

Western Work

A Publication of Western Yearly Meeting of Friends Church

A Christian Community where Faith Encounters Life



Calendar

May

- 13-15 Stoking the Fire Conf. No. Car.
- 14-17 Peace Quest, ESR
- 14 WYM Retreat Review, 1pm, Mooresville
- 15 Northern Area Fellowship, New London, 5pm
- 18-24 Wanda vacation in IA
- 19 Property Trustees, office, 7pm
- 20 CE Task Force, office, 4:30pm
- 30 Office is closed

June

- 3-4 Father/Son Fishing, Quaker Haven
- 4 Finance Board, Kelly Rm., 10 am
- 4 Natl 40 Yard Sale, Plainfield
- Continued on Page 2

The Authority of Scripture: Word of God

(The following excerpt is from the Theological Statements of Katherine Murray, as part of her work in the Training and Recording Process. Italics by editor.)

I have always loved the Bible and have read it through many times in different translations. I have many different versions, from the *Green Bible* to the NIV to NSRV to one in Hebrew, one in Greek, the New American, and more. I've hosted and participated in many Bible studies over the years (and even tried doing a study of Job on Twitter recently, which went fairly well).

I believe the Bible is divinely inspired (written by men) and divinely protected; but there is something more remarkable about the Bible than that. The Bible comes with its own interpreter – the Holy Spirit – who speaks directly from God's heart to your own as you read.

In that way, the Bible is not only the Word of God reaching across centuries and cultures, but the Word of God just exactly now, speaking directly to your condition – to your need for peace, or forgiveness, or connection, or reconciliation.

That's why when we read the Bible, a proverb hits us like it never has before, a parable leaps off the page in a new way, we hear a subtle difference in the word of Jesus. It's not the book. It's not the words men wrote in 100CE. It's the Holy Spirit, stirring your heart, helping you hear what you need just now to bring Light to your situation.



May 21, Board Day

Board Day starts at 8:30am for coffee and fellowship; 9am for worship and 9:30 for worship.

Among the work you're doing, don't forget to chose a clerk for next year.

David Adams will come around to get more information on your work shops or interest groups.

Western Yearly Meeting Sessions, July 14-17

Registration is on-line now at westernyearlymeeting.org

Don't forget to arrange your own motel room.

Watch for the Yearly Meeting issue of Western Work with all the information and forms you will need, incase you can't register on line.

Monthly Meeting Notes

June, continued

- 5 Orange County Fellowship, Beech Grove
- 7 Friends Apartment Home Board, 7pm
- 8 Pastoral Ministry Excellence, 6pm, office
- 10-12 Quaker Religious Ed. Collaborative, Quaker Hill Conf. Center
- 11 Mooresville Yard Sale
- 15 OAC, office, 5:30
- 18 Executive Com. Kelley Rm, 9:30
- 22-26 ILYM, McNab, Ill
- 28 Property Trustees, 9:15
- 30 Financial Trustees, Kelley Rm, 9:15

July

- 7-10 USFWI/QMI, Cedar Rapids, IA
- **14-17 Western Yearly Mtg Sessions, Western Yearly Meetinghouse**

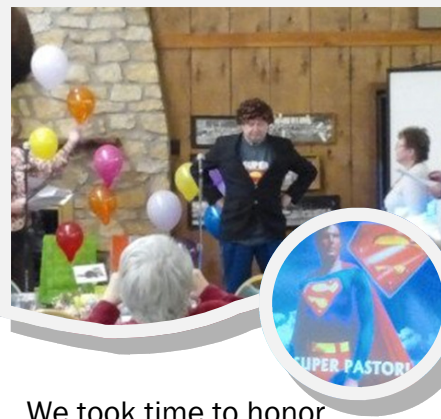
WYM Retreat, April 8-11



Scott Wagoner, spoke on discipleship and expanding our vision.

