

Summer  
2009



Building Relationships Locally  
*A Circle of Friends*  
Making an Impact Globally

A newsletter of the  
Women's  
Missionary  
Fellowship  
Evangelical  
Friends  
Church -  
Eastern Region

**Summer 2009**

As I write this on a late summer evening, katydids are calling to each other to my left and my right. The back and forth grating sound echoing through the darkness is music to my ears, since the sound is a harbinger of autumn, my favorite time of year. Back and forth they go, on and on: KATY-DID...KATY-DID... I have been known to track a katydid down with a flashlight (it does not seem to bother them) and call everyone over to see it, pleased as punch with my ability to track them down by sound alone. Needless to say, nobody gets the thrill from this that I do (you knew that, of course). God has wired me to love this sound – in the context of a late summer evening.

This summer, I have had the opportunity to hear from several missionaries, both personally and as part of an audience. Many of them treasure life experiences that I would decline if they were offered to me. Long hours of travel, uncomfortable beds, strange foods... but God has wired them to find His truth in the darkness, illuminate it for all to see, and find joy in sharing the discovery. When you pray for our missionaries, be sure to give thanks for their faithfulness.

The EFC-ER WMF Fall Retreat is close at hand, and your WMF officers hope that you attend and say, "Hi!" and introduce yourselves. Be sure to read Joyce's cost comparison so you can share what a value the retreat is with those who complain about the expense. Many of your churches are helping other ladies with retreat finances so they can attend; please share Joyce's article with those who contribute so they know what the ladies are getting for the dollars spent. Of course the experience is priceless, but noting the value of one's purchase is important to many people in this tough economic period.

Were you unable to make it to Yearly Meeting or to the WMF Luncheon at Yearly Meeting? This year, so was I. Read up on anything you missed (special thanks to Fran French who took notes as our secretary was out of commission for a bit).

As always, remember the Love Challenge Offering. Don't forget to plan your ideas to collect money for the offering, and don't forget to actually send the money in.

Please say hello to me if you see me at retreat and share your ideas for this newsletter. Volunteer to send me an article on what your local WMF is doing, and I will give you a big hug - and hold you to your promise!

**Irene Jones, editor**

# Easy Livin' ?

**A message from  
Doris Ferguson.\***

Summertime... and the livin' is easy? Whoever wrote that song didn't live where I live!

Our number 4 offspring and family have moved to Lakeland, Florida a couple of weeks ago, so we feel compelled to go and see where they live, and share in their dreams and aspirations for this new location. We will spend a week there, and another week in Wichita watching over 4 other grandchildren while their parents are gone. Watching them come and go, mostly, since they all have busy lives. Willard had a great trip to Africa, and was able to be there with our daughter Sue and our granddaughter Brianna. That was a special blessing. So I guess that the 'livin' isn't too bad!

I'm thinking a lot these days about 'fruit-bearing'. It isn't optional, you know. Jesus said in John 15 in two places: "...I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit..." and "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

Let's be fruitful, and be planting fruit in the lives of others.

And please pray for me as I share some thoughts about this with women at Rocky Mountain Retreat on Sept 17-20.

**Amahoro,  
Willard and Doris Ferguson**

P.S. I will very much miss being with you at Seven Springs. Have a great retreat.

\*Doris is president of the Evangelical Friends International Women's Missionary Fellowship – North America

**A Few Reasons to join women at the WMF Luncheon during Yearly Meeting...**

**Great Food!**



**Insightful Information from the Field**

**Pictured above the Missionary Panel left to right:**  
Jacelyn Jones, Linda Z., Cindy Aufrance, Rose Nuako, Joni Pierce.

**Updates from our Leadership team!**



**Pictured above part of the leadership:**  
Joyce Sams, Fran French, Joni Pierce, Vicki Hinshaw



**A time of warm fellowship with long-time and new friends.**



**Did somebody say,  
CHOCOLATE?**

Calling all chocolate lovers! Here is another reason to attend retreat. The same weekend that we will be there for our Fall Retreat, Seven Springs will host **A Chocolate Affaire**. Vendors ("Chocolatiers") will have all sorts of chocolate treats for sale along with other chocolate activities. So if you love chocolate (don't we all?) you have one more reason to come out to Seven Springs with your girlfriends!

# WMF Luncheon Notes

Every year at Yearly Meeting, your WMF officers host a business meeting luncheon. If you have not attended in the past, we would encourage you to attend. You will enjoy meeting new faces whom you have a lot in common with – your love for Jesus, your link to the Friends church, and your heart for missions. You will be blessed from hearing what the missionaries who attend the luncheon have to share and they will be blessed because you will know better how to pray for them. So, what happened at this year's meeting?

