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| Western Work  FALL, 2019 | **Administrative Council**  Saturday  **November 16, 2019**  **PLAINFIELD FRIENDS**  9:30 a.m.  Coffee & Breakfast Snacks  10:00 a.m.  Devotions  10:30 a.m.  Business Meeting  12 noon  Lunch  Plainfield Friends will provide lunch with a basket put out for donations to help offset the lunch expenses.  1:00 p.m.  Afternoon Program  TBA  **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**  Outgoing Epistle 2-5  Thank you Wanda 6  Youth 7  Connecting with Meetings 8  Pastors Fall Gathering 9  West Union 9  Upcoming Events 10 |
| “LIFE-GIVING”: giving or having power to give life and spirit **:** [INVIGORATING](https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/invigorating)  There are so many stories in our Yearly Meeting that are  “Life-Giving” stories!  You know….those *“little things”* that happen among friends that communicate care and love, and those little things that mean that *“we”* are still alive?  Maybe it’s just a small something that happened and when you stop to think about it, you found it to be “life-giving.”  Friends, we are very much still alive! And the chal- lenge is in our willingness to look for those stories and then share those stories.  We, the SUPT. TEAM, want to invite you to share those stories with us; and we would like to include those stories in *Western Work*. You are invited to write a short, 50  -100 words article, and send it to us for the next *Western Work.* And you are more than welcome to send pictures! The deadline for the next *Western Work* is October 30,  2019.   The 2019 **WYM OUTREACH PROJECT UPDATE:**  So far, donations for Girl Child Education in Turkana and Samburu amount to $3,026. Our goal is $15,000.   **Plainfield** welcomes their new pastor **Cathy Harris.**  Welcome back to WYM Cathy!  Continued on page 8 |
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WESTERN YEARLY MEETING

# OUTGOING EPISTLE

July 28, 2019

Greetings To Friends Every- where:

Western Yearly Meeting gath- ered in Plainfield, Indiana from July 25-28, 2019 for our 162nd annual session. Each year our Program Committee works with individuals, meet-

## UNLEASH THE LOVE,

***RELEASE THE POWER***

ings, boards,

and committees to help promote Quaker unity in refreshing and helpful ways.

This year was no exception!

Through period- ic email updates, the projected content of this year’s meeting was conveyed in a way to en- courage attendance and inter- est. The theme, “Unleash the Love, Release the Power” was emphasized through daily worship, business sessions, social times, and creative workshops. “For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power,

love, and self-discipline. (II

Timothy 1:7)” became the ba- sis for each day’s program- ming.

Following an uplifting mini concert by Tom Roberts, Joe Roberts, and Joe Wiegand, Quaker Lecturer, Kelly Kel- lum, General Secretary of

Friends United Meeting, pre- sented how the people of FUM have responded, are responding,

and will continue to respond with God’s Love and Power to the Great Commission on be- half of each one of us who are members. He reminded us of the difficult situations that are sometimes faced by Quakers and how their response helps spread Quaker values in a very real and personal way. Ron Bryan, retired pastor, William Penn professor, and Iowa Yearly Meeting Superinten- dent, was intrigued with our theme. Coming from Grin-

nell, Iowa to be the Daily De- votional Speaker, he made sure each day started on a positive note by helping us

recognize the Love and Power of God working in each of us.

Tom Bertrand came from Virginia to present the report from Friends Com- mittee on National Legislation (FCNL) and continued to share his expertise by leading a luncheon discussion group and presenting an interest group on

Spirit-led Activism. His continued pres- ence and participation through-out the four days provided opportunities for sharing of perspectives and experiences. Western Yearly Meeting remains active- ly involved with FCNL and other affili- ated bodies, relying on their representa- tives to suggest ways we can work be- yond ourselves in the world at large.

Reports from FUM (Kelly Kellum/John Muhanji ); RSWR (Beth Hendricks);

IFCL (Diana Hadley); AFSC (Abdullah Olsen); Earlham College (Kelly Burk/ Anne Houtman); Earlham School of Re- ligion (Dean Matt Hisrich/Prof. Phil Baisley); FWCC (Luanne Hagee); FDS (Lane Sims); QHC (Brandon Dennis); and FAH (Kathy Clendening) were well received and appreciated.

