



Western Work Western Work

2.07

News of Western Yearly Meeting of the Friends Church

Superintendent Bible Study, James 3:13-18

As we learn what it means to walk in the Light of Christ, we realize our lives are meant to bring God glory. The glory (doxa) of God shines through who we are as we learn to discern (edoxe) the will of God and faithfully live it.

James tells us that our lives speak to others as we live in God's wisdom. The first fruit of living in God's wisdom is a pure heart--we confront the secrets of our lives. We confess it all to Christ and receive forgiveness. Spiritual healing occurs as our lives are centered upon Christ Jesus. Our lives become peaceable, gentle, and reasonable. It is vital for any peacemaker to learn what it means to be a non-anxious presence in the midst of conflict, to differentiate. Experience of this spiritual reality results in mercy to others. It excites us to share this Good News with those who live in pain, bitter jealousy, selfish ambitions, arrogance and disorder. Our lives reflect good fruits (see James 3:9-12). Peacemaking is not just a political agenda, but a spiritual journey in one's soul reflected in our lifestyle. *"And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."* (Hebrews 3:18, NRSV)

Resource

If you would like to learn more about corporate discernment and the decision making of Friends, please pick up the newly published book from Barclay Press, **Practicing Discernment Together, Finding God's Way Forward in Decision Making** by Lon Fendall, Jan Wood and Bruce Bishop. What is God's will for your church?

WINTER RETREAT---"Conflict Transformation"

All Western Yearly Meeting Friends are invited to attend this year's Winter Retreat, "Conflict Transformation," on Saturday, 2/17/07, at the Western Yearly Meeting Hospitality Center in Plainfield. Staff from the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center will be present to provide training in conflict transformation. The cost for the retreat day is \$25.00 which includes lunch and training materials. If three individuals from your church come, there will be no charge for your pastor. Please send in your registrations by **February 1** to guarantee you will have lunch and training materials available for the retreat. This Winter Retreat is sponsored in part by the WYM Board of Meeting Development & Nurture.

Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. - Meeting for Worship
- 9:00 a.m. - Introduction, "The Nature and Role of Conflict" & "Conflict in the New Testament: Finding Renewal in Conflict"
- 10:30 a.m. - Break
- 11:00 a.m. - Self-Assessment Exercise: "Understanding and Improving Your Own Style of Response to Conflict"
- 12:00 noon - Lunch - Catered by McCallisters' Deli
- 1:00 p.m. - Interpersonal Peacemaking Skills: "How to be Effective When People Are Angry"
- 2:30 p.m. - Break
- 2:45 p.m. - Congregational Conflict: "Understanding Conflict in Groups and How to Manage It"
- 4:30 p.m. - Dismissal

Katy Palmer, Christian Education Director, and Julie Kappas, Kokomo First Friends, are the leaders for the Children and Youth Program which is available if parents attend the retreat--AT NO COST.

Pastors' Winter Gathering

The WYM Pastors' Winter Gathering will follow the Winter Retreat at the Plainfield Hampton Inn. Felicity Kelcourse, faculty member at Christian Theological Seminary, will be sharing with us about maintaining healthy boundaries in ministry. Times of worship and fellowship are planned for the weekend. The cost is \$100 for two nights for those who are active pastors. For recorded ministers who are not pastors, the cost is \$198.00. If you commute, the cost is \$40.00. Please send in your registrations to the Western Yearly Meeting Office by **February 1** so we can retain the housing discount at the Plainfield Hampton Inn. The Pastors' Winter Gathering is sponsored in part by the WYM Board of Christian Ministries & Evangelism.

Together Encouraging All Meetings (TEAM) Prayer Reports

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

February 4 – Blue River

- Eugene Trueblood, Ethel Graves, Don Trueblood and Faith Hobbs

February 11 – Carmel

- Wisdom and discernment for the direction our body of believers should take
- Unity, spiritual growth
- The health of our members
- PRAISE – Our lead pastor search has successfully concluded and brought us a minister that is bringing us Spirit filled sermons

February 18 – Chicago

- That we might all grow spiritually and make a place for thanksgiving.
- That we might be clear to lead and be led
- That those estranged from Meeting might feel welcome again and that all might be reconciled.

February 25 – Coloma

Special prayer requests for publication in the Western Work may be submitted by the meeting to the office prior to the printing deadline.

