

Western Work

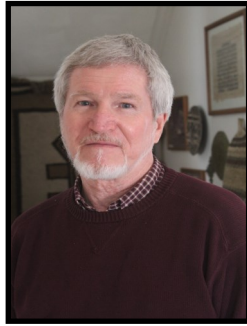
Speakers for Yearly Meeting Sessions



Pam Ferguson
Daily Devotional Leader

Pam was born and raised in southwestern Idaho near Boise. Her grandparents were part of a Northwest Yearly Meeting (EFI) Friends church and lived their Quaker witness so faithfully that she determined to follow their example.

Pam graduated from Greenleaf Friends Academy, then did her college work at Friends



Ron Ferguson
Daily Devotional Leader

Ron grew up in central Kansas and from early childhood was part of a MidAmerica Yearly Meeting (EFI) church. He received his college education from Friends University and Friends Bible College in Kansas and Boise State University in Idaho.

Since their marriage, he and Pam have served as Friends youth ministers for



J. Brent Bill
Quaker Lecture

Brent is a writer, photographer, retreat leader, and recorded minister. He's served as a local church pastor and as a staff member of Western Yearly Meeting, Friends General Conference, and the Indianapolis Center for Congregations.

He was also an adjunct faculty member at Earlham School of Religion.

Speakers, continued on page 3

March 2023

Administrative Council

Saturday,
March 11, 2023

Plainfield Friends Meeting

9:30 A.M. Devotions
Paul & Ramona Trover

10:00 A.M.
Board Meetings

12:00 P.M.—1:30 P.M.
Lunch on your own

1:30 P.M. Administrative Council

***Each Meeting, please send 2 representatives.**

Zoom Link:

WYM Office is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic: Administrative Council
Time: Mar 11, 2023 01:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83666160730?pwd=R25NREluQUVlRURRN3VmMm5rbFhiUT09>

Meeting ID: 836 6616 0730
Passcode: 981761

Western Yearly Meeting

ANNUAL SESSIONS

July 27-30, 2023

"You are the Light of the World."

Matthew 5:14-16

Save the Dates



Save the Date!

Rivers of Life among Friends
 First Annual Quaker Leadership Center Conference
 for leaders of Friends meetings/churches and organizations

April 27-29, 2023
 Earlham School of Religion in Richmond, Indiana
 earlham.edu/qlc

Featuring the first ESR Perkins Family Lecture Series with Parker Palmer





Shawn's Virtual Office Hours

I realize it can be difficult for some people to make it to Plainfield very often. And I certainly have limited time to visit each of you. But I'd like to hear from you.

So, I am inviting you to join me at various times for my "Virtual Office Hours". What is that you ask? It is a time that I will be on zoom awaiting any of you who want to visit.

If you want to just chat, or ask a question about WYM, share an idea, get to know me, or help me get to know you, or you want to complain about your pastor or pastors want to complain about the folks in the meeting or.....? grab a cup of coffee and join in the zoom. You can "come by" my office for a few minutes or stay the whole time. If it requires that we talk more then we can set a time to do that.

For now, we will do this a couple of Mondays a month from 10am-11:30am.

Schedule
March 13 & 27
April 10 & 24
May 8 & 22

Hope to see you in my office
 Shawn McConaughey
 WYM Gen Supt.

WYM Office is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Virtual Office Hours

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613763081?pwd=djRkSmhDRENYMlhMSTAzRmZBdkVPdz09>

Meeting ID: 886 1376 3081
 Passcode: 001445

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdB9SBdQTH>

"Save the Date"

Friends Pastors Retreat

Western YM will host pastors from Wilmington YM, New Association of Friends, and midwestern independent Friends Meetings.



Come rest, fellowship, hike, worship, and learn together.

