Volume LV, Issue 3

Spring 2018



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"Being a Good Neighbor Takes Practice" An Interview with Plenary Speaker Yvette Shipman

Yvette Shipman will give the plenary talk on this topic at LEYM's Annual Meeting on Friday evening, July 27. She is a mother, advocate, social justice facilitator, and mediator. She believes that the transformative power of conversations can create space for genuine engagement and inherent change. Below is an excerpt from an interview with Yvette Shipman by Claire Cohen, clerk of the Adult Program Committee, on how we create intentional community, building our capacity to be a good neighbor, and seeing our neighbors through a social justice lens. The full interview can be found at leym.org.

Claire Cohen: With regard to your talk about Being a Good Neighbor, will you please define "intentional community?" What does this look like when I look through my social justice lens?

Yvette Shipman: Whether you're in a cohousing community, ecovillage, or a member of your local coop, on some level you are probably looking to make a positive change socially, culturally, economically, or environmentally. And while I think it's true that folks who are interested in shifting away from the norm of individualism value diversity and inclusivity, they still find difficulty in the practice. The question I ask myself is how can I become more intentional about creating a community that I want to be a part of. The intentional community I'm referring to is your interaction with the physical community you engage in daily: the people in your work community, the cashier at your local grocery store, or your next-door neighbors to your virtual Facebook and Instagram community.



When you add a social justice lens to your practice and outlook you bring humane-ness. This is not the same as being color blind. No one needs that. What I'm saying is that putting on your social justice lens you choose to respect and honor others' cultures from differences in language and dialects spoken to choices in dress and mannerisms. You don't get to set the

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standard for how someone should speak, look, or behave. You bring empathy and a commitment to acceptance. Isn't that what Quakers do, see the light of God in everyone? If you're white you know you have privilege.

You might recognize that getting up in the morning and walking through the world looks different for black and brown folks. Every single day black folks are met with assumptions that are made about us based on skin color. Even if you don't mean to. Starbucks, for example. Whether folks want to believe it or not, changing this narrative is a daily continuous practice. Let me say that again: change requires practice. When you look through a social justice lens, you don't have to be black or brown to see the truth. But you do have to make a decision, a conscious choice to operate from that place of new information.

Claire: When we talk about justice-centered beloved community, some people might say that we need to move beyond talk and towards action? Most of us agree that we do need to move beyond talk to impact or action. How do we become good or better neighbors and disrupt everyday acts of oppression that continue to benefit the dominant culture?

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Yvette: A beloved community and mindset is rooted in justice and equity. There is no one right answer or one right way. We can do a number of things. We can read and educate ourselves. *The* Souls of Black Folk, W. E. B. Du Bois, Joy DeGruy's Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome, The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism by Edward Baptist, Toni Morrison, Beloved, Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God, The Autobiography of Malcolm X, and the list goes on. Get to know the people you work with, live next door to, and the parents of your children's friends. Create opportunities to talk. This doesn't mean just asking questions. Get to know one another. This takes time. Pay attention to the policies in your workplace, which translate to behavior and practices and how they are used differently based on the person. Advocate for change where needed. Speak up and out. Attend community meetings and forums. And when you're in someone else's "community," refrain from being a spectator. And always remember to be a good guest.

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #1

What happens at Annual Meeting?

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting is a group of 26 unprogrammed Quaker monthly meetings and worship groups in Ohio, Michigan, and Pennsylvania. This year's Annual Meeting will be held July 26-29 on the campus of Bluffton University in Bluffton, Ohio. About 130-150 people usually attend. Activities there include business sessions of the Yearly Meeting, as well as spiritual nurture on your own or in groups, learning new things in workshops or presentations, meeting representatives from national groups such as FCNL or AFSC, and socializing with other Quakers. It can be as busy or as relaxed as you choose.

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

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Greening LEYM Annual Meeting

"Our faith as Quakers is inseparable from our care for the health of our planet Earth. We see that our misuse of the Earth's resources creates inequality, destroys community, affects health and well-being, leads to war, and erodes our integrity. We are all responsible for stewardship of our natural world. We love this world as God's gift to us all." - From the 2016 FWCC Pisac minute on living sustainably

Most of us in LEYM are concerned about the environment and look for ways in which we can reduce our impact on the Earth. To this end, Broadmead Monthly Meeting's Earthcare interest group has been working with the LEYM Arrangements & Site committee to consider and implement ways to reduce the environmental impact of our Annual Meeting. One of our goals is to reduce waste from the dining hall going to the landfill. To do this we will be providing containers for compostable waste and taking it to a site for composting. Broadmead Friends will also be making reusable cloth napkins and offering them to each attender to use in order to reduce our use of disposable paper. We encourage Friends to take only as much food as they expect to eat, and put any left over in the compost containers.

Another concern is the impact of agriculture on the environment. Agricultural runoff is a major contributor to algae growth in Lake Erie, putting at risk the water supply for Toledo and other cities. Animal agriculture is one of the biggest sources of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. We are working with the Bluffton University food service to offer a wider selection of vegetarian dishes during our gathering and reduce the meat offerings. Meat will still be available at least one meal a day for those who wish it, but we will encourage friends to minimize their meat consumption.

The climate is changing and we know that the actions of a handful of Quakers for a few days in the summer won't have a significant impact on that or the other major environmental issues that we face. We do what we feel is right because it is right, and leave the results in the hands of God.

Ken Lawrence, Broadmead Meeting

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #2

I'm pretty new to Quakers. Is this for me?

Yes! If you haven't had the opportunity to meet many other Quakers, this is a great place to make new friends who are Friends in a relaxed, small community setting. It can also provide a good introduction to the wider world of Quakerism, as there are usually reports from the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), Friends General Conference (FCG), and Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC).

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #3

I can't get off work (or away from classes) for long. Is it okay if I come to just part of Annual Meeting? Yes! Please come for as little or as much as you

can. Lodging and meal costs apply only to the time your are there. Some Friends arrive on Friday evening, for the plenary talk, but you are welcome whenever you can be there.

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #4

Are there activities for children? Would my kids like it?

