



11.07

# Western Work

News of Western Yearly Meeting of the Friends Church

## Friends Historical Reading---Spiritual Growth & the Bible

“There is probably no body of Christians who have taken more pains than Friends have done, to enjoin upon their members a frequent perusal of the Scriptures of Truth. It is one of those duties which is annually brought home to us by a public inquiry addressed to all our inferior meetings; and it has been the subject of many a warm exhortation, and many a strong advice, issued by our yearly meeting itself. Nothing can have been more clear than the testimony of the Society to the divine origin of the book. Friends have always asserted that it was given by inspiration of God; and when our forefathers were defamed by their adversaries, and falsely accused of unsound principles, they always appealed to Scripture as the ONLY authoritative written testimony by which their sentiments could be tried. They boldly invited their hearers and readers to imitate the example of the noble Bereans---to search the Scriptures daily that they might know---‘whether these things were so.’”

“On this important subject I apprehend that the views of Friends are in accordance with those of other sound and reflecting Christians, although there may prevail between them and ourselves some difference in *phraseology*. If we object to call the Scriptures the Word, or the Word of God, it is not because we entertain the smallest doubt that they are given by inspiration of God; it is only because the Scriptures themselves teach us that this name, *considered as a title of pre-eminence*, properly belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ. If we assert the essential superiority of the Holy Spirit, it is not that we regard the sacred writings as fallible, or do not truly reverence them; but only that we are anxious to distinguish between that which is produced, and the power which produces it; between the work which we can see, and handle, and *its divine, unchangeable Author*.” [pp. 10-11, Joseph John Gurney, *A Peculiar People, the Rediscovery of Primitive Christianity*]

**Do you strive for the constant realization of God’s presence in your life?**

**Are you sensitive and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit?**

**Do you endeavor to advance your spiritual growth by the prayerful study of the Bible and other devotional literature?**

[*Western Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice, “Queries”, p. 28*]

## 150th Anniversary of Western Yearly Meeting

This next year *Western Work* will feature Western Yearly Meeting historical information leading into the Sesquicentennial Celebration, July 31- August 3, 2008, with the theme, “He who began a good work in you will continue...” [Phil 1:6] Join us as we celebrate the spiritual heritage of Western Yearly Meeting! Special speakers in the 2008 Sessions include Tom Hamm and John Punshon.

How well do you know the history of Western Yearly Meeting? Try this trivia...

1. Who was the woman minister involved in prison ministry who gathered a new meeting in Western Yearly Meeting?
2. In 1866 where was the WYM Treasurer directed to pay \$500 to aid building a Meeting and School House?
3. In 1867 Western Yearly Meeting requested the Indiana State Legislature to do what?
4. In 1870 Western Yearly Meeting rented a room above a drug store in Plainfield and spent an additional \$500 for what purpose?
5. Who was Catharine Mulloy?
6. In 1970 the WYM Treasurer was directed to pay \$500 to help begin what ministry?

[see the next page for the answers]

## Fall Administrative Council, 11/17/2007, at Gray Friends

The Fall Western Yearly Meeting Administrative Council will be held at Gray Friends, 14544 North Gray Road, Carmel, Indiana.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. The lunch menu includes: lasagna, Italian bread, salad, dessert and drinks (lemonade, tea and coffee). The cost of lunch is \$8.00.

The afternoon program will include singing and a presentation on the Underground Railroad in Hamilton County! Directions to Gray Friends are to turn east from 31 on 146<sup>th</sup> Street (by shopping area) and go two miles to Gray Road. Meetinghouse is on the northeast corner.

## Together Encouraging All Meetings (TEAM) Prayer Reports

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

November 4 – Sheridan

November 11 – Shiloh

November 18 – Tangier

- Pray for young families and current and ongoing meeting ministries

November 25 – Valley Mills

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

## Additional Prayer Requests

### FUM

- In December our Co-Superintendent, Steve Pedigo, will be traveling to speak at the Kenyan/Ugandan Friends Pastors' Triennial Conference, held at the Vihiga High School. Please pray that God will anoint him and those traveling with him in ministry as they bring an inspiring and encouraging message to the pastors. They also anticipate representatives from Rwanda, Burundi, and Congo.
- The Swift/Purcell Boys Home “great house” was vandalized and then burnt to the ground in October. This is the building which contained the offices, current dining hall and classrooms. Please pray for this ministry!