1. Joyce Sams presented an amendment to the Constitution. The amendment is from Article V – Officers and Their Election. We will add a "member-at-large" to the board, since Carol Williams is serving as treasurer.
2. Under Article VI, a change of wording for the Vice President from "shall prepare to become President" to "could be approached to be President" was submitted. Also, the Vice President can call the Nominating Committee together, as needed, and sit on the committee as a member.
3. Treasurer Carol Williams gave the Treasurer's report and thanked the ladies for their faithful giving. In the past ten years, we have given \$247,000. To date we have paid \$15,000 of our Love Challenge pledge for 2009. We will continue collecting for the 2008-2009 Love Challenge offering through this fall's retreat, after which we will close the books and direct monies to the 2009-2010 Love Challenge. In this way, we hope to yet succeed in raising the additional \$10,000 still needed this year.
4. Fran French reported which church read the most books from the WMF reading list this past year. Canton First Friends was the winner for this year's contest, reading the highest number of books (a total of 262) and also averaging the highest number of books read per member (43.3). They will receive a free set of books.
5. Margaret Mosher was honored for beginning the reading program 45 years ago. Thank you, Margaret for your work in establishing the WMF Reading List program.
6. A report was given for the WMF Retreat. Kathy Johnson reported this year's speaker will be Carol Kent, author of *A New Kind of Normal*, which is on this year's reading list. Rooms are still available for this fall's retreat - spread the word!
7. This year's panel of missionary women was composed of Cindy Aufrance, Jacelyn Jones, Linda Zinn, and Rose Marie Nuako. They responded to questions from Joni Pierce. Thanks to each of these women who took time out of their busy Yearly Meeting schedule to share a bit of their lives with us.



**Pictured above:** Ella Ruth Hutson, retired missionary, with Margaret Mosher, founder of the WMF Reading program.

# Love Challenge 2008-2009 Update

We still need \$10,000 to reach our goals for this year's Love Challenge. This year, with the tough economy, "challenge" is indeed accurate. Be faithful and look to see how God will provide. Then send me a story of how you saw God at work in your Love Challenge project. We would like to provide \$5,000 for each of these needs:

- **Arun & Shobha Massey** in India as they work with the children of temple prostitutes.
- **Voicu & Ana Marian** in Romania for their woodworking projects with their students.
- **Dave and Cindy Aufrance** in Hong Kong, to help with their housing costs.
- **The Haiti Nutrition Center**, where mothers and children are provided food, vitamins and clean drinking water.
- **Jacelyn Jones** for her work with the Filipino church in Hong Kong.

We also want to be able to provide \$3,000 to one or more immediate needs. These needs are announced at the WMF Retreat.

We will be adding the Mission House in Alliance, Ohio for our 2009-2010 Love Offering.



We will have more information on this at Fall Retreat. Be in prayer about how your church can help and be in prayer that the missionaries and their families who stay there will be blessed during their stay.

## The Value in the cost of the Fall Retreat

How does the cost of our fall retreat compare with other WMF retreats throughout the United States? Good question.

Moving the Eastern Region WMF Fall Retreat to Seven Springs Mountain Resort has allowed us to improve the quality of the retreat experience on a number of levels. But, with this change, unfortunately, has also come the need to raise the registration fees over the last few years.

Thinking this over made me wonder how our costs compared with the other Women's Missionary Fellowship Retreats that take place across the country. (See comparisons listed to the right.)

When you add and subtract the differing factors between these retreats such as bedding provided, staying at a resort (which needs to be big enough to accommodate our numbers) versus a camp-type setting, and the meals that are included (especially those fabulous breakfast buffets and our Saturday night banquet!), I think you'll agree that the Eastern Region's pricing is pretty competitive with our sister organizations. And, we are committed to working to keep the prices down and the quality up as much as we possibly can.

So, come on girls, instead of buying that high priced coffee treat just once each week start putting that \$3.50 in an envelope or a coffee can. Then you'll be ready to enjoy a weekend away with some girlfriends where you can eat well, laugh a lot and be spiritually renewed. Now THAT'S a deal!

**Joyce Sams, President**

### Northwest Yearly Meeting Women's Retreat

This takes place at Twin Rocks camp, a beautiful setting on the Pacific coast.  
**Regular Housing** (2 nights) - \$145.00 which includes Friday night dinner, meals all day Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. You must provide your own sheets, blankets and towels.  
**Regular Housing** (3 nights) - \$170.00  
**Deluxe Housing** (in the lodge) - \$210 for 3 nights (there is no 2 night option) All the above included plus your bedding and towels.

### Mid-America Yearly Meeting Women's Retreat:

Held at the Wichita Airport Hilton. These rates do not include Friday dinner or Saturday or Sunday lunches.

- 4 per room - \$120.00
- 3 per room - \$135.00
- 2 per room - \$160.00
- 1 per room - \$245.00

### Rocky Mountain Yearly Meeting Women's Retreat:

This retreat takes place at the region's camp, Quaker Ridge, located about 9,000 feet up in the Rocky Mountains with a view of the back of Pike's Peak!

- \$115.00 Dorm
  - \$130.00 Lodge
- Prices include Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast.