

We shared Bright Blue Sunday Yearly Meeting when we led Family Worship there on First Day. Many Westport Friends attended and served at Yearly Meeting, and, through the year, worked on a wide variety of committees. Only two or three, however, took part in Sandwich Quarterly Meetings. The Quarter holds little interest for most of us.

In Meetings for Business we approved two important Minutes. We reaffirmed the historic Quaker tradition and condemned the reinstatement of the death Penalty in Massachusetts. We also asked Quarterly Meeting to name Kevin Lee a Recorded Minister. Kevin's leadership of youth is a blessing for us and many others.

Meetings for Worship nurture our spirits. With encouragement from Ministry & Counsel Committee more friends prepared brief messages and shared their experiences at programmed meetings. In unprogrammed Sundays - about half the time - silent gathering together in God's presence moved us all. As we met for Lawrence Kennison's Memorial Service, that presence was over all and sustained us. Worship was truly a time of renewal.

To help Friends facing decisions small support groups ~~provided~~ were provided and were helpful. Ministry & Counsel Committee hopes to supply such pastoral care when appropriate, and to communicate this to each of us, whatever our category - active or inactive member, shut-in, new or old attendee-. The three Sunday School Classes were well served by a faithful few, but more people are needed to share and continue this work. As we realized the advantage of longrange planning ~~for~~ our property, maybe we also need a long look at our spiritual condition so that in years to come we can still echo this appraisal that one Friend noted this year:

"Our Westport Monthly meeting is fortunate to have attained a pervasive spirit of comradeship. This leads us to look forward with gladness, as each week moves on, to the reconvening of meeting for Worship on First Day. Arms reach out in embrace, and hearts respond to the blessedness of God's Fullness, here made manifest among us."