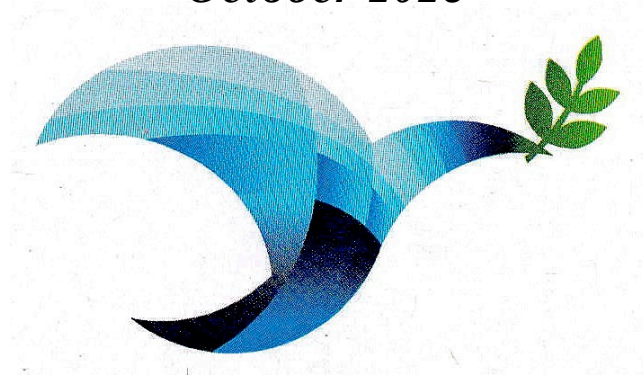


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*October 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](http://www.FairfieldFriends.o)

# The Fairfield Friend –October 2023

## Thoughts From the Pastor, Phil Gulley

### *How Old Churches Get That Way*

Hendricks County, in which our meeting resides, will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. Two years after our county was founded, our meeting began on the same little corner it still inhabits. This makes us the oldest church in Hendricks County, far and away. The trick to being the oldest church is not to act like the oldest church. The tendencies that sometimes accompany human aging—resistance to change, fossilized mindsets and habits, a decline in energy and creativity—can occur just as easily in churches as it does in people. For churches and people alike, it is always easier to take the well-trod path over the untried one. Of course, some patterns and habits persist because they continue to work, so the trick is in knowing which habits to retain and which to discard.

It won't surprise you to learn that most of us at Fairfield are over 40, which means we must imagine what it might be like to attend our meeting as someone who is under 40. Do you remember what that felt like? Not too long ago, I went to Florida to speak to elected officials. I can count on one hand the days I've spent in Florida, with or without elected officials, and I felt ill at ease the whole time I was there. I had preconceptions of Florida elected officials, and worried they would ban my books, or arrest me if I touched on black history, or drove a pregnant woman to a Planned Parenthood clinic. Alas, none of those things happened, and they turned out to be perfectly nice people, but I was anxious all the same because of my presumptions about them.

How do you imagine people under 40 years-old might feel when they come through our doors? How might people of color feel when they see our white faces? What presumptions might they bring about us? What can we do to ease their anxiety about being with us?

I suspect a chief reason for Fairfield's longevity has to do with our forbearer's ability to make others feel welcome. A church doesn't last 200 years if it has a habit of making others feel excluded or unseen. Those old Quakers must have done something right, which we must continue to do if we are to stay a vital and welcoming people. This means our elderly people must remember what it's like to be young. Those of us who are white must be able to imagine what it might feel like to be a person of color. Men must be able to sympathize with the challenges faced by women. Those of us who are straight must remember that others of us aren't. Those of us whose children are grown and gone must be able to recall the days when our children weren't. Those of us who are sure in our faith must be able to remember our seasons of doubt. Those of us who doubt mustn't dismiss those whose faith is more robust.

I had a pastor friend who one Sunday asked everyone in the church to stand up and move to another seat. Most of the people laughed and moved to a new spot, but others refused, and not only refused but were so upset they began a push, which was eventually successful, to fire him. They simply could not bear to imagine any perspective other than the one to which they had grown accustomed. It won't surprise you to learn that church has closed its doors.

This week when you come to meeting for worship, put your imagination to work. As you pull into our parking lot, ask yourself what it might be like to be visiting for the first time. Imagine you have children with you. Do children seem welcome, and not just welcome but joyfully and thoughtfully anticipated? Remember how it felt on your first Sunday with us, and how wonderful it was to be welcomed and made to feel at home. Think what it might be like to

be told you weren't welcome to be yourself in a church, to be a female with fewer rights or a gay person with fewer privileges, to be a trans person accustomed to rejection, to be Black or Asian or Hispanic and used to suspicion.

There is never a guarantee that Fairfield will last another two centuries, though I think our chances are good if we remember that communities are not best served by uniformity, but by their ability to imagine and appreciate the other. Remember, friends, the trick to being an old church is not to act like an old church.

