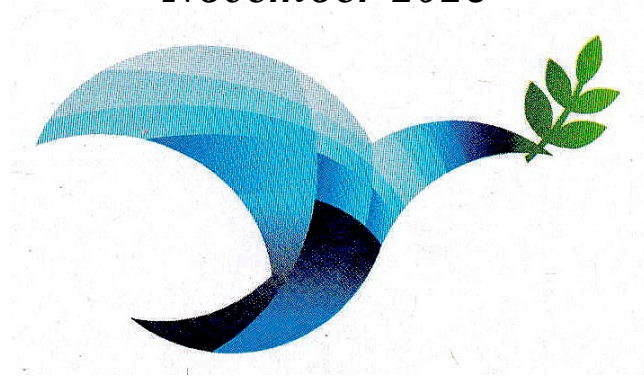


THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

November 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 –November 2023

Thoughts From the Pastor, Phil Gulley

Caring Costs

After the recent meeting-wide hike and lunch at our farmhouse, Joan and I returned north for meeting for worship, then went back to the farm for our fall vacation. We spent a day with Joan's brother, Jack, who suffers from Parkinson's Disease. He and his wife live east of Louisville, Kentucky in the home where they raised their children.

Jack was a freshman at Purdue University when Joan was born. He returned home for spring break in 1961 to discover he had a new little sister. Though a generation apart, they have always been close, and Joan is grieving her brother's decline. Joan's father died when she was a child, and Jack has served a dual role in Joan's life, as a brother and a father-figure. If you knew Jack, you would like him. I sure do.

This grief could have been easily avoided if Joan had decided not to care about her brother because, as it turns out, caring about someone eventually opens the door to grief. We never grieve the loss of things we don't love and value. On our recent trip to southern Illinois, I felt little emotion when visiting the graves of ancestors I'd never known. My great-grandfather, Joseph Gulley, died in 1930, and when I stood before his grave, it felt no different than standing before a stranger's gravestone. But when I visited my Grandma Norma's marker, I was flooded with emotion, a keen longing coupled with deep appreciation. If you had known my grandmother, you would have liked her. I sure did.

It's the knowing that does us in.

When I first became a pastor, my mentor, Keith Kirk, warned me not to become friends with the members of my congregation. He said it would prevent me from saying the things that pastors sometimes need to say. As you've likely noticed, I've never had a problem saying what needs to be said. Keith never mentioned the real problem with having congregants as friends, and that was one day having to conduct their funerals. My Lord, that's hard. But I suspect the alternative is even worse—remaining so detached from others you never grieve their loss. It's the knowing that does us in.

We're asked these days to pretend we don't know a lot of things—the history of blacks in America, the abuse of the powerless and poor, the complexities of gender formation. We're expected to be like Sergeant Schultz on *Hogan's Heroes*, to not only know nothing, but to turn a blind eye toward the very things that require our attention. The opposites of knowing and caring are indifference and apathy. I know people for whom those are default reactions. Fearing loss, they avoid commitments. Fearing the revelation of embarrassing truth, they resist reflection and fact.

It always costs to care. Sometimes it costs us our overweening pride. Other times it costs us the pain of loss. But the cost of caring is always less than the price we pay by not caring.

What do you need to be caring about these days?

CLERK PLEASE

November 2023

The following highlights are from the October 15 Monthly Meeting (MM), be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- As part of a typically busy Pastor's report, Phil shared the following statistics. In the month of September, he averaged 6 emails, 12 texts, and 4 phone calls per day with members and attendees.
- Lynne Durocher presented the August Financial Statement. Nothing particularly stands out in the September financial statement except the exceptional revenue for the month. Expenses were high due to the payment of quarterly FUM and Western Yearly Meeting assessments, but robust revenue resulted in a surplus for the month of \$2,779. Regarding the Average Weekly Offering, the current year-to-date and Previous year-to-date are within roughly \$100.00 of each other. The Reserve Fund Balance stands at 100% of the previous year expenses, the target is only 75%.
- Lynne Durocher reported that Fairfield is registered as a nonprofit corporation with the Secretary of the State of Indiana; we have obtained the Certificate of Incorporation as well as the Articles of Incorporation.
- Ann Tarvin, Clerk, presented the report on behalf of Ministry and Counsel. The Committee has set November 12th as Retired Ministers Sunday, when we take a special collection for the Western Yearly Meeting Retired Ministers Fund. Jeff Gabbard shared statistics that indicate Fairfield Friends website is visited by many across the country and around the globe. The Christmas Pitch-in will be held December 3rd after worship; this is also Snowflake Sunday.
- Jim McClung, clerk, presented the Trustees report. A fall cleanup day has been scheduled for Saturday November 11 between 8 and noon, the effort will include cleanup around the 1892 Meetinghouse. An exchange of LED lamps for fluorescent lamps continues, with only the kitchen area and attic spaces remaining. AES offers a rebate on the purchase of lamps, and this is being pursued. Bids are being sought to replace the garage roof which is 15-16 years old and has wind damage. Jim also met with a contractor for a quote to replace the roof of the meetinghouse. The roof is 13-14 years old and probably has a lifespan of 20 years so it would behoove the Meeting to know what the cost may be in order to plan accordingly. A contract for insurance has been signed with Mennonite Mutual at a cost of \$5,973. An additional Workman's Comp policy with Hartford Insurance will soon be signed, at a cost of \$833. Additional quotes were received prior to this decision: Nationwide at \$12,278, and Hastings Mutual at \$8,962. Neither of these alternate quotes included Workman's Comp. A planting area adjacent to the northwest porch has been created, with various plants from the Ken and Dawn Sheets gardens planted in their honor.
- Becky Horton shared that the need at the Cunot food pantry is urgent. For Fairfield's support of the Thanksgiving baskets, they need 250 of each of several items, including green beans, stuffing mix, and macaroni and cheese. Gleaners is discontinuing services

