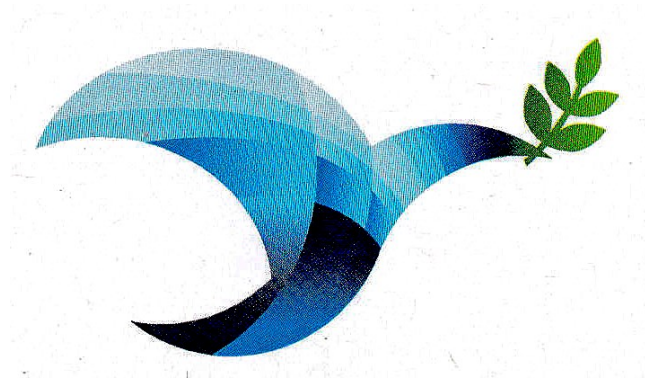


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*May 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***Setting a Table for Everyone*

One thing I admire about Joan is her freedom from nostalgia. When I ask her to name her favorite day ever, she says, “Today.” Being a slave to nostalgia, I spend a good bit of time recalling, remembering, then trying to recapture some golden moment. I know Joan’s appreciation for the present moment is healthier than my yearning for the past, so I’m trying to be more like her.

I’ve been thinking about nostalgia as we plan our return to in-person worship, which will hopefully be soon. The nostalgic part of me wants things to be just as we left them in March of last year when we hermetically sealed our meetinghouse and began gathering on Zoom. I want to unseal the meetinghouse doors, find things just as we left them, and trod once again the familiar paths and patterns of our past.

The Joan part of me knows this isn’t healthy, and perhaps not even possible. Covid has changed us. It has made us a new and different family. Twenty percent of the folks who answered our annual survey will continue to worship with us via Zoom. They include people like Mike Mott and Nancy Graham, people we love, who’ve moved far away and are grateful beyond words they can unite with us again.

They include people like the Stradlings, Josih, Eliot, Sally, Debbie, Muff and Lynn and other friends who don’t have access to a Quaker meeting and have found a home at Fairfield.

They even include those Friends who head south each winter for warmer climes—the Comers, the Gosses, the Milhouses, the Smiths, the Cordrays, and several others I won’t embarrass by naming.

Am I willing to alter our customs to include them in our worship? Indeed I am. Prior to Covid, I never imagined a camera or screen in our meetingroom, but if having those things make it possible for all our Fairfield family to partake in our feast, I’ll gladly set a table for them.

I have no doubt we can retain the simple spirit we’ve all found so refreshing. Those of us who gather in person will not be an audience for others to observe. We will be one dimension of a gathered whole, but now that whole will include others whose circumstances are different from our own. With us, they will share their good news, and ask our help in bearing their burdens. With us, they will share their Light, even as we share our Light with them.

I’m not sure what our meetinghouse will look like when we return, whether we’ll have screens or microphones or Ipads or some other technological marvel. Just remember, those devices are not the enemies of simplicity. They are the tools to help us see, hear, and love one another. Anything that helps us do that serves a high and holy purpose.

Hope to see you soon, Friends.

**Clerk Please—A message from the Presiding Clerk**CLERK PLEASE  
May, 2021

This month and in future newsletters, I hope to use this space to share highlights of the most recent Monthly Meeting with a Concern for Business.

The following are drawn from minutes for the April 11 Monthly Meeting:

- Phil announced that Shawn McConaughey will become superintendent of Western Yearly Meeting (WYM) in April 2022 when his current ministry in Kenya ends.
- Financial health continues to be good, with revenue remaining strong in spite of our not meeting in person.
- A record number responded to the Ministry & Council (M&C) survey, and 98.7% of respondents were positive about Fairfield's helping them during the year of the pandemic.
- Trustees will outline a plan for the 1892 Meeting House that includes demolition of the two additions and preservation of the original structure until a final decision is made regarding its future.
- Trustees have approval for around \$14,000 of 2012 Meeting House maintenance which includes HVAC health upgrades, parking lot pavement, and meeting room ceiling repair. It is hoped these can be accomplished prior to Meeting reopening.
- Next Monthly Meeting moved to May 16 due to Mother's Day on May 9

I have a favor to ask. In an effort to boost participation in Monthly Meetings I am seeking your input. Please let me know what could be done to make attendance more appealing for you, by emailing me at [randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net](mailto:randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net).

We have not been good 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

**MINISTRY AND COUNSEL****Fairfield is Not an Island**

By virtue of its location and affiliation, Fairfield is a part of two other groups of Quakers. The first is Western Yearly Meeting which is made up of 33 local monthly meetings in the western half of Indiana and Chicago. The yearly meeting meets for business and fellowship three times a year—March and November Administrative Councils, both held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, and the annual sessions, usually for a three-day weekend in July. While we have appointed representatives to attend these meetings, any member or attender is welcome to come to any of these sessions. These gatherings are great opportunities to meet and make new Friends.