Date: May 1-3, 2023
Location: Chifty Inn~Madison, IN
Cost: \$25 per person (2 nights 6 meals)
Registration will open in early January

Hosted by: Western Yearly Meeting
Sponsored by: Everence Financial

Questions??
shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org



1877 1923 2023

Russiaville Friends Meeting
 100 years of ministry at the corner of East and Main

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Saturday, September 30, 2023

Celebration will Include

- Reenactment of the passing of the bricks
 - Reflection of history
- Presentation of Historical Plaque
(donated by Caldwell Monuments) of Kokomo
- Cake and Ice Cream Art and Photo Display

Speakers continued from page 1

Pam Ferguson

Bible College in Kansas and Northwest Nazarene University in Idaho. Since their marriage, she and Ron have served as Friends youth ministers for two years and co-pastors for three years in Idaho, as Friends co-pastors in Kansas for six years, and in their current assignment as co-pastors at Winchester Friends in Indiana (FUM) for the past 24 years.

In between those pastorates, they spent three years as Mennonite Central Committee community development workers in a UN refugee project in southern Sudan, over six years as MCC's country directors in Uganda, and six months as MCC traveling "storytellers" across the US and Canada.

In addition to her current pastoral role, Pam has participated in ministry for women inmates at her county's jail. She is the board secretary and the volunteer manager of her county's food pantry. She currently chairs the board of directors of the Friends Fellowship Community senior living center in Richmond, IN, and she serves as recording clerk for the steering circle of the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative. For 20 years, she has served on the General Committee and standing committees of Friends Committee on National Legislation.

Ron Ferguson

In between those pastorates, they spent three years as Mennonite Central Committee community development workers in a UN refugee project in southern Sudan, over six years as MCC's country directors in Uganda, and six months as MCC traveling "storytellers" across the US and Canada.

Ron served in the early 1990s as a death row spiritual advisor for two years for an Idaho inmate. After moving to Indiana in the late 90s, he became the *de facto* chaplain for the county jail until the pandemic suspended that weekly program. He assists Pam with the management of the county's food pantry. For 20 years, Ron has served on Friends Committee on National Legislation's General Committee and its standing committees. He was FCNL's General Committee clerk in 2020 and 2021 and completed that rotation as the assistant clerk in 2022. In January 2023, Ron completed six years of service on the Religious Society of Friends' Nobel Peace Prize nominating task group.

J. Brent Bill

He and Nancy live on Ploughshares Farms between Mooresville and Plainfield. Ploughshares is 40+ acres of former farmland that is being reclaimed for native hardwood forest and warm season prairie

You are invited to a
**MINISTERS & MATES
GATHERING**

Thursday evening

~ July 27, 2023 ~

4:45 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

PLAINFIELD

INTERURBAN DEPOT

401 S. Vine Street, Plainfield, IN 46168

Parking is on the street.

**For Pastors/spouses,
Recorded Ministers/spouses,
Retired Ministers/spouses
and those who are in the
Training & Recording process.**

4:45 p.m. Gathering & Conversation

5:15 p.m. Buffet Dinner

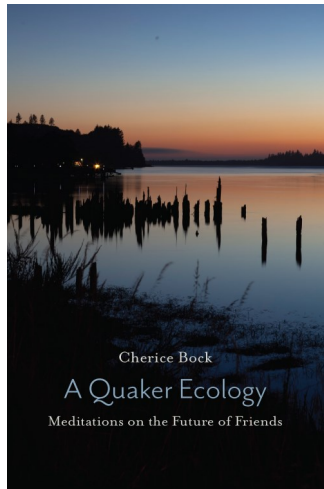
6:30 p.m. On your way to Yearly Meeting

Cost: \$10.00 per person.

Registration Deadline is Monday JULY 17th.

Specifics on how to register in the next issue of Western Work and in the weekly Updates.

Meditations on Quaker Ecology



Cherice Bock, Western Yearly Meeting's 2022 Quaker Lecturer, has a new book out on the topic she shared with us. *A Quaker Ecology: Meditations on the Future of Friends* was published by Barclay Press.

In our best moments, Friends have been in the middle of the action around the social justice issues of each time period, discerning to the best of their abilities the direction the Inward Light leads and speaking truth to power. In our own time, climate justice can no longer be ignored if we want to have a healthy planet to live on and if we want to participate in the heart of the justice movements of the twenty-first century.