## **CLERK PLEASE**

**October 2023**

The following highlights are from the September 17 Monthly Meeting (MM), be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- As part of a very typical Pastor's report, Phil expressed the following. On any given day, I'm in contact with 10 members and attendees, via phone calls or emails. Despite this, I know some things might escape my notice, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you or someone you know needs pastoral care and support.
- Mike Chenoweth presented the August Financial Statement. August was an unremarkable month. While both administrative and operational expenses were normal, revenue was higher than typical for late summer, resulting in a surplus for the month of \$1,270. We are still over our target reserve amount; our reserve is now roughly \$31,000 over the target. The average weekly offering was \$2,775, a significant improvement from July, raising the year-to-date average to \$3,227.
- To clarify use of excess reserve funds, the following is repeated from minutes for the August Monthly Meeting. Regarding the current reserve fund, Finance Committee would make a recommendation to monthly meeting of how much money to use from the reserve fund for monthly meeting's approval and discernment of designation of the funds. If anyone has an idea of where to designate the funds, they should send that to Finance Committee. Use of the funds so determined could go through Outreach Committee, but don't necessarily have to; funds could be designated directly to a recipient so chosen by the Meeting.
- State law regarding sales tax exemption for non-profit organizations has changed. Finance committee is taking steps to maintain Fairfield eligibility, and we will learn about how it will function in the coming months.
- Ann Tarvin reported for Ministry and Counsel. Average attendance for the month of August was 72 in person and 22 on Zoom. In addition, Jeff Gabbard reported that online recordings of our Meeting for Worship were viewed 561 times in the month of August.
- Randy read the Trustees report prepared by Jim McClung. A fall cleanup day has been scheduled for Saturday November 11 between 8 and noon, the effort will include cleanup around the 1892 Meetinghouse. Ashley Fire Protection has completed an annual inspection of the fire alarm system as well as all fire extinguishers. An energy audit was

completed by AES the week of 10/16. Recommendation is that lighting transition from fluorescent to LED's. This has been an ongoing project through the trustees, with the east wing completed and lamps available for the west wing and attic spaces. A portion of Lick Branch funds have been invested in a money market account, thereby yielding return enough to pay for upkeep expenses.

- Sue Walton is still seeking help with Books and Brunch, for publicity in particular.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be Sunday October 15 at 7:00PM on Zoom. Please note that this an exception and our intent is to continue to conduct Monthly Meeting in person at the Meetinghouse.

## **FAIRFIELD MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION**

**September 17, 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 the August 26 edition.

### **NOTICING BEAUTY**

Annie Dillard

We are here to witness the creation and abet it. We are here to notice each thing so each thing gets noticed. Together we notice not only each mountain shadow and each stone on the beach but, especially, we notice the beautiful faces and complex natures of each other. We are here to bring to consciousness the beauty and power that are around us and to praise the people who are here with us. We witness our generation and our times. We watch the weather.

Otherwise, creation would be playing to an empty house.

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

## World Quaker Day

Did you know that October 1<sup>st</sup> is World Quaker Day? According to Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), Friends across the world will gather at the “World Plenary Meeting” in South Africa (and online). The theme for World Quaker Day is “*Living the Spirit of Ubuntu: Responding with Hope to God’s Call to Cherish Creation and One Another.*”

**1 OCT. 2023**

# WORLD QUAKER DAY

HONORING AND RESPECTING 377,557 FRIENDS WORLDWIDE

Sunday, 1 Oct. - Zoom Webinar (1-2 PM EDT)  
World Quaker Day Presentation from the BlackQuaker Project  
With special guest Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge!

THE BLACKQUAKER PROJECT [www.theblackquakerproject.org](http://www.theblackquakerproject.org)

Region	Number of Friends
North America	80,092
South America	59,973
Europe	32,141
Africa	181,405
Asia	21,606
Australia	1,850

FWCC’s regular bulletin provides a guide to the spirit of “ubuntu” so that Friends anywhere may join in and engage. *Friends World News, The Bulletin of the Friends World Committee for Consultation, Volume 1, No. 193* provides some of the following aspects of ubuntu:

- The term ubuntu refers to the deeply held belief that every person is worthy of being recognized, respected, and heard, and that we as human beings are all interdependent.
- Ubuntu is a daily practice in many African societies. The effect of ubuntu is to maintain cohesion, balance, openness, peace, compassion, and dignity in a community. It restrains self-serving behavior and materialism. It ensures that “strangers” are welcome.
- Ubuntu implies a collective responsibility to ensure that all members of the community have the means of subsistence and learning, of participation in communal decision-making and rites of passage.
- Ubuntu further extends to care for the environment, since people are part of the same God-given creation that is in interdependent whole.
- The Ubuntu has been asserted in recent times in the process of liberation from colonialism and apartheid. Anti-apartheid leader Desmond Tutu explained ubuntu with the words “My humanity is caught up, is inextricably bound up, in yours.”