## WYM Historical Trivia Answers

1. *Elizabeth Comstock*
2. *Chicago, Illinois*
3. *Begin a Reform School in Plainfield, Indiana*
4. *To establish a Depository & Committee Room for the distribution of 210,000 pages of tracts, leaflets, and cards; and to purchase books and give each meeting's library the book, Portrait of Quakerism*
5. *In 1871 she donated \$500 to WYM to establish a fund for the publication of books and tracts.*
6. *The Colored Orphan Asylum at Indianapolis*

## “Healthy Congregations,” WYM Winter Retreat, 2/16/2008

8:00 a.m. – Registration

8:30 a.m. – Worship

9:00 a.m. – *“Introduction: What is System Thinking?” and Video Case Study: “The Anxious Congregation/The Responsible Congregation”*

9:30 a.m. – Break

10:45 a.m. – *“Healthy Congregations Manage Anxiety” and “Healthy Congregations Invite Differentiation of Self”*

Noon – Break

1:00 p.m. – *“Healthy Congregations Focus on Strength” and “Healthy Congregations Manage Conflict (and Other Relationship Patterns)”*

2:30 p.m. – Break

2:45 p.m. – *“In Healthy Congregations Leaders Promote Strength Through Their Presence & Functioning” and “Planning for Healthier Congregations”*

4:30 p.m. – Close

Cost: \$25 per person or \$30 for couple when they share a book. Pastor of the church comes **FREE** when three people from the church attend.

## Statistics

### Deaths

- Amber Hoffman [Irvington] b. 7-12-1990 d. 9-28-2007
- Herb Kimball, [former WYM pastor] b. 1.9.1919 d. 10.18.2007  
*Bea Kimball may be contacted at: Chosen Spot Apartments, 125 N. Bloomfield Rd., Canandaigua, NY 14424*

### We Welcome New Members

- Addalene Nickel; DJ, Deise, Joe & Emily Pickard Family; Daisy Strange; Joe & Allison Toren [Courtland Avenue]
- Chris Harris [Indianapolis First Friends]

## Pastoral Searches

Wanda Coffin Baker is serving as interim pastor for **Bloomington Friends Meeting** while they continue to search process for a pastor.

**Westfield Friends Youth Minister** – Contact Tracy Rogers at (317) 896-0233

**Hemlock Friends Full Time Pastor** – Contact Beth Lightfoot (765) 963-5917

**First Friends Kokomo Full Time Pastor** – Contact Jim Crew, (765) 455-3887.

## Christian Education Information

- Please continue to send prayers and thoughts to the Hoffman family and the WYM Youth Cabinet who lost a friend, sister and daughter, Amber Hoffman on September 28, 2007 in a car accident.
- WYM Youth Cabinet re-scheduled Road Show at Mooresville Friends, November 11, 10:30 a.m.
- Sundesmos Winter Missions Trip, January 1-6, 2008, to Choctaw Friends Center, McIntosh, Alabama

## WYM Board Reports

### MD&N

- “Easy Worship” is a good suggested computer program for meetings using a projector system.
- Growth grants were awarded to the WYM 2008 Winter Retreat, Bethel Friends and New London Friends

### CM&E

- Susann Cronau was approved for a \$1,500 grant from the Bone Leadership Fund for spring semester classes
- Susann Cronau (Danville Friends) and Amy McClain (Danville Friends) were approved to begin the recording process under the direction of the Training & Recording Committee
- \$500 was approved from the Bone Leadership Fund for the Sundesmos (Purdue Students)
- \$500 from Bone Scholarship Fund to Sundesmos (Purdue Students)

### Christian Education

- Dates were approved for the 2008 and 2009 Quaker Haven Camps
- \$1000 was approved for Katy Palmer to purchase resources, videos, and conference materials for WYM CE resources

### Peace & Christian Social Concerns

- FCNL’s Sign, “War is Not the Answer” Signs are still available for individuals to use to keep the candidates aware of the issue
- AFSC still would like to have meetings collect materials for the kits
- Funding approval was for travel to: Earl Smith, \$300, FCNL; George McCoy, \$300, FCNL; Diana Hadley, \$300, AFSC; Eric Robinson, \$30, FCNL; Marshall Gibson, \$200, QEW; and Pioneer Camp Books, \$250.

## Opportunities for Friends

### 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Poplar Grove Friends

The 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Poplar Grove Friends and Bethany Presbyterian Church will be celebrated by Marshall Federated Church on Sunday, November 4, 9:30 a.m. at morning worship. A Sunday Brunch will follow the celebration at 10:30 a.m.