To work on climate justice requires Quakers in the United States to revisit the practices and history of the Religious Society of Friends, recognizing the ways we have been complicit in unjust land acquisition, natural resource depletion, the intersecting injustices surrounding environmental racism, classism, and gender disparities, and the impacts of globalization. This book offers a series of meditations on the Quaker ecology, both internally in our denomination as well as in our connections to the world around us. It forms an invitation to participate in an Eco-Reformation, altering the trajectory of our Society through remembering our history and reimagining our future as participants in the community of all life.

The content of this manuscript was originally delivered as the Bible Half-Hours at the annual sessions of New England Yearly Meeting, August 1-9, 2020.

It's available at <http://www.barclaypressbookstore.com/All-Books/A-Quaker-Ecology.html> and at Amazon

John Sarrin Scholarships Available

The United Society of Friends Women International, through the John Sarrin Scholarship Committee, provides scholarships for qualifying students who have completed high school and are training to be Quaker pastors or missionaries or who are the children of Quaker pastors or missionaries.

For more information and to apply, please contact:

Lynn Peery Mills, Clerk

John Sarrin Scholarship Committee

john.sarrin.scholarships@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS



The front page headline on the Wednesday, January 11, 2023 edition of the Kokomo Tribune reads "'**QUITE AN HONOR' Michael Carson awarded Faith and Community in Action.**" The award came as quite a surprise to Rev. Carson, who had delivered the invocation to start the 13th annual Mayor's Prayer and Community in Action Breakfast held at Cross America in Kokomo on Monday, January 9. Kokomo Mayor Tyler Moore described Carson, who serves as the pastor of Kokomo's First Friends Meeting, as a "pillar of the community."

Carson, a longtime community activist, is a columnist for the Kokomo Tribune and other CNHI network newspapers, a volunteer coach for player development at Kokomo High School, and was formerly pastor of Wayman Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest Black church in Howard County, from 1991-2005. Carson and his late wife Cathy Tobin-Carson, who died of COVID-19 in December 2021, both graduated from Earlham College. Carson admits it has been a difficult year with the loss of his wife of 47 years. "Prayer has gotten me through (the year). It's going to be a lifelong process. I know she's here. I know she's watching. She's just doing it in a different way."

**Permission granted to WYM from Kokomo Tribune to republish article.*



Plainfield Pastor Cathy Harris shows off the award for the 2022 Member of the Year from The Plainfield Chamber of Commerce. Plainfield is heavily involved in its community hosting a number of events on the property each year.

The **Christian Outreach Board** would like to **THANK ALL** who contributed towards our 2022 Special Project. We raised **\$23,525.41** toward a vehicle for Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. **We really appreciate the generous donation from the Vermillion Grove Farm Funds.**

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!



For our 2023 Special Project we hope to raise at least \$15,000 for a church in Tanzania. Since 2010, Nicholas and Dorcas Otieno have been working with Tanzanian Friends and have planted over 30 new churches. It is FUM's vision to purchase a plot in Dar es Salaam and build a permanent church building. More information will be available at the March Administrative Council. Thank you in advance for your generous support of this project.

Youth Corner



JUNE 2-4	YOUNG ADULT CAMP 20'S - 30'S	JUNE 25-30	SENIOR HIGH CAMP 2 9TH - 2023 GRADUATES
JUNE 4-9	JUNIOR HIGH CAMP 7TH - 8TH	JULY 9-13	PIONEER CAMP 3RD - 5TH
JUNE 11-16	SENIOR HIGH CAMP 1 9TH - 2023 GRADUATES	JULY 23-26	LITTLE FRIENDS CAMP 2ND - 4TH
JUNE 16-18	BEGINNERS CAMP K - 2ND	JULY 27-30	IYM SESSIONS K - 12TH
JUNE 18-23	ADVENTURE CAMP 5TH - 6TH	JULY 27-30	WYM SESSIONS PLAINFIELD

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For Registration and Scholarship Info:
quakerhaven.com

Are you heading off to college in the fall?

Do you plan to study something that will make a difference in the world?

Or do you know a young person who lives by Quaker values and is pursuing higher education?

