

Britain Yearly Meeting: Faith & Practice

When work does not turn out as was expected or intended, do not let it depress you. If you are working from a right motive, and doing your best under the guidance of a loving Father in heaven, your work cannot be and is not failure... Remember that the Lord never lays work upon His people that He does not give them strength or ability to perform, and if it please Him in the working out of His great purposes that life shall be sacrificed or cut short in the midst of the work, be assured that the work will not permanently suffer from such a cause.

Joseph John Armistead, 1913

And from Advices & Queries....

Be aware of the spirit of God at work in the ordinary activities and experience of your daily life. Spiritual learning continues throughout life, and often in unexpected ways. There is inspiration to be found all around us, in the natural world, in the sciences and arts, in our work and friendships, in our sorrows as well as in our joys. Are you open to new light, from whatever source it may come? Do you approach new ideas with discernment?

Our Mission: to nourish hearts and minds, bodies and souls.

Our Vision: A nourished community.

Monthly Meeting for Business: 21 April 2024 *

Attendance today: 14.

Monthly Meeting Clerk Jan Scott opened this business meeting with a reading from Brittain Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, with words from Joseph John Armistead (Front page)

Retreat for Clearness:

A "Retreat for Clearness" was held on Saturday, March 30. 19 Friends were in attendance. Lists were compiled of "What brings us joy?" and "What brings us stress?" - both relating to our work at Muncie Friends. After lunch, we were asked, "What is the biggest, next thing we need to address as a congregation?" All attendees answered anonymously and responses were recorded. All members should have received an email or hard copy of the three lists and minutes of the day's conversations.

Kim Carson, Mary Carter, and Audrey Hicks volunteered to review the responses and create a chart showing the results. Their task was "To translate the Joys and Stresses statements into meaningful information that we can use to make decisions." The retreat would reconvene Sunday, April 21 at 9:30 am instead of the regular Monthly Meeting.

On April 21, Mary Carter presented the charts showing the results of our joys, stresses, and what pressing issues should be addressed. Each response from March 30th was shown by the Quaker testimonies, or SPICES. Our joys were found mostly in Community and Peace. The stresses were indicated mostly in Peace. One statement registered in all six testimonies: "Sometimes when OBLIGATION overrides JOY, it robs us, or usurps the ability to give [our efforts] as a gift." The "next steps" ideas fell into three very clear categories: a building that we can no longer afford to maintain, the lack of money to maintain our historic building, the lack of people to carry out the above.

It was becoming clear that we needed to explore the monetary value of our building and consider selling it to someone who could put it to better use and afford the cost of maintenance. There is a church community that might be interested.

An ad hoc committee was formed of Linda Daniel, Mary Carter, and Jack Otley to gather information and report back to the Monthly Meeting.

Next Monthly Meeting for Business: Sunday, 19 May 2024 at 9:30 am.

***Committee Reports are available on page 4.**

Birthdays

05/03 Sarah Tinder
05/11 Carolyn Dowling
05/16 Joan Eikenberry
05/19 Theresa Kruczek
05/21 Khloe Shaw
05/22 Jane Kidd
05/30 Klaus Neumann

Anniversaries

05/14 John and Lindsey Brooks
05/15 Michael and Kristen Sherman
05/19 Mike and Jan Scott
05/26 John and Carla Tuttle

Prayers, Concerns & Condolences

Juanita Suro is currently at Bethel Point Rehabilitation Center

Pray for our church.

Quaker Trivia - *discernment* - is wisdom, to see clearly and differentiate the truth from other impressions. True discernment in respect to offerings in the ministry should be loving and faithful, be diligent in spiritual travail and prayer.

Bible Study- friends meet every Wednesday at 6 pm in Goddard Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Unprogrammed Worship- meets Sunday morning at 8:30 am; and on Thursday evening at 7:00 pm in Goddard Fellowship Hall.

Ladies Night Out at McAllister's Deli - Friday, May 10th, at 5:30 pm

Men's Breakfast at Riverside Café - Thursday, May 30th, at 7:00 am.

YOGA classes are on regular schedule in May.

Quaker Women Our next meeting will be a salad carry-in at the home of Phyllis McNeese, 5111 W. Churchill Ct. at 12:00 noon., May 9. A hot chicken casserole, drinks, and table service will be provided. You may bring vegetable or dessert salads. Car pooling is recommended, or if you need a ride, call the church. All women are welcome, but please let Dee Dee Healey or Toni McKillip know by Mon., May 6 to help Phyllis plan. Hope to see you there!

Heads up for special June meeting of Quaker Women-On June 5 (Wed.), Quaker Women will tour Recovery Cafe located at the corner of Charles and Mulberry Streets. We will leave the church about 12:30 and carpool there in order to be ready to tour at 1 pm. Lisa Rossein, Executive Director of Recovery Cafe, will show us around and provide information about ways people of Delaware County are being reached through this ministry.

Committee Reports from April:

Ministry & Oversight: met April 4 with 5 members present.

The committee continues to work on pulpit supply when Michael is out of town. Manisha Peterson and Jan Scott will lead a series of discussions on the Quaker testimonies (SPICES) and how we incorporate each one in our lives. 12 Friends who are unable to attend activities receive monthly contacts. Invitations to the Easter breakfast were sent to the apartment tenants. Linda Daniel is our administrator for Facebook, Instagram and Twitter(X). Mary Carter continues to work on our website. Martin Dunham is stepping down as a member of the committee.

Next committee meeting: Thursday, May 2nd at 2:00 pm.

Stewardship & Finance- met April 9th with 2 members present; 1 trustee and our church treasurer. New paper towel fixtures and bathroom tissue holders have been installed. A new septic pump was installed. The treasurer is working on the monthly bills to prepare for May monthly meeting report. Facility use approved for Betheny Ellcessor for teaching piano and guitar lessons on Wednesdays, 4 -8 pm.

Next committee meeting: Tuesday, May 14th at 2 pm.

Community Outreach- Friends Coffee Shoppe- this ministry is going well. Charlie's and Juanita's ministry is well received by our guests that come to the coffee shoppe. We have regulars, as well as new faces every week. Donations of snacks, cookies, and donuts are welcomed. **Sunday School-** Adult class is discussing Brian McLaren's book, [A Message from Jesus](#). Class participants take turns reading with discussion to follow. All are welcome to join in the discussion. **Friends Food Pantry-** is the 3rd Saturday of every month. With us being donation based (both financial and donated items), your participation is very important. Volunteers are always welcome (a variety of jobs are available).

Note: This committee is looking for 1-2 friends that would want to be a part of this committee. If you are interested, contact Dee Dee or Jan Scott.

Next committee meeting: Tuesday, May 7th at 2 pm.

Sacred Places: nothing to report.

Note: If you are interested in serving on a committee, feel free to contact any of the committees expressing your interest, or leave a message in the church office.

Muncie Friends Church: A Quaker Meeting
418 West Adams Street
Muncie IN 47305

Friendly News*

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Email: munciefriendschurch@gmail.com

Website: www.munciefriendschurch.org

Sunday Schedule:

11:00 am Meeting for Worship

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10:00am – 2:00pm.

If you need to contact us, PLEASE leave a detailed telephone message or email us at
friendsmemorial@sbcglobal.net.

The newsletter is published monthly, deadline for newsletter items is 3rd Monday of the month.