Afternoon workshops designed for all attenders included: a look at “What’s going on in East Africa” presented by

missionaries Shawn and Katrina McCo- naughey; “Modern Psalms in Search of Peace and Justice,” presented by Dwight Wilson; and a panel discussion on “What in Quaker History Needs Our Contemporary Power?” (John Connell, David Kinsey, Bob Henry, and Dan Lee, moderated by Diana Hadley.)

A full program of additional special in- terest workshops allowed members to work in small groups to explore multi- ple ways to “Unleash the Power” in tan- gible ways. The wide ranging topics in- cluded: “Connecting Quakers In the So- cial Media Age,” (MD&N Board);

“Seeking Common Ground with Other Friends for Spirit-led Activism,” (Tom Bertrand); “Unleash the Power and

Love of your Pastor,” (Della Stanley- Green); “Confessions of a Quaker Edu- cator,” (Dr. Alva ‘Doc’ Sibbitt, Jr.); ”Mesquakie Mission Invites You,” (Mac and Bernie McDonald); “Hate Crimes Legislation,” (Rep. Greg Steuerwald); “Bi-Vocational Ministry,” (ESR Prof.

Phil Baisley); “What Can We Do with This Old Building,” (Gene Carter); and

“Meeting Needs in our Local Communi- ty,” (facilitated by Sheri Bonham.)

James Lyon spoke on the topic “Mark and Twain”

at the special dinner for Ministers

and their Ma- tes on Friday evening.

The annual Memorial Service conducted by Marilynn Bell and Chris Wynn en- couraged us to remember those from Western Yearly Meeting who were wel- comed into heaven during this past year: rejoicing in the legacy of service that they provided and remembering their encouragement during our own growth. Recognizing how, by

###### EPIISTLE, CONTINUED

“Unleashing the Love,” they are enabling us to “Release the

Power” will allow their legacies to continue in Western Yearly Meeting.

Missions work has always been important to Western Yearly Meeting. Nikki Holland, Direc- tor of FUM Ministries in Belize

## UNLEASH THE LOVE,

lowing the Quaker Lecture. Quaker Men provided a Pan- cake Breakfast on Saturday, collecting free-will offerings to help fund Belize School scholar- ships. In 1969 WYM recog-

nized a need to serve our local community, particularly retir- ees who needed safe, modern, affordable housing. As a result,

Friends Apartment Homes

(FAH) was es- tablished and

has served as an

## RELEASE THE POWER

ongoing minis-

try ever since. We rejoiced as

was the key speaker prior to the

annual USFW/Quaker Ladies and Quaker Men banquets.

Time was provided during the business sessions for a presen- tation by Betty Heshelman re- garding her recent trip to

Ramallah, Palestine. The Out- reach Board encourages sup- port of the FUM Girl Child Edu- cation Program as a special

project for 2019, with a goal of

$15,000.

USFW provided materials, space, time, and instructions for people to help construct sanitary supplies for ladies in developing countries.

Mesquakie directors, Mac and Bernie McDonald, assisted with the Campfire Conversations fol-

they celebrated their 50 years of continuing service with an open house and reception. Youth

and children are a vital part of Western Yearly Meeting. Quak- er Haven camping experiences, as well as the Board for Peace and Social Concern providing contemporary books with a Quaker

message for use during camp Qui- et Times, are help- ing to pre- pare the younger members

for active roles in leadership

###### EPIISTLE, CONTINUED

and service. Youth present report to the Gathered Body, summarizing their ac- tivities of the past year and during their own Young Friends Western Yearly Meeting. Throughout the year, WYM

provides funding and other supports to allow students to participate in a variety of opportunities for learning and ser- vice. Quaker Haven Camp continues to work with WYM to provide wholesome camping experience for youth, families, and meeting retreats.

Meeting for Business is a critical part of this annual gathering. Western Yearly Meeting wants to encourage tangible efforts to release the power of Christ in today’s local cultures, recognizing that this may mean shifts from some of the sentimental and historical past ways of doing things. We understand the need to maintain the theological distinctives and preserve those understandings which are distinctly Quaker while find- ing a way forward in today’s world. This requires a willingness to

discuss and act on difficult issues with Christ empow- ered guidance. Please hold us in the Light as we ex- amine these issues.

A reception was held on Sunday to honor Wanda Coffin Baker and show our

appreciation for the work she has done

in WYM as Superintendent. With her move into retirement, it was decided that a three-person team would provide interim support during the revisioning

and transitioning process. Della Stanley

-Green, Sue Whitesel, and Sylvia Graves

will work together to insure cohesive-

ness as we wrestle with our mission and what that will look like going forward.

This will allow an incoming superinten- dent, when found, to have a clearer pic- ture of the vision of Western Yearly Meeting and how they can best support that vision.

We continue to examine the need for ongoing support of individual members of meetings which have been laid down, those who are living in distant locations, and those whose meetings have decided to join other Yearly Meetings. This is- sue is not one with an easy and equita- ble solution. Pray with us that wisdom and discernment will help us meet the

very real needs of these individuals for

continued fellowship and service with Western Year- ly Meeting.

Your continued prayers of support and encourage- ment are appreciated as those in Western Yearly Meeting “Unleash the

Love, Release the Power!”

A reception was held on Sunday to honor Wanda Coffin Baker and show our appreciation for the work she has been doing in WYM since 2012 as Super- intendent.

THANK YOU, Wanda, for serving with your gifts and talents; and for challenging us to take time to stop and listen to each other; to hear God’s calling, and listen for things we have never heard.

Blessings from all of us, to you, as you begin this new chapter in your life.



Dear Western Yearly Meeting:

Thank you for the check you gave me. I thought I might use it to go to the

Bahamas to rest. I’m having second

thoughts.

I haven’t yet reached the “rest” part of retirement. No rocker on the deck. No bon-bons or tootsie rolls. But some time to reflect on what we did while I was superintendent. I always amazed while I visited around differ- ent Meetings of the breadth of your talents and the depth of your spiritual life. What gifts you have! Thank you for sharing them with me.

God bless you. Wanda

A note from Wanda….

In Appreciation

I am deeply humbled by the gener- osity of everyone at my retirement. The gifts received are greatly appre- ciated and words of encouragement were very heartwarming.

Thank you and God Bless!



**The YOUTH Corner Matthew Klausmeier**

Christian Education Director

"The Yearly Meeting youth had a small group but suc- cessful Sessions! Our Sundesmos interns took care of our two high school aged youth, while Hannah Lyon cared for our two elementary aged youth. The interns planned and delivered Bible lessons during the morning activities, and then escorted them to many fun activities after lunch, such as geocaching, the water park, and

board games at a local game store. The youth prepared and served lunch on Saturday, and were quick to jump in and help anytime tables or displays needed to be set up or taken down."

[cedirector@mattklausmeier.com](mailto:cedirector@mattklausmeier.com) 317-801-0450

Office Hours: M-T-W 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

***UNLEASH THE LOVE, RELEASE THE POWER***

**SUMMER CAMP**

  



  

#### Responsibilities for Connecting with Meetings

Each meeting needs a “go-to” person. Each Supt. Sister has to have *a manageable* visitation list. Here is the list of our connecting links.

##### SYLVIA GRAVES

317-442-1361

[sylviagraves@gmail.com](mailto:sylviagraves@gmail.com)

57th Street Beech Grove Bloomingdale Blue River Carmel Coloma

Downers Grove Evansville

Fairfield

Farmers Institute Gray

LIFE-GIVING, continued

from page 1

 The fourth graders at

**Hadley Friends** had an opportunity to put togeth- er their budget during one of their Monthly Meeting for Business sessions.

 **Noblesville Friends** now has four generations in a family that are now members of their Meet- ing!

 **West Newton** shares their building with Camby Tabernacle, a Pentecost congregation of about 35 people.

SUE WHITESEL

317-840-5021

[stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net)

Newport Newberry

Noblesville First Friends

Paoli

Plainfield Russiaville

Sandreek-Azalia Shiloh

Tangier Valley Mills West Newton West Union

DELLA STANLEY-GREEN

317-313-1599

[dellasgwym@gmail.com](mailto:dellasgwym@gmail.com)

Hadley Hazel Dell Hopewell

Indianapolis First Friends

Kokomo Fist Friends Lick Creek

Marshall Federated Mooresville

New London New Salem Newport Second Friends West Middleton

**WYM PASTORS**

**FALL GATHERING**

For: pastors/spouses; retired pastors/spouses; recording candidates/spouses

This event is funded by the Pastoral Ministry Excellence Program, so there is no cost to you.