There is a great children's program with about 25 children from infancy through high school usually attending. Often local meetings do not have enough children to form a strong cohort, and meeting peers from around Yearly Meeting can fill in this gap. Many families that have come once to try Annual Meeting end up coming back year after year because their children have made friends they want to see again. This year's activities will include brief gathering in worship each morning, an outing to a museum on children's book illustrations in Findlay, swimming, and mapping the locations of LEYM's monthly meetings and worship groups.

See more FAQs about Annual Meeting on p. 5.

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 at the rise of LEYM's Annual Sessions, on July 29. Please discern how you or your Meeting can help us.

Please contact Clémence Mershon *<andre14@earthlink.net>* or others listed below if you have questions or leadings.

Assistant Clerk of the Children & Youth Program. This is a pressing need. Please contact Greg Mott (mott@findlay.edu), C&Y clerk, or Clémence Mershon. We CANNOT run the Children & Youth Program in July 2018 without an assistant clerk or MANY volunteers to help Greg during Annual Meeting. The assistant clerk would work under Greg in 2018, then become Children & Youth Program clerk the following year, 2019. This is a TWO-year commitment.

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 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 quarterly, monthly, and preparative meetings and worship groups.
- 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) for more information.

Most Gratefully,

Clémence Mershon, clerk, LEYM Nominating Committee

There's a Big Quaker World Out There

Did you know:

- You can listen to Quaker radio programs on the web?
- You can watch short videos made by and for Quakers and seekers on the web?
- There are a number of Quaker blogs on the web?
- There's a website with resources for aging Quakers?
- There are Quaker affinity groups such as the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent,

- Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts, and Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trangender, and Queer Concerns (FLBTTQ)?
- Friends General Conference's website has tons of helpful stuff for individuals and meetings?
- AFSC is not the only Quaker peace & justice organization in the U.S.?

Check out the Links page on LEYM's website at leym.org/links.

Mathilda Navias, Web master

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Finance Committee: Draft Budget for 2018-19

The draft budget for 2018–19 is presented below. Predicted expenses (\$21,600) are lower than last year's by \$4,675, mainly because of some lower spending expectations and no spending recommendations in the Miscellaneous line (FGC Gathering and White Privilege Conference scholarships and Pittsburgh Meeting House). The finance line remains at \$75 because there is no audit planned this year. This proposed budget, prior to any changes, has a slight surplus of \$480. The budgeted amount in contributions from monthly meetings remains at \$30, unchanged from the current year.

We present this draft budget with an invitation for comments and questions, to determine whether it reflects the Yearly Meeting's needs. Numbers may go up or down by Annual Meeting, when we must approve a final budget.

Draft	· R11	doct	for	2018-	_19
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Item	Amount	Change from
TOCHI	miount	2017–18
/D	0.000.00	
Travel	2,000.00	(1,500.00)
Office	125.00	(175.00)
Contract worker	2,400.00	
Finance	75.00	-
Publications	2,800.00	-
Advancement & Outreach	50.00	-
Ministry & Nurture	50.00	-
Clerk's Fund	200.00	-
FGC contribution	6,000.00	-
Records project	100.00	-
FWCC Travel	1,800.00	-
Youth Activities Fund	1,000.00	-
High School Retreat Program	-	-
Spiritual Formation	300.00	-
Olney Friends School	4,000.00	2,000.00
Consultation Fund	-	-
Ministry scholarships	-	-
Service projects	200.00	-
Insurance	500.00	-
Misc., incl. Pittsburgh Meeting H	ouse -	(1,000.00)
FGC Scholarships	_	(3,000.00)
White Privilege Scholarships	-	(1,000.00)
Total Expenses	\$21,600.00	(4,675.00)
Contributions from Meetings	\$21,000.00	(300.00)
Friends Fiduciary Payouts	1,080.00	(10.00)
Total Income	\$22,080.00	(310.00)
Surplus	\$480.00	4,365.00
Suggested contribution per	#20.00	
member (700 members)	\$30.00	-

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #5

I've heard that there are hours and hours of business meetings at LEYM Annual Sessions. Is this true?

Well, for anyone who is a Quaker business meeting aficionado, this is a good place to be! However, if you get blearyeyed after a few hours of business, you can take a break by exploring books from QuakerBooks of FGC, volunteering to drive children to the swimming pool, strolling around campus, or walking a few blocks to charming downtown Bluffton or to the university's nature preserve. At other times, you might attend a workshop, Bible study, or another presentation or meet with Friends with similar interests.

FAQs about Annual Meeting, #6

What does attending cost?

The costs of registration, room, and board compare favorably with similar events. The *maximum* cost, for an adult staying the entire duration and in an air conditioned dorm, is only \$211. LEYM offers a number of reductions, including a 1/3 discount for first-time attenders, waiving of the registration fee for young adult Friends (ages 19—35), and waiving all costs except 1/3 of the meal total for children and youth (though age 18). Moreover, people who work full time with the children's program have all costs waived.

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Workshops at Annual Meeting Friday, July 27, 3:30 – 5:15

JoAnn Neuroth, Red Cedar MM, "Listening in Tongues" as a Way of Welcoming Diversity in Our Beloved Community.

Spiritual and emotional hospitality (or its lack) is immediately and intuitively felt when we enter a new community. . . or when we turn back toward a familiar one. Sometimes we feel invited to explore, expand, and express our whole selves, and at other times we feel a need to close up around parts of ourselves for protection. And that tone limits or enlivens the range of what can happen in blessed community. My work with the School of the Spirit ministry taught me a way to welcome people's whole selves to our Beloved Communities - we called it "Listening in Tongues." Its name is a playful variant on the "speaking in tongues" experienced by the apostles in Acts who found themselves able to speak about their experience with Jesus in languages they'd never learned in ways that were understood by diverse native speakers. "LISTENING in tongues," in reverse, offers someone speaking in language different from yours the generous assumption that they can communicate what is often beyond expressing in their own language of the heart in confidence that you as the listener will do the needed translation. We'll practice this skill together in several ways.

Ken Lawrence and Sara Brenner, Broadmead MM, This Isn't the Future I Signed up for: Living with Grief for What Is Lost and Finding Joy in What Remains.

We face a bewildering array of concerns on Earth today: climate change, overpopulation, resource shortages, political dysfunction, and more. Some of us sense that we will never see the idealized world that we may once have imagined and expected. One reaction to this realization is grief for what we'd hoped could have been, but now will not be.

How do we deal with this grief? We may not have anyone to talk to about it. We believe the healthy way to move forward is to recognize the reality of our situation, and that can best be done in community with others who share our feelings. There is still beauty, love, and joy in our world, and we seek ways to appreciate and nurture these, even as we realistically face the challenges ahead.

In this workshop we don't plan to present solutions, and it may not be for everyone. We hope to provide an opportunity for honest sharing with each other, to cry or to laugh about being human, and maybe to find ways to move forward with other like-minded folks into a challenging future with joy.

Jerry Knutson, traveling in the Ministry under the care of Orlando MM, *Forgiveness as a Spiritual Discipline*.

In this workshop we will consider ten queries on forgiveness that might be helpful. Then we will study about ten methods for forgiveness. Next, we will apply this to a person we are ready to forgive. Finally, we will worship share on our experience.

When we build a beloved community—whom do we exclude? Is your neighbor excluded? In this workshop we hope to expand the definition of community and neighbor so that we exclude no one—especially making certain we include our enemies.

Leslie Walden, Cleveland MM, *Meeting Outreach:* A Simulation Game.

This game simulates a monthly meeting coping with the need to reach out to the community, particularly to invite people to visit the meeting.

Cards are passed to each participant, except for a moderator, who helps people interpret their cards. Two people learn from their cards that they are members of the meeting; their task is to try to grow the meeting. The others learn under what condition they will join the meeting or, in some cases, leave the meeting. Some things may be done to help people realize that they want to take part in the meeting but that some of those things may cause other people to leave the meeting.

After a period, the moderator calls time and discussion begins about lessons learned and how they may help the life of your meeting.

Don't let finances stop you from attending Annual Meeting! For information on discounts, scholarships, and other means of assistance, see pp. 5, 10, and 11 (the registration instructions, especially paragraph 16).

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Workshops at Annual Meeting Saturday, July 28, 3:30 – 5:15

Mary Parish, Chuck Slayton (and others), Group Against Racism, Pittsburgh MM, Moving Beyond White Guilt to Insight, Empathy ... and Action.

This session will be a highly interactive panel discussion, as presenters engage with each other and those in attendance about ways for primarily white faith communities to put their faith into action against racism. We are learners, not experts, and we seek to make changes in ourselves and our communities that honor the equality, dignity, and humanity of all. In this discussion we will share methods and practices that we have used to move from insight to empathy to action—and we hope that those who attend will do so as well.

Speaking out against racism, seeking change in our communities and ourselves, allows us to be good neighbors and build the "Beloved Community."

Russ Adams, Columbus MM, LEYM Earthcare Committee, *Are Tomorrow's People my Neighbors?*

Since the first humans, Adam and Eve, failed to follow golden rules protecting creation, many human civilizations have come and gone. Casualties, too often, have included pacifism and equality. Kitty van der Heijden, Netherlands' rep at the Rio Plus 20 Earth Summit, warns, "We sacrifice our children's future for ourselves!" Perhaps sustainability is an ultimate achievement that all faiths' golden rules require?

Centuries of work by Benjamin Lay, Woolman, Benezet, and many others gradually charted new paths for us. Might our faith lead in sustainability just as our ancestors did in abolition?

What focused Quaker sustainability truths will best pass the infinite value of Edenic creation to tomorrow's children? At this discussion, help chart our course with light that springs eternal! Aran Reinhart and Ally Day, Broadmead MM, Radical Hospitality: Welcoming LGBTQA People.

How we can be more welcoming and inclusive to LGBTQ people, especially trans and non-binary folks? Telling of individual stories and offering resources and ideas for action.

Mathilda Navias, Broadmead MM/Executive Committee, LEYM, *Clerking Committees so People Want to Serve on Them.*

Explore how Quaker committee work can be done well, with special attention to the role of the clerk. We'll look at best practices, good process, and ways to engage committee members in the work. We'll look at both committees in our meetings and LEYM committees. Bring your questions, experiences, frustrations, successes, and hopes. For anyone who is clerking a committee, anyone who might serve as a committee clerk, anyone who wants more understanding and guidance for serving on a committee, and anyone who serves on a nominating committee.

Mary Comfort Ferrell, FCNL staff, *Loving our Neighbor Across the Aisle*.

We will look at the political divides we face as a nation and the challenges and opportunities this presents, and then engage in some worshipful practices of loving across differences and through hard emotions.

Bible study is back, led by Stephanie Crumley-Effinger, Director of Supervised Ministry at the Earlham School of Religion. Stephanie is a recorded Friends Minister and a contributor to the book *Quakers and the Interfaith Movement: A Handbook for Peacemakers* (2011). Bible study will meet after breakfast, simultaneously with worship sharing, from 8:40 to 9:30 on Friday and Saturday mornings.

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Schedule: LEYM Annual Meeting Building the Beloved Community: Who is My Neighbor? July 26 — July 29, 2018

Thursday, July 26	
12:00 pm to 12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Executive Committee Meeting
2:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Spiritual Practice (Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects)
3:30 pm to 5:30 pm	Committee Meetings; check board in registration area for locations. (Those not on committees may sit in.)
$5{:}45~\mathrm{pm}$ to $6{:}15~\mathrm{pm}$	Dinner line open for LEYM
6:30 pm to 7:30 pm	Committee Meetings; check board in registration area for locations. (Those not on committees may sit in.)
	Newcomer Enrichment Meeting
	Spiritual Practice (Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects)
7:30 pm to 9:00 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room
Friday, July 27	
6:30 am to 7:30 am	Early Meeting for Worship. Centennial Hall, First Floor Lobby
8:00 am to 8:30 am	Breakfast line open for LEYM
8:40 am to 9:30 am	Worship Sharing: Meet at Bob's Place to form groups. Query: What am I and my meeting doing to reach out to, include, and love a diversity of neighbors?
	Bible study
9:40 am to 10:45 am	Committee Meetings. (Those not on committees may sit in.)
	Newcomer Enrichment Meeting
	12-Step Meeting
	Spiritual Practice (Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects)
11:00 am to 12:30 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room
12:30 pm to 1:00 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM
1:45 pm to 3:15 pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room
3:30 pm to 5:15 pm	Workshops: Choose one (Children's Program ends at 5:15 pm)
	"Listening in Tongues" as a Way of Welcoming Diversity in our Beloved Community Leader: JoAnn Neuroth, Red Cedar Meeting
	This Isn't the Future I Signed up for: Living with Grief for What Is Lost and Finding Joy in What Remains Leaders: Ken Lawrence and Sara Brenner, Broadmead Meeting

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Schedule: LEYM Annual Meeting, continued

3:30 pm to 5:15 pm Friday Workshops, continued

Forgiveness as a Spiritual Discipline Leader: Jerry Knutson, Orlando Meeting

Meeting Outreach: A Simulation Game Leader: Leslie Walden, Cleveland Meeting

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm Dinner line open for LEYM

6:30 pm to 7:00 pm Spiritual Practice (Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects)

7:15 pm to 8:45 pm Plenary Talk: Yvette Shipman, Being a Good Neighbor Takes Practice.

Kreider Meeting Room

Saturday, July 28

6:30 am to 7:30 am Early Meeting for Worship. Centennial Hall, First Floor Lobby

7:45 am to 8:15 am Breakfast line open for LEYM

8:45 am to 9:30 am Worship Sharing: Check the registration area for various rooms to meet in. If you

were unable to join a group on Friday, please feel free to join any group. Query: How does Lake Erie Yearly Meeting support and sustain beloved community?

Bible study

9:45 am to 11:45 am Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room

12:00 pm to 12:30 pm Lunch line open for LEYM

12:30 pm to 12:50 pm Spiritual Practice (Time for study, conversation, singing, or other projects)

1:15 pm to 3:15 pm Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room

3:30 pm to 5:15 pm Workshops: Choose one (Children's Program ends at 5:15 pm)

Moving Beyond White Guilt to Insight, Empathy ... and Action Leaders: Mary Parish and Chuck Slayton, Pittsburgh Meeting

Are Tomorrow's People my Neighbors?

Leader: Russ Adams, LEYM Earthcare Committee

Radical Hospitality: Welcoming LGBTQA People

Leaders: Aran Reinhart and Ally Day, Broadmead Meeting

Clerking Committees so People Want to Serve on Them

Leader: Mathilda Navias, Broadmead Meeting

Loving our Neighbor Across the Aisle Leader: Mary Comfort Ferrell, FCNL

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm Dinner line open for LEYM

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Talent Show. Bob's Place

Schedule continued on next page

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Schedule: LEYM Annual Meeting, continued

Sunday, July 30

6:30 am to 7:30 am	Early Meeting for Worship. Centennial Hall, First Floor Lobby
7:45 am to 8:15 am	Breakfast line open for LEYM
8:45 am to 9:30 am	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Kreider Meeting Room
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Epistles and Sharing by the Children's Program. Kreider Meeting Room
10:30 am to 11:30 am	Meeting for Worship. Kreider Meeting Room
12:00 pm to 12:30 pm	Lunch line open for LEYM

Note: **Schedules may change**, in which case there will be a notice in the registration area. Locations of committee meetings, workshops, and other events will be posted there as well.

There will be a **talent show on Saturday night!** Sign up with Kate Enger once you have arrived at Annual Meeting. A gentle reminder: this is a multigenerational event, meaning there will be young children in the audience, so keep that in mind when planning your act.

Follow Annual Meeting on Twitter and Facebook at @LEYMQuakers and share your experience with #LEYM2018.

Alert: Attenders at Annual Meeting include Friends with asthma and chemical sensitivities that are triggered by fragrances. Help these Friends stay healthy by using **fragrance-free toiletries**.

* * *

Registering for Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting Registration Form, instructions for the form, and the Parent or Guardian Consent and Permission Form appear on the next three pages.

Please note the various **discounts / scholarship** available:

- LEYM subsidizes the cost for **children and youth** (ages 18 and under). Lodging and registration are free, and meals are discounted by 2/3.
- ◆ Young Adult Friends (ages 19-35) have their registration fee waived (though lodging and meal costs still apply).
- First-time attenders receive a 1/3 discount on all costs.

Online Registration is Available.

Registration for Annual Meeting can be completed either online at http://leym.quaker.org/reg/registration or by mailing the paper form on the next page. In addition, the paper form can be printed online from the <code>Bulletin</code> at the LEYM site: https://leym.org/leym-bulletins.

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LEYM Annual Meeting July 26 – 29, 2018 Registration Instructions

- 1. The registration deadline is Monday, July 9, 2018. The Registration Form, Parental Consent Form, and check must be postmarked by this date for all children attending. The registration fee for adults who register by this date is \$55. The registration fee for adults who register after this date is \$65. Room assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.
- 2. Please complete a line on the registration form for each family member attending. Children age 3-18 pay 1/3 the cost of food; lodging, linens, and registration for children are free. All adults who work full time with the youth do not incur charges. It is important that every person attending be listed on the registration form so that housing assignments can be made, meals are available, and program needs can be met.
- 3. Adult Young Friends: Put a check in the Adult Young Friend column if age 19-35 and wishing to participate in Adult Young Friends activities. The registration fee for Adult Young Friends is waived this year.
- 4. Lodging: Overnight attendees may stay in Ramseyer Hall, which is air conditioned, for \$23.50/night, or Bren-Dell, which is not air conditioned, for \$18.50/night; or may camp on the lawn near these dorms for \$10.00/night. Prices are per person. Dorm rooms have two twin beds. Often additional mattresses can be moved from an empty room to accommodate children sleeping in parents' room. Children ages 0-18 have free lodging. Campers need to bring their own tents and sleeping bags and will have access to dormitory restroom facilities. Put a check in the box below each night a person is staying. In the Lodging Choice column, specify Ramseyer (R), Bren-Dell (B-D), or camping (C).
- **5. Linens:** Put a check in the Linens column if linens are desired. The \$10.00/stay cost covers top and bottom sheets, pillowcase, towel, washcloth, and small bar of soap. Alternatively, sheets and towels may be brought from home. Children and adults going to the lake will need towels for swimming. The beds in the dorms are x-long twin size.
- **6. Blankets and pillows:** Blankets and pillows are not included in the linens packet. Ramseyer rooms have blankets and pillows. Bren-Dell rooms have neither blankets nor pillows.
- **7. Commuters:** Attendees commuting from home or staying overnight off campus pay the commuter fee for each day attending. The cost is \$5.00/day. If attending only part of a day, the full-day fee for that day should be paid. Put a check in the box below each day attending.
- **8. Lodging/Commuter subtotal:** For lodging: multiply the number of nights staying by the cost per night of the chosen lodging and, if linens are desired, add in the linen cost, and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal column. For commuters: multiply the number of days commuting by the daily commuter fee and enter the value in the Lodging Subtotal Column.

