

# WESTERN WORK

Spring 2024

## Fluid Prayer

Devotional By Olivia Kessinger



**Olivia Kessinger**

**New Pastor of Bloomingdale Friends**

Whenever I find myself sticking with the habit of praying at set times—and again, we’re talking 10-15 minutes once or twice a day, I notice something happening in my mind and spirit: my conversations with God stop feeling herky-jerky and instead become as familiar as breathing. I stop rushing and start tarrying, waiting long enough to rest in the Joy of Christ.

For me, prayer practice starts out clunky and awkward, but then, sooner than I'd think, it becomes fluid.

This is probably a terrible thing to admit as a pastor, but I used to dread prayer. It has, in various seasons, felt like a chore or cardio—I know I need to do it, know it’s good for me. . . but, I just don’t wanna.

Usually two major things keep me from engaging in a prayer practice:

One: Productivity Brain, Martha. My to-do list. The trouble is, there is a lot of important stuff on that list, no, really. I’m not being fanciful or dramatic. I’ve got three kids and two jobs and a house to run. The logistics required just to get a bathroom break alone are daunting, and now the Bible and all the meditation books are telling me I should meditate/pray for at least 12 minutes a day?? I should just be in the presence of Jesus, without like, going over my upcoming tasks or mentally writing a sermon? I’m sorry, but I always thought Jesus was a bit harsh with Martha, asking her to come sit with Him, even as all her chores and tasks threatened to swallow her whole. I am Team Martha. In my experience, the Marthas of the world are often misunderstood and unfairly criticized by people benefiting from their labor. So us Marthas have a hard time knowing how to rest and relax, so we measure our worth by our productivity, so we try to serve God without seeking Him. . . so what?

Two: Squirrel Brain. I don’t know what you call your wandering thoughts but I call mine Squirrel Brain. Or Trixie for short because she is both klutzy and tricky. Sure, Trixie the Squirrel is cute and lovable; sometimes she can even be clever; she’s been known to be good for a laugh. But every time I set about rewiring thinking patterns and adjusting the anxiety settings on my brain, here comes Trixie: overturning bookshelves, hanging from the curtains, and gnawing on the kitchen table’s legs. Basically not doing anything productive, unless you count destruction and chaos productive, which I do not. Meditating with Squirrel Brain Trixie is a lot like taking two toddlers to library story hour; it’s completely horrible, most likely will end in tears and/or screaming, and everyone is glad when it’s over. But, apparently, if you keep at it long enough, it gets better.

Olivia (Hobbs) Kessinger is the new pastor at Bloomingdale Friends Church. She is married to Jeff Kessinger, and they have three children, Izzy, Graham, and Marzee. Jeff and Olivia also own Kessco Water, a small business that sells and services Kinetico water systems.

Her maternal grandmother, Phyllis Brown Warner and great-grandma Grace Brown were lifelong members of Bloomingdale Friends. Her mom, Pam Warner Hobbs grew up in this church. Rick and Bonnie Hobbs are also her aunt and uncle, so she grew up visiting this church often, and was even dedicated there as a baby. Bloomingdale Friends has always been one of her “home” churches, and she is excited to partner with them, extending the love of Jesus to Parke County.

Olivia grew up in Marshall, Indiana and graduated from Turkey Run High School in 2009. She attended IWU and graduated in 2013 with a degree in English and Writing. She and Jeff got married in August 2012, just before her senior year at IWU. They actually remodeled a small, closed

**“Fluid Prayer” continued on page 3**

**“O. Kessinger” Continued on page 6**

# A word from our General Superintendent



**Shawn McConaughey**  
**WYM General Superintendent**

## Good Governance

I'm sure the word "governance" caught your attention and made you very eager to read this article. The truth is that there is nothing particularly heart-pounding about church structure, except when people propose changing it.... Some of you are not sure whether it is worse to have the IRS contact you or the clerk of the local nominating committee. We joke about Quakers being slow to make decisions and we chuckle about needing to form committees around every little decision we make.

I will admit that I don't always enjoy committee work, but over the years I have come to really appreciate and trust the important work a dedicated group can do together. I often leave those meetings feeling very encouraged. The work of our boards and committees turns out to be rather vital to the life of our local Meetings and Yearly Meetings. Could we do a better job with them? Undoubtedly! We continue to work on that.

