

**Crossroads Friends  
Worship Group  
(Conservative)  
Christian Friends Conference  
Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative)  
*under the care of Stillwater Monthly Meeting***



*Crossroads Friends and the Clearness Committee  
on Monthly Meeting status, 06-14-2009.*

**Volume Eleven, Number Seven  
Seventh Month (July) 2009**

# Schedule of Meetings for Worship

We shall gather for unprogrammed, waiting worship in the Name of Jesus Christ and in the manner of Friends on the dates and at the times and places specified. Visitors and new attenders are always welcome. For those not familiar with unprogrammed worship, a small brochure is available (either at the meeting or on our website [www.michiganquakers.org](http://www.michiganquakers.org)), offering general guidance and tips on “meeting etiquette.” Additional materials on the Religious Society of Friends are also available at rise of meeting (and on the website). Before rise of meeting, the designated meeting closer reads aloud an Advice. This is followed by framing silence before the handshake of fellowship which marks rise of meeting.

*Please note that we are implementing a schedule change effective with Seventh Month, to provide for one hour of Bible Study each week.*

## Seventh Month

### First Day, Seventh Month 05

[Sunday, July 05, 2009]

Bible Study 10:00 AM

Meeting for Worship 11:00 AM

Children’s First Day School 11:15 AM

Crossroads Friends Meeting house, 4108 Menton, Flint MI

**Advice 02:** Be faithful in maintaining your testimony against all war as inconsistent with the Spirit and teaching of Christ. Live in the Life and Power that takes away the occasions of all wars and strife. Seek to take your part in the ministry of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations. Let the law of kindness know no limits. Show a loving consideration for all people.

### First Day, Seventh Month 12

[Sunday, July 12, 2009]

Meeting for Worship 9:00 AM

Coldwater Road Chapel, Crossroads Village

*Please note change of schedule for this week only!*

**Advice 03:** Regard the taking of oaths as contrary to the teachings of Christ, and setting up a double standard of truthfulness; whereas sincerity and truth should be practiced in all walks of life.

### **First Day, Seventh Month 19**

[Sunday, July 19, 2009]

**Bible Study 10:00 AM**

**Meeting for Worship 11:00 AM**

**Children's First Day School 11:15 AM**

**Crossroads Friends Meeting house, 4108 Menton, Flint MI**

**Advice 04:** In your meetings for worship be earnestly concerned to enter reverently into communion with God. Come with minds and hearts prepared. Yield yourselves up to the influence of the Divine Presence so that you may find the evil in you weakening and the good raised up. God calls each one to the service of the meeting. Be obedient and faithful, whether by word or silent prayerful waiting; and be ready to receive the message of others in a tender spirit.

*Stillwater Quarterly Meeting will take place on 07-25-2009, at 2:00 PM, at Rockingham Monthly Meeting in Harrisonburg VA.*

### **First Day, Seventh Month 26**

[Sunday, July 26, 2009]

**Meeting for Worship 10:30 AM**

*This meeting will be held in unity with Rockingham Monthly Meeting, Harrisonburg VA.*

## **Eighth Month**

### **First Day, Eighth Month 02**

[Sunday, August 02, 2009]

**Meeting for Worship 10:30 AM**

*This meeting will be held in unity with Stillwater Monthly Meeting, Barnesville OH, in preparation for Ohio Yearly Meeting.*

### **First Day, Eighth Month 09**

[Sunday, August 09, 2009]

**Meeting for Worship 10:30 AM**

*This meeting will be held in unity with Stillwater Monthly Meeting, Barnesville OH, at the close of Ohio Yearly Meeting.*

## **First Day, Eighth Month 16**

[Sunday, August 16, 2009]

**Bible Study 10:00 AM**

**Meeting for Worship 11:00 AM**

**Children's First Day School 11:15 AM**

**Crossroads Friends Meeting house, 4108 Menton, Flint MI**

**Advice 05:** Be on your guard, dear Friends, lest the love of pleasure take too strong a hold upon you. Choose such recreations as are pure and healthful. Let them be in harmony with your service to God and man; and in that service be ready at any time to lay them aside when called upon.

## **First Day, Eighth Month 23**

[Sunday, August 23, 2009]

**Bible Study 10:00 AM**

**Meeting for Worship 11:00 AM**

**Children's First Day School 11:15 AM**

**Crossroads Friends Meeting house, 4108 Menton, Flint MI**

**Advice 06:** Endeavor to make your home an abiding place of joy and peace where the Presence of God is known and felt. Seek to know an inward retirement, even amid the activities of daily life. Make a quiet place in your daily life, wherein you may learn the full meaning of prayer, and the gladness of communion with your Heavenly Father.

**First Query:** Are meetings for worship well and punctually attended? Is our behavior therein conducive to meditation and communion with God? Do we maintain a waiting spiritual worship and a free gospel ministry? Do we welcome others to share this fellowship with us?

## **First Day, Eighth Month 30**

[Sunday, August 30, 2009]

**Bible Study 10:00 AM**

**Meeting for Worship 11:00 AM**

**Children's First Day School 11:15 AM**

**Crossroads Friends Meeting house, 4108 Menton, Flint MI**

**Advice 07:** Avoid and discourage any kind of betting or gambling, as well as commercial speculation of a gambling character. Remember how widespread are the temptations to grow rich at the expense of others, and how apparently harmless indulgence leads often by degrees to ruin and crime.