- **9. Meals:** Put a check in the box for each meal desired. Cost per meal for attendees ages 8 and up: breakfast \$6.40, lunch \$8.95, supper \$10.20. Add together the cost of all meals and enter in the Meals Subtotal column. Youth ages 8-18 have scholarships that will reduce these prices by **2/3**. The children ages 3-7 meal rates are: breakfast \$5.00, lunch \$6.75, and dinner \$7.75. The children and youth scholarships will reduce these costs by **2/3**.
- **10. Registration Fee:** Adults age 36 and up pay a registration fee of \$55 if the registration form is post marked by Monday, July 9, or \$65 if postmarked thereafter. Part-time participants must pay the full registration fee.
- 11. First-time Attenders: First-time attenders over age 18 are entitled to a discount of 1/3 off total costs. After calculating the "Total" for each adult, calculate 1/3 of Totals for all adults who are attending for the first time and enter the value in the Scholarship field.
- **12. Children:** Registrations for children and completed Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Forms *must be postmarked by Monday, July 9.* Children ages 3-18 pay 1/3 cost of food. Registration and lodging for the children is free. Children do not have to be toilet trained. A line on the registration form must be filled out for each child to assure a place in the Youth and Children's Program, lodging, and meals. A parent or guardian should complete the LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form for all children ages 0-18.
- **13. Contact Information**: Please fill out your address, phone number, monthly meeting, and email address. If an email address is specified, the registrar will notify you when your registration has been received.
- **14. Concerns/Roommates:** Please complete these sections as applicable. We will try our best to meet your requests.
- **15. Payment:** Please make checks payable to LEYM and mail along with your completed registration form—and Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form if children will be attending—to the registrar: Sally Weaver Sommer, 118 S. Spring St., Bluffton, OH 45817
- **16. Financial Assistance:** Those desiring financial assistance should first contact their monthly meetings. If needs cannot be met by the monthly meeting, contact the registrar.
- 17. Emergency Contact: If someone needs to reach you while you are attending LEYM, during business hours a message may be left at the Marbeck Center switchboard: 419-358-3000. After hours, campus security can to be called at: 419-358-3343.
- **18. Questions?:** Please contact Sally Weaver Sommer, registrar, at *sally.weaver.sommer@gmail.com* or 419-953-9455.

Registration Form

Please read registration instructions before completing this form.

			First-Time Attender?	E-mail	Phone (H)	Monthly Meeting		Address		Last Name, First Name	Children - age 3-7	Last Name, First Name	1ge 8 & up	
										e R.B-D. 4 Or C	18 1		dult Young Frie	end? (chk) Fill in below if sleeping on campus
			Other?	Use wheelchair?	Trouble w/walking?	Trouble w/stairs?	How many for vegetarian diet?	Concerns:		\$10.00/ Lodging Th Fr Sa Stay	\$10.00, Camp \$5.00	enter amount	2 6	
		Will room as family- # of rooms:		or other teens?	Teen(s) want to be with family	Prefer roommate	I prefer to be alone	Roommates:		Sa Su Commuter L S B L S	Meals B=\$5.00; L=\$6.75; S=\$7.75	In Hr Sa Su (enter amount)) L S & L	Thurs Fri Sat S \$19.15/ \$25.55/ \$19.45/ day day day day day day day	Commuter H=\$6.40: L=\$8.95: S=\$10.20
Consent & Permission Form, and check to: Sally Weaver Sommr 118 S. Spring St., Bluffton, OH 45817	Mail completed Registration Form, Parent or Guardian					Donation to help cover costs			Total	Add the lodging subtotal to the Meals meals subtotal	Total Meal and Lodging costs	(enter amount) meals subttotal (el	Add the lodging subtotal to the	Total Meal and Lodging costs Re
OH 45817	Form, Parent or Guardian		Due at check in \$	Paid in Advance \$	Grand Total \$	Donation to help cover costs of youth/children's attendance \$	Less Discount \$	Less Scholarship \$	Total Scholarships \$	Scholarship See above		(enter amount) loaging costs	Scholarships ages 3-18 are 2/3 of the total for meals and 100% of	Adult Adult Registration Scholarship Early Bird (Post- Youth and Children (Lodging or

$Deadline-July\ 9,\ 2018-Registration\ Deadline\ for\ Children-July\ 9,\ 2018-Deadline$

LEYM Parent or Guardian Consent & Permission Form

All children welcome, toilet-trained or not

Child's full name:		
Child's age at LEYM:		
Child's grade level next fall: Nickname:		Vouth Adult
Nickname.	Tee Shirt Size	Touth Adult
Child's full name:		
Child's age at LEYM:		
Child's grade level next fall:		
Nickname:	Tee Shirt Size	Youth Adult
Child's full name:		
Child's age at LEYM:		
$Child's \ grade \ level \ next \ fall:$		
Nickname:	Tee Shirt Size	Youth Adult
Child's full name:		
Child's age at LEYM:		
Child's grade level next fall:		
Nickname:	Tee Shirt Size	Youth Adult
Parent/Guardian name		
Parent/Guardian email addr		
Home address:		
above adult		
Email address:		
		atal, and physical conditions as well as any medications he/she
Insurance Carrier: Group number: Policy holder's name: Policy number: I am aware that my child is att 26 – July 29, 2018. I authorize t child to participate in swimming	tending the gathering of La the adult staff to arrange fo g, bowling, or any other off ild will only ride in vehicle would help.]	where Erie Yearly Meeting at Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH, on July of emergency medical care they deem necessary. I am aware that for my f-campus activity, he/she will be riding in a private motor vehicle to es equipped with seatbelts or age-appropriate child-restraining devices.
admittance if they are not at Days: E	ttending LEYM. Svenings:	reached for permission for emergency medical treatment/Other:
If parent/guardian cannot be		
	•	
	Evenings:	

Summary of Reports and Actions at Representative Meeting

April 14, 2018, Athens Monthly Meeting in Chauncey, Ohio (Full minutes of the Meeting will appear on the LEYM website.)

