# Western Wor



Shawn McConaughey **General Superintendent** 

## A Message of HOPE

from Shawn McConaughey

Thursday evening WYM Keynote 2022 ~ 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The 2022 Yearly Meeting sessions began on Thursday evening, July 20, 2022 with a message from our new General Superintendent Shawn McConaughey. The following are excerpts from his message. The entire message is available on our Website: www.westernyearlymeeting.org

#### Why did you want to come to WYM?

- $\Rightarrow$  We felt called by God.
- ⇒ Our experience of WYM was limited but from the one time we visited in 2019 and the interactions we had with WYM folks, we felt drawn.
- ⇒ The breadth of Quaker belief. Some of you feel that is a black eye but I think has value, but it does come with some struggle.
- ⇒ A YM that for the most part wants to embrace it's Quaker identity.
- ⇒ Like many Quaker efforts, WYM continues to make an impact globally in spite of it's size.
- ⇒ Rich history. I have enjoyed reading and re-reading the 150 year history.
- ⇒ A YM that seems to want to move forward. I am sure that is different for various people and I have found that it is difficult for some of you to explain your hopes for the YM. A number of you are dissatisfied with

where we are as a YM.

How do you plan to fix our shrinking numbers?

I have no idea. Next Question?

⇒ Actually, I will not/cannot fix anything.

#### So what good are you? What ARE you going to do?

- ⇒ Well, I am committed to walk alongside each of our meetings. I will help meetings that want to talk about the future and how to approach your particular community, your hopes, your grief, and your joy.
- ⇒ I'll help you think creatively and look towards

the future for how that

looks.

- ⇒ I'll try to help create opportunities for growth for Friends in WYM.
- ⇒ I'll encourage/nudge you to keep moving forward
- $\Rightarrow$  I'll work to care for pastors and leaders and encourage local meetings to do that well.



- ⇒ Of course, there is administrative work that happens in the office.
- ⇒ I'll try to improve communication. I can't make you read your emails, texts, or Western Updates, but we will try to open more consistent and helpful communication both between the office and local meetings and hopefully between each other.
- ⇒ I find Friends in WYM may not know each other very well. I'd like to see that improve. And see

A Message of Hope, continued on page 2.

#### A Message of Hope, continued from page 1.

if we can't find emotional space for new folks to come along and be a part of things

- ⇒ I will continue to encourage us towards being faithful
- ⇒ I will try to help build opportunities for solid Quaker leadership.

#### Our shrinking local meetings.

First not all of our meetings are shrinking. Some are finding new growth out of COVID.

⇒ Its important for us to emphasize Health over Size. Sometimes there is a correlation but it is pretty easy to get hung up on how many folks are sitting in the pews and giving to the cause.

"It is hard to exaggerate the degree to which the modern Church seems irrelevant to modern man. The church is looked on as something to be neither seriously fought nor seriously defended...." (17).

Do you know who wrote this quote?

It was D. Elton Trueblood..... IN 1961!

It's an "aha moment"



- An epiphany
- An attitude shift
- A mind shift
- A wake-up call
- An eye-opening experience

I think our perspective, our **paradigm** has to **shift** if we are going to honor God's call to us. I assume that there are some of you who do not want to make those shifts (you are tired, its threatening, you are skeptical). And to some degree there is nothing new under the sun. But we have never been in this place in history, while concepts may not be new, the praxis must be, as modern America is different in many ways than it was.

Read the remaining article on the WYM Website: www.westernyearlymeeting.org





# Highlights from Yearly Meeting Sessions!

The following are some responses from Yearly Meeting participants.