in the Cunot area so many are now coming to the Cunot food pantry. Thanksgiving food items will be collected until November 12th to be distributed by the food pantry on November 18th. It was clarified that Fairfield gives money to Cunot for them to buy the meat items.

- Next Monthly Meeting will be at the Meetinghouse on Sunday November 19, at the rise of worship.

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 & Brunch

Our Books and Brunch is November 4th. Please attend!

We still need:

5 more casseroles

4 more dozen muffins

4 more coffee cakes

6 dozen scones or 6 quick breads

And most of all we still need people to sign up and WORK the event So please sign up on the sheets on Sunday, October 22nd and October 29th

Questions or comments please contact: Sue Walton at sue@swwalton.com.

The Write Group will be selling its recent collection of stories, poems and essays at the Books & Brunch. Copies will sell for \$10. Take a peek and see what the Fairfield Writers have been doing.

Family Promise

Sue & Scott Walton as representatives of Fairfield Friends attended the quarterly meeting of Family Promise / Stability Builders and she reports the following services available:

<https://www.damarhealth.org/> (Damar Health Services whose clinics at near our meeting house (5715 Decatur Blvd, Indianapolis 46241); they offer vaccinations and allow their patients time to talk about all their concerns. Damar does health screenings, vaccinations et al. People with mental health issues can be seen NOW not in a few months. They do not turn anyone away. Damar is a one stop shop. Their treatment is patient centered; they don't do 15 minute appointments; they take time to help and they help with transportation. Damar Village is doubling in size. There is peer support for clients. Kimberly's email: kimberlyhol@damar.org

How to Help at Family Promise <https://familypromisehendrickscounty.org/hc-help-october-2023/>.

Volunteers can check this weekly since the needs change.

October-Section 8 Affordable Housing has now open in Hendricks County. Very few landlords accept Section 8. After one year's successful enrollment in Section 8, the vouchers can be used anywhere in the USA.

Hendricks County Resource Guide

(<https://www.hendrickshealthpartnership.org/resources.html>

& <http://www.hendrickshealthpartnership.org/resources>)

<http://Findhelp.org>

Stability Builders can help with expunging evictions & criminal records.

Help with Utility Payment is open 10/2/23 to 5/14/24; it will take 55 days to get discounts; except if your service is about to be turned off.

Assistance is in need with the Holidays and collecting needs to start collecting food and presents Now. Project Angel needs help with deliveries.

Family Promise is helping immigrants.

There is an INDIANA DIAPER BANK.

They love coats & blankets.

Pathways to Hope has a mobile food pantry.

Julie: "We do not refer away our problems."

Family Promise needs help with evening meals. Fairfield Meeting and Plainfield Methodist Church, and St. Susanna Catholic each take a one week every quarter. That's 12 out 26 weeks with regular organizations. Others give when they can. The schedule can be reached from a link on the Friday Flash. Our Books N Brunch leftovers will be given to Almost Home for meals and snacks Nov 4th. Almost Home has a new larger freezer in its garage where frozen meals can be saved and used on lower support weeks.

OUTREACH PROJECT

Hi! The year is coming to a close and the Western Yearly Meeting (WYM) 2023 Special Outreach Project has only collected about \$5000 towards their \$15,000 goal. See the attached flyer. Please consider giving any gift towards this project. You can send a check to our Meeting treasurer (Mike Chenoweth, 325 Millridge Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46290) marked for WYM Special Project. He will forward monies to WYM. If you have questions, ask Dinah Geiger at dinageiger@att.net or text or call 317-752-5306.

