



543 South Mountain Avenue

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[www.ashlandquakers.org](http://www.ashlandquakers.org)

(Near Southern Oregon University)

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**1st HOUR: Discussions & Meetings**

**2nd HOUR: Worship**

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**Meeting for Worship:**

**11 am Sundays**

**Childcare During Worship**

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**First-Hour & Rise of Meeting:**

**7 January**

**9:30 am:** Committee Meetings

**10:30 am:** Circle of Light

**Rise of Meeting:** F&H Committee

**14 January**

**9:30 am:** see p.3 Worship Sharing on Building Community Over Food

**Rise of Meeting:** M&C Committee

**21 January**

**8:30-10:30 am:** Business Meeting

**28 January**

**9:30 am:** Lauren Cutler Will Guide Us in Exploring "Presencing" Practices: Conversation and Listening (see page 4)

**Rise of Meeting:** Potluck Lunch?

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**On Page 3:  
MLK Events, Women's  
Potluck, Quaker 8 Dinner**

# **SOUTH MOUNTAIN FRIENDS MEETING**

## **THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

Unprogrammed Worship in Ashland, Oregon

**First Month 2018**

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## **DRAWDOWN: Working Together on Climate Change**

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

**DRAWDOWN**  
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN EVER PROPOSED TO  
REVERSE GLOBAL WARMING  
EDITED BY PAUL HAWKEN

*Drawdown* is a recent book by Paul Hawken, which has assembled 100 practices for reducing or sequestering carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases. He got over 200 experts to evaluate 80 of these practices in terms of how much gas they will eliminate, as well as how much money they cost to implement, and the net cost/savings over 30 years. The other 20 practices are too new to evaluate, but look promising.



The Pachamama Alliance has launched a **Drawdown Project**, aimed at getting

people out of a state of despair or fear or confusion and into action—working with others, not alone. The local Pachamama chapter will be doing a **presentation on the Project 7-9 pm Wednesday 3 January at the Bellview Grange** on Tolman Creek Road. A 4-session course will take place soon after.

I especially like two things Paul Hawken said in the video (paraphrasing):

- ♦ If you're going the wrong way [emitting greenhouse gases], slowing down means you're still going the wrong way.
- ♦ Everyone's doing the best they can.

I highly recommend the presentation even if you don't take the course (I attended the same presentation on 5 December). **The best possible outcome would be a group from the Meeting supporting each other as we address climate change topics that speak to us.**

Nearly all the solutions are "no regrets" solutions, meaning, they have so many advantages they are commendable irrespective of their impact on greenhouse gases. These co-benefits include saving money, creating jobs, enhancing security, advancing human health, eliminating hunger, preventing pollution, and restoring the environment. --Ken Deveney

# At the 2017 Border *Encuentro*

It was a privilege to attend the *Encuentro* in Nogales, Arizona/Mexico over Veterans Day weekend. About a thousand folks participated in a march led by Veterans for Peace which was met with applause and thanks from many onlookers on both sides of the border. Participants included, along with a contingent of indigenous people, many people of color, speakers of Spanish, anglos, people of all ages, even a few dogs. And 8-10 Quakers from around the U.S. All activities were multi-cultural, respectful, bilingual, and held on both sides of the border.

During the weekend we attended excellent workshops on immigration rights, racism, militarism, solidarity, repression, etc. A vigil was held outside the Eloy Detention Center, considered the most violent of the U.S. detention camps, all of which are run privately for profit. We were moved by a reading of the names--as well as of the many "unidentified males/females" ("desconocid@s"), who have died in attempts to cross the border and the Sonoran Desert in the past 12 months. This past year 147 people died as a direct result of U.S. militarization and border policies; only 25 have been identified and bodies returned to their families, so their families continue to search and wonder and pray. As each name was read, the crowd chanted "*Presente!*" with a hand in the air. We also sang:

*Canto libre y por la paz; en mi nombre ni un@ mas.* I sing freely and for peace; in my name, not one more [death].

