

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting

Minutes of Representative Meeting

March 8, 2025

Clerks' Table: Joe Mills (Kalamazoo), Clerk; Jack Smith (Red Cedar), Assistant Clerk; Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor), Recording Clerk

Clerk Joe Mills welcomed the group of Friends gathered in person at Pittsburgh Friends Meeting and via Zoom for the 2025 Representative Meeting of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting. 14 online, 19 in room

RM 2025-01 Opening and Reading of Epistle

Friends settled into waiting worship at 1:35 pm.

Jack Smith (Red Cedar), Assistant Clerk, read an epistle from Tim Gee, General Secretary of FWCC, sent in February 2025. They are grieving the recent death of their clerk, Simon Lamb (Ireland Yearly Meeting), and welcoming a new clerk, Esther Mombo (Highland Yearly Meeting). The year's theme for World Quaker Day in October will be "Love Your Neighbor." They noted the many forces urging us to hate our neighbor. The world needs our messages of equality, integrity, and peace. May our measures of Light be enough to find our way in the world. (The full text is at: <https://fwcc.world/2025-letter-to-meetings/>.)

RM 2025-02 Roll Call

Ann Arbor:	3	Kalamazoo:	4
Athens:	1	North Columbus:	3
Birmingham:	3	Pittsburgh:	6
Broadmead:	5	Red Cedar:	3
Cleveland:	1	Wooster:	2
Grand Rapids:	1	<u>Erie WG:</u>	<u>1</u>
		TOTAL:	33

No representation present from the following Monthly Meetings: Akron, Delaware, Detroit, Granville, Holland, Kent, Mid-Ohio Valley, and Oberlin.

RM 2025-03 Reports from around the Yearly Meeting

Brief Reports from monthly meetings were given as follows :

- Bill Warters reported that Birmingham Meeting used handmade Valentine cards made by Wink Covintree to send messages of gratitude to elected officials who are standing up for democracy.
- Sally Weaver Sommer reported that Broadmead Meeting is celebrating 50 years this year. In the fall, there was an event with people invited back to join the celebration of their Meeting. On May 3, Paul Tinkerhess (Ann Arbor) will present a concert as a special event. This is the same weekend in which the Spiritual Formation Program will have its closing event of the year in Toledo.
- Vickey Finger reported that Cleveland Meeting will celebrate its 100th anniversary on Easter Sunday.
- Joe Mills reported that Kalamazoo Meeting has received requests from a few other congregations to bring their youth groups to visit so that they can experience a Quaker meeting.

- Susan Hartman reported that Ann Arbor Meeting received two requests for marriage under their care this year, a sign that there are more young adults participating in our meetings. Vickey Finger reported that Cleveland also celebrated a marriage this year.
- Susan Hartman and Peggy Daub (Ann Arbor) reported that Green Pastures Quarterly Meeting will hold its Midwinter Gathering by Zoom on Saturday, March 15, when there will be a program on incarceration in Michigan, and especially the work of the Michigan AFSC office. There will also be a time for young adult friends to talk about possible plans to get together.
- Susan Loucks said how happy Pittsburgh Meeting is to be hosting Representative Meeting and reported that they too will soon celebrate a marriage under the care of the Meeting.
- Barbara LeSage reported that North Columbus Meeting has added a box of fidget tools, available to anyone to help them focus during meeting for worship.

RM 2025-04 Report and request from Jack Smith (Red Cedar), Assistant Clerk

Jack Smith reported that he plans to intersperse selections from State of the Meeting reports from within LEYM with reading of epistles at the start of our business sessions. He hopes Friends will hear and be led to follow up with others about our shared challenges and opportunities. Friends were invited to comment now or to send him thoughts by email (jsmith@msu.edu).

In discussion, a Friend expressed a desire for retaining the quality of epistles in expressing how other Quakers have felt Spirit move as distinct from a time for sharing news. That difference was recognized. A passage from the *LEYM Policies and Procedures* was shared that describes the purpose of the epistles as keeping us mindful of Quakers around the world. Another Friend requested that we also share epistles of various kinds that are not international in scope.

Friends **approved** the proposal that the Assistant Clerk read items before our business meetings that include passages from State of the Meeting reports as well as epistles from other groups. The full report follows.

In my role as Assistant Clerk, in addition to reading (or arranging to be read) some epistles from other international Quaker organizations and Yearly Meetings at our Annual Meeting, I also intend to mix in some selections from our own Monthly Meetings' State of Meeting Reports. My hope in doing this is that Friends will hear about and be led to follow up with others about shared challenges and opportunities. I intend to review the 2025 State of Meeting Reports, due in May, and make thoughtful choices about what segments to read.

My sense is that this is somewhat of a change in LEYM practice, and I want Friends gathered to hear my intention and rationale in advance. I hope Friends will see some promise in the idea, and, if some want to respond, there would be time to hear them. Friends can also write to me separately with reactions and suggestions; my e-mail address (jsmith@msu.edu) is in the Fall and Winter Bulletins.

RM 2025-05 Advancement & Outreach Committee: Susan Hartman (Ann Arbor) reported.

a. Susan Hartman described a plan developed by the Advancement & Outreach Committee and the Ministry & Nurture Committee to visit Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in LEYM. They would give priority to the Meetings that are very small or have not participated in LEYM recently. Visits will be in person or electronically. They will share news of LEYM and listen for how the Committee might support and care for each group.