But I continue to see God working through these groups. There are several YM committees that I have been blessed by in the past few months. To mention just one, I have been blessed by our YM Property Trustees and their diligence and care for the property and buildings that we have been entrusted with. It's a group that meets monthly, shares the burden of the work, is generous, and laughs together while they go about their business.

They are certainly not the only group that works well. I am so thankful for the many YM committees, boards, and task groups that meet to seriously consider the vast array of ministry we undertake together.

Here is my challenge: I want to suggest that each of our Meetings ensures they have a person who attends our Administrative Council

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**I want to suggest that each of our Meetings ensures they have a person who attends our Administrative Council Meeting Saturday, March 9th in person or on zoom. I'm hoping for 100% representation.**

Meeting Saturday, March 9th in person or on zoom. I'm hoping for 100% representation. Since we only really meet 2-3 times a year, it is important that each Meeting have a representative present. We need your prayerful input, and we need you to carry back the YM business to your local Meetings. It is one of the ways we can work together more closely. I hope you will join me in Plainfield on the 9th.

Shawn McConaughey  
WYM General Superintendent

(No Marthas or Trixies are meant to be offended by this. Those are great names for great women. To all Marthas and Trixies reading this: Please feel free to call your mental anxieties or mental wanderings "Olivia.")

But back to prayer.

Alas, a church put me on payroll and I realized talking about the importance of prayer didn't mean anything if I didn't actually do it. Well, then. I have decided to quiet both the Martha and Trixie voices and show up to a prayer practice. I have decided to commit to daily prayer, even if it feels like a dreaded chore or exercise.

So you'll understand my wonder and delight at discovering that the more I practice it, the more prayer feels like folding a pile of new fluffy towels straight from the dryer, or going on a hike in the woods. Still a chore, still exercise, but also warm and invigorating. And restful. Perhaps I'll linger, laying down in the pile of towels or sitting on a sun-warmed rock, lavishing in a rest I almost withheld from my spirit.

The truth is, when it comes to starting and maintaining a discipline of prayer there are no shortcuts. But there is simplicity. I don't need formulas and sanctuaries, memorized liturgies or detailed prayer lists. It's not a task to be completed. It's not a competition or a challenge: it's just a conversation. It's just a soul-catnap while God watches over you.

My favorite practice right now is to start with slow, deep breathing, watching my thoughts and recentering on my breath when Squirrel Brain Trixie kicks in. The goal here is not to "clear my mind" but rather to fix my mind on Christ. His simple name Yahweh is a really good breath prayer; breathing those two syllables, in and out, feels like catching that Squirrel darting around, and petting her back softly till she settles down to rest. Alright Trixie, just hush for a minute.

The other goal here is not to silence my thoughts, but rather capture them and align them with Christ's. This is usually when Productivity Brain Martha kicks in, reciting a diatribe of all the "Most Pressing Tasks I'm Not Doing." So I take a few more deep breaths, whisper breathing "Jesus is Lord" and then send her to the corner with some knitting. She doesn't know how to knit, so it will take her a minute to learn, and buy me some time.

In between calming Squirrel Brain and redirecting Productivity Brain, is a hairbreadth of spiritual clarity, a small jolt of divine electricity, a glimpse of the Radiant One.

"Bring your people to me," He whispers, "I'm listening."

And so I start, palms up, eyes closed, letting your faces come to mind and your names pass my lips. Holding you, for just a moment, in His Holiness and Healing.

I don't know if it works, or how it works, or when it works. I carry doubt in one hand and faith in the other. Sometimes I forget which is in which hand. Is this doubt or is this faith? They both look a lot like Mystery.

All I know is that it's changing me: my thoughts are a little quieter; my focus a little clearer; my temper a little less sparky. Someone cut me off in traffic the other day, and I almost said a favorite four letter word, but I caught just on the tip of my tongue and wished them well instead. Miracles abound. I'm still not a very forgiving person, but I feel like I'm a bit closer to being an almost forgiving person. A little less petty, a little less passive aggressive. I've got some grudges I'm considering letting go. If I keep this practice up, in ten or twenty more years I might even be patient. But you know what they say, only foolish people pray for patience, so we'll put a pin in that one.

Another mysterious thing is happening when I pray: I'm having easier access to what I call my Cloud of Witnesses, beloved believers who have passed on, yet still are helping me pray. I feel more connected to my loved ones who have passed, it's like they are just right there, on the other side of that curtain, weaving their prayers with mine. We borrow Martha's knitting needles and knit a sweater of protection around people, always just the right size.