The yearly meetinghouse, its grounds, and office are located in Plainfield. The Plainfield Friends meetinghouse is attached to the yearly meeting building. Since it is so close to Fairfield, we do not hold worship on yearly meeting Sunday but instead join Friends from around the yearly meeting in the yearly meeting room. The grounds are also home to the Plainfield Farmer's Market and the Quaker Days Festival.

The theology of the yearly meeting covers a broad spectrum and is an example of how we can all work together on a common goal even if we do not totally agree with each other on everything. Although many are not aware of it, Fairfield also shares a broad spectrum of belief.

We have a category in our budget for "WYM Assessment". This figure is based on total resident membership of the meeting and is approximately \$45 per year for each person in that category. We pay our share on a quarterly basis. The money is used to maintain the yearly meeting and support its programming.

The work of the yearly meeting is done by program boards and other committees. Fairfield has several members appointed to these various groups.

If you have any questions about the Western Yearly Meeting, please contact Randy Horton or Sarah Lookabill.

We will talk about the second group, Friends United Meeting, in the next newsletter.

**MINISTRY AND COUNSEL (Cont'd)****Reopening After the Pandemic**

After not being in the Meetinghouse for over a year, Ministry and Counsel is aware of the want and need to return. However, we want to do this carefully and safely to protect all concerned. Last Sunday, Phil gave his message from Fairfield while Treg worked on the technological aspects, and after they reported to the committees which have been working on getting us back to in-person meetings, the following plan is ready to share.

A final run through will be given the Ministry & Counsel, Covid/Reopening, and Technology committees on May 30, Memorial Day Weekend, and if everything works, Fairfield will open for in-person services on June 6. We will operate following CDC guidelines and will open to those who have been fully vaccinated. The attendees will wear masks and socially distance themselves. The committees realize that this will exclude some (especially children) who have been unable to receive the vaccines yet, but understand that as the limits for vaccines lower, more people will be able to attend. For those who can't attend, Zoom will still be an option and available to those who have joined us from over the world this past year. The screen for Zoom attendees will be mounted on the back wall, thus allowing people who would like to see them to be able to do so, while also keeping the normal atmosphere of the simple service. A greeting kiosk may be placed in the gathering area where in-person people can greet and chat with Zoom attendees so we preserve a social interaction before and after meeting.

We are excited about this slow return and realize that as we progress, adjustments will be made. If you have not received your vaccination yet and want to return to in-person meeting, you have time to do so. Hope to see many of you in the Meetinghouse in June!

**MINISTRY AND COUNSEL (Cont'd)****Stewardship Committee Report**

March 23, 2021

- 1) Unifying with Outreach proposal with changes from the Outreach co-chairs was discussed and decided we're ready to move forward. Mike will create a final document and email it to the Finance Committee for its approval during this Sunday's Finance Committee meeting. Lynne will serve as the spokesperson for our group during the meeting.
- 2) The utilization of Servant Keeper was addressed. April Stevens has shared all the access information with our committee, and we're approved to move forward with setting up that software for starting the stewardship database
  - a. Lynne will download the software on her lap top, contacting Treg if she has any questions.
  - b. During the next Stewardship Zoom Meeting (April 20 @ 2:30pm) we will have Servant Keeper ready to share on the screen to analyze what fields / process we'll use for our database.
  - c. Treg will continue to establish a test of the Text Giving channel, and possibly the QR code associated with PayPal accounts.
  - d. Lynne will contact Karen Heald at the appropriate time to determine the best approach for receiving her Fairfield giving records on a regular basis. We need to have that process tested and in place before July 1.
- 3) Mike will re-circulate the Plan to Give survey to the committee (attached to this same email). Treg will then convert this information to a Survey Monkey online form that members of the Stewardship committee will test in April.

We will plan to "announce" the Plan to Give campaign during the last week of April, including during April 25 worship. Shortly after, we'll distribute the online survey via email to all Fairfield members and attenders. By May 16 we will mail or hand deliver Plan to Support forms to anyone who hasn't responded to the online Plan to Give survey.

Our goal is to have reasonably complete Plan to Support results in hand by Sunday, June 6, so that a revenue forecast can be included in the 2021-22 Fairfield budget.