In order to support this activity, the Committee proposes that the Traveling Ministries Fund be used to

reimburse Friends for expenses that arise in carrying it forward. The full report follows.

In discussion, Friends were reminded that this fund has never been used and is restricted to supporting traveling ministry. At our last Annual Sessions, the Finance Committee asked the Ministry & Nurture Committee to suggest ways in which the fund could be used. What we are hearing today is a proposed activity that is seen as a way of accomplishing traveling ministry. If the proposal is approved, the Ministry & Nurture Committee asked for additional guidance about how the funds should be allocated. Friends encouraged the Committee to use the fund. If it is depleted, more money might be found.

Friends **recognized** intervisitation as a form of travelling ministry and **approved** using the Traveling Ministries Fund for the purpose of intervisitation within LEYM as proposed by the Advancement & Outreach and Ministry & Nurture Committees. Allocations from the fund are left in the care of the Ministry & Nurture Committee, and they were asked to develop a process so that Friends can readily make requests and report back.

b. Barbara LeSage (North Columbus) and Susan Hartman (Ann Arbor) reported that the Committee reached out to Meetings who did not submit State of the Meeting reports to LEYM last year to find out how they were doing. Reports from Mid-Ohio Valley Meeting and Granville Meeting for 2024 were received. Susan emphasized how enriching the Committee members found the reading of State of the Meeting reports to be. The full Committee report follows.

Members of the Advancement & Outreach Committee, in coordination with the Ministry & Nurture Committee, propose to visit Monthly Meetings and Worship Groups in person or electronically. We will prioritize groups that have not sent a State of the Meeting report in the current year, have not been at Annual Meeting sessions, or are a very small group. This work is part of our charge as a committee.

The purpose of our visitation ministry is to share news of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting Annual Meeting sessions and other work and to listen to how each group sees itself in relation to the regional Quaker fellowship. We will be listening for ways to support the groups as they share their own outreach concerns and any issues they have with welcoming new attenders. We will also be listening for pastoral care issues that could be aided by Ministry & Nurture members.

We propose that travel costs and other expenses of these visits be covered by the Traveling Ministries Fund. We believe that this intervisitation is a form of ministry, and is consistent with the intent of the fund.

Description of the fund from Policies and Procedures, Appendix D. 1. g:

Traveling Ministries Fund: This fund supports the travel costs of LEYM Friends whose travel in the ministry has been recognized by their monthly meeting and LEYM through a travel minute. It is administered by the Ministry & Nurture Committee.

RM 2025-06 Treasurer's Report: Tom Kangas (North Columbus), Treasurer, reported.

Tom Kangas (North Columbus) noted that overall the finances of Lake Erie Yearly Meeting are in good shape. Revenue from contributions from Monthly Meetings as of this week was 97% of the anticipated total. Although he expected a 33% increase in cost for using the facilities at Ashland University for our Annual Meeting, that increase was not reflected in a recent invoice he received. The Arrangements & Site Committee will find out more. Budgeted expenses so far this year included the work of two contract employees, publications activity, and support for travel to FGC Central Committee. Activity on funds for the Fall Youth Retreat and the Spiritual Formation program were as expected. The text report follows, with a numerical report at the end of these minutes.

Treasurer's Report:

Preliminary financial results for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 as of 03/06/2025

General Fund

Revenue

- a. All monthly meetings save one have paid annual contribution*
- b. Revenue from monthly meetings is 97% of the anticipated total*

Expenses

- a. Database Manager—has billed for work done through October 2024*
- b. Digital Communications Facilitator—has billed for work done through Jan 2025*
- c. Publications—remaining expenditures are for the Spring Bulletin*
- d. Favorable Variances—if all budgeted amounts were spent by year end, that would be \$10K of expenses, but budgeted amounts may be conservative*

Fund Summary

- a. Friends Fiduciary*
 - i. Will get another \$1K of dividends before year end*
 - ii. Changes in market value from Dec 31 forward will be reflected here, too*
- b. Transfers between funds are mostly done for the year unless there is a return of unused subsidy from the Annual Meeting Fund*

Annual Meeting Fund

- We've made advance payments of 50% of total cost to Ashland University*
- The original quote from Ashland had a 33% increase in venue rental fees, but on the most recent invoice those fees returned to same level as they were for June 2024*

Travel Fund

- Expenditure was for one representative to attend FGC Central Comm meeting in Oct 2024 (includes registration, mileage, room, but not board)*

Youth Activities Fund

- Activity shown here pertains to the youth and families retreat in Sept 2024*

Spiritual Formation Fund

- Activity shown here pertains to the retreat in Sept 2024*

FWCC Travel Fund

- Expenditure was for one representative to attend the World Plenary in August 2024*

Balance Sheet

- Shows where our money is kept and related details*

Overall, LEYM's finances are in good shape.

RM 2025-07 Draft Budget for 2025–26: Tom Kangas reported.

