



Western Work

September, 2011

News of Western Yearly Meeting of the Friends Church

Director of Christian Education Bible Study

By Pat Byers

“Turn Down the Noise” - - - Psalm 46: 10-11

I have been convicted. In the busyness and fast-paced’ness I have fallen into, I’m struggling to get quiet. I’m struggling to hear. I’m struggling to get the volume knobs in the right place. My knob for screens and news and sports and email and work is often turned way too loud. And my knob for the voice of God is often way too soft. And the thing about God is, He’s never going to step in and change that. He leaves that up to me.

I want to be different. I want to be more intentional. Maybe it means getting up earlier. Perhaps it means being more prayerful in my use of time. Maybe it’s even deeper. I wonder if it’s really about surrender? Like I’m going through the God motions on the outside, but as I start to look inward, I begin to realize that I may really be trying to keep him at bay. Like I am afraid of what He will say if I really crawl into his lap and listen.

I wonder how we can collectively do this as a body of Christ, living in different places and living out different circumstances. What would it take for us to have our communal WYM volume knobs set right?

The Psalmist said “Be still and know that I am God.” I want to know that God. I’m committing to Be Still, so I can. Will you join me in this commitment?

He says “Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth

The LORD Almighty is with us:
The God of Jacob is our fortress.

Psalm 46: 10-11

Opportunity to Share Devotions

In this time period of Western Yearly Meeting being without a Superintendent, the Office Advisory Committee is asking any pastor in the Western Yearly Meeting to submit devotion for possible use in Western Work. If you are interested in submitting a devotion, please email the devotion to westernym@sbcglobal.net or send it by postal mail to Western Yearly Meeting, P.O. Box 70, Plainfield, IN 46168

Western Yearly Meeting Board Meetings

The next Western Yearly Meeting Board Meetings will be held on Saturday, September 17, 2011. Refreshments will be served at 8:30 a.m. in the Plainfield Dining area followed by worship in the Plainfield Friends Meetingroom and the Board Meetings throughout the Western Yearly Meeting Hospitality Center.

Western Yearly Meeting Administrative Council

The Fall Administrative Council meeting will be held at Kokomo First Friends Meeting (1801 W. Zartman Rd., Kokomo, IN 46902) on Saturday, November 19, 2011. More details will follow in the October Western Work.

News Among Friends

New Pastor

Bloomington Friends welcomed new pastor Kathy Luethje and her husband Jon beginning July 1. Their contact information is: 64 W. Academy St., P.O. Box 186, Bloomington, IN 47832; katluchi@yahoo.com; (765) 498-1310.

Hazel Dell Friends Heroes of Church and Country Homecoming

Hazel Dell Friends Church will be presenting Heroes of Church and Country Homecoming on Sunday, September 11, 2011. Worship is at 10:00 a.m. followed by a pitch-in at 12 noon. Meat, drinks and table service will be provided. At 1:30 p.m. will be a program with featured music by R.B. Kuhn.

Indianapolis First Friends Hosts Friendly Folk Dancers

On Friday, October 14, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. (Dinner will be provided); Indianapolis First Friends will host the Friendly Folk Dancers. The Friendly Folk Dancers are a group of Friends (from around the country) who travel in the ministry to strengthen the bonds within religious communities through the joy of the dance, and to promote intervisitation among peacemakers of all affiliations. The program will include folk dance performance in costume and audience participation in meditative worship dances. Please consider joining them for this interesting performance. The reviews from other meetings have been outstanding. No charge for the event. A free will offering for the dancers will be provided.

Western Yearly Meeting USFW Fall Conference

The Western Yearly Meeting USFW Fall Conference will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2011 at Fairfield Friends, 7040 S, 1050 E, Camby, IN. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by a business meeting at 10:00 a.m. The program will be Quaker Haven. Lunch is \$8.00. You may RSVP your lunch reservation to Jennifer Hodge at mhodge@ccrtc.com or (765) 526-2222 by September 17, 2011.

Contact Information

To make sure that communication is handled effectively and in the interim time that WYM does not have a Superintendent, all information relative to Western Yearly Meeting, including submissions for Western Work, should be sent to the email address westernym@sbcglobal.net. This is the office email address and will go directly to Mary Anne Martin, Office Assistant who will process the information and be sure it is handled appropriately.

For questions or information concerning Sundesmos, please contact Della Stanley-Green, dellakerry@juno.com, (317) 838-0499 or Pat Byers, Patrick.byers.wym@gmail.com or (260) 571-2406. Pat can also be contacted through the WYM office.

For questions or information concerning Pastoral Ministry Excellence/Lilly Grant, please contact John Heshelman, heshelman121@rocketmail.com, (317) 996-3653

For questions concerning the Minute Book, please contact Kay Carter, cwaynec@aol.com, (317) 839-8019 or Mary Anne Martin (WYM Office Assistant) westernym@sbcglobal.net, (317) 839-2789.

If you have any questions concerning Christian Education, please contact Pat Byers, Patrick.byers.wym@gmail.com, (260) 571-2406. Pat can also be contacted through the WYM office.

Other contacts: Dale Graves, WYM Clerk, dgraves@pdswireless.com, (317) 831-7171 and Tim Hagmaier,, Clerk of Office Advisory Committee, thagnaier@aol.com, (765) 452-7019

Statistics

Deaths

Ruona, Rachel (Mooresville) b. 8-15-1926; d.8-20-2011

Christian Education Thoughts by Pat Byers

We hope everyone is getting a good start of the school year. This is an exciting time of year with all the newness a new school year brings. Let's join together in prayer for our students in our area schools, and for our college students who are taking new life steps in their journeys. May the God of all grace, truth and peace be known by them as they walk down the hallways of their schools.

Things to be thinking about . . .

****October 21-23** will be the annual Fall Impact Retreat. We will be serving in the Indy area and learning about how God uses us in His Kingdom. Details will be coming soon!

**We will soon be kicking off our new Youth Cabinet year. There are some different plans in the works and the YC Students will be gathering soon to solidify plans.

**I am also really looking forward to visiting some of our College Students. Plans are in the works for Purdue and possibly Ball State visits.(in conjunction with some IYM students).

Missions Update

Friends Disaster Service

The Friends Disaster Service has planned two work days at Second Friends, Indianapolis. They are Friday and Saturday, September 9 and 10, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Men and women are invited to help. Bring painting and cleaning materials, if you can. For more information, contact Eldon Studer at studer.e@comcast.net or (812) 879-4236.

Medicine Bottles

Adrene Brown of Tangier Friends is currently collecting empty medicine bottles to distribute to a local free clinic. You may bring the medicine bottles to Board Meeting on Saturday, September 17 or contact Adrene at woodland@bloomingdalertel.com or (765) 498-5577, to make other arrangements.

2011 Special Project

The WYM 2011 Special Project is to raise \$9,000 for six FUM field staff: Sam and Becky Barber (Belize), Lon Fendall & Ann Riggs (FTC-Kaimosi, Kenya), Eden Grace (AMO Africa Ministries Office, Kisumu, Kenya) and Joyce Ajloney (Ramallah). All checks need to be made out to the **WYM Benevolence Treasurer and sent to the WYM Office**. Be sure to make a notation for Special Project. You can do this by making a note on the check, including a separate note, or using vouchers which can be provided by the WYM Office. Donations will be divided evenly among the field staff, so please don't specify individual names.

Calling All WYM Quaker Men

Remember the great job we did raising money for John Muhanjii's vehicle? Well, we have another great opportunity. Quaker Men International has pledged to raise 1,000,000 shillings for a loan fund at Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. North American Quaker Men have agreed to that amount in a match with the Kenyan Quaker Men.

The fund will provide loans to students at FTC to get started in a business that will allow them to pay their college fees. The student must present to the college a viable business plan in order to get the loan. When the loan is repaid, the money will be available for loan to another student down the line.

A million shillings is about \$13,000. That makes the US half \$6,500. If your local Quaker Men choose to accept this challenge, please send the money to Dan Carter, Treasurer of WYM Quaker Men, 8436 W. 500 S., Russiaville, IN 46979.

Work Day at the Western Yearly Meeting Parsonage

Calling all Quaker Men and Women! There will be a work day at the Western Yearly Parsonage on Saturday, September 24, 2011 beginning at 8:00 a.m. The two projects will be Yard Clean-up and House Cleaning. If you have following items, please bring them: chain saws, limb loppers, hedge trimmers and cleaning supplies. Lunch will be provided. For questions, please contact Jim Wilson at (317) 839-0512 or patwilson512@msn.com. Y'all come!

Upcoming Events

September, 2011

- 9-10 **FDS Work Day at Second Friends**, 9:00 a.m.
- 11 **Heroes of Church and Country Homecoming**, 10:00 a.m., Hazel Dell Friends
- 12-13 **USFW Fall Retreat**, Quaker Haven Camp
- 17 **WYM Board Meetings**, 8:30 a.m., WYM Hospitality Center, Plainfield
- 24 **WYM USFW Fall Conference**, 9:30 a.m., Fairfield Friends
- WYM Parsonage Work Day**, 8:00 a.m., WYM Parsonage, Plainfield
- 27 **Program Committee Meeting**, 2:00 p.m., WYM Kelley Conference Room

October, 2011

- 14 **Friendly Folk Dancers**, 6:30 p.m., Indianapolis First Friends
- 21-23 **WYM Fall Impact Retreat**

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.

Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church

203 S. East Street, Box 70

Plainfield, IN 46168

(317) 839-2789

Website: www.westernym.net

Pat Byers, Director of Christian Education

E-mail: patrick.byers.wym@gmail.com

Cell Phone: (260) 571-2406

Mary Anne Martin, Office Assistant

E-mail: westernym@sbcglobal.net

Office Hours:

9:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 Monday--Friday

**MATERIALS DEADLINE FOR NEXT
NEWSLETTER:**

9/21/2011

Address Correction Requested