

**Topeka Friends Meeting
State of the Society Report
2023 – 2024**

When the past is forgotten, then it can return. Only those who remember have the chance to stave it off. For the dark is never truly gone; it only waits for the world to forget, so that it may rise again.
Dark Rise by C.S. Pascat

Topeka Friends Meeting misses Howard Chong. Howard decided to seek his fortune in Thailand. The meeting hopes he is able to find a community and make a home for himself in Thailand.

James Coffman remains incarcerated but he has been moved from Lansing State Penitentiary to a less stressful prison for older prisoners in Winfield. James is waiting for the judge to rule on whether his appeal can proceed. If the judge rules in James' favor then he will need to find a new attorney since his previous attorney has retired. James has also been stressed by a source of his money being cutoff which he is unable to restore while he remains in prison.

Lori Keegan remains involved with the FCNL advocacy teams and Quakers in Business.

Lisa Sims continues to work to spread the continuing revelation of Jesus' message wherever she goes. She has attended several prayer retreats and has found them to be restorative.

The meeting is close to concluding the discussion series about the book Living the Quaker Way by Philip Gulley. No decision has been made about future discussions.

We have been blessed by two new attenders, Gladys and Abby. We are energized by the youthful presence they bring to worship.

The meeting is a little more stable financially. We received an anonymous donation of \$2,000 and a generous gift from Great Plains Yearly Meeting of \$1,000. We are appreciative of the generosity of both donors. We are still seeking more stable funding that will ensure the survival of the meeting in the long term.

We continue to share the meetinghouse with the local Baha'i community, who help provide financial support.

Margaret and Bob Knecht have been spending increasing amounts of time at their home in Arizona.

Several members of the meeting have had writings published this year.

The meeting approved a land acknowledgment (copy attached).

On behalf of Topeka Friends Meeting,

David Ozaki
Presiding Clerk