Upcoming TEAM Schedule for March

March 4 – Courtland Avenue
March 11 – Danville

March 18 - Downers Grove
March 25 - Evansville

Additional Prayer Requests

Pastor Jim Walker (Vermilion Grove) will be entering the Indiana Heart Center on Thursday, January 25. Please pray for him!

Friends United Meeting General Board will meet in Kakamega, Kenya, February 9-10, to consider Strategic Planning for the next five years. This is a historic event that needs to be bathed in prayer for all the people traveling for safety and spiritual unity---which includes our Co-Superintendent, Marlene Pedigo.

WYM Board Reports

Christian Education

Camp dates are set and directors are in place. Camp brochures are available. Youth Workers Training Manual and Camp Counseling Manual were approved with corrections.

CM&E

A special thank you to the anonymous donor for the end of the year (2006) donation to Retired Ministers' Fund. The Sub-committee on Care of Pastors sent a questionnaire for pastoral recording records. Please complete and return to WYM, Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168

Meeting Development & Nurture

Growth Grants approved: Courtland Avenue, Mooresville, and Superintendents' Pastor Fund. Ridge Farm Growth Grant was renewed.

Outreach.

The new WYM Missions Project for this year is the Lugulu Friends Hospital Renovation---\$10,000! A HUGE Praise from Christian Outreach---you raised \$10,314.39 for the 2006 Special Project with more trickling in. Yippee!! There is a huge need for regular consistent giving to support all of the Missions Field Staff around the world. If you are not already helping to support the field staff, please prayerfully consider how you could step along side of them to support them financially as they do God's work in Kenya, Ramallah and Belize. The Friends School in Ramallah has a new website to keep you up-to-date at www.palfriends.org. For the latest information about the NCYM MOWA Choctaw Friends Center ministry in Alabama you can access the NCYM main web page: www.ncym-fum.org.

Peace & Christian

A Statement on the Iraq War was approved (see attachment). Cancelled postage stamps can be sent to Tangier Friends who will forward them to Right Sharing.

Statistics

Deaths

- Marjorie Osborne (Bloomington)
- John Bell (Hortonville) b. 3-11-1925 d. 12-15-2006
- Exum J. Hall (Paoli) b. 1-26-1928 d. 12-27-2006
- Harold Stanley (Plainfield) b. 4-6-1909 d. 12-3-2006
- Loren Heald (Plainfield) b. 3-12-1913 d. 1-15-2007

We Welcome New Members!

Georgetown Friends---Allen Baldwin, Aaron Black, Jay & Nancy Boose, Mike Daulton, Christiana Hollingsworth, Shelby Jayson, Danielle Martin, Ashley & Brittani Walker.

Vermilion Grove Friends---Randy Gardner, Don & Lisa Hackler, Harold & Betty Myers (transfers)

New WYM Pastors in North Central Area

Christine Gangwer, Gray Friends

Gray Friends welcomes their new pastor, Christine Gangwer. Christine is a graduate of Anderson University School of Theology ('97) with a Masters of Divinity (Pastoral Care & Counseling emphasis). She is married to Randall Adams and they have two children: Elliott (2) and Samuel (11 months). She has served as the Interim Pastor of Anderson First Friends where she is an active member, and has been an Instructor/Adjunct Professor at Anderson University. Christine writes, "As one who has been called to serve the church as pastor, I understand my role to be one of partnership with the people of God. In partnering with God's people, I have been called to the task of equipping and empowering the congregation for ministry within the church and throughout the world."

Bill Medlin, Noblesville First Friends

Noblesville First Friends welcomed Bill Medlin as their pastor in January. Bill & Poh Medlin have three children: Josh, Anne and Sarah (currently attending Noblesville Middle School). Bill has pastored in Western and Indiana Yearly Meetings. Welcome back to Western Yearly Meeting, Medlins!

Bob & Hope Carter are home on furlough. If you would like to have them speak at your church, please e-mail them at Bob.Carter@sim.org!

Congratulations to Pastor Don Perry (Marshall) who graduated from Moody Bible Institute with a Masters of Arts in Ministry!

Sundesmos & Youth Cabinet Events

Sundesmos Retreat

The Sundesmos Retreat was held January 2-5, 2007 at the WYM Hospitality Center. Spiritual formation activities included spiritual "SHAPEing," learning about God's call in our lives, and discerning our place in the Body. Ministry opportunities included serving lunch at the Indianapolis Wheeler Mission, helping Hendricks County Habitat for Humanity, and painting at Mooresville & Danville Friends Churches. The week before the Sundesmos Retreat, Katy Palmer, Jessica Thornburg (Danville), and Mariya Jones (Plainfield) attended the Urbana Conference in Saint Louis! A special thanks goes everyone who helped make this retreat a success!