The event was beautifully organized by School of the Americas Watch, and dozens of activist organizations were represented in forums, music, conversations, and with information tables. To quote SOAWatch director Roy Bourgeois:

"This current moment requires us as a movement to fully embrace our active call to solidarity and transformation--a struggle led by people of color, the LGBTQ community, migrants, refugees and indigenous communities that make up *Abya Yala* [our hemisphere]. This second Border *Encuentro* is an effort borne out of our collective memory and resistance to combat and eradicate the imperialist systems that oppress us all.

Today, we say enough!"

We found strength from one another and from each other's stories, and we were renewed in our commitment to work in solidarity with one another for justice, human rights, and peace.

--Jean Semrau



Assorted Quakers holding the FCNL banner by the wall on the Mexican side of the Nogales border  
(photo by Jean Semrau)

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## Sister Mary Pat's Thank-You Note to South Mountaineers

16 November 2017

*These golden years cannot be lived again, but we take them with us to whatever lies ahead. --D. Berrigan*

Dear Friends,

What an overwhelming gift—giving time. The gift of this old house, Suncrest, and its surrounds, a place where earth and heaven meet, has blessed us all. The gift of being invited into your circle at the end of your retreat and the profound & honest sharing connected me to you all and to the Divine. The gift of your written and spoken words give me courage in this "waiting on God" time. The very generous donation will help open the door to a new place and make it "more attractive to the rest of the universe."

May you be blessed abundantly for your thoughtfulness, your ministry, and your loving peace-filled lives.

Gratefully, Mary Pat Naumes

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## Queries on Mutual Care

*Are we charitable with each other? How careful are we of the reputation of others? Do we avoid hurtful criticism and gossip?*

*Do we practice the art of listening to one another, even beyond words?*

*How well are we able to love each other unconditionally?*

*Are we sensitive to each other's personal needs and difficulties and do we assist in useful ways?*

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# Martin Luther King Celebrations: Monday 15 January

## DAYTIME COMMUNITY EVENT: The Fierce Urgency of Now/Tomorrow is Today

The **noon** celebration at the Historic Ashland Armory is inspired by the MLK quote, "We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late...There is an invisible book of life that faithfully records our vigilance or our neglect."

Friends are encouraged to experience this 30th annual family-friendly public display of community, talent, and inspiration. **Doors open at 11:30 am. Seating is always insufficient** and available on a first-come basis. For overflow attendees, a simulcast live stream will be presented at the Varsity Theatre.

This event is **free**; people are encouraged to bring a **non-perishable food item for Access**. Please bring a reusable water bottle to limit disposable cup usage and trash.

After the celebration, the AHS and SOU Black Student Unions will lead participants in a march to the Plaza to listen to a recording of Dr. King's "**I Have a Dream**" speech beginning at 1:30 pm..

## EVENING FAITH-BASED EVENT: The People's Supper/Healing in the Now

The Ashland **Interfaith Clergy Circle** members and friends will host a **potluck conversation** around healing, resilience, and nourishment in this fiercely urgent "now." Guests are invited to bring bread, cheese, or spreads for bread to add to the soup supper meal. The "People's Supper" will take place from **6 to 8 pm** at **Trinity Episcopal Church's** social hall, Second Street, Ashland.

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## What Happened to Potluck?

A request to Friendship & Hospitality for help setting up the potluck tables was taken to business meeting when it was realized that none of our committee attends the SMFM potluck. The request quickly morphed into a discussion of why attendance at the potluck has dramatically decreased and what should be done about it.

Reasons for why the attendance has dropped to near zero were many: a) the Meeting is more engaged in social issues and so time constraints have increased; b) 1<sup>st</sup> hour, followed by meeting, and then the potluck makes for a very long day, too long; c) Despite the labeling procedure, there exists the concern that food sensitivities are not heeded; d) our membership has changed with fewer "grandmothers" making large pots of stuff; e) and lastly, those same members seem to prefer to be outside and go hiking, for example, on warm afternoons.

There'll be a **Spiritual Listening 9:30 am on 14 January on Building Community over Food**. Bring your ideas to this event. If you cannot attend, please share your ideas with a member of Friendship/Hospitality committee: Scott, Crystal, Steve, Sylvie.