I find myself thinking often of that old hymn "I Come to the Garden Alone." It was one of my Grandma Loretta's favorite hymns, and she is one of the people in my Cloud of Witnesses; I feel her sometimes, just hovering at my elbow when I pray. Sometimes when I think of her, I can see her holding a yellow legal pad with her cursive handwriting spelling out a list of names, people I haven't thought of in years. As I pray, I can hear her singing over me:

And He walks with me  
And He talks with me  
And He tells me I am His own  
And the joy we share as we tarry there  
No other has every known.

May I tarry a little more, stay a little longer, knitting more prayer sweaters to keep you warm.

# A Word from our Associate Superintendent

In our last news article Shawn talked about the necessity of sharing our stories both for ourselves and for our communities.

The stories in our head make up how we see the world and they often go unspoken. Each of us - in our families, our workplace, our church - has a narrative about what is happening in our world. When we don't share these stories we end up talking about the same situations with very different perspectives without acknowledging the miscommunications that are going on.

In addition to the stories in our heads, there are larger stories the world tries to tell us. There is a war going on because of this. The economy is doing well because of that. The only way to solve our problems as a nation is to do this. The reason our community is struggling is because of these people. These larger stories flow into our personal narratives of the world.

I like to think of these stories through the words of the Apostle Paul: **Ephesians 2:10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

"God's handiwork" comes from the Greek word *Poiema* - it means the works of God the creator. *Poiema* is the root of the word *Poem* in English. Each of us is a part of God's poem, of the story God is crafting in the world.

It's easy for us to forget that each person we meet is also a beloved creation of God, that they have a part to play in the work of God love is doing. It is easy to forget that everyone has that of God within them in the stories we tell ourselves.

The new story God is telling is about love and renewal, rather than the worldly story of blame and entropy. We are all created as our new selves in the story of Jesus. Our new stories fall into the work God has already prepared for us in the ministry of love that Jesus carried out.

We can be hesitant to talk about our inclusion in God's story of love. It can feel like we're singling ourselves out or trying to say that we're special in a way that others are not.

In our humble Midwest culture talking about how God has worked in our lives can feel like bragging and there are ways that people talk about God's work that are off-the-mark: God has made them wealthy or helped them win a football game.

But learning to talk about ourselves as works of God is an important part of our lives as Friends. Our lives are our testimony, our lives are the stories that people will hear about what God is doing. Learning to talk about what God is doing, learning to tell the story of God's work in our lives, is essential to our testimony as Friends.

As I visit meetings, I'm encouraged by the life that I see, by the works of love I encounter. As we move forward as a yearly meeting I hope to see more focus on how we talk about God's work in our lives.

If I meet you in my travels, know that I would love to hear God is working in your life. Think about the way you can talk to your meeting about God's work. Think about the way you can encourage others to tell their part of God's story. Together let's think about what the next part of God's story of love will be and what part we have to play in that story as Friends.



Tom Rockwell  
WYM Associate Superintendent

## Administrative Council of Western Yearly Meeting 11-11-2023

Present: Sarabeth Marcinko, Kathy Clendening, Bill Clendening, John Moorman, John Heshelman, Wayne Carter, Lynn Mills, Bonnie Hobbs, Jim Crew, Luann Hagee, Cathy Harris, Shawn McConaughy, Tom Rockwell, David Hanson, Marilynn Bell, Betty Heshelman, Peggy Hollingsworth, Pam Sims, Sarah Lookabill, Dinah Geiger, David Whicker, Bill Heald, Laura Brown, Jo Vickers, Lane Sims, Chris Lindley, Mark Tope, Katrina McConaughy, Ramona Trover, Paul Trover, Wayne Bogue, Brenda Rodeheffer

**01-F-23:** Presiding Clerk Sarabeth Marcinko opened Administrative Council, sharing thanks and concerns. These included that Pat Wilson has been caring for Jim Wilson, who has Parkinson's disease, but Pat fell and broke bones. Currently they are together at Wellbrooke Senior Living. Bob Havens had a major heart attack and died the night before Administrative Council. Ramallah was heavy on our hearts and minds.

Tom Rockwell, WYM's new Associate Superintendent, gave the devotion with a Thanksgiving theme. He stated there is a widespread movement to be more thankful. Secular thankfulness is primarily noticing good things in our lives but spiritual thankfulness is deeper. Phil 1:29-30:

For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

Sometimes suffering has meaning and there is a deeper thankfulness in being part of God's plan. Tom challenged us to consider the work we participated in that brought us closer to God's call and God's justice: what would that work be?

**02-F-2023:** Superintendent Report: Shawn McConaughy started his report with a slide show made by Sue Whitesel of WYM events over the last several months, including Fall Impact at Quaker Haven and Flourishing Friends. Shawn asked if any Monthly Meeting has not turned in a contribution for our WYM Outreach project of funding the building of a church in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, please do so now. WYM is behind in meeting its Outreach goal compared to recent years. Shawn is currently clerking many committees including the FUM Finance committee. Shawn wants us to instill in ourselves the word "change." Everyone that grows, changes; and if WYM is going to grow, it will require change. What is it we are called to do together as a Yearly Meeting? Representatives of Wilmington YM, New Association YM and WYM have been meeting and it has generated a lot of energy and ideas on how to help each other. Several groups have begun to meet online to consider improvements in education, youth ministries and a new mini-camp. The intention of a mini-camp is to invite and provide a Christian camp experience to youth who identify as a sexual or gender minority. Everyone would be invited, not just youth who identify as LGBTQ, but it will be accommodating to all. Tom

Rockwell and Rachel Doll O'Mahoney would lead the camp. There will be a separate Retreat for parents of children of minority sexual or gender youth. It will not be scheduled during any junior high or high school camps already scheduled at Quaker Haven. It is a parallel camp, not a competition or replacement. It may be held at Quaker Knoll, a Wilmington camp in the last full weekend of June. Shawn invited anyone that would be upset about this to meet directly with Shawn or Tom. It is not the intent to make a statement of WYM as an "affirming" YM. Some of our Monthly Meetings are affirming Monthly Meetings, while others are not. Those present at Administrative Council who spoke out about this plan were generally positive, although some were wary and expressed concern that scripture be the emphasis at the camp. Wilmington, New Association and WYM agree the camp is to be Christian, Christ-centered. IYM has been clear that it will not allow an affirming minority camp to be held at Quaker Haven. Shawn again encouraged those who are concerned to speak directly with Tom and him.

**03-F-2023:** Associate Superintendent report: Tom Rockwell referred us to his written report. He feels we have a lot more interest by young people than is apparent. 90 youth attended Fall Impact. Tom was warmly welcomed by several Friends during Administrative Council.

**04-F-2023:** Executive Committee: a written report was presented by John Heshelman. Chris Lindley shared that Outreach Board has appointed Dinah Geiger to serve on the Mesquakie Mission Board. The scripture John 10:10 on abundant life will be the theme for 2024 WYM annual sessions. The Program Committee is also considering having 2025 WYM annual sessions at Quaker Haven camp, and the committee would like input. 2025 will be the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of QHC.

**05-F-2023:** Shawn McConaughy submitted a report for Friends United Meeting. The Belize work is exciting and growing, both in youth and attendance at worship. They hope to buy a bus to enable folk to attend worship in Belize. Oscar is looking for a teaching team from WYM to visit Belize. The Ambwere Farm has done quite well. It employed over 200 local people. Tanzania has been difficult and yet there is high growth. The growth is extending to other countries. The Otienos have had some conflict with FUM leadership; there is a committee working with the Otienos. Work is being done towards the FUM triennial being hosted by WYM in 2026. Sarabeth added that Sylvia Grave Beane is on FUM Board as Recording Clerk. WYM is well represented at FUM.

**06-F-2023:** Nominating Committee: Sarabeth is still leading Nominating while she is serving as Presiding Clerk of WYM. There are several open positions, including Friends Apartment Home, Board on Finance, and Sundesmos (2 need to be young adults but there is an open position too). Sarabeth asked that each Monthly Meeting make sure we have a member on Nominating Committee.

**07-F-2023:** Outreach Board: Chris Lindley reported next year is FWCC world plenary in Africa. We can appoint an on-site representative and on-line

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## **“Administrative Council” Continued from page 5**

representative. Outreach nominated LuAnn Hagee as our on-site representative and Norma Wallman as our on-line representative. LuAnn and Norma already serve as our FWCC representatives. The committee has travel funds to help with expenses. There is an opportunity for a young adult to go (ages 18 – 35). For funding, application needs to be made by November 17<sup>th</sup>.

There were no other action items by the Boards. The following consent reports were submitted and distributed:

Board on Christian Education  
Board on Christian Ministries & Evangelism  
Board on Christian Outreach  
Treasurer report

**08-F-2023:** Peggy Hollingsworth gave a brief report for Earlham. WYM has six representatives; all are active, although none are Earlham grads. The sustainability plan is crucial as enrollment is not sufficient to fully support the school. The current President has submitted her resignation and a search committee is being formed.

**09-F-2023:** Kathy Clendening reported on Friends Apartment Home that a new roof has been installed and they have hired Geoff Grover, as a part time on-site maintenance worker. It is hoped this will decrease their overall expenses.

**10-F-2023:** All submitted reports were approved.

**11-F-2023:** New business: None.

**12-F-2023:** Announcements:

- Hopewell Friends will have a celebration for Avis Rees next Sunday, and Friends were encouraged to send notes. Avis and Max Rees served WYM and QHC for many years.
- Lynn Mills shared that Phyllis Paulsen is cleaning out her house and she sent some crafting projects that any may take for free.
- The New London fish fry was being held the day of Administrative Council.
- Max Carter and Tom Hamm recently gave a lecture at Levi Coffin home this week on Quakers and Native Americans up to the time of the civil war.
- Mooresville has apple butter for sale for \$5. Sarabeth also has a few copies of the book on Annice Carter available to buy.

Lynn Mills closed the Meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarabeth Marcinko, Presiding Clerk  
Brenda Rodeheffer, Recording Clerk  
John Heshelman, Assistant to the Clerk

## **Administrative Council**

**March 9, 2024**

**Plainfield Friends**

**Devotions 9:30am**

**Boards: 10:00am-12pm**

**Lunch on your own: 12-1:30pm**

**Administrative Council : 1:30pm**

**Look for the Zoom link in the  
Western Update**

**Come and hear what God's  
doing in WYM!**

## **“O. Kessinger” Continued from page 1**

church to get married in, located on Jeff's Grandpa Albert's Farm up by Grange Corner. This was also a Friends' Church!

After graduation, Olivia took a job at Marshall Federated Church as the youth pastor, working alongside Brother Don Perry. In 2014, she took a step back from ministry to be a stay at home mom and then run Kessco with Jeff. Over the years, she has preached off and on, often at Bloomingdale Friends, and has written a lot of devotional-lifestyle pieces, centered around faith and motherhood.

**WELCOME TO WYM, OLIVIA!**



A YOUTH CAMP OPEN TO ALL	CHARISM CAMP: EXPLORING YOUR GIFTS
JUNE 28-30 <b>2024</b>	SAVE THE DATE
Questions ? <a href="mailto:racheldollomahoney@gmail.com">racheldollomahoney@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org">tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org</a>	 <b>QUAKER KNOLL</b> Wilmington, Ohio

## QUAKER HAVEN CAMP 2024

June 7-9	Young Adult Camp 20s-30s	June 23-28	Adventure Camp 5th-6th
June 9-14	Junior High Camp 7th-8th	July 7-12	Senior High 2 Camp 9th-2024 Graduates
June 14-16	Beginner's Camp K-2nd	July 14-18	Pioneer Camp 3rd-5th
June 16-21	Senior High 1 Camp 9th-2024 Graduates	July 21-24	Little Friends Camp 2nd-4th

For pricing, registration, and scholarship information, visit [quakerhaven.com/youth-camps](http://quakerhaven.com/youth-camps)  
Please email any questions to [youthprograms@quakerhaven.com](mailto:youthprograms@quakerhaven.com)



Scholarships  
available for  
pastors and  
spouses.

## "Save the Date" Friends Pastors Retreat

Friends Pastors are invited to the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
annual Friends Pastors Retreat.

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**Date:** May 22-24, 2024  
**Location:** Hueston Woods Lodge, OH  
**Cost /Registration:** coming soon

**Childcare will be available**



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

**Hosted by:** Western Yearly Meeting,  
New Association of Friends, and  
Wilmington Yearly Meeting

**Questions??**  
[shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org](mailto:shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org)

# Embracing God's Abundance

## WYM Annual Sessions 2024

**When:**

**July 11-14, 2024**

**Theme:**

**Embracing God's Abundance**

**Where:**

**Plainfield Friends Meeting/WYM Meeting**

**You are invited to hear messages from**

**Emily Provance**

**Shawn McConaughy**

**Rachel Doll O'Mahoney**

**Tom Rockwell**

**This year, WYM Annual Sessions will begin with a Welcome Lunch at 12:00 pm on July 11, 2024 and end Sunday afternoon with lunch and a concert by Carrie Newcomer!**

