

Minutes

of

**Ohio Yearly Meeting
Of Friends**

**Held Online
Eighth Month 04—Eighth Month 09, 2020**

**Clerk: Philip W. Helms
Assistant Clerk: Robert Wilber
Treasurer: Dennis Rockwell**

***Pro Tempore* for Online Meeting
Assistant to Clerk: Sharon Helms
Technical Clerk: Meritt Petrone
Technical Support:
Dave Casterline Conrad Lindes Charles Thomas, Jr.
Webservant: Conrad Lindes**

**Yearly Meeting mail may be sent care of:
Olney Friends School
61830 Sandy Ridge Road, Barnesville, Ohio 43713**

**Phone Numbers:
Stillwater Meeting House—(740) 425-9080
The Morlan (Friends Center) - (740) 425-2853
Olney Friends School—(740) 425-3655
The Walton Home—(740) 425-2344**

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At Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, held in cyberspace, by adjournments from the fourth of Eighth Month through the eighth of Eighth Month inclusive, 2020.

Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Third Day, Eighth Month 04, Afternoon Session.

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. - Matthew 5: 3-16

We are blessed to have nine visitors virtually among us today: Allison Kirkegaard of Clairmont Monthly Meeting, Karen Bobonich of Palo Alto Monthly Meeting, Darlene Stanley of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Bobby Trice of FCNL, and Friends Meeting of Washington, Nancy Craft of North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Aaron Curtis of Indiana, Heather Mikolaj of Ways Meet in Columbus, David Raymond of Ottawa Monthly Meeting, Kathleen Wooton of New England Yearly Meeting, and Bernice G. Bell of Zanesville. Friends welcome these visitors in the Name of Jesus Christ.

General Queries

The First, Second and Third General Queries and proposed summaries were read and approved as amended.

First Query: Are meetings for worship well and punctually attended? Is our behavior therein conducive to meditation and communion with God? Do we maintain a waiting spiritual worship and a free gospel ministry? Do we welcome others to share this fellowship with us?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We generally gather weekly at the appointed time and Friends seem to be ready to worship. Our attendees are punctual, maintaining good order during worship. Our meetings for worship consist of expectant, silent waiting in which there is great depth to the silence, and ministry is spirit-led and welcomed from those who worship with us. We endeavor to wait on the Lord, with behavior conducive to meditation and communion with Him. We maintain a waiting spiritual worship and a free gospel ministry. We welcome others to join us through personal, telephone, mail and e-mail contacts, and maintain a website.

Second Query: Do we cherish a forgiving spirit, and strive to “walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us”? Is each one of us careful for the reputation of others? Are we ever mindful to love our neighbor as ourselves? If differences threaten to disrupt the Christian harmony between the members, is prompt action taken?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We strive to uphold a forgiving spirit and to walk in love, though we confess to having sometimes fallen short in relationships with Friends, family members, co-workers or others in our lives. Forgiveness is a central tenet of our Christian faith and we must forgive as we expect to be forgiven by our Creator. With God’s help, we are careful for the reputations of others and avoid gossip and careless discussion of others, keeping in mind to do what we can if someone is in need of assistance. We are mindful to love our neighbor and see that modern communications make it possible to reach others all over the world quickly, making the entire world our neighbors. Our aim is to be forbearing of others and mindful that other people may not share our views. It is helpful to remember that everyone has something to teach us if we are willing to listen. Not all of us have been recently tested with disruptions in Christian harmony, but action is taken when needed, and time is often a healer as well. Still, we need to be ever vigilant, and we continue our prayers to aid us in this continuing effort. We are prompted

by Scripture: “Every good gift and every perfect gift...cometh down from the Father...” (James 1:17), “Let all bitterness...and evil speaking be put away from you and be ye kind, one to another, forgiving one another...” (Ephesians 4: 31-32), and “Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you” (Colossians 3:13).

Third Query: Are our homes places of peace, joy, and contentment? Are they an influence for good in the neighborhood, community, and country? Do we set a good Christian example for our children to follow? Are Friends careful that their children realize that our loving Savior will faithfully guide them through life, as they are willing to accept and obey Him? Do we help our children to read and appreciate the Bible?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: Some of our homes are empty of loved ones, others serve as neutral ground for family members in conflict, some acknowledge conflict and the hard work of settling differences, and others are thankful for the peace, joy and contentment with which they are blessed. We trust a Christian example will be an influence for good in the neighborhood, community and country. Some of us have few close neighbors while others have used their homes as sites of prayer or meditation groups that have involved and influenced the wider community. We set a good Christian example for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and assist their awakening to Christ as Savior and Guide. Some nieces, nephews, and grandchildren look to us as examples of how to live in love and obedience as we follow in faithfulness the teachings of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Our children know there is a loving God who will guide them through life but it has to be their decision to accept and obey Him. We would like to do better at communicating our faith to our younger children and our experiences of following God’s guidance. In the Lord’s grace and power, we are given to do this to provide ready access and help them know the Bible. Some continue to read from the Bible on a daily basis, and some take part in adult Bible Reading and Faith study.

Reports of Quarterly Meetings

The reports of the three Quarterly Meetings were received and read, including appointments to the Nominating Committee and as Representatives to Ohio Yearly Meeting. The following Friends were appointed as Representatives to this body:

Rockingham Quarterly Meeting: David Casterline, Kent

Palmer, Susan Smith, Michael Kinch, Charles Thomas, Jr.
 Salem Quarterly Meeting: Kimberley A. Newlin, Rebecca J. Hawkins, Conrad Lindes, Meritt Petrone, George Partridge.
 Stillwater Quarterly Meeting: Janet Hammer, Kathy Kovalick, Beverly Shull, Earl Smith.

The following Friends were appointed to the Nominating Committee:

Salem Quarterly Meeting: Kimberly Newlin (2022), Marie Kirk Hawkins (2021), Rebecca J. Hawkins (2022), Meritt Petrone, George Partridge.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved, with appreciation for Dennis Rockwell's skill and diligence as steward of our funds.

7th Month 27th, 2020

Dear Friends,

We received enough contributions to cover this past year's budget.

We also received a \$10,000 restricted donation for Friends Center Building fund.

Historical Committee did not draw any money from the authorized funds.

Attached is my annual financial report. As of this report preparation I have not received the 06-30-20 Fiduciary Trustee Annual Distribution report.

Sincerely,
 /s/ Dennis Rockwell
 Treasurer

2020 OYM Treasurer's Report

	2020 Budget	2020 Actual
Revenue		
Monthly Meeting Donations		\$ 21,115
Other Donations		2,530
Book Sales		70
<u>Restricted Donations - Friends Ctr. Bldg Fund</u>		<u>10,000</u>
Total Revenue		<u>\$ 33,715</u>
Disbursements		
Ad Hoc Committees	\$ 500	\$ 240
Agenda Committee	1,000	1,000

Christian Education Camp	1,200	1,200
Clerk's Expenses	200	200
Copy Machine Supplies	200	-
FCNL	500	500
Friends Center	1,000	1,000
Friends Disaster Service	250	250
FWCC	500	500
Historical Committee	25	-
Hominy Center	100	100
Insurance	2,500	2,204
Junior Yearly Meeting	50	-
Outreach Committee	25	50
OYM Property Trustees	1,500	1,500
Peace & Human Relations	100	100
Printing	1,250	779
RSWR	250	250
Travel Fund	2,850	2,850
Walton Home	10,000	10,000
Water	150	129
WFCF	500	500
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 24,650</u>	<u>\$ 23,352</u>

Revenue over Expenditures - Gain/(Loss) \$ 10,363

Checking Balance 6-30-20	\$ 21,560.47
Property Trustees	\$ 6,407.42
OYM General Funds	\$ 15,153.05

1. The Historical Committee was authorized to draw up to \$2,500, from the Chester E. Hartley Fund, for painting needs.
2. Reminder: Treasurer has standing authority to draw up to \$5,000 from General funds with Fiduciary Trustees.

OYM Physical Assets

Walton Retirement Home and campus
248 acres of farmland
Friends Center and garage
Plummer House
1 freestall barn and 1 hay storage building
Machinery shop and shed
2,000 bushel corn crib
1 non-producing gas well

40 tree orchard
Taber house

Respectfully Submitted,
/s/ Dennis Rockwell,
OYM Treasurer, 08/02/2020

Funds Invested w/ Fiduciary Trustees:

	7-01-19 Bal	6-30-20 Bal	Change
1 Chester E. Hartley Maint.	14,627.51	15,505.16	\$ 877.65
2 General Funds	55,263.92	58,172.59	\$ 2,908.67
3 Sale of Property to OFS	80,057.73	84,861.19	\$ 4,803.46
4 Legal Services Contingency	<u>\$ 20,000.00</u>	<u>\$ 21,200.00</u>	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>
	<u>\$ 169,949.16</u>	<u>\$ 179,738.94</u>	<u>\$ 9,789.78</u>

Changes to Fund Balances:

1 Annual Distribution	\$ 877.65
2 Annual Distribution	\$ 2,907.67
2 Lease payments:Walton Home	\$ 1.00
2 Restricted Donation	\$ 10,000.00
3 Annual Distribution	\$ 4,803.46
4 Annual Distribution	<u>\$ 1,200.00</u>
Total Changes	\$ 19,789.78

A concern was raised regarding the potential need for financial support for Friends suffering as a result of the pandemic. There is currently no meeting for sufferings per se; such requests may currently be addressed first to the Monthly Meetings. There is a need to encourage Friends to share their needs and sufferings with us to permit us to respond.

Ohio Yearly Meeting Property Trustees Report

Property trustees met 7/17/2020. Present were Robert Stratton, Kevin Roberts, and Robert Rockwell.

Maintenance activities this year have been minimal. Improvement of the steps at the east and north doors of the meeting house is an ongoing concern and should be accomplished before next OYM. The proposed ramp at the north door will not be built because of large size, expense and probable little usage. Proposed instead is a 5 foot x 5 foot landing, level with the floor of the meeting house, with precast concrete steps going west down to the current sidewalk, with a sturdy handrail on landing and steps.

Fire extinguishers have been brought up to date. Some had to be replaced and some additional ones purchased. We are now on an annual maintenance program with a local company.

Stillwater Monthly Meeting will be sharing in this expense.

Other projects are pending.

We are requesting up to \$1500.00 for maintenance fund this year, or less, depending on total OYM budget requests. Budget committee has this information.

For the committee,
Robert Rockwell

Maintenance Financial Statement

Beginning balance 7/01/19	\$5,101.50
Revenue:	
Short Creek Meeting donations	526.92
OYM allocation	1,500.00
	\$2,026.92
Expenditures:	
Fire Extinguisher Service	503.41
CO2 detectors	56.99
Handrails at Historical Room	160.60
	\$721.00
Ending Balance 06/30/2020	\$6,407.42

Representative Meeting Minutes Summarized

The summary of the actions of Representative Meeting was read, discussed and accepted and the actions were approved. Friends appreciate the labors and care of Representative Meeting in attending to these and other matters, with especial appreciation for the planning and execution of this Yearly Meeting by Zoom, in coordination with the Agenda Committee.

The Representative Meeting met three times during the past year, twice by Zoom.

One item of old business was the Yearly Meeting Handbook. The text was approved at our spring session. We ask the Yearly Meeting to decide how many copies to have printed. The PDF of the Handbook will be posted on the Yearly Meeting website once the YM has approved the Representative Meeting minutes. Some former duties of the Book & Children's Literature Committee were assigned to the monthly meetings.

A large amount of our deliberations concerned how to hold our yearly meeting now in session. We approved a revised safety policy to clarify some items in the earlier policy.

The ongoing pandemic called in question what form yearly meeting should take this year. The Agenda Committee reviewed the progress of the disease and brought a recommenda-

tion to a called session of the Representative Meeting regarding yearly meeting sessions. The Representative Meeting approved an abbreviated session that would focus on business matters requiring action by the yearly meeting.

The Prayer & Listening Committee produced a special query that was approved by the Representative Meeting and sent to the monthly meetings. Answers rose through the Quarterly Meetings to be summarized for yearly meeting.

Other items of business include asking the Peace and Human Relations Committee to review the Appeal for Peace and approval a member's use of the Recorder reports to produce charts and reports illustrating the YM membership.

Arthur Berk
04-26-1927 - 04-07-2020

Arthur Berk was a long-time F/friend and supporter of Conservative Friends. His was a tireless voice for Christ. He was one of the co-editors of *Traditional Quaker Christianity* and of Volumes 4-6 of the eight volume *Works of George Fox*.

He lived in New York City and was a member of Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting in Manhattan, and an affiliate member of Rockingham Monthly Meeting, having at other times held membership in other meetings, including Middleton. He was long involved with the New Foundation Fellowship, which published a number of his works. He often delivered messages for *The Conservative Friend* and other conservative publications and websites.

Arthur was well-known and respected among Conservative Friends, and regularly attended Ohio Yearly Meeting events until recent years, when declining health made it nearly impossible for him to travel. When he was unable to attend, he sent epistles of encouragement and support. He fell victim to the COVID-19 coronavirus and passed from this life just days before his ninety-third birthday. He was buried in Friends Cemetery, New York Quarterly Meeting, in Prospect Park, next to his wife, Jacqueline. He is survived by his son Fulton.

Final Epistle from the late Arthur Berk

“Friends, God’s ministry is far more vital than our own; that’s why Jesus urges us to welcome the Lord in silence.”

Arthur Berk
2020, shortly before his death

After announcements, the session concluded with brief

waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 10:00 AM on Fourth Day, Eighth Month 05.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Fourth Day,
Eighth Month 05, Morning Session.**

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven. Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing. Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart. And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell. - Matthew 5: 17-30

We are blessed to have four additional visitors among us virtually: Mackenzie Morgan of Adelphi Monthly Meeting in

Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Tom Roberts of Western Yearly Meeting, Chagala Stanley Ngesa of Vihiga Yearly Meeting in Kenya, and Reza Ardhian of Bandung, Indonesia. We welcome these visitors in the Name of Jesus Christ.

General Queries

The Fourth, Fifth and Sixth General Queries and proposed summaries were read and approved as amended.

Fourth Query: Believing our bodies to be the temple of God, are we concerned to attain a high level of physical and mental health? To this end are our lives examples of temperance in all things? Do we avoid and discourage the use and handling of intoxicants, tobacco, and improper use of drugs?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We are humbled by the reminder that we are in Christ, and He is in us, but some of us struggle with the idea of the body as a temple. We do see it as a gift, however, to be cared for as diligently as possible. Having been taught in our youth that intoxicants and tobacco were unhealthy to the mind and body we have avoided them and are grateful addictive substances have not taken a hold on us. We are concerned for our physical and mental health; we realize one's spirit can be damaged by pain and difficulty associated with an unhealthy body. Good physical health helps our mental and spiritual outlook, enabling our abilities to act as humble and willing servants. We believe we are temperate in most things. We avoid tobacco and the improper use of drugs, and most of us do not drink alcohol. We understand temperance is key. When with company who do use alcohol, some feel that abstaining may help friends stay clean as well. We acknowledge our need for properly using prescription drugs and supplements in our attempts to attain a high level of physical and mental health.

Fifth Query: Are we sensitive to the needs of those around us who may be in less fortunate circumstances? Do we prayerfully consider how we can share one another's burdens when the need arises? Do we counsel lovingly and prayerfully with those members whose actions in any phase of life give us grounds for concern?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We are sensitive to the needs of the less fortunate in our meetings, our communities and other areas around the world. A basic Christian requirement is that we not only be aware of the needs but actually help fill those needs, (Matthew 25:34-40.) When we are aware of any around us who have a need, we prayerfully try to help in appropriate ways.

We financially support various local, national, and international charitable organizations both as meetings and as individuals. We seek guidance through prayer on how best to assist those in need, how to counsel with those whose actions give cause for concern, and how to support their return to the love of Christ Jesus. Counseling in small meetings with members whose actions give concern reminds us that eldering one another must be done with a loving heart and prayer for ourselves that we are allowing God to instruct and lead us.

Sixth Query: Do we live in the life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars? Do we, on Christian principles, refuse to participate in or to cooperate with the military effort? Do we work actively for peace and the removal of the causes of war? Do we endeavor to cultivate good will, mutual understanding, and equal opportunities for all people?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We choose to follow our Savior, Jesus Christ, who teaches us to turn the other cheek and to treat others as we would be treated, thereby striving to live in the life and power which takes away the occasion of all wars. Refusing to cooperate with the military effort means for many of us supporting FCNL, which closely monitors military spending, and AFSC and contacting elected officials. We examine many questions regarding our non-participation in war efforts, asking ourselves if we are implicated in war if we pay taxes. There has been an effort to impose a peace tax which we would gladly pay but it has so far been unsuccessful. We believe that all who have asked Jesus Christ to be Lord of their lives are prayerfully asking God to show them ways to promote peace in whatever ways we can. Some of us actively work to remove the causes of war and bring about peace through participation in a weekly public vigil for peace, work with groups supporting restorative justice and local refugees, or discussion of Friends' peace testimony in a worship group. Let us promote peace in whatever ways we are able. We have a constant calling upon our lives to pray for peace in all the world, to reach out to minorities and others in need and to be open to God's leadings.

Final Minute of Short Creek Monthly Meeting

The Final Minute of Short Creek Monthly Meeting was read with appreciation for the long history and service of the meeting and the careful stewardship of Elvina Krekler, Sara Kirk and David Warrington during the process of laying down the meeting.

Final Minutes of Short Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends

(Conservative) held by phone by Elvina Krekler

(at Salem OH) and Sara Kirk (at Adena OH)

06-20-2020

“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the awareness taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.”

- Romans 15: 4

Today will conclude Short Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends, formerly held at the Meeting House near Harrisville, Ohio.

The process of the “laying down” of Short Creek Monthly Meeting has taken much longer than we had anticipated. At Stillwater Quarterly Meeting in Eleventh Month, 2016, we had asked the Meeting to consider the “laying down” of Short Creek Monthly Meeting as a possible solution for our Meeting. We were down to just two members worshipping together for the last ten or more years. We were both in our early 80’s, and were not as active physically, mentally or accountably, as we had been in past years. The Meeting appointed a committee that day to consider this, and, if closing the meeting was decided upon, they would oversee it and advise and encourage us through the process. In time they felt it seemed to be the right course to pursue.

So Short Creek Meeting (originally called Harrisville Preparative Meeting) began in this location when land was purchased in 1859 to build the meeting house, which was built in 1862. The Meeting has been active continually ever since. Many members have worshipped here over the years. The numbers have dwindled over the years until the two of us felt incapable of continuing to keep the Meeting going.

The property was sold to Wayne Kirk in the summer of 2018. The benches, books and other furnishings have been sold or given to others. We have recently transferred, by Deed, our Short Creek Friends Cemetery to the care of the Trustees of Stillwater Monthly Meeting, along with the funds for its upkeep. The funds for the care and upkeep of the Flushing Friends Cemetery (those previously in the care of the Fiduciary Trustees of Ohio Yearly Meeting) are included in this transfer to the Trustees of Stillwater Monthly Meeting in care of Dennis Rockwell. All our bills have been paid and all our checks paid out have cleared the WesBanco Bank in St. Clairsville OH.

This has been a challenging project with questions and frustrations. David Warrington has been a big help to us in

knowing what to do, and when and how to do many things we did not know on our own. We know there have been many prayers for us along the way, and much encouragement for us, not just from the Quarterly Meeting, but in Ohio Yearly Meeting, and beyond, too. Thank you All.

Most of all is the great amount of help and encouragement and answers to our prayers from our loving Heavenly Father throughout these many years of the existence of Short Creek Meeting, and especially the last years when we two have been so involved in it. As we have carried on this process of laying down our Meeting we have been comforted and encouraged and blessed so much by the grace and love of Him who is All-Powerful. In Him we are truly thankful and give Him praise and glory.

"I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. I am the good Shepherd. The good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep." - John 10: 10-11

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever."

- Hebrews 13: 8

Short Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends is now "laid down."

With no further business of Short Creek Monthly Meeting of Friends we stand adjourned.

In His Love,

/s/ Elvina Krekler

/s/ Sara Kirk

Membership Report

The membership Report was read and accepted with appreciation for the Ohio Yearly Meeting Recorder's efforts and dedication, particularly in light of his recent heart attack and surgery. Friends encourage the Recorders to review the designations "non-resident" and "resident" in contrast to "active" as measures of participation.

Membership Report for OYM 2020

Total membership, Seventh Month First, 2019 (last year) 433

Gains:

Births or adoptions	0
Certificates received	4
Requests	4
Total gains:	8

Losses:

Deaths	11
Certificates transferred	5

by request	1	
Membership discontinued	2	
Total losses:		19
Net gain for year		-11

Total Membership, Seventh Month First **2020** (this year) 422

Full Members	272	
Affiliate Members	113	
Affiliate Associate Members	0	
Associate Members	22	
Sojourning Members	0	
Waiting	15	
		422

Membership Summary (Including Associate Members)

Membership under 5 years	0	
Membership 5 to 18 years	14	
Membership 18 and older	408	
Total (same as above)		422

Resident Status of Members

Resident Members	111	
Non-Resident Members*	311	
Total (same as above)		422

*Members shall be considered non-resident when they live at least 30 miles from the meeting house and attend less than one First Day Meeting per month.

School Report (Members attending schools)

Attending Pre-school	0	
Attending Olney Friends School	3	
Attending Public Schools	10	
Attending Private Schools	1	
Attending Home School	2	
Attending College	4	
Total:		20

Weddings

1 Number of weddings under the care of this Monthly Meeting

0

2 Number of Members married this year under the care of Friends 0

3 Number of Members married this year NOT under the care of Friends 2

Total Friends married **2**

GAINS

Births and Adoptions

None

Certificates Received

9-18-2019 David Male Stillwater MM from Middleton MM
11/16/2019 Seth Hinshaw Marlborough MM from Keystone MM
6/20/20 Elvina Krekler Salem MM from Short Creek MM
03/17/20 Lyle Kirk Stillwater MM from Short Creek MM
(not reported 2019)

Requests

10/20/2019 Lori Huffman Middleton MM
11/17/2019 Scott E. Poole Marlborough MM
2/20/2020 Kent Palmer Rockingham MM
04/05/2020 Christine Gray Rockingham MM

LOSSES

Deaths

8/31/2019 Robert Garrett Marlborough MM
3/23/2019 Marcus Bohm Salem MM
not reported in 2019
7/21/2019 Erling Gamble Salem MM
7/29/2019 Elma Dixson Salem MM
1/16/2020 Ann Gamble Salem MM
6/10/2020 Margaret Starbuck Salem MM
3/31/2020 Anthony J.Edgerton Middleton MM
5/13/2020 James Drummond Crossroads MM
01/06/2020 Myron Johnson Stillwater MM
2/25/2020 Dorothy Guindon Stillwater MM
04/07/2020 Arthur Berk Rockingham MM

Certificates Transferred

9/18/2019 David Male Middleton MM to Stillwater MM
11/16/2019 Seth B. Hinshaw Keystone MM to Marlborough
10/20/2019 Jason Jolley Stillwater MM to Davidson MM NC
3/17/19 Lyle Kirk Short Creek MM to Stillwater MM
not reported 2019
6/20/2020 Elvina Krekler Short Creek MM to Salem MM

By Request

7/18/20 Larry Muller Chesterfield MM

Membership Discontinued

6/20/2020 Sara Kirk Short Creek MM
6/2020 Oliver Kirk Short Creek MM

Names of those Married

7/19/2019 Ian Gamble Salem MM not under the care of

Friends

4/14/2020 Christopher Thomas Marlborough MM not under
the care of Friends

* 434 in the 2019 minute book is incorrect due to information not
reported in 2019.

Names of Ministers Recorded

12/22/2019 David Male Stillwater MM

Names of Elders Recorded

None

Names of Overseers Recorded

04/05/2020 David Casterline Rockingham MM

Names of Ministers

Seth B. Hinshaw	Marlborough MM
David F. Eley	Keystone Fellowship
Terry H. Smith Wallace	Keystone Fellowship
Charles C. Thomas, Jr.	Marlborough MM
John C. Smith	Rockingham MM
Nancy A. Hawkins	Middleton MM
Conrad Lindes	Salem MM
Winifred E. Stratton	Salem MM
Burton Doudna	Chestnut Ridge MM
John Benson	Stillwater MM
Robert Wilber	Stillwater MM
David Male	Stillwater MM

Names of Elders

David F. Eley	Keystone Fellowship
Michael R. Kinch	Keystone Fellowship
Bridget Casterline	Marlborough MM
Susan S. Smith	Rockingham MM
Philip W. Helms	Crossroads MM
Sharon A. Helms	Crossroads MM
Lois G. Edgerton	Middleton MM
Mary Alice Pino	Middleton MM
Rebecca J. Hawkins	Middleton MM
Nelda J. Hawkins	Salem MM
Richard Wetzel	Chesterfield MM
Robert Rothwell	Chesterfield MM
Kathleen Kovalick	Chestnut Ridge MM
Evelyn Doudna Groves	Chestnut Ridge MM
Earl Smith	Stillwater MM
Frances Taber	Stillwater MM

Richard Simon

Stillwater MM

Names of Overseers

David Casterline

Rockingham MM

Terry H. Smith Wallace

Keystone Fellowship

Penny L. Thomas

Marlborough MM

Sharon A. Helms

Crossroads MM

Marie Kirk Hawkins

Middleton MM

Verna H. Cope

Middleton MM

Eunice M. Burkey

Salem MM

Hans M. Tritico

Salem MM

Kimberly A. Newlin

Salem MM

Mildred S. Henderson

Salem MM

Elvina M. Krekler

Short Creek MM

Sara L. Kirk

Short Creek MM

Diana Reynolds

Stillwater MM

Karen Walsh

Stillwater MM

Marie Bundy

Stillwater MM

Names of Clerks

Eileen R. Kinch

Keystone Fellowship

Bridget Casterline

Marlborough MM

Susan S. Smith

Rockingham MM

Philip W. Helms

Crossroads MM

Lois G. Edgerton

Middleton MM

Lois G. Edgerton

Middleton MM

Carey L. Newlin

Reading Clerk

Nelda J. Hawkins

Salem MM

Salem MM

Robert J. Rothwell

Reading Clerk

Burton Doudna

Chesterfield MM

Caroline Doudna McGinnis

Chestnut Ridge

Chestnut Ridge

Elvina M. Krekler

Reading Clerk

Thomas Rockwell

Short Creek MM

Leonard Guindon

Stillwater MM

Stillwater MM

Reading Clerk

Names of Recorders

Michael R. Kinch

Keystone Fellowship

Penny L. Thomas

Marlborough MM

David W. Casterline

Rockingham MM

Sharon A. Helms	Crossroads MM
Nancy A. & Rebecca J. Hawkins	
Lola J. Toot	Middleton MM
Robert Rothwell	Salem MM
Kathleen Doudna Kovalick	Chesterfield MM
Elvina M. Krekler	Chestnut Ridge MM
Marie Bundy	Short Creek MM
	Stillwater MM

Bobby Trice of Friends Committee on National Legislation offered a brief update on the activities of FCNL during the pandemic and in light of recent and current social and political unrest.

**Peace and Human Relations Committee,
including FCNL and FWCC**

With regret, the Peace and Human Relations committee has concluded that we are unable to reframe the 1909 Appeal for Peace booklet as a basis for a current-day witness for Peace, as way has not opened.

A good start was made by collecting testimonies on peace from early Friends to current day writers, and public statements by several yearly meetings, mission statements by peace organizations, techniques of conflict resolution, as well as the original 1909 booklet. Studying these materials and reflecting on the constancy of Christ's leading us in the path of peaceful means, was in itself a worthwhile exercise.

While collecting and reading these materials, there came an unexpected clear sense of release, that felt like instruction not to push on in this way. During research in order to test the feeling, our convener found Britain Yearly Meeting's peace testimony on their website, arranged in a timeline. From before the Boer war to present day conflicts, British Friends felt a need to find words that spoke freshly to their condition and that re-affirmed their commitment to peace.

When our committee met in person, we found that everyone had arrived at a similar understanding that any statement we can make in our own time, must first speak to our own deepest concern and suffering condition today, before we can hope to speak to others. People felt that the original Appeal for Peace was a good and interesting historical document, but it became confusing and unclear if we tried to rewrite and apply it to our needs now.

So how can our community be encouraged to witness for the way of the Prince of peace? How may we live by the spirit of Peace, embedded as we are in a culture that has become increasingly cruel and violent? Walking in the way of peace today must include care for all people and for the earth and all creation.

Whether we try to understand the causes and effects of war through the lens of climate change, greed and pervasive militarism, or poverty, racism and human suffering, we find that these wrongs are all interconnected. To try to navigate through these troubled waters is overwhelming.

We come to feel that it's all one thing, one deep delusion about our human existence, one disobedience to our higher nature and potential, one deafness to the call of the still small voice or the cries of our neighbors.

The human delusion at the root of our history, our plight, is the belief that it is possible to attack another for some gain. Humans have believed that we are separate and that some people can be exploited so that others can prosper.

Humanity has believed that some people should die in war so that others can have land and riches. Our modern culture has tolerated many forms of suffering, calling it a necessary evil, as if that could possibly increase our own well-being.

This delusion about the advantage and necessity of attack is hidden in various disguises in every human mind. No one is free of it, any group can suddenly believe it is under attack and must defend itself by attacking.

Now, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, people everywhere around the world are learning that we are one human family and everyone can be affected. But the Truth is much greater than this; as God is one, God has instilled oneness in his human creation. And as God has given us Christ to heal, transform, and lead us, through him we may be enabled to love each other as he loves us.

We need to turn to God every moment, to be renewed in the Holy Spirit, love one another, reaffirm community with our fellow human beings, and live in and through the love of Christ. This, early Friends called dying to our old nature and being raised up in the new birth through Christ — this is Christ's answer to delusion, this is the continual process of rededication to Christ's way of peace, love and forgiveness.

How may we support each other in this constant task of returning our minds to divine love, and our lives to divine guidance and help? Even though it can seem that our human world is

coming to an end, God's new creation is flowing on, and there is a good purpose served by a daily return to love, a daily giving up of fear.

Let us carry with us into the Light everyone for whom we pray, extending God's grace and Christ's help. There is a divine rule of reciprocity at work, that we will receive blessing when we give it. The same applies to relief from fear; our own fear and guilt are lifted when we pray for others in our condition.

This time of pandemic and quarantine is like Lent, a time of deeper waiting on God, a time of purification from all thoughts and ways that divide us from the love of God and the love of our fellow beings. And also a time where we are commanded to hold strongly together with people everywhere who are joined in the working of the Spirit.

There is an imperative call over the whole earth, drawing us into resonating with it. We align and attune ourselves to God's will when we feel after it, though we can't understand it. Still we are "rooted and grounded in love," in trusting dependence on Christ's care and God's will. Every moment that we are enabled to feel God's goodness, God's creation and purpose flowing on, we are asked to draw others into it with us, with love and prayer.

FCNL Report

The 2019 FCNL Annual Meeting was again held at the Washington Court Hotel just a few blocks from the U. S. Capitol. This was Earl Smith's 30th Annual Meeting. Also attending were Sylvia Thomas and David Male.

A major item of business was revising the policy statement, "The World We Seek." The Policy Statement lists Friends' concerns and vision on a range of complex issues.

The FCNL Education Fund reported that after months of discernment and worship, the boards of the William Penn House and the FCNL Education Fund approved transferring ownership of the William Penn House to the FCNL Education Fund. After renovation, the House will be used to house Quaker groups coming to Washington D.C.

Due to the Pandemic, this year's Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom. Friends (who are not representatives) are encouraged to attend as there will not be travel or hotel expenses this year.

FWCC Representatives Report

Answering God's call to universal love, Friends World Committee for Consultation brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communications

and consultation, to express our common heritage and our Quaker message to the world.

Since the advent of the coronavirus pandemic of 2020, the mission of FWCC Section of the Americas is unchanged. The organization through its leadership, representatives, and member meetings continues to seek to bring Friends together. While the umbrella of the Section of the Americas extends across North and South America, we are connected to the other three sections of the Quaker world through the FWCC World Office in London.

One of the major initiatives of the Section has been the Traveling Ministry Corps. This group is a volunteer corps of Spanish- and English-speaking Friends, who are invited by meetings as traveling ministers throughout the Section, crossing Yearly Meeting lines and other divisions among Friends. These traveling Friends share their own spiritual experience and the sense of unity that is possible across the branches of Friends. Due to current travel and visitation restrictions, the group is now functioning as a Virtual Ministry Corps.

World Quaker Day in early Tenth Month each year is another outreach effort. The theme for this year's event is "What does it mean to be a Quaker today?" The Section website (fwccamericas.org) has links to what a variety of Friends did for World Quaker Day in 2019.

Many meetings across the globe have hosted virtual meetings for worship during the past several months. FWCC has published links to those worship opportunities on their website. Often meetings report that attendance at these online gatherings is higher than in-person worship, and many attenders find the experience spiritually rich. FWCC is also hosting training events for yearly meeting clerks and others planning online annual business sessions.

It is unclear whether an in-person Section of the Americas meeting will take place in 2021. The Executive Committee will seek to discern the way forward in their Seventh Month 2020 meeting.

From the Ohio Yearly Meeting representatives,
David Eley
Henry Jason
Beverly Kirk Shull

Historical Committee Report 2020

The historical committee has not hosted very many visitors this year due to the coronavirus. We are storing several books and pamphlets that will be distributed by the Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends and the Committee to Support Outreach; tasks that were previously done by the Book and Children's Literature Committee.

The historical committee also received a portion of the money that had been in the treasury of the Book and Children's Literature Committee. Since the supply of the pamphlet called "Welcome to our Meeting" was quite depleted we used some of that money to order a supply of those pamphlets to give to Olney students and other visitors to meeting.

We also gave Olney copies of "Mind the Heavenly Treasure" to give to Seniors who were quarantined on campus near the end of the school year.

The distribution of literature to Olney teachers and students as outlined in the Representative Meeting of 11/17/18 is the responsibility of the Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends and the Committee to Support Outreach. Members of other committees who live in this area, including the Historical Committee may choose to help in this endeavor. However we do not feel this is part of our mission. We feel called to preserve and share our past with today's generation.

A financial statement is enclosed. We do not require a financial contribution from the yearly meeting this year.

For the committee,
Loisanne Rockwell.

Historical Committee Financial Report 2020

Balance 7/31/2019	\$330.58
Income: OYM appropriation:	\$25.00
Savings interest	0.18
Sales: Historical Committee books, etc.	69.25
OYM books	70.00
Stillwater/Richland books	10.00
Donations	24.75
From Book & Children's Lit. Com. Treasury	294.00
Total income	\$493.18
Expenses: Utilities	\$150.00
Display table	42.00

Pamphlet "Welcome to Our Meeting"	58.00
Stillwater book sales	10.00
OYM book sales	70.00
Total Expenses	\$330.00

Income minus expenses	\$163.18
Balance 7/31/2020	\$493.76

Committee treasurer,
Kay Smith

After announcements, the session concluded with brief waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 2:00 PM on Fourth Day, Eighth Month 05.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Fourth Day,
Eighth Month 05, Afternoon Session.**

It hath been said, Whosoever shall put away his wife, let him give her a writing of divorcement: But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery. Again, ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths: But I say unto you, Swear not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne: Nor by the earth; for it is his footstool: neither by Jerusalem; for it is the city of the great King. Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black. But let your communication be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay: for whatsoever is more than these cometh of evil. Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain. Give to him that asketh thee, and from him that would borrow of thee turn not thou away. Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun

to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. - Matthew 5: 31-48

General Queries

General Queries Seven, Eight and Nine with the proposed summaries were read and approved as amended.

Seventh Query: Do we observe simplicity in our manner of living, sincerity in speech, and modesty in apparel? Do we guard against involving ourselves in temporal affairs to the hindrance of spiritual growth? Are we just in our dealings and careful to fulfill our promises? Do we seek to make our Christian faith a part of our daily work?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We observe simplicity in all aspects of our lives, in speaking truth at all times, letting our yea be yea, and our nay be nay. Whether plain or conservative, we try to keep our choices of apparel modest, durable and of practical use. We try to guard against involving ourselves in temporal affairs to the hindrance of spiritual growth, but most of us confess to being distracted. We were raised to be honest and trustworthy and endeavor to be just in our dealings and careful to fulfill our promises. As the Lord gives us opening, room is made for our Christian faith to be part of our daily work. For the most part, we let our actions witness to our faith.

Eighth Query: Are we careful to use the affirmation rather than the oath? Do we avoid gambling and speculation based on the principles of chance?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We tell the truth at all times as best we know it, and use the affirmation when it arises, attempting to explain our reason for doing so. If asked to swear an oath, some explain our need to follow the words of Jesus Christ, and others rarely have the opportunity to share our belief that our words are truth, and that we should always speak them as before God who is ever present. We avoid gambling and are concerned that governments use lotteries to fund many of their operations without considering the addictive nature of “playing the lottery” and the adverse impact it can have on underserved and poverty-stricken people. We avoid speculation, including lotteries and fundraising raffles. Some make donations to worthy causes instead of participating in raffles and others decline state tax re-

ductions that are funded by gambling. We avoid starkly speculative stocks. We see and are grateful for the provision of the Lord in our everyday lives.

Ninth Query: Are we sensitive to the problems of family living? Do we offer counseling to couples both before and after marriage? How are we helping individuals, married couples and family units to strengthen and enrich their lives?

Proposed Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: We feel that we are sensitive to the family living problems of each generation, including mental and economic stress, parenting issues, career challenges, differences of opinions and personalities, and health problems. Problems in our own family living can present some very sensitive situations and we need to call on our spiritual guide to lead us through. We are concerned for our world that during this virus pandemic forced togetherness has led to increased domestic violence and alcoholism as well as a lack of food for children who usually get two meals per day at school. Although there have been no recent marriages under the care of our meetings, we do not have any group or corporate avenues to assist couples and family units beyond our fellowship. Some counsel informally with friends, adult children, and parents of young children with regard to marriage and the problems of family living, when opportunity and need coincide, and support them in that. Prayers, phone calls, a personal note...all are offered to let the recipient know he or she is valued and that we are thinking of her or him. Some may feel uncomfortable with others or in particular situations, and can have a hard time relating to people calmly and openly. We are encouraged to be watching and listening for the small leadings of need and then following through as seems best.

Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) Epistle 2020

The 2020 Epistle from Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) was read and received with appreciation. We are glad to have IYMC Clerk Deborah Dakin among us for this meeting.

“I don't preach a social gospel; I preach the gospel, period. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ is concerned with the whole person. When people were hungry, Jesus didn't say, ‘Now is that political or social?’ He said, ‘I feed you.’ Because the good news to a hungry person is bread.” - Desmond Tutu

Dear Friends of the Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative.)

We send you warm greetings from Iowa Yearly Meeting

(Conservative). We missed the presence of a visitor from Ohio this year. Iowa Friends look forward to being able to visit (virtually) annual sessions of Ohio Yearly Meeting this Eighth Month. We hope, as God wills, that we will be able to continue this exchange of visitation and that we will be able to welcome Friends from Ohio next year during our 2021 Yearly Meeting, Seventh Month 21 to 25 at Scattergood School and Farm near West Branch, Iowa. Friends at IYMC value our special relationship with Conservative Friends and hope that this visitation between our meetings will resume and flourish.

In the most recent years past, we have held our annual gathering on the campus of Scattergood School and Farm. This year, because of the pandemic COVID-19, we met for a much shorter session of only 2 1/2 days. For the very first time, we also met not in person, but completely online.

The theme of our gathering was *Finding Hope in Troubled Times*. Our program schedule recreated online many of our favorite activities and practices. The very first opening worship was deeply settled and rich in its vocal ministry. There was early morning Bible Study to feed our spiritual lives. The two evening presentations were designed to challenge and encourage us. In the first one we learned how to do worship sharing and discovered a joy that occurs when we listen to each other without the need to respond. There is community to be found inside the silences between us. The second evening was set aside to introduce us to our new Head of Scattergood School and Farm, John Zimmerman. We join the school faculty, staff and students as we enter a new stage of many exciting changes including a newly added middle school, headed by Jamie Newton.

We had times to visit and catch up with old Friends and meet new ones, only now the visiting was all scheduled and done online instead of sitting on the benches in front of the Main. We washed our own dishes at home instead of together after sharing a meal of food harvested from the Scattergood Farm.

Our committees met online and finished most of their reports before sessions began, instead of sitting together and sweltering in small hot rooms while hashing out details. There was no late night singing in the meeting house, and also missed was, perhaps most of all, the voices of children playing outside our windows while we labored to find words that spoke for all of us.

We found that in all our the monthly meetings across the large geographic area that is IYMC, Friends grapple with how

best to work for healing the pain of violence, racism, greed and the economic exploitation so prevalent in our country.

These are uncertain times, and yet the discovery of many gifts this turbulence offers us came up over and over during our time together:

- *the pleasure of welcoming so many new Friends to our monthly meetings and this gathering.

- *the opportunity to stretch ourselves and adapt to new ways doing that we never knew existed.

- *the opportunity to reflect on what what we miss, what is good, what we can let go and what we need to hold onto.

In this year 2020, Iowa Yearly Meeting (Conservative) held its 143rd annual sessions, which means we have been gathering (at least) since the year 1877, or even earlier.

It doesn't take a historian to realize that some of those annual sessions were held in times of rejoicing and gratitude for prosperity, good harvests and good health.

In other years, Friends met during times of war, drought, civil unrest, and pandemics.

And many of those years, like this one, were times of uncertainty.

Our theme was *Finding Hope in Troubled Times*, and we spent these days together exploring how to do this. Being together reminded us that in both good times and bad, what we are called to never changes: to Love God with all our hearts, with all our souls, with all our minds and all our strength; and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

This love that we are called to, gives us seeds to sow in the world and to join with others in good work that started long before we were born, and will continue long after we are gone. We accompany each other along the way, and will continue to work in our uncertain times, our troubled times. We find hope in knowing, (in the words of poet Czeslaw Milosz) that

“Early we receive a call, yet it remains incomprehensible. and only late do we discover how obedient we were.”

In love, and on behalf of Iowa Yearly Meeting Conservative,
Deborah Dakin, clerk

Administrative Queries

The Administrative Queries and proposed summaries were read and approved as amended.

Adm. Query One. What new meetings have been established? Have any meetings been discontinued?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: Ways Meet Worship Group was recognized under the care of Stillwater Monthly Meeting in Second Month, 2020. Huntington Worship Group no longer meets. We have received a Final Minute from Short Creek Monthly Meeting, dated 06-20-2020, notifying this body that the work of laying down the meeting is complete.

Adm. Query Two: Do parents take an active interest in the administration and quality of teaching of the schools which their children attend? Is each Meeting making effective efforts to aid parents in the suitable religious instruction of their children?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: The number of school-aged children in our meetings is small. Parents and grandparents take an active interest in the administration and quality of teaching in schools of their children. We support the children through prayer and suggest our meetings could do more in making effective efforts to help parents in religious instructions of their children. First Day School helps the children learn Bible lessons in Friends' ways. We encourage our children to participate in Christian Education Camp.

Adm. Query Three: Have the General Queries been read and deliberately pondered and answered in all our meetings? Have the Advices been regularly read? Is the best possible time chosen for their reading, suitable for deliberate consideration of them by all Friends and attenders for their individual, spiritual refreshment?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: The General Queries and Advices have been read in our meetings with time given for deliberation and answering of queries. The advices or other suitable quotes from our Book of Discipline are regularly read. Affiliate members are encouraged to consider the General Queries in advance and send in their responses for incorporation in the Meeting's response. During the COVID-19 pandemic some Friends have stayed connected by answering queries online.

Adm. Query Four: Are former minute books, all interment charts and all records of similar importance, stored in a suitable fireproof safe or vault?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: Former minute books and interment charts (where applicable) are stored in suitable places, including vaults, other fireproof containers and historical societies and libraries. Back-up digital copies are maintained in home computers.

Adm. Query Five: Are our meetings for business regularly held; fully, and promptly attended? Are they conducted in a

loving and solemn concern to make concerted effort toward unity of spirit?

Ohio Yearly Meeting Summary: Before the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, our meetings were able to hold meetings for business regularly . It has been several months since that happened. We look forward to meeting together and praise our Father for His protection. During this time of the covid-19 global pandemic, some business meetings were cancelled or held over the phone, or by Zoom. Meetings are all conducted in a loving concern for unity of spirit.

**Walton Home Board, President's Letter
Eighth Month, 2020**

Dear Friends,

Jamie Helmick's annual report would make a really good "President's letter." So, my letter will be brief. I want to tell you that Walton is truly blessed to have the loving service of Jamie Helmick as executive director. The past several months have been extremely trying and frustrating times for Jamie and the rest of Walton's staff. They have met the challenges of quarantine, isolation social distancing and governmental regulations with amazing grace, patience, and fortitude. I can't find the words to adequately express my gratitude to Jamie and his staff for the care they have given to the residents through the years, and especially during COVID-19. And it isn't over. They will continue to need our love, prayers, and moral and financial support on into the future.

/s/ Bob Rockwell, President
Walton Retirement Home Board

**Walton Retirement Home Annual Report
Eighth Month, 2020**

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.

- Hebrews 13:8

My Dear Friends,

It is so good to have the opportunity to report the wonderful things happening at Walton Home. We are mindful and thankful for your prayers, advocacy, and financial backing, helping us to carry on the critical need of caring for our older souls. This year has brought several opportunities for reflection, faith, and courage. Walton has adapted well to the shifting sands created by COVID-19. Meditating on Hebrews 13:8 provides great clarity and peace as we endure. Walton was touched by the virus late-May / early-June and we did find ourselves in the position of having both staff and residents afflicted. We were aggressive in

our approach beyond recommendations from federal, state, and local guidance. I believe with God's hand and our commitment; we were able to be free from the virus very quickly. Three of the four infected residents that we were caring for in the facility were over 90 years of age! They worked through the isolation and quarantine protocols very well and one even celebrated their 100th birthday recently! We rejoice with them that rejoice! Walton continues to work diligently with all governing bodies that influence our licensure in the long-term care environment. We are grateful to have a healthy, positive, proactive relationship with so many as we all strive together to ensure we are doing all that we can to provide the best experience and environment possible for our loved ones. The Fiduciary Trustees continue their faithful support and management of our investments. With careful oversight and the generous donations of friends and family our endowment continues to grow to help preserve our legacy. One such donation by a generous resident and his family enabled Walton to install new metal roofing on the entire assisted living facility. What a blessing! Careful to weigh opportunities daily we also keep an eye out for what the future may hold for Walton. The need continues to grow for what we do. And we are told by many we do it very well. By God's grace we continue on this course steadfastly knowing "the night is coming when no man can work." I encourage you to participate in the Walton Retirement Home Corporation meeting hosted via Zoom on Fourth Day at 3:30 PM. Our accounting compilation and a more detailed overview of the year will be discussed at that time as well. All are welcome!

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie A. Helmick
Executive Director
Walton Retirement Home

P.S. Please contact me by phone (740-425-2344) or by email (executivedirector@waltonhome.org) if you would like more information on our wonderful work or to have one of our monthly newsletters mailed to you.

After announcements, the session concluded with brief waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 2:00 PM on Fifth Day, Eighth Month 06.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Fifth Day,
Eighth Month 06, Afternoon Session.**

Take heed that ye do not your alms before men, to be seen of them: otherwise ye have no reward of your Father which is in heaven. Therefore when thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

—Matthew 6: 1-15

We are blessed by the virtual presence of one visitor among us: David King of Yellow Springs OH and Monteverde Meetings. Friends welcome this visitor in the Name of Jesus Christ.

David Male brought greeting and prayers from Christian Acemah, head of Olney Friends School.

Fiduciary Trustees

The Report of the Fiduciary Trustees was read and approved with deep appreciation for the faithfulness and outstanding stewardship of the Fiduciaries particularly during the past

unsettled year. Friends approved the actions of the Fiduciaries detailed in the Report.

**Fiduciary Trustees of Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends
Report for the Year Ending Sixth Month 30, 2020**

For the fiscal year ending 6-30-2020 the Fiduciary Trustees are managing the following trust funds:

Education Funds	\$443,377
Walton Retirement Home	\$996,187
Ohio Yearly Meeting	\$169,949
Monthly Meetings	\$674,827
Reserve Fund	<u>\$749,211</u>
Total Assets	\$3,033,551

Our income and expenses for the 2019-2020 fiscal year were:

Total Income	\$75,748
Operating Expenses	<u>-\$16</u>
Net Income	\$75,732

Distribution of Earnings:	
Returned to Trust Funds	\$157,192
Added to Reserve Fund	<u>-\$81,460</u>
Same as Net Income	\$75,732

The Fiduciary Trustees have agreed to pay 6.0 percent return on the trust funds in our care as the Annual Distribution for the fiscal year ending Sixth Month 30, 2020. The investment environment during the past year has been very volatile, being affected by politics, impacts of congressional actions on taxes, and with the shocks to the global economy brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. In spite of these influences, we are comfortable with this distribution.

We currently have one (1) home loan outstanding with Ohio Yearly Meeting members and one (1) mortgage loan outstanding with the Walton Retirement Home.

The Ohio Yearly Meeting "Sale of Property to OFS" fund is valued at \$80,058 as of Sixth Month 30, 2020. We will continue to hold the balance of this fund and allow it to accrue interest until we receive instruction from the Yearly Meeting to take other action.

In Eighth Month 2019, as directed by the Committee on Financing Educational Concerns, the Fiduciary Trustees distribut-

ed \$8000 to the families of four (4) Ohio Yearly Meeting children attending Olney or private secondary schools.

Also, as directed by the Committee on Financing Educational Concerns, \$149,481 was sent to Olney Friends School from the Education Trust Funds which we hold in support of scholarships, a Christian Quaker presence, the library, repairs and improvements, and athletics at Olney. This amount included the usual annual distribution of income earned by these funds, \$21,777, as well as an additional \$127,704 sent as a special disbursement of unrestricted funds and a portion of the Inflation Accumulation balance from each Education Trust Fund designated for the benefit of Olney. The Inflation Accumulation balance was intended to help maintain the purchasing value of these funds over time and had been growing since 2000.

This special disbursement was in response to a specific, formal request from the Olney Head of School to Ohio Yearly Meeting for financial support from the unrestricted portion of the Educational Trust Funds held for the benefit of OFS. The very detailed request, outlining areas of need and plans for use of the monies, was very helpful to the Financing Educational Concerns committee. The Yearly Meeting approved this disbursement during our Eighth Month 2019 annual meeting.

As approved by the Yearly Meeting one year ago, we have created a "Legal Services Contingency" sub-account under the funds held by the Fiduciaries on behalf of Ohio Yearly Meeting with an initial funding of \$20,000. We plan to credit this account each year with its proportion of the income earned through the Annual Distribution. This will allow the value of this account to grow over time to meet possible future needs. We will include the status of this account in our annual letter to the OYM Treasurer. While this fund is intended to be used as necessary, only by the Fiduciaries, it will remain an account of the Yearly Meeting and subject to reassignment.

It seems repetitive to mention each year but the Fiduciary Trustees continue to receive inquiries by mail and phone from a variety of companies about our interest in leasing the oil and gas rights of Ohio Yearly Meeting property under our care. The Fiduciary Trustees continue to inform solicitors that we are not authorized by the Yearly Meeting to enter into any leases at this time.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Fiduciary Trustees,

David E. Warrington
President

Fiduciary Trustees of the Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends

Financing Education Concerns Committee

The Report of the Financing Education Concerns Committee was read and approved with appreciation for the careful stewardship and good works of the Committee. Friends approved the planned disbursements detailed in the Report.

Financing Education Concerns Committee Report

Eighth Month 2020

Scholarships for OYM Children Trust Fund

Members of the Financing Education Concerns Committee have considered the distribution of income generated by the Scholarships for OYM Children Trust Fund this year. The funds are intended for high school age members of the yearly meeting who are attending Friends schools, other private schools, or who are home schooled. This year, we are aware of three members of high school age attending Olney Friends School and one attending Brooklyn Friends School.

As usual, the net income from the Scholarships for OYM Children Trust Fund has been reduced by the Inflation Accumulation rate set by the Fiduciary Trustees. The income generated and available this year is \$6,990. The funds that are not awarded each year accumulate in the Trust Fund as unrestricted funds, and these are available in addition to this year's income.

In 2019, we awarded \$2,000 each to the families of the four students who qualified for this support. For the approaching school year, there are again four members eligible. The committee proposes that each of the four students' families be awarded \$2,000 for a total disbursement of \$8,000. The difference between the income generated by the Trust Fund over the past year and the total disbursed (\$1,010) is to be covered by accumulated unrestricted funds.

We are aware that awarding an amount greater than the income generated by the Trust Fund this year is unsustainable long term. We also note that the number of member students approaching high school age is and has been declining.

As always, we ask that meetings with members who meet the criteria for Ohio Yearly Meeting scholarship funds make the committee aware of their names.

The Committee,
Beverly Kirk Shull
Janet Hammer
Rebecca Hawkins
Debora Taber

Travel Fund Committee

The Travel Fund Committee Report and budget request was considered and discussed. Friends approved the Report and budget request, referring the request to the Audit and Budget Committee.

Travel Fund Committee Report 2020

Earl Smith and Sylvia Thomas were both able to travel to Washington DC as representatives to FCNL in late fall 2019. Their costs were reduced since they shared travel and lodging with three other representatives to FCNL.

Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas did not have a Section meeting this year.

Balance 07/01/19	\$ 5,165.39
Income OYM Allocation	\$ 2,850.00
Interest	<u>\$ 6.85</u>
Total Income	\$ 8,022.24
Expenses	
FCNL Representatives	\$ 1,280.47
FWCC Representatives	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1,280.47
Fund Balance 06/30/2020	\$ 6741.77

The Travel Fund Committee would like to request \$3,100.00 for the coming year. The FCNL Annual Meeting will be held Virtually this year. We have prepared a five-year budget and used this to base our request from YM. This request, which we realize is a large part of the YM budget, tries to minimize the yearly fluctuation in our budget requests from YM.

Respectfully submitted,
Penny Thomas, clerk
Dennis Rockwell, treasurer
David Eley
Janet Hammer

2020 Olney Farm Report

As you know, the weather is a critical factor for farming and wet weather conditions continue to be the trend for the fourth year in a row. We are currently at 33 inches of rain this year.

We have received our fifth year of USDA Organic certification. We have been monitoring the building of new power lines across the farm properties to try to keep them within our organic requirements. Thanks to Dave Warrington for making us aware of the plan for helicopter spraying in the future.

We are looking into the possibility of removing the oil

tanks by the gas well, drilled in 1949, at the Plummer farm and reclaiming that ground to hayfields again. The well placement broke up our two longest fields on the farm.

Personnel: Gage Blon, who lives locally, helped on the farm and in the dorm for the past two years while attending Belmont College. He is transferring to Wilmington College in the Fall.

Jessica Wendt has been teaching Chemistry, Physics and Agriculture Science this past year. She comes from her family's organic mushroom farm in Wayne County.

Caye Morrison is a 2016 Olney graduate and a 2020 Warren Wilson College graduate. He will take over the gardens and small animal farm responsibilities. His family has attended Olney for several generations and is the grandson of Dick Emmons.

Animals: Beef—we have 55 beef animals; Goats—ten does had 24 kids; Chickens—we will have 550 broilers processed and we have 50 layer chickens. We will order 100 replacement chicks in September.

Gardens: We've planted 650 pounds of five different varieties of potatoes, 98 tomato plants in cages, and peppers, squash, beans, cabbage, cucumbers, garlic and onions.

The Hoop House is operational again and produced an impressive beet crop.

The Greenhouse is used to start plants, as well as Jessica's class projects, including aquaponics and mushroom production.

The rest of the farm is in hay for the beef and goats. We plan to Fall-seed grains and multi-species cover crops as weed control and soil amendment.

The Lane Pasture (by the Meetinghouse): Over 2000 feet of goat fence was built around the pasture east of the school lane and a small shelter built. We plan on having goats in this pasture.

"Environmental Quality Incentive Program:" We have applied for and hope to receive an EOIP contract for water development on the Towe Farm. Practices implemented would include exclusion fencing for woods and stream, stream crossings and spring development.

Olney Hostess Fund and Monteverde School Fund

We have received \$175.00 in contributions to the Olney Hostess Fund and \$155.00 in contributions to the Monteverde School Fund. The clerk will forward these contributions to the

two funds. A letter from the Monteverde School was read with appreciation, detailing their activities in response to the pandemic.

Plummer House Report 2020

The focus for the Plummer House renovation for the end of 2019 was rewiring of the house. The electric was upgraded in 2015 with a new meter and circuit breaker box and the large room and stove rewiring was done in 2018. We received \$3,000 from the Belmont County Tourism grant for this project. We hired an electrician for most of the work and volunteers from the committee did some finishing work. Rewiring with new outlets and installation of ceiling fixtures was done in five bedrooms upstairs and the hallway with four flat ceiling lights installed in the hall and in the linen closet. (The upstairs hallway has a very low ceiling.) GFIC outlets were installed in the bathroom and kitchen and new basement lighting installed. A new attic distribution box with circuit breakers was installed for the upstairs wiring.

Last summer the basement developed a severe mold problem. Chemicals have been applied and a dehumidifier added to help keep the basement dry.

This year we have received a \$3,000 grant from the Belmont County Tourism for a heating system for the upstairs of the house. The committee is researching the most efficient way to go with this. It will need to be completed by December 31.

There has been little use of the house this year, largely due to the pandemic. The lawn has been kept mowed and trimmed.

Financial Report:

Beginning balance	8/7/2019	\$5,268.61
Income:	BCT grant	3,000.00
	Donations	<u>661.00</u>
	Total Income	\$3,661.00
Expenses:	Electric upgrade – labor	\$2,031.00
	- materials	1,192.80
	Water	100.00

Electric	<u>558.55</u>
Total Expenses	\$3,882.35
Ending balance 7/31/2020	\$5,047.26

Prayer and Listening Committee

Friends received the Report of the Prayer and Listening Committee. Friends united in circulating the Report and proposals to Monthly Meetings and the other Committees and in approving the proposed timetable. We will release the present members of the Committee with appreciation for their labors. Charles Thomas, Jr. and Sylvia Thomas have expressed willingness to continue to support the Committee in transition. Friends who feel led to help in the work of the Committee may offer their services to those appointed.

Prayer and Listening Committee Report

For over a year, our committee has listened to and prayed for our Yearly Meeting. So many voices were heard at Monthly, Quarterly and Yearly Meetings, not to mention those who reached out to us individually. No recommendation or report can convey the breadth and depth of these voices. The best we can do is to bear testimony that while our numbers may be declining our spiritual center is strong and our commitment to Christ unwavering.

Part of the work undertaken by the Yearly Meeting was to answer related queries. Query responses were composed by Monthly Meetings and summarized at the Quarterly Meeting level. We have attempted to summarize the Quarterly Meeting responses and would ask that the Yearly Meeting consider and approve them if rightly ordered.

Contained within the queries were many insightful proposals. We have gleaned these and placed them in a separate document. Each of these proposals is worthy of the Yearly Meeting's careful consideration. We recognize it would be difficult to digest these recommendations in one session, let alone make a commitment. Our suggestion would be to distribute the proposals to each Monthly Meeting who can identify those which could be useful and those for which Friends feel a Stop. The discernments of the Monthly Meetings would be further considered at Quarterly Meetings before being finally presented to Yearly Meeting for adoption.

The committee was particularly concerned that our Yearly Meeting's painstaking exercise be for naught if no substantive changes are implemented. It would be ironic if the same prob-

lems that cause burnout also impede any of the excellent ideas we heard. To assist in consideration of the suggested changes, we propose the following schedule:

At the conclusion of 2020 Yearly Meeting: Distribute proposals to Monthly Meetings.

By Twelfth Month 2020: Monthly Meetings complete their assessments and forward them to their respective Quarterly Meetings.

By Representative Meeting, Fourth Month 2021: Quarterly Meetings consider the Monthly Meeting reports and consolidate appropriate recommendations to Representative Meeting.

At Representative Meeting, Fourth Month 2021: Representative Meeting discern if they can or should implement any of the suggested changes.

At Yearly Meeting 2021: Yearly Meeting consider any changes that Representative Meeting felt were useful, but did not have the authority to implement.

We have been honored to be part of a sincere effort that encompassed every level of the Yearly Meeting. The experience was humbling as we observed the work to discern God's will for our community.

As we present these recommendations to the body, we feel that our work is complete and respectfully ask to be laid down.

The Prayer & Listening Committee
Charles Thomas Jr.
Bridget Casterline
Conrad Lindes,
Sylvia Thomas

Prayer and Listening Committee Queries and Summaries

Do we give ourselves over in faith to that life and power which transforms?

Rockingham: Our Yearly Meeting's angst suggests that we do not give ourselves over in faith to that life and power which transforms.

Stillwater: We feel we fall short in regard to "giving ourselves over" completely but we are sincere in our attempts to follow Christ and feel that as a strength in our meetings. We also know that others feel that depth and presence in us as well. Like the loaves and fishes, the Spirit that is present with us can feed that spiritual hunger through our worship. We are mindful of the scripture, "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear

fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me,” St John 15:4.

While it is sometimes difficult to “give ourselves over,” feeling we are giving up what we perceive as control over our own lives, we find God sustaining our willingness to love each other and others even through difficult times. We are reminded in St John 15:16, “Ye have not chosen me, I have chosen you.”

Salem: All day long many distractions claim our attention and test our faith. We strive to give ourselves over in faith to that life and power which transforms, without and within. It is good to remind ourselves daily that the Christian life calls us to personal transformation.

Summary: We strive to “give ourselves over” but our angst suggest that we fall short. Many distractions claim our attention and test our faith. It can be daunting to give up what we perceive as control over our own lives. But the Christian life calls us to personal transformation and we are reminded of John 15:4 “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me.”

Is our focus on Him who sustains us?

Rockingham: While we do try to focus on Christ who sustains us and look for His direction, we acknowledge that sometimes we are not focused on our Lord, but take Him for granted, and that we are not always intentional about seeking God’s guidance. We sometimes have difficulty exercising faith and discernment when we are called to act corporately, and our uncertainty seems to increase with the size of the body in which we are making decisions. Simply waiting has not always brought us into unity on the underlying issue, as we sometimes cling to some belief or practice that we see as essential, while other OYM members hold a different perspective. We wonder if our yearly meeting’s declining numbers are because we are not heeding our Lord’s direction.

Stillwater: Our focus is on the Lord in ways that sustain, nurture and comfort us. That focus on the presence of the Lord is felt most in our communal worship and private prayer times. We are also blessed with many Friends truly trying to live their faith intentionally whose presence nurtures our own faith as we live in community.

We do wonder sometimes if we remain as fully connected to that sustaining spiritual presence outside of meeting. It is easy to be distracted by the world in our daily walk. Yet we

know that when we are faithful at focusing on the presence of the Lord, that our everyday lives are transformed.

Salem: We find our focus on Him to be a continual process, but have learned how important it is to our growth in Christ. A sense of discouragement can take our focus off Jesus and cause anxiety and fear of outcome. We slip at times but are reminded of the harmful nature of the adversary and how he tries to lead us away from the sustaining power we have in Jesus. We are reminded of the life and power that we, as Christians, have in Jesus and to turn prayerfully to Him. When we gather for worship together, this is helpful to cleanse us, turning away from self and resetting our focus on Him. “For in Him we live and move and have our being.” Acts. 17:28

Summary: Our focus on the Lord is a continual process. We are most successful in our shared worship and private prayer times. We are also blessed with many Friends who live their faith intentionally and whose presence nurtures others. Yet, we acknowledge those times when we are not focused on our Lord and take Him for granted. We need to be more intentional about seeking God’s guidance, particularly when acting corporately and making decisions in the larger body.

What is it God is sustaining in us?

Rockingham: God sustains his love in us, our faith, joy, peace, patience, kindness and the other fruits of the Spirit, as well as our strength, energy, focus, and understanding. People are drawn to Ohio Yearly Meeting because of the strength and depth of our worship. For Christ to continue growing in us, we must let Him have complete control.

Stillwater: The presence of the Spirit of God, in our meetings and in our daily lives, keeps us connected as a faith community, sustains hope in all of us and is truly that Life and Power which transforms us within, allowing us to, “Press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus,” Philippians 3:14.

Our relationships with each other are sustained through the love of God who gives us hope and sustains us in the ability to look at our failings with the sure knowledge that we are loved and forgiven. It is not just our attending members who are part of this sustaining relationship with our Lord as our connections of love and forgiveness extend out into our broader faith community and beyond.

Salem: It is hard to give a single answer to what God is sustaining in us since He sustains us in all things by His power.

He sustains our strength, our faith, “but those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed.” (Isaiah 40:31) He daily sustains and strengthens our faith and reliance on Him, and we commit to live and carry out His will as we are able.

Summary: God sustains our strength, our hope, our faith, our energy, our focus and our understanding. Through God's love, our relationships with each other are sustained. Each and every *Fruit of the Spirit* is sustained by Him.

For Christ to continue growing in us, we must let Him have complete control. Under his control, we can “Press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus,” Philippians 3:14.

What does He want us to let go of?

Rockingham: We must do what we are able to do with joy and let go of what we are not able to do without worrying about it. At the monthly meeting level, some of us have already let go of some outward forms associated with traditional worship, such as sitting on benches arranged in rows, having facing benches, and having experienced elders time the worship. At the quarterly and yearly meeting levels, we feel that we may focus too much on structure at the expense of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We might consider:

Laying down some or all YM committees, possibly instructing the Nominating Committee to suggest only Friends who indicate that they feel called to serve on a given committee rather than filling a set number of slots (with the exception of bodies, such as the Walton Home Board and Representative Meeting, that have designated sizes)

Spending more time in worship and less on business in YM sessions.

Finding a way to ensure that answering the Quarterly and YM M&O queries does not distract attention and energy away from considering spiritual needs and services that members of M&O may be called to address.

We note that the spiritual and social hedge that has surrounded OYM is being taken down by God.

Stillwater: We are to let go of envy, competitiveness and resentments. Some consider whether He wants us to let go of the idea that a “bigger” community is automatically a “better” one. Keeping those gifts God has given us to help our brothers and sisters stay strong in Him, the author and finisher of our faith; we need to look toward making our lives simpler and less busy, including our meeting business. We ask the questions:

Do we need to spend so much time at YM reading query summaries, or might those answers be shared beforehand?

Should we only have committees people feel led to serve on – and should we limit each person to only serve on three?

Can some “committee” work be done by an individual with support from their meeting?

Can we reduce the workload at YM (by posting query answers in advance of YM)?

How can we put more emphasis on worship and fellowship at YM?

Can we merge more committees?

We recommend that we encourage more electronic communications, recommend having fewer committee meetings at YM – committees having their meetings beforehand, and would ask convenors to contact committee members so those members know they are on the committee.

Salem: He wants us to let go of anything that does not serve Him or gets in the way of us following Him. Some are contemplating ways to reduce the complexity of our meeting structure, reducing overlaps, and consolidating processes to reduce the meetings stress with the goal of allowing ourselves more time to do what the Lord would have us do both within and without the meeting.

Summary: He wants us to let go of anything that does not serve Him or gets in the way of us following Him. This includes envy, competitiveness, resentments, outward forms and the idea that a “bigger” community is automatically a “better” one.

We focus too much on structure at the expense of the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We need to look toward making our lives simpler, less busy and less stressful including our business meetings. This will allow more time to do what the Lord would have us do both within and without the meeting.

What is the Lord calling us corporately to do with His gifts?

Rockingham: Three elements of our corporate life are: practicing and encouraging each other in our personal faith, experienced inwardly and expressed outwardly.

sharing and encouraging other people to hear and follow the Inward Christ.

meeting the outward needs of other people in Christ’s name and love

Our message to others might be stronger and more com-

elling if we were actively involved with service to some part of the world in Christ's name (see James 2: 15-26), and if we spend less energy on defining and encouraging good Quaker process among ourselves and more energy in reaching out to others spiritually (see Matthew 16:15).

We need to look for opportunities to exercise God's gifts, sharing them earnestly where they can make the greatest impact. Does the Lord not command us to make disciples of all nations and to preach the gospel to all creatures? We might ask our members if they are led to start travelling to other meetings for worship and call on Friends everywhere in the immediacy of worship to return to that life and power which transforms. Projects or leadings that are shorter term, not requiring multi-year commitments, may be more attainable for us now. We need to find better ways to reach people who would benefit from knowing about and joining in our faith and practice. Doing things with those who are not members can send a message to others about our expectations of our relationship with the Lord, helping those in need and helping us by doing things on the Lord's behalf. Monthly meetings might consider devoting one business meeting per year to considering what new things the Lord may be calling us to do or what opportunities Friends' gifts may be brought to bear on currently. We might also look at all the gifts that God has already given us. What does each of us feel enabled by God to do? What God-given gifts do we see in others?

We sense that the Lord would have OYM be a place of spiritual nurture for people who are already members, sustained in Christian unprogrammed worship. He would also have OYM be a beacon of light and hope for the world that lies beyond our yearly meeting. The changes we make must be the direct result of the Lord's stirring among us, followed by our own faithfulness to follow.

Stillwater: Our calling is to continue to Share the Gospel, Share the Truth, and to Share the Love of God around us. We need to remain faithful to His commands to bear one another's burdens; feeding the hungry, rescuing the perishing and standing against evil in this world.

One meeting has had monthly hymn sings and considers how to honor God by being good stewards of His creation by organizing a trash clean-up and recycling event at a local natural area that has links to our Quaker history, having been used as a safe haven to hide fleeing slaves. Corporately, we feel called to continue supporting Christian Education Camp, the Friends Cen-

ter and The Walton Home.

We are called to live in Love and Forgiveness. We feel we are called to spend some time in yearly meeting addressing our vision/purpose in the 21st century. What are we here for? Perhaps the history of Ohio Yearly Meeting can be a treasure to learn from as a guide to our vision of the future while we individually sit in collective silence listening and crying out “Hallowed be Thy name.”

Salem: The Lord calls us corporately to use the gifts He has given us to bring our lives and energy to bear in support of His will, as He may reveal to us from time to time or continuously. We are called

to meet in the manner of worship that brings us directly to the spirit of the whole meeting's worship rather than an observer or participant of a worship procedure.

to follow the lead of Christ Jesus, to live our lives as clearly and close to His life as we can.

to share our experience of the Light and Love of the inward Christ, and the mercy He extends to us and to others when we fall short of that life.

to care about one another, pray for one another, encourage one another.

The question is raised “Are we serving traditions of men or God?”

Summary: The Lord calls us corporately to use our gifts, sharing them earnestly where they can make the greatest impact, bringing our lives and energy to bear in support of His will. We must share the Gospel, share the Truth, share the Love of God and make disciples of all nations, preaching the gospel to all creatures.

We find the Lord's calling taking many specific forms:

Practicing and encouraging each other in our personal faith, experienced inwardly and expressed outwardly.

Meeting the outward needs of other people in Christ's name and love.

Meeting in the manner of worship that brings us directly to the spirit of the whole meeting's worship rather than an observer or participant of a worship procedure.

Following the lead of Christ Jesus, to live our lives as clearly and close to His life as we can.

Sharing our experience of the Light and Love of the inward Christ, and the mercy He extends to us and to others when we fall short of that life.

Caring for one another, praying for one another, encouraging one another.

Being good stewards of His Creation.

Support and involvement in Christian Education Camp, the Friends Center and The Walton Home.

Spending time in yearly meeting addressing our vision/purpose in the 21st century.

Living in Love and Forgiveness.

We sense that the Lord would have OYM be a place of spiritual nurture for people who are already members, sustained in Christian unprogrammed worship. He would also have OYM be a beacon of light and hope for the world that lies beyond our yearly meeting.

Prayer and Listening Committee Proposals

Committee:

Committees will be encouraged to complete their work before Yearly Meeting time.

Friends will be advised not to serve on more than three committees. Nominating Committee should take this into account during their considerations.

Around Second Month of each year, each committee should go through a self-examination process...

This query should be answered: *Do we feel the power of Christ leading us in the work of our Committee? Is it time to lay down this committee or incorporate its functioning into another? Can this committee function better with more or fewer members?*

Answers to the first two questions will be incorporated into the Committee's report to Yearly Meeting. Committees are encouraged to make their answers short as in "Yes" or "No". Based on answers to these questions, the Yearly Meeting can take the appropriate action.

If practical and agreeable, those members whose terms are up may share if they are willing to continue.

The committee will communicate with Nominating Committee the answer to the third question, and the names of those Friends ready to commit to another term. Nominating Committee will use this information to make their recommendations to Yearly Meeting.

Nominating Committee may remind committees of this process in time for their work to begin.

Queries:

When practical, query answers should be made available before Yearly Meeting starts. They can be posted on the website

and/or printed and offered to those registering at Yearly Meeting.

Before reading the answers to the Queries, the Clerk should ask the Meeting if they have been properly reviewed. Then Clerk can then determine if the answers and summaries should be read aloud before approval.

Spiritual:

A new query could be added that asks what new things the Lord may be calling us to do or what opportunities Friends' gifts may be brought to bear on currently.

Agenda Committee should be directed to focus more on worship and fellowship in its planning.

Technical:

Encourage committees to use online technologies (such as Zoom)

Establish a *Technical Support Committee* to establish online meeting standards and assist with this and any other technologies.

After announcements, the session concluded with brief waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 10:00 AM on Sixth Day, Eighth Month 07.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Sixth Day,
Eighth Month 07, Morning Session.**

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. Therefore

I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. - Matthew 6: 16-34

We are blessed by the virtual presence of one visitor among us: Greg Fuquay of Fairhope Meeting (Alabama). Friends welcome this visitor in the Name of Jesus Christ.

We received news of several Friends facing health challenges. Friends observed a time of prayer for support and healing for these and other Friends and relatives.

Epistle Committee

The Report of the Epistle Committee was read. The Committee has drafted a single epistle to be customized by the clerk as it is directed to the several recipients. Friends approved the draft epistle as amended.

Epistle Committee Report

“The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.” - Luke 10:2

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, one of the three conservative yearly meetings, which met on Zoom with members from NYC to California, Virginia to Michigan as well

as Ohio and Pennsylvania with visitors from ----- Canada and-----
--(states) participating from home. While we missed being together in person, we did appreciate being able to be together safely. For some being on Zoom made it easier to attend.

We learned together how to use the technology and asked ourselves how we might use it during the year and in the future for the advancement of our life in Christ as individuals and as a meeting. We have already found the needs of the pandemic have blessed us with opportunities to share in wider community such as Seekers' Haven and Crossroads worship. We met for the normal number of days. But understanding that business might take more time, we decided to address mostly business that needed decisions and have other reports available to be read separately with all being published in our minutes.

We had early morning study of what it means to be a Conservative Friend and Bible sharing and evening programs continuing our thinking about the future of our Yearly Meeting "Let us pray to discern His plans and promise to follow them" - Jeremiah 29:11 and outreach as well as many opportunities for expectant waiting worship.

We met as a Corporation of our Walton Retirement Home where we learned again of the fine loving care they give their residents.

We took advantage of space made for fellowship to catch up with old friends and get to know new friends. We shared concern for loved friends unable to be with us with health challenges such as two you know, Fran Taber and David Eley.

During Business Sessions (we read your epistle to us. We treasure these communications and value the continuing ties between us. --- Visitors and visits---) we prepared a memorial minute for recently departed Friend Arthur Berk who passed from COVID-19 just before his ninety-third birthday. Just before passing he sent us an epistle which we share with you now.

"Friends, God's Ministry is far more vital than our own, that's why Jesus urges us to welcome the Lord in silence."

We invite you to join us and to invite others to join us. Information as to how to do that can be found on our website.

We are holding all Friends in prayer during this time of pandemic and unrest.

Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends Report

Many of our routines have been turned aside this year. Our planned Sixth Month Conservative Friends gathering has been postponed. Olney will hold our deposit in the expectation that next year we will be free to gather. Our gracious registrar, Sharon Helms has arranged the details for the gathering. It is such a blessing to depend on her skills. It has been delightful to be in touch with several of those who came to our 2018 gathering. Some attend Zoom worship and evening studies, some are friends on Facebook. Three issues of "The Conservative Friend" have been published since last Yearly Meeting. Philip Helms has found useful articles to fill each, written by members and Friends of like mind. We are pleased that one by Arthur Berk was in print just before he passed away. Arthur enjoyed writing about subjects on Friends' values. He also served many years on this committee. We have lost a gifted Friend, who often spoke Truth when some of us hesitated.

Nancy Hawkins, convener

Financial Report for 06/30/19 - 06/30/20

The Conservative Friend account

Starting Balance (06/30/19)	293.18
Expenditures:	
Printing TCF #56, 57, 58	411.34
Mailing TCF #56, 57, 58	419.11
Income	
Allocation OYM, transfer from Children's Book and Lit.	
Comm., Subscriptions, Donations	1044.03
Ending Balance (06/30/20)in TCF account	506.76

Gathering account

Starting balance	1,306.10
Income	
Allocation OYM	500.00
Expenses	
OFS (Campus Use Fee, deposit)	430.00
Sanitation supplies	65.15
Ending Balance	1,310.95

Gathering postponed to 2021
The Committee requests \$ **25.00**

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon A Helms, Treasurer WFCF

After announcements, the session concluded with brief waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 2:00 PM on Sixth Day, Eighth Month 07.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Sixth Day,
Eighth Month 07, Afternoon Session.**

Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye. Give not that which is holy unto the dogs, neither cast ye your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn again and rend you. Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets. Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it. - Matthew 7: 1-14

We are blessed by the virtual presence of one visitor among us: Karen Bobonich of Palo Alto Friends Meeting. Friends welcome this visitor in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Nominating Committee

The Report of the Nominating Committee was read and approved with appreciation for the difficult task and expeditious labor of the Committee.

Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee would like to propose the follow-

ing appointments to serve the Yearly Meeting.

ADULT LEADERS for JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING &
YOUNG FRIENDS

No terms expired. None to propose.

AGENDA COMMITTEE

2023 Conrad Lindes, Loisanne Rockwell, Nancy A. Hawkins,
Robert J. Rockwell, Terry H. Smith Wallace

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CAMP COMMITTEE

2023 Johanna Mae Rockwell, Gwendolyn Giffen, Margaret Marie
Bundy

COMMITTEE to COORDINATE & SUPPORT OUTREACH

2023 John C. Smith, John Chapman Benson, Nancy A. Hawkins

EPISTLE COMMITTEE (Two-year terms)

2022 Michael Kinch, Nancy Hawkins

FIDUCIARY TRUSTEES

2023 Beverly Kirk Shull, Robert Becerra

FINANCING EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS

No terms expired. None to propose

FRIENDS CENTER COMMITTEE

2023 David Male, John C. Smith, Susan Smith

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

2023 Gwendolyn Giffen, Loisanne Rockwell

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

2023 Evelyn M. Groves, Timothy Lillie

PEACE & HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

2023 Shawna A. Roberts, Sylvia E. Thomas, Earl Smith

PRINTING COMMITTEE

2023 Michael Kinch, Earl Smith

REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

2023 David W. Casterline, Debora Hope Taber, Kathleen M.
Kovalick, Marie Kirk Hawkins, Seth B. Hinshaw, David F. Eley

REPRESENTATIVE to FRIENDS COMMITTEE on NATION-
AL LEGISLATION

No terms expired. None to propose.

REPRESENTATIVES to FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE for

CONSULTATION

2021 David F. Eley (one-year appointment to synchronize terms)
2023 Beverly Kirk Shull

TRAVEL FUND COMMITTEE

2023 Robert Becerra

TRUSTEES of OHIO YEARLY MEETING PROPERTY

2023 Robert W. Stratton, Richard F. Sidwell

WALTON HOME BOARD

2023 Jean Cooper, Rebecca J. Hawkins, David W. Casterline,
Denise Troy

WIDER FELLOWSHIP OF CONSERVATIVE FRIENDS

2023 Anne Marie Taber, George Partridge

OYM RECORDER

2021 Michael Kinch

ASSISTANT OYM RECORDER

2021 Charles Thomas

We have come to an awareness that we should not be routinely filling positions without considering the needs of the committees we serve. For this reason, we have consciously not proposed replacements for some positions and in one case added a new member where no term expired. They are:

- No proposal to replace Constance Bair-Thompson on Friends Center Committee.
- No proposal to replace Arthur Berk on Outreach or Agenda Committees.
- We proposed George Partridge for the Wider Fellowship Committee.

Meeting for Ministry and Oversight

The Report of the Meeting for Ministry and Oversight was read and received with appreciation for the good work of our ministers, elders and overseers, and particular appreciation of the service and dedication of the Interim Clerk. Friends gladly give Fairhope Friends and other groups permission to use our General Queries and Advices if they are led by the Holy Spirit so to do.

Report of the Meeting for Ministry & Oversight

The yearly meeting for ministry & oversight met this year in a single session.

Our meeting was noticeably different from past years.

The usual appointments made by this body were handled by the Agenda Committee, which eliminated the need for this step. Some new items of business occupied the bulk of our time, and we did not consider our queries this year.

Fairhope Meeting asked for permission to borrow from the M&O queries. We appreciate their contacting us with the request, as Fairhope was founded by Ohio YM members in 1916, and the MM granted by Stillwater QM in 1919. Fairhope withdrew from Ohio YM in 1967. We approved their use of the M&O queries.

The Outreach Committee asked that M&O extend oversight to the Zoom meetings currently being held. Some M&O members have already been proactive in assisting with the management of the Zoom meetings. An important example of this activity was the decision earlier this summer to have a Friend make a brief statement at the beginning of each time of worship to help Friends evaluate leadings to speak.

Discussion of the Outreach Committee request led to a greater examination of our current opportunities and challenges as ministers, elders, and overseers. We agreed to hold a series of interim meetings by Zoom in which we can share and leaven the lives of any who have the freedom to participate. We want to be attuned to opportunities to help us all grow in what Christ Jesus is calling us to become in the fellowship of His body.

Seth Hinshaw, Interim Clerk

Friends Center Committee

The Friends Center Committee Report, with appended Financial Report, was read and approved with appreciation for the dedication and determination of the Committee in presenting these admirable programs and shaping these plans for the future of Friends Center. Friends united in approving the groundbreaking and beginning of construction on the addition. An additional \$7,160 remains to be raised. Checks may be made payable to OYM Friends Center Building Fund and mailed to David Male, 61830 Sandy Ridge Road, Barnesville OH 43713.

2020 Friends Center Report to Ohio Yearly Meeting

Greeting in Jesus' name to OYM Friends

Our 2019 Report to the Yearly Meeting included the following.

The continued success of our Eleventh and Third month weekends and the disappointing response to those offered in Tenth and Fourth month led to some deep and moving explora-

tion within our committee regarding where the spiritual hunger lies, what food we offer, and how we can faithfully grow to serve the need... There is indeed a deep well of Living Water among us, and as we return to it again and again we find it becoming, as Jesus promised it would, streams of Living Water that flow out from us to enliven others. We are committed to faithfully pursuing this work in ways that transcend geographic and other limitations. We are open to new ideas regarding opportunities to encourage this Life both within our yearly meeting and beyond.

In Eleventh Month, Ken Jacobsen led a retreat on the “Last Supper Discourse” in the Gospel of John, during which it was prophetically emphasized that Jesus was preparing the disciples to be with him in a new way. While he would no longer be with them physically, he would always be present when they gathered in his name. Then, just when we were preparing to gather for a consideration of William Taber’s “Four Doors to Meeting for Worship,” the COVID-19 pandemic hit and we had to postpone that in person gathering. Since that time, Friends all over the world have been learning anew that gathering in Christ’s name does not require gathering in a single location. We see that Christ has been preparing us for this moment, to find, as Bill Taber wrote, “The holy place is not the meeting room *it is the convergence of willing souls with the [Living] Stream*, which can occur anytime, anywhere.”

While we continue, then, to raise funds and make plans to replace the crumbling patio on the north side of The Morlan with a multipurpose room that will provide additional dining, meeting and library space, we also continue to learn that we can conduct our committee’s business via Zoom and email. A number of our committee attended Quaker Spring online in late spring, as well. We are planning three weekends for coming this year, which we hope to hold in person in Barnesville, on the overlapping topics of healing, wholeness, and right relations with one another, with our Creator, and with creation. Ken Jacobsen will again facilitate the Eleventh Month weekend focusing on, “Healing in the Gospels and in Ourselves.” Brian Drayton and Jay O’Hara will lead us in Third Month in exploring “Climate Crisis and Spiritual Wholeness,” and in Fourth Month David Male will ask us to consider, “What Does It Mean to Be a Friend?” We also hope to reschedule the “Four Doors to Meeting for Worship,” event that was postponed last Third Month.

Though we certainly hope to meet in person whenever possible, we are grateful that the Lord continues to teach us how to love one another as he has loved us and gather in His Name

wherever we may be. Please join us whenever you are able, wherever you are.

Finally, we feel blessed by and thankful to the Lord to have \$ 61,100 in our Building Fund, as of 7/10:

OYM from sale of OFS property	\$ 20000
OYM from Kathryn Jacobsen bequest	10000
Friends Center Committee funds	10000
Crossroads and Ridge Meetings	600
OYM members' contributions	<u>20500</u>
	\$ 61100

The total estimated cost for a 20' x 36' addition along the north side of the Morlan is \$71,600, 90 percent of which is \$64,440. We therefore need to raise \$3340. We hope to get the needed funds by the end of yearly meeting, to begin site preparation and construction when the contractors are available, and to be under roof before winter. Thank you all for your support of this improvement to our yearly meeting's facilities. We look forward to the added space and safety it will provide for many different activities.

The Friends Center Committee:

John Benson, Burton Doudna, Kenneth Jacobsen,
David Male, Diane Reynolds, Robert Rockwell,
Richard Simon, Jack Smith, Susan Smith, Frances Taber

Epistle from North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative

The epistle from North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative was read and received with appreciation for the continuing warm relationship and fellowship between our yearly Meetings, and for Nancy Craft's and Darlene Stanley's virtual presences among us this year.

To our dear Friends of Ohio Yearly Meeting,

We received and welcomed Friend Earl Smith from your yearly meeting, grateful for the continued visitation between our yearly meetings. We feel a special kinship with Ohio Friends resulting from our continued intervisitation between our yearly meetings. If according to Divine will, we anticipate that our yearly meeting will have representatives present when you meet next month.

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me I

feel this way about all of you since I have you in my heart for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. Philippians 1: 3-7

We are gathered via Zoom for our Three Hundred Twenty-Third annual sessions, Seventh Month 8—12, 2020. The above reading from our gathered Meeting of Ministry and Oversight on Fourth Day expresses our continued connection with you and our prayer for God's grace upon you. Our theme this year is "Living Faithfully in a Fractured World." The following opening by clerk, Gwen Gosney, reminds us of our gathered intention to worship as our ancestors and rekindle the gifts of the Spirit of gratitude, joy and the power of love and self-discipline.

I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. II Timothy 1: 3-7

As always in the sharing of our State of the Society and other reports, we have a sense of the challenges and joys our meetings have experienced this year. Friends reported the various ways they found to continue to gather in community when it was not possible to continue in person during the pandemic. Friends have expressed desire to find ways to continue use of virtual gatherings in the future. The ability of Friends everywhere to join our meetings by Zoom has enriched our worship and sense of community experience. Each meeting has devised ways to keep in touch with members and attenders who are unable to access the technology to attend functions, in an attempt to keep our communities connected. Our meetings have kept the concern for the health of all, both physically and spiritually, as a priority.

Many meetings expressed how they are being changed by the national focus on addressing systemic racial inequity and violence against people of color. Meetings are looking at their own patterns of behaviour both individually and corporately. Friends are also engaged and active in protests, vigils, and efforts for social change throughout the region. It was felt that this is vital and critical work.

We welcome continued visitation among all yearly meet-

ings and pray that Friends may feel open to join us next year when we intend to meet at Guilford College, Seventh Month 14—18, 2021.

On behalf of North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative,
/s/ Gwen Gosney Erickson, Clerk

Committee to Coordinate and Support Outreach 2020 Annual Report

“And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.” Rev 14:15

“Outreach,” or the sharing of gospel Truth, is best done person to person, and the care of interested seekers is best done by the local, Monthly Meeting. Our committee’s primary responsibility, as its name implies, is to help Monthly Meetings and their members to reach out – to their neighbors and to people everywhere - with the good news of Christ’s presence, as Light, as Word of God, as Spirit, within each person, as well as the love He longs to share and the power He is ready to wield to comfort us in troubles and to deliver us from sin.

As an active committee, we meet every six weeks, *via* Zoom. At these times, we share experiences and encouragement for Monthly Meetings about their outreach work. Some examples are:

- Staying current with a meeting Facebook page;
- Maintaining meeting websites;
- a Christmas carol sing, following a time of waiting worship, at the meeting house on the First Day before 12/25. This is announced through local fliers, emails to some who have visited the meeting, and by a Friend who writes a column in a local paper. Often about 40 or more people attend and, at least occasionally, some show an interest to return.
- Certain Friends in some meetings have and use the gift of correspondence, often by post rather than internet, to keep up with affiliates, including sending them Friends calendars;
- Some MM’s expect and remind their affiliates to write in query answers, which are incorporated in the MM’s query summaries;
- One meeting’s large number of affiliate members is partly due to travel in the ministry in the U.K., then maintaining regular correspondence with those who showed and interest.
- One Friend, who lives at a great distance from his own meet-

ing, has ministered as led at Fifteenth Street Meeting in Manhattan. He reminded us that our purpose is to share Christ's love and to turn people to Christ within them;

- One meeting holds worship at a local college, which makes the meeting's existence more apparent;
- One meeting staffs a booth at its town's annual "Quakerfest." They remind passers by that Quakers are still around, chat and hand out pamphlets, and invite folks to attend a brief lecture about Friends' beliefs and a time of waiting worship at the end of the day.
- Ads in Craigslist and in local newspapers;
- A small welcome packet is mailed to families that move into the community. A tri-fold pamphlet has been produced and is available at the local visitors' center.
- Members recently attended a peace rally in Flint, which helped them to make contact with others in the peace community and to make the meeting more visible;
- A meeting has held open houses and free lunches by door-to-door invitations on World Quaker day. Meetings have been posted on local bulletin boards, in Friends Journal, etc. None of these efforts has garnered much interest;
- During the pandemic this year, a worship group has been hosting waiting worship weekly via Zoom. These meetings, attended by up to 50 people, from up to six continents. Although there has been limited attendance by those Friends used to meeting in person at a meeting house, these Zoom meetings have enabled many OYM members who are normally unable to attend in-person worship because of distance or disability to participate fully. In addition, many members of other Yearly Meetings and many interested non-Friends join us. These meetings have generally been favored with deep communion and edifying ministry. These Zoom meetings for worship have revealed "an enormous store of opportunity" for us to share our experience of Christ in our midst.
- One meeting has begun to have midweek waiting worship on Zoom and has found it to be encouraging and valuable to members and inquirers.

One member of the committee has produced an email and address database from our directory, which may be used by meetings and/or committees to facilitate contact with their members.

Another means of outreach (and inreach) has been a series of online group readings and discussions of the Bible and other valuable spiritual writings. We hope to soon make record-

ings of some of these sessions available online through the OYM website. We also are working toward recording and posting brief talks on specific topics, such as baptism and the daily cross.

The OYM website itself continues to be revised in an effort to make it speak more clearly to non-Friends and even the un-churched. We have received 35 inquiries through the website since last year. We respond to each of them and seek to maintain correspondence with any who show an interest in Ohio Yearly Meeting and its gospel. Our website statistics, sadly, reflect that most visitors to the site have specifically gone to it, probably being already members of, or familiar with OYM. Few people seem to get to our site from general searches about spiritual matters. We will continue to seek ways to make the site more visible to seekers.

Our committee has discussed attitudes and expectations that inhibit our responding to these inquiries.

The experience of gathering in waiting worship online has been powerful and we encourage meetings to use this tool more often. Such meetings give our Lord an opportunity to share His message more widely. As this opens the doors to meetings that are large and that may include many “naive” attenders, our committee will be asking Ministry and Oversight to collaborate with us in the needs for ministry, eldering, and oversight which arise.

Conrad Lindes for the committee

After announcements, the session concluded with brief waiting worship, purposing to reconvene at 10:00 AM on Seventh Day, Eighth Month 08.

**Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends, Seventh Day,
Eighth Month 08, Morning Session.**

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which

is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matthew 7: 13-27

We are blessed by the presence of two visitors among us: Joel Nofziger and Pam Harris. Friends welcome these visitors in the Name of Jesus Christ.

Audit and Budget Committee

Friends appreciate the skillful work of the Committee Report was read and approved as amended by the Committee, particularly under these difficult conditions and with only two members. Friends are glad that Dennis Rockwell and Marie Bundy have agreed to continue their excellent service as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. The proposed budget was approved as amended. In addition, the Ohio Yearly Meeting Treasurer is authorized to draw from funds (up to \$12,000 to be repaid) on deposit with the Fiduciary Trustees for the completion of the Friends Center building project. These funds would be from the General Funds account. Friends approved with appreciation the willingness of David Eley and Beverly Shull to continue their outstanding service on Audit and Budget.

Audit and Budget Committee Report Eight Month 2020

We, the two named members of Audit and Budget, have considered and concluded that we could perform, as a committee of two, a minimum level of auditing of the past year and budgeting for the year ahead, expecting to have our work done in advance of yearly meeting. We volunteer to be continued for another year, anticipating that in 2021, two more will be named to join us at an in-person yearly meeting.

We have consulted with Dennis Rockwell, Treasurer,

about the current year expenses and donations, and visited with Robert Rockwell about the property trustees' needs for the year ahead. Several of the yearly meeting committee conveners have contacted us with budget-related requests for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The proposed budget includes these requests as well as adjustments by the yearly meeting treasurer in those areas where anticipated expenses are known. We are pleased to note that the total expenditures for the year just ending are less than were budgeted, and this trend is expected to continue this year.

The other part of our work is the audit function. The usual practice is to review the Treasurer's records, testing a few transactions and tying the balance per the books to the balance per the bank statement. Because both members of this committee have tested transactions in the past and found no problems, we would be willing to forgo such activity this year, settling for simply tying the balances per books and per bank statements. That task has been performed and the balances were found to match in all instances.

We appreciate the service and detailed efforts by Dennis Rockwell in maintaining these important records for the yearly meeting. Both Dennis and Marie Bundy, Assistant Treasurer, have agreed to serve an additional year.

The committee,
David Eley
Beverly Kirk Shull

	Budget	Expenditures	Proposed
-	2019-2020	2019-2020	2020-2021
Ad Hoc Committees	500	240	500
Agenda Committee	1,000	1,000	25
Christian Education Camp	1,200	1,200	-
Clerk's Expenses	200	200	200
Copy Machine Supplies	200	0	200
FCNL	500	500	500
Friends Center	1,000	1,000	25
Friends Disaster Service	250	250	250
FWCC	500	500	500
Historical Committee	25	0	25
Hominy Center	100	100	100
Insurance ¹	2,500	2,204	2,800
Junior Yearly Meeting ²	50	0	50
Outreach Committee	25	50	25
OYM Property Trustees	1,500	1,500	500
Peace and Human Relations	100	100	100

Printing	1,250	779	1,250
RSWR	250	250	250
Travel Fund	2,850	2,850	3,100
Walton Home	10,000	10,000	10,000
Water ³ .	150	129	225
WFCF	500	500	50
	24,650	23,352	20,675

Denny's Notes:

1. Insurance increased.
2. Junior Yearly meeting received \$0 this year.
3. We had a water leak this spring, so increase.

Printing Committee

Friends approved the Printing Committee's request to reprint the Advices and Queries brochure, 500 copies at an estimated price of \$90.00. These brochures should be distributed to the Monthly Meetings with a special copy to Fairhope Meeting.

**Printing Committee Report
Seventh Month 20th, 2020**

The Printing Committee met virtually on the 11th of Ninth month, 2019, at 8:00 PM by Zoom. At that meeting, we selected a committee clerk. We also approved that Philip Helms, ex-officio committee member with knowledge of past practice, should arrange for the printing of the 2019 Yearly Meeting Minutes books, which committee members had helped proofread.

On the 18th of Fifth Month 2020, we received a request to print an updated version of the Advices and Queries brochure, as there have been some changes to them since that brochure was authorized by Representative Meeting in 1994. This four-fold, single 8.5 x 14" sheet, black and white printed leaflet has been a useful and convenient handout at monthly meetings. We have a copy of the old brochure, access to the current Advices and Queries in electronic form, and a quote from a local printer. (100 for \$38, 500 for \$90.) If the Meeting approves the expenditure, we would like to proceed with producing an updated Advices and Queries brochure.

Submitted by Anne Marie Taber, Clerk

Christian Education Camp Committee Report 2020

Christian Education camp 2020 was not held due to the Covid-19 virus. Camper and counselor invitations had been sent out prior to the spread of the virus thus we had to send out camp

cancellation letters. We have received our allocation as approved last year. With only postage expense this year we are not requesting funds this year.

On behalf of Christian Education Camp,
/s/ Johanna Rockwell

Agenda Committee 2020 Report 08/2020

This year preparing for OYM was challenging. We, as a committee, worked together to give Representative Meeting every option possible. On 06/27/20, Friends reached unity to proceed with an online meeting using the Zoom platform.

During the very busy time, we learned who are the Tech Support part of the committee and asked others well versed in this form of communication to help all of us prepare and get actual experience in this new form of reaching each other. We are especially thankful for these Friends with gifts never before needed by OYM Friends.

Olney Friends School has been extremely cooperative and caring about our activities on campus, or lack thereof, as COVID-19 caused many events to be canceled or postponed. Our deposits and Campus Use fees are being held for us to be with them next year. Thank You, OFS!!

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH! To all Friends that gave of their time and gifts this year. It has been a special time preparing this agenda for you and we hope it will serve all of us well.

In Christ's love,
Sharon Helms, Charles Thomas Jr. (Chip),
Nancy Hawkins, Conrad Lindes, Loisanne Rockwell,
Robert Rockwell, Sarah Parsons, Terry Wallace,
Constance Bair-Thompson, Bridget Casterline,
Phil Helms *ex officio* as well as additional volunteers
Dave Casterline, Meritt Petrone and Earl Smith.
In memory of Arthur Berk , longstanding active
member of the Agenda committee, 1927 – 2020.

**Agenda Committee Financial Report
06/30/2019 through 6/30/2020**

Starting Balance 06/30/2019.....	3,083.79
Income	
Attenders' payment of meals and lodging	5,222.00
OYM Allocation	1,000.00
Dividend Credit	1.55
Total income.....	6,284.00

Expenditures

Stillwater MM – camping	168.00
Olney Friends School – meals/lodging	5222.00
Background checks	180.00
Campus Use Fee/ Deposit...2020	1,000.00
Fellowship expenses	59.95
Total expenses	6606.57
Income minus expenses.....	-322.57
Ending Balance 6/30/2020 2,762.77

**Pandemic COVID-19 caused postponement of physical YM.
O F S holding Campus Use Fee & Deposit for YM 2021
The Agenda Committee is requesting \$50.00**

Prayer and Listening Committee Queries and Summaries

Friends approved the ad hoc Queries of the Prayer and Listening Committee, with the summaries prepared by the Committee. These Queries and summaries will be included in the 2020 Minute Book (see page 41).

Peace and Human Relations Committee Report

The Report of the Peace and Human Relations Committee (see page 20) was read and approved as amended with appreciation for the Committee’s efforts. Friends are encouraged to contact the Committee with concerns and input.

Quarterly Meeting Representatives

The Report of the Quarterly Meeting Representatives was read and approved with appreciation for the work of the Representatives.

Quarterly Meeting Representatives’ Report

The Quarterly Meeting Representatives to the Yearly Meeting gathered this week via Zoom to consider whether the clerk and assistant clerk should continue for another year and whether they were willing. The idea of clerking via Zoom has been a daunting task that our clerk approached hesitantly but we feel he has handled it well.

Therefore it is with gladness and appreciation for their service and other ministries that we recommend Robert Wilber continues as assistant clerk and Philip Helms continue as clerk for the coming year.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,
Earl Smith, convenor

Friends united in expressing deep and sincere appreciation for the long and determined labors of those who made this Zoom meeting work:

The Agenda Committee

The Technical Clerk

The Webservant

The Technical Support Team

And the committee convenors and clerks who accomplished their tasks ahead of the usual schedule to get reports in two weeks ahead.

Concluding Minute 2020

Together, we continue our virtual figurative journey, to spread the Truth and do the Will of our Lord, despite the global pandemic of COVID-19. We have taken stock of our souls and lives through the Queries. We have marked the progress of our programs, including Friends Center, the Walton Home, the Wider Fellowship of Conservative Friends, the Prayer and Listening Committee, and the other projects and efforts of our committees, reaching out to other Friends and the community by virtual means during the pandemic. We have heeded our Inner Guide, Christ Jesus, who has come to teach his people himself. We have gone forward with love and courage even in the face of unrest and pandemic. We continue to make provision for the future, planning for a time beyond the current situation.

We have been richly blessed by our evening programs and our cherished visitors. We have gone forward boldly, as disciples of our Lord.

The harvest is truly great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest. Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves. Carry neither purse, nor scrip, nor shoes: and salute no man by the way. And into whatsoever house ye enter, first say, Peace be to this house. And if the son of peace be there, your peace shall rest upon it: if not, it shall turn to you again. And in the same house remain, eating and drinking such things as they give: for the labourer is worthy of his hire. Go not from house to house. And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: And heal the sick that are therein, and say to them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. – Luke 10: 2-9

Despite our best efforts, too many in the world, large and small, continue to harden their hearts and resist their Inner Guide.

But as we persist in faith, and boldly carry out the work before us, the Kingdom of God awaits us, and our gracious and loving Lord, Jesus Christ still assures us, “Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” (Matthew 28: 20) And as we willingly receive Him, we will achieve our goals.

We now conclude, purposing to meet again on Eighth Month 03, 2021.

Ohio Yearly Meeting 2021 will be 08-02-2021 through 08-08-2021.

Committees and Officers as of 2020 Yearly Meeting
(Years indicate expiration of term, asterisk* indicates clerk or convener)

ADULT LEADERS for JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING & YOUNG FRIENDS

2021 Shawna Roberts*, Conrad Lindes

AGENDA COMMITTEE

ex officio: Philip Helms, OYM Clerk

ex officio: Sharon Helms*, Registrar

Assistant Registrars: Constance Bair-Thompson,
Bridget Casterline

2021 Sharon Helms, Sarah Parsons, Charles C. Thomas Jr
2023 Nancy A. Hawkins, Conrad Lindes, Loisanne Rockwell,
Robert J. Rockwell, Terry Wallace

AUDIT and BUDGET COMMITTEE

(serves until the end of 2021 session)

2021 David Eley*, Beverly Kirk Shull

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CAMP COMMITTEE

2021 Lily Rockwell, Kathy Kovalick

2022 Barbara K. Warrington, David E. Warrington

2023 Margaret Marie Bundy, Gwendolyn Giffen,
Johanna Mae Rockwell*

COMMITTEE to COORDINATE & SUPPORT OUTREACH

2021 Henry Jason, Charles C. Thomas, Jr.

2022 Conrad Lindes*, Allistair Lomax, Kim Palmer

2023 John Chapman Benson, Nancy A. Hawkins, John C. Smith

EPISTLE COMMITTEE (Two-year terms)

2021 David Eley, George Partridge

2022 Nancy Hawkins, Michael Kinch

FIDUCIARY TRUSTEES

ex officio: Walton Home Manager (Jamie Helmick)

2021 Shelly Rockwell, David E. Warrington*

2022 Carey Newlin

2023 Robert Becerra, Beverly Kirk Shull

FINANCING EDUCATIONAL CONCERNS

2021 Rebecca Hawkins, Debora Hope Taber
2022 Janet Hammer, Beverly Kirk Shull*

FRIENDS CENTER COMMITTEE

2021 John Benson, Robert Rockwell, Frances Taber
2022 Burton Doudna, Kenneth Jacobsen, Richard Simon,
Diane Reynolds
2023 David Male, John C. Smith, Susan Smith*

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

2021 Seth Hinshaw
2022 Margaret Marie Bundy, Mary Alice Pino, Kathryn Smith,
Anne Marie Taber
2023 Gwendolyn Giffen, Loisanne Rockwell*

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

2021 Lois Edgerton, Seth Hinshaw*
2023 Evelyn Groves, Timothy Lillie

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2021 Marie Kirk Hawkins, Michael Kinch, Carolyn McGinnis,
Charles C. Thomas, Jr.*
2022 Evelyn Groves, Janet Hammer, Rebecca Hawkins, Seth
Hinshaw, Kimberly Newlin, George Partridge, Meritt Petrone,
Earl Smith, John C. Smith

PEACE & HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

2021 Richard Wetzel
2022 Lois Edgerton, George Partridge, Kathleen Rothwell,
Robert Rothwell
2023 Shawna A. Roberts, Earl Smith, Sylvia Thomas*

PRINTING COMMITTEE

ex-officio: OYM Clerk - Philip Helms
ex-officio: OYM Recorder - Michael Kinch
ex-officio: OYM Nominating Committee Clerk –
Charles C. Thomas, Jr.
2021 Constance Bair-Thompson, Nelda Hawkins,
Ann Marie Taber*
2023 Michael Kinch, Earl Smith

TRAVEL FUND COMMITTEE

2021 David Eley
2022 Janet Hammer*, Dennis Rockwell
2023 Robert Becerra

TRUSTEES of OHIO YEARLY MEETING PROPERTY

2021 Kevin Roberts, Robert Rockwell*
2022 David Male
2023 Richard F. Sidwell, Robert W. Stratton

WALTON HOME BOARD

2021 Margaret Marie Bundy, Sharon Helms, Cindy McGee
(Community), Robert Rockwell*, Karen Walsh,
Andy Woods (Community)
2022 Kathleen M. Kovalick
2023 David W. Casterline, Jean Cooper (Community),
Rebecca Hawkins, Denise Troy

WIDER FELLOWSHIP OF CONSERVATIVE FRIENDS

ex officio: Sharon Helms, Registrar
2021 Nancy Hawkins*, Sharon Helms, Michael Kinch,
John C. Smith
2022 Philip Helms, Terry Wallace,
2023 George Partridge, Anne Marie Taber

CUSTODIANS of RECORDS

Appointed 1990 - Loisanne Rockwell
Appointed 2009 – Seth Hinshaw
Appointed 2010 – Beverly Kirk Shull, Kimberly Newlin

REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

ex officio: Philip Helms, OYM Clerk
2021 Bridget Casterline, Burton Doudna, Janet Hammer (*Reading Clerk*), Nancy Hawkins, Mary Alice Pino (*Alternate Clerk for meetings at Salem*)
2022 Philip Helms, Sharon Helms, Michael Kinch, Conrad Lindes, Kimberly Newlin, Loisanne Rockwell, Charles C. Thomas, Jr.
2023 David W. Casterline, David F. Eley, Marie Kirk Hawkins, Seth B. Hinshaw*, Kathleen M. Kovalick, Debora Hope Taber

TREASURER of OHIO YEARLY MEETING

2021 Dennis Rockwell

ASSISTANT TREASURER
2021 Assistant Margaret Marie Bundy

YEARLY MEETING RECORDER
2021 Michael Kinch

ASSISTANT OYM RECORDER
2021 Charles C. Thomas, Jr.

**REPRESENTATIVES to FRIENDS WORLD COMMITTEE
for CONSULTATION**
2021 David F. Eley, Henry Jason
2023 Beverly Kirk Shull

**REPRESENTATIVE to FRIENDS COMMITTEE on NA-
TIONAL LEGISLATION**
2021 Earl Smith
2022 Sylvia Thomas

YEARLY MEETING CLERK
2021 Philip Helms

READING CLERK
2021 Robert Wilber

Representative Meeting Minutes

At the fall session of the Representative Meeting of Ohio Yearly Meeting, held at the Chestnut Ridge Meeting House near Barnesville, Ohio, Eleventh Month 16, 2019

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples – John 15:1-8.

We have 12 members of this body with us today, representing eight monthly meetings and all three quarterly meetings. We are also glad to have Evelyn Groves, Carolyn McGinnis, and Melissa Hinshaw with us today.

A proposed policy for child safety was presented to clarify procedures for young Friends and junior yearly meeting. It supplements the existing guidelines and promotes the safety of all youth attending yearly meeting. Some Friends made recommendations for revisions. We appointed the following committee to work with the proposed text and report to our spring session: Sharon Helms, Debora Taber, Shawna Roberts, and Conrad Lindes.

The Prayer and Listening Committee brought the following proposal for our consideration. The committee gave some background information about their work this year resulting in the proposal. Friends agreed with the proposal, affirming our concerns about how we can help more Friends participate and improve procedures where possible. We want to help Friends to carry out our current callings and also welcome new people to experience the ongoing operations of the Lord in our day.

In Fourth Month of this year, Representative Meeting formed a committee to address issues of overwork and burnout in our Yearly Meeting. Critical components of the work of this committee was to be both *Prayer* and *Listening*.

The committee met multiple times by electronic means

but also continued their work at the time of Yearly Meeting. We were struck by how much the issues of our committee echoed the Worship and Life of those sessions. It is our hope that the Spirit that animated *The Body* and focused our concern was not lost at the conclusion of Yearly Meeting.

To clarify how our Guide wishes us to proceed with this issue, the Prayer and Listening Committee proposes that the following query be answered by each Monthly Meeting, summarized at the Quarter level and forwarded on to Representative Meeting in Fourth Month, 2020.

Do we give ourselves over in faith to that life and power which transforms? Is our focus on Him who sustains us? What is it that God is sustaining in us? What does He want us to let go? What is the Lord calling us corporately to do with His gifts?

Answers to this query will not only inform the Prayer and Listening Committee how to do its work, but will help the Yearly Meeting as a whole to maintain a connection with the concern.

Details are:

This is not to be a permanent replacement or addition to the queries.

It is a one-time query to be answered and summarized by each Quarter in time to deliver to 2020 Spring Representative Meeting.

The Prayer and Listening Committee will summarize the answers provided at Representative meeting and present them to the Yearly Meeting sessions in 2020.

Each Quarter will manage their own schedule to provide for this temporary addition and still complete summaries for other queries due at the 2020 Yearly Meeting.

Monthly Meetings are asked to answer the proposed query and send those answers to their quarterly meeting, who are asked to summarize them to be sent to our spring Representative Meeting.

At our last yearly meeting, the Appeal for Peace was sent to the Peace and Human Relations Committee for final approval. The yearly meeting instructed Phil Helms to hold the outgoing epistles while waiting for word from the Peace Committee. We don't have a report from the Peace Committee at this time. Given that some Friends have requested our epistles, we ask Phil to proceed with their distribution and give the Peace Committee more time for its work.

No further business coming before us, we now adjourn, expecting to meet again at Salem on Fourth Month 18, 2020.

Seth Hinshaw
Janet Hammer
Clerks

At the spring session of the Representative Meeting of Ohio Yearly Meeting, held Fourth Month 18, 2020. Due to the current corona virus epidemic, this meeting is being held over an online video conference program named Zoom.

The scripture of the day was Acts 26:13-18.

We have 12 members of the Representative Meeting with us, drawn from all monthly meetings, and we are thankful to have these Friends joining us also: Shawna Roberts, George Partridge, Bob Rockwell, and Henry Jason.

The Agenda Committee provided the following contingency plan for yearly meeting sessions. Because we don't know at this point how things will materialize, we ask the Agenda Committee to coordinate with Olney and bring a report to a called session of this meeting on Sixth Month 27, by Zoom.

Proposed Contingency Plan for OYM

In the event that COVID-19 should still have our country locked down, the Agenda Committee makes the following suggestions...

Use Zoom for all Meetings for Business, (up to 99 persons). This could be joined by a device or telephone.

The Clerk would have an assistant that would help recognize a Friend who "rises" (perhaps by using the Raise Hand feature on Zoom) to speak and have the ability to open the files of reports, epistles or any other document that might normally be handed out to those in attendance. These documents would appear on the screen of those in attendance.

This Clerk helper would allow as normal a flow of the meeting as possible while allowing the Clerk the ability to draft minutes having a sense of the Meeting.

Committees are asked to meet prior to YM and have reports sent to the Clerk by 7/28 to make them available for Zoom sharing.

Modification of any part of the proposed Agenda for the physical meeting can be directed by Rep. Meeting.

Morning Sharing will be "Fundamental Topics of Our Gospel Understanding" with Henry Jason. Meeting for Worship will be on 8/3 and 8/5 evenings and Evening programs are to be presented by Prayer and Listening Committee 8/4 and Outreach Committee on 8/6.

In any of these scenarios, having an OYM Zoom account would be ideal. The cost of a Standard Pro Account is \$ 158.89 including tax. At this time there are two accounts being used for OYM, Zoom Meetings for Worship for Rockingham MM, Cross-roads MM and Seekers Haven Worship group, Walton Retirement Board meetings and committee meetings, etc.

Our committee appointed at our last session brought the following update to the safety policy. The meeting believes this is a good compromise statement that will be added to the current policy. The yearly meeting Registrar has agreed to supply a copy to Friends families intending to attend yearly meeting.

Policy for Child Safety

OYM Young Friends & Junior Yearly Meeting

All adults are advised that asking for identification is a reasonable and acceptable request of any person responsible for any child. This is not an offense but a means of protection.

Every child will be signed in by a parent or guardian, or by a person with a signed note from the parent instructing the transport of the child. A note from a parent or guardian can be given at the beginning of the Yearly Meeting or at the time the child becomes involved, that will cover the entire time.

Each child will be picked up by parent(s)/guardian at the designated time of rise of Business session.

If someone other than a parent/guardian will be picking a child up, a written and signed (by the parent/guardian) note will be needed for the release of the child. This is to safeguard all involved.

The Prayer & Listening Committee brought the responses to the special Query received from the Quarterly Meetings. Friends are encouraged to read the responses in preparation for an evening presentation at yearly meeting. The committee will summarize the responses for yearly meeting consideration.

The Yearly Meeting Handbook is ready digitally and available online. Friends can review the text for review. Final approval should be considered at yearly meeting time including a decision regarding making copies available.

During the discussion of the Handbook, a Friend commented on some former duties of the Book & Children's Literature Committee. We direct the monthly meetings to take on the distribution of Bibles to eight-year olds.

Charles Thomas has produced some reports and charts based on the yearly meeting Recorder's reports. He asks the Representative Meeting for permission to share this information

throughout the yearly meeting by e-mail upon request. Friends find the reports and charts useful and approve their use. We thank Charles for this labor of love.

The Wider Fellowship Committee has decided to postpone the Gathering until 2021.

The Meeting appointed Burton Doudna, Debra Taber, Conrad Lindes, and Mike Kinch to bring a recommendation of Friends to serve as clerk and reading clerk of the Representative Meeting for a three-year term.

We note with regret the recent passing of Arthur Berk and Tony Edgerton.

No further business coming before us, the meeting concluded.

Seth Hinshaw
Janet Hammer
Clerks

At a called session of the Representative Meeting of Ohio Yearly Meeting, held Sixth Month 27, 2020. This meeting is being conducted over an internet teleconferencing platform called Zoom and was called to consider what form, if any, our yearly meeting sessions should take this year.

We have 12 members of this body joining us today, plus several other members present.

The Agenda Committee forwarded the following recommendation for our consideration per the request at our last session.

Possibilities for Ohio Yearly Meeting 2020

Physical Meeting The Agenda Committee **does not** believe a physical meeting would be a safe or responsible possibility for this year.

Physical Meeting to 2021

Remembering the Spanish Influenza lasted from 1918 – 1920, postponement may be an ongoing situation yet to be determined.

Zoom Meeting 2020

This would include Bible Reading, Morning Sharing, Business Sessions & Evening programs (2) & Meetings for Worship (2 evenings)

Called Representative Meeting (Zoom)

This is the recommended choice by the Agenda Committee.

This form of meeting would address reports from com-

mittees needing an action or decision for their function. Other committee reports could be brought to regularly scheduled Representative Meeting(s) as needed.

Any of these options could be customized at the will of the Representative Meeting.

While considering holding sessions by Zoom, a Friend reported on the recent Quaker Springs meetings. The meetings were richly gathered for worship and fellowship, plus small group breakout sessions.

Friends shared other experiences with Zoom and offered ideas such as holding an abbreviated business session. Some Friends felt that we could reduce the volume of business by focusing on items requiring action.

Friends are generally in unity to ask the Agenda Committee to prepare an abbreviated yearly meeting schedule that can be held by Zoom. We also recommend that the committee appoint some Friends to serve as technical assistants for the yearly meeting sessions. We approve a recommendation to continue the current members of the Audit & Budget Committee one additional year to continue their work, rather than appointing two additional members this year.

Prior to closing, we note with sadness the recent passing of Jim Eblin, a former member living in Oregon.

We now conclude, purposing to meet again for our fall session of the Representative Meeting on Eleventh Month 21, 2020.

Seth Hinshaw
Janet Hammer
Clerks

Yearly Meeting for Ministry and Oversight

Clerk: Mary Alice Pino, Assistant Clerk: Burton Doudna

ROCKINGHAM QUARTER

Keystone Fellowship: David Eley, (E,M);

Michael Kinch (E); Terry Wallace (O,M)

Marlborough: Seth Hinshaw (M); Charles C. Thomas, Jr. (M),

Penny Thomas (O), Bridget Casterline (E)

Rockingham: Susan S. Smith (E); John C. Smith (M)

SALEM QUARTER

Crossroads: Philip Helms (E); Sharon Helms (O, E)

Middleton: Verna H. Cope (O); Marie Hawkins (O);

Lois G. Edgerton (E); Rebecca J. Hawkins (E); Mary Alice Pino

(E); Nancy A. Hawkins (M);

Salem-Upper Springfield: Eunice M. Burkey (O); Nelda J. Haw-

kins (E); Mildred S. Henderson (O); Kimberly A. Newlin (O);

Hans M. Tritico (O); Winifred E. Stratton (*M); Conrad Lindes

(M)

STILLWATER QUARTER

Chesterfield: Robert Rothwell (E); Richard D. Wetzel (E)

Chestnut Ridge: Kathleen Kovalick (E); Burton M. Doudna (M);

Evelyn Doudna Groves (E)

Short Creek: Sara L. Kirk (O); Elvina Krekler (O)

Stillwater: Marie Bundy (O); Karen L. Walsh (O); Diane Reyn-

olds (O); Frances I. Taber (E); Earl Smith (E); Richard A. Simon

(E); John C. Benson (M); Robert A. Wilber (M); David Male (M)

**Calendar of Ohio Yearly Meeting of Friends
and its subordinate Meetings**

Ohio Yearly Meeting (opened 1813) is held in Stillwater Meeting House, near Barnesville, Ohio and will commence in 2021 with a meeting for Ministry and Oversight on Eighth Month 02 at 10:00 AM Opening session of Yearly Meeting Eighth Month 02 at 2:00 PM Subordinate meetings in 2020-2021 are scheduled to be held as follows:

REPRESENTATIVE MEETING

Meets the third Seventh Day in Eleventh Month at Chestnut Ridge Meeting at 1:00 PM; and the Third Seventh Day in Fourth Month at Salem at 1:00 PM Clerks: Seth Hinshaw, 353 North Charlotte Street, Pottstown, PA 19464 seth@hinshaw.com (484)-364-8367, Janet Hammer, assistant.

ROCKINGHAM QUARTERLY MEETING

The second Seventh Day of First, Fourth, Sixth, and Ninth Months, with varying locations. Please phone the clerk (Bridget Casterline) at (908) 510-0527 with any questions.

SALEM QUARTERLY MEETING

Held at Salem on the second Seventh-Day in Second, Fifth, Seventh and Eleventh Months, at 10:30 AM Clerks: Mary Alice Pino, 44550 SR 517, Columbiana, OH 44408; Nelda J. Hawkins, assistant. Quarterly Meeting for Ministry and Oversight, same day at 9 AM, Clerk Nancy Hawkins

STILLWATER QUARTERLY MEETING

11/02/2019 at Chesterfield Meeting in Chesterhill.
04/04/2020 at Stillwater Meeting in Barnesville.
07/11/2020 at Chestnut Ridge Meeting. Near Barnesville.
Quarterly Meeting for Ministry and Oversight at 9:30 AM, Burton Doudna, Clerk, 740-679-2245, followed by lunch provided, and regular Quarterly Meeting for Business at 1 PM Clerk, Evelyn Groves, 740-679-2084.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

In Rockingham Quarter

Keystone Fellowship: Contact Clerk Eileen Kinch (717) 721-1764 for time and place.

Marlborough: Usually the third First Day of each month at rise of meeting for worship. Clerk: Bridget Casterline (908) 510-0527

Rockingham: Usually the first First Day of each month in the afternoon (time varies). Contact Clerk: Susan S. Smith (540) 867-5788.

In Salem Quarter

Crossroads: The second First-day of each month, following rise of meeting for worship. Clerk: Philip Helms (248) 360-2074

Middleton: 11:30 a.m. on the second First-day, following worship. Clerk: Lois G. Edgerton (330) 482-2939. Preparative Meeting for Ministry and Oversight: called as needed.

Salem-Upper Springfield: The second First Day of each month, after worship. Clerk: Carey L. Newlin (330) 332-0565; Nelda J. Hawkins, assistant. Preparative Meeting for Ministry and Oversight held as needed on the third First-day in First, Fourth, Seventh and Tenth Months, following worship.

Meetings in the Salem Quarter plan to meet jointly on the fourth First Day of each month as follows: At Middleton: Second, Fourth, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth, Twelfth; At Salem: First, Third, Fifth, Seventh, Ninth, Eleventh

In Stillwater Quarter

Chesterfield: The third First-day of each month following meeting for worship. Clerk: Robert J. Rothwell (740) 551-9121

Chestnut Ridge: The second Seventh-day at 7:00 p.m. at various homes. This may change, so if you wish to attend, please call. Clerk: Burton M. Doudna (740) 679-2245, Carolyn Doudna McGinnis, assistant.

Stillwater: First-day following the third Seventh-day of each Month, after worship. Clerk: Thomas F. Rockwell (609) 610-7759; Leonard D. Guindon, assistant

MEETINGS FOR WORSHIP

At Chesterfield, 10:30 AM, First Day

At Chestnut Ridge, 10:30 AM, First Day

At Crossroads: 11:00 AM, First Day.

At Keystone Fellowship, usually on Seventh Day or First Day (either in member's homes or in local meetinghouses). Contact the clerk for time and place.

At Marlborough, 11:00 AM on First Day

At Middleton, 10:30 AM, First Day

At Rockingham, 10:30 AM, First Day

At Salem, 10:30 AM, First Day

At Seekers' Haven, 3:00 PM on the first First Day of each month and 10:30 AM on the third First Day of each month. Contact Conrad Lindes (440) 884-0338, as there may be changes some months.

At Stillwater, 10:30 AM, First Day

First-day School: Stillwater, 9:30 AM Crossroads: 11:15 AM;

Bible Study: First-day; Chesterfield, 11:30 AM; Crossroads, 10:00 AM; Middleton, 9:30 AM

Midweek Meetings for Worship

Crossroads, Fourth Day, 11:00 AM; Middleton, Fifth-day, 3:00 PM; Stillwater, Fourth-day, 6:30 PM

Locations of Meeting Places

Chesterfield: Chesterhill, OH, on Rte 555 east from Rte. 377

Chestnut Ridge: From the center of Barnesville, OH, 1.9 miles south. On Rte 800; turn left on Twp Road 26 near top of hill, then ½ mile to meetinghouse (go right at 1st fork, left at 2nd fork).

Crossroads: 4108 Menton, Flint, MI 48507. For additional information, contact Phil and Sharon Helms, (248) 360-2074

Keystone Fellowship: Meetings for worship on Seventh Day or First Day either in members' homes or in local meetinghouses, 2641 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand PA. For information contact Eileen Kinch (717) 721-1764).

Marlborough: 361 Marlboro Spring Rd., Kennett Square, PA 19348-1309. For information, <http://www.marlboroughmeeting.org> or call Bridget Casterline (908) 510-0527.

Middleton: 44866 Crestview Rd., Columbiana, OH. 3 miles south of Rte. 14 on Rte. 7, west ¼ mile on Crestview Rd

Rockingham: Harrisonburg, VA. I-81 Eastern Mennonite University campus, Room 227, Seminary Bldg., 1181 Smith Ave. and Mt. Clinton Pike. Clerk: Susan Smith, (540) 887-5788

Salem: Sixth Street, east of North Ellsworth Ave., Salem, OH

Seeker's Haven: At the home of Conrad Lindes and Joan Kuczek, 13375 Old Pleasant Valley Rd., Middleburg Heights, OH 44130 (440) 884-0338 (under the care of Salem-Upper Springfield Monthly Meeting).

Stillwater: 61830 Sandy Ridge Rd., Barnesville, OH From Barnesville, OH, 1 mile east on E. Main St., take right onto Shamrock Dr. opposite Save-A-Lot, turn into Olney Friends School at top of hill.

OHIO YEARLY MEETING MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS										2020	
Meeting	Members Gains			Members Lost					Net Gain or Loss	Total membership as of Sixth Month 30	
	Births	Certifi- cate in	By Re- quest	Deaths	Certifi- cate out	Request Release	Discon- - tinued	Dis- owned		2019	2020
Keystone MM	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	-1	5	4
Marlborough MM	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	17	18
Rockingham MM	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	36	37
Rockingham QM	0	1	3	2	1	0	0	0	1	58	59
Crossroads MM	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-1	9	8
Middletown MM	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	-1	68	67
Salen-Upper Springfield MM	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	-4	94	90
Salen QM	0	1	1	7	1	0	0	0	-6	171	165
Chesterfield MM	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	-1	22	21
Chestnut Ridge MM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	28
Short Creek MM	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	-4	4	0
Stillwater MM	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	0	-2	150	149
Stillwater QM	0	1	0	2	3	1	2	0	-7	204	198