



Annual Meeting on the Theme

Building the Beloved Community: Who Is My Neighbor?

July 26—29, Bluffton University

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

(Matthew 22: 37-39)

What am I and my meeting doing to reach out to, include, and love a diversity of neighbors?

How does Lake Erie Yearly Meeting support and sustain beloved community?

Yvette Shipman Named Plenary Speaker

Please join us for Yvette Shipman's Plenary Session on Friday, July 27, 2018, "Being a Good Neighbor Takes Practice." Friday evening's plenary session will focus on how dismantling racism requires everyday practice. Yvette will focus on how we create intentional community, building our capacity to be a good neighbor and seeing our neighbors through a social justice lens aimed to sharpen our abilities to transform our unconscious mindset.

Yvette is a mother, listener, teacher, student, yogi, advocate, mediator, and bridge builder. She grew up in the DC Metropolitan area, lived in Atlanta, and moved to Ghana, West Africa, 20 years ago. There she started a successful clothing line using handmade batik fabric, as well as a line of organic

skin care products. Yvette collaborated with an international group to develop sustainable change for a Cape Coast women's cooperative. Working as a lay midwife alongside a certified nurse-midwife, she provided prenatal and delivery care. She was also an informal liaison between North American visitors and local Ghanaians to develop practices navigating cultural differences. She returned to the United States four years later with her son, FreeSoul, and settled in Pittsburgh.

Yvette's background centers around cultivating relationships and building networks. Her work experience, although extensive, has not taken a traditional route. She has a BA in Social and Public Policy with a focus on Conflict Mediation and Peace Studies. Over the years she has

Continued on next page

Contents

- *Annual Meeting: Theme, Plenary Speaker, and Call for Workshop Proposals, pp. 1-2*
 - *Representative Meeting in Athens, p. 3*
 - *Report from Nominating Committee, p. 4*
 - *FGC Gathering and Scholarships, p. 5*
 - *White Privilege Conference, p. 6*
 - *Resources on Understanding Racism, p. 7*
 - *GPQM Mid-Winter and Interfaith March for Peace & Justice, p. 8*
 - *Contemplative Retreat, p. 9*
 - *Oberlin Friends and AFSC's Centennial, pp. 10-11*
 - *News from Around LEYM, pp. 11-12*
 - *Calendar and Committee Clerks, p. 12*
-

worked in a variety of fields and positions, including entrepreneur, banking, film and video, spearheading research projects, managing a creative agency, serving as the Event Coordinator for the 20th Annual Summit Against Racism, and developing culturally sensitive programs for high school students.

While in Pittsburgh, Yvette graduated from the CORO Women and Leadership Program of 2014 and attended the Racial Justice Leadership Institute at the Facing Race Conference in 2016. Currently, she is developing an initiative that



"Constellation Earth," Bluffton Campus

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will bring together people with different backgrounds to discuss sensitive issues rooted in racial justice. Yvette believes that the transformative power of conversations can create space for genuine engagement and inherent change. And who she becomes after every encounter, she says, "well, that's the real bonus."

Program Committee Seeks Annual Meeting Workshop Proposals

Deadline is February 11

The Program Committee of LEYM is requesting proposals from Friends for workshop presentations at our 2018 Annual Meeting, to be held July 26—29 at Bluffton University, in Bluffton, Ohio. The theme of this year's meeting is *Building the Beloved Community: Who Is My Neighbor?* The deadline for submission is Sunday, February 11. We cannot guarantee that proposals submitted after that date will be considered.

We expect to provide about ten workshops on Friday and Saturday afternoons. Each will last an hour and 45 minutes, and should have some relationship to the theme.

Please submit the following for each workshop proposal:

1. Name and Monthly Meeting of leader(s)
2. Title of your workshop
3. One or two paragraphs describing the content of the workshop, including its relationship to the theme of the Annual Meeting.

All proposals should be sent to Susan Hartman (susandhartman@gmail.com) no later than February 11. We look forward to receiving proposals from individuals or committees and hope that Friends will have thoughtful and interesting ideas to share with all of us.

Program Committee: Claire Cohen (Pittsburgh), clerk; Aran Reinhart (Broadmead); Thomas Taylor (Ann Arbor); Susan Hartman (Ann Arbor); Josephine Posti (Pittsburgh).