- The four principles of ubuntu can be considered as community, interdependence, solidarity, and dignity.
- Ubuntu resonates with the Quaker belief that we are all equal.
- A number of biblical passages have been found to be relevant to the concept of ubuntu including 1 Corinthians “now the body is not made up of one part but many...If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.”

For more information on World Quaker Day visit: <https://fwcc.world/worldquakerday/>

Submitted by Anita Camic

Peace and Social Justice Committee, co-clerk (with Jeff Gabbard)

## Family Promise

October is a perfect month to discuss our Family Promise pledge for the future. Fairfield Friends has provided food one week every quarter since the opening of the Almost Home shelter house. What thoughts do Fairfield Friends have going forward as Family Promise plans for 2024?

The Stability Builders Network (which is Family Promise evolved) will have a community meeting Wednesday October 11<sup>th</sup> at the Almost Home Shelter 7233 E County Road 300 S. The 10:00 am public meeting would be a great opportunity to provide input to Family Promise on our community needs, as well as another chance to visit the shelter in action. Please feel welcome to explore this program and know that Fairfield Friends has been there from their start. The Stability Builders' Network and Family Promise could use your talent and compassion.

Thank you for a decade of nurturing this organization. Theresa Minton

## Books & Brunch

Sign up for Books & Brunch has begun as of September 24th, people will be able to sign up for Set Up On Friday Night and then on EARLY Saturday morning as well as clean up on Saturday November 4th, not to mention FOOD--can't have a brunch without it. **My challenge to all is to think out of the box:** Is there anyone who has an omelet maker or who can quickly make omelets on an electric stove? Does anyone have a waffle or crepe-maker or a toaster that they can bring? (Or who can purchase frozen store bought item?) Does anyone make a mean oatmeal or grits or gravy? What is your favorite brunch food? All suggestions & help welcomed! Questions? Please call or email Sue Walton at: 847/209-0047 or [email:sue@swwalton.com](mailto:sue@swwalton.com).

SUPER THANKS!



**Announcing  
Fairfield USFW  
Fundraiser  
10/8/2023 To  
11/5/2023  
Butterbraids  
Frozen pastry  
dough \$18.00  
We will receive  
40% of the  
profits.**



Come in 22 oz. frozen packets which are easy to store in freezer for those times you want a snack, dessert or breakfast. Also make good gifts.

**Available Flavors**

- Apple
  - Blueberry Cream Cheese
  - Bavarian Crème
  - Cherry
  - Cinnamon
  - Raspberry
  - Four Cheese & Herb
  - Strawberry Cream Cheese
- Plus**
- Cinnamon Rolls
  - Caramel Rolls

**More information will be communicated in October regarding how you can order online or do paper orders.**

All Fairfield USFW funds go to local, national and international projects such as Family Promise, Patricksburg Elementary School Teacher Appreciation gifts and Christmas gifts for students, Native American centers sponsored by Friends, Latino Friends Ministry, Scholarships and support for Special Needs Children at the Ramallah Friends School, Feeding Program at the Belize Friends Center, funds for Girl's Secondary Education in Turkana and Samburu Kenya, Friends Church Peace Team support in Kenya, the Quaker Institute of Peace in Cuba, and the Adopt-A-Bed program at the Lugulu Friends Hospital in Kenya.

USFW also purchases and replaces items and supplies for the Fairfield kitchen and dining room such as tablecloths, dust busters, dish towels, storage bags and containers, etc., etc., etc.



6398 Hendricks Co. Road, Mooresville

# QUAKER FALL FEST

FOR FRIENDS WHO ARE MILLENIALS OR GENZ ADULTS

*Gathering*

## SUNDAY OCTOBER 22

3-6pm / lingering welcome

FOOD (GF/VEG TOO)

