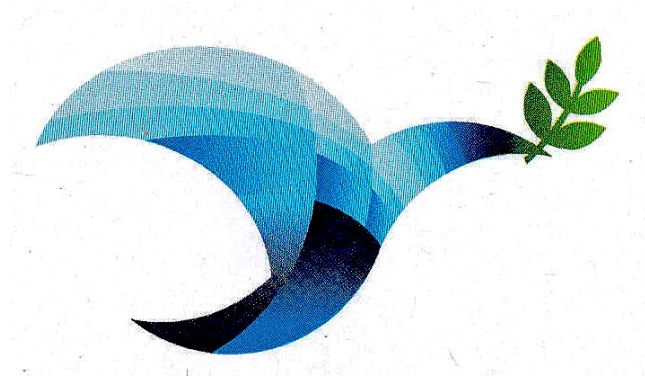


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*February 2021*



*Fairfield Friends Meeting is a diverse Quaker community that lives and shares the peace, love and Light of God in the world.*



P.O. Box 45 · 10441 East County Road 700 South · Camby, Indiana 46113

(317) 856-3121 · [www.FairfieldFriends.org](http://www.FairfieldFriends.org)

**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR, PHIL GULLEY***Curious Times Call for Moral Clarity*

I was in the meetinghouse the other day, poking around, checking to make sure everything was alright. I'd had a dream the night before that the meetinghouse basement had flooded.

"Wait a minute," you're thinking to yourself, "our meetinghouse doesn't have a basement."

But it did in my dream and it was full of water. The sump pump had quit working, so I tapped it with a hammer, which is what I do when our sump pump at home stops working, and it buzzed on and drained the basement.

I have a friend who fancies himself an interpreter of dreams, which I've always been skeptical of, but I phoned him just the same to see what my dream meant. He said it indicated I was feeling overwhelmed and needed to get away for a rest. My misgivings about dream interpretation began to fade and I spent the next several hours planning my next motorcycle trip.

Is it just me, or does life feel a bit exhausting these days, what with a pandemic, an insurrection, and folks who believe we've been taken over by lizard people? I have no doubt we'll conquer COVID, but how do you fix people who've lost the ability to discern truth from lies, sense from nonsense.

Granted, America has always had its fair share of lunatics, but they used to dwell on the fringes of society, kept at arm's length from power and influence. Now they have their own TV channels, websites, publishers, and Facebook pages. A significant number even have their own House and Senate seats.

We live in a post-truth society, when the declarations of scientists, professors, and experts are greeted with sneers, and sincerely held opinions masquerade as facts. No nation can survive whose citizens place lies and truth on an equal plane. Early Friends knew this and believed humanity's chief commitment should be to truth, not to kings or creeds. Alas, in today's America too many people pledge their undying allegiance to parties, powers, and principalities; integrity be damned. These are curious times.

Shortly after the Capitol House insurrection, a friend emailed me a quote she'd found helpful. She didn't know who wrote it, and neither do I, but that in no way lessens its helpfulness. I offer it to you:

*Huge numbers of our population believe in a complete alternate reality. Alternate facts as it were. But just as intensely as I believe they are deluded, they think I am the one who is deluded. Maybe I am.*

*"So how can I be confident in my perception? It can be quite difficult. But I have found that in times of confusion, particularly when emotions are running high and creating tunnel vision, the presence of Nazis can be an extremely helpful indicator. If I am attending a local demonstration or event and I see Nazis... neo-Nazis, miscellaneous-Nazis or the latest-whatever-uber-mythology-Nazis, I figure out which side they are on.*

**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR, PHIL GULLEY (Cont'd)**

*"And if they are on my side of the demonstration? I am on the wrong side.*

*"It is tough to argue moral equivalence when I am standing next to a Nazi. Look to my right. Is there a guy wearing a 6MWE (6 million wasn't enough) t-shirt? I am on the wrong side. Look to my left. If that guy is wearing a Camp Auschwitz t-shirt? Wrong side. Speakers referring to things Hitler got right? Wrong side.*

*"I can always, always, always, rely on the presence of Nazis as a guiding light through a fog of disinformation.*

There you have it, friends. We're known by the company we keep, so choose wisely.

