

The Fayetteville Friends Meeting met in person and on Zoom in 2022. In our worship, Spirit illuminated our silence and we valued the vocal ministry that spoke into the silence. Everything we do in the world comes from our Meeting for Worship. Having First Day School was a joy, and it energized the meeting. The children spent time in the garden, talked about Quaker Testimonies and made bee hotels. We had more attenders than we had the year before.

There is a strong sense of community in the meeting which is fostered through worship sharing, potlucks, outreach to newcomers, work on the Omni garden, Healing Circle, Clearness Committees, two nature field trips with adults and children, and our continued connection to the refugees we've sponsored.

Religious Education was very active, bringing second hours on Quakerism, FCNL concerns, Quaker Indian Boarding Schools, Earthcare Witness, the Doctrine of Discovery—which led to further concerns with Indigenous issues and our Meeting's discernment and approval of a Land Acknowledgement. Our library remains a crucial resource for learning.

Outreach into the wider community was extensive. Members attended Quarterly and Yearly gatherings with Kathleen involved in planning for Yearly; marching in the Pride Parade; attending Quorum Court and City Council to advocate for the homeless and alternatives to jail expansion; wrote Letters to the Editor and postcards urging voting; Maya wrote a regular column for the newspaper about Quakers and Quakerism; Shelley met with Senator Boozman to point out the impact of climate change on the poor; Karen and Richard helped distribute food for the poor at a historic Black church; support of Cooperative Emergency Outreach (CEO); we offered a Peace Scholarship to graduating seniors, donated money to Ukraine and for tornado relief, and had a plant giveaway.

We were lacking in efforts to improve race relations, a lack we hope to rectify in the coming year.

We added no new members but greatly valued attenders.

We were much saddened by the death of Fran Pearson, a lifelong Friend.

The loss of The Carillon, which was so beautifully produced for many years by Tina Coffin—a true act of love—is inestimable. Thank you, Tina.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Coston - co-clerk