PDF copies of the *LEYM Bulletin* are available at leym.org

Representative Meeting

April 14, 2018 at Athens Friends Meeting

The 2018 LEYM Representative Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 14, at Athens Friends Meeting, 22 Birge Drive, Chauncey, OH 45719 (a few miles north of Athens).

A **light breakfast and lunch** will be offered for those who register in advance. A donation of \$10, more or less, for meals will be appreciated. For other attendees, there are restaurants ten minutes away, in Athens, The Plains, and Nelsonville.

Childcare will be provided for those who request this by March 23 (see registration form, right).

Schedule for Saturday, April 14:

Registration & simple breakfast	9:00 AM
Meeting for worship	9:30 AM
Greeting & announcements	10:00 AM
Committee meetings	10:15 AM
Lunch	12:15 PM
Meeting for business	1:15 PM
Adjournment by	4:30 PM

A meeting of the **Executive Committee** (Yearly Meeting officers and committee clerks) will be held on **Friday evening, April 13**, at the same location, starting at 7:00. Supper will be provided for Executive Committee members and their traveling companions at 6:00; suggested offering, \$5.

Friends are invited to stay for worship with Athens Friends on First Day at 10:00 (preceded by singing at 9:45).



ADVANCE REGISTRATION

(To be received by **Friday, March 23, 2018**)

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Meeting or Worship Group: _____

Number of persons for **Saturday lunch** _____

Number of persons for **Friday supper** _____

Vegetarians (#) ____; Omnivores (#) ____

The following children expect to attend:

Name _____ age _____

Name _____ age _____

Name _____ age _____

Overnight Accommodation (please check)

___ I (we) will make our own arrangements

___ I (we) need information about area hotels/motels

___ I (we) need hospitality with Friends on:

Friday, April 13 (# people) _____

Saturday, April 14 (# people) _____

Please email or post this information to:

Athens Friends Meeting
Attn Joanna Mitchell

PO Box 17
Athens, OH 45701

mitchell.mowreygmail.com
740-243-3323

Report from Nominating Committee

Dear Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Friends,

The Nominating Committee is in need of help in finding Friends who might be led to serve the Yearly Meeting in specific positions as well as to serve on committees. This invitation notes CURRENT vacancies or those which are known to be coming vacant in July 2018. Please discern how you and your Meeting can help us. Please contact Clémence Mershon (andre14@earthlink.net) if you have questions or leadings. Additional contact people are listed beside the open positions.

Assistant Clerk of the Children & Youth Program. This is a pressing need. We CANNOT run the Children & Youth program in July 2018 without an assistant clerk. This person would work under Greg Mott, committee clerk, in 2018, then become Children & Youth clerk the following year, 2019. This is a TWO-year commitment. Please contact Greg Mott (mott@findlay.edu) or Clémence Mershon.

Assistant Yearly Meeting Clerk. As is our custom, the assistant presiding clerk, Mike Holaday, will be stepping down at the close of Annual Sessions 2018. Therefore, we need someone willing to begin as the assistant clerk in 2018, then become presiding clerk in 2019. Normally, this is a FOUR-year commitment. Please contact Mike Holaday (mikeholaday@att.net) or Clémence Mershon.

Database Manager. The database manager is named by the Nominating Committee to serve a three-year term, renewable indefinitely, usually one year at a time. The database manager works under the oversight of the Publications & Archives Committee, but is not necessarily a member of that committee. Below is a summary of the tasks; find more specific details in *Policies and Procedures*.

- Maintains and updates the LEYM database, currently in Microsoft Access.
- Provides current contact information for LEYM Friends to LEYM officers and committee clerks as needed.
- Provides a directory for the *Annual Records* from Annual Meeting reports, monthly meetings, and worship groups.
- Provides to Friends General Conference a list of addresses for members and active attenders annually, on request.
- Prepares annual statistical report forms to be completed by quarterly, monthly, and preparative meetings and worship groups. The database manager updates the database with the new information and provides current information for the “Find a Meeting” section on LEYM’s website.

Please contact Mathilda Navias (galaxy@woh.rr.com).

There are also **current vacancies on the** Publications & Archives Committee and the Adult & Family Program Committee. Please contact Clémence Mershon if you have questions or leadings.

