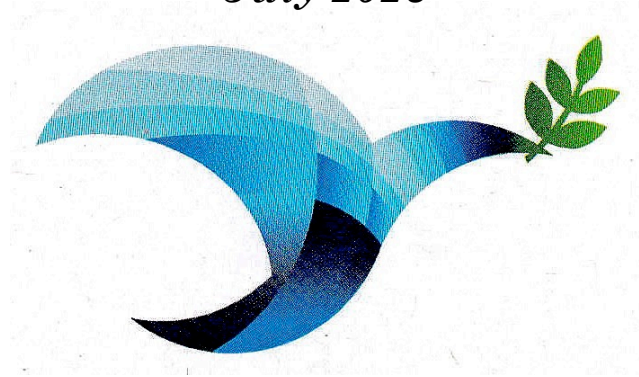


THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

July 2023



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.o

The Fairfield Friend – July 2023

Dear Friends,

This month in place of Phil's Thoughts from the Pastor, we have a contribution from Kathe Bryant of the Plainfield Friends. Kathe has been part of the Fairfield Friends Writing Group for several years. And, as many of you know, she is the author of When the Lilacs Grow as well as many, many articles. Thanks to Kathe for this contribution. M. Beth Symons

Gardens

Many of us are gifted with a tiny nook of God's creation. It is up to us to leave it as it is or to render it more beautiful by planting foliage and flowers. I don't remember ever being satisfied to leave any space as it is.

Creating a garden, no matter how small, is always much more labor intensive than it looks. To garden is to put on my mud shoes, roll up my sleeves and take into my hands the hoe, shovel, rake and spade. Soon I break sweat on my forehead, and I know it will be a beautiful garden. Long hours of work lead to the glorious hour of sunset when I can admire the fruit of my labor and rest.

Weeds are incredibly tenacious creations. They send down roots that fight for life even in the most inhospitable places. Who is to say what is a weed and what is a flower? I have a number of flowers in my yard that are considered weeds. I am just as fond of them as my most beautiful flowers.

Every year I can't help but respond to the call of spring by gardening. I do not like to buy plants someone else has grown. This habit goes back to my childhood days when no commercial plants were available. I always harvest seeds from my flowers and plant them the following year. What a pleasure it is to watch the seedlings poke through the earth and change shape as they mature. It is so satisfying to see the plants bud and then burst into blooms. I love to watch the daily change in them.

How long has it been since you watched a shadow move across the grass or watched the clouds in the sky? Whenever I go outside, I always notice the pressing things to do like weeding or watering. When I am outside, I tend to work rather than observe.

Since I am past eighty now, plagued with pain and less energy to work very long, I find myself spending more time appreciating the beauty of the flowers, the leaves, the movement of the bees, butterflies and swarming insects. I listen to the bird's morning songs and observe the first humming birds flitting about. It is very quiet and I can hear the whirring sound of their wings. I am now blessed with the gift of sharpened observation bringing harmony and peace to body and soul. This is one of the good parts of aging.

Gardens are not made by sitting in the shade.

Rudyard Kipling

Kathe Sommer Bryant

CLERK PLEASE

July 2023

The following highlights are from the June 18 Monthly Meeting (MM), be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- Mike Chenoweth presented the May Financial Statement. May was a good month financially for the Meeting, in spite of the fact that Outreach distributed \$12,250 to various organizations. Budgeted expenses were still \$4,000 less than revenue for the month. The May average weekly offering was \$4,804, raising the year-to-date average weekly offering to \$3,820 which is \$800 more than at the same time last year. Overall, the first five months of 2023 resulted in a \$20,238 budget surplus.
- Ann Tarvin reported that Ministry and Counsel will continue to schedule the annual ice cream social to coincide with graduate recognition Sunday, these events were very well attended on June 4 this year.
- Randy Horton read a brief report submitted by Jim McClung on behalf of the Trustees. Landscaping is grateful for all the help during spring cleanup day. There is ongoing discussion regarding play structures for young people, and the old copier will be disposed of soon. The main concern for Trustees in the near future will be replacement of the insurance policy, which will not be renewed and expires in October. There will not be a Trustees meeting in July.
- Gan Baker reported for Christian Education. Children's church has been suspended for the summer, and will resume the week after Labor Day. On Father's day, popcorn was passed out to men at the Meeting.
- On behalf of Outreach committee, Becky Horton reported that a delivery of food was made to Cunot Food Pantries on June 13, and that significant improvements were being made to their facilities.
- The following minute of appreciation was recorded: Fairfield Friends express much gratitude to Ralph Baker for nearly a quarter century of service as Sexton for the cemetery. We also acknowledge the service of Gan Baker, who supported Ralph in record keeping. As Sexton, Ralph has helped people from all over the country, who have buried or intend to bury family members at Fairfield. He has said that he found this service most rewarding. Ralph has also worked tirelessly to maintain the appearance of the cemetery. Many thanks to you Ralph.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be July 16.

