

July 2015

Wanda Coffin Baker, ed

Western Work

A publication of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church
A Christian Quaker Community where Faith Encounters Life

STICKS AND STONES

“Sticks and stones may break my bones, but names will never hurt me.” I remember hearing this shouted by a boy on a school playground many years ago. He was being teased by another boy, and this was his reply. These words are from an old nursery rhyme and have the same impact today that were conveyed by the boy years ago.

Today we are dealing with bullying on the playground, in political campaigning, world governments, and many social situations. What is my response? What would be your response? More hurtful words and actions? All too often today, social media is tagged with keeping the rhetoric going, and the only answer is to “turn it off”!!

In a recent issue of “Fruit of the Vine”, a devotional provided by our Meeting, Betty Hockett, a frequent contributor, has some suggestions. She writes about “good speak and bad speak.” She asks what words do we say? What words have we stored in our language center? What words have rubbed off from other people? Are these words I want to store and use?

Mrs. Hockett suggests that in “good speak” we accentuate the positive, use words of encouragement, use words of love, and to use words of prayer as guides. In using “good speak” or positive words, we can create a better environment for our inter-action with other people. “Good speak” is responsible speak. It is anticipating the impact of the words we use.

Words and pictures seem to be grabbing our attention in “the world out there”. Can we check our brains and our tongues with God so that our contributions are peace-building, encouraging and up-lifting?

- Kay Record Carter, from *Thee and ME*, Plainfield Frds newsletter, June 2014

Western Yearly Meeting

July 16-19, 2015

Registration Available on www.westernym on line or as down load.

Calendar—July

- 12 Greg Keesling and Recycle Force, 1st Friends Indy, 10:30am; Fellowship after
- 12—Quaker Jamboree, Valley Mills Friends, 1pm
- 13 Noor-Malika Chisti, Fairfield Friends, 7pm
- 16-17 Western Yearly Meeting

August

- 7 Tom Hamm at First Friends Indy, IFCL fundraiser
- 11 Training & Recording, 1pm
- 16-23 WYM and Plainfield sponsor Family Promise
- 19 Pastoral Ministry Excellence, office, 6pm
- 25 Program Committee, Kelley Rm, 3:30pm
- 30 Festival of Faiths, Veterans Memorial Plaza, Indianapolis, 1-5pm

September

- 12 WYM Board Day

Western Yearly Meeting Board Workshops—Saturday, 1-2:20 pm; 2:35-3:55

Christian Ministry & Evangelism
 - “Allen Jay on Building the Church” , Allen Jay was a key figure in getting Friends to come together for the Richmond Conference of 1887 and then the formation of Five Years Meeting (later Fried United Meeting) in 1902. What wisdom would Jay offer us today? Josh Brown, leader.

Repeated twice.

Outreach—“Friends World Committee on Consultation (FWCC)” Norma Bangel Wallman, one of our WYM representatives to FWCC will provide an overview about FWCC, its founding, mission, and organization. Highlights of the Quaker Youth Pilgrimage and 2015 Section of Americas Mtg in Mexico will be provided. Bring you laptop, tablet or smart phone to research the FWCC web-site.

Repeated twice.

Peace & Christian Social Concerns—“Addressing the Problems of Building an Inclusive Community: Lucretia Mott and Rufus Jones Visit WYM”. Come and watch as current Quakers role-play these early church leaders.

Repeated twice.

Affiliated Workshops:

Thursday

lunch: American Service Com.

3:30: Right Sharing of World Resources

Friday

Lunch: ESR and Earlham College

3:30: Friends Com. on National Legislation

Christian Education—Micah Bales from FUM will share his ideas for building up Meetings after some needed renovations, and he is not talking nails and wood.

1-2:20 only

CE—“Visiting Our Resources”
 Come and see what resources the WYM Curriculum Library has to offer individuals, small groups, and Meetings.

2:35-3:55 only

Meeting Development and Nurture—“Lessons in Vitality from New Meetings.” Presented by Brent Bill.

