

Western Work

News of Western Yearly Meeting of the Friends Church

Co-Superintendents' Bible Study, Matthew 16:24-26

Steve & Marlene Pedigo

"Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world but loses soul?" (Matthew 16:24-26, NIV) These words were probably really felt when Jesus went to the cross. The strong meaning behind the words is captured in the word, "deny". This includes denying one's self by putting Jesus Christ in first place in all aspects of our lives (John 12:24-26). It is a surrendered life. Such a surrendered life is given over to the Holy Spirit.

"The indwelling Spirit guides and controls the surrendered life, and the Christian's constant and supreme business is obedience to Him. But while the importance of individual guidance and obedience is thus emphasized, this fact gives no ground for license; the sanctified conclusions of the Church are above the judgment of a single individual." (Western Yearly Meeting Faith & Practice, p. 8)

- Is your life so surrendered that there is little hindrance to the control of the Holy Spirit?
- Are you sensitive and obedient to the leading of the Holy Spirit?
- Are your leadings in unity with the Holy Scriptures?

Spring Administrative Council

Saturday, March 20, 10:00 a.m.

The Spring Western Yearly Meeting Administrative Council will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010, 10:00 a.m. (Indiana Time) at First Friends Kokomo Meetinghouse. The lunch menu includes a choice of soups (chili, creamy chicken rice and beef vegetable), sandwiches (ham or chicken salad), beverages and a variety of homemade desserts. The cost is \$7.50 and supports the USFW Joy Circle for their many Outreach Projects.

Winter Retreat Reflections

The Western Yearly Meeting Winter Retreat was held on February 13, 2010 on the theme, "Building the Body of Christ." H.B. London, and workshop speakers from Western Yearly Meeting provided opportunity for worship, fellowship, and reflection on how we each can build up the Church of Jesus Christ. If you missed the messages from H.B. London, you can check out the Western Yearly Meeting website to hear what H.B. shared: www.westernym.net. Take a look at the workshops presented at the Winter Retreat.



"Christ Care Small Group Ministry" Lou Herchenroeder, Westfield Friends



"Youth Discipleship" Joe Toren, Courtland Avenue Friends



'Building Up the Body of Christ' WYM Young Friends



"Spiritual Formation"
Della Stanley-Green, Plainfield Friends

The Winter Retreat was followed by the Pastors' Winter Gathering at the Plainfield Hampton Inn. H.B. shared again with the pastors on Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon Felicity Kelcourse, faculty from Christian Theological Seminary, shared about pastoral care which was followed by a workshop on the "Best Practices" of tax preparation for pastors. Each pastor's family received a Worth Income Tax Guide for Ministers, 2010, and a personal Professional Tax Record Book. On Monday morning the pastors reflected upon the diagnosis of the Health of the Body of Christ. The pastors were encouraged to look past the presenting problems in the church to understanding the systemic organizational concerns which can be addressed in the church.

Ministry Leadership Classes

The Western Yearly Meeting Training and Recording Committee is pleased to announce the development of a Barclay College Advantage Site Program on the campus of Western Yearly Meeting! This new Barclay partnership allows Western Yearly Meeting to offer college accredited pastoral training classes to individuals in our meetings who are currently in the recording process, to current WYM pastors seeking continuing education, or to those within WYM leadership who hope to strengthen their ministry skills. Continuing Education Scholarships will be offered from the Pastoral Ministry Excellence Fund.

If your meeting would like to provide scholarship support for these classes, please send your gifts to: Western Yearly Meeting, Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168 --- in the check's memo write "Scholarship Fund."

Upcoming classes will be taught by recorded ministers of Western Yearly Meeting. The 2009-2010 schedule includes:

Writings of John [Revelation]. [Faculty, Justin Weber], March 5-6 & 19-20, 2010

Principles of Church Planting & Church Growth. [Faculty, Gary Wright], April 9-10 & 23-24, 2010

Advanced Bible Study Methods [Hermeneutics]. [Faculty, Steve Pedigo] May 21-22 & June 4-5, 2010

For more information about these classes, please contact the WYM Office (317) 839-2789. To register online: www.barclaycollege.edu.

Missions Outreach

Outreach Board Projects

Jessica Thornburg of the WYM Outreach Board is encouraging members of Western Yearly Meeting to collect empty pill bottles, cancelled postage stamps, and Campbell soup labels. Please bring them to the 2010 Western Yearly Meeting sessions.

Dresses for Haiti

Several women in Western are busy making little girls dresses to be sent to Haiti. We got started doing this while Tim Kendall's family were still missionaries there with Global Outreach. (They have since come back to the States.) The project was introduced at the Fall Retreat and several other meetings have asked for patterns. It is a good way to use up your pieces of material if they are at least 1 ½ yards long. They need to be cotton. No double knits. It is hot down there.

It does cost to mail them and for the duty when they get there. The duty is \$3.00 a pound. However, it is one way to help out with the crisis in Haiti. I can send newspaper patterns to anyone wishing to do this project. Completed dresses can be brought to me at a Yearly Meeting function and I will mail them. Please accompany the dresses with money for postage and duty.