## **Crossroads Friends Worship Group (Conservative)**

**Christian Friends Conference - Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative)  
Conservative - Christian - Unprogrammed Worship**

**Unprogrammed, waiting worship in the Name of Jesus Christ  
and in the manner of Friends, First Days at 10:30 AM**

**For variations in this schedule,  
or for additional information contact:**

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www.michiganquakers.org**

**Crossroads Friends Worship Group is under the care of Stillwater  
Monthly Meeting of Ohio Yearly Meeting (Conservative).  
www.ohioyearlymeeting.org**

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## **Response to Ninth Query**

**Ninth Query:** Are we sensitive to the problems of family living? Do we offer counseling to couples both before and after marriage? How are we helping individuals, married couples and family units to strengthen and enrich their lives?

**Ohio Yearly Meeting Response (2008):** Friends take family living seriously. The times of family trials and brokenness, joys and healings each of us has experienced have helped Friends empathize with family problems faced by others. We are concerned for our children and grandchildren and how they are living their lives. Our families today are being challenged by choices in rearing children, illness of members, and living with and/or caring for elderly parents. We listen prayerfully and carefully to discern the problem and suggest solutions when needs are made known or become apparent to us, whether the challenge is physical, spiritual, or financial. Both Quarterly Meetings admitted a reticence to make our needs known, even though we have experienced the strengthening that often results from seeking assistance. Friends have also regretted not being as sensitive to the trials of fellow members as they feel He expects of us, even when the Lord prompts us to action.

Some counseling of married couples took place during the past year. It has been conducted through notes of encouragement and

sharing reading materials. Clearness committees, Ministry and Oversight members, and prayer groups have offered support and guidance to members in need. Friends in one Quarter felt a need to state that clearness committees should not pass by tough questions due to discomfort.

As always, Friends pray for our families and members. Other ways of strengthening and enriching the lives of others include small fellowship groups, meeting or visiting in homes, providing assistance to travelling families, and communication with distant members. Greeting others with a positive attitude and showing a desire to know how they are doing was recommended as one means of showing our love for others. The Lord strengthens us and is patient in guiding us, and we remind each other to reach the place where all can hear and follow His perfect help and reflect His love for us. "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." [Philippians 4:13]

**Stillwater Quarterly Meeting Response (2008):** We take family living seriously. We empathize with family problems on a daily basis for we all have experienced family trials and brokenness, joys and healings. Some of the forces reported around us that undermine or challenge our positive family relationships are the responsibilities of rearing children, illness of members, and living with and/or caring for elderly parents. We seek to listen prayerfully and carefully to discern the problem and suggest solutions when needs are made known or become apparent to us. The solutions may be physical, spiritual, or financial. Meeting in one another's homes for fellowship and worship helps us to communicate, to integrate and to establish a secure sense that our meetings cherish our members and families. Small group discussions and fellowship meals also strengthen our ties. We continue to struggle with our willingness to ask for help from those who love and support us, and with the realization that sharing our shortcomings can be strengthening for our communities.

Helping members at a distance is more difficult, but one meeting reports assisting a family to travel to a Friends gathering, hoping their spiritual lives would be strengthened. Also, communications through e-mails is a growing way to listen to, pray for, and support member and non-member families and individuals as they work through difficult situations.

Counseling to couples both before and after marriage was reported by one meeting to be done through a note of encouragement to a couple to offer insight into the ways of the Quaker marriage. Another meeting reported informing couples that reading materials were

available. Clearness committees, Ministry and Oversight members, and prayer groups offer support and guidance to members in need. Tough questions are often not asked that should be asked by clearness committees due to the discomfort felt by individuals. We know the Lord is patient in guiding us, extending His grace and mercy to all. We seek to bring ourselves and others to the place where all can hear and follow His perfect help as we live our lives seeking to reflect His love for us. We are reminded by the scripture, “. . . Apart from me you can do nothing,” [John 15:5] and “I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” [Philippians 4:13]

**Crossroads Friends Worship Group Response (2009):** We try to be sensitive to the problems of family living. We now have two young families in our group, but several of our regular attenders are at a stage in life wherein we have adult children and grandchildren of varying ages, from infants to teenagers. The problems of family living in our homes range from child-rearing and home schooling to issues of health and the necessity of balancing employment with family life and spiritual life. We strive to offer good counsel to parents of young children and to our adult children, when opportunity and need coincide, and to be supportive to them in dealing with the problems of their family lives. We have begun a First Day School to support the Christian education of the young children.

As a worship group, we do not take marriages under the care of the group. We thus do not offer formal counseling before marriage, but do counsel informally with friends, coworkers, and adult children with regard to marriage and the problems of family living.

Our attempts to help individuals, married couples and family units strengthen and enrich their lives have been limited largely to our Bible study in preparation and to meeting for worship, though in our fellowship times we often discuss books, films, and matters in the news in spiritual perspective.

Our adult (and young adult) children and grandchildren have sometimes made choices in their lives which we might prefer had been otherwise, and most are not active as Friends. We support them in their own spiritual journeys (even when these depart from Friends’ practices, and involve sacraments such as baptism) and hold them in prayer, sharing our beliefs and practices as way opens, and often giving as gifts Bibles and Christian Friends’ writings which we have found deeply meaningful.

## Seventh Month 2009

<i>First Day</i>	<i>Second Day</i>	<i>Third Day</i>	<i>Fourth Day</i>	<i>Fifth Day</i>	<i>Sixth Day</i>	<i>Seventh Day</i>
<b>06/28</b> Flint	06/29	06/30	1	2	3	4
<b>5</b> Flint	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>12</b> Crossroads	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>19</b> Flint	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>26</b> Rockingham	27	28	29	30	31	08/01