FAIRFIELD MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION

June 18, 2023

Continued input from the Plough Daily Dig. In the words of the publisher:

Start off your day with a jolt – a free, pithy quote from the likes of Arnold, Blumhardt, Dostoevsky, Kierkegaard, Romero, Sundar Singh, Tolstoy, and others, waiting in your inbox every morning. Think of it as caffeine for your conscience.

I read these every morning and save the ones that mean the most to me. The following is today's edition, and is very appropriate for Father's Day.

Faithful Fathers

ALEXI SARGEANT

Abstractions like posterity, legacy, and the future become incarnated in tiny human beings we get to care for and raise. This responsibility requires a deliberate choice on the part of fathers, distinct from the relationship mothers share with their offspring. The father does not begin with a physical connection to the child he has begotten. A man's connection to his offspring is less immediate and visceral – he can, as a simple matter of biology, walk away without anything needing to be severed. The father must make the choice to not walk away, to be there, to develop a connection with his child that deepens day-by-day. It is the choice to embrace and nurture a future we cannot control.

[A father's promises to his children are less scripted than a husband's promises to his wife.](#)

We have not done our best communicating on the affairs of Western Yearly Meeting, the parent organization to which Fairfield belongs, and to which we pay significant quarterly assessments. If you are interested you can learn a lot at <https://www.westernyearlymeeting.org>. There you will find a link to Western Work, the WYM newsletter.

Randy Horton, Presiding Clerk

Books and Brunch

Please mark your calendars for Fairfield's 2023 edition of **Books and Brunch Saturday, November 4th.**

At the April Meeting for Business, I volunteered to chair the event, but I need help to make this event happen. If you would like to assist, please email me at sue@swwalton.com. For now, there will be no meetings, just brainstorming via email until late mid-to late August when we will meet via zoom.

Thanks in advance for your assistance! Sue Walton

July Birthdays

Ann Tarvin	July 01
Karen Heald	July 02
Kylee Horton	July 05
Gage Boyd	July 06
Ann Cunningham	July 07
John Essex	July 09
Albert Vidal	July 15
Rhonda Impink	July 17
Trevor Settles	July 17
Craig Stewart	July 21
Dinah Geiger	July 22
Araya Smith	July 23
Jeff Gabbard	July 24
Spencer Gulley	July 24
Jimmy McClung	July 25

July Anniversaries

Craig and Tara Stewart	July 01
JB and M.Beth Symons	July 04
Ann Tarvin and Lee Edmundson	July 05
Mark and Liane McClure	July 06
Mark and Diana Jerrell	July 08
Tim Settles and Paige Robbins	July 08
Rhonda Impink and Hugh Hanlin	July 14
Bill and Pam Smith	July 29

Family Promise

Family Promise will host an Open House and Homecoming on July 2, 2023 from 1:00-4:00pm at Almost Home, 7233 E. County Road 300 S. Please feel free to celebrate with the Family Promise staff, residents (past and present), along with donors and volunteers. Please join us for fun, food, and friends. Thanks, Theresa Minton

Family Promise
of Hendricks County
SUMMER CELEBRATION
FOOD | FUN | FRIENDS

Please join us for a fun outdoor picnic to celebrate our residents and clients past and present, volunteers, donors, and staff!

••••• **JULY 2, 2023** •••••

OPEN HOUSE FROM 1:00 TO 4:00 PM

Almost Home Shelter
7233 E. County Road 300 S.
Plainfield, IN 46168

Finance Committee

Electronic Contributions

Thank you so very much for your continued financial support of the Meeting!