**USFW****FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE FEBRUARY 2021.**

Many thanks to everyone who assisted in providing for our struggling families during our host week. One team lead by Laura supplied meals. JoAnn cleaned out our perishable supplies from the meeting house. And Stacy is in the process of collecting enough money to pay the housing bill for that week. What a wonderful relief we provide, not only to these families but to the Family Promise staff.

Family Promise has gone from 4 or 5 distress calls a day, to 20 calls a day. Julies goal to prevent homelessness was very timely. She relies on our continued support as she pieces together the variety of assistances. Way to go team!!



A special thank you, signed on the back by several moms and Melody.

**PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE****FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION****Join FCNL in Reflection and Worship:**

"Quaker lobbying is a form of ministry to the nation. It is also a service to individual members of Congress and their staff. By treating elected officials with integrity, FCNL seeks to open their hearts to other perspectives and encourage them to reach beyond self-interest." (Author Margery Post Abbott, "A Theological Perspective on Quaker Lobbying")

All of us are invited to join FCNL in worship as they prepare for their Spring Lobby Weekend.

Here is the link to register for Reflection and Worship on March 17, 2021 at 5:15 PM:

<https://act.fcnl.org/event/witness-wednesday-virtual-events/2003/?source=fcnlweb>

The Friends Committee on National Legislation, more commonly known as FCNL, is the lobbying arm of Us. Quakers. As such it presents the concerns of Friends directly to congress. Here is the latest "position paper" illustrating the concerns it will be promoting for the upcoming sessions. For more information go to their website at fwcc.org.

Fairfield Peace and Social Justice Committee

The First 100 Days: FCNL's Recommendations to the Biden Administration | Friends Committee On National Legislation



The First 100 Days: FCNL's Recommendations to the Biden Administration ...  
While Congress considers legislation, President Joe Biden can take immediate action in his first days in office.

**COVID-19 GROUP**

Fairfield Friends Ministry and Council formed an ad hoc committee called Covid-19 Group to discuss the possibility of resuming Meeting for Worship outdoors this summer. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to infect people throughout Indiana. The committee has determined that we cannot safely meet together face-to-face. If you have any questions or concerns for this committee, please contact Bill Smith at [billsmith49@earthlink.net](mailto:billsmith49@earthlink.net) or (317)413-9869. This committee will continue to meet in the hope that this pandemic will lessen.

Fairfield Friends Meeting will continue to have ZOOM Meeting for Worship and will publish the ZOOM link on Facebook and by email. In addition, Lee Edmundson will be placing the ZOOM link on the Fairfield Friends website weekly.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

VALENTINES FOR VETERANS

Every year Children's Church kids make and send Valentines to the Veterans. Last year we even had the rest of you help us. I don't like to think that we can't do that this year, so I'm asking you to send a Valentine, or even more than one, to the following address. It can be store bought or hand-made. Thanks for making these men and women's lives a little better.

Richard L. Roudebush VA Medical Center  
 1481 10th St.  
 Indpls. IN 46202

**NEWS ABOUT FRIENDS**

New Friends	Friends Lost
	Jackie Schoen and Karen Katterhenry passed away in December of 2020.

**NEWS ABOUT FRIENDS (Cont'd)**

**THOSE THAT WE SHOULD HOLD IN THE LIGHT**

David Hodge	Cindy Hurst	Patty Bowling	Kim Brown
Joyce Grant	Fairfield Teachers	Constance Ward	Ron and Kaye Frye
Chris Gautier	Lily & Jessica Denardo	Norm Connell	The Lord's Pantry
Dan Burger	Sulaiman Family	Clara McClure	Ralph & Gan Baker
Matthias Beier	Ginny & Robert Hayes-Bennett		David & Bobbi Garber
Family Promise	Cunot Feeding Program	Sam Gulley	Joe & Sylvia Leverett
Margo Lawson's Grandson Gage		Margo Lawson	Linda Bryant
Fairfield Healthcare Workers		Joni, Devin, & Leif Leverett	
Rosemary Church	Phillip E. Sorrels	Scott & Brenda Sellers	
Carl & Cathy Lucas		Tom & Jo Ann Farrington	