Noblesville Friends Meeting is excited to share our scholarship program for students attending college or vocational programs. **Between January 15 and April 30, 2023**, eligible students can apply for one \$500 scholarship in each of the following areas:

- The **Leanna Roberts Music Scholarship**: For students pursuing a career in music or music education.
- The **Phil Wise Agricultural Science & Sustainability Scholarship**: For those pursuing a career in agricultural sciences, environmental studies, or a related field.
- The **Jim Smith Service Scholarship**: For students with a demonstrated heart for service which could include social work, medicine, nursing, counseling, etc.
- The **Gwen Tetrick Teaching Scholarship**: For students pursuing a degree in education or library science.
- The **Evelyn Coverdale Special Education Scholarship**: For students pursuing a career special education, occupational therapy, physical therapy or speech/language pathology, school psychology, etc.
- The **Everett and Gerry Latham Leadership Award**: For master's level students pursuing service as school administrators or seeking master's level studies in their subject area.
- The **Way Forward Scholarship**: For students pursuing education in STEM-based programs (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Manufacturing).

Applications open now! To find out more or to download the scholarship application, visit www.noblesvillefriends.org/scholarships.php



Questions? Email us at nobles.friends.scholarships@gmail.com

CAMP

SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

Through the **Olive Charles Camp Scholarship Fund**, Western Yearly Meeting offers additional support for WYM-affiliated children, youth and adults to attend camp programs at Quaker Haven..

Link for CE Scholarship Form:

[https://
www.westernyearlymeeting.org/
wym-christian-education-
scholarship-form](https://www.westernyearlymeeting.org/wym-christian-education-scholarship-form)

You're Getting Better Camp

YGB Camp

You're Not Getting Older... You're Getting Better

+55 Retreat

All activities in the Friendship Lodge except for meals

You're not getting older...you're getting better! Western Yearly Meeting is putting together a camp/retreat for folks over 55 years old. We used to have a camp for more mature Friends...and the Christian Education Board has brought it back. The dates will be **Monday, May 22 - Thursday, May 25**. The price will be **\$250.00 per person**. All the activities (except for meals) will be in Friendship Lodge; so, we can't guarantee that all couples will have a room together, we may have to have dormitory style rooming. Our speaker will be Jane Howard, who is a former Quaker, and now attends the largest Nazarene Church in North America. She will be leading us in devotions and also encouraging us in our personal Bible Study and personal devotion techniques. We will also have worship every morning and every evening and a whole afternoon of free time! Mark A. Tope will be worship leader.

Name:	
Address:	
Phone Number(s):	
Home Church/Meeting	
\$250.00 per person	Includes lodging at Friendship Lodge and all meals in the Dining Hall. Because of the limited amount of rooms, we can't guarantee that all couples will receive a room together. We may have to have dormitory style with men in one room and women in the other. Also includes snacks.
	Bedding is not included, so everyone will have to bring their own bedding, as well as bath towels and personal items.
	Registration begins at 3:00 on Monday, May 22
	We will leave after lunch on Thursday, May 25

	Monday May 22	Tuesday May 23	Wednesday May 24	Thursday May 25
8:00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9:30		Worship	Worship	Worship
10:45		Jane Howard Ses- sion One	Jane Howard Ses- sion Two	Jane Howard Session Three
Noon		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 5:00	Registration	Free Time	Free Time	Pack up and go home
5:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
6:30	Get to know each other	Games	Games	
7:30	Worship	Worship	Worship	
9:00	Campfire	Midnight Snack	Midnight Snack	
10:00	Get ready for bed	Get ready for bed	Get ready for bed	

**For more information or to sign up, please contact Mark Tope at 336-266-9586
or by email at k9chester@gmail.com**



New Year New Programs

WYM is rebooting Quaker Studies.

Western Yearly Meeting is rebooting the Quaker Studies Program. If you are interested, sign up at our new website for the latest news and educational opportunities provided by Western Yearly Meeting.

Go to the site here: <https://www.wym-quaker-studies.org/> and click the subscribe button!

Also if you see anything terrible with the site let me know and I'll fix it.

David Hanson
(dkhprogrammer@gmail.com)

FUM Living Letters



Washing Dishes is a Love Language

"I think Love is a pretty good language". "I don't speak Spanish but somehow, we can still communicate". These observations were expressed by Jim Crew (First Friends Kokomo) after his 5th trip to Cuba to visit Friends Churches in Northwest Cuba.

