

January 2015

Wanda Coffin Baker, ed.

Deadline for Material: Jan 20

Western Work

A publication of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church

A Christian Quaker Community where Faith Encounters Life

As Way Opens, Friend to Friend, Indianapolis First Friends, Ruthie Tippin, Pastor

Herbert Hoover

"We have gathered today to honor one of the great men of the twentieth century. His is the story of what is best in the American heritage. He bears witness to a way of life which we seldom demonstrate, but which is infinitely precious in that it provides a standard by which we may judge our relative failures, as well as our relative successes."

These are the opening sentences from the Eulogy for Herbert Hoover, written by D. Elton Trueblood that I was honored to share this past weekend, in remembrance of President Hoover's death fifty years ago. Representatives from Belgium, the United States, and the Society of Friends had been asked to come to honor his death, and the meaning of his life. The winner of the World Food Prize spoke.

As in all our lives, we sometimes fail and sometimes succeed. Hoover was able to outlive the 'worldwide economic storm' that plagued his Presidency, the criticism he received, and move into a future that held much more work and success.

Do we trade in failure? Do we hold each other, or even ourselves, in the failures we endure? Or do we choose freedom? Freedom to admit imperfection, to accept grace, to be thankful for what we can and do achieve, and to move forward, empowered by a new understanding of ourselves? President Hoover could have left his presidency and fulfilled the expectations of all those who derided him. Instead, he went on to a life filled with public service... a life of integrity, challenging us all to 'accept responsibility for some unique contribution to the total community.'

What will be our choice? To bind ourselves and others to past failures, or to free one another and ourselves to future success? God give us grace.

From Indianapolis 1st Frds, *Friend to Friend*, Oct 29, 2014

from the Eulogy for Herbert Hoover, written by D. Elton Trueblood that I was honored to share this past weekend **at the Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch, Iowa**, in remembrance of President Hoover's death fifty years ago.



Calendar

- 2-4 Young Adult Friends Retreat, Community Frds Mtg, Cincinnati
- 3 IFCL at Indianapolis 1st Frds, 10:30am
- 4 Lucretia Mott at Indy 1st Frds, 10:15 am
- 6 Training & Recording, Drake Rm, 1pm
- Program Committee, Kelley Room, 3:30pm
- 10 Peace Ambassadors Orientation, Peace Learning Center, 9am-4pm
- 13 Property Trustees, office, 930am
- 17 Board Meetings, 9am Devotions; 9:30 Business
- 17-18 Alternatives to Violence Training, Richmond, IN
- 30-31 Ground Hog Retreat at Quaker Haven



January 17, Board Meetings at Plainfield

8:30am Coffee and Chat; 9Worship; 9:30 Business

Clerks, please send your agendas and things to copy by Jan. 9.

Meeting Moments

Men,

Mark your calendars for the Groundhog Retreat at Quaker Haven on Friday January 30 to Saturday January 31st. The retreat begins with dinner on Friday and ends at Lunch on Saturday.

The cost for the week-end is only \$60.00. This includes three meals and lodging.

This is sponsored by Indiana Yearly Meeting and Western. It is a good time for the men of the yearly meetings to get to know each other better and to relax at Quaker Haven.

Please bring your bedding and personal items.



Lucretia Coffin Mott is coming to **Indianapolis First Friends** for Worship, 10:15am, on January 4th! You are invited to meet and enjoy hearing from Lucretia... and to celebrate her 222nd Birthday! (We have a party planned for her during

Fellowship Hour!) Lucretia Mott was a Friend, a women's rights activist, an abolitionist, a religious reformer. Don't miss her!

Lucretia Coffin Mott at the Seneca Falls Convention on Women's Rights.



The world has never yet seen a truly great and virtuous nation because in the degradation of woman the very fountains of life are poisoned at their source.

meerbite.com

Lucretia Mott

Fairfield Meeting will be hosting the Hendricks County MLK Day Multicultural Dinner. The Hendricks County Alliance for Diversity will be sponsoring a multicultural pitch-in dinner in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 19, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Friends Meeting. Philip Gulley will offer a brief welcome, followed by the food and fellowship of many cultures. This family-friendly event will also include activities for the children.