Repeated twice.

Pastoral Ministry Excellence

Last year at sessions it was 1,2,3 for PME. This year it will be A,B,C. Come and find out the ABC's of PME at WYM!

Only two weeks to put in a bid on this Queen-sized quilt. It will be sold during Yearly Meeting.



Deep in the recesses of the Office Conf. Rm



...are boxes of books for sale at YM. Some are fantastically funny, some delectably delicious, some quietly Quaker, others romantically ravishing, and still others scathingly scientific. Hardbacks-\$2; paperbacks-\$1. All proceeds for Pastoral Ministry Excellence.





Getting Ready for Yearly Meeting. Gene Carter and Jim Wilson replace a few panes. Randy Maxwell's friend helps with the lawn.



Valley Mills Friends invites you to join us for a **"Quaker Jamboree"** with singing and instruments on **Sunday, July 12, 2015, at 1:00 pm**. They will provide refreshments. Bring your voices and/or acoustic instruments. We will be singing from the available hymnals and song sheets that any of you might bring.

Please join us for this afternoon of visiting, fellowship, fun and music. Dress is casual.

If anyone has any questions, they can call or text Pastor Marilee Gabriel at [\(317\) 362-4517](tel:3173624517). How many are coming? If you could respond by July 7, that would be great!

Changing Footprints: First Friends Indianapolis has an ongoing collection drive for all types of footwear for distribution by Changing Footprints, a nonprofit group. We are always grateful for shoes AND volunteers. A bin in the northwest corner of First Friends Fellowship Hall is marked for footwear donations to Changing Footprints. If you would like more information about this organization, the website is www.changingfootprints.com.

Since Carol Donahue retired five years ago, she has been involved in helping distribute 10,000-17,000 pairs of shoes and other footwear per year for those in need. Many of these shoes are given to local nonprofit organizations and schools. Others have been distributed through medical mission teams or volunteers who travel to places such as Guatemala, Haiti, and Nepal.

If you would like more information, please contact Carol at cjdonahue@indy.rr.com). Thanks for your continued support of this worthwhile cause!



Greg Keesling and Recycle Force: Mark your calendars for July 12! That's when Greg Keesling will be here to tell us about the mission of Recycle Force which combines environmental care and social ministry. Greg is a lifelong Quaker with deep roots in Indiana. He is the president and founder of Recycle Force which is a recycling company that emphasizes the recycling of electronic materials. While Recycle Force recycles most recyclable goods, they specialize in recycling computers, TVs, monitors, printers, cell phones and just about anything electronic. In addition to this environmental service, Recycle Force provides jobs for people who have formerly been incarcerated. Recycle Force helps former inmates break the cycle of the revolving prison door by providing jobs, training, and other support systems. *Greg will speak at First Friends of Indianapolis at 10:30 am and at the Fellowship after. Recycle Day will be July 25 for the above mentioned articles.*

Calling all ice cream lovers! First Friends will be working at the Dairy Bar at the Indiana State Fair on Saturday August 8th all day. This is a fundraiser for our youth program as we will receive \$1100 from the Dairy Association for our work that day. We plan to have two 6 hour shifts similar to last year. It is fast paced but lots of fun. And you get to eat as much ice cream and grilled cheese sandwiches as you want. Please let Beth Henricks (beth.henricks@indyfriends.org) know if you will help.



Mark your calendars for **an interfaith event hosted by Fairfield Friends Meeting. On Monday, July 13th, 7pm**, Noor-Malika Chisti will be presenting “Stories of a resilient heart: navigating culture and religion in the pursuit of Peace.” Noor-Malika Chisti is a founding member of the Southern California Committee for the Parliament of World Religions and the Southern California Muslim-Jewish Forum.

Twenty Friends from the Russiaville Meeting set aside special time on June 10th to worship with their member Thelma Wintrode, a resident of Century Villa in Greentown. This group then gathered the next evening, June 11th to worship at Waterford of Kokomo with their longtime member Helen Hollingsworth. This was one of their visions for new ministry and outreach to their members who are limited in their abilities to attend Meeting on Sundays.