From Mark Tope: The Western Yearly Meeting sessions this year were the most uplifting and positive yearly meeting sessions I've been involved in for years. With the advent of a new superintendent, there was an atmosphere of hope and anticipation. The devotions with Paul Anderson were the best I've experienced and his message was on the prayer of Paul to the Ephesians and how God is big enough to fill the entire universe, but also big enough to fill our hearts and minds with His presence. The business sessions were also positive and the reports reflected a yearly meeting that has caught a vision and are determined to work together to achieve that goal. The meals provided by Quaker men were good and provided fellowship among F(f)riends. From Shawn's opening address to Paul's closing message...it was certainly an indication that we are ready to roll up our sleeves and make a difference in the lives of all the meetings of Western Yearly Meeting as well as the people who attend.

More feedback from the WYM Sessions Feedback Form....

- Shawn has an inspiring vision for the future of WYM!
- Karla, Raina and Susie are excellent presenters and represented FUM well.
- Being able to meet in person again.
- "I want to commend the Program Committee on their choice of speakers. Paul and Cherice were excellent."
- ....a new era, full of promise.
- It was good to have Dale Dorrell return to his "home" yearly meeting, and to learn what prompted his preparation of this dramatization.
- Thanks for allowing to attend virtually, as it allowed several to participate that otherwise could not.
- God's Spirit being present in so many Friends.
- Easy to do online and registration table is always very well organized.
- There were many observations about the need for the technology to work better.
- Appreciated the message about unity and diversity.
- There was not enough time for people to share during the Memorial Hour.
- Unprogrammed worship at Sugar Grove, FUM presentation and Family Night were highlights!
- The opportunity to meet people face to face! Renews friendships, acquaintances and meeting new people.

Photographer: Norma Wallman













## friends Cfamily

## OFFERING FOCUS EACH EVENING

Thursday & Friday \$440.00

Saturday

Special Project \$662.40

#### **Sunday Morning**

Retired Ministers \$2,094.00

Retired Ministers can apply for and receive \$340 monthly stipend once the requirements of yearly pastoral service have been met.

WYM also offers retired pastors a supplemental benefit for those whose income is at or below 200% of the poverty level.

## WESTERN YEARLY MEETING SPECIAL PROJECT

Through 8/31, the total collected for the special project is \$11,981.70 toward the goal of 15,000 for a good used vehicle for Friends Theological College.

## FRIDAY & SATURDAY LUNCH WAS FIXED BY THE QUAKER MEN



Between offerings and meal profit the men took in \$1371

- 40% to Quaker Haven (\$548)
- 40% to Robert Wafula (\$548)
- 15% to Quaker Men international (\$206)
- 5% to local Quaker Men account (\$69)

#### Guys that helped:

Jim Gibson, Wayne Carter, Jim Crew Dan Carter, Phil Carter, Lane Sims John Moorman, Paul Trover John Heshelman, Mark Tope, Gene Carter



#### QUAKER HAVEN PICNIC

67 people participated in the QHC Picnic on Saturday evening.

#### **THANK YOU**

to the Quaker Haven staff for the wonderful food!

#### MIDWEST REGIONS OF USFW

The Midwest Region of USFW raised \$1,120 during the Missions Program at our Summer Gathering, which took place July 23<sup>rd</sup> during the annual sessions of Western Yearly Meeting. This money has been sent to Friends United Meeting. Karla Jay reported that the money will be added to FUM's Global Impact Fund, from which they draw to assist with various challenges that arise among Friends. Thank you, f/Friends, for your generosity!

- Lynn Mills, Co-Presiding Clerk, MR-USFW

#### IS YOUR MEETING TAKING ADVANTAGE OF C M & E GRANTS?

The WYM Christian Ministries and Evangelism Board, Sub-committee on Meeting Development and Nurture has grants available for Monthly Meetings and Individual Members in Western Yearly Meeting. Monthly Meeting grants are annual grants and can be applied for once each year. The maximum for Monthly Meeting grants is \$3,000. Individual member grants can be applied for once each year with a maximum amount of \$500. Our goal is to encourage the spiritual growth of both Meetings and individuals; but, many times the needs of Meetings to maintain their facilities comes to the forefront. Grant applications can be found on the Western Yearly Meeting website by following this link:

https://www.westernyearlymeeting.org/ resources

There is information for both Monthly Meeting grants and Individual Member grants on this webpage.

There are no specific dates or deadlines for submitting grant applications. If grant applications are received near the time of regularly scheduled board meetings in March and November, they will be reviewed by the board then. If applications are received at other times, applications will be circulated to the board members for review by email. It takes about 6 weeks after submission for a grant application to be reviewed and if approved, for the funds to be transferred.

The board has about \$11,500 remaining for grant applications in 2022. The grant cycle is an annual cycle which corresponds to the allocation of Board funds by the Financial Trustees which takes place in January.

—John Helselman, Clerk of M D & N. sub committee of C M & E

#### \*Sundesmos: 2023 Internship Project Search

\*Sundesmos: a NT Greek word that describes "a bond, a binding together".

- Does your Meeting have a desire to be a part of WYM leadership development for young adults?
- Does your Meeting have ministry projects it wants to see started or fostered?
- Do you have a need, but do not know where to start?
- Are there ways your meeting dreams to support the community, if only you had the time, energy, and/or know-how?
- Do you have any young adults (19-30yrs) in your meeting who might benefit from a WYM internship experience?

Since the early 2000's WYM has been working to foster young adult leaders through the Sundesmos Internship program. The program includes mentoring, hands on ministry experience and a small salary.

WYM is calling all Monthly Meetings to consider ways they might host a young adult internship next year. Internship possibilities include starting and/or supporting the following ministry examples:

- Vacation Bible School
- Youth group
- MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) group
- Pastoral experience

The above list is just a starting point for your meeting's consideration and discernment. Depending on the nature of the project proposal, projects outside the summer months will also receive full consideration. Ideal projects would grow or support your local Meeting and community while developing young adults into Quaker leaders. All proposals will be considered. WYM will help local meetings craft their projects.

Please contact WYM Associate Supt. Chris Harris at: <a href="mailto:chris@westernyearlymeeting.org">chris@westernyearlymeeting.org</a>
by phone at 317-498-9058.

Please reach out to him if you have even the slightest interest in being a part of the development of our young adults. OR if you have young adults who might be interested.

Please leave a message or send a text if Chris doesn't answer.





Chris Harris
Associate Superintendent

## A NOTE TO MEMBERS OF YOUR MEETING:

Please pass these youth pages along to the youth that you know and encourage them to participate in the youth events.



## **Youth Invasion**

All Junior and Senior High students are encouraged to attend the October 16th Youth Invasion!

We will be kicking off the new camp year with our 2023 theme:

#### Action

The theme is drawn from 1 John 3:18:

"Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."

This will be hosted by Lynn Friends at Randolph Southern High School. No registration necessary.

#### **Contact Chris Harris for more information**

at <u>chris@westernyearlymeeting.org</u> or 317-498-9058. Please leave a voice message or a text message if there is no answer and Chris will return your call.

WORHSIP MUSIC GAMES

SERVICE

## A CAMP DIRECTED BY CHRIS HARRIS AND SHAWN MCCONAUGHEY

# FFILL TOPICS

AT QHC NOV 4-6

HTTPS://WWW.QHCYOUTHPROGRAMMING.COM/OUR-CAMPS CAMPERS

COUNSELORS

PROGRAM STAFF PRAYER WARRIORS

## STARRING MIKE CARSON AS THE SPEAKER

**COST \$125** 

OLIVE CHARLES SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION REQUEST A SCHOLARSHIP AT WWW.WESTERNYEARLYMEETING.ORG/YOUTH

FOR MORE INFORMATION FOR CAMPERS, COUNSELORS, VOLUNTEERS, AND PRAYER SUPPORT PLEASE CONTACT CHRIS HARRIS AT 317-498-9058 OR CHRIS@WESTERNYEARLYMEETING.ORG

**GRADES 7TH-12TH** 

#### REGISTER AT

HTTPS://WWW.QHCYOUTHPROGRAMMING.COM/ OUR-CAMPS

#### **PULPIT SUPPLY**

Wanda Coffin Baker 317-790-7976

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971-281-0979

shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org

Chris Harris Associate Superintendent

317-498-9058

chris@westernyearlymeeting.org

Friends United Meeting 757-962-7573

Colin Saxton 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.

#### **MEMORIALS**

#### **Blue River**

Kathryn JoAnn Sullivan (3/10/1932-8/24/2021) Pricilla "Dorene" Rutherford (6/4/1935-11/7/2021) Paul "Trapper "Allen Bowsman (6/25/1950-1/12/2022) William "Bill" Elrod (10/28/1949-3/17/2022)

#### Coloma

Barbara Havey (2/13/1929-2/7/2022) Donald Smith (12/12/1937-2/5/2022) Rev. Wm. T. Flanigan (1/4/1929-6/17/2022) Mary Louise Smith Allee (7/3/1932-12/11/2021)

#### Indianapolis

Linda Lee (7/21/1939-6/25/2021) Barbara Koons (10/26/1935-6/23/2021) Billie Main (12/31/1924-12/27/2021)

#### Mooresville

Douglas Scott Kitchen (6/29/1961-11/15/2021)

#### **Noblesville**

James Smith (2/27/1936-3/30/2021) Jean Hammer (11/26/1929-9/1/2021) Gwen Tetrick (2/2/1950-10/23/2021) Evelyn Coverdale (11/3/1936-11/16/2021)

#### **New Salem**

Harley Dwayne Rees (3/27/1948-10/16/2021) Miriam F Snow (11/13/1923-4/1/2022)

#### **Plainfield**

Mary Ava Nease (3/4/1971-2/26/2022)
William Allen Maxwell (5/3/1924-12/29/2021)
Lois Jean Maxwell (2/8/1929-10/17/2021)
Carolyn Sue Maxwell Moore (3/26/1951-7/13/2022)
Everett Stanley, Jr. (6/25/1924-9/3/2021)
James Neville Boone (5/15/1944-8/27/2021)
Virginia Nadine Kemp (2/27/1928-11/28/2021)

#### Sandcreek-Azalia

Alan Wayne Clark (8/25/1934-7/6/2021) Deborah Dee Yeley (5/14/1956-10/3/2021) Eric M Engle (12/19/1956-1/9/2022)

Mark R. Peterson (5/4/1954-3/7/2022)

#### Shiloh

Gary Simmons (7/8/1956-8/3/2021) Sandy Swindell (9/12/1942-7/7/2021)

#### **Tangier**

Bruce Hadley Brown (7/26/1931-9/19/2021) Evelyn Margaret Graham Brown (1/30/1938-5/31/2022)

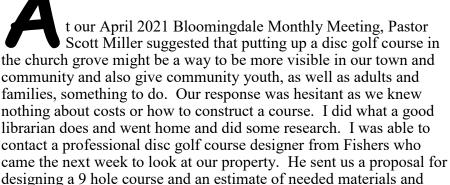
#### **West Newton**

Dan Burger (12/29/1958-3/30/2022) Ruth Alber (11/14/1926-2/1/2022)

#### DISC GOLF AND BLOCK PARTY

By Sarabeth Marcinko, Bloomingdale Friends





costs. We also got an estimate for some drainage work from a local contractor, and the monthly meeting approved moving forward with this project.

The cost estimates allowed us to apply for some local grants. The Rotary group gave us a small grant which we used to pay design fees. The Parke County Community Foundation also provided some grant money to help with

the costs of materials. Another partner was the town board, as we went to a meeting and talked to them about our plans. We are located in the middle of town next to the town playground and across the street from the ballpark.