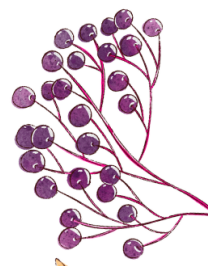
KIDS WELCOME

GAMES

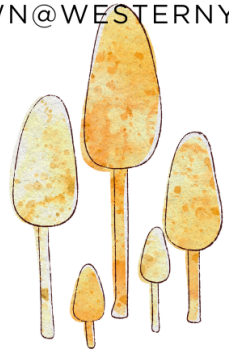
PUMPKIN CARVING

BON-FIRE

CIDER



ACCESSIBILITY NEEDS OR MORE INFO CONTACT:  
SHAWN@WESTERNYEARLYMEETING.ORG





## Right Sharing of World Resources

On Sunday, October 29th, Fairfield will be hosting a visit from several representatives of the Quaker organization Right Sharing of World Resources (RSWR.) Join RSWR India Country Coordinators Dr. R Kannan and Dr. Abinaya Murugesan and Megan Fair, RSWR Associate Secretary of Advancement for Chat Room at 9:30 a.m., as they share vivid slides and stories of women entrepreneurs supported by RSWR. The group will also join us for Meeting for Worship at 10:30 a.m. and will provide a message during that time.

For more than 20 years, Fairfield Friends Meeting has financially supported RSWR through the Outreach Program. RSWR's mission is to provide grants to groups of marginalized women in Guatemala, Kenya, Sierra Leone and India. These groups of women apply to RSWR for seed loans and the RSWR board then provides grants to the groups, funded through donations such as Fairfield's. The groups then loan the money to individual women to fund their micro-enterprise projects. As the women are enabled to run their businesses and generate income, they can then pay back their loan to the group, where it is then re-used to help other women and their businesses.

Some examples of women-owned businesses supported through RSWR include fish buying and selling, tailoring, provision shops, second hand clothing sales, bakery and grocery kiosks, charcoal re-sale, brick making, soap making, hair dressing, coil rope making, livestock businesses, and bee-keeping.

According to an article published by Baltimore Yearly Meeting, although RSWR became an independent 501(c)(3) organization in 1998, the roots of RSWR were actually established in 1967 at the Fourth World Conference of Friends, held at Guilford College, NC. At that conference, one of the minutes approved was "People, Food and the Sharing of Resources --A Vision for the Future." This minute resulted in the RSWR program and it became a committee of Friends World Committee for Consultation. The program was originally funded "by an appeal to Friends worldwide to contribute one percent of their income to right-sharing. Recognizing that most of the world lives in poverty, this appeal was also aimed at increasing the general awareness among Friends that they needed personally to address the inequity of wealth in the world. It was important to remember that, if we felt personal abundance and understood that it was our good fortune simply to have been born in a particular region or country that offered more prosperous opportunities, we had an obligation to address this inequity."

As you make your regular contributions to Fairfield, please keep these women in you hearts and know that through your continued generosity, they are able to sustain their families. This year, Fairfield Outreach has contributed \$500.00 to RSWR.

To learn about stories of RSWR projects, you can receive a print or email copy of their newsletter by contacting them at [rswr@rswr.org](mailto:rswr@rswr.org)

Stacey Denny 317.313.1171



## October Birthdays

Michael Warner	October 01
John Pierce	October 02
Helene Reyburn	October 02
Thomas Duran	October 05
Georges Gandolfo	October 05
Jonas Stewart	October 14
Madalyn Cunningham	October 17
Chris Gautier	October 21
Debbie Heinrichs	October 22
Bella Lucas	October 24
Robert Stonerock	October 24
Gan Baker	October 27
Lee Comer	October 27
Sean Horton	October 27
Nita Kirchoff	October 27
Venita Kirchoff	October 27
Steve Blacketer	October 28
Ron Frye	October 31

## October Anniversaries

John and Laura Essex	October 11
Robert Mork and Jill Wiley	October 24
Carl and Cathy Lucas	October 29

## Indiana State Sales Tax Exemption

A question was raised at the September Monthly Meeting for Business regarding the Meeting's nonprofit status and state sales tax exemption for nonprofits. The State of Indiana has changed the procedure for nonprofits to avoid paying sales tax. Nonprofits need to apply online for a sales tax exemption certificate for each purchase upon which they wish to avoid paying sales tax. The nonprofit must be registered with the Indiana Department of Revenue before applying for a sales tax exemption certificate. The Department of Revenue requires that the nonprofit be registered with the Indiana Secretary of State before applying for a tax exemption certificate. This requirement pertains to churches as well as other nonprofit organizations. This has NOTHING to do with Fairfield's 501(c)(3) status which is a federal designation and that remains unchanged. In an increasingly complex world, the Finance Committee is doing its best to provide Fairfield with a sound financial foundation. We appreciate your patience as we work through these changes.