PayPal Change:

PayPal has ended the fee-free Family and Friends payments to any accounts other than personal accounts. This means that fees will be charged on your payments to Fairfield which lowers the amount of money Fairfield receives.

Other Electronic Pay Sites:

Direct payment programs such as Venmo and Zelle are designed for person to person transfers and although Fairfield is a nonprofit, we do not qualify for free transfers.

Bank Direct Pay Option:

An alternative to using PayPal is to have direct pay from your bank account to Fairfield.

To set up an automatic payment from your bank with funds coming from your checking account:

- Use your bank's online bill pay feature to set up Fairfield Friends as the payee (recipient). You can set up the frequency you desire such as monthly and as a recurring payment on the day of the month convenient for you.
- You will need to indicate the Meeting's mailing address and phone number:

Fairfield Friends Meeting
P. O. Box 45
Camby, IN 46113
317-856-3121

- Please use your full name as your account number with Fairfield.
- As this transaction becomes a check written to and mailed to Fairfield, you should not need the Meeting's account number nor the bank's routing number.

Your bank will distribute the funds using a bank check that will be mailed to the Meeting. Your name will appear on the check as the sender. Most banks do not charge for online bill pay and there likely won't be a charge for the check or the cost of mailing.

Your bank may function differently so talk to your own bank for their specific rules or for assistance with setting up the direct payment.

Contact Lynne Durocher, Clerk of Finance Committee, with questions. Ld091449@yahoo.com or 317-379-4132

Peace and Social Justice Committee

Plastic Free July

Peace & Social Justice is offering a few participatory ideas for our community.

1. Why is plastic free July in July?

Plastic Free July is all about encouraging people to be more aware of their plastic use and creating a cleaner world as a result. People can participate in this event by avoiding all products that use plastic products in them throughout the whole month of July. Plastic Free July is the concept of the Plastic Free Foundation – founded as an NFP in 2011. Globally, 29% of consumers are aware of PFF with an estimated 140 million participants. To date they have harvested over 29 million pounds of plastic debris from the oceans, rivers, and streams. Please consider participating.

2. 4 OCEAN

4 Ocean is an ocean cleanup company dedicated to ending the ocean plastic crisis. As a Public Benefit Corporation and Certified B Corp, they harness the power of business to fund a global cleanup operation that is responsible for recovering millions of pounds of plastic and trash from the world's oceans, rivers, and coastlines.

There is a mass of plastic debris in the Pacific Ocean about the size of Texas! There are now over 5.25 trillion macro and micro pieces of plastic in our oceans & 46,000 pieces in every square mile of ocean – all weighing up to 269,000 tons. 8 million pieces are added daily.

4 Oceans partners with the Plastic Free Foundation and has contributed over 29.9 million pounds of plastic in their worldwide efforts. 4 Oceans – **4ocean.com** – where they tell their story and market items made with recycled plastics. Peace & Social Justice is a partner.

3. GREEN PEACE

Green Peace is also working to reduce and eliminate plastic pollution; by pushing for a Global Plastic Treaty – to end production of single-use plastics.

A goal of P&SJ is to provide awareness of local, state and world concerns that need our prayers and/or participation. We hope this awareness touches your lives and hearts.
JB Symons

Green Team News

Indiana State Parks



Did you know? Indiana has 24 state parks, 2 state forest areas and 8 reservoirs. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) also has programs for children, teens and adults who want to learn more about the plants, water, soils and wildlife of Indiana.

My grandparents' work after they were sixty years of age changed my life. When they said yes to the opportunity to manage a state park lodge, I was provided a chance to learn more about Indiana state park forests through the experience of hiking. I met naturalists who shared their knowledge and thoughtful perspectives about the value of caring for natural resources of our state. Last fall in the lobby of Turkey Run Inn, I saw a plaque that honored Glenn Harvey, a naturalist who taught me and many others about tree identification, wild plants, sandstone gorges and Sugar Creek canoeing.