Most Gratefully,
Clémence Mershon, clerk, LEYM Nominating Committee

FGC Annual Gathering at the University of Toledo, July 1–7

Have you ever wondered about attending the Gathering of Friends General Conference to find out what happens when hundreds of Quakers from the U.S., Canada, and around the world come together for a week? It could not get much more convenient for LEYM folk this year, as the 2018 Gathering will be in the heart of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting's region, at the University of Toledo, in Toledo, Ohio, from Sunday to Saturday, July 1–7. The theme is "The Power of Truth."

Claire and Paul Tinkerhess (Ann Arbor Meeting) are serving as co-clerks of the Planning Committee, and many other people within LEYM are working hard on organizing an enriching and meaningful experience for all who attend. The evening programs will include a talk by the powerful speaker Reverend Dr. William Barber as well as presentations many others who are sure to inspire you. Daily workshops are offered on a wide variety of topics, and there is ample opportunity to worship and make new f/Friends. There is a lot of information at the FGC website, where you can also download the *Advance Program*: www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering.

To have the best chance of access to the workshops you want and to be considered for financial assistance, plan to register during the period of Early Registration, April 2–11. Full details can be found at www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering/registration-details.



Paul & Claire Tinkerhess

In addition to FGC, many monthly meetings provide assistance so that their members can attend, and this year LEYM too is offering funding to help (*see below*).

LEYM Scholarships to Attend the FGC Gathering

This year the Yearly Meeting has made available up to \$8000 to help LEYM Friends attend the FGC Gathering.

Children and teens (up through age 18) should apply for assistance by filling out the application form provided as Appendix C (page 11) in the *LEYM Financial Manual*. (go to leym.org and click on "Scholarships and Financial Help" and then on "Financial Manual" or go directly to <https://leymquaker.files.wordpress.com/2018/01/manual-of-leym-finances-8-17.pdf>); send the completed form to Joe Mills (of Finance Committee) at millrae@juno.com or 4404 Carver Dr, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. *Please note: although the application form instructs applicants to send it to the presiding clerk, in this instance it should instead be sent to Joe Mills.*

Adults should also apply to Joe Mills (see above) with a letter or message requesting, as specifically as possible, the amount of assistance that would enable them to attend the Gathering and listing their other potential sources of financial help (e.g., FGC or monthly meeting).

Applications received by March 1 will be given first consideration.

News of Monthly Meetings and worship groups is welcome in the *Bulletin*, as are writings of individual Friends. Please email contributions to Peggy and Jeff at bulletinleym@gmail.com.
N.B. **Do not** use the old address, LEYM.Bulletin@gmail.com, which no longer works.

White Privilege Conference

Grand Rapids, Michigan, April 4-7

Scholarships Available; Apply by March 1

The White Privilege Conference (WPC), now in its 19th year, will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on April 4–7. The conference addresses issues of white privilege, race, and other forms of privilege in ways that encourage understanding and respect. The three-day conference includes the Youth Action Project for high school-age participants.

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting has funds available to be used as scholarships for LEYM Friends attending the White Privilege Conference *and registering through Friends General Conference*. To apply for a scholarship, please send a letter with the requested amount and reasons for attending the conference to Shelley Kotz at 2951 Emmick Dr., Toledo, OH 43606.

To find out more about the conference, you may contact Shelley (s3ktz@bex.net) or Kathleen Helbling (kathleenhelbling@yahoo.com), the co-clerks of Peace & Justice Committee, both of whom have attended previous White Privilege Conferences.

For more information on the conference, please visit the White Privilege Conference website at <https://www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/>. To receive a discount available to those registering through Friends General Conference (and to be eligible for assistance from LEYM), please go to the FGC website, and search for White Privilege Conference or use the link: <https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/enrichment/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/fgc-white-privilege-conference>.

The deadline for requesting scholarships is March 1, 2018.

Late addition: FGC is seeking a volunteer to anchor a daily morning worship in the Quaker hospitality room. If you are interested, please contact Amirah Fadhina at amirahf@fgcquaker.org.

