finding Unity in Diversity? - Dale Hayes</li> <li>9. Who Do You Say That I Am? A Conversation About Jesus - Nikki Coffey Tousley</li> </ol>

### **SPECIAL EVENTS/PLENARIES**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Thursday: Living Witness <b>Carl Hyde</b> 1:45–3:15<br>(with the help of David & Susan)             | Orchard Rm. Runyan        |
| Thursday Plenary – <b>Michael Birkel</b> 7:00 – 8:30pm<br>“Hospitality Among Religious Communities” | Wilkinson Theater, Runyan |
| Friday Plenary - <b>Niyonu Spann</b> 7:00 – 8:30pm<br>“Trusting the Broken Heart”                   | Wilkinson Theater, Runyan |

## WEEK AT A GLANCE

### WEDNESDAY: Site Manager: Heather Snediker-Morscheck (614) 214-4639

1:30 – 2:45pm Child Safety Training (childcare avail. upon request) Earlham Hall Conference Room  
3:00 – 5:00pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Wilkinson (Runyan)  
6:15 – 8:15pm Get acquainted activity for all ages and Welcoming Worship (Runyan)  
8:30 – 9:45pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Wilkinson (Runyan)

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### THURSDAY: Site Manager: Heather Snediker-Morscheck (614) 214-4639

8:45 – 9:45am Worship Sharing (Group lists with locations located at the registrar's table in Runyan Center)  
10:00–12:30pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Comstock (Runyan)  
1:45 – 3:15pm **Living Witness** (Runyan)  
3:30 – 5:00pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Comstock (Runyan)  
6:15 – 6:45pm Singing Wilkinson Theater (Runyan)  
7:00 – 8:30pm **PLENARY SESSION** – Michael Birkel Wilkinson Theater  
9:00–10:00pm Interest Groups Locations posted at registration desk

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### FRIDAY: Site Manager: Richard Mitchell (859) 327-6277

8:45–9:45am Worship Sharing (Group lists with locations located at the registrar's table in Runyan Center)  
10:00–12:30pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Comstock (Runyan)  
1:45 – 3:15pm Workshops (titles/locations on page1; descriptions in Quill; signup at Registration desk)  
3:30 – 4:30 Memorial Meeting Stout Meetinghouse  
6:15 – 6:45pm Singing Wilkinson Theater (Runyan)  
7:00 – 8:30pm **PLENARY SESSION** – Niyonu Spann Wilkinson Theater  
9:00–10:00pm Interest Groups Locations posted at registration desk

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### SATURDAY: Site Manager: Kay Wheeler (937) 216-9804

8:45 – 9:45am Worship Sharing (Group lists with locations located at the registrar's table in Runyan Center)  
10:00–12:30pm Meeting for Worship with attention to Business Comstock (Runyan)  
12:30 – 1:30pm **LUNCH – Simple Meal with savings donated to Right Sharing of World Resources**  
1:45 – 3:15pm Workshops (titles/locations on page1; descriptions in Quill; signup at Registration desk)  
3:30 – 4:15pm **Simply Speaking** (Runyan)  
6:15 – 6:45pm Singing Wilkinson Theater (Runyan)  
7:00pm **VARIETY SHOW** Wilkinson Theater  
9:00 – 11:00PM The Afterthoughts Café pizza and socializing New Lobby Area (Runyan)

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### SUNDAY: Site Manager: Dinah Duvall (317) 340-6452

8:45 – 9:45am Worship Sharing (Group lists with locations located at the registrar's table in Runyan Center)  
10:00–11:00am Meeting for Worship with attention to Business & reading of epistles – Wilkinson Theater  
11:15–12:15pm Worship Stout Meetinghouse  
12:30 – 2:00pm Lunch and committee meetings  
2:00pm **CHECKOUT** Return keys to staff at the Runyan Center desk by 2:00pm or when leaving

**OVYM 196<sup>th</sup> Annual Sessions July 27 – July 31, 2106**

**ONE IN SPIRIT: BECOMING A MORE INCLUSIVE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY**

**YOUTH PROGRAM**

**TEEN**

Barrett Hall – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**MIDDLE YOUTH**