In summary, there was much lamenting the loss of the potluck, but since attendance is so minimal, change appears to be necessary. Some of the ideas raised at business meeting: more Quaker 8 Dinners or "fewer-than-eight" dinners or lunches, a quarterly potluck, a brown-bag lunch together, a catered meal.

--Scott Plummer

## Friends Scott & Patricia to Host Quaker 8 Dinner

This will be a "Etymology and 'Eat'-ymology" party. The topic of discussion, at least to start, will be the weird phrases we say and how did they ever come into being? Please bring a few fun phrases and their etymology (i.e. history of their use) to the party. Examples: Go to the John, loud enough to wake the dead, graveyard shift, bought the farm.

We, Scott & Patricia of Morriplum Farm Sanctuary, will make food for this event, so please let us know of any food allergies. We are quite accomplished at cooking dairy-, gluten-, meat-, and onion-free faire.

**DATE: Monday Evening 8 January**

**TIME:** Appetizers at 5:30 pm; dinner at 6 pm

*please, RSVP:* morriplumfarmsanctuary@gmail.com  
or 303-523-1811

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## Women's Potluck

**1-3 pm Saturday 13 January**

**Hosted by Cathy McDaniel**

**4787 Dark Hollow Road, Medford**

**Call for Directions: 541-770-3318**

**All Women Welcome**

# ADULT EDUCATION WINNOWING SESSION: A WONDERFUL GATHERING OF CREATIVE THOUGHTS!

On Sunday 22 October 2017, a collection of Friends gathered to consider in what direction they would like Adult Education Program to move in the upcoming year. As was expected, there was a broad range of ideas and some overlap—and at the end a heartfelt enthusiasm about the possibilities put forth. For instance, some leaned toward holding traditional educational sessions to cover the basics, such as Quaker History or revitalizing Quakerism 101; while others wanted to explore how to incorporate “outside issues” into Quaker Practices (especially attending to their relevance for current issues in today’s political and social climate). For example, it was suggested that we explore the needs of Migrant Workers in the Valley or delve into the economic implications of White Privilege or hold a session on “How Do We Listen to the News (or do we)?” Such a discussion would enable folks to share how they sift through the various presentations to discern “truth” for themselves, which may or may not lead to a calling/leading for Right Action (i.e., Our Action).

Still others were drawn to the opportunity to become better acquainted with each other (Attendees and Members) on a deeper level—proposing that Adult Education sessions provide a venue for individuals to share their particular calling/leading. Some ideas included: Let Your Life/Art Speak and individuals sharing their particular interest (educating us) and how it integrates into Quaker Practice. Adult Education could also be used to educate our Meeting about the needs within our own community, with the option “to do” activities for Outreach that would create a sense of community/bonding (such as when we gathered to make toiletry kits for youth at the Maslow Project). Outreach could also include visiting other Spiritual Communities (i.e., going on ‘field trips’ to the Tibetan Temple or to visit Native American gatherings) or engaging in Compassionate Listening or Veterans Outreach/Affairs.

Concern was expressed about how to meet the need of New Members or Attendees—since a classroom style isn’t necessarily welcoming, it was proposed that we hold quarterly dinners for New Members or Attendees for the purpose of informally sharing our own journeys and answer any question they may have about Quaker beliefs/practices (a new twist on Friendly Eights!). This would further build a sense of community and provide an opportunity for Friend/friendships to form. Another suggested we build on the work of Convergent Friends and begin to explore our Evangelical Quaker neighbors--Klamath Friends, Talent Friends, and Medford Friends Churches—to open dialogue and visitation to expand our Friendly Community.