### **Program Committee**

Shawn McConaughy  
Clerk (WYM)

Marilyn Tucker  
Recording Clerk (Plainfield)

Sarabeth Marcinko  
(Bloomington)

John Heshelman  
(Mooresville)

Tom Rockwell  
(WYM)

Wayne Carter  
(Plainfield)

Wanda Coffin-Baker  
(Valley Mills)

Peggy Hollingsworth  
(Russiaville)

Cathy Harris  
(Plainfield)

Beth Henricks  
(Indianapolis First Friends)

Clark & Diana Hadley  
(Plainfield)

Bill Clendinning  
(Plainfield)



## MEETINGS LOOKING FOR PASTORS

### MOORESVILLE FRIENDS MEETING

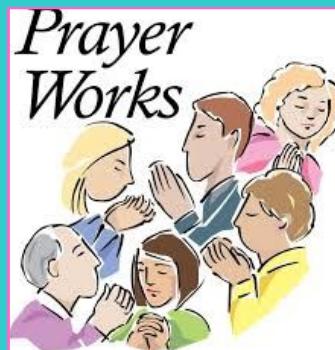
50 N Monroe St, Mooresville, IN 46158

[pastorsearch.mfc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsearch.mfc@gmail.com)

### SANDCREEK-AZALIA FRIENDS

13275 S 350 E, Elizabethtown, IN 47232

Contact Al Reed at: [asmcreed@gmail.com](mailto:asmcreed@gmail.com)



Inviting everyone in Western to join us online for a time of intercession and fellowship. Come lend your prayers to Western Yearly Meeting and its members! Prayer group every other Monday evening starting

February 12 at 7:30pm! Check the Western Update for the Zoom link.

If you have questions you can contact Tom Rockwell at [tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org](mailto:tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org)

## PULPIT SUPPLY

<b>Wanda Coffin Baker</b>	317-790-7976
<b>Stan Banker</b>	317-823-2593 <a href="mailto:bankersall@sbcglobal.net">bankersall@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Susann Estle</b>	317-260-9006 <a href="mailto:susannestle@gmail.com">susannestle@gmail.com</a>
<b>Worth Hartman</b>	317-417-0806 <a href="mailto:worthgrover@sbcglobal.net">worthgrover@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Dan Lee</b>	317-850-4298 <a href="mailto:dleehoss@yahoo.com">dleehoss@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Marlene Pedigo</b>	317-292-2384 <a href="mailto:marlenepedigo@yahoo.com">marlenepedigo@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Jeff Wells</b>	812-620-1573 <a href="mailto:jwellsrph@gmail.com">jwellsrph@gmail.com</a>

<b>Sue Whitesel</b>	317-840-5021 <a href="mailto:stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net">stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net</a>
<b>Chris Wynn</b>	317-667-4375 <a href="mailto:chris_wynn@juno.com">chris_wynn@juno.com</a>
<b>Western Yearly Meeting</b>	317-839-2789
<b>Shawn McConaughey Superintendent</b>	<a href="mailto:shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org">shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org</a>
<b>Tom Rockwell Associate Superintendent</b>	<a href="mailto:tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org">tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org</a>
<b>Friends United Meeting</b>	757-962-7573 Kelly Kellum
<b>Tom Roberts</b>	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 McConaughy  
shawn@westernyearlymeeting.org  
971-281-0979

#### ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT

Thomas Rockwell  
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#### YEARLY MEETING CLERK

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800-909-3452

#### SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

Maggie Crawford  
maggie@westernyearlymeeting.org

## Welcome to WYM



**Catherine Griffith**  
**New Pastor at Hadley Friends**

Catherine Griffith was born and raised as an evangelical Quaker in Portland, Oregon, and still considers herself an Oregonian, even though she hasn't lived there since 1987. She was recorded as a minister among Friends by Western Yearly Meeting in 1991. She has a Ph.D. in applied religious ethics from the University of Virginia. Her daughter lives in Portland, Oregon, and her son is the pastor of Muncie (Indiana) Friends, married with four children. Catherine enjoys reading, baking, knitting, and (whenever possible) spending time with her grandchildren. Just for them, she developed what she calls "Grandma's Pre-Driving Driving School," in which participants learn how to do things like turn on the car.