



*Friends gather after worship at Blue River Quarterly at the lakefront chapel.*

What happens at a quarterly meeting? This time we enjoyed hiking, singing, walking the labyrinth, dipping our toes in the lake, horseback riding, canoeing and kayaking, and a big bonfire with marshmallows. In between we held a friendship-building workshop, meeting for worship, and meeting for business. Jeannie Marvin of Clear Creek Meeting is the new clerk of the quarterly. For some participants from small meetings, having the chance to observe Quaker

together twice each year in the fall and spring. Perhaps the theme of this reunion could be “Shall we gather at Blue River?”

practice was enlightening. We also watched a slide show and heard a presentation from the Amos family about their summer work camp experience in Kenya for the African Great

On a sunny hot weekend in late September, 54 Quakers gathered at DuBois Center in southern Illinois to deepen their relationships as Friends. The biggest surprise was the large number of children who attended this year. There were nineteen -- babies, toddlers, elementary and middle school kids. Their voices rang out happily through the woods. The graybeard and gray-haired elders enjoyed their raucous joyful din. The majority of the youngsters came from St. Louis Meeting which is enjoying a rapid growth of young families. Children also came along from Clear Creek and Southern Illinois Friends Meeting.



*Children enjoy fellowship and nature.*

*Lakes Initiative.*