Finally, there was great interest in inviting Friends (Members and Attendees) to speak up if there was a topic or project they would like to take on. Some expressed a desire to resurrect “Experiments in Light” (some evening during the week), another suggested a book study on *Beyond Religion: World Ethics to Live By*, and yet others stated loose commitments to explore outreach to Migrant Workers and Veterans. We ended the Winnowing Session with the intention to extend **an invitation to EVERYONE at South Mountain Friends Meeting to sponsor, organize, or lead an Adult Education session.**

So, without further ado, if you are interested in one of the areas listed above or in a topic you want to learn more about yourself (and perhaps share your learning?), please **feel free to contact Becky Hale or Gabrielle Leslie**. Of course, even if you don’t want to lead a session, we would be open to receive any suggestions that you feel would be of interest/value to our Meeting. The sky is the limit! --Gabrielle Leslie

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## Exploring “Presencing” Practices: Listening & Conversation 9:30 am Sunday 28 January

During Adult Education hour, Lauren Cutler will share an overview of Presencing Practices from her work with U.Lab at MIT edX. She will present the concepts of the 4 levels of listening and conversation and facilitate a discussion on how this can support us individually and collectively in stepping towards the best future possibility.

Lauren Cutler felt called to use Theory U Holistic organizational development practices to design the business and programs at FolkSoul Farm co-operative. She will speak to the practical application of Presencing Practices as a means to support individual leadings/callings—inviting those who attend to explore these possibilities in their own work.

--Gabrielle Leslie

# Meeting For Worship For Business: 17 December 17

Present: Anna Monders, Ken Deveney, Crystal Bosbach, Melody Ashworth, Scott Plummer, Bill Ashworth, Patricia Morrison, Alex Reid, Javan Reid, Sylvie Weaver, Bob Morse, Lauren Cutler

Adult Education: see page 4

First hour: Should we switch potluck to a different Sunday of the month? Second Sunday and First Sunday were both suggested. We were reminded that Second Sunday often deals with business issues which need to be discussed before Meeting for Business on Third Sunday. Some Friends expressed concern that aging bodies made it difficult to sit through first hour, worship, and potluck and they end up choosing between first hour or potluck.

Finance: Melody Ashworth reported that the NPYM is switching to "abundance financing" for Annual Session: Friends will be asked to pay as able, rather than paying a fixed fee. The Yearly Meeting has asked every Monthly Meeting to decide how they can financially help support this. Finance has added a line item to our budget for financial support to Annual Session. The committee also reported that, due to off-budget items showing up consistently on our monthly treasurer's reports, the format for these reports will be changing.

Updated job descriptions: All committees have now submitted updated job descriptions. These will eventually be placed on our website; until then, please call members of Nominating Committee to help decide what committee an item of business belongs to. If gaps are found that aren't being handled by any committees, these should be brought to Meeting for Business. We were reminded that concerns should not usually be brought to the Meeting if the person holding the concern is not willing to be part of addressing that concern.

Martin Luther King Day: see page 3

Peace and Social Concerns: Ken Deveney reported that the UN General Assembly has passed a resolution regarding the treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Multnomah Meeting has approved a minute on this: It was written for the internal use of their Meeting but has been passed on to other Meetings as well. Peace and Social Concerns is in the process of writing a minute for us that will be addressed to the community instead of internally: it will be brought to us at a later business meeting. Ken also reported on the *Drawdown Project* (see page 1).

Friendship and Hospitality: Scott Plummer reported that potluck is within the Friendship & Hospitality Committee's purview, but that members of the committee rarely come to potlucks. Do we want to continue having potlucks? Is there a Friend who can pick up taking care of potluck as an assigned duty? Is there a different way to build community over food? Brown bag lunches were suggested. Topics for discussion at potluck were suggested. Friends were reminded that food sensitivities are a large issue for potluck attendees. Soup suppers were suggested. It was reported that Boise Valley Meeting has "snack time" instead of potluck: they also share some dinners together. Quarterly instead of monthly potlucks were suggested. Inviting Friends to our homes for one-on-one or two-on-two dinners with conversation might be possible, especially with Friends with whom we don't interact regularly. Talking about hospitality in general instead of potluck might be useful; there might be different ways to get together. Newcomer potlucks were suggested. A Friend pointed out that we need to be careful that newcomer events aren't only attended by newcomers. It was proposed that we lay potluck

down temporarily and ask Friends to report to Friendship & Hospitality Committee what they miss and what they don't miss. Potluck isn't working for the original reason that we do potluck. We need to find ways to meet that reason, which is community building among Friends. Potluck is a hospitality thing, but it is not currently helping carry out hospitality. Very few people are currently attending; potlucks have already been laid down in practice. Potlucks are not broken, but they are transitioning to something new.

