

*“Walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.” - George Fox*

*Simplicity \* Peace \* Integrity \* Community \* Equality \* Stewardship*

**OAK PARK FRIENDS**  
**NEWS**  
**October 2014**



*Resident of Indiana Dunes*

Oak Park Friends Meeting – Religious Society of Friends  
720 Chicago Avenue, Oak Park, Illinois 60303  
708-445-8201

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org)

**Meeting for Worship each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.**

Clerk – Judith Erickson

Recording Clerk – Sarah Shirk

Treasurer – Valerie Lester

Newsletter Editors – Pamela Timme and Bob Southworth

(<mailto:ptimme@hotmail.com>)

Submission deadline – 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Christina Timme is available for babysitting, cleaning projects, etc. If interested, please contact her at 708-927-4940.

Third Sunday Sing-alongs - Join Friends every third Sunday of the month at OPAL at 9:40 am for fellowship through song

The Ministry and Care Committee want you to be aware that there is a suffering fund for those that need. Contact a committee member for details.

OPFM welcomes donations for the needs of the meeting which include the meeting space, activities and charitable giving. Donations can be mailed to Oak Park Friends Meeting, PO Box 3245, Oak Park, IL 60303.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Please see the meeting website at [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org) for further information.*

### Direction of the Meeting Event

Help us choose the date for the annual Direction of the Meeting discussion on these queries: "What can OPFM do for you?" and "What would you like to do for OPFM?"

Complete this Doodle survey with the best dates for your calendar:

<http://doodle.com/ixphsaxg5ngwxa2s>

### November 20-23, 2014

Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Annual Meeting

Living Our Faith Through Action in Washington, DC

Register on-line at: [http://fcnl.org/events/annual\\_meeting/am14/](http://fcnl.org/events/annual_meeting/am14/)

Friends Committee on National Legislation is hiring. See job announcements here: <http://fcnl.org/about/jobs/>

## **PEACE AND JUSTICE - FCNL ACTION ALERTS**

The newsletter has a new monthly feature which we hope will assist Friends in their commitment to peace and justice. The following link will take you to the website of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), where you can find out about and participate in advocacy for peace, for environmental restoration, and for social justice.

<http://www.fcnl.org/action/alert.htm>

This item can also be found on the OPFM website <http://www.oakparkfriends.org>

### **October's Action Alert from FCNL**

This month's action alert focuses on the new war in the Middle East, the actions taken against the Islamic State. The President has committed the US to military action, but there are signs that Congress is resistant to a long-term war. Congress has stated that aid to Syrian rebel groups does not mean authorization of additional military strikes. FCNL believes that Congress can be persuaded to pursue nonviolent actions, if they hear support for this from their constituents. Please contact your legislator today to urge nonviolent alternatives to this situation.

## **BUSINESS MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

Please see the meeting website at [www.oakparkfriends.org](http://www.oakparkfriends.org) for further information, including reports from individual committees.

August 24, 2014: Two items of interest stood out from August's Business Meeting. The Chicago Friends School will open this year with 2 classrooms and 14 students. Revisions were made to the budget to lay down the Chicago Fair Trade Dues, and add a donation to the Chicago Friends School in the amount of \$100.

## **QUERY QUOTATIONS**

Rooted in the history of Friends, queries reflect the Quaker way of life, reminding Friends of the ideals we seek to attain. We approach queries as a guide, using them not as an outward set of rules, but as a framework within which we assess our convictions and examine prayerfully the direction of our lives and the life of the community. Here are a few selections from Faith and Practice, published in 1997 by Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends:

### **Stewardship of the Environment**

*Is the Meeting concerned that human interaction with nature be responsible, guided by a reverence for life and a sense of the splendor of God's continuing creation?*

*Are the decisions of the Meeting and its committees relating to the uses of property, goods, services, and energy made with sensitivity toward the environmental impact of those choices?*

*How does our Meeting learn about environmental concerns and then act in the community on its concerns?*

*How am I helping to develop a social, economic, and political system which will nurture an environment which sustains and enriches life for all?*

*Am I aware of the place of water, air, and soil in my life? Do I consider with care the necessity of purchasing substances hazardous to the environment? Do I act as a faithful steward of the environment in the use and disposal of such hazardous substances?*

*Do I choose with care the use of technology and devices that truly simplify and add quality to my life without adding an undue burden to essential resources?*

## **AND IN CONCLUSION...**

### **A Prayer for the Morning by Janet Means Underhill (1929-2014)**

Let me open my eyes to your new day.

May your Light open my heart  
To give thanks for your creation.

Give me the strength and wisdom  
To meet what this day brings.  
Let calm draw me to you  
In the midst of turmoil.

Help me to trust in your Love  
And be still in your Presence.

**To read Janet's 2004 Plummer Lecture go to:**  
<http://iym.quaker.org/plummer/2004.html>