Building Diversity in our Spiritual Body: A Quaker's Reflection on Participating in the White Privilege Conference

When I go to the White Privilege Conference, I participate with others who share both my concern for patterns of oppression based on supremacy of one people over another, and the role of assumptions that continue these patterns, and with others who show a commitment to change. I feel inspired by the people who show up, heartened that there are many who feel as I do, encouraged and challenged by what I learn in workshops and hearing speakers. I feel enriched, nurtured, in addition, through the experience of the caucuses we participants attend, based on our heritage or race, providing a space to face our challenges as we feel able. The focus on paying attention to and engaging in noticing, in “confessing” (as we are able), and in committing to change is helping me grow more into the person God wants me to be. Every year I see newer Quaker faces, more people in general, and continued commitment to address the change needed for a society to recognize and change patterns – patterns that continue to oppress people of color and patterns that continue to privilege people of European background. This conference is the place I began to understand more clearly how such oppression appears at the intersections of class, gender, and gay/trans oppressions as well – intersectionality. This is a place where I join with others who, like me, cannot “choose” to work on issues of “isms” – oppression over concerns – because wherever a diverse population works together, the actions that continue old patterns are possible. In addition, past patterns of oppression can easily affect the concerns being addressed. Building strong relationships and awareness keeps my spirit strong.

~ Joan Broadfield, a Friend active in Friends General Conference

Some Resources for Understanding Racism in the U.S.

Mathilda Navias

Recently, I attended a weekend that helped participants understand racism in the U.S. and Canada. The conference was part of Friends General Conference's ongoing work with its assessment of internal racism. Part of what I learned is that Quakers, like everyone else, operate within the framework of systemic racism that permeates our society. To undo racism, "white people" need to learn how institutionalized racism functions and shapes our thinking.

What follows is a list of websites with materials I find helpful and challenging. I hope you will, too.

Anti-racism is the active process of identifying and eliminating racism by changing systems, organizational structures, policies, and practices and attitudes, so that power is redistributed and shared equitably.

NAC International Perspectives: Women and Global Solidarity

www.ucalgary.ca/cared/antiracismdefined

Welcome To The Anti-Racism Movement—Here's What You've Missed

Blog post, March 16, 2017

theestablishment.co/welcome-to-the-anti-racism-movement-heres-what-you-ve-missed-711089cb7d34

Liz Oppenheimer (Quaker): Basics of Unearned White Privilege

www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/enrichment/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/white-privilege-conference/quakers-reflection-0

Joan Broadfield (Quaker): Recognizing White Privilege – A Prose Poem

www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/enrichment/help-your-meeting-challenge-racism/white-privilege-conference/quakers-reflection-1

Breaking White Silence and Stepping up Your Work for Racial Justice

A list of things "white people" can do
paulkivel.com/resource/breaking-white-silence-and-stepping-up-your-work-for-racial-justice/

The White Privilege Conference – coming to Grand Rapids, Michigan April 4-7, 2018

The WPC provides a challenging, collaborative, and

comprehensive experience. We strive to empower and equip individuals to work for equity and justice through self and social transformations. Register through Friends General Conference (FGC) for a discount and to get together with other Quakers at the conference.

www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/

Books recommended by the White Privilege Conference

www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/resources

How Can you Support the White Privilege Conference?

Participate! Attend the conference and encourage others to attend (*see previous page*).

In-kind donations: pens, notebooks, folders, tote bags, or other items for conference participants, and/or presenters.

Donate: Donations of any amount are tremendously appreciated. A donation of \$35 will provide lunch for an attendee; a donation of \$240 will fund a conference registration. Give online today (www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/donate) or consider a monthly gift over a specific timeline.

www.whiteprivilegeconference.com/sponsor-wpc

Understanding Whiteness

www.ucalgary.ca/cared/whiteness

Anti-racism FAQ (for white people)

From HipMama, a site for self-identified mothers of color

debunkingwhite.livejournal.com/339225.html

Anti-Oppression Resources & Exercises

Includes:

- Anti-Oppression Principles and Practices
- White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack
- White Supremacy Culture
- The Role of White People in Ending Racism
- Challenging Oppressive Moments

organizingforpower.wordpress.com/power/anti-oppression-resources-exercises/

11 Ways White America Avoids Taking Responsibility for its Racism

The pernicious impact of "white fragility."

www.alternet.org/news-amp-politics/11-ways-white-america-avoids-taking-responsibility-its-racism

GPQM Mid-Winter Gathering

A Taste Test—Come Sample the Spiritual Nurturer Program

Kalamazoo Meeting House, Saturday, February 24

The Mid-Winter Gathering of Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting will be hosted by Kalamazoo Friends Meeting (508 Denner, Kalamazoo, MI 49006) on Saturday, February 24 from 9:00 to 4:00.

