

Community \* Equality \* Harmony \* Integrity \* Simplicity

**OAK PARK FRIENDS**  
**NEWS**  
**March 2013**



*East Branch Forest Preserve, DuPage County, IL*

photo by Bob Southworth

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 – Helen Dickinson  
Recording Clerk – Judy Erickson  
Treasurer – Valerie Lester  
Newsletter Editors – Pamela Timme and Bob Southworth  
(<mailto:ptimme@hotmail.com>)  
Submission deadline – 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month

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## [ANNOUNCEMENTS](#)

People are looking for ways to feel better, have more energy, release old traumas, manage new diagnoses. Healing Touch is a complementary therapy that addresses such issues. It offers the deep relaxation, pain relief, and stress reduction that encourage your body to balance, energize and heal. If you are interested in receiving Healing Touch, contact Cossy Ksander 708-574-7237. My usual fee is \$75, and a sliding scale is available.

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.

Patricia Marton is looking for help with the items listed below. Please contact her at [pmarton61701@yahoo.com](mailto:pmarton61701@yahoo.com).

- a place to stay occasionally on Saturday nights so she can attend the meeting. If she decides to move to the Chicago area, she might be looking for a room to stay in for a longer period of time, but might be going home for weekends. If you have any information for her, please contact her at [pmarton61701@yahoo.com](mailto:pmarton61701@yahoo.com).

- help editing pictures and text in a booklet (c. 56 pages back to back, 8 by 12) in publisher. There have been some formatting problems. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

- someone with sewing skills who could help her put together a wardrobe out of some really attractive material she has, i.e. dress, skirt, vest, blouse primarily, a little at a time.

Paz is available for hire for jobs such as stenciling, signwork, yardwork, tuckpointing, brickwork, stonework, interior and exterior painting, and other odd jobs. Please contact him at 773-844-2977 for more information.

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.*

**Sat, 3/9, ILYM Continuing Committee, 57th St Meeting.**

**Thurs-Sun, 3/14-17, 2013, Meeting of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas.** Check the FWCC website for newly added information on this event which will take place at Waycross Episcopal Camp and Conference Center in Morgantown, Indiana. A draft program is available. Friends from around the world - including members of the FWCC governing body, the Central Executive Committee - will share news from Friends in Europe & the Middle East, Africa, Asia & the West Pacific and Latin America. Representatives from affiliated yearly meetings in Latin America will be present. The FWCC Section Meeting is conducted bilingually in English and Spanish. Saturday's schedule will feature a young adult-led program on the theme "Let the Living Water Flow! Friends Serving God's purposes." Local Friends are invited to register for this opportunity to participate in an FWCC event along with Quakers from around the globe. This event will conclude with a celebration of FWCC's 75th anniversary. All Friends are welcome to attend the Section Meeting and/or the Saturday "Living Water" program. To attend, advance registration, which is open now, is required.

**Thurs, 3/21, Chicago Friends School Dinner/Auction.**

**Fri. 3/29. PADS dinner served by Friends at St. John Lutheran Church, Forest Park**

**Fri-Sun, 4/5-7, Blue River Quarterly Meeting, Camp CILCA.**

**Fri-Sun, 4/26-28, ILYM Women's Weekend.**

**Sat, 5/4, Chicagoland Friends Gathering.**

**Sat-Mon, 5/18-19, ILYM Semi-Annual Work Weekend, McNabb.**

The next ILYM Semi-Annual Work Weekend will be Saturday, May 18 to Sunday, May 19, 2013. Please save the date and join us whether for the weekend or just for a day. Other committees are welcome to propose areas to work on as well. Come enjoy working with Friends as we maintain the ILYM 12 acre campus. We really need everyone's help even if for just a day. Any skill level is welcome. We will be doing pruning, cleaning, and making the campus ready for yearly meeting.

**Wed-Sun, 6/19-23, Illinois Yearly Meeting, McNabb. <http://www.ilym.org/>**

**Sun- Sun, 6/30-7/6, Friends General Conference, 2013 Theme: At the Growing Edges of Our Faith, University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, CO, Registration info here: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>**

## Business Meeting Highlights

Submitted by Judy Erickson

Meeting of 2/10/13

**Children's Religious Education Committee:** Eight tickets were purchased for the Feb 24 performance of Les Miberables at the high school. Additional money for the tickets was transferred from the Library budget, resulting in no net change in the budget.

More volunteers are requested to sign up for First Day School, so we will be ready when children are in attendance.

**Adult Religious Education Committee:** Joan Pine of Evanston Friends Meeting recently met with us to discuss ways to become more welcoming. Ideas included a large sandwich board that could be placed outside to appeal to car traffic, and to get listed with local hotel's church services information sheets.

The March program will be about finances and stewardship.

The meeting remembers Phil Wagreich's many contributions over the years as treasurer, and his involvement with the Finance Committee and PADS dinners.

## Children's Religious Ed Photos



*Photos by Sarah Shirk*

Children's education curriculum in February discussed various meditation techniques from around the world including the silent worship style of Quakers. Pictured above are words to describe a meditative environment. Heidi (standing behind world map) helped build the map during the discussion of cross-cultural meditative methods

## 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:

### 3. Spiritual Nurture, Ministry, and Religious Education

Does our Meeting encourage the ministry of both word and deed? How does our Meeting recognize, develop, and nurture the gifts of our members and attenders of all ages?

Does our Meeting prepare all its members and children for worship and for a way of life consistent with the principles of the Religious Society of Friends? How do we teach about Quaker practices in business and worship and their importance to the functioning of our Meeting community?

In what ways do we support each other in order to seek God's will and act upon our understanding of truth? Is there opportunity in our Meeting to share the excitement of religious discovery and the possibility of religious transformation?

Does our Meeting provide opportunities for all in the Meeting to learn about:

- the Inner Light, the living Christ within, the Bible, the writings of Friends, our Christian heritage, other religious traditions and their respective roles in the history and formation of Friends' principles?

- the common testimonies Friends declare?

- the variety of expression Quaker faith takes today?

Do I maintain as part of my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth, with disciplined worship, inward retirement, and communion with the divine spirit?

Do I frequently read the Bible and other religious literature, including the records of the lives and experiences of Friends? Do I take the time to explore these resources with others, and likewise encourage my children?

Do I share my own faith and spiritual journey, and encourage such sharing within my family?

### In Conclusion

When the power of love overcomes the love of power, the world will know peace. —*Jimi Hendrix*