This past November Friends United Meeting led what's become an annual "Living Letters" team to celebrate the anniversary of the arrival of the first Friends missionaries in 1900. November 14th is the specific anniversary date that Cuban Friends commemorate each year. The November team consisted of 14 Friends from Indiana, Oregon, Iowa, North Carolina, Maine and Pennsylvania.

Beginning in 2009 Jim has been building relationships among Cuban Friends. Jim has been a guest at several of the 15 Cuban Friends Meetings there. Several Friends in Kokomo began visiting Cuba at the urging of Sheryl Sanford the outreach clerk at FFK at the time. Some years there have been specific work projects like helping to remodel church buildings. This time the "work" was intervisitation, support and encouragement of these Friends who are consistently suffering hardships. Dwindling resources, inconsistent utilities, Government restrictions, food shortages and currency fluctuation all on top of COVID restrictions has made these past few years very challenging. It is reported that Jim expressed his love and friendship by washing a lot of dishes.

Maybe you would consider being a part of a learning journey like this one. FUM will likely have another "Living Letters" Cuba team in the fall of 2023. It's not too early to let the FUM office know if you would be interested. Contact Karla Jay at karlaj@fum.org.

The next "Living Letter" will be the Palestine group to Ramallah, June 6-25. If interested, please contact Max & Jane Carter at janedeichler@gmail.com Registration deadline is March 15.

MEETINGS LOOKING FOR PASTORS

HADLEY FRIENDS MEETING

c/o Tim Whicker
2100 S CR 450 W, Coatesville, IN 46121
(location only; NOT a mailing address)

Tim Whicker's contact info: 317-281-5001
twhicker@electricplus.com

MOORESVILLE FRIENDS MEETING

50 N Monroe St, Mooresville, IN 46158
pastorsearch.mfc@gmail.com

Welcome

Yearly Meeting Changes

**Yearly Meeting will start a week
later than last year due to the
Triennial.**

**Yearly Meeting will start at
9:30 A.M. on Thursday, July 27th.**

PULPIT SUPPLY

[Need someone to fill the pulpit on Sunday?](#)

Wanda Coffin Baker	317-790-7976
Stan Banker	317-823-2593 bankesall@sbcglobal.net
Susann Estle	317-260-9006 susannestle@gmail.com
Worth Hartman	317-417-0806 worthgrover@sbcglobal.net
Dan Lee	317-850-4298 dleehoss@yahoo.com
Steve Pedigo	317-292-2384 marlenepedigo@yahoo.com
Jeff Wells	812-620-1573 jwellsrph@gmail.com
Sue Whitesel	317-840-5021 stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net
Chris Wynn	317-667-4375 chris_wynn@juno.com

Shawn McConaughy	Superintendent 971-281-0979 shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org
Friends United Meeting	757-962-7573 Kelly Kellum
Anderson University	765-641-4502 Alan Overstreet Professor of Christian Education and Ministry
Tom Roberts	317-730-2268 Excellent musician and could provide a service of music, but no sermon.

Western Work

Western Yearly Meeting
203 S. East Street
P.O. Box 70
Plainfield, IN 46168

Phone: 317-839-2789
Toll Free: 1-800-909-3452

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

8 a.m. –12 noon ~ 1 p.m.—4 p.m.

Friday—Office is closed

Friends are welcome to contact staff via email or phone with the understanding that we will get back to you as soon as we can.

STAFF

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT

Shawn McConaughey
shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org
971-281-0979

YEARLY MEETING CLERK

Sarahbeth Marcinko
marcinko@marcinko.net
765-366-4858

OFFICE MANAGER

Amy Eitel
office@westernyearlymeeting.org
317-839-2789
800-909-3452

SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Maggie Crawford
maggie@westernyearlymeeting.org



We are excited to have our new and much needed Social Media Manager introduce herself.

"Hello! My name is Maggie Crawford and I've been a Friend at Indy First Friends my whole life. I got my business degree in Atlanta and my masters degree in Boston this past August. I love hanging out with my three dogs when relaxing at home and traveling when I can. I'm so excited to grow in my journey going forward."

You can reach out and welcome her at

maggie@westernyearlymeeting.org