

Dear ILYM Friends and Monthly Meeting Clerks,

Please consider the invitation below to be our written report for June 2012 Annual Sessions. Submitted by Breeze Richardson, Peace Resources Committee (clerk).

The Peace Resources Committee (PRC) of Illinois Yearly Meeting would like to visit. Our aim is to attend each Meeting and worship group to worship with Friends, and to hear how we might help as you seek to deepen your peacefulness - as individuals and as a community - among Friends and out in the world. We also hope to collect input regarding the ways in which we can support Friends to have a positive impact in all our communities.

It is our hope that you will contact PRC clerk Breeze Richardson (breeze.richardson@sbcglobal.net) to suggest a date(s) which might be well suited for visitors. While we don't need a formal program to be arranged, we would like to enjoy fellowship with Friends before or after Meeting for Worship, and share with you a bit more about the current programs and initiatives of the PRC.

These include:

PRC is discussing what level of programming we'd like to propose for 2012-2013 as the beginning steps towards a more permanent "Peace House on the Prairie" at the McNabb campus, including the idea of partnering with other Quaker organizations to assist with presenting workshop facilitators and speakers. What might you be interested in attending?

"How Do You See Peace?" is the committee's experimental blog which has enjoyed nearly 10,500 views since its launch. The blog has over 70 posts and over 150 comments added by Friends from throughout the Yearly Meeting and beyond. There are many resources now archived as part of this project. What else might you find meaningful in this space?

The Ecumenical Call for Just Peace issued by the World Council of Churches has been recommended for study by individual Friends and monthly Meetings. PRC would like to remain supportive of this call; how might we aid your Meeting's efforts?

The Peace Testimony Workshop was created in 2006 for use by Monthly Meetings or other groupings of Friends to deepen corporate and individual understandings of Friends' historic Peace Testimony and contemporary expressions of it. This workshop is available free-of-charge to any gathering of ILYM, and is recommended as an all-day workshop (approx. 7 hours including a midday meal) or a weekend event beginning on Friday evening. To schedule a workshop contact the Peace Resource Committee.

Lastly, we are excited to be launching our Quaker Peacemakers Archive Project to compile and preserve an oral history of Friends whose contributions to peace building should be treasured for a long time to come. As people tell their stories in their own words, the recordings will capture and preserve unique and inspired favors that enrich our Yearly Meeting. Starting with inaugural tapings during the 2012 Annual Sessions, we are refining the interview format and evaluating possible archive destinations. To suggest someone in the Yearly Meeting be included, please submit their name to Dawn Rubbert (dawn@aglifpt.org) for further PRC action.