About 30 Friends attended.

- Jeff Cooper, a Board member of Friends School in Detroit, reported on the sale of the School, and criteria for distributing the roughly \$1M remaining after debts and expenses are paid.
- ◆ Greg Mott, representative to Olney Friends School, announced that sufficient money was raised by March 30 to ensure that the school will be open for the 2018-19 school year. Friends who wish to support the school can do so by visiting, donating, praying, sponsoring a workshop or class, and spreading the word about the school.
- ◆ The Yearly Meeting has urgent needs to find an assistant clerk of the Children & Youth Program Committee (usually a two-year commitment). Other positions that need filling by July include 2-3 members for Advancement & Outreach, a committee member for Finance, 2 members for Adult Program, 1 for Peace & Justice, 2 for Ministry &Nurture, and 3 representatives to FGC. Joe Mills was approved to clerk the Finance Committee.
- The Worship Group in Fremont, Michigan has been laid down.
- ◆ The Peace & Justice Committee invites monthly meetings to complete the survey sent to them and to provide photographs of their peace activities, to be shared at Annual Sessions. The committee clerk, Shelley Kotz, asked that anyone who wants to bring a minute related to peace and justice for consideration at Annual Sessions be in touch with her beforehand (sh.s3ktz@gmail.com).
- ◆ There were 13,000 views of the LEYM website in the past nine months. Our Meeting worker and database manager, Mathilda Navias, plans to move out of the LEYM region in summer 2019. Anyone interested in taking on one of her two positions should contact the presiding clerk.
- ◆ The Yearly Meeting is in healthy financial shape. A number of our funds designated for specific types of ministry are going unspent (notably the teen retreat program and traveling ministries). We were asked to consider whether

- we are missing leadings in these areas, or if we should discern if we now have different leadings that need financial support.
- ◆ The preliminary budget calls for the same suggested per-member contribution as last year (\$30). Friends asked whether the \$1000 included in last year's budget as a one-time line for scholarships to attend the White Privilege Conference in Michigan could remain, to support attendance at this conference and similar antiracist events. Peace & Justice will season this request.
- ◆ The registration fee for Annual Meeting will remain the same, and the same discounts as last year will continue: no registration fee for young adults, a 1/3 discount for first-time attenders, and no registration or lodging fee plus a 2/3 discount on meals for all children. There will be a slight increase in the cost of lodging and meals.
- ◆ This year the Children & Youth Program will include brief gathering in worship each morning, visiting a museum on children's book illustrations in Findlay, and mapping the locations of LEYM's monthly meetings and worship groups. The Meeting approved a policy that drivers of children must be 21 or older. The Fall Retreat will be expanded to include grades K-12 this year.
- ◆ The theme of Annual Sessions this year is "Building the Beloved Community: Who is My Neighbor?" Nine workshops on a variety of themes have been chosen. The plenary speaker, Yvette Shipman, will address dismantling racism in her talk, "Being a Good Neighbor Takes Practice."
- ◆ The Publications & Archives Committee is uploading the texts of plenary talks from the last five years for posting on the website. After consulting with monthly meetings, P&A will bring a recommendation to Annual Sessions on posting memorial minutes of deceased LEYM members on the website. The Meeting approved notifying members via e-mail thrice a year of the presence of the *Bulletin* on the website.

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Friends Fiduciary Corporation's New Investment Guidelines

Last July, in support of a minute from Ann Arbor Monthly Meeting, our Peace & Justice Committee proposed – and LEYM approved – a minute asking Friends Fiduciary Corporation to adopt more stringent investment screening for companies active in Israel-Palestine. The minute (YM2017-28) reads, "Lake Erie Yearly Meeting requests that Friends Fiduciary Corporation expand its Quaker Values Screening Criteria to exclude investments in companies that support or are complicit with Israel's occupation of Palestinian lands, its economic exploitation and control of the Palestinian population, and/or its violations of international human rights law." Similar minutes were adopted by monthly meetings in Evanston (Illinois), Madison (Wisconsin), Ames (Iowa), and Swannanoa Valley (North Carolina).

Recently, Jeff Perkins (CEO of FFC) reported on action taken by the FFC Board responding to these minutes. The FFC's new guidelines will now address the suffering of people who live under occupation and in areas of conflict, including not only Palestinians in the West Bank, but also occupied populations in Crimea, East Ukraine, the Southern Sahara, and other areas of conflict. The FFC has already begun two initiatives to ask companies to change what they are doing in the West Bank.

Request from Peace & Justice

The Peace & Justice Committee asks that any Meeting or individual having a peace and justice concern that they feel should be addressed by LEYM as a whole (minute or letter) send information about the concern to the Committee prior to the Annual Sessions. This allows the Committee ample time to consider the appropriate response. Send information about such matters to Committee co-clerk Shelley Kotz at sh.s3ktz@gmail.com, or to other Committee members: Kathleen Helbling (co-clerk), Joyce Balderston, Linda Beatty, Helen Fox, and Joel Ottenbreit.

Save the Dates

A Spiritual Spa

LEYM Spiritual Formation Retreats, 2018-2019

Fall Retreat Weekend, September 7-9, Weber Retreat and Conference Center in Adrian, MI

Spring Retreat Saturday, May 4, 2019
Would your meeting be interested in hosting?

Relax and get grounded with a weekend of activities to help you move to your spiritual center and to relax and pamper your body. Deepen your spiritual life with activities that help you center yourself and that gently use your body to help reach a deep spiritual place.

The weekend will be relaxing, varied, challenging, centering, and nurturing. We will explore the mind -body connection. There will be chocolate.

Under the leadership of Mathilda Navias (Broadmead Meeting), a team of Friends will lead the exercises: Della Stanley-Green (Western Yearly Meeting), Kate Enger (Athens), Aran Reinhart (Broadmead), and Ellerie Brownfain (Birmingham).