- 4) Electronic giving via text or QR code was discussed regarding Servant Keeper. The committee supports also testing mechanisms like Zelle to create easy avenues for the congregation to direct donations straight from their personal bank account directly to the Fairfield bank account.
- 5) The Stewardship Committee will meet regularly on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2:30pm, usually by Zoom. Here are the dates for the remainder of 2021:
 

|             |                |
|-------------|----------------|
| • April 20  | • September 21 |
| • May 18    | • October 19   |
| • June 15   | • November 16  |
| • July 20   | • December 21  |
| • August 17 |                |

*Notes from Mike Furnish*

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

| May   |
|---|
| Larry & Daina Chamness (05/01)                |
| Yolanda Vidal (05/03)                         |
| Liane McClure (05/04)                         |
| Elise Smith (05/04)                           |
| Jim & Kathy Sheard (05/05)                    |
| Nicholas Stevens (05/06)                      |
| Zachary Stevens (05/06)                       |
| Anne Gautier (05/08)                          |
| Tom & JoAnn Farrington (05/11)                |
| Michael Warner & Walter Madden-Warner (05/12) |
| Deborah Hunt (05/14)                          |
| Jessica Gulley (05/15)                        |
| Andrew Vidal (05/16)                          |
| Larry & Laura Hook (05/17)                    |
| Louis Geiger (05/19)                          |
| Charles & Natalie Barker (05/19)              |
| Ellory Smith (05/23)                          |
| Kathryn Gandolfo (05/24)                      |
| Chris & Erin Thrasher (05/24)                 |
| Frank Gladden (05/25)                         |
| Tim & Christi Michaelson (05/25)              |
| Lesley Rhoden (05/30)                         |
| George Baker (05/31)                          |

| June                                |
|-------------------------------------|
| Sandy Hardin (06/01)                |
| Paul & Margie Wilson (06/01)        |
| Phil & Joan Gulley (06/02)          |
| Andy Duran (06/03)                  |
| Kipp & Beckie Schoen (06/03)        |
| Dan & Libby Whipple (06/06)         |
| Bob & Cindy Getchell (06/07)        |
| Richard Marshall (06/08)            |
| Alma Pierce (06/08)                 |
| Paul E. & Peggy Howard (06/08)      |
| Ethan Gabbard (06/09)               |
| Tara Stewart (06/09)                |
| Hunter Warner (06/10)               |
| Lee & Mary Lee Comer (06/10)        |
| Lynn Adams (06/12)                  |
| Robert Mork (06/12)                 |
| Laura Day & Rick Marshall (06/13)   |
| John & Marilyn Garner (06/18)       |
| Jeff & Victoria Katterhenry (06/20) |
| Brent & Ruth Turner (06/21)         |
| Chris & Ana Jessup-Cady (06/21)     |
| Greg & Julie Hardin (06/21)         |
| Troy & Amber Bruner (06/21)         |
| Bob & Karen Heald (06/23)           |
| Mark Milhous (06/25)                |
| Don & Lynn Adams (06/25)            |
| Allison Cunningham (06/26)          |
| Brian & Mary Swift (06/26)          |
| Chad & Elise Smith (06/28)          |
| Gene & Barbara Crawley (06/28)      |
| Rebecca McClung (06/29)             |
| Larry & Madalyn Hesson (06/29)      |
| Mary Dooley (06/30)                 |

**CARING FRIENDS**

There are several people in our Fairfield family and larger Quaker community who cope with ongoing issues of compromised health or aging, or who are otherwise dealing with challenging situations on a daily basis. We want to make it easier for Friends to reach out to each other in support and encouragement. Cards are always so very much appreciated, especially during this time of social distancing and isolation.

With the intention of facilitating this way of holding each other in the light, we will be listing names and addresses in the monthly newsletter. We will include brief updates as we become aware of them.

Ruth Alber

8616 W. 10th St. Apt. 128

Indianapolis, IN 46234

- from West Newton, RN and former missionary in Kaimosi, Kenya. Assisted living now.

Linda Bryant

10705 Whippoorwill Lane

Indianapolis, IN 46231

- doing well but lives alone and misses her Fairfield family

Norm Connell

370 Cottonwood Dr.

Mooresville, IN 46158

- from MV Friends, former treasurer WYM. Norm has serious health issues.

Mary Denbo

1149 Halifax Cr.

Indianapolis, IN 46231

- multiple health issues & pain from a spine injury, at home with daughter Terry, really misses her euchre club (on hold d/t pandemic)

Ron and Kay Frye

8820 Suzanne Court

Indianapolis, IN 46234

- doing well but misses their Fairfield family and unable to participate in virtual services

Sam & Kelsea Gulley

3981 Buckeye Lane, Unit 4

Fort Wainwright, AK 99703

- Sam is a U.S. Army flight medic serving in Alaska and finds much encouragement knowing his Fairfield family is holding him in the light.

Robert and Ginny Hayes-Bennett

5425 Indiana Cove Dr.

Indianapolis, IN 46268

- Robert lives in an assisted living facility and both are distressed with the added separation due to COVID visitation restrictions.

