

### *The Testimony of Community....*

**Community is implicit in our very name**—the Religious *Society* of Friends. Though each of us has our own personal understanding of, and relationship with, God or Spirit or the divine, it's important for us to come together in worship, to share messages and insights with each other. Being a community is more than just everyone showing up in the same space at the same time, though; it's about learning to set aside personal differences and act as a unified force for good.

We do this with deliberate intention because, underneath our individual differences, we all have “that of God within us,” or, if you prefer, we are each of us made in the image of God. Honoring and respecting each other, then, is a way of honoring and respecting God.

That holds true for people who aren't Quakers, as well! We recognize that we exist in relationship to all of humanity, and we strive therefore to live in “right relationship,” knowing that our happiness and well-being is ultimately bound with the happiness and well-being of everyone else. This holds true not just spiritually, but economically and politically.

Quakers understand that when one of us is in chains, as the song says, none of us are free.

We can all be ministers to one another, but... none of us can do it alone. We are all blessed with gifts from God—with spiritual gifts, with talents, with knowing God at all—and so we have to work together. We have to worship together, and in that work and in that breaking the bread beautiful things are possible.

*“What is the blessed community? It's a community where everyone has value and we're actually able to see that of God in each person and to be able to live in community, sharing the gifts that God has given us with each other.”*

### **Quaker Trivia:** The Inward Light

In the earliest days of Quakerism, nearly four centuries ago, this was often thought of as an “*inward* light,” and was specifically associated with Jesus Christ, “the light of the world.” Silent worship came about because George Fox and other early Quakers believed that silence and stillness would enable people to apprehend the presence of the Inward Light, which would show them the unflinching truth about their lives, including what they ought to do to align themselves with God's will.

## **Monthly Meeting for Business: 18 May 2025**

### **Attendance today: 17**

Jan Scott opened the meeting with a quote from George Fox which encourages us **“to be bold in the power of Truth”**. The minutes from the fourth month were read by Linda Daniel, and approved (a complete report of the minutes are available in the church office). Beverly Schemmer will clerk our June Monthly Meeting for Business. **Next Monthly Meeting for Business: Sunday, 15 June 2025 at 9:30 am.**

**Treasurer’s Report** –In Carolyn’s absence, Jan presented the May balance sheet of the Meeting finances. The General Fund deficit has been reduced and now is at -\$11,718. Friends Food Pantry balance is at \$2,656. The Building Fund is at \$24,053, and the Emergency Fund is \$20,717. The Certificate of Deposit was renewed, and has an interest rate of 3.9%. The full report is available in the church office.

**Community Outreach-** This committee met on Monday, May 5, with all committee members attending. Friends Food Pantry assisted 79 households at May Food Pantry; an additional 8 households were added for the entire month of May, total 87. We met with staff from Recovery Café and Second Harvest Food Bank to discuss the future of both food pantries once Recovery Café acquires the building. This committee hopes that with a few adjustments this merge will go smoothly. Friends Coffee Shoppe continues to welcome new neighbors weekly. Both ministries seem to be helpful in our community.

**Next committee meeting: Monday, June 2, 2025 at 2 pm.**

**Ministry & Oversight** –this committee is available to offer guidance to anyone who is interested in presiding at Meeting for Worship. The theme for this quarter is Community. Small groups based on common interests such as genealogy, Quaker history, game nights, arts & crafts, social justice are a few ideas being considered. We hope to begin these group activities in the fall. Membership classes are being planned for this Fall. The adult Sunday School class continues to read, “If the Church Were Christian” by Phil Gulley.

**Next committee meeting: Thursday, July 3, 2025 at 2:00 pm.**

**Stewardship & Finance** –the “SpringsGiving” letter has been mailed, and you should have received it. If not, contact the church office. The church office is in need of white copy paper.

**Next committee meeting: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 at 2 pm.**

## **Our Mission:**

To nourish hearts and minds, bodies and souls.

## **Our Vision:**

A nourished community.

**Bible Study-** Friends meet every Wednesday at 6 pm in the East Room. Come and join us. We are currently studying the Apocrypha.

**Quaker Women Circle-** Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup>, the ladies will be taking a field trip to Just Quilts, LLC in Albany IN, where we will work on our banners that will be hung in The East Room. A carpool will leave the Meetinghouse at 1:30 pm. \*Coming in July, Abby Gluvna (executive director of Recovery Café) will be our guest speaker, and talk about volunteer opportunities for the Café.

**Ladies Night Out at McAllister's Deli** -Friday, June 13, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

**Men's Breakfast at Riverside Café** - Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 8 am.

**Special guests are coming-** on Sunday, June 29, 2025; Friends Fellowship from Richmond, IN will be visiting us, and providing lunch for us this day. Mark your calendars, and plan to attend.

**Building Sale:** The Board of Zoning of Appeals passed our request for the zoning variance with no opposition. We are now waiting for the title company to set a closing date. When that is complete, Recovery Cafe will start moving into their new home.

Gloria Mantock announced that she has brought two more historical photo albums. These albums document the 1976 Centennial Celebration of the Monthly Meeting and the 2008 Centennial Celebration of our building. These will remain in the Meeting for Worship Room for now. She is also updating a photo display of current members and attenders.

### **Birthdays**

06/02 Camden Fragomeni  
06/05 Emily Bantz Turner  
06/06 Susan Fraser  
06/10 Oscar Kreider  
06/21 Rachel Spodek  
06/25 Brent Tinder  
06/26 Michael Bantz  
06/29 Beverly Schemmer

If you would like to have your birthday and/or anniversary listed please contact the church office, or Dee Dee (765) 717-5189.

### **Prayers, Concerns & Condolences**

**Shari Green**  
**Steve and Loretta Hinshaw**  
**Toni McKillip**  
**Jack Otley**  
**Muncie Friends Church family**  
**Residents at Bethel Pointe Facility**  
**Remember** to pray for each other, and our nation.

If you have a prayer concern and want to share, please contact the church office, or Dee Dee (765) 717-5189.

**Muncie Friends Church: A Quaker Meeting**  
**418 West Adams Street**  
**Muncie IN 47305-2306**  
**(765) 288-5680**

**The Friendly News**

**Email: [munciefriendschurch@gmail.com](mailto:munciefriendschurch@gmail.com)**

**Website: [www.muncie friendschurch.org](http://www.munciefriendschurch.org)**

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

**\*Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 am – 2 pm**

**\*If you need to contact us, PLEASE leave a detailed telephone message or email us.**