Indiana's first state park, McCormick's Creek, opened officially on July 4, 1916, as a way to celebrate the state's centennial. Turkey Run State Park opened later in the same year. By 1933, the conservationists had established ten state parks and five state memorials. Attendance at Indiana state parks rose steadily from 33,000 in 1919 to 623,000 in 1932. In 2021, it was estimated that over 15 million people visited Indiana state parks.

Early Indiana conservationists believed it was important to provide opportunities for all citizens to explore the state's beautiful natural resources. They envisioned social progress that aligned with valuing and caring for the restorative powers of nature.

When I spoke recently with Ginger Murphy at the Division of State Parks, she described three popular programs that invite families and individuals to experience and enjoy time outdoors:

- The Challenges program is open to all ages and requires no application. All Hoosiers are invited to try a hiking challenge. Currently there are about ten state parks that offer a "challenge". For more information: <https://dnr.in.gov/healthy>
- The Indiana Master Naturalist program (IMN) provides hands-on opportunities for adults or teens (9-13 years) to learn about the state's natural resources. The IMN classes fill up quickly. For more information, contact IMN State Coordinator, Jody Heaston, 463-203-6562; jheaston@dnr.IN.gov or visit: <https://in.gov/dnr/programs>
- Pin and Patch Hoosier Quest is for families or individuals. Three program levels, *Discover*, *Challenge* and *Explore* are available to people of all abilities. Brochures can be found at a state park nature center or online: <https://on.IN.gov/hoosierquest>

What Can We Do?

- I notice a difference when my weeks don't allow enough time outdoors. Whether I take a walk, garden, enjoy morning coffee with birds, or drive in a scenic area, I feel better.

- Most of us have a state park within a one hour drive. We also have beautiful local parks and other accessible natural settings that allow time near trees, flowers, water and birds. We can consider if we have a friend or neighbor who might like to also go.
- Participate in farmers markets, plant sales, concerts and other activities at local parks. Support fundraising that highlights the importance of maintaining safe green spaces.
- Offer to drive a friend who isn't feeling well to a natural area. My husband and I found recently when we were recovering from respiratory infections that even a fifteen minute drive in a forested and scenic area helped us feel happier and healthier.
- Continue sharing our stories. Ginger Murphy (State Coordinator, Division of State Parks) appreciated learning about Fairfield Friends' hiking experiences at three Indiana state parks and the work of the Green Team.

For more information about the DNR and programs: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/programs>
 Ginger Murphy, State Coordinator, Division of State Parks, 402 W. Washington St., Rm 298,
 Indianapolis, 46204. (317-232-4143);

The cost for a 2023 Indiana State Park daily entrance pass is \$7. An annual pass is \$50 and for those over 65 years of age, it is \$25. Fees sustain park maintenance. Maps for Indiana State Parks: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/state-parks/maps/>

- Linda Mann

Outreach Committee

When I think of making a difference in someone's life, it usually isn't in a \$25.00/month price range. However, with CoCoDa's Young Rural Dreamer's Scholarship Program, \$25.00/month can make the impossible a reality.

In Nicaragua, the university is a 5-year program that is tuition free. Most rural students cannot afford the non-tuition expenses (transportation, food, materials, books, etc.). With this scholarship program, students receive \$25.00/month to cover these costs.

Five students are selected each year to receive the scholarship. The scholarship is for the duration of their university career. There are currently 15 students in the program and 5 more will be selected to start in 2023. In 2024, the program will reach its full capacity of 25 students. From that point forward, as five students graduate, five more will be added.

Fairfield Friends has supported this program from the beginning. Each year we are asked to cover the scholarship expense. When the scholarship program is at capacity, that will be \$25.00/month for 10 months per year for 25 students—for a total of \$6,250.00. Many of these students will head back to their villages to serve in ways that would not have been possible without their higher education.

When Jim Mulholland, the director of CoCoDa, came to Fairfield in March, we had a special collection for the scholarship program. We raised more than is needed for this year. Thank you for your generous support of this worthwhile, life-changing program.