A draft budget for fiscal year 2025–26 was shared. The hourly rate for our two contracted workers is proposed to rise by about 2.5%, and there are moderate increases in several other line items. It shows funding for the FWCC Travel Donation Fund, but not for sending our own representatives, as the fund is still well supplied. This budget suggests a \$43 contribution per member (up by \$1), with an overall expected deficit of about \$2,000. The draft budget follows at the end of these minutes.

Draft Budget for FY2025-2026

Assumptions included in this draft budget:

- Hourly rate for two contractors is increased by \$0.75 each (roughly 2.5%)*
- Moderate increase for several line items reflected in the "Change" column*
- FWCC Travel*
 - a. Rep Travel Fund has a balance of \$5,385 after \$2,229 expended for 2024 World Plenary*
 - b. This budget proposes to add no funds to the Representative Travel Fund*
 - c. This budget proposes to fund only the FWCC Travel Donation Fund*
- This draft would suggest a \$43 contribution per member (up by \$1, or 2% from FY2024–2025)*
- This draft would expect a \$2K deficit for the General Fund for FY2025–2026*

RM 2025-08 Finance Committee: Joann Neuroth (Red Cedar) reported.

- a. Joann Neuroth shared that an audit of the LEYM financial records through June 30, 2024, was completed by Terry Grant (Red Cedar). Joann shared the auditor's very complimentary statement on the work of our Treasurer, Tom Kangas. We are grateful for his work.
- b. Joann shared Information on a proposal the Committee plans to bring to Annual Sessions in the summer. Reimbursement for food has not been supported thus far through our Travel Fund. It has become complicated and time consuming to untangle the costs of food from other costs of registration and travel. The Committee will propose that we begin to reimburse for food as well as other costs of travel. This will mean additional expense. Note that this is in addition to other travel expenses that were added to what can be covered last year. (Details and necessary changes to *Policies and Procedures* appear at the end of these minutes.

RM 2025-09 Ministry & Nurture Committee: Flo Friender (Kalamazoo) reported.

- a. So far, the Committee has received reports from 12 Meetings on their consideration of the LEYM Annual Query. The Committee continues to support "Clerks' Chats" among Monthly Meeting clerks and others. The next one will be on March 20. They are assembling information on how one can attend our various Monthly Meetings that are hybrid and plan to share it to encourage Friends to visit one another's Meetings. The full report follows.

Ministry & Nurture has faithfully met monthly by Zoom since August of 2024. Members are Dennis Greg (Ann Arbor), Christopher Farrand (Cleveland), Kathleen Helbling (Broadmead), Ellerie Brownfain (Birmingham), Tom Blackwell (Ann Arbor), Recording Clerk, and Flo Friend (Kalamazoo), Clerk.

From the 18 Meetings we expect to hear from, we have, to this date, received responses from 12 Meetings to the 2024–2025 Annual Query.

We supported a Clerks' Chat on January 23, attended by 15 people, and have scheduled another on March 20, 2025 at 7:00 pm. One need not be a clerk to attend this meeting and/or bring concerns from their Meeting.

We are assembling information of hybrid meetings to allow Friends to virtually visit other Meetings, and are working with Advancement & Outreach to coordinate Meeting visitations to smaller Meetings and Worship Groups. We want to know if Meetings are interested in being visited.

- b. Sally Weaver Sommer (Broadmead) reported on the Spiritual Formation Program. Serving with Sally on that program's planning committee are Barbara LeSage (North Columbus), Ellerie Brownfain (Birmingham), Valerie Groszmann (Kalamazoo), and Olwen Pritchard (Broadmead). The retreat in the fall was led by Don McCormick, with the spring retreat scheduled for May 3. There was a mid-year check-in session in January. Next year's speaker will be Michael Wajda. More information will follow.

RM 2025-10 Publications & Archives Committee: Jeff Cooper (Ann Arbor) reported.

- a. Jeff was asked to say a few words about updates to *LEYM Policies and Procedures*, a publication that describes how we do our work (or "the Practice" without "the Faith"). The Publications & Archives Committee has responsibility for keeping *Policies and Procedures* up to date, based on decisions made by the Yearly Meeting. Jeff has taken on this work and updates P&P a few times a year. Then he asks Bill Wartens to load the new version on the website. Changes are usually quite small and so the new versions are not publicized. If anyone sees a problem with P&P, please let Jeff know.

- b. The Committee has responsibility for reporting on workshops at Annual Meeting in the *Annual*

Records. This year there are 13 workshops and only four members of the Committee. Volunteers to help are welcome.

RM 2025-11 Peace & Justice Committee: Claire Cohen (Pittsburgh) reported.

a. The Committee surveyed all the monthly meetings in LEYM to ask them about their local peace committees. Based on information acquired from the answers to the survey, they have planned a three-part seminar that will help guide meetings in how peace committees are formed and how they function. The seminars will be recorded and preserved on our website. The first seminar will be presented Sunday, April 6.

b. The Committee is tracking the progress of a lawsuit brought by FGC and other faith organizations that aims to prevent ICE from entering houses of worship. (An earlier and similar suit was brought by several yearly meetings.) A preliminary hearing will be held March 14, at which time it is hoped the judge will issue an injunction preventing ICE from carrying out searches in our Meeting spaces. Because we are a constituent part of FGC, all of our Meetings and Worship Groups would be covered by decisions made in this case. It could take a long time to be fully resolved in court.

The full report follows.

In discussion, a Friend added that FGC's suit is in conjunction with some 20 other religious bodies. Friends suggested that Monthly Meetings might wish to discern and write a statement on this issue for the intrinsic value of going through this process together. A Friend asked whether the Committee is interacting with the Alternatives to Violence Project, and Claire responded that they have been encouraging meetings to consider AVP as part of their activity. There are two Friends who are attending committee meetings without being appointed as members. The Nominating Committee will pursue the question of whether they wish to be appointed. A Friend asked the Committee to consider if there are minutes of conscience that could be seasoned and brought to Annual Sessions.

Peace and Justice Committee Report for Representative Meeting 3/8/2025

- *We started out with 3 members: Claire Cohen, Don Buckingham, and Paul Helbling. Later, Phil Volk and Mary Finney joined.*
- *The first thing we did was to do a survey of Meetings and Worship Groups in LEYM to see how many have, have had, or want to have Peace and Justice (or Peace and Social Concerns) committees. The survey included questions on the quality of functioning of the committees. We sent the survey to the clerks. After a few attempts at contact, we got a roughly 30% response and went with that.*
- *We also decided to send notifications to all Meetings, through their clerks, of International Peace Day and International Human Rights Day yearly, so that Meetings might plan events around them, if they wish.*
- *From reviewing the surveys we got back, it was clear there are a lot issues around the functioning of Peace and Justice committees, such as having difficulty forming one at all, difficulty recruiting members, difficulty agreeing on what to work on, difficulty finding resources, etc. So, we decided to do a seminar series to be recorded and kept on the LEYM website for Meetings as a resource for Meeting Peace and Justice Committees. We ended up with a two- to three-part seminar. (Included is the agenda for the first session of the seminar, which we plan to hold on Sunday, April 6, from 1 to 3 PM. The second session will focus more on problems. The Format will be similar. The Third one will probably be sometime in September and will have speakers from AFSC and FCNL discussing resources.)*
- *In January of 2025, a group of Quaker Meetings filed suit against the Department of Homeland Security*

over their policy ending restrictions of ICE arrests in “sensitive locations” such as houses of worship. On February 11, FGC filed a suit on behalf of all its component parts, so that other Yearly and Monthly Meetings need not file. There will be a preliminary hearing in D.C. on March 14. FGC is hoping that the judge will issue an injunction against ICE while waiting for the trial. Because the government is being inundated with lawsuits right now, it could take up to several months for the trial to occur. An injunction has been issued in the first suit brought by Philadelphia YM, Baltimore YM, and NEYM.

RM 2025-12 Adult & Family Program Committee: Clémence Ravaçon-Mershon (Erie Worship Group) reported.

Clémence presented several of the highlights that we can look forward to at our Annual Meeting in Ashland this summer. These include 13 workshops, Plenary Speaker Pamela Haines, and Bible Study led by Doug Gwyn. Diane Mott is writing a report on the Youth Program for the *LEYM Bulletin* to encourage families to attend. The full report follows.

On Friday morning, LEYM is welcome to visit with the staff at the Ashland Center for Non Violence. On Friday and Saturday mornings, we will offer Worship Sharing followed by Bible Study, led by Doug Gwyn. Also on Saturday morning, Paul Helbling will facilitate a time of extended worship concurrent with Worship Sharing and Bible Study. During the 3 Workshop sessions, Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, and Saturday afternoon, there will be 13 workshops to choose from. Plenary Speaker Pamela Haines and her partner, Chuck Esser, will be presenting two different workshops. The Saturday evening program is currently under the careful collaboration of two committees: Advancement & Outreach and Adult & Family Program. More details encouraging Monthly Meeting participation will be forthcoming.

RM 2025-13 Arrangements & Site Committee: Carolyn Lejuste (Red Cedar) reported.

The Committee is preparing information about registration for the next *LEYM Bulletin*. Carolyn will be working directly with staff at Ashland University in the coming weeks. Online registration will once again be offered.

RM 2025-14 Youth & Children Program Committee

Diane Mott (Broadmead) was unable to attend, but reported to the clerk that there has been some progress in securing a new space for the Fall Youth Retreat, but it has not yet been finalized.

RM 2025-15 Nominating Committee: Clémence Ravaçon-Mershon (Erie Worship Group) reported.

The Committee has begun talking to people about their service and is discerning the needs of the Yearly Meeting. At present they see the most pressing needs as an assistant clerk and additional people to serve on the Publications & Archives Committee.

RM 2025-16 Database Manager: Susan Loucks (Pittsburgh) reported.

Susan Loucks, our new database manager, has found the work to be relatively straightforward so far. She has questions about the purpose of the database that should be addressed at some time: what should be in the database? -- Is it all the members of all the Meetings, or just the information we put in the *Annual Records* each year? A Friend suggested that a group could be formed to help discern this question with Susan. Joe Mills (Kalamazoo) is interested in serving on such an ad hoc committee, and Bill Warters (Birmingham) is also interested. As clerk, Joe will name an ad hoc committee.

We minuted with gratitude the care and hospitality Pittsburgh Meeting offered us, and closed in worship.

LEYM General Fund Income

As of 3/6/2025

For the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (12 months ending June 30, 2025)

Contribution From	Amount	Deposit Date			
Akron Monthly Meeting	250	12/16/2024			
Ann Arbor Monthly Meeting	5,142	1/31/2025			
Athens Monthly Meeting	2,000	11/17/2024			
Birmingham Monthly Meeting	546	10/1 & 10/13/24			
Broadmead Monthly Meeting	1,500	1/31/2025			
Cleveland Monthly Meeting	1,680	3/6/2025			
Delaware Monthly Meeting					
Detroit Monthly Meeting	924	1/27/2025			
Grand Rapids Monthly Meeting	462	1/17/2025			
Granville Monthly Meeting	1,000	1/17/2025			
Holland Monthly Meeting	400	1/5/2025			
Kalamazoo Monthly Meeting	1,134	1/22 & 2/28/25			
Kent Monthly Meeting	714	1/17/2025			
Mid-Ohio Valley Monthly Meeting	180	1/24/2025			
North Columbus Monthly Meeting	1,260	12/9/2024			
Oberlin Monthly Meeting	1,100	1/31/2025			
Pittsburgh Monthly Meeting	4,956	2/7/2025			
Red Cedar Monthly Meeting	3,066	1/5/2025			
Wooster Monthly Meeting	504	1/31/2025			
Subtotal - contributing MM or WG	26,818		<i>Expected, per budget</i>	<i>Actual as a % of Budget</i>	<i>Variance, favorable (unfavorable)</i>
			27,510	97%	(692)
Individuals - via check	5				
Individuals - via FFC online	50				
Individuals - via RegFox	27				
Interest income from Savings Acct	34				
Total Cash Contribution Income	26,935		In-kind	Total contribution income	
			+	-	26,935
FFC Dividend Income (Base Acct only)	1,044				
Total Income	27,979		(cash income, excluding in-kind)		

LEYM General Fund Expenses - with comparison to Budget

For the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (12 months ending June 30, 2025)

Account	Actual Expense through 3/6/2025	Budget (annual)	Actual expense as a % of Budget	Variance, budget-to- actual, favorable (unfavorable)	Non-cash, in-kind donations through 3/6/2025	Total Expense, including in- kind, through 3/6/2025
Operations						
Contract Worker: Database Manager	533.50	3,575	15%	3,042	-	534
Contract Worker: Digital Comm Facil'r	1,303.50	5,775	23%	4,472	-	1,304
Insurance	613.00	650	94%	37	-	613
Office/administration	307.44	1,100	28%	793	-	307
Committees						
Advancement & Outreach	-	100	0%	100	-	-
Ministry & Nurture	-	100	0%	100	-	-
Publications	2,637.95	3,500	75%	862	-	2,638
Members						
Attend conference w/ Quaker values	-	500	0%	500	-	-
Organizations						
Friends General Conference	6,200.00	6,200	100%	-	-	6,200
Olney Friends School	3,100.00	3,100	100%	-	-	3,100
Swarthmore records project	150.00	150	100%	-	-	150
Subtotal cash expenditures	14,845	24,750	60%	9,905	-	14,845
Transfers from General Fund to other Funds						
Annual Meeting Fund	5,000.00	5,000	100%	-		
Travel Fund	1,500.00	1,500	100%	-		
FWCC Travel Fund & Donation	1,800.00	1,800	100%	-		
Subtotal Transfers	8,300.00	8,300		-		
Totals - General Fund Expenses	23,145.39	33,050	70%	9,905		

LEYM Summary of Funds for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Floor/ /Ceiling

Fund Name	Beginning Balance as of 7/1/2024	Friends Fiduciary account activity ¹	Transfers between funds	Cash Income	Cash Expense	Subtotal: activity for current fiscal year	Ending Balance as of 3/6/2025	Suggested floor/ceiling amounts for each fund	Last activity prior to FY24-25
Funds held in (i) Base account with Friends Fiduciary Corp and (ii) Citizens National Bank									
General Fund ²	36,402.84	2,599.73	(8,300.00)	26,934.53	(14,845.39)	6,388.87	42,791.71	na 35,000	
Annual Meeting Fund	2,954.99		5,000.00	-	(11,840.00)	(6,840.00)	(3,885.01)	1,000 3,000	
Travel Fund	2,745.25		1,500.00	-	(919.23)	580.77	3,326.02	2,000 4,000	
Youth Activities Fund ⁴	5,807.90		953.27	345.00	(775.00)	523.27	6,331.17	4,000 8,000	
Quaker Coll/Svc Schol Fund	4,000.00		-	-	-	-	4,000.00	2,000 4,000	FY22-23
HS Teen Retreat Fund	4,000.00		-	-	-	-	4,000.00	3,000 4,000	FY17-18
Ministry Scholarship Fund	1,649.00				-	-	1,649.00	na 2,000	FY19-20
Spiritual Formation Fund	2,769.34		300.00	6,252.77	(7,095.32)	(542.55)	2,226.79	500 2,000	
Consultation Fund	3,143.68		-	-	-	-	3,143.68	500 2,000	FY11-12
Traveling Ministries Fund	3,500.00					-	3,500.00	na na	FY13-14 ⁵
Work Projects Fund	2,182.39					-	2,182.39	na 2,000	FY17-18
FWCC Travel Fund	6,714.83		900.00	-	(2,229.00)	(1,329.00)	5,385.83	na 9,000	
FWCC Travel Donation	-		900.00		-	900.00	900.00	na 9,000	
Funds held in separate account with Friends Fiduciary Corp									
Granville Youth Fund ³	9,357.66	444.21	(178.27)			265.94	9,623.60	na na	
Funds held by others - see Statement of Financial Position									
Prepaid Expense	925.00	-	(1,075.00)	-		(1,075.00)	(150.00)	na na	
TOTAL	86,152.88	3,043.94	-	33,532.30	(37,703.94)	(1,127.70)	85,025.18		

NOTES> Funds other than the General Fund are managed through accounting and may be subsidized from the General Fund.

¹ Friends Fiduciary Corp (FFC) activity includes dividends and net change portfolio value due to market conditions. See Balance Sheet for detail.

² FFC General (Base) Account activity is included here in LEYM's General Fund.

³ Granville Friends Youth Fund is a separate FFC account. FFC activity shown on this line reflects only that fund's change in portfolio value.

⁴ FFC dollars transferred to this line represent dividends paid to the Granville Friends Youth Fund during current fiscal year and credited to YAF.

⁵ Established in FY13-14 by a donation toward LEYM's Traveling Ministry Program, this fund has had no activity from inception to date.

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting – Financial Position

For the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year (12 months ending June 30, 2025)

Location of monetary assets	Beginning Balance as of 7/1/2024	Change in balance during the fiscal year	Ending Balance as of 3/6/2025
The Citizens National Bank of Bluffton, OH			
Checking Account	4,206.54	(3,027.44)	1,179.10
Savings Account	17,711.70	(965.93)	16,745.77
Subtotal of both CNB accounts	21,918.24	(3,993.37)	17,924.87
Friends Fiduciary Corporation, Philadelphia, PA *			
General (Base) Account	54,876.98	2,599.73	57,476.71
Activity • Dividends Paid (and reinvested)		1,044.09	
includes: • Change in Portfolio Value, + or -		1,555.64	
Granville Youth Fund Account	9,357.66	265.94	9,623.60
Activity • Dividends Paid		178.27	
includes: • Change in Portfolio Value + or -		265.94	
• Dividends disbursed by FFC to LEYM, recorded to Youth Activ Fund		(178.27)	
Subtotal of both FFC accounts	64,234.64	2,865.67	67,100.31
Total monetary assets	86,152.88	(1,127.70)	85,025.18

	Total	% of Beg Bal
Div Pd	1,222	2%
△Value	1,822	3%
	3,044	5%

Notation: Prepaid Expenses

Kirkmont Ctr deposit for Youth & Family retreat, Sept 2025	-	-	-
Weber Ctr deposit for Spiritual Formation retreat, Sep 2025	150.00	-	150.00
	150.00	-	150.00

* Note> All of the funds with Friends Fiduciary Corporation are invested in FFC's Quaker Growth & Income Fund (QGIF).

The Quaker Growth & Income Fund is a diversified, co-mingled fund with allocations to equities, fixed income and real estate investment trusts (REITs). Its primary objective is to provide stable current income and long-term growth consistent with protecting principal investments against inflation over time. The fund adheres to Friends Fiduciary's Quaker-values investment guidelines and participates in our shareholder advocacy work. It is intended for investors with an investment horizon of five years or longer. The Fund has a standard income distribution policy based on the fund's total return.

Source> friendsfiduciary.org, 06/30/2024

HOLDINGS BY ASSET CLASS	Equity	Fixed Income	REITS
Global and International Equity	24.3%		
Small and Mid Cap Equity	17.9%		
Large Cap Equity	30.4%		
Fixed Income (Domestic, Global, Short-Term, plus Cash)		22.7%	4.7%
	72.6%	22.7%	4.7%

History						LEYM Budgets		*Budget approved 06/15/2024		***Prelim budget, not approved			
FY 2021-22		FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24				**Actual as of 3/6/2025		FY 2024-25		FY 2025-26	
Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	General Fund Expenses		*Budget	**Actual		***Budget	Change	
2,500	2,898	3,900	2,828	4,320	1,838	General	Contractor: Database Manager	3,575	534		3,673	98	
5,100	5,570	6,200	4,996	6,500	4,756		Contractor: Digital Comm Facil'r	5,775	1,304		5,906	131	
500	597	650	597	650	597		Insurance	650	613		675	25	
1,500	677	1,500	1,035	1,200	557		Administration	1,100	307		1,000	(100)	
500	-	500	-	100	-		Committees	Advancement & Outreach	100	-		100	-
100	-	100	-	100	-	Ministry & Nurture		100	-		100	-	
3,200	3,393	3,500	2,876	3,500	2,722	Publications		3,500	2,638		3,500	-	
1,000	-	600	-	600	-	Members	Attend conf w/ Quaker values	500	-		500	-	
6,500	6,500	6,500	6,500	6,000	6,000	Organizations	Friends General Conference	6,200	6,200		6,350	150	
3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,000	3,000		Olney Friends School	3,100	3,100		3,175	75	
150	150	150	150	150	150		Swarthmore Records Project	150	150		150	-	
1,000	1,000	-	-	-	-		<== Detroit mtg hse contrib'n	-	-		-	-	
-	-	10,000	6,100	5,000	3,200	Tranfers: from General Fund to... or (to General Fund from)...	Annual Meeting subsidy	5,000	5,000		5,000	-	
1,200	1,200	-	-	1,000	1,000		Travel Fund	1,500	1,500		1,000	500	
1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-		Quaker Coll/Svc Sch'ship Fund	-	-		-	-	
1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800		FWCC Travel Fund (& Donation)	1,800	1,800		900	(900)	
-	-	-	-	-	(3,144)		Consultation Fund	-	-		-	-	
-	-	-	-	-	(2,893)	High School Teen Retreat Fund	-	-		-	-		
29,550	28,285	39,900	31,382	33,920	19,584	Total Expenses and Transfers =		33,050	23,145		32,029	(21)	
						General Fund Income							
17,875	18,780	26,005	25,390	27,510	26,863	Contributions Income		27,510	26,935		28,165	655	
1,000	1,728	1,500	1,916	1,500	2,038	FFC Div Inc (Base Acct only)		2,000	1,044		2,000	-	
18,875	20,508	27,505	27,306	29,010	28,901	Total Income =		29,510	27,979		30,165	655	
(10,675)	(7,777)	(12,395)	(4,076)	(4,910)	9,317	Income - (Expenses and Transfers) =		(3,540)	4,833		(1,864)	676	
						FFC chg in portfolio value (Base)		1,556					
						Subtotal Other Changes in General Fund =		1,556					
						Total Change in General Fund =		6,389					
						# members used to produce above estimate =		655				655	
						Suggested contribution per member =		\$42		0%		\$43	
						Travel reimbursement, with limits, rate per mile =		\$ 0.21				\$ -	
715		743		655									
\$25		\$35		\$42									
\$ 0.16		\$ 0.22		\$ 0.22									

Portions of LEYM Policies & Procedures that concern the Travel Fund

IV. OPERATIONS

A. Financial Support and Fiscal Policy

3. *Expense Reporting and Reimbursement*

b. Travel Fund

- i. Yearly Meeting officers and representatives to Friends' organizations may receive reimbursement for travel expenses for business on behalf of the Yearly Meeting and for attendance at meetings of Friends' organizations. A committee member may be reimbursed for unusual expenses incurred on behalf of the Yearly Meeting if the presiding clerk provides written approval in advance. A copy of the Travel Expense Reporting Form appears in Appendix E.
- ii. Reimbursable costs include registration, transportation, ~~and~~ lodging, **and food for the registrant during the event.**
- iii. If a Friend drives and requests reimbursement, the amount is calculated on a per-mile basis.
 - (a) The current reimbursement rate, approved in June 2024, is 21¢ per mile. Any change to this rate is part of the budgeting process, proposed by Finance Committee and requiring approval by the Yearly Meeting.
 - (b) The incremental portion of mileage reimbursement above the 14 cents per mile standard charitable mileage expense rate is includable in the taxable income of the volunteer.
- ~~iv. Friends are expected to cover their own food costs.~~
- v. With regard to lodging:
 - (a) When possible, Friends are asked to arrange lodging with Friends in the area of travel.
 - (b) If conference-offered lodging is available and the traveler chooses to stay at a higher-cost location, LEYM will reimburse up to the conference-offered lodging cost.
- vi. However, the intent of the Yearly Meeting is that no one be excluded from representing Lake Erie Yearly Meeting because of limited financial resources; thus, individuals may request reimbursement for additional travel-related expenses or take them as a tax-deductible contribution to the Yearly Meeting.
- vii. For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting relating to Quaker work, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee clerks, and other members of the Finance committee may be consulted as needed.

APPENDICES

D. Scholarships and Financial Assistance

1. For Adults

- a. **Yearly Meeting business.** Yearly Meeting officers and appointed representatives to Friends' organizations may receive reimbursement for travel expenses for business on behalf of the Yearly Meeting and for attendance at meetings of Friends' organizations.

The principal travel cost to be reimbursed is the transportation itself. Friends are expected ~~to cover their own food costs and~~, whenever possible, to arrange lodging with Friends. However, the intent of the Yearly Meeting is that no one be excluded from representing LEYM because of limited financial resources; thus, individuals may request reimbursement for additional travel-related expenses or take them as a tax-deductible contribution to the Yearly Meeting.

An LEYM committee member may be reimbursed for unusual expenses incurred on behalf of the Yearly Meeting by obtaining written approval from the Yearly Meeting clerk in advance.

Friends wishing reimbursement should use the Travel Expense Reporting Form, which appears in Appendix E of this manual and on LEYM's website. The filled-in form and ~~attached~~ receipts should ~~be mailed or given~~ sent to the treasurer.

Yearly Meeting officers, representatives, and committee members who do not request reimbursement are still asked to submit to the treasurer reports of out-of-pocket and in-kind expenses such as travel, ~~long distance telephone charges~~, and postage, so that the cost of conducting Yearly Meeting business may be accurately known.

Appendix E, Travel Expense Form

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING TRAVEL EXPENSE FORM

Name and address: _____

For any item that is a donation in kind to LEYM, please check the Donation box.

1. Purpose of travel (e.g., meeting attended) _____

2. Dates of travel _____

3. Auto transportation

From _____ to _____ miles at 21 cents = \$ _____

Donation ☐

From _____ to _____ miles at 21 cents = \$ _____

Donation ☐

Note: the incremental portions of mileage reimbursements above the 14 cents per mile standard charitable mileage expense rate are includable in the taxable income of the volunteer.

4. Plane fare, other public transportation, and/or highway tolls. Submit copies of plane tickets or other major items.

Itemize below:

_____	\$ _____	Donation <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	\$ _____	Donation <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	\$ _____	Donation <input type="checkbox"/>

5. Other travel-related expenses (**e.g., registration, lodging, and food for the registrant during the event**). ~~It is the policy of LEYM that Friends provide their own meals and find their own overnight accommodations, hopefully with Friends, leaving only the cost of travel itself to be covered by LEYM. However, if such~~ **If** cost-free accommodations cannot be found, and Friends feel that they require assistance in covering

such costs in order to serve as LEYM representatives, the costs incurred are to be itemized below for reimbursement. Please include copies of receipts ~~of major expenses such as overnight accommodations.~~

_____	\$ _____	Donation I
_____	\$ _____	Donation I
_____	\$ _____	Donation I

Total to be reimbursed \$ _____

Total donation in kind \$ _____

Send to: Tom Kangas, 3641 Weston Pl., Columbus, OH 43214 or email to LEYMTreasurer@gmail.com

Portions of LEYM Financial Manual that concern the Travel Fund

B. Budget Lines Supporting Funds / Funds Supported by Budget Lines

6. *Travel Fund*³¹:

- a. Yearly Meeting officers and representatives to Friends' organizations may receive reimbursement for travel expenses for business on behalf of the Yearly Meeting and for attendance at meetings of Friends' organizations. A committee member may be reimbursed for unusual expenses incurred on behalf of the Yearly Meeting if the presiding clerk provides written approval in advance. A copy of the Travel Expense Report Form appears in Appendix E of *LEYM Policies and Procedures* (and below, as Appendix B).
- b. Reimbursable costs include registration, transportation, ~~and~~ lodging, **and food for the registrant during the event.** (YM 2024-12)
- c. If a Friend drives and requests reimbursement, the amount is calculated on a per mile basis.
 - i. The current reimbursement rate, for FY24-25 is 21¢ per mile based on the IRS variable cost rate for medical travel and moving (YM 20-18); any change to this rate is part of the budget process and must be approved by the Yearly Meeting.
 - ii. The incremental portion of mileage reimbursement above the 14 cents per mile standard charitable mileage expense rate is includable in the taxable income of the volunteer.
- ~~d. Friends are expected to cover their own food costs.~~
- e. With regard to lodging:
 - iii. When possible, Friends are asked to arrange lodging with Friends in the area of travel.

- iv. If conference-offered lodging is available and the traveler chooses to stay at a higher-cost location, LEYM will reimburse up to the conference-offered lodging cost. (YM 2024-12)
- f. However, the intent of the Yearly Meeting is that no one be excluded from representing LEYM because of limited financial resources; thus, individuals may request reimbursement for additional travel-related expenses or take them as a tax-deductible contribution to the Yearly Meeting.
- g. Special travel requests. For special travel needs of Friends within the Yearly Meeting relating to Quaker work, the presiding clerk, the treasurer, and the clerk of the Finance Committee will consult with one another, and the presiding clerk will respond. Other officers, other committee clerks, and other members of the Finance committee may be consulted as needed. (YM13-34)¹⁴
- h. Monthly meetings are responsible for travel expenses of their representatives to Yearly Meeting who attend Representative Meeting or Annual Meeting. *[Recommended range: \$2000 – \$4000]*

LAKE ERIE YEARLY MEETING TRAVEL EXPENSE FORM

Name and address: _____

Please include copies of receipts for reimbursement.

~~*It is the policy of LEYM that Friends cover their own food/meal costs.*~~

With regard to lodging, when possible, Friends are asked to arrange lodging with Friends in the area of travel.

For any item that is a donation in kind to LEYM, please check the Donation box.

1. Purpose of travel (e.g., meeting attended) _____

2. Dates of travel _____

3. Auto transportation*

From _____ to _____ miles at 21 cents = \$ ____ Donation ☐

From _____ to _____ miles at 21 cents = \$ ____ Donation ☐

*Note: the incremental portion of mileage reimbursements above the 14 cents per mile standard charitable mileage expense rate are includable in the taxable income of the volunteer.

4. Plane fare, other public transportation, and/or highway tolls. Submit copies of plane tickets or other major items. Itemize below:

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

5. Other travel-related expenses (e.g., registration, ~~and~~ lodging, and food for the registrant during the event).

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

_____ \$ _____ Donation ☐

Total to be reimbursed \$ _____

Total donation in kind \$ _____

Mail to: Tom Kangas, 3641 Weston Place, Columbus, OH 43214 or email to LEYMTreasurer@gmail.com

(11/2024 update)