The summer of 2021 was mainly spent in getting the project planned, gathering support and spreading word about it in our community, and preparing the property for installing the equipment. We had several work days where we cut limbs and trees and picked

up and burned limbs and leaves to prepare the area for the course. In the fall, the designer laid out the course, and some of our members were able to install the pole sleeves in the ground for the targets/baskets. They had to dig holes and mix concrete in order to set the sleeves.

At first we had optimistically thought we could get the course done in 3 months or so, but the planning and preparations took longer than we had anticipated. This turned out to

be fortunate, I think, as we learned in the spring of 2022 about a grant opportunity through the United Way of the Wabash Valley. They were giving grants to nonprofit groups called "Strengthening Neighborhoods," and we were ready with our plan and estimates of costs.

Our partnerships with the town, local business, the 4-H Club, etc. and our plans for a project that could benefit the health and atmosphere of our entire community led to our getting the largest grant possible.

During late spring and summer of 2022, members did some more cleanup of our grounds, installed hog slats for tee pads, and painted and put up posts for signs. In June we were able to put up





Disc Golf, continued on page 11.

two baskets in the practice area and use them during VBS to give the youth a preview of what was coming. We were also able to finish our project with the 4-H club of collecting plastic lids for benches and a trash receptacle for the course. We also got a bench that the 4-H club could decide where to place in the town. They had it put by the town playground so people could sit and watch their children play. A local business donated a plaque for the 4-H bench. The Rotary gave us another small grant which helped with the costs for these benches.

We were already planning a Community Block Party for August, so we decided we could go ahead and put up the baskets and have our course "grand opening," even though we don't have the permanent signage and some drainage work completed yet. For the Block Party, we cooperated with the other church in town and the town board. We

also got a small grant from the community foundation. We rented inflatables from the youth group at the church where our former pastor, Scott Miller, is now. (They came and set them up and ran them.) We asked some local groups to provide music. We had hot dogs and hamburgers, chips, drinks and Kona Ice. Corn hole, badminton, face painting, crafts and, of course, disc golf were among the other activities. The Indiana Festivals truck came and provided music and bubbles. The rain missed us, and we had a great crowd. We may try to have another party in 2-3 years.

Since the Block Party, we have had several people playing on the disc golf course. We are thrilled with the responses we have had, especially from those who were already playing at other courses in nearby counties. They have told us it is well-designed with quality equipment and the tee pads are great to have as some courses lack them. I think someone has already put our course in an app that is like a virtual score card. A local person in the community has said her son is now "addicted" and has ordered his own set of discs. We are looking forward to fully completing this project, and pray it will be a very positive part of our community outreach.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL Plainfield Friends

Saturday NOVEMBER 12, 2022 9:00 a.m. ~ Devotions

9:30 a.m. ~ BOARD MEETINGS 12 noon lunch ~ On Your Own

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL Saturday October 15, 2022

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

10 a.m.—12 noon Kelly Room

Wednesday October 26, 2022



PASTORS BROWN BAG LUNCH GATHERING

11:45 a.m.
Carmel Friends Church

651 W. Main St. ~ Carmel ~ 46032

There is an old saying that says "What happens at \_\_\_\_\_ stay at \_\_\_\_\_." In this case replace the blanks with "quilt camp". Well..., not everything stays there. Some things do escape!

52 ladies and 1 young man packed up their bedding, clothes, and of course our sewing gear and headed for Quaker Haven Camp where we enjoyed delicious Quaker Haven cooking and hospitality as usual.

Although the camp did not start until Friday evening many came a day earlier just to get a little more done. Some went shopping at the nearby quilting stores on Thursday and Friday. I even heard of a few who were seen at a garage sale in Shipshewana!

The official camp started on Friday evening with a gift exchange. Then... it was sewing until you decided to go to bed for the evening.

Saturday involved a lot of sewing and laughing as well as a "Drag and Brag" time (a time to show what you had made since our last camp in April). We also traded 5" blocks of fabric that had fruit on it. We'll see what everyone makes from those squares.

