

## Great Plains Yearly Meeting - Epistle 2024

A Faithful Walk with God - 2 Corinthians 4:8-12

*We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying around in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body. For we who live are constantly being handed over to death because of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our mortal flesh. So death works in us, but life in you.*

The 117th Annual Session of Great Plains Yearly Meeting was held May 30-June 1, 2024 at Heartland Friends Meeting in Wichita, Kansas. God's goodness has been deeply felt and appreciated. As we met, whether in committee meetings, worship or over a meal together, Spirit was evident and known.

The fruits of Spirit were sweetly demonstrated in the relationships between Friends. Heartland Friends Meeting generously provided sacred space and hospitality that nurtured our gathering. Strong leadership from the clerk's table, workshops and committee work were beautifully prepared and appreciated. Friends were faithful when we gathered and settled into worship.

Not dwelling in the past but acknowledging God's work of healing in our lives, we felt Spirit's guidance as we labored on with the good tasks before us. Working in concert, we faithfully made decisions reflecting good stewardship of resources and support of our monthly meetings. We recognized with grateful hearts the foresight of ancestral Friends who set aside land and finances, giving faithfully for a vision of the future life and ministry of Great Plains Yearly Meeting. Spiritual nurture was encouraged through reports of visitation and a development of a year long plan to gather and discuss reflections on a book.

Hearts were touched and a call to prayer was inspired by workshops. Details were shared around the plight of our dear LGBTQ+ friends in Uganda those who care for their wellbeing. Awareness was heightened around the complexity of sharing the world's resources by the Right Sharing of World Resources representative.

As friends were remembered, stories told & songs sung, we experienced the comfort of God's mercy in a rich outpouring of Spirit among us.

We are reminded that in our journey of being formed and reformed by Christ's inward teaching, we will face troubles. Even as those challenges arise we trust we are provided with wisdom, strength, and joy to walk in step with Spirit and one another.

Our prayer for you is that you will be able to Trust in the Lord and to step out in Obedience.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Great Plains Yearly Meeting,  
Sara Schribner, Clerk