

“Be patterns,
be examples in all countries,
places, islands, nations
wherever you come;
that your carriage and life may preach
among all sorts of people,
and to them;
then you will come to walk
cheerfully over the world,
answering that of God in everyone;
whereby in them you may be a blessing,
and make witness of God in them to bless you.”

George Fox, founder

Statement of Affirmation

Muncie Friends Church aims to be a loving, inclusive congregation by creating a nourished community for all, in keeping with the Quaker value of equality. We affirm and promote participation in all our activities and services without regard to race, color, ethnicity, gender, religion, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, disability, national origin, political orientation, educational level, economic status, or creed.

Monthly Meeting for Business: Muncie Monthly Meeting of Friends met December 15, 2024 to properly transact that business that should come before it. Linda Daniel, acting as Presiding Clerk, opened the meeting with the poem, "A Future Not Our Own" by the Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador. Fourteen persons attended. The minutes of the eleventh month were read and approved after corrections.

Next Meeting will be **Sunday, January 19th, 2025 at 9:30 am.**

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn Dowling presented the November balance sheet of the Meeting finances, attached to these minutes. The General Fund is at a negative \$14,308. The Food Pantry Fund has a balance of \$1,922. The Education Fund has a balance of \$474. In an effort to draw interest, money from the Building Fund was transferred to a Money Market Savings account with a current interest rate of 3.10%. The Money Market Savings account has a balance of \$105,089. The CD which draws 4.33% interest has a balance of \$42,331. The Building Fund has a balance of \$23,512; and the Emergency Fund has a balance of \$18,126. The balance of the Emergency Fund includes the negative balance of the General Fund. There was discussion about the net worth of all funds combined. The Building and Emergency Funds are the most liquid accounts that can be used for immediate needs of the Building and the Meeting.

Ministry & Oversight – Changes in Meeting for Worship will be effective the first Sunday of January. The order of worship will be revised. The outline for presiders found in the handbook has also been revised. Please let us know if you are interested in presiding and M&O will guide you through the process. The information cards developed by a past Communication and Publications committee have been repurposed and are now at the entrance of our new worship space M&O will follow up with newcomers as well as prayer concerns. There is also a card that offers suggestions for vocal ministry during open worship. We will continue to discuss how to improve our new worship space. Please pass along any concerns or suggestions to M&O. We will continue to keep a list of Friends in need of visitation and prayer. Follow-up will be in person and/or in written notes.

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

Community Outreach- Teri Saxon was nominated to join the Community Outreach Committee. Her nomination was approved. A strategy meeting was held on December 19 to discuss the future of Friends Food Pantry. It was determined that the food pantry will continue in 2025. Adult Sunday School will be finishing "The Secret Message of Jesus" in the next couple weeks. The class has been considering "If the Church were Christian" by Phil Gulley as the next book. The Education Fund is available to purchase books. There was discussion around moving responsibility for decisions about Sunday School material to the M&O committee as it is more in line with the role of M&O.

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

Monthly Meeting Reports continued from page 2...

Stewardship & Finance - Jan Scott reported the repairs to the west basement wall were canceled. After prepping the area, the foreman from Indiana Foundation Services expressed concern that digging an internal drain along the wall would compromise the integrity of the wall so he declined to complete the repair. Other options are being considered to address the leak in that area. Matt Weyand Renovations will replace the damaged ceiling tiles in the lobby area. A leak in the East Wing boiler was repaired for \$800. A cool mist humidifier was donated and installed under the piano in the Meeting for Worship room. It is insufficient, and a more specific kind of humidifier may need to be purchased. We are in the process of updating the inspections for the expired permits on the boilers, elevator, and fire alarm(s). A meeting with Sacred Places is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17 to explore what funds are available to us. Next committee meeting: **Tuesday, January 14th, at 2 pm.**

Ad Hoc Building Committee

The church remains listed for sale at \$350,000. We have had several showings over the last 6 months but no offers for purchase. The last two groups have questioned the listed price given the major repair costs. We need to consider what we are willing to accept as a sale price. A detailed timeline of the showings and other activities of the committee are attached to these minutes in the binder in the front office. Currently, we have two groups expressing serious interest in the building: **Fresh Start Family Life & Worship Center of Indianapolis; and Recovery Café of Muncie.** Neither has made an offer. Fresh Start has been working at getting estimates from contractors to assess renovation costs. Recovery Café of Muncie has expressed interest in “leasing to own” as they are not currently able to buy and renovate the church. There was a lengthy discussion about the differences between leasing space to outside agencies and “leasing to own”. A leasing to own contract would need to be very detailed to protect us, and we will need the guidance of our realtor on how to proceed. Carol Clendening has offered to help us as we explore this as an option. It was requested to arrange a meeting between the Ad Hoc Building Committee and Jason Lipps, our realtor, to determine a path forward with Recovery Café of Muncie. This request was approved. It was requested that Recovery Café of Muncie be informed that we are meeting with our realtor to further discuss a path forward.

***A special carry-in recognition lunch for Michael Sherman and his family was served after Meeting for Worship on Sunday, December 29.**

NOTE: If you would like to have offering envelopes for 2025, please contact Jan Scott. She can be reached in person, email janscott4318@yahoo.com, or call/text at 765-730-0452

The Friendly News

January 2025

Birthdays

01/01 Phyllis McNees
01/17 Cora Sherman
01/17 Carole Whitehead

Prayers & Concerns

Continue prayers for our church, and each other.
Pray for our city, state and our nation.

Bible Study meets on Wednesday, 6:00 pm in the East Room. **We are studying Genesis.** This is a *great* way to learn more about the Bible while in fellowship with Friends. All are welcome.

Quaker Women Circle will meet **Thursday, January 9th at 1 pm** in the library. We will be discussing what our next outreach project might be. All ladies are welcome.

Ladies Night Out will meet at **5:30 pm on January 10th** at McAllister's Deli. All ladies are welcome and to come, eat and fellowship.

Friends Food Pantry: Saturday, January 18, 2025. 10 am-12 noon. Donations of **non-food items are needed for our pantry.** Suggestions are: shampoo, body wash and wash cloths; deodorant, laundry soap, dish soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, disposable razors, shaving cream are also needed.

Men's Breakfast will meet at 7 am Riverside Cafe on January 30th. Great opportunity for the guys to fellowship and enjoy a good breakfast.

Yoga with Friends

Kim Carson offers three yoga classes each week here at Muncie Friends Church. Classes are held in the former preschool room Slow Yoga: Tuesday, 10 am-11:30 am

Chair Yoga: Friday, 2 pm-3 pm

Yin Yoga: Friday, 3:30 pm-5 pm

Email Kim at yogafriendsmuncie@gmail.com for prices and questions, if you are interested.

Weather Alerts: For reports of poor weather conditions, and school, business closings in and around the Muncie area, please tune to the following information:

WERK Radio – 104.9 FM

WLBC Radio -- 104.1 FM

WISH TV -- channel 8 (COMCAST)

WTHR TV – channel 13 (COMCAST)

WRTV -----channel 6 (COMCAST)

MUNCIE FRIENDS CHURCH: A Quaker Meeting
418 West Adams Street
Muncie IN 47302-2306

Friendly News

Muncie Friends Church, 418 West Adams Street, Muncie IN 47305
(765) 288-5680 www.munciefriendschurch.org

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School 9:30 am; 11:00 am Meeting for Worship

Office Hours

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

If you need to contact us, PLEASE leave a detailed telephone message or email us at
munciefriendschurch@gmail.com

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

We are a supportive, caring congregation demonstrating Quaker values