**Saturday November 9, 2019**

Carmel Friends ~ 651 W. Main Street ~ Carmel IN ~ 46032

3:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m. ~ A catered meal at 5:00 p.m.

**Special Guest: Bill Kincaid**

Christian Theology Seminary Professor and past Interim Dean of the Seminary

**LIVING**

**IN TRANSITION**

**RSVP by Friday November 1** to Sue Whitesel 317-840-5021 ~ [stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stwhitesel@sbcglobal.net)

or

#### West Union Friends Meeting Historical Marker Dedication



The Monrovia His- torical Society and the Alumni Association ap- proached west Union Friends several months ago and presented them with an idea of putting a historical marker on their grounds. So on Saturday September 7, 2019, friends and families gathered at West Union to dedicate this historical marker.

This dedication was a part of the yearly festival that Monrovia has each year.

Guest speakers in- cluded Steve Reeder,

Randy Marsh, and Senator

Rodrick Bray. Holly Satter- ly, 6th generation West Un- ion Member and Martha Fisher, long-time member unveiled the marker. Pic- ture one: Martha Fisher;

Holly Satterly. Picture two: Jim Satterly; Jodi Illg; Barb Everett; Ronna Lee; Holly Satterly; all members and attenders of West Union.

The historical

marker says this:

The West Union Friends Meeting was established in 1832 by Quakers from North Carolina. It was the first church and school in Mon- rovia which was established in 1834 by Quakers Gideon Johnson and George Hub- bard. Members of the West Union Friends Meeting were also thought to have partici- pated in the Underground Railroad due to their oppo- sition to the institution of slavery.

—Text written by Wyatt Har- vey

Guests enjoyed won- dering around the grounds, walking through the ceme- tery, and then were invited inside the church for re- freshments and conversa- tions.

### UNLEASH THE LOVE, RELEASE THE POWER

##### WESTERN WORK

**PRSRT STD**

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Phone: 317-839-2789

Toll Free: 1-800-909-3452

**OFFICE HOURS**

9 a.m. –12 noon

1 p.m.—3 p.m.

**Della**

Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday

**Sylvia—**Thursday **Sue-** Friday

Always subject to change, these are

the days the Supt. Sisters will in in the office.

**STAFF**

INTERIM CO-SUPERINTENDENTS

**Della Stanley-Green**

Team Leader

[dellasgwym@gmail.com](mailto:dellasgwym@gmail.com)

317-313-1599

**Sylvia Graves**

[sylviamillsgraves@gmail.com](mailto:sylviamillsgraves@gmail.com) 317-442-1361

**Sue Whitesel**

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**Matthew Klausmeier**

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**Bonnie Sims**

Administrative Assistant [westernym@sbcglobal.net](mailto:westernym@sbcglobal.net)

Office Hours: M—F: 9 a.m.—3 p.m.

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**Sarah Lookabill** Yearly Meeting Clerk [slookabill@att.net](mailto:slookabill@att.net) 317-431-6342



Tuesday, September 24, 2019

**USFW Fall Conference**

Kokomo Cross America, 840 Daniel Drive

Registration is due by September 18 to

Peggy Hollingsworth, [hollypeg@hotmail.com](mailto:hollypeg@hotmail.com)

Saturday, October 19, 2019 **Executive Committee Meeting**

Plainfield

Sunday, October 20, 2019 **Ice Cream Social and Area Meeting**

Russiaville Friends

5:00 p.m. Meal

6:00 p.m. Program Presentation

Saturday, October 26, 2019 **Quaker Market**

Mooresville Friends

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 2, 2019 **Faith & Practice Interactive Workshop**

West Newton

8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 3, 2019 **West Central Area Meeting**

Valley Mills