Ways You Can Recycle And Contribute To Outreach Projects For Free-

1) Save **amber medicine bottles with the label removed** for **FAME** (Fellowship of Associates of Medical Evangelism). FAME began in 1970 in Columbus, IN as the result of a dream by Judge Milford Anness to start a Christian medical mission organization. FAME has grown from a group struggling to build one hospital in India, to an organization that has helped build 70 facilities in 29 countries around the world – hospitals, clinics, feeding centers, church buildings, housing for medical staff, and mobile medical units. FAME is now located in a warehouse on Southeastern Avenue in Indianapolis. For more information Google FAME Partners in Medical Evangelism.

2) As of December 2021: The **Right Sharing of World Resources Stamp Program** accepts stamps of all issue dates and countries, both used and unused stamps, sheets of stamps, albums, boxed collections of stamps, envelopes, and postcards. With foreign stamps, if they are still on the envelope or postcard, leave them there. If they are already removed, they are still welcome. If there are special markings on any envelopes, leave the stamp on the envelope. If there are not, leave 1/8 – 1/4 around the edge so the **ENTIRE** stamp is preserved. PLEASE LEAVE PEELABLE STAMPS ON THE ENVELOPES AS THEY STICK TO OTHER STAMPS WHEN PEELED OFF. These stamps are purchased by stamp collectors and proceeds benefit RSWR (Right Sharing of World Resources). **Any stamps are acceptable; however, NONPROFIT and PRESORTED ones have very little value.** You can Google Right Sharing Stamp Program for more information.

3) The **Pop Tab program** benefits the Ronald McDonald house in Indianapolis. They accept any metallic tab from soda, soup cans, energy drinks, etc. They average \$6000 a year from pop tabs. Last year they received over 13 million tabs. The proceeds provide extra revenue to help make up for the donations that families cannot make. For more information Google Pop Tab Donations for Ronald McDonald House.

Collection boxes are under the mailboxes in the Meeting House dining room.

Contact Dinah Geiger with questions: dinahgeiger@att.net or call or text 317-752-5306

**Western Yearly Meeting
2023 Special Outreach Project**

*Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania
Friends Church*



Goal: \$15,000 for building a church



Central to the vision for church growth in Tanzania is establishing a strong Friends Church in Dar es Salaam, a gateway city to the entire country. It is FUM's vision to purchase a plot in the city and build a permanent church building that will be the home for this new church as it reaches out to people along the coast of Tanzania.

Nicholas and Dorcas Otieno
Missionaries to Tanzania

Friends United Meeting is grateful for the generosity of WYM Friends who support our vital work around the world. Your giving to the 2023 Mission Project will enable Friends to grow in a strategic area in Tanzania. Your partnership in this work is a blessing. Thank you!

Kelly Kellum
General Secretary, FUM



**Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) Fall Steering Committee Meeting
Pendle Hill Retreat and Conference Center
October 19-22, 2023**

I've been involved with QEW for at least three years, but I think closer to four. I'm not very good at looking back and figuring that out. I am an at-large Steering Committee member and the clerk of the QEW Publications Committee. I write this as I'm sitting in my room at Brinton House on the Pendle Hill campus in Wallingford, Pennsylvania. This is my first time here at Pendle Hill and my first time to meet, in person, so many Friends with whom I have been Zooming for QEW meetings, presentations, and other discussions since I became involved in QEW. For some reason, it's such a revelation to meet someone in person: Al is surprisingly tall, Pamela has a long, long braid that I don't ever get to see on Zoom, Shelley is so petite with such a big personality, Ruah is definite about her tea; it's so great to get to know the whole person.

Since most of us are staying at Pendle Hill, we are sharing meals; those of us who are early risers share quiet conversation in our jammies with our early-bird coffee and tea; and it's amazing the laughs that can be shared at 5am over a certain coffee-making fiasco I shall never speak of again. As we did at Fairfield, we can acknowledge how effective Zoom has been in allowing us to continue our work and our worship, but also how the energy of being together, (real) face to (real) face, deepens both work and worship. There is value in chatting along the pathway from the meeting room to the dining room; there is value in sitting closely to listen closely; there is value in experiencing the energy of the group coming together in one room.

QEW consists of several standing committees and working groups. On Zoom, we would typically break out into our various committees and working groups to hold our regular meetings. At this Steering Committee meeting, we are doing what we are calling "cross-pollination" where three different committees or working groups meet and discuss what each is working on or focusing on. This has been a great exercise to pull our various individual committees' efforts into one cohesive QEW effort. A lot has been "harvested" from these cross-pollination sessions.