Lynne Durocher, Clerk  
Finance Committee

# October 2023 Calendar

- October 1** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am  
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- October 3** Trustees Committee 6:30-7:30pm
- October 4** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- October 5** Ministry and Counsel Committee 7-8pm
- October 7** Fall Hike 10am-2pm
- October 8** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am  
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am  
Book Club Discussion 11:45am-2pm
- October 10** Stewarship Committee 1:30-2:30pm
- October 11** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- October 12** Finance Committee 7-8pm
- October 14** Peace and Social Justice Committee 9:30am-10:30am
- October 15** \*Unprogrammed Meeting 10:30-11:30am  
Meeting for Business (on zoom) 7-8pm
- October 17** All Clerks Meeting 10:30-11:30am
- October 18** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- October 22** Chat Room 9:30-10:30am  
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- October 25** NA Support Group 7-8pm
- October 29** Chat Room (Dr. Kappan and Dr. Abi) 9:30-10:30am  
Meeting for Worship with guest speaker 10:30-11:30am

## Holding in the Light List

**Jane Schaedel** (Mary Dooley's friend)  
**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)  
**Family of David Hodge**  
**Joni Leverett family**  
**Jack and Marilyn Apple** (Joan Gulley's brother)  
**Phyllis Apple** (Joan's sister-in-law)  
**Karen Adams** (Pam Smith's Friend)  
**Jenny & her mother Jeannie** (Pam Smith's family)  
**Joseph McGowen** (Treg Hopkins' friend)  
**Bob Montgomery** (Goss's friend)  
**Tory Sprinkle** (Don Adam's friend)  
**Liz Chrisinger** (Lynne Durocher's friend)  
**Leah Oye** (Cindy Strietelmeier's friend)

**Louis Geiger**  
**Mike** (Stan Jones & Skip Lyford's friend)  
**Kim Brown** (Jill Wiley's friend)  
**Jessie Ullery** (Josh Hostetler's friend)  
**Ron Frye**  
**Craig Reasoner**  
**Marty** (Carol Cordray's friend)  
**Beth Becker** (Sue Walton's friend)  
**Mike** (Tara Stewart's friend)  
**Tina** (Mary Dooley's sister)  
**Mike Roland** (Bill & Pam Smith's friend)  
**Jack & Mary Lou** (Mary Dooley's friends)  
**Deanna Waltz** (zoom friend)  
**Lauren Chinn** (Larry Cordray's daughter)  
**Ruth Turner** (daughter of the late Charles & Elsie Carter)

*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:*

**Charles and Leslieann Lee**  
**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](mailto:philiphgulley@gmail.com)  
317-446-4923

### Choir Director

### Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton  
[randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net](mailto:randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net)  
317-839-9682

### Outreach Committee

Joan Gulley  
[jgulley@danville.k12.in.us](mailto:jgulley@danville.k12.in.us)  
317-709-8376

### Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung  
[rgmclung@gmail.com](mailto:rgmclung@gmail.com)  
317-690-0160

Becky Horton  
[beckyhortn@hotmail.com](mailto:beckyhortn@hotmail.com)  
317-501-9406

### To Be Added to the Email List

Tom Farrington  
[MessageToFairfield@att.net](mailto:MessageToFairfield@att.net)  
317-839-3902

### Fairfield Men's Fellowship

Ralph Baker  
[baker7298@sbcglobal.net](mailto:baker7298@sbcglobal.net)  
317-831-3526

### Membership Coordinators

Larry & Carol Cordray  
[daffodil327@hotmail.com](mailto:daffodil327@hotmail.com)  
317-372-2777  
317-372-1678

### Nursery (under age 3)

Sue Roe  
[Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net)  
317-445-9333

### Bulletin

Tom Farrington  
[MessageToFairfield@att.net](mailto:MessageToFairfield@att.net)  
317-839-3902

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

Tara Stewart  
[Tara\\_m\\_stewart@hotmail.com](mailto:Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com)  
317-627-8964  
Jimmy McClung  
[moviemanjm@gmail.com](mailto:moviemanjm@gmail.com)  
765-346-8848

### Newsletter

M. Beth Symons  
[mbethsymons@aol.com](mailto:mbethsymons@aol.com)  
317-409-0300

### United Society of Friends Women

Sarah Lookabill  
[slookabill@att.net](mailto: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](mailto:Daffodil327@hotmail.com) or 317-727-1678 Larry [Lcordray3388@gmail.com](mailto:Lcordray3388@gmail.com) 317-372-2777