Barrett Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

**CHILDREN**

Earlham Hall – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

**Wednesday** 6:15 – 8:15pm Get acquainted activity for all ages and Welcoming Worship

8:45-9:30pm Teen Program

**Parent/Sponsor Orientation with Youth at their Program areas (time listed below)**

9:30-10:00pm

8:45-9:15pm

8:00-8:30

10:00-11:00pm time in dorm

9:30pm Quiet time in dorm

8:30pm with parents

**Thursday Teens**

**Middle Youth**

**Children**

8:45-12:15pm Program

8:45 -9:00am Worship sharing

8:30-12:15pm Program

1:45-3:15pm Living Witness

9:00-9:30am Business

1:30-5:15pm Program

3:30-4:30pm Program

9:30-12:15pm Program

12:30-1:30 Lunch w/ worship mentors

1:30-5:15 Program

6:15-6:45pm Singing

6:15-6:45pm Singing

7:00-8:30pm **Plenary Session**

6:45-9:00pm Program

6:45-8:45pm Program

8:30-10:00pm Program

9:00-10:00pm with parents

9:00-10:00pm with parents

10:00-11:00 Time in dorm

10:00pm Quiet time in dorm

10:00pm Quiet time in dorm

**Friday Teens**

**Middle Youth**

**Children**

8:45 – 3:00 pm Canoe trip (Teens and MY) Pack lunch Adults Welcome

3:00-5:15 Program

8:30-12:15pm Program

7:00-8:30pm **Plenary Session**

6:45-9:00pm Program

6:45-8:45pm Program

**Saturday Teens**

**Middle Youth**

**Children**

8:45-12:15pm Program

8:45 -9:00am Worship sharing

8:30-12:15pm Program

and business meeting

9:00-12:15pm Business & Program

1:45 – 3:15pm Workshops

1:30-5:15pm Program

1:30-5:15pm Program

3:30 – 4:15pm **Simply Speaking (Runyan)**

7:00pm **VARIETY SHOW**

7:00pm **VARIETY SHOW**

7:00pm **VARIETY SHOW**

9:00-11:00pm Afterthoughts Café in the New Lobby Area in Runyan

7:30-8:30 Child care as needed

**Sunday**

→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→ 8:45 – 9:45am Closing and Epistle Writing ←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←←

10:00–11:00am Meeting for Worship with attention to Business & reading of epistles

Wilkinson Theater

11:15am – 12:15pm Worship

Middle Youth Worship with Mentors

Stout Meetinghouse

2:00pm CHECKOUT **Return keys to staff at the Runyan Center desk by 2:00pm**

## Information for Families of Teens and Middle Youth

All Middle Youth and Teens must have a permission slip on file to participate in these programs. Please be sure to fill out, sign and mail or bring the consent included in the *Quill* to the registrar with the rest of your reservation. Print and complete a separate form for each youth or teen.

The Yearly Meeting pays all costs for children 18 years of age or younger to encourage families to participate in the sessions. However, be sure to register all persons who will be attending, including children and babies for whom there is no charge to you.

Remember to register early to make sure teens and middle youth get to be housed with their age group!

### Middle Youth Program

Participants are those aged 10, 11, 12, 13 or 14 by July 27, 2016.  
10 year olds may choose\* either the Children's Program or the Middle Youth Program, with MY clerk's consent.  
14 year olds may choose\* either the Middle Youth Program or the Teen Program.

Middle youth will be housed with or next to parents.

Middle youth should bring a water bottle and close-toed shoes that can get wet for Friday's canoe trip.

### Teen Program

Participants are those aged 14 by July 27, 2016, through those who graduated from high school in 2016.  
14 year olds may choose\* either the Middle Youth group or the Teen Program.

Teens should bring a water bottle and close-toed shoes that can get wet for Friday's canoe trip.

### Parents Please Note:

Parents and sponsors must attend the orientation meetings on Wednesday evening (see p. 3 of the schedule) or check in with program staff or committee clerk upon arrival and agree to the following responsibilities:

Attend the parent/sponsor orientation meeting in Barrett Hall (dorm) on Wednesday evening: 8:45 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor lounge for Middle Youth; 9:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor lounge for teens.

Middle Youth Parents/sponsors are responsible for middle youth during all non-program times.

Middle Youth Parents/sponsors are responsible for getting them to their youth program on time.

Teen Parents/sponsors are responsible for teens after 11:00 pm except on Saturday night.

Make sure the 11:00 PM quiet time is honored, and that youth stay in the dorm after this time.

Teen parents/sponsors are responsible for monitoring the teens on your hall for several hours one night during yearly meeting after 11pm. Friendly Adult Presences (FAPs) needed:

The teen group is seeking adults who have had FAP or Child Safety and Sexual Abuse Prevention training as a who would be willing to be scheduled for 2 to 3 hours of supervision during the night. You can indicate this on your registration form or talk to Program leaders. Child Safety (FAP) training is held on Wednesday afternoon.

\*Once a child selects (or is approved to participate in) one of the youth programs, the child is expected to remain in that group for the duration of the yearly meeting. Moving between groups is disruptive and inhibits the building of trust and community that makes yearly meeting such a valuable experience for our adolescents.



## TEEN & MIDDLE YOUTH REGISTRATION

Youth Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone/Contact Info during sessions: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian or Sponsor at OVYM: \_\_\_\_\_

### Consent and Medical Release

I give my consent for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Teen or Middle Youth program at the OVYM sessions held at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana, July 27 - 31, 2016.

I hereby release the OVYM and its staff and volunteers from any liability for any injury or illness my son/daughter may experience during the Yearly Meeting. I authorize the staff or volunteers of OVYM, or the above-named sponsor, to consent to any emergency care that may be needed in my absence, following recommendations of qualified health care providers. In the event that my son/daughter needs special medications and is unable to administer them, I give permission for an adult to administer the medications. I will be responsible for any medical treatment.

Each Middle Youth or Teen must have a parent or sponsor who agrees to the responsibilities on back

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

## TEEN & MIDDLE YOUTH REGISTRATION

Youth Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone/Contact Info during sessions: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian or Sponsor at OVYM: \_\_\_\_\_

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Each Middle Youth or Teen must have a parent or sponsor who agrees to the responsibilities on back

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Name \_\_\_\_\_



Quaker Heights is a proud member of the Music and Memory program.. According to that program’s website,

“Our approach is simple, elegant and effective: We train care professionals how to set up personalized music playlists, delivered on iPods and other digital devices, for those in their care. These musical favorites tap deep memories not lost to dementia and can bring participants back to life, enabling them to feel like themselves again, to converse, socialize and stay present. “

Quaker Heights is seeking donations of electronic devices for use in the program (e.g., I-pods ).



## Peace Resource Center Exhibit The Peace Odyssey of the Phoenix Wilmington College

“In 1954, Barbara Reynolds and her family began a four-year “Peace Odyssey” in which they sailed around the world in their yacht to protest the development, testing and use of nuclear weapons in the aftermath of the bombing of Hiroshima.”

<http://www.wilmington.edu/news/peace-resource-center-hold-exhibit-opening-journey-phoenix/>

### ESR’S NEW WEBSITE

According to an email from Dean Jay Marshall, “Earlham School of Religion has a new look! As part of the school’s strategic plan implementation, ESR employed the services of August Communication Consultants to facilitate a new design, followed by the construction of new site using the Drupal website platform. The website incorporates responsive design principles that serve users on a range of devices, including tablets and smartphones.”

You can see the new site at [esr.earlham.edu](http://esr.earlham.edu).

### RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES

In a recent email, RSWR reports regretfully:

“Right Sharing of World Resources is greatly saddened to learn of the death of our founding General Secretary, Roland Kreager. Roland worked for Right Sharing from 1992 to 2011. We ask for prayers for Cindi and family. To see his complete obituary, please [click here](#).”

### FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE

#### Follow up to the White Privilege Conference

FGC resources and articles. "[Bringing White Privilege Conference Back to Our Meetings](#)" provides overview of this year's discussion of ways to continue this work at home, and 2015's "[How Do We Bring This Back to Our Meetings](#)" covers learnings and suggestions from last year that are still quite relevant.

(From Vital Friends eNewsletter, June)

#### Using the Web for Outreach

Jennifer Robinson of Gunpowder Meeting shares the tips for how to make a Meeting website that can help draw seekers like herself...<https://www.fgcquaker.org/resources/beautiful-simplicity-tips-gunpowder-friends-meeting-using-quaker-cloud> Want more information on the cloud, check it

out: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/services/quaker-cloud>

(From Vital Friends eNewsletter, May)

#### Searching for Religious Education ideas?

Start with [activity pages](#) for children, or [explore the selection](#) at QuakerBooks.

(From “Embracing Change” Rachel Ernst Stahlhut, May)

## 2016 Annual Session Registrar's Notes

Wed. July 27<sup>th</sup> - Sun. July 31<sup>st</sup> will prove to be an exciting week. Earlham has undergone a lot of great physical changes to the campus and we're sharing the campus with Friends Music Camp. Planning Committee has been working hard to put together the best of it all.

**Send your registration by email to [Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com](mailto:Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com).** Download the pdf to your computer by going to the web-page shown below and clicking on the link at right. Follow instructions on the web page. <http://ovym.quaker.org/ymsessions/2016Registration.pdf>

**Pay when you get to OVYM.** We are accepting cash and checks at the door when you arrive at OVYM. This means you don't have to snail mail anything *unless you want to*. We will not accept credit cards as we don't have the ability to process them. If any free person, youth (0-18) and staff won't be there for a meal, use the detailed form to save OVYM from being charged.

**Anyone who has difficulty paying for the cost of attending Yearly Meeting should ask your monthly meeting if assistance is available.** Miami Quarterly Meeting also has funds available to support attendance at Yearly Meeting through the Cincinnati Fund. Contact the Committee of Two - Richard Mitchell - (859) 277-6101 or Stephen Angel - (765) 962-0268 for information about this resource.

**Lost Keys:** Earlham College charges for lost key cards or lost room keys. Anyone who loses a key will be asked to reimburse OVYM for this expense.

**Most Recent and Up-To-Date Forms are on the OVYM website <http://ovym.quaker.org>.** We actually do find mistakes (*hard to believe*) and make updates to the Registrar's Notes, Registration form and other documents.

**There will be no multi-generational service project this year.**

**We could (but have not planned to) have one Golf Cart** available for persons needing transportation. Please add this to your registration form if needed. All meals and activities/events will take place in Runyan center.

**Volunteers needed.** Please indicate if you are willing to help and especially with youth or the book store. All volunteers who will be alone with children must have submitted a background check to OVYM ([ovymsec@fuse.net](mailto:ovymsec@fuse.net)).

**Young Adult Friends and First Time Attenders** are especially welcomed to Yearly Meeting, and a **50% subsidy of all costs** will be offered to them again this year.

**Child Safety Training** will be offered on Wednesday in the Earlham Hall Conference Room from 1:30-2:45pm if you have not had the training. Please see the registration form.

**The Middle Youth Committee asks that committee meetings should not be scheduled during lunch on Thursday,** to allow for the youth to meet with their Worship Mentors over lunch in the dining room.

Make sure to put any preferences you have on the registration form and we will try to make them happen.

There will be workshop sign-ups near the registration table this year rather than on the registration form.

**Display Tables:** Anyone wishing to have table space for a display **MUST** indicate this on the registration form or let me know.

**Housing:** We will be housed (all rooms are air-conditioned) in Barrett Hall with overflow in nearby Earlham Hall. Indicate roommate/suitemate preferences on the registration form. Room requests are welcomed.

**Please bring** linen, sheets, towels, extra blankets or sleeping bags and pillows or bath mat. AC does get rooms quite cool. Earlham has packs of sheets, towel, wash cloth, blanket and pillow for rent for \$22.50 if you need them.

**How about?** Alarm clock, fan, reading lamp, umbrella, swim suit, sun screen, camera, soap and other toiletries.

Be advised: **Rooms are sparse.** Kitchen appliances are available, but no cooking/cleaning/eating supplies.

**Help care for the earth;** carpool and bring a cloth napkin for meals.

**Consider fragrance free** shampoo, soap and little or no perfumed toiletries.

If you have registration questions, please contact Eric Wolff; put "OVYM" in Subject and email: [Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com](mailto:Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com)

*I'm looking forward to seeing you all!*

Your registrar,



REGISTRATION FOR OHIO VALLY 2016 YEARLY MEETING ANNUAL SESSIONS Wed. July 27 <sup>th</sup> - Sun July 31 <sup>st</sup>	Please Put "OVYM" in the Subject. Email to: <a href="mailto:Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com">Registrar.OVYM@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Attender Information</b> <i>Note: Do not enter D.O.B if you have given it to me in the past.</i>	M/F	DOB	Youth	M.Y. hall	Teen hall	Y.A.F. hall	Adult
First and Last Name		mm/dd/yyyy	0-10	10-14	14-18	18-35	18+

<b>Rooming Requests:</b>	<b>Person's name</b>		<b>Person's name</b>
		With:	
		Near:	

<u>Contact Information</u>	MONTHLY MEETING:
Home Address:	Address ZIP:
EMAIL:	Phone Cell:
	Phone Other:

<u>OPTIONS</u>	Enter First Names of Attendees on this form who:	
Prefer a single room / specific floor:		
Are Vegetarians / Vegan:		
Are Diabetic / Gluten Free:		
Prefer Youth/ MY / Teen, YAF floors:		
Are Other:		
Will attend Child Safety Training: for working with Youth		
Children needing care during Child Safety Training Wed 1:30-2:45pm)		

This year Friends sign up for workshops at a location near the registration table and this isn't included in the registration form.

**MEALS****Eaten or not eaten, paid or free, a requested meal will cost OVYM.****MEALS**

FULL-TIME ATTENDERS	Number of Attenders eating all meals and Paying Full		x \$116	=
	Number of YAF or 1 <sup>st</sup> timers paying half price		X \$88	=
	Number of Youth (0-18) or Free		No Charge	= 0.00

And PART-TIME ATTENDERS, Please indicate how many meals will be eaten in the college dining room.

		Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Totals		
<b>Example</b>	Persons for this meal	0	1	1	3	2	=7	x \$2.00	= 14.00
Breakfast	Adults or Paying Full						=	x \$6.00	=
	YAF and 1 <sup>st</sup> timers						=	x \$3.00	=
	Youth (0-18) or Free						=	No Charge	= 0.00
Lunch	Adults or Paying Full						=	x \$10.00	=
	YAF and 1 <sup>st</sup> timers						=	x \$5.00	=
	Youth (0-18) or Free						=	No Charge	= 0.00
Dinner	Adults or Paying Full						=	x \$14.00	=
	YAF and 1 <sup>st</sup> timers						=	x \$7.00	=
	Youth (0-18) or Free						=	No Charge	= 0.00
								Meals Total	=

**ROOMS**

(If you wish to pay more than the designated amount, you may give it as a gift.)

**ROOMS**

FULL-TIME AT-TENDERS	NUMBER of Adults or Paying Full		x \$124	=
	NUMBER of YAF		x \$62	=
	NUMBER of Youth or Free		No Charge	= 0.00

And PART-TIME ATTENDERS, Please indicate as above how many people will stay in the dorms each night

	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Totals		
Adults or Paying Full							x \$34.00	=
YAF and 1 <sup>st</sup> timers							x \$17.00	=
Youth or Free							No Charge	= 0.00
							Total	=



# Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting

OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

3960 Winding Way

Cincinnati, OH 45229

We're on the web:  
[ovym.quaker.org](http://ovym.quaker.org)

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[ovymsec@fuse.net](mailto:ovymsec@fuse.net) (email)

(513) 251-2558 (phone)

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## Ohio Valley Yearly Meeting Officers

Rex Sprouse, Presiding Clerk  
Betsy Neale, Assistant Presiding Clerk  
Paul Buckley, Recording Clerk  
(vacant), Ass't Recording Clerk  
Wilson Palmer, Treasurer