Sunday was more sewing and, if you like, attending worship with Quaker Haven Meeting.

We had several visits from the Mennonite and Amish who were also camping on the grounds.

As you can see in some of the pictures, a fun time was had by all.

Betty Heshelman, Mooresville



Stephanie Wilkins



Betty Heshelman



**Phyllis Smith** 





Sherrie Reed



Sue Roe



Nancy Carter



**Judy Moon** 

#### **USFWI Retreat** ~ **ABOUNDING IN HOPE** ~ **Held at Quaker Haven Camp**







#### FROM SARAH LOOKABILL

I recently attended the Midwest Region USFW retreat held at Quaker Haven Camp. While it is always oreat to have a reason to drive up to the camp, the retreat itself is also a time of renewal and inspiration with other USFW women, seeing old friends and making new ones. This year, Sylvia Graves Beane, led the sessions based on the 2022 -2023 USFWI theme of "Abounding in Hope" based on Romans 15:13. Through small and large group discussions, we explored several different ways to find hope which included scripture, hymns, personal stories, and writings by several authors. Hope can be anticipation, belief, confidence, desire, expectation, faith, optimism and promise. Sometimes we may find it easy to have hope and sometimes we may have to work a little harder to find it. The struggle may be real but hope is always there somewhere if we continue to put our trust in God.

#### **ABOUNDING IN HOPE**

The USFWI theme for this year, "Abounding in Hope," is based on Romans 15:13: "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."



Women who attended the fall retreat at Quaker Haven Sept 12 & 13 took a deep dive into the meaning of hope and what it means to abound in it. The ladies defined hope as a "vision of something you desire that comes with the holy energy you need to help make it happen." They wrote down what they hoped for as related to themselves, their families, their world and what they hoped would happen after their earthly life was over.

Recognizing that hope is a gift from God when we are discouraged, we studied writings about women whose hope had pulled them through traumatic experiences such as cancer, rape, and the death of a child. We looked at hopes held by people whose circumstances are very different from our own. My husband, Dan Beane, has kept in touch with refugees he met in United Nations-sponsored camps in Kenya and Zimbabwe. He shared pictures and stories of people who have spent most, if not all, their lives in refugee camps with hopes of being adopted by a new country.

As followers of Christ, we are called to help build his new creation by offering hope to others. We took a glance at N.T. Wright's book, *Surprised By Hope*, in which he writes, "Salvation does what it's meant to do when those who are saved realize they are saved not for themselves alone but for what God longs to do, not merely in us and for us, but through us." Let us allow God's gift of hope fill us so that our whole life and outlook is radiant with hope.

Sylvia Graves Beane

#### FROM SHAREN RITCHIE

As Sylvia walked in, you could feel the Presence and the Peace of God fill the room. She expertly guided us through a time of getting to know one another in which our hearts became knit together. This allowed us to freely discuss HOPE, what it is, what ours are, and how to walk in light of what we learned, both personally and communally.

We sang, we laughed, we cried. And through it all, God was glorified. This was by far the most fulfilling retreat I've been on.

Thank you Lord, and thank you Sylvia!

#### 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

**Address Correction Requested** 

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

#### Monday through Thursday

9 a.m.—12 noon 1 p.m.—3 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

#### ASSOCIATE SUPERERINTENDENT Chris Harris

chris@westernyearlymeeting.org 317-498-9058

#### YEARLY MEETING CLERK

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

#### **OFFICE MANAGER**

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

### DECEMBER IN YOUR MEETING

Have you planned the Christmas season for your Meeting?

- Special outreach events;
- Christmas Eve Carols & Candles;
- Special worship services;
- Christmas Sermon Series?

We would like to include information about your Christmas plans in the December issue of Western Work. The deadline for inclusion of articles and information is THURSDAY, November 10th.

They can be emailed to: office @westernyearlymeeting.org; or mailed to WYM, PO Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168.