



Western Work

12.06

News of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church

Superintendent Bible Study, James 3:13-18

James tells us that wisdom and understanding are not just an accumulation of knowledge. Wisdom is the expression of the attitude of our heart in daily behavior. A bitter and selfish heart will be revealed in how we treat others. This kind of wisdom which is rooted in bitterness and selfishness is earthly, natural, and demonic; it leads to disorder and every evil thing (James 3:15-16). In contrast to this earthly, natural wisdom is the “wisdom from above.” The heart which is rooted in wisdom from above will show itself in behavior which is pure, peaceable, gentle, reasonable, merciful, faithful and true (James 3:17). It is this priceless wisdom from above which we are to teach to our children and daily demonstrate in our families.

Christmas is a wonderful occasion to openly demonstrate the attitude of a loving heart. Here are a few thoughts on gifts of love for this season: (1) loving words of praise or appreciation, (2) simple, small gestures of unexpected kindness, (3) our gentle presence in the midst of someone else’s storm, (4) willingness to follow-through on faithfulness to a commitment we have made, or (5) demonstration of forgiveness and restoration of a relationship. These gifts of a loving heart are the most important gifts of Christmas.

Western Yearly Meeting Queries #4 – Home and Family – Do you practice the daily reading of the Scriptures in your families, giving time for reverent meditation? Do you make your home a place of hospitality, friendliness, peace, and Christian fellowship? Do you promote the moral and spiritual life of your children through careful supervision of their education, recreation, and friendships?

WYM Meeting Activities

(gathered by Board of Meeting Development and Nurture at the 11/06 Administrative Council)

A number of meetings shared what they are doing in their communities:

- *Bloomington* hosts the Third Thursday Lunch every month. (see Darlene for the restaurant location)
- *Irvington* takes up canned goods every Sunday for the Irvington Community Food Pantry.
- *Lick Creek* has a carry-in dinner following worship on the last Sunday of each month and a Bible study each Wednesday evening
- *New London* will start to make noodles every Monday night, December-January. You are invited to come and learn. *New London* and *West Middleton* gather for a congregational dining out in December.
- *New Salem* was featured by the Greentown Historical Museum as the oldest church in eastern Howard County, being established in 1848. They displayed pictures and meeting minutes. The minutes explained how the building was squared by the northern star.
- *Vermilion Grove* will celebrate their Peanut Day in March---they give out peanuts! In the 1800’s Vermilion Grove had a general store where travelers on Route 1 would stop to buy tobacco. Since the store was run by Quakers, travelers were given peanuts instead. Abraham Lincoln is believed to have stopped at this store while riding on his circuit from Paris, Illinois to Danville, Illinois.
- *West Newton* is building a Christmas tree out of canned goods which will be donated to a township mission.
- *WYM Quaker Men* have adopted two families from the Northern Area for Thanksgiving. One family has been adopted year around to help with various issues.

7th Friends Ministers’ Conference

The following individuals represented Western Yearly Meeting at the 7th Friends Ministers’ Conference, 11/17/06-11/20/06, in San Antonio, Texas: Louis Barrett (New Salem), Bill Clendineng (Plainfield), Lou & Shelly Herchenroeder (Westfield), Darlene Newby (Bloomington), Steve & Marlene Pedigo (WYM Superintendents), Mike & Judy Thornburg (Danville), Paul & Ramona Trover (Newport), Jerry & Kathy Vincent (Georgetown), CG White (Sandcreek-Azalia) and Sue & Allen Whitesel (Mooresville). This year’s conference was a wonderful time of fellowship and inspiring worship. This event was supported by the Western Yearly Meeting Board of Christian Ministries & Evangelism which approved the gift of \$250.00 to those pastors submitting requests

Together Encouraging All Meetings (TEAM) Prayer Reports

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other..." [1 Thess. 4:11, NRSV]

One item which emerged from the evaluation of our Jubilee year was the need for more communication and fellowship between meetings. Each Sunday of 2006 one meeting will be highlighted throughout the yearly meeting and lifted up in prayer. Special prayer requests for publication in the Western Work may be submitted to the office prior to the printing deadline, 1/29/07.

December 3 – West Middleton Friends

- Prayer for those in leadership positions within the church
- Continued physical and spiritual growth
- Prayer for our military members and their families
- Prayer for our members dealing with life issues

December 10 – West Newton Friends

- Members who are hurting
- Our visioning process as we have the opportunity to serve Christ in new ways
- Future of the meeting

December 17 – West Union Friends

- New people to attend
- Continued spiritual growth
- Monthly fellowship meal to be means of encouragement for members and outreach for new attendees
- Physical health for some, including the pastors' wife

December 24 – Westfield Friends

- Colin Mullins-Zugelder, currently serving with Campus Crusade in Germany
- College students and their daily walk with Christ
- Pray for those who are going to Louisiana in January with FDS, the Jamaica Work Team in March, Westfield Youth who are going to Savannah, Georgia in June.

December 31 –

- Western Yearly Meeting Staff: Kathy Clendineng, Katy Palmer, Steve & Marlene Pedigo
- All WYM Meetings

January 7 – Amo Friends

January 14 – Beech Grove

January 21 – Bethel

January 28 – Bloomingdale

- Pray for growth and a considered building project
- We would also like to reach out to our community and youth more
- We have praise for several fellowship activities in 2006 that have helped our meeting grow closer

Vital Statistics

If your meeting has any statistical data [marriages, births, new members, or deaths], please feel free to contact the Western Yearly Meeting Office prior to the next deadline of Western Work.

Births

Kendall Leigh Hickey (Bloomingdale) was born 9/21/2006 to Jerry and Carol Hickey
Jenna Lynn McVay (Bloomingdale) was born 10/29/2006 to Grant and Donna McVay

Marriages

Barbara (Pruitt) and Scott Cunningham (Bloomingdale) were married on 10/13/2006.

Deaths

Roy Fisher (Courtland Avenue Friends) was born on 6/14/1918 and died on 10/5/2006. A memorial service was held on 10/9/2006 at Courtland Avenue Friends Church with Pastor Joe Toren officiating.

Harold E. King passed away on 10/24/2006. Harold and Maxine (Patty) King served 22 years in pastoral work and 22 years in missionary work.

WYM Youth Cabinet Road Show

Our first show was a great success at Sandcreek-Azalia Friends and the excitement has not worn off so *January 13, 2007* we will be doing another youth worship service at *Newport Friends in the Western Area*. Everyone is invited, especially any youth in the Western Area. Service starts at 5 p.m. with a meal to follow. Contact katypwym@sbcglobal.net with any questions.

2007 Summer Camp Dates

June 10-15, 2007	Pioneer Camp
June 15-17, 2007	Beginners Camp
June 17-20, 2007	George Fox Camp
June 24-29, 2007	Senior High Camp, 9 th Grade – 2007 Graduates
July 1-6, 2007	Junior High Camp
July 15-20, 2007	Senior High Camp, 9 th Grade – 2007 Graduates

This year's camp registration will be a little different than it has been in past years in an attempt to streamline the process. More information will be coming out this month. Please be aware of these changes and ask questions. Thanks for your help in this process!

SUNDESMOS UPCOMING EVENTS

The Sundesmos Winter Retreat will be held on January 2-5, 2007 at the WYM Hospitality Center in Plainfield. Please mark your calendars and remind the college students and young adults in your meetings. This year's retreat topic is "Calling: How Does Our Faith Affect our Choice of Vocation?" We will be serving together in work projects, having discussions and presentations on the topic, and having FUN with an improv team from Omaha, a rousing tournament of bowling, and time to hang out together!

Resource Training Events

Western Yearly Meeting Winter Retreat---"Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches"

You are cordially invited to attend the Western Yearly Meeting Winter Retreat, February 17, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at the Western Yearly Meetinghouse. This year's retreat theme is "Conflict Transformation Skills for Churches." Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will provide the workshop leadership with activities that include significant interpersonal and small group work.

8:30 a.m.	Worship
9:00 a.m.	Introduction: <i>"The Nature and Role of Conflict;" "Conflict in the New Testament;" and "Finding Renewal in Conflict"</i>
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Self Assessment Exercise: <i>"Understanding Your Own Style of Response to Conflict"</i>
12:00 noon	Catered Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: <i>"How to Be Effective When People Are Angry"</i>
2:30 p.m.	Break
2:45 p.m.	Congregational Conflict: <i>"Understanding Conflict in Groups and How to Manage It"</i>

We want to encourage pastors, clerks, elders, youth leaders and other local meeting leadership to come as a leadership team to this event. The pre-registration cost of \$25 includes lunch and training materials. If at least three individuals from your meeting come, the pastor will be FREE. Registration forms are available WYM Office

A special program will be planned for children whose parents are attending the Winter Retreat (at NO COST). The youth and children's program will be under the leadership of Katy Palmer, WYM CE Director, and Julie Kappes, First Friends Kokomo. Come and bring the whole family!

Pastors Gathering

Following the Winter Retreat, all Western Yearly Meeting Pastors are encouraged to attend the Pastors' Gathering at the Plainfield Hampton Inn. Felicity Kelcourse, faculty member at Chicago Theological Seminary and recorded Friends minister from Wilmington Yearly Meeting, will provide leadership on how to set healthy personal boundaries in ministry. There will again be a free children's program for families. The cost is \$50.00 per night for Saturday and Sunday nights. If you are commuting, the cost is \$40.00.

Check Out These Resource Books:

Lott, David. Conflict Management in Congregations. Alban Institute, 2001.
Stevens, R. Paul and Collins, Phil. The Equipping Pastor. Alban Institute, 2003.

Check out the Western Yearly Meeting Website
www.westernym.net

Upcoming Events

December, 2006

- 2 **WYM Executive Committee**, 9:00 am, WYM Kelley Conference Room
- Plainfield Friends Live Nativity**, 6-8 pm
- 3 **New Salem Friends Christmas Service**
West Union, Monrovia Friends, Steve & Nichole Cassidy to sing at Christmas Dinner, 10 am
- 6 **Carmel Friends**, USFW is sponsoring Patrick Nugent as speaker, Pitch-in Supper
- 10 **WYM Pastors' Christmas Dinner**, 4:30 pm, Danville Mayberry Café, 78 W. Main, Cost \$10
- Mooresville Friends** Christmas Salad Supper
- Fairfield Christmas Meal**, 5:30 pm and **Program**, 7:00 pm
- 12 **Carmel Friends**, Music Program, 7:00 pm
- 17 **Indianapolis First Friends Vespers**
Noblesville First Friends Christmas Candlelight Service, 6:30 pm
- Hadley Friends**, Christmas Program, evening
- Downers Grove Friends Carol Sing & Potluck**, 4:00 – 8:00 pm
- Mooresville Friends "The Mouse Tale"** performed by Kids Club
- Northern Area Seasoned Friends** (Senior Citizens), Richards Restaurant, 11:30 am
- 24 **Christmas Eve Service** at Bloomingdale, Fairfield (10 pm), Hortonville, Indianapolis First, Irvington (11:30 pm), Plainfield (8:00 pm), Tangier
- Russiaville Friends**, Fellowship Meal & Gospel Sing for Community
- Lick Creek Meeting**, Carry-in Dinner Following Worship
- WYM Office Closed, 12/25-06 – 1/2/07**

January, 2007

- 20 **WYM Board Meetings**, 9:00 am

Seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Western Yearly Meeting equips Friends Meetings in the Gospel of Jesus Christ by exercising mutual care and extending cooperative ministries. Through various expressions of our Christian faith, we strive to inspire ministry and the release of gifts of leadership.

WESTERN WORK

Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church
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Office Hours: 9:00-12:00-1:00-3:00; M-Thursday

MATERIALS DEADLINE FOR NEXT

NEWSLETTER:

1/22/07, 9:00 a.m.

Address Correction Requested