Saturday night we will laud Shelley Tanenbaum, the outgoing (retiring) QEW General Secretary for the significant work she has done over the last ten years of her leadership at QEW. Friday night, Keith Runyan, the Incoming QEW General Secretary, was introduced and presented "A Practical Vision for the Next Generation of Quaker Earthcare Witness." Keith is a young adult Quaker having extensive background as a Quaker in earthcare and brings a youthful energy I feel has been sorely missing despite the passion and work being done by our mostly older QEW group. Miche McCall also recently came to QEW as our Communications and Outreach Coordinator; together, Keith and Miche will provide a new, not just renewed, energy to QEW's work. In his presentation, Keith shared six specific projects and goals for QEW in 2024 including starting a QEW podcast, taking QEW on the road, bringing youth into QEW, supporting Yearly Meetings in climate action, joining strategic coalitions, and taking direct action.

We at this meeting agree that the time is ripe, as Keith suggested in his presentation, for QEW to "spark a movement within and beyond Friends that could play a pivotal role in realizing a life-giving future for our species and our Earth."

Submitted by Anita Camic
QEW Publications Committee clerk

November Birthdays

Lin Lucas Nov. 05
Madalyn Hesson Nov. 06
Bill Smith Nov. 07
Sarah Stonerock Nov. 08
Laura Day Nov. 15
Jacob Swift Nov. 16
Terry Denbo Nov. 19
Jasmine Swift Nov. 21
Sue Roe Nov. 24
Larry Hesson Nov. 25
Mike Chenoweth Nov. 27
Michael Furnish Nov. 29
Scott Walton Nov. 30

November Anniversaries

Robert and Cynthia Stonerock Nov. 19
Sue and Scott Walton Nov. 30

Autumn Fires

by Robert Louis Stevenson

In the other gardens
And all up the vale,
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The grey smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall.

November 2023 Calendar

- November 1** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- November 2** Ministry and Counsel Committee 7-8pm
- November 4** Books and Brunch 9am-1pm
- November 5** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- November 7** Trustees Committee 6:30pm-7:30pm
- November 8** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- November 11** Peace and Social Justice Committee 9:30am-10:30am
- November 12** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Book Club Discussion 11:45am-2:00pm
- November 14** Stewardship Committee 1:30-2:30pm
- November 15** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- November 16** Finance Committee 7-8pm
- November 19** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Meeting for Business 7-8pm
- November 22** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- November 26** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- November 29** NA Support Group 7-8pm

Holding in the Light List

Sondera Hayes-Hartman

Ted Lawson (Margo Lawson's son)

Dr. Golian (Sondra Hayes-Hartman's doctor)

Delores "Jane" Smith (Bill's mother)

Wilma & Jerry (Larry & Carol Cordray's friends)

Sandy & Terry (Don & Lynn Adams' friends)

Joni Leverett family

Jack and Marilyn Apple (Joan Gulley's brother)

Mike (Tara Stewart's friend)

Karen Adams (Pam Smith's Friend)

Jenny & her mother Jeannie (Pam Smith's family)

Joseph McGowen (Treg Hopkins' friend)

Bob Montgomery (Goss's friend)

Ruth Turner (daughter of the late Charles
 & Elsie Carter)

Louis Geiger

Leah Oye (Cindy Strietelmeier's friend)

Deanna Waltz (zoom friend)

Kim Brown (Jill Wiley's friend)

Jessie Ullery (Josh Hostetler's friend)

Ron Fry

Marty (Carol Cordray's friend)

Beth Becker (Sue Walton's friend)

Liz Chrisinger (Lynne Durocher's friend)

Tina (Mary Dooley's sister)

Mike Roland (Bill & Pam Smith's friend)

Jack & Mary Lou (Mary Dooley's friends)

Tory Sprinkle (Don Adams' friend)

Lauren Chinn (Larry Corderay's daughter)

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:

Abdul Sulaiman & Nisreen Rasheed family

Tom & Jeanne Seger (Phil Gulley's sister
 and husband)

Alan & Helen Heuss (Cindy Streitelmeyer's parents)

Margie Wollitz (Mary's twin sister)

Carol Gabbard (Jeff's mother)

Mary Denbo (Terry's mom)

Beth Sotkiewicz

Nancy Graham

Brenda Sellers

Patty Bowling

Ann Denny and daughter Betsey (Herb's
 mom and sister)

Helen Symons (JB's mom)

Mirra LaGasse (Pam Smith's great-niece)

Bob Church (Rosemary's husband)

Margaret Tutewiler-Cox

Daryl T. Brown

Julie Kindle

Mary Lee Comer

Brenda Sellers (Linze Southwick's mom)

Meeting Contacts

Pastor

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

Choir Director

Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton
randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net
317-839-9682

Outreach Committee

Joan Gulley
jgulley@danville.k12.in.us
317-709-8376

Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung
rgmclung@gmail.com
317-690-0160

Becky Horton
beckyhortn@hotmail.com
317-501-9406

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

United Society of Friends Women

Sarah Lookabill
slookabill@att.net
317-839-4712

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