The **program** will be led by three Friends from the Red Cedar Friends Meeting – Sue Emmert, Karen Hooker, and Joann Neuroth – who recently graduated from the School of the Spirit's On Being a Spiritual Nurturer and found the experience transformational. They will offer a one-day retreat: "A Taste Test—Come Sample the Spiritual Nurturer Program." During our day together, we will be invited into interactive exercises that use reflection, reading, listening, sharing, and movement to sink down to the Center, where the Inward Teacher opens each of us to the "school" of the Holy Spirit. The day will serve us all with an experience of reflection, connection, and deep listening—and some of us may find ourselves called to consider joining the longer Spiritual Nurturer program (an 18-month program of coming to "know experimentally" what it is to live in a contemplative rhythm of study and prayer, starting in September, with occasional residential retreats).

Lunch and refreshments will be served (donations welcomed). As soon as possible, please tell Raelyn Joyce, clerk of the Quarter (raejoyce10@gmail.com or 269-345-0489), if you plan to attend, so that the right amount of food can be planned.

Families with children are welcome; please tell Raelyn Joyce (raejoyce10@gmail.com or 269-345-0489) by January 31 how many children are likely to come and how old they are.

Kalamazoo Friends are offering **overnight hospitality** to those who wish to drive to Kalamazoo on Friday, February 23. If you wish to spend Friday night at one of our homes, please call George Hebben (269-806-2918).

Questions? Contact Raelyn Joyce, clerk of the Quarter (raejoyce10@gmail.com or 269-345-0489).

Interfaith March for Peace & Justice

The Interfaith March for Peace & Justice is a national event that will be held on Sunday, April 29, beginning simultaneously in cities and towns across the country. Co-sponsored by the North Columbus Friends Meeting, this event has already garnered interest inside and beyond the state of Ohio. Early planning has begun in nearly two dozen cities across the country (as well as three locations abroad). We would like to invite Friends who are interested to consider bringing this event to their communities.

The purpose of this peaceful, non-partisan event is to share the following unifying message: *We affirm equal justice and religious liberty for all and we condemn all acts of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or violence against people based on their religion, race, or place of origin.* To learn more, please visit our website at interfaithmarch.com or email Greg Davis at gdavis853@gmail.com. It only takes one person to get the ball rolling to organize a march in any given location. (We don't care how large or small it may be). Thank you for your consideration.

~ Greg Davis (North Columbus)

Build a Wall

Oceans rising
Towns are flooding
Build a wall

Fires raging
Forests burning
Build a wall

People fleeing
Children weeping
Build a wall

Our world
So small
Build a wall

~ Ruth Zweifler
(Ann Arbor)

CONTEMPLATION AND JOY:
A Contemplative Retreat in the Manner of Friends
April 5-8, 2018, at Siena Center, Racine, Wisconsin
Led by April Allison and Roger Hansen

*More than ever, in these days of fast-paced living, multi-tasking, and continual connectivity,
we need times apart – times of “retirement” as early Friends used to say;
times for communion with God and the refreshment of the soul.*

Come and simply be with God. Attend to the divine stirrings of the soul, opening to grace.

During this retreat, participants will experience the distinctly Quaker manner of knowing solitude in community. Along with individual silent times for prayer, reflection, time in nature, contemplative interaction with scripture, and meeting one-on-one with retreat leaders, there will also be group silence at meals; “active silence” with participants gathered doing individual handwork, reading, journaling, artwork; and time for contemplative work.

There will also be opportunities for speaking out of the silence in the group. Sinking down into the silence, we may give voice to what is encountered there, longing to be heard. In our sharing, our souls touch and we find ourselves gathered in blessed community.



April Allison and Roger Hansen

Siena Retreat Center offers single bedrooms with private bath facilities. There is elevator access to all floors and the center is accessible to people with moderate physical limitations. For more information, visit racinedominicans.org.

Space is limited, so please register early. We offer flexible fees based on your assessment of your means. Single occupancy: full cost, \$425; minimum, \$240. (If the “minimum” is too much, contact us at info@schoolofthespirit.org or call 717-203-1642). We encourage online registration at schoolofthespirit.org/retreats/.

Roger Hansen (Milwaukee, Northern Yearly Meeting) has held leadership roles at our retreats in Ohio, New York, and Pennsylvania. **April Allison** (Red Cedar Meeting) is contemplative by nature and justice-seeking by conviction. April serves on the board of the School of the Spirit. This is the fifth time that Roger and April have offered this retreat in Wisconsin.

LEYM Annual Queries, 2001–2017

Each year, LEYM’s Ministry & Nurture Committee prepares a set of queries and readings for Meetings to consider. The committee invites each Meeting to develop a written response that describes the insights arrived at during consideration. Meetings are requested to send these to Ministry & Nurture, which reviews the responses and reports on them to the Yearly Meeting. This practice began in 1985. Recently, the annual queries from 2001 to 2017 were added to LEYM’s website. You can read them or download a Word file with them at leym.org/go/officers-committees/ministry-nurture/queries. Or from the Home page at leym.org, choose “Resources,” then “LEYM Queries & Advices,” then scroll down to select “Previous Queries.” ~ Mathilda Navias, Webster

Oberlin Friends and AFSC's Centennial

David H. Finke

Friends in Oberlin were gratified at the responses to several community-wide events held this winter on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the American Friends Service Committee.

Ann Francis, Clerk of Oberlin Meeting and coordinator for this project, has served on AFSC's Board and several significant committees. She began a year ago to talk up the possibility of our hosting an exhibit of the dozen large Banners that illustrate the history and range of programs of the AFSC. With encouragement from the Meeting, she worked closely with our Peace Building and Justice Committee. They also involved other community groups in sponsoring various aspects of public events.

The Banners had been traveling the country during all of 2017, documenting AFSC's themes of building peace, ending discrimination, addressing prisons, promoting just economics, and reforming immigration policies.

The Banners were set up as a self-explanatory display in five locations over a month-and-a-half: three churches, the Kendal-at-Oberlin hallways, and the Public Library. Meaningful conversations happened as Friends were present at each of these, broadening an awareness of Quakers for the larger Oberlin community. We had opportunity to point to AFSC's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1947 for work "based on the belief in the worth of every person and faith in the power of love to overcome violence and injustice." All in all, a picture of AFSC was conveyed that not only was historical but also educated about vital work to meet present challenges.



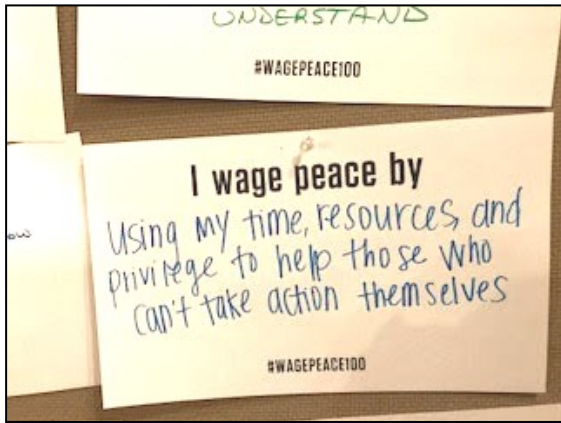
Banner display at First Church in Oberlin

On November 16, a well-attended public program at Kendal featured a current AFSC staff member from its Michigan office: Korbin Felder and colleagues work directly with prisoners in the "criminal justice system," challenging the abuses of long-term incarceration and solitary confinement. He explained the typical style of AFSC's work, where the agenda is set by the needs of those impacted. The evening also had brief presentations by three members of the Meeting about their AFSC service, domestically and internationally.

On December 6, a four-part program was held at the Public Library, where we had exclusive use of a large room throughout the day. Besides the drop-in browsing of the Banners, there were:

- A noontime "Brown Bag Lunch," the occasion for stories being shared from various AFSC experiences. Participants described their work as volunteers, staff, and/or committee members over a half-century span. Some also told of being involved "simply" as financial supporters, which was strongly affirmed and welcomed!
- The showing, in early afternoon, of a number of videos about "AFSC in Action," documenting its efforts in many fields.
- Time for writing testimony to a large display of "How do I wage peace?" and working on a colorful new Banner — "Justice for All" — designed for display at the weekly Peace Vigil in downtown Oberlin, which Friends and others have maintained since the beginning of the Iraq War (*see next page*).

Continued on next page



Testimony on "How do I wage peace?"

- A well-attended public session in the evening, in which participants first heard an update on "The Dream Act: Legislation & Action" and how to get involved. Then, seven panelists from City government, College faculty, local clergy, and community organizations discussed "Sanctuary: What Does It Mean? What Can You Do?"

Oberlin Friends were pleased with the splendid cooperation received from many quarters, and gratified at the opportunities to let our witness for Peace and Justice become even better known in the broader community.



Anne Elder and Joyce Parker, who designed the banner and oversaw its production

News from Around LEYM

Oberlin Monthly Meeting recently adopted a welcoming minute, as follows:

We are a spiritually diverse meeting representing many branches of American Quakerism. As a consequence, it is important for us to warmly affirm our commitment to welcome all into our worship. There is also a real concern to look behind the particular language of a ministry to the intention and the wisdom that prompted it. There is a warm, unified commitment of welcoming all and to respecting the diversity of our religious experience and expression.

Blair Ellis (Ann Arbor Meeting) is one of the organizers of an event for leftist Christians in Philadelphia on May 1—3, 2018. Write for more information, including how to ask for financial assistance to attend, at friendlyfireinfo@protonmail.com. Blair also sent information on a podcast called "The Young Quaker," including episode #3, "Young Quakers and Witness," on which he appeared; see <https://soundcloud.com/user-174940248/3-young-quakers-and-witness>.

CHRISTIANS OF THE LEFT



UNITE!



FRIENDLY FIRE MAY DAY RETREAT

**MAY FIRST TO
THIRD
PHILADELPHIA
PA**

Calling Quakers,
Christians, and Mystics
of the radical left to a
time of prayer, worship
and action!
to apply email
[Friendlyfireinfo@protonmail.com](mailto:friendlyfireinfo@protonmail.com)

**"Where there is no vision
the people perish"**



"News" continued on next page.

News from Around LEYM, *continued*

Abbey and Shannon Pratt-Harrington of Athens Meeting have released three episodes in a podcast entitled “The Bible According to My Sister.” You can listen at: <https://www.spreaker.com/user/10272191>



North Columbus Meeting's Peace and Social Action Committee recently finished a six-minute faith documentary called “Civil Rights Require Sustainable Numbers!” and uploaded it to “A Quaker Speaks” YouTube Channel. Visit https://youtu.be/MQDuckRBQ_Q.

Late-breaking news: **David Lore**, editor of this *Bulletin* through most of the 90s and into the new millennium, enthusiastic member of the LEYM Peace Committee, and longtime member of Granville Meeting, died in Georgia at the age of 77 on January 23. See <http://www.dispatch.com/news/20180123/david-lore-longtime-dispatch-journalist-dead-at-77>.

Calendar for 2018

February 11: Due date for Annual Meeting Workshop Proposals

February 24: Mid-Winter Gathering, Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, Kalamazoo (*see p. 8*)

February 28: Responses to annual query due

April 4-7: White Privilege Conference, Grand Rapids, Michigan (*see p. 6*)

April 14: Representative Meeting, Athens Meeting, Athens, Ohio (*see p. 3*)

May 5: Spiritual Formation Retreat, Red Cedar Meeting, Lansing, Michigan

May 15: Due date for spring *Bulletin* submissions

May 19: Spring Gathering, Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, Michigan Friends Center

June 30: Due date for State of the Meeting Reports

July 1-7: FGC Gathering, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio (*see p. 5*)

July 11: Due date for Statistical Reports

July 26-29: Annual Meeting, Bluffton University (*see pp. 1-2*)

LEYM Committee Clerks, 2017-18

(Contact information available in *Annual Records* and on leym.org)

Adult & Family Program

Claire Cohen (Pittsburgh)

Advancement & Outreach

Mathilda Navias (Broadmead)

Arrangements & Site

Jon Sommer (Broadmead)

Earthcare

Russ Adams (North Columbus)

Finance (no clerk yet named)

Ministry & Nurture

Flo Friender (Kalamazoo) &
Carla Pratt-Harrington (Athens)

Nominating

Clémence Mershon (Erie WG)

Peace & Justice

Kathleen Helbling (Broadmead)
Shelley Kotz (Broadmead)

Publications & Archives

Bill Lefler (Pittsburgh)

Youth & Children's Program

Greg Mott (Broadmead)