Attendees are asked to bring a side dish or dessert representative of their culture or heritage. This pitch-in dinner is free to attend, but space is limited. Registration is required to ensure that you have a place at the table. This year's registration will be done on-line through Eventbrite. To register, go to <http://bit.ly/1339BvB> and fill in all registration information. For more information about the Hendricks County Alliance

for Diversity or the multicultural dinner, contact Sam Carman at scarman@tds.net or call 317-892-4239.



We are happy to recognize two marriages this year: Phyllis Miller to Gene Sprouls on May 2, and Elizabeth (Tootie) Richards to Chuck Chambers on Dec. 7. The former husbands of Phyllis and Elizabeth were pastors in Western Yearly Meeting for many years. We wish both couples many blessings from God and much happiness.



Is your meeting receiving Quaker Life? Three magazines are ordered for each meeting. If they are not making it to your Meetinghouse to be shared, please contact the WYM office at 317-839-2789 or 1-800-909-3452.

Did you know Haverford College Library thanked us for sending our minutes? Their Quaker Collection strives to have a complete record of the practices of today's Friends.

Energize
Equip
Connect

"This is my work, and I can do it only because Christ's mighty energy is at work within me."

— Colossians 1:29 (The Living Bible)



Have you or your meeting signed up for the *Chain of Prayer*? Imagine what might happen if Friends around the world joined together in an earnest desire to be kindled by the power of Christ! For more information, ask your pastor, clerk, or contact Friends United Meeting at 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond IN 47374

Interbranch Young Adult Friends Gathering

"Spiritual Seeking," Jan 2-4, 2015 at Community Friends Meeting, Cincinnati, OH. Michael Birkel is Keynote Speaker.

info, contact: sites.google.com/site/interbranchyoungadultfriends . You can also visit us at our facebook page.



Regardless of your branch or political leanings, you're Quaker for a reason. Come join us as we seek out spirituality that brings us together. For more



Bob and Hope Carter

Hope and I are grateful for the ministry support we have been receiving from Western Yearly Meeting and some of its monthly meetings. We are now back in the U.S. on "home assignment" until April, and are available to speak to any interested meetings or Quaker Men / USFW groups. It is good for us to be accountable to those who have

been supporting our work in Kenya. We can be available most weekdays in January and February, and the Sunday mornings still available are January 18 and 25, and February 1, 8, and 15. Sunday evenings can also work well, and as yet none in January/February are taken. We can be contacted either by email (bob.carter@sim.org) or by my mobile phone: [717-201-9301](tel:717-201-9301). Blessings, Bob Carter

Farmers Institute often has Monthly Meeting after worship, which is the first Sunday of the month. Kathy Loser is clerking. New clerks will take over in January. One of the items of business was the annual carol sing, which draws a large crowd from the community.

Vocal Ministry and Quaker Worship

The Fall Adult Religious Education program will be exploring what distinguishes Quaker worship from other types of worship and what kind of ministry is best adapted to further this particular type of worship. A paper presented by Howard Brinton entitled "Vocal Ministry and Quaker Worship" will help guide this exploration. The paper is available to download by contacting 57th St Mtg. at www.57thstreetmeeting.org

Peace Ambassadors Orientation: The Peace Learning Center at Eagle Creek Park is giving a combined "Teach the Facilitator", Session 2 on Saturday, Jan. 10, 9am-4pm at 6040 DeLong Road, Indianapolis, IN 46254. For more info contact Linze Edwards at llezve@yahoo.com or phone 317-340-2541.



Alternatives to Violence will hold a training workshop at Richmond Friends Meeting on Jan. 17-18, beginning at 9am both days.

AVP workshops use the shared experience of participants, interactive exercises, games and role-plays to examine the ways in which we respond to situations where injustice, prejudice, frustration and anger can lead to aggressive behavior and violence. We are using a sliding fee scale to cover food and the expenses of the workshop. The scale is from \$10 to \$40, depending on your financial means. Please decide what you are able to pay. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Payment will be due on the first day of the workshop. For more information and to register visit our website at www.avpindiana.org/registration.