### Pastors’ Christmas Dinner

We would like to invite all Western Yearly Meeting pastors and their families to the Bravo Italian Kitchen, 2658 Lake Circle Drive, Indianapolis on Sunday evening, December 9, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. to a Christmas Dinner and Fellowship. This is a very nice restaurant with fine Italian and American food. This year you will have a buffet with several options to choose from. They have a children’s menu price for those who will need it. Don Perry, Marshall Federated Church Pastor, will be our special music and of course we will sing your favorite Christmas songs. We may also have some special surprises, so come and have fellowship and enjoy the Christmas Spirit of our Lord.

### 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WYM

The 2008 Celebration Committee announces two items for sale to members and friends of Western Yearly Meeting. These will be available at Administrative Council in November.

1. Attractive wooden ornament featuring the Yearly Meetinghouse. These 6” x 2” x ¼” representations show the meetinghouse in winter mode, suitable for Christmas giving. It comes with a hanging string for use on your Christmas tree, or the string can be removed and a magnet could be attached for use on a metal surface. The ornaments sell for \$6 each and will be for sale at the November Administrative Council Meeting. Please have correct change or a check made out to **Western Yearly Meeting** with **2008** on the memo line. We hope that not only will you want to have this handsome miniature, but that you will purchase several others as gifts for your family and/or meeting who would enjoy having this collectable.

2. Attractive white plates with a raised border of fruit and leaves, featuring in silhouette a Quaker couple and the George Fox quote, “Be Friends in the Truth.” On the back is a brief general statement about Friends’ belief and the quotation from John 15:14. The plates sell for \$10 each. Please have correct change or a check made out to **Western Yearly Meeting** with **2008** on the memo line.

If you have questions about either item, please contact either Ann Carter (765) 883-5696 or (eannc@sbcglobal.net) or Peggy Hollingsworth (hollypeg@hotmail.com).

### Clarence & Lilly Pickett Endowment for Quaker Leadership

Attention please! Leadership nominations for the year 2008 Pickett Endowment Awards need to be received by 1/1/2008! If you know of a younger committed Quaker potential leader---someone who is considering a short-term service project, please check out the website for a nomination form, <http://pickettendowment.quaker.org/>.

## Upcoming Events

### November, 2007

- 3 **Mooresville Friends Church Bazaar** 9 am – 2 pm & **Lunch ---pick up their special Apple Butter!!!**  
**Georgetown Friends Quaker Tea**, 10-2, Free-will offering to support mission projects  
**Fairfield Feast**, 4-7:30 p.m., \$8 for adults, \$5 for children. Proceeds for Quaker Haven Camp & Fairfield Friends  
**Metropolitan General Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**, Downers Grove Friends, 9:00 a.m.  
**WYM USFW Executive Committee Meeting**, Friends Apartments Homes, Plainfield
- 4 **175 Anniversary of Poplar Grove Friends & Bethany Presbyterian Church**, 9:30 a.m. – Worship; 10:30 - Brunch  
**Central Area Meeting at Valley Mills Friends**, 6:00 p.m.
- 8 **WYM Financial Trustees**, 9:15 a.m., Kelley Conference Room
- 10 **Westfield Friends Chicken Noodle Dinner**, 11 am - 2 p.m. & **Bazaar**, 10 am - 3 pm, \$6.50, adults; \$3.25, children
- 11 **Youth Cabinet at Mooresville Friends**, 10:30 a.m.  
**Williamsons at Vermilion Grove Friends**
- 13 **North Central Pastors' Meeting**, 9:30 a.m., Hinkle Creek Friends
- 16 **Northern Pastors' Meeting**, 12 noon, at Pedigo Home
- 17 **WYM Administrative Council**, Gray Friends, 9:30 a.m. (EST)
- 19 **WYM Program Committee**, 2:00 p.m.
- 19-23 **WYM Office is closed**
- 20 **Central Area Pastors' Meeting**, 12:15 p.m.
- 27 **Training & Recording Committee**, 9:30 a.m., WYM Office

### December, 2007

- 1 **WYM Executive Committee**, 9:00 a.m., Kelley Conference Room  
**Indiana Friends Committee on Legislation Annual Meeting**, 10:00 a.m., Indianapolis First Friends
- 9 **WYM Pastors' Christmas Dinner**, 5:30 p.m., at Bravo Italian Kitchen, 2658 Lake Circle Drive, Indianapolis
- 24-31 **WYM Office is closed**

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

203 S. East Street, Box 70

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Website: [www.westernym.net](http://www.westernym.net)

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Office Hours: 9:00-12:00-1:00-3:00; M-Thursday

**MATERIALS DEADLINE FOR NEXT  
NEWSLETTER:**

**11/26/08, 9:00 a.m.**

**Address Correction Requested**