Florence Peery, 8995 W. St. Rd. 47, Thorntown, IN 46071; flopeery@frontier.com

2010 Special Project

The new Western Yearly Meeting Outreach Board's Special Project for 2010 will be the FUM Adopt-a-Nurse Project in Kenya. It is essential to have good nurses at our hospitals. To keep good ones they need to be paid salaries comparable to that of government hospitals in the area. This is not being done because families cannot pay their fees. There is a drought in the area so people are stretched financially more than usual. Our Board has chosen to try to raise \$10,000 again this year for this. We really appreciate the generosity of meetings and individuals for our special projects. It means so much to the people from whom it goes. Thank you for your faithfulness. Florence Peery

FUM General Secretary Search

Kelly Kellum, Friends United Meeting Presiding Clerk, invites resumes and written nominations to be submitted for the position of General Secretary of Friends United Meeting to begin their position on July, 2011. Send resumes or nominations to: Kelly@highpointfriends.org.





Prayer Request

Please remember to pray for Sam & Becky and their children Robert, Katie, Kristy and Kassie while they minister in Belize. You may want to check out their updates: www.fum.org.

USFW Project

A letter has been sent to the Clerk of each monthly meeting from the United Society of Friends Women of WYM asking that your meeting designate a Sunday in March, 2010 for giving to a mission project of your choice. This is in observance of the first meeting held in March, 1881 at White Lick (Mooresville) Monthly Meeting that launched the beginning of what is now known as the United Society of Friends Women International.

After the project has been completed, write your story telling how or why your meeting chose the specific mission project, how you went about implementing the project, and the end result. It is with a giving heart that we open ourselves to receive God's blessings. Submit your written stories to me by April 30 and they will be compiled in booklet form and available during the 2010 summer session of Western Yearly Meeting.

Submitted by Mary Frances Taylor, USFW-W President, 6514 West 250 South, Russiaville, IN 46979; Tel.: (765) 883-5280; E-mail: mftaylor@taylored.com.

MOWA Choctaw Staff Transition

With much regret, the MOWA Choctaw Board announces that Jennifer and Corey York have submitted their resignation as our Co-Directors at the MOWA Choctaw Friends Center. The Yorks answered the call to serve North Carolina Yearly Meeting in Alabama in February, 2008. With their enthusiasm, passion and love for people, determination and servant's hearts, Corey and Jennifer won the respect and love of not only the community surrounding the Center, but Friends through FUM. Interested folks should submit their resume to: North Carolina Yearly Meeting, 4811 Hilltop Road, Greensboro, NC 27407 or ncfriends@ncym-fum.org to the attention of John Porter.

Christian Education Opportunities

Youth Cabinet

Upcoming Road Shows:

March 7 – West Central Area

Meeting/Danville Church

April 11 - Courtland Avenue Friends

May 2 – Newberry/Friends of Jesus Fellowship

July 30 – Multi-Generational Worship Service

@ WYM Annual Sessions

Camp Need

We are looking for some old televisions to be used to decorate with at camp this summer. If you are upgrading your entertainment needs and have an old TV of any size lying around the house or garage, that still works, contact Katy at the WYM Office. Thanks!

2010 Quaker Haven Camp

Camp Brochures have been mailed out to all Summer 2009 Campers. Additional brochures will be available for local meetings at the March Administrative Council as well as a Camp Promo DVD. Now's the time to start planning for summer camp! Early Bird Rates apply until May 24 so get those registrations in before then. Lift up this summer's camping ministry in prayer as we look at our theme:

iGod; the only thing you need!

Jesus answered,
"I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father
Except through me.
John 14:6

Quaker Haven Capital Campaign

Quaker Haven has kicked off a capital campaign called RENEWAL. This capital fundraising campaign is threefold: (1) renew Friendship Lodge to better serve family ministries, (2) renew our commitment to leadership development with the building of the new climbing wall and zip line and (3) renew our equipment to maintain our beautiful natural settings. Brochures about these projects are available at the WYM Office and at Quaker Haven and information can be found on the newly redesigned Quaker Haven www.quakerhaven.com This is a wonderful chance to build on to the already wonderful facilities we have at Quaker Haven. The fundraising goal is \$125,000 by January 2012. Contact Brandon Dennis or John Meyer at Quaker Haven for more information about how you can be a part of this campaign.

News Among Friends

Central Area Meeting

Central Area Friends will meet at West Newton on March 7, 6:00 p.m. there will be a carry-in meal, followed by business. Everyone is invited.

Boy Scout News

Scott Small is a member of Indianapolis First Friends Meeting and also a member of Boy Scout Troop 132 at Carmel Friends Church in Carmel. He held a Thanksgiving "Friends Feeding Friends" mini food drive as part of a community service project for his BSA religious award. Scott handed out grocery bags donated by Marsh Supermarket and included a list of groceries and toiletries needed at Mid-North Food Pantry in Indianapolis. During the two week food drive, First Friends collected 700 pounds of food for Mid-North. Scott is a sixth grader at Clay Middle School in Carmel.