## **It was decided to lay down potluck for Christmas Eve.**

Friends will be invited to bring finger food for sharing fellowship following Meeting that day. Hospitality over food will be the subject of the January Spiritual Listening (see page 3).

Ministry and Counsel: Crystal Bosbach reported that the committee is continuing to try to find the best way to encourage people to share their pronouns at the rise of Meeting. Members of the committee will be visiting the SOU Queer Resource Center to get that organization's views on this topic. The Queer Quaker gathering for this year will be in February, in Texas: Ministry and Counsel will provide financial help for an individual who might be led to go to this. The Grants Pass Worship Group is still struggling. Its recent movie and discussion on white privilege drew a few non-attenders, but none of these began attending. Marybeth Webster is laying down her leadership of this group. The group will be on sabbatical through December and will then meet to discuss its future. Colombe Leinau is the convener *pro tem*. The Clerk asked that the Grants Pass worship group be held in the Light. Meeting closed with worship. Respectfully submitted, Patricia Morrison, Clerk Bill Ashworth, Recording Clerk





## NPYM's Outreach and Visitation Committee is sending Joe Snyder

of Multnomah Monthly Meeting, Portland, OR, to travel among Friends in the northwest corner of Washington during March, April, May 2018. Joe has extensive experience as an Isolated Friend (many years as a rural veterinarian in Myrtle Point, SW Oregon), world traveler through FWCC, many years' work with NPYM children & youth, including Junior Friends trips to Guatemala and work to support the Guatemala Friends Scholarship Program "Progresá," and so much more. Joe will bring support and caring, encouragement and listening to Friends Meetings, Worship Groups, and Isolated Friends. Let us know of your interest. Outreach & Visitation (O&V) will contact you to set up an itinerary.

NPYM's Outreach & Visitation Committee seeks individuals (of any age !) interested in traveling with Joe Snyder as an "accompanying elder" to assist and support him physically and spiritually.

Visit <https://npym.org/?q=content/outreach-and-visitation-committee> to read more about the role of a "travelling elder." **To apply to be asked to travel with Joe, to travel later in the role of "elder," or to apply to be considered as a future outreach visitor, use the application form below.** Or, ask to join the Outreach & Visitation Committee of your Yearly Meeting.

## KNITTING US TOGETHER (KUT)

### Outreach and Visitation Committee, NPYM

- \_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to be considered for March, April, May 2018 travel with Joe Snyder. **Deadline: 20 Jan 2018**  
\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to be considered to be an "accompanying elder" at a later time.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I am applying to be considered for a later KUT visitor opportunity.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I'd really like to work with the Outreach & Visitation Committee!

Names, address, contact email and phone number:

Your Meeting or Worship Group affiliation and/or Quaker background:

What inspires you to apply at this time? What qualifications do you bring?

If you'd like to travel with Joe or be considered as a future "accompanying elder," have you gone to the npym.org home page to Quick Links to O&V and read "On Why We Need Traveling Elders"? What is your available time frame?

If you are applying to be considered for a future opportunity as a KUT visitor, what gifts do you offer? What would you like to share with broadly diverse Northwest Quakers?

If you are interested in joining with O&V to share these visitation opportunities and do outreach, we'd love to welcome you! Read more at npym.org. Find the O&V job description.

Do you have questions? Is there more you would like to tell us about yourself?