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

February
Conner McClure (02/03)
Mary Swift (02/03)
Philip Gulley (02/05)
Jennifer Silvers (02/05)
Devin Leverett (02/07)
Mark Strietelmeier (02/11)
Mark & Robin Lawrence (02/11)
Bob & Sandra Horner (02/12)
Laura Essex (02/14)
Rebecca Furnish (02/14)
Ron & Kay Frye (02/14)
Joni Leverett (02/18)
Colton McClure (02/24)

March
Gordon Mork (03/01)
Michelle Sutton (03/03)
Walter Madden-Warner (03/04)
Amanda Gainey (03/05)
Robert Stevens (03/09)
Larry Chamness (03/12)
Don & Beverly Katterhenry (03/12)
Dale Gladden (03/13)
Barbara Heavlin (03/16)
Michael Cunningham (03/17)
April Stevens (03/17)
Anita Camic (03/18)
Patti Swift (03/18)
Don & Rebecca Henderson (03/18)
Deborah Draper (03/21)
Larry & Carol Cordray (03/21)
Don Adams (03/23)
Dara Smith (03/25)
Carol Cordray (03/27)
Matthew Hamm (03/29)
Chad Duran (03/30)
Ellen Blacketer (03/31)

**MEETING CONTACTS**

<b><u>Pastor:</u></b> <b>Phil Gulley</b> Philip@philipgulley.com	317-446-4923
<b><u>Presiding Clerk of the Meeting:</u></b> <b>Lee Edmundson</b> tarvedmun@yahoo.com	317-839-1223
<b><u>Recording Clerk:</u></b> <b>Lynne Durocher</b> Ld091449@yahoo.com	317-888-7242
<b><u>Treasurers:</u></b> <b>Mike Chenoweth</b> mocnenoweth@gmail.com	317-445-0387
<b>Karen Heald</b> healdrobt@att.net	317-696-6133
<b><u>Membership Coordinators:</u></b> <b>Larry &amp; Carol Cordray</b> daffodil327@hotmail.com	317-372-2777 317-372-1678
<b><u>Bulletin and Newsletter (info due by 20<sup>th</sup> of month):</u></b> <b>Tom Farrington</b> thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com	317-839-3902
<b><u>United Society of Friends Women:</u></b> <b>Sarah Lookabill</b> slookabill@att.net	317-839-4712
<b><u>Fairfield Men's Fellowship:</u></b> <b>Ralph Baker</b> baker7298@sbcglobal.net	317-831-3526
<b><u>Outreach Committee:</u></b> <b>Stacey Denny</b> hdenny123@att.net	317-313-1171
<b><u>Caring Friends Committee:</u></b> <b>Becky McClung</b> rgmclung@gmail.com	317-690-0160

**MEETING CONTACTS (Cont'd)**

<b><u>To Be Added to the Email List:</u></b> <b>Tom Farrington</b> thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com	317-839-3902
<b>J. B. Symons</b> jb@leadtogreat.com	317-409-3945
<b><u>Nursery (under age 3):</u></b> <b>Sue Roe</b> Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net	317-445-9333
<b><u>Children's Meeting (age 3—3<sup>rd</sup> grade):</u></b> <b>Ralph &amp; Gan Baker</b> baker7298@sbcglobal.net	317-831-3526
<b><u>Fantastix Friends 4<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade):</u></b> <b>Tara Stewart</b> Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com	317-627-8964
<b><u>Young Friends (9<sup>th</sup> grade—college):</u></b> <b>Jimmy McClung</b> moviemanjim@gmail.com	765-346-8848
<b><u>Restorative Connection Counseling</u></b> <b>Laura Jay-Ballinger, M.A., LMHC</b> restorative.connection.indy@gmail.com	317-902-7327