Sundesmos Summer Internships

Once again we will mobilize WYM young adults for ministry in Western Yearly Meeting this summer. Six internships are available to help as counselors at Quaker Haven Camp, local meeting ministry, Vacation Bible School, and the youth program at Western Yearly Meeting. If you are interested in receiving an Internship Application or serving as a Recorded Minister Mentor, please contact the WYM Office.

Youth Cabinet Road Show

The WYM Youth Cabinet is going strong! So far we have traveled to Southern and Western Areas ministering through out traveling Road Show worship service and we look forward to getting to the rest of WYM in the coming months. This traveling worship service has provided the Youth Cabinet with an opportunity to bond with each other, serve local & area meetings in the Yearly Meeting and connect through service. Our next Road Show will be joining forces with the youth of Westfield Friends to provide a youth service at Westfield Friends on February 4, 10:30 a.m. Please join us in worship.

Quaker Haven Summer Camp Dates

ALERT! Make plans now for the children in your life to attend Quaker Haven Camp this summer. To avoid a \$50 late fee, all registrations must be mailed to **Quaker Haven Camp** by **May 28, 2007!**

Work Team News

Friends Disaster Service

Westfield Friends participated with other yearly meeting Friends in work projects to restored areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina in January. Western Friends Disaster Service is planning a trip to New Orleans under the leadership of Eldon & Linda Studer and Bob & Sue Campbell (Bethel). They will be leaving from Mooresville Saturday, February 24, 8:00 a.m. and returning sometime on Sunday, March 4. Jim Secaur of Ohio FDS will be chairing a work during that time. We are looking for more workers from Indiana. If you have not been down to help, this is a good time to step up and get yourself a blessing. FDS can afford to pay your transportation expenses and during the week you work, Ohio FDS will cover the cots. Please call Eldon Studer (812) 879-4236 or (317) 838-6099 (w.) or Lane Sims (317) 774-0787

Jamaica Work Team

The Board of Christian Outreach of Western Yearly Meeting is organizing a work crew to work on the dining room of the Boys Home on March 10-17. Call Candi McDonald for more information: (317) 773-9034 or e-mail her at smcdonald@iquest.net.

Upcoming Events

February, 2007

- 2-3 Quaker Men Ground Day Retreat, Quaker Haven Camp
- 4 Georgetown Friends Building Dedication, 2:00 p.m.
WYM Youth Cabinet Road Show at Westfield Friends, 10:30 a.m.
- 9-10 FUM General Board Meetings in Kenya
- 10 Kokomo First Friends Chicken Noodle Supper
- 17 Winter Retreat, Conflict Transformation, 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. Western Yearly Meeting
- 17-19 WYM Pastors' Gathering, Plainfield Hampton Inn
- 22 Northern Area Seasoned Friends, 11:30 a.m., Richards' Restaurant
- 23 Northern Area Pastors, 11:30 a.m., Jamie Lyon's Home
- 23-24 W. Central Youth 30 hr. Famine at WYM---all WYM Youth invited (call Sue, 840-5021 or Byron, 244-3916)
- 24 Executive Committee, 9:30 a.m., Kelley Conference Room
Russiaville Friends Fellowship Meal & Gospel Sing
- 25 Lick Creek Friends Carry-in Dinner, following worship
- 27 WYM Program Committee, 2:00 p.m., Kelley Conference Room

March, 2007

- 3 Vermilion Grove Friends Peanut Day
- 10 Kokomo First Friends Chicken Noodle Supper
Ridge Farm Friends Chicken Noodle Dinner
- 14 North Central Area Pastors' Meeting, 9:00 a.m., Carmel Friends Church
- 15 Western Area Pastors' Meeting, 9:00 a.m. (Eastern), Marshall Federated Church
- 16 Northern Area Pastors' Meeting, Jamie Lyon's Home
- 17 WYM Administrative Council, 10:00 a.m. (Eastern), New London Friends Church
- 20 Central Area Pastors, Meeting, 12:15 p.m.
- 22 Northern Area Seasoned Friends, 11:30 a.m., Richards' Restaurant
WYM Youth Cabinet Road Show at Irvington Friends, 10:45 p.m.
- 31 Russiaville Friends Fellowship Meal & Gospel Sing

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:
2/20/07, 9:00 a.m.**

Address Correction Requested