For more information, go to leym.org/spiritual-formation-program-description or contact Mathilda Navias at galaxy@woh.rr.com or 419 448-0578.

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*. The deadline for the fall *Bulletin* is October 1.

LEYM Annual Fall Youth Retreat

Friday—Sunday, September 28-30 Now for Youth K—12 Returning to Templed Hills

Families and friends are invited to bring their youth (K—12th grade) to the annual Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Fall Youth Retreat at Templed Hills UCC Camp & Conference Center in mid-Ohio (5734 Durbin Rd. Bellville, near Mansfield). There we will explore our Quaker connections with each other and our environment. Adult Friends are also welcome to come and assist with activities.

We will be staying in Heritage Hall, a converted barn which has a group sleeping area in one of the two common rooms and six semi-private rooms that each sleep four persons. Please plan to eat supper before you arrive on Friday night.

Bring a sleeping bag and camp bedding, layers of clothes for various types of weather, rain gear, sturdy shoes for wandering and a separate pair that can get muddy, a flashlight, towels, and bathroom toiletries. Bring a journal if you use one, a word or board games to share, a T-shirt to silkscreen, and your imagination. Please do *not* bring electronic devices, unless they are absolutely necessary for work or school. Cell phone reception is extremely erratic, so don't plan lots of time talking with folks elsewhere – instead visit with the good folks at the retreat.

Registration Details:

- The cost per person is \$70; \$25 scholarships are available. There is no charge for children under the age of 6.
- Registration Deadline: September 10**
- Please bring the completed registration form and the fee to camp with you. The form must be filled out for each person attending the retreat.

Please call Diane Mott at 419-419-8339 or contact Diane at *dianeer@bgsu.edu* to register by the deadline and/or to ask any questions. The form is also posted on the LEYM website.

** If you have **dietary restrictions**, the camp site director needs to know about them **by August 30** so that the camp kitchen staff can adequately prepare for appropriate meals. Anyone who does not contact the camp staff by August 30 about dietary restrictions will need to bring and prepare their own food in the Heritage Hall kitchen (which has a refrigerator, stove, oven, and microwave).

Andrew Mott, Broadmead Monthly Meeting and Cub Scout Pack 422, Erie Shores Council, earned his That of God medal this spring. Broadmead Clerk Mary Meyers presented him with the medal on May 13.





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The QAC and the FGC Gathering

The newly-formed Quaker Arts Center (QAC) Committee is joyfully preparing for the FGC Gathering 2018. The committee is under the care of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts (FQA), which has hosted the Gathering's art space since 1998. This year the QAC is deepening engagement among Friends while exploring the Gathering's theme, "The Power of Truth."

First-time participants, all art forms for exhibition, and a variety of programs are invited. Examples include jewelry, fiber arts, music, and social-change dialogues. The QAC is glad to cooperate with Friends groups across sites at the Gathering. Proposals from individuals and groups are processed until June 10 by website; visit http://fqaquaker.org/fqa-fgc. Late additions are possible, depending on space and other factors; in this case please email us promptly. For phone assistance, please send a request by email to quakerartscenter@gmail.com. Updates too can be found via FQA's Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/quakersinthearts.

Help Needed from LEYM Friends

In support of the QAC in Toledo, Ohio, the Committee seeks assistance among LEYM Friends and/or Monthly Meetings to loan equipment and also transport it as well as possible art work. Equipment needs at this time include easels, a projector with audio (plus adapters), and a few headsets (no earbuds). Transportation from Kalamazoo or Lansing is needed for a loaned PA system (speakers, soundboard, mics) and a multimedia station (free-standing screen, laptop). Thanks for your consideration. Offers and questions are welcome by email (quakerartscenter@gmail.com).

Mey Hasbrook (Kalmazoo MM), QAC Curator

QREC Annual Conference & Retreat

The Quaker Religious Education Collaborative announces plans for its 5th Annual Conference & Retreat, August 17-19, at Powell House, in Old Chatham, New York 12136.

Religious Education in Action: Activism, Outreach, and Parenting

How do we take the lessons of Quaker religious education beyond the meetinghouse?

Where do life-long spiritual formation and activism, outreach, and Quaker parenting intersect?

The program includes:

- Worship in the manner of programmed and unprogrammed Friends.
- Gathering and networking with Friends from across the Americas who come to share their emergent work.
- Panels and discussion, workshops, and interest groups
- · Bonfire evening and swimming in the pond!
- Fellowship, learning, and joy!

Register at powellhouse.org

Shared Room, \$275; Commuter, \$210; Saturday Daytime Only, \$125 (2 meals)

Younger Friends are welcome and child care will be available upon request. infant to 12 yrs, \$58; 13 to 22, \$115. (All adult rates include a program fee and a \$5 QREC membership fee.)

Learn more at www.quakers4re.org and www.facebook.com/Quakers4RE.

Please email questions to QREC at quakercollaborative4re@gmail.com.

FGC Institutional Assessment on Racism: A Historical Overview

Marvin Barnes

In 2016, a petition circulated at the Gathering asked that FGC undertake an institutional assessment of systemic racism within the organization, and Central Committee agreed to take on this important work. After raising the necessary funds, FGC retained Crossroads, a nonprofit organization that works with faith communities to critically examine their culture, practices, policies, and structure in order to identify systemic racism and work toward anti-racist transformation (http://crossroadsantiracism.org/). Crossroads carries out its mission by training institutional transformation teams. It contracted with FGC to work with us over the next year to conduct our institutional assessment.

On November 17-19, 2017, 43 FGC staff members, committee clerks, some yearly meeting representatives, and members of the Institutional Assessment Task Force convened at Stony Point Retreat Center in Stony Point, New York to attend our first Crossroads training. The training was the result of six months of spirit-led work by the Institutional Assessment Working Group (IAWG), which assembled the 12member Task Force that will carry this work forward and bring recommendations for change to FGC's Central Committee. The FGC Committee for Nurturing Ministries' Ministry on Racism holds our work under its care. At the workshop, the Crossroads team guided us in activities to lay a foundation for our future work. We shared our experiences of the historical roots of white supremacy within the Religious Society of Friends and our society at large, the insidious nature of racism embedded in these cultures. and the impact that racism has on governmental systems, people, and communities in the United States and Canada.