Quotes:

“Your system is perfectly designed to produce the result you are getting.” Dallas Willard

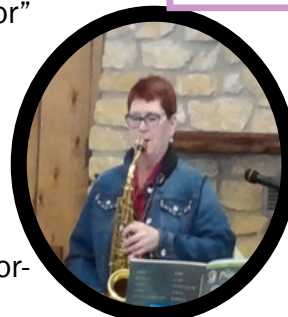


“Go where the energy is .
God is manifested as Energy.”
-Scott

Scott talked about Pathways to Flourishing, and the Coach Approach.

Andrew Heald and Jessica thanked us for the impromptu paper shower for their August wedding.

We took time to honor the pastors through drama—“Super Pastor” and reflect on Our ministry styles of relating in “21st Century Technology.” We had special Music, songs, and worship. It was a full weekend.



Pastors spent their free evening re-creating with cards, herbal games and ping-pong. Beth was the best at ping pong. I didn't ask who was the best at cards.



Steve Butros, from Everence, talked about relating to our meeting budget as a story. What story do we want to tell?



Pastor Celebrations

Don Perry of **Marshall Federated Church** celebrated his 30th anniversary with his meeting and many F(f)riends. Don has an outstanding ministry, which includes doing some services with his guitar and singing, as well as preaching. He is known in the community as their pastor and has done over 1,000 funerals.



Chris Lindley and **Friends of Jesus Fellowship—Newberry** Celebrated Chris' 25th year of being pastor in Paoli, IN. Many friends came. Here Chris is surrounded by CG and Gay White, and Michelle Lindley, his wife.



Michelle made a picture display covering those years.

Friends of Jesus Fellowship have been working on their meetinghouse. They laid new linoleum in their fellowship hall. In the Meetingroom, they changed their seating so they could face each other as they worship.



Next year, Jim Walters, pastor of **Lick Creek Friends**, will get his picture in again for his 65th year of ministry, and his 65th wedding anniversary to Shirley.



Lick Creek starts their treasurers out young (actually, she's helping Grandma). Nina Lewis (above) still plays the Piano occasionally.



Mooresville Friends Church will be hosting the *Mooresville Farmers' Market Association* on their grounds this year. This local Farmers' Market will begin on Tuesday, May 10th, and runs through the end of September. Market times will be from 3:00 – 6:00 PM every Tuesday .

Plainfield Friends hosts a Farmers' Market with the Plainfield Chamber of Commerce each Wednesday after Memorial Day.

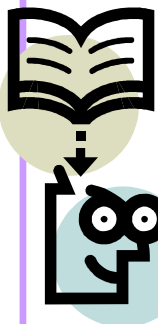
The Light shines on. **FWCC** is asking each meeting to do at least 2 sustainable projects this year with at least one involving our youth. First Friends has decided to 1) plant more trees on the grounds, and 2) sign up with Indianapolis Power and Light for Green energy for the purchase of 100% sustainable energy and 3) convert to almost all LED light bulbs in the meetinghouse (from a kind donor). I am writing this to keep the ball rolling and as a point of discussion and for the stimulation of some more ideas. This is an encouragement to let the Light shine on. (adapted from letter by Terry Trierweiler, WYM FWCC representative)



From 57th St. News

Friendly Mystics Gathering (in Chicago) - Mark the Date

The Fourth Annual Gathering of Friendly Mystics is scheduled for September 30-October 3, 2016, at The Cenacle in Chicago. The theme will be Immersed in Prayer. The first two days will be spent in large and small groups, including some interest groups. The final morning will be devoted to extended worship. Costs vary depending on days attending and accommodation options. For registration and further detail see: whatcanstthousay.org/s/MysticsRegistration-2016.pdf. Registration is due September 1.