Questions may be addressed or applications may be sent to  
£Lee Hadley, clerk, Outreach and Visitation Committee,  
[leehadley@mulbenyorchard.com](mailto:leehadley@mulbenyorchard.com)

892 Mulberry Lane, Roseburg, OR 97471  
541-530-395

# SMFM CALENDAR

## January 2018

Sun                      Mon           Tue           Wed                      Thu                      Fr                      Sat

	1	2	3 7-9 pm Drawdown Project at Bellview Grange, Ashland	4 2-4 pm Free Writing Friends  5-7 pm Grants Pass Worship Group**** (silent worship 5:30-6:30)	5	6
7 9:30 am Committee Meetings  10:30 am Circle of Light  12:30 pm F&H Committee	8 5:30 pm Scott & Patricia's Quaker 8 Dinner at their Morriplum Farm Sanctuary <i>please, RSVP</i>	9 7-9 pm Ashland Song Circle	10	11 2-4 pm Free Writing Friends	12	13 1-3 pm Women's Potluck at Cathy's  1-4 pm Laundry Love Henry's Laundromat
14 9:30 am Worship Sharing on Building Community Over Food  12:30 pm M&C Committee	15 MLK Events: 11:30 am Armory 6 pm Trinity (faith -based eat/talk)	16	17	18 2-4 pm Free Writing Friends	19	20
21 8:30-10:30 am Meeting for Business	22	23	24 SMFM Newsletter Deadline	25 2-4 pm Free Writing Friends	26	27
28 9:30 am: Presencing Practices (Listening & Conversation) with Lauren Cutler  12:30 pm Pot Luck?	29	30	31			

\*\*\*\* "After the Clearness Committee provided for us by South Mountain Friends Meeting held on 6 December 2017, it would seem that we are agreed to put the worship group on sabbatical for the rest of December, then meet to decide our future way in early January. I am notifying the Zen Center today that we will not need the room and will get back to them next month. There are several time slots available on many days. My personal decision as of now is to take my own sabbatical with no set time of review. For now, Colombe is convener *pro tem*."

--Marybeth Webster, Co-founder of the Grants Pass Worship Group

# MEETING OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

**Clerk:** Patricia Morrison 520-390-0674

**Assistant Clerk:** Anna Monders 231-1475

**Corresponding Clerk:** Adam Thompson 215-350-1780, assisted by Alex Reid, Pam Johnson, Sylvie Weaver, Mary Ellen Gordian

**Recording Clerk:** Bill Ashworth 778-9470

**Treasurer:** Herb Rothschild 531-2848

**Newsletter Editor:** Bob Morse 482-8449, assisted by Pam Johnson and Sylvie Weaver

**Web Administrator:** Scott Plummer 303-523-1811

**Grants Pass Worship Group:** Marybeth Webster (convener) 707-0946; **Liaison:** Linda Spencer

**NPYM Coordinating Committee Contact:** Jean Semrau 488-6855, assisted by Sylvie Weaver

**Children's Education & Spirituality:** Ken Deveney (convener) 488-5506, Melody Ashworth, Cathy McDaniel

**Warming Shelter Committee:** Alex Reid (clerk), Liz Olson, Becky Hale, Bob Morse, Steve Wells

*All area codes are 541 unless otherwise noted*

**Newsletter submissions are due to Bob Morse (morse@mind.net) Wed. after Business Meeting**

**Finance Committee:** Melody Ashworth (clerk), Adam Thompson, Treasurer *ex officio*

**Joint Committee Representatives:** Herb Rothschild, Steve Wells

**Buildings & Grounds:** Lanita Witt (clerk), Merlin McDaniel, Raymond Scully, Steve Wells, Glenn Allister

**Nominating Committee:** Adam Thompson & Jean Semrau (co-clerks)

**Friendship & Hospitality Committee:** Scott Plummer (clerk), Steve Radcliffe, Crystal Bosbach, Sylvie Weaver, Brent Howell

**Peace & Social Concerns Committee:** Herb Rothschild (clerk), Ken Deveney, Javan Reid, Liz Olson, Pam Allister

**Library Elves:** Anna Monders assisted by Colombe Leinau, Steve Wells, and Bob Morse

**Adult Education Committee:** Gabrielle Leslie (clerk), Becky Hale, Colleen Graham

**Outreach Committee:** Ken Deveney (clerk), Steve Radcliffe

**Ministry & Counsel Committee:** Crystal Bosbach 930-4222 (clerk), Ken Deveney 488-5506, Melody Ashworth 324-9824, Rochelle Webster 201-8255, Brent Howell 841-8841, Assistant Clerk *ex officio*

South Mountain Friends Meeting

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