Joan Gulley, Co-clerk of Fairfield

July 2023 Calendar

- July 2** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Writing Group 1-3pm
- July 5** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- July 6** **Ministry and Counsel Committee 7-8pm**
- July 8** **Peace and Social Justice Committee 9:30-10:30am**
Green Team 10:45-11:45am
- July 9** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- July 11** **Stewardship Committee 2-3pm**
- July 12** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- July 13** **Finance Committee 7-8pm**
- July 15** **Scrapbooking Group 9am-4pm**
- July 16** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Meeting for Business 7-8pm
- July 18** **All Clerks Meeting 7-8pm'**
- July 19** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- July 23** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- July 26** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- July 30** **Yearly Meeting, Plainfield Meeting House 10:00am**

Holding in the Light List

Leah Oye (Cynthia Strietemeier's friend)
Debbie Draper
Amy & Michael Kotlarske (Anita Camic's friend)
Mike (Stan Jones & Skip Lyford's friend)
Josie Uray (Josiah Hostetler's friend)
Craig Reasoner
Beth Becker (Sue Walton's friend)
Mary Lee Comer
Patty Bowling
Ann Denny & daughter Betsey (Herb's mom and sister)
Don Edmundson (Lee's brother)
Helen Symons (JB's mother)
Bob Church (Rosemary's husband)
Rochelle Florence Colestock (Randy Horton's sister)
Daryl T. Brown
Julie Kindle
Brenda Sellers (Linze Southwick's mother)

Louie Geiger
Ron Frye
Jim Edwards (Ashley Smith's stepdad)
Kim Brown (Jill Wiley's friend)
Terri McClung (Jim's sister-in-law)
Marty (Carol Cordray's friend)
Nancy Graham
Mike (Tara Stewart's friend)
Tina (Mary Dooley's niece)
Mike Roland (Bill & Pam Smith's friend)
Jack & Mary Lou (Mary Dooley's friends)
Neighborhood Bible Church
Deann Waltz
Margaret Tutewiler-Cox
Lauren Chinn (Larry Cordray's daughter)
Ruth Turner (daughter of the late Charles & Elsie Carter)
Chris Gautier

And we continue to hold in the light those in our Fairfield family and larger Quaker community who cope with ongoing issues of compromised health or aging, or otherwise live with challenging situations on a daily basis:

Alan & Helen Heuss (Cindy Streitmeier's parents)
Charles and Leslieann Lee
Abdul Sulaiman & Nisreen Rasheed family
Tom & Jeanne Seger (Phil Gulley's sister and husband)
Carol Gabbard (Jeff's mother)
Mary Denbo (Terry's Mom)

Gage Boyd (Margo Lawson's grandson)
Jack Apple (Joan Gulley's brother)
Margie Wollitz (Mary's twin sister)
David and Jennifer Hodge
Margo Lawson
Beth Sotkiewicz

Meeting Contacts

Pastor

Phil Gulley
philiphgulley@gmail.com
317-446-4923

Choir Director

Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton
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Outreach Committee

Stacey Denny
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317-313-1171

Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung
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317-690-0160

United Society of Friends Women

Sarah Lookabill
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317-839-4712

To Be Added to the Email List

Tom Farrington
MessageToFairfield@att.net
317-839-3902

Fairfield Men's Fellowship

Ralph Baker
baker7298@sbcglobal.net
317-831-3526

Membership Coordinators

Larry & Carol Cordray
daffodil327@hotmail.com
317-372-2777
317-372-1678

Nursery (under age 3)

Sue Roe
Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net
317-445-9333

Bulletin

Tom Farrington
MessageToFairfield@att.net
317-839-3902

Children's Meeting (age 3-8th grade)

Tara Stewart
Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com
317-627-8964
Jimmy McClung
moviemanjm@gmail.com
765-346-8848

Newsletter

M. Beth Symons
mbethsymons@aol.com
317-409-0300

Pianists: Lee Edmundson, Joan Gulley, Hubert Perry

Membership

Membership does not require great moral or spiritual achievement, but it does require sincerity of purpose and a commitment to Quaker values and practices. Membership is a spiritual discipline, a commitment to the well-being of ones spiritual home and not simply appearance on a membership roll.

The above is taken from the Britain Yearly Meeting book on Quaker Faith and Practice. If you desire to join us at Fairfield Friends Meeting to share your and our journey in spiritual growth please contact Larry or Carol Cordray. Our contact information is below.

Carol Daffodil327@hotmail.com or 317-727-1678 Larry Lcordray3388@gmail.com 317-372-2777