A great time was had by all!



It was good to have Dale Graves around (at least between trips). He and Sylvia are at West Newton, there home meeting.



Mark Tope, pastor of Paoli Friends Church, poses to show off his tan. He goes “out of the castle,” to the local baseball games to see people in his community. Good idea, Mark.





Bruce Brown collects books for camp every year. Campers are able to choose what they want



Just a Chris Wynn and Granddaughter Day. Dialogue:

Mike Wilson (friend) Sure it's not your boyhood home?

Chris Wynn Well, I didn't wanna say anything but me and Abe used to split rails together back in the day...:o)

(Chris, pastor of Hadley Friends, is "big" on the truth.)



On June 20, Fairfield Friends hosted Katharine Murray, editor of *BeFriending Creation*, a publication of Quaker Earthcare Witness. Her topic was "The Spiritual Heart of Earthcare." Katharine is currently is in the WYM recording process.



Indiana Friends Committee for Legislation has been working very hard this spring. They have hired a lobbyist, Grace Miller, and are preparing a list of priorities. Grace has a lot of experience in the statehouse, and was a member of Irvington Friends Meeting. She will be at Yearly Meeting, so feel free to stop and talk with her.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Bob Garris, fell at Sugar Grove and was taken to St. Vincent's on 86th St. Keep him in your prayers, and also keep his family in your prayers. Bob Garris remains in the hospital with pneumonia and a urinary tract infection. When he is released, he will go to Cumberland Trace in Plainfield for rehab. Keep him in your prayers, and also keep his family in your prayers.

Francis Graves is in Rehab at Cumberland Trace after suffering a stroke. He is moving around, taking care of himself and talking (not quite so clear).

Ruth Hadley has moved to Cumberland Trace also. She has a big 1 bedroom apartment. Her address is 1925 Reeves Rd., Apt 117, Plainfield 46168.

Charles & Ruth Alber have moved over to 10th St. Their address is 8616 10th St., Apt. 329, Indianapolis, 46234.

We send our condolences to the families of Ruth Marshall (Valley Mills, died June 19, 2015) and Duffy Fankboner (First Friends Indianapolis, died July 1, 2015).

Please keep all these people and their families in your prayers.

July 2015

Western Work

203 S. East Street
P.O. Box 70
Plainfield, IN 46168
Phone: 317-839-2789
Toll Free: 1-800-909-3452
E-mail: westernym@sbcglobal.net
www.westernym.net

Purpose

*Seeking the guidance of the
Holy Spirit,*

*Western Yearly Meeting equips Friends Meet-
ings in the Gospel of Jesus Christ by exercising
mutual care and extending cooperative minis-
tries.*

*Through various expressions of our Christian
faith, we strive to inspire ministry and the re-
lease of gifts of leadership.*

STAN BANKER ANNOUNCES PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

Today I am announcing my candidacy for the Republican Party's nomination for President of the United States of America. You might justifiably point out that I - as a slightly left-leaning Independent - would be an odd choice to lead the Republican ticket. To you naysayers I counter that my Dad is a Republican as well as the obvious . . . by adding me to the field, Republicans would now have enough candidates to field two complete softball teams. Additionally, after the presidencies of Quakers Herbert Hoover and Richard Nixon, the time is right and ripe (Do you smell something funny?) for a Quaker pastor to be president.

*Friend to Friend, A weekly update and inspira-
tion from Greenfield Friends Meeting, Thurs-
day, June 11, 2015*

Editor's Note: Stan Banker is a member of [First Friends Indianapolis](#), and a recorded minister in WYM. We may laugh with Stan as he makes his un-serious announcement. But we cannot deny that getting some more Quakers into politics might move us as state and nation toward integrity, peace, etc., testimonies to which Quakers aspire. Let us encourage our young people into positions of responsibility in government and international politics, and support them in tangible ways that will solidify their connection to those testimonies and to us.