Cindy Hurst

2113 Woodstream Dr.

Avon, IN 46123

- Widowed in 10/2019, she lives alone & the pandemic has been especially difficult for her

Margo Lawson

421 Linden Lane

Plainfield, IN 46168

- doing okay but lives alone and misses her Fairfield family

Joe and Sylvia Leverett

7268 Ponderosa Pines Place

Indianapolis, IN 46239

- Joni's father and his wife. Both are elderly. Joe is in hospice care.

Clara McClure

- Our beloved former pianist, Clara has advanced dementia now, residing at Sugar Grove Senior Living. We don't send cards anymore because she is unaware, but please hold her in the light.

Hubert Perry

11 Circle Drive

Mooresville, IN 46158

- doing well, but misses his Fairfield family and unable to participate in virtual meetings

Abdul Sulaiman and Nisreen Rasheed & daughters Mawlida, Rolaf & Sidra Sulaiman

2052 Fullwood Dr.

Brownsburg, IN 46112

- Fairfield sponsored the Sulaimans' immigration from Aleppo Syria in 2016. They are doing well & moved into their first home in 2020.



**NEWS ABOUT FRIENDS**

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

|                          |                      |                       |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| David Hodge              | Jim Edwards          | Alan Andrews          | Jeff & Jackie Curtis |
| Joyce Gant               | Holly Marshall       | Gage Boyd             | Brenda Sellers       |
| Chris Gautier            | Betty Strietelmeir   | Constance Ward        | The Lord's Pantry    |
| Jim Newland              | David & Bobbi Garber | Family Promise        | Matthias Beer        |
| Lily and Jessica Denardo |                      | Cunot Feeding Program |                      |
| FedEx Workers & Families |                      |                       |                      |

**MEETING CONTACTS**

|   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| <b><u>Pastor:</u></b>   |                              |
| <b>Phil Gulley</b><br>Philip@philipgulley.com                                 | 317-446-4923                 |
| <b><u>Presiding Clerk of the Meeting:</u></b>                                 |                              |
| <b>Randy Horton</b><br>randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net                          | 317-839-9682                 |
| <b><u>Recording Clerk:</u></b>  |                              |
| <b>Lynne Durocher</b><br>Ld091449@yahoo.com                                   | 317-888-7242                 |
| <b><u>Treasurers:</u></b>   |                              |
| <b>Mike Chenoweth</b><br>mocnenoweth@gmail.com                                | 317-445-0387                 |
| <b>Karen Heald</b><br>healdrobt@att.net                                       | 317-696-6133                 |
| <b><u>Membership Coordinators:</u></b>  |                              |
| <b>Larry &amp; Carol Cordray</b><br>daffodil327@hotmail.com                   | 317-372-2777<br>317-372-1678 |
| <b><u>Bulletin and Newsletter (info due by 20<sup>th</sup> of month):</u></b> |                              |
| <b>Tom Farrington</b><br>thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com                       | 317-839-3902                 |

**MEETING CONTACTS (Cont'd)**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b><u>United Society of Friends Women:</u></b><br><b>Sarah Lookabill</b><br>slookabill@att.net                                     | 317-839-4712 |
| <b><u>Fairfield Men's Fellowship:</u></b><br><b>Ralph Baker</b><br>baker7298@sbcglobal.net   | 317-831-3526 |
| <b><u>Outreach Committee:</u></b><br><b>Stacey Denny</b><br>hdenny123@att.net  | 317-313-1171 |
| <b><u>Caring Friends Committee:</u></b><br><b>Becky McClung</b><br>rgmcclung@gmail.com   | 317-690-0160 |
| <b><u>To Be Added to the Email List:</u></b><br><b>Tom Farrington</b><br>thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com                            | 317-839-3902 |
| <b>J. B. Symons</b><br>jb@leadtogreat.com  | 317-409-3945 |
| <b><u>Nursery (under age 3):</u></b><br><b>Sue Roe</b><br>Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net  | 317-445-9333 |
| <b><u>Children's Meeting (age 3—3<sup>rd</sup> grade):</u></b><br><b>Ralph &amp; Gan Baker</b><br>baker7298@sbcglobal.net          | 317-831-3526 |
| <b><u>Fantastix Friends 4<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade):</u></b><br><b>Tara Stewart</b><br>Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com         | 317-627-8964 |
| <b><u>Young Friends (9<sup>th</sup> grade—college):</u></b><br><b>Jimmy McClung</b><br>moviemanjim@gmail.com                       | 765-346-8848 |
| <b><u>Restorative Connection Counseling</u></b><br><b>Laura Jay-Ballinger, M.A., LMHC</b><br>restorative.connection.indy@gmail.com | 317-902-7327 |