Having this common language and understanding facilitates the institutional assessment design and execution work of the **Task Force**, which met on the Monday following the workshop (November 20). The Task Force formed three subgroups to gather data for the assessment:

The Continuum Team, to overlay a tool from Crossroads with our organizational structure, policies (e.g., Blue Book), decision-making processes, and culture to look into inequities. "What are the sacred cows of Quaker culture?"

The Power Analysis Team, to examine FGC against a "matrix of domination," the degree to which individuals, institutions, and our Quaker culture uphold white supremacy and marginalize our subcultures. "How do Quaker practice, programs, etc. benefit white society and oppress people of color?"

The Survey Team, to conduct winter focus groups to design a survey to be administered across FGC constituencies during the spring, and review themes arising from the survey with focus groups during the summer.

The Continuum Team

Marvin Barnes	LEYM, IAWG
Justin Connor	BYM, IAWG
Janice Domanik	ILYM

Keira Wilson BYM/PHLYM

Power Analysis Team (aka Matrix team)

Michael Doo BYM

Vanessa Julye PHLYM, IAWG

Marijke van Roojen NYM Dwight Wilson LEYM

Task Force Survey Team

Sharon Lane-Getaz NYM, IAWG
Carolyn Lejuste LEYM, IAWG
Katrina McQuail CYM
Elanna Reber PHLYM

The data gathered across the **Task Force** teams will be analyzed with Crossroads to produce recommendations for FGC to move toward antiracist transformation. The **Institutional Assessment Working Group** will continue to report further to Friends as we move forward on the institutional assessment.

The Survey Team has prepared a survey which is ready for dissemination to Friends throughout FGC. The dissemination is scheduled for May 1:

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The IA Survey of FGC Friends aims to identify evidence of institutional racism that may have crept into FGC's practices and procedures. The survey is a first step to respond to concerns lifted up via petition at the 2016 Gathering.

The Institutional Assessment Survey on Racism provides a space where FGC Quakers can examine how we live into our stated value of the beloved community. It is important to capture testimonies from all FGC constituencies, particularly Friends of Color. Truth telling can help us discover the difference between who we want to be and who we are. As a community, we need to open our collective eyes to FGC practices. While many Friends are actively engaged in personal work to root out racism, that does not absolve FGC as a whole from dealing with institutional, systemic racism.

The IA survey gathers Friends' opinions and experiences of systemic racism within FGC's organizational structure, culture, programs, personnel practices, and monthly and yearly meetings. The survey results will be validated with focus groups and with hard data collected from FGC records. Look for the "IA Drop-in space" at the 2018 Gathering, where we will make the IA project visible to FGC Friends, provide updates, field questions, and hold focus groups. The Crossroads Workshop attendees will be present for drop-ins on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons.

The survey dissemination plan is to send invitations via an emailed link to:

- Adult Young Friends (AYF), co-clerks
- Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, clerk
- FGC-affiliated yearly meetings and directly affiliated monthly meetings, clerks
- FGC *Vital Friends* newsletter and other Social Media
- Friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC), co-clerks
- 2016 Petition signers

All recipients of the IA survey link are encouraged to complete it and distribute the link widely among their distribution lists of FGC Friends

and other important constituencies, particularly Friends of Color. Expect the survey link in your email on May 1.

FGC Institutional Assessment Timeline Completion Date

Launch the Institutional Assessment on Racism Survey via email invitations May 1 Collect survey data for 4 weeks in May, with a reminder email after two weeks May 31 Analyze survey responses to inform Pre-Gathering and Gathering focus groups June 30 Summarize and synthesize survey, focus group, and hard data from FGC records July 31 Finalize IA Recommendations with Crossroads' guidance at Task Force Meeting August 10-12 Present recommendations to Executive and Central Committees Sept/Oct

In addition, the IA team has proposed to write an article about our process and what was learned for *Friends Journal*, which expects to publish the article in January 2019.

Look for updates and focus groups at the 2018 Gathering! To contact the Task Force please email us: institutionalassessment@fgcquaker.org.

I am available for any questions you may have about our ongoing efforts. Feel free to contact me either via email or telephone; my contact information is below. It is my understanding that Carolyn Lejuste and I will be giving a report at our upcoming Annual Sessions in Bluffton. Members of LEYM are intimately involved in the Assessment. We want to make every effort to ensure that the Yearly Meeting is fully informed and participates in this important work within Friends General Conference.

Marvin Barnes marvin@thebarnesfamily187.com 248-528-1321

News from Around LEYM

Helen Horn (1932 – 2018)

With great sadness, Athens Friends share the news that our beloved Helen Horn lost her life in a traffic accident on April 29, 2018. Helen was a life-long member of the Religious Society of Friends and helped to found the Athens Friends Meeting. Known for her tenacious, passionate activism for social justice. Helen also illuminated our lives with her poetry and her love of nature and music. She led workshops using the arts and small group sharing at Pendle Hill as well as in Ohio. In 2008 Helen delivered the Annual Meeting plenary address, "Centered Enough for Peacemaking?"

Daughter of Douglas and Dorothy Steere, Helen was preceded in death by her husband of over 50 years, David Horn. Survivors include her sister, Anne Steere Nash of Newton, Massachusetts, her daughter, Becky Ferguson (Douglas) of Albany, Ohio, and her grandchildren, Andrea and Eric Ferguson.





Helen in 2008

Calendar for 2018

June 30: Due date for State of the Meeting Reports

July 1-7: FGC Gathering, University of Toledo, Toledo, Ohio

<u>July 9</u>: Registration deadline for children attending Annual Meeting (and early bird registration discount)

July 11: Due date for Statistical Reports

July 26-29: Annual Meeting, Bluffton University

August 5: Summer Gathering of Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting, Quaker Park, Battle Creek

September 4: Due date for submissions for 2018 Annual Records

September 7-9: Fall Spiritual Formation Retreat, Adrian, Michigan (see p. 15)

September 28-30: LEYM Fall Youth Retreat Bellville, Ohio (see p. 16)

October 1: Due date for submissions for Fall Bulletin

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

Joe Mills (Kalamazoo)

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)

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