Amo Friends

Amo Friends continue to reach out to their community. On Saturday, February 13, they sponsored a free Valentine's Day Dinner and showed the movie *Fireproof* at the Mill Creek West Elementary Building in Amo. About thirty people were in attendance. *Sandy Boswell*

Carmel Friends

Members and attenders of Carmel Friends Church contribute their thoughts, stories and/or provide literary contributions each year for a Lenten Devotional.

Young Adult Connections

First Connection gathering for college age youth will be held on Sunday, March 28, 3-6 p.m. at the Plainfield Hampton Inn, 2244 Hadley Road behind the Golden Corral off of Interstate 70. There will be food, worship and friends!

Our purpose: To build each other up in the image of Jesus Christ by connecting relationally, spiritually and culturally through worship, learning, fellowship and service.

Mariya Jones---Young Adult Ministry Intern

Western Yearly Meeting is pleased to announce that Mariya Jones is the new Young Adult Ministry Intern. Mariya grew up at Plainfield Friends Meeting and is currently a student at Ivy Tech Community College. Please remember to pray for her as she steps out in ministry.

Westfield Friends Celebration & Re-Dedication

On Sunday, February 21, Westfield Friends Church celebrated the renovation of their meetingroom with a special Re-Dedication time of worship and fellowship meal. On August 22, 2010, Friends are invited to join Westfield Friends as they celebrate 175 years of God's work at Westfield Friends.

USFW Spring Conference

Friends are invited to the Spring USFW Conference on Saturday, April 24, 9:00 a.m. (CDT)/10:00 a.m. (EDT) at Ridge Farm Friends Church, 201 E. North Street, Ridge Farm, Illinois. Mary Glenn Hadley will be the speaker, current USFWI President. Mary Glenn will be sharing about the "Peace in a Community" curriculum being prepared for the primary schools in Kenya. If you plan to attend, please contact Dorothy Majors by Saturday, April 17 (217) 247-9991 or f.majors@comcast.net. If you need child care, please let Dorothy know when you make your reservation.

Pastoral Ministry Excellence Grants

Western Yearly Meeting Monthly Meetings and pastors are invited to submit their applications for the 2010 PME Health Savings Account and Retirement Contribution Grants. Pastors who intend to apply for this year's grants received training at this year's Winter Gathering Retreat and copies of *Worth's Income Tax Guide for Ministers, 2010 Edition.* All grant applications need to be submitted to the WYM Office by March 31, 2010!

WYM Annual Reports

Monthly Meeting clerks are reminded that the Annual Reports to Western Yearly Meeting are to be submitted to the WYM Office by March 31, 2010.



Western Yearly Meeting of

FRIENDS CHURCH

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

(317) 839-2789

Website: www.westernym.net

Steve & Marlene Pedigo, Co-Superintendents

Steve's E-mail: stevewym@sbcglobal.net Marlene's E-mail: marlenewym@sbcglobal.net Steve's Cell Phone: (317) 292-2388 Marlene's Cell Phone: (317) 292-2384

Katy Palmer, Christian Education Director E-mail: <u>katypwym@sbcglobal.net</u> Cell Phone: (317) 450-4712

Address Correction Requested

MATERIALS DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: 3/22/10, 9:00 a.m.

Our Purpose Statement
Seeking the guidance of the Holy
Spirit,

Western Yearly Meeting equips
Friends Meetings
in the Gospel of Jesus Christ
by exercising mutual care and
extending cooperative ministries.

Through various expressions of our Christian faith, we strive to inspire ministry and the release of gifts of leadership.

> Office Hours: 9:00-12:00; 1:00-3:00; Monday-Thursday

Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church Calendar

Third Month

- 5-6 Writings of John Class
 - 7 Road Show @ Danville Friends
- 7 Central Area Mtg., 6:00 p.m. at West Newton Friends
- 8 North Central Pastors Area, 11:00 a.m.
- 11 Northern Pastors Area, 11:30 a.m., Courtland Avenue Friends
- 12-13 Quaker Haven Board Retreat
 - 15 WYM Nominating Committee, 2:00 p.m., WYM Kelley Conf. Rm. West Central Pastors Area, 6:00 p.m., WYM Office
 - 16 Central Pastors Area, 12:15 p.m.
 - **18 Western Area Pastors**, 10:00 a.m. (IN), Newport Friends
- 19-20 Writings of John Class
 - **20** Administrative Council at Kokomo First Friends, 10:00 a.m.
 - 28 Connections Young Adult Gathering, Plainfield Hampton Inn, 3:00 p.m.

Fourth Month

- 9-10 Principles of Church Planting & Church Growth Class
 - 11 Road Show @ Courtland Avenue Friends
- 17 Executive Committee, 9:00 a.m., in the Kelley Conference Room
- **23-24 Principles of Church Planting** & Church Growth Class
 - 25 Connections Young Adult Gathering