[IFCL - Indiana Friends Committee on Legislation](#)

We welcome all to attend: January 3, 10:30 am at First Friends of Indianapolis
3030 Kessler Blvd. East Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46220

The meeting will focus on different policies and legislation. We would love to hear your voice. If you need transportation, please email (Lindsey Edwards) at llezve@yahoo.com. She would love to drive you.

Charitable Giving and Tax Issues

AFSC has a free year-end guide on Charitable Giving and Tax Issues. *Your Guide to Year-End Planning – 5 Steps You Can Take Today* explains how charitable planning can help reduce your taxes while fulfilling your philanthropic goals. To order your free booklet: 1) Contact Alyssa Chatten, Planned Giving Officer, at 888-588-2372 or giftplanning@afsc.org or 2) Visit www.afsc.giftplans.org/PlanNow.

Quaker Voluntary Service

Built on the four core values of Community, Service, Transformation and the Quaker Way, Quaker Voluntary Service (QVS) offers young adults the opportunity to discover their gifts, while helping change the world.

Do you know a young adult who is looking for this kind of experience? Applications are being accepted until March 15, 2015. For more information and to apply, please see: www.quakervoluntaryservice.org/apply. You can watch a brief video introduction titled *QVS: Transforming Service, Living Faith* at <http://www.quakervoluntaryservice.org/introduction-quaker-voluntary-service/>



A copy of [Charitable Giving and Tax Issues](#) is available on the table in the YM office.



Maribel Gabriel, pastor, and Toby York, from Ministry and Counsel, sat on the facing bench and led the service.

Valley Mills Friends celebrated Christmas at their Sunday morning worship. They had a little help from Friends. Tom Roberts played the piano, and played with Mary Ann Mills on the organ. Amanda Gainey from Fairfield Friends played, accompanied by piano or organ. Valley Mills had their candlelight service in the morning to accommodate more members.



Do you see Joe's buttons popping? The Cassidy Singers come once a year around Christmas to sing for Dad (Joe Cassidy, pastor) and West Union Friends Meeting. The Cassidys travel around the country as they are invited sharing the gospel message in song. Even the 4-year old sings, sometimes. This was not his day, but he ran back to Granddad and was happy.

After the program, the meeting gathered for a meal. I wouldn't let anyone start before I got a picture.



No, the end of the world is not here, but something more cataclysmic is happening. Yearly Meeting Sessions is taking on a new look!

Plans for 2015 sessions to be July 16-19 were introduced at Administrative Council. The theme is "Building together to become God's dwelling," from Ephesians 2:22 (NIV). Howard Macy will be the daily devotional speaker, including Sunday morning worship. Alan Kolp will present the Quaker Lecture.

The committee continues looking at ways to improve the program for the greatest benefit for everyone. More fellowship opportunities are being included, as well as business and workshop schedules that enable those who can attend only on Saturday to enjoy a wider range of presentations. The title of Head Usher has been changed to more closely align with duties, and will now be On-site Coordinator. *Watch for more developments!*



Give to what Mooooooves You

Do you (your family, friends, neighbors) drink Prairie Farms milk - in the 1/2 gallon or gallon container? The peel-up cap has a 9 digit character code worth 5 cents. To redeem it google "Our Caps Your Cause" OR "PrairieFarms.com".

1. Click on Redeem cap codes

2. Click on *Select an organization*

3. Highlight *WesternYearlyMeetingofFriendsPlainfield,IN*

4. Enter 9 digit Character Code on cap. (There is room for 4 more codes.)

5. Click *Redeem Codes*



That's it! If you would prefer, you can save the screw-on cap(s) & give them to Sarah Lookabill or Adrene Brown or a member of the Outreach Board.

Africa Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI)

2015 Workcamp Opportunity in Kenya
Saturday, 20 June to Saturday, 25 July
2015

For more information about
the 2015 Workcamp,

contact [Dawn Rubbert](mailto:dawn@aglifpt.org) at dawn@aglifpt.org

NORTH CAROLINA FRIENDS DISASTER SER-

VICE is focused on Tornado Relief, 5 - 9 January
2015. Build new houses in Hertford, NC. Volun-
teers of all skills are needed.

To participate, contact [Wiley Shore](mailto:Wiley.Shore@ncfdisaster.org) at
[\(336\) 679 8466](tel:3366798466).

Letter from Dale Graves:

Friends of Western Yearly Meeting,

I hope all is well with you.

I have been in Belize for 4 months now and have become at least a little familiar with the workings of the Belize Friends School. I am incredibly grateful for Ms. Candi and Ms. Darcel. Candi and Darcel share teaching duties, with Darcel doing the majority of the teaching because Ms. Candi also acts as half-time principal.

In January, we will be having our first conference call. It will include a half dozen or so Belizeans and a half dozen or so Friends from FUM North America.

In the meantime, we have purchased a bus. Our experience of hauling kids around in the back of a Ford Ranger and having to rent a vehicle to attend any activities away from the school helped us affirm Sam and Becky Barber's initiative to get our own transportation. For a more complete description of the process of purchasing the bus and for keeping up to date on what-all is happening, please visit fuminbelize.org.

When we wish a blessing on someone we are expressing our desire for God's favor and mercy, for good at the deepest level to come to that person.

I wish you very blessed Christmas.

Report from Pat Byers

I recently attended the National Youth Worker Convention put on by Youth Specialties in Atlanta, GA. The General Session teaching and worship was fabulous. They also had several sessions that were dedicated to smaller seminars. The best one I attended was entitled *How to Create a Thriving Small Church Youth Ministry*. Here are some thoughts I took from that seminar:

(credit to Seminar Presenter: Stephanie Caro):

Some benefits to Small Church Youth Ministry are: you know every kid well, there's time to visit each kid on their own turf, ministry tends to be less fussy and more relational

Some drawbacks to Small Church Youth Ministry are: shallow resource pond, critical mass is iffy, varied teaching age-levels

A good Youth Group size is 10% of average weekly worship

If the group is under 12 students 10 hours a week is sufficient, 12-25 students 20 hours a week, over 50 students full time

A good amount of pay for ministry budget *and* Youth Pastor salary is \$1000 per year per student

Ideas for getting and keeping kids engaged: know their names, celebrate important days (i.e. birthdays), pay attention to kids who seem to struggle to 'fit in', avoid inside jokes, multi-generational activities can help build critical mass, coordinate Youth Ministry calendar with All-Church calendar, plant cheerleaders of all generations

Ethan Hall is on the team of Cru (Campus Crusade for Christ) on Purdue Campus. He is receiving monetary support from two different Boards. He sends a letter almost every month.

Recently he had an exercise with student Cru leaders in which he split them into small groups to come up with "three reasonable questions they have been asked during conversations where they have shared the Gospel. They then got a chance to ask the other group of leaders those questions in an 'on the spot' style and the groups had to come up with a response together." Many Boilermakers are not following Christ because they have questions they do not know the answer to. "I know that when my students or I sit down to share the gospel with non-believers, that may be the only time someone at Purdue cares enough to listen and talk through their questions."

Let's keep Ethan and the other Cru leaders in our prayers.

Inspiring generosity. Impacting lives. Make plans now to attend the 2015 Everence Development Conference, Sept. 28-30, 2015, at the Eden Resort in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Stayed tuned in the near future for conference information and registration details. We look forward to seeing you!

Nikki Shingle, Charitable Services Representative; Joy Liechty, Event Planner

Western Work

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Purpose

*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.*



To all Friends every where, dwell in the truth, and walk in the love of the truth, in patience, and every one in your measure keep your habitations and learn that good lesson of Jesus Christ, to be low and meek in heart, giving no occasion to the adversary by evil doing. But walk all honestly and uprightly; for the upright and meek in heart know God, and God delights in the upright and righteous.

All Friends, mind that which is eternal, which gathers your hearts together up to the Lord, and lets you see that ye are written in one another's hearts; meet together every where, growing up in the spirit to the Lord, the fountain of life, the head of all things, God blessed for ever! Let not hard words trouble you, nor fair speeches win you; but dwell in the power of truth, in the mighty God.

George Fox, 1653

From "Collection of Many Select and Christian Epistles, Letters and Testimonies"

In "Works of George Fox," vol. 7 & 8, 1831, p. 31.