Quaker Religious Education Conference

The Quaker Religious Education Collaboration will be hosting a Quaker Religious Education conference on "Instilling Quaker Identity through Religious Education" on June 10-12 at Quaker Hill Conference Center in Richmond, Indiana. Conference will include plenaries, worship, workshops, networking, children's programming and much more. Additional information and registration link can be found at quakers4re.org

Welcoming from **Downer's Grove Monthly Meeting**

Friends discussed the importance and nature of "welcoming" and "spiritual nurture groups." After a new person has attended meeting we might say, "Thanks for coming." Depending on the tone of voice and circumstances, this could either be a warm welcome or a dismissal. We need to be aware of guests as people with needs and fears and listen to them, rather than lecture on "who we are. "

Spiritual nurture groups also require many of the skills of being welcoming, as the emotional safety of the participants is a basic need of a productive group. In a spiritual nurture group, a small number of people make commitment to share deeply and safely on a chosen topic for a set period of time. One Friend found such a group pushed her to commit to enroll in seminary.

Downer's Grove Friends, MM Min.s, 1/10/16

((hi))

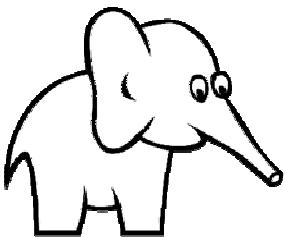
Food for Thought

One of the things that many Quakers say is the most difficult to know—but also most important for them to understand—is how to know when to speak out of the silence. Unfortunately we don't talk nearly enough about this important subject, despite the fact that responding to the immediate movement of God among us during worship is supposed to be one of the most important distinctives of our religious society.

This is a big topic and one that I might address in segments during the next few months. But to begin, it is important to understand why Quakers have always placed such an emphasis on this non-professional and prophetic form of spoken ministry. At the heart of our religious experience as a distinct group is the belief that the divine work and influence that is recorded by the writers of scripture is not something that only existed in the distant past. In other words, God the father didn't just create the world and then walk away. Neither have Quakers believed that the Godhead incarnated itself (became flesh) in Jesus of Nazareth during the first century A.D., only to completely disappear forever from the world following the crucifixion.

To the contrary, Friends have always taken the resurrection of Christ—and his promise to be with his followers always (Matt. 28:20)—quite seriously. In fact, the spiritual experience around which the early Quakers all gathered was encapsulated by the statement that, “Jesus Christ has come to teach his people himself.” There-fore, we worship in the silence because we fully expect to directly receive divine leadings that—if we listen and submit to them—will transform us from the inside out and better help us to live and act as God wants us to in the upcoming week. That is why many Friends over the centuries would query themselves in the following way regarding how they had lived and acted at the end of a week: “Did thee Yield?” “Was thee faithful?”

John Connell, Prepared for 02/28/2016, Mooresville Friends Meeting



Route 40 Yard Sale, June 4. Pastoral Ministry Excellence is having a table on the Yearly Meeting Yard on June 4. Rummage and White Elephant items will be collected in the Conference Room at the WYM Office beginning Board Day, May 21.

PME does not want clothes or items too big or heavy to carry away after the sale.



Unusual Request. PME would like to take contributions of dryer lint and cardboard egg cartons for a craft to be sold at their table on Quaker Days (9/). Please leave your contributions at the office.



Illinois Yearly Meeting's 2016 Annual Sessions will be held June 22-26 on the ILYM campus in McNabb, Illinois. This year's theme is “**Nurturing the Seed: Faith, Action and Growing Community.**” The Quaker life is one of striving to nurture the growth of inward faith with outward action, to nourish the spiritual life of children and adults together, and to cultivate activism within the rich soil of past experience. Throughout the week, there will be opportunities to collectively explore the ways to tend to the multi-layered dimensions of the spiritual and social self, as individuals and as a community, with an eye to that delicate inward Seed that sustains and transforms. Things to note: [extended evening program information](#), [queries](#), and [list of things new this year](#). Go to ilym.org/2016AnnualSessions for detailed information and online registration. Early registration is due by June 1.



United Society of Friends Women
 Quaker Men International
 Triennial Meetings
 July 7 – July 10
 Cedar Rapids, Iowa



Join together with Quakers from around the world for a time of worship, fellowship, study and joy.



Ruthie Tippin will lead the Daily Bible Studies for USFWI, and Ron Bryan will lead the Daily Bible Studies for QMI. A number of international speakers will bring messages for the evening gatherings. Men and women will join together for Mission Workshops and Sunday Morning Meeting for Worship.



Triennial Sessions begin with registration on Thursday, July 7, 2016, at 8:30 a.m.

Triennial ends after lunch on Sunday, July 10. Conference registration costs \$375 per person **prior to May 14th** (\$400 after) and includes ten meals. Hotel costs \$105/night. Register at www.usfwi.org Daily registrations are also available. Registrations are due by May 14, 2016, with a minimum deposit of 50% of total conference costs. No refunds after June 3rd.



Quake du Soleil: The multi-week program for developing and nurturing relationships and community in a Quaker context among **57th Street Young Adult Friends and Young Friends (children)** through the circus

arts culminated with a performance for the wider meeting. 16 Young Adult Friends and 16 children participated in the program.

Highlights of this performance can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/pMAKMuk8nt8>
 Wil Brant, Meeting Secretary, 57th Street Meeting of Friends



From Downer’s Grove Threshing Session for Religious Education, 11/15, revised 1/16
We are investing in children, not for our own longevity as a meeting, but because it is the right thing to do. These children may, or may not, join other groups and have the benefit of some Friendly philosophy and maybe a living faith that sustains them—where ever they might be. And our job as YFRE is NOT to find our replacements for the life of the meeting, but rather, to address whatever comes through our door. We can try to meet the children we see, with welcoming manner and prepared minds and hearts.

(bold and underline is theirs)

Fairfield Friends - Young Friends Update

The weekend of April 9th was very busy for the Young Friends – as it was for the rest of the Meeting. Not only did we have several Young Friends work at the Fish Fry April 8th and April 9th, but we also had a great group that helped Jimmy move into his new apartment on April 9th. The Young Friends received an education on IKEA furniture that day – on a side note, if you want someone to install IKEA furniture, we have someone for you.



On Sunday, April 17th the Young Friends had a most enjoyable “Sunday Fun Day” in downtown Indianapolis. We enjoyed lunch at Bazbeaux Pizza and then spent the rest of the afternoon exploring Massachusetts Avenue.



The Young Friends would like to thank everyone who attended our Picnic on Sunday, April 24th. We certainly had a fun time doing it and hope that F/friends enjoyed the day – and what a beautiful day it was!! Hopefully, this will become a more regular activity. Special thanks to the parents who helped make this a huge success!

The Young Friends continue to plan for our summer Mission Trip to Iowa. A reminder that if you would like to attend that trip, please let Sarah Lookabill or Chase Slaughter know by May 1st.

Thank you for your continued support of our Young Friends.

Blessings,
 Chase Slaughter



Christy Marsh. Administrative Assistant has accepted another job and so will be leaving us on May 27. Thank you for your work, Christy, and my God bless your life.



Beth Henricks and **Katherine Murray**, recording candidates met for a workshop on the Faith and Practice designed by Bill Clendineng, clerk of Training and Recording, and Sylvia Mills. It was a fun workshop, as well as educational.

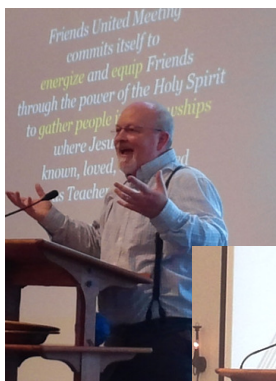


Central Area and West Central Area met at Valley Mills Meeting to discuss the possible directions of their two Area Meetings. Although no final solution was reached, it was decided to meet two times a year.



Jamie Lyon shared some of the fruits of his sabbatical from **Russiaville Friends** at the **WYM United Society of Women Spring Conference** at **Fairfield Friends Meeting**.

Jamie invites us to a n exhibit of his artwork over the past 30 years at his house. Watch the Updates for the specifics of this exhibit.



Have you seen these two characters around? Kelly Kellum and Colin Saxton from **Friends United Meeting** have been traveling to many meetings to talk about FUM's Campaign to *Energize, Equip, and Connect Friends* around the world. More info at WYM Office.

QHC: Doing Life 2016...in Grace and Truth

Summer Camp is almost here! Are you ready??? Register soon because Early-Bird pricing ends May 31!!! Register online at: www.qhcyouthprogramming.com. You can also find a paper registration form at the link if you have absolutely no access to the internet. Ask a friend to make a hard copy for you. Make checks payable to Quaker Haven Camp.



John 1:14



Save the Dates:

Summer Camps at Quaker Haven are just around the corner. This year you can register ONLINE at qhcyouthprogramming.com. Here are the camp dates and prices:

Live Life Young Adult Camp (20s-30s) - June 10-12, \$50
 Jr High Camp (7th-8th Grade) - June 12-17, \$290
 Beginner's Camp (K-2nd Grade with Parent) - June 17-19, \$155
 Senior High 1 (9th grade-2016 Grads) - June 19-24, \$290
 Adventure Camp (5th-6th Grade) - June 26-July 1, \$290
 Senior High 2 (9th grade-2016 Grads) - July 17-22, \$290
 Little Friends (3rd-4th Grade) - July 10-13, \$190

**These prices reflect any registrations entered before the May 31st Early Bird deadline.
 Registrations after that date will be assessed a \$50 late fee
 For more information go to the FAQ section at qhcyouthprogramming.com

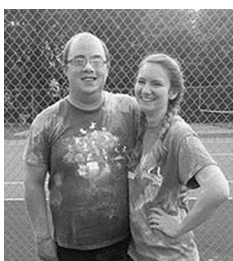
Counselors and CITs!!!

We are in need of Counselors and Counselors-In-Training (CITs must be 15 1/2 or older) for this summer! If you have any interest or know someone who wants to make an eternal impact in the lives of a young person, contact Brock Sizelove at brock@quakerhaven.com OR (765) 618-8042.

Yearly Meeting Sessions are July 14-17 this year! We are mixing up the schedule, but keeping a similar feel to previous years. Come find out how in Plainfield at this year's Annual Sessions. Register online at: www.westernyearlymeeting.org/ymsessions or download a paper registration and medical form at the same link and mail it to the WYM Office: 203 S. E. St. Plainfield, IN 46168.

Youth Cabinet at Bloomingdale Friends

The WYM Youth Cabinet partnered with Bloomingdale Friends to help straighten and clean their cemetery and grounds. Bloomingdale and the surrounding meetings developed and led a "Peace and Pizza" event. They organized a time of fellowship over a meal, games, a movie (The Boy in the Striped Pajamas), and a discussion about peace in our world. The folks involved went above and beyond to make this weekend such a success, and the Youth Cabinet want to personally thank those involved for all the work they put in for that weekend.



Want Andrew to visit you? Contact Andrew at andrew.heald13@gmail.com OR (317) 538-7636.

Want an update on the goings-on at Quaker Haven or to learn ways to bridge the gap between your meeting/church and QHC? Contact Brock Sizelove at brock@quakerhaven.com OR (765) 618-8042.

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.*

Sundesmos

Our Intern year begins June 1st this year! Case Estle is returning as a ear-Long Intern and he will be joined by his sister, Chloe Estle. Hannah Lyon will be a Summer Intern and Justin Scott is returning as our beloved Video Intern. Come meet them at QHC this summer or at YM Sessions in July!

We are planning a Young Adult Summer Mission trip! If you or someone you know is interested, contact Andrew Heald at: andrew.heald13@gmail.com OR (317) 538-7636.

If you have ideas for ways that Sundesmos can reach out to Young Adults or in Urban ministries, contact Andrew at the above info.

An item to look for at this year's WYM Sessions is the **Conversation Cafe**, starting at 7pm on Friday night. A time to enjoy good music and Quaker jokes while answering some serious questions together across generational lines. Come be a difference maker in the night's events. Ice Cream and Cookies will be served!

