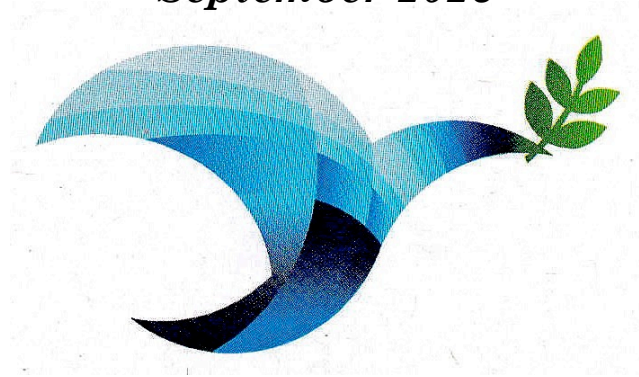


THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

September 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 – September 2023

Thoughts From the Pastor, Phil Gulley

The Burdens We Carry

Years ago, I read a book about the pioneers on the Oregon Trail crossing the continent, spying the Rocky Mountains for the first time, then eying their wagons, realizing they were too heavy laden to traverse the mountain passes, so jettisoning many of their items they'd brought with them. It wasn't uncommon to find discarded chairs, tables, cupboards, and even pump organs at the base of the mountains, abandoned to lighten the load.

I find myself doing the same things these days, catching a glimpse of the mountains ahead and realizing I've packed too many nonessentials. This past summer, I gave away a BMW touring motorcycle I no longer rode and sold a rental house I no longer had the energy or funds to maintain. If you visit our home and admire a piece of furniture, there's a good chance we'll give it to you. This past summer my sister began working from home and needed a desk, so I gave her a cherry wood table my Grandpa Hank built in 1941. I told her I was only loaning it to her and when she no longer needed it, I wanted it back, but we both know she's stuck with it. From now on, my house has a check valve that will permit outflow while preventing inflow.

I must say that as much as I have enjoyed accumulating stuff, getting rid of it has been even better. Last week, I traded a lawn mower I didn't need for two sump pumps, which I will one day surely need, and threw in a weed eater for free. At one time, I had four weed eaters, and am now down to two, one for our Danville house and another for our farm. My life is reaching harmonic balance. I have one more bicycle than I need, so if anyone wants a Trek Lime bicycle, let me know. (317-446-4923) I don't deliver, but it's yours if you help me lift it down from the garage attic. If you don't like it, I don't want it back. To me, it's a pump organ on the prairie, for which I have no need.

I'm not just getting rid of material things, I'm making it a point to rid myself of less tangible items. For several years now, I've harbored ill feelings toward a man up the street from me. I can't even remember why I thought poorly of him, only that I did. But while on a walk, he waved me down and we stood in his front yard for a half hour, chatting about our grandchildren. By the end of our conversation, my bad feelings about him had dissipated, replaced with goodwill. It's hard not to like someone who lets you talk about your grandchildren.

The nice thing about getting rid of those less tangible items is how much freer and lighter one feels after their removal. Hatred, ill-will, prejudice, and resentment can be more burdensome than any possession, weighing down our lives and souls. Let them go, I say. We've got mountains to cross, who needs the extra baggage. Not me.

I dreamed this week about my arch-nemesis, the Newman to my Seinfeld, the Hatfield to my McCoy. I dreamed we became the best of friends, and when I woke up I felt charitably toward him for the first time since childhood. I can't wait to tell him about my dream. Maybe he's had the exact same dream and is ready to lay down the weight of dislike. Wouldn't that be something!

A Quaker Query I've just dreamed up: Do I give careful thought to the burdens I carry, and am I willing to lay them down?

Call me if you want the bike.

CLERK PLEASE

September 2023

NEWS FLASH: MONTHLY MEETING FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUSINESS IS MOVING BACK TO THE MEETINGHOUSE. NEXT ONE WILL BE LIVE ON SEPTEMBER 17, FOLLOWING MEETING FOR WORSHIP.

The following highlights are from the August 20 Monthly Meeting (MM), be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- As part of a very typical Pastor's report, Phil expressed his positive assessment of the 2023 Western Yearly Meetings, and his continued appreciation for the leadership of superintendent Shawn McConaughey.
- Lynne Durocher presented the July Financial Statement. July was an uneventful month. While expenses were normal, revenue was down a little bit which is somewhat typical for the summer months, resulting in a deficit for the month of \$1,621.20. However, we are still over our target reserve amount; our reserve is at \$130,751.13 which is roughly \$30,000.00 over the target. The average weekly offering was \$1,888, lowering the year-to-date average to \$3,291, a reduction of \$224 since June.
- Ann Tarvin reported for Ministry and Counsel. Lee Edmundson and Ann Tarvin attended the 200th Anniversary Celebration of Mooresville Whitelick Friends on August 19th as representatives of Fairfield. The Fall Hike is scheduled for October 7th at Little Africa, an African-American settlement dating from 1817. This is near the Gulley's farm and they will provide lunch at the farmhouse. Those not taking the walk are encouraged to visit and enjoy the scenery. It was requested that people carpool for the Fall Hike due to the distance and cost of gas.
- Jim McClung presented the Trustees report. Volunteers are requested for a yet to be determined day of cleanup around the 1892 Meetinghouse. Maintenance of the 2012 Meetinghouse continues in earnest. Efforts to secure insurance for the Meeting continue following notice of non-renewal from our former carrier, Guide One. A proposal from Nationwide is on the table. This proposal, along with a required fact sheet, reveals multiple shortcomings in Meeting procedures, which are being addressed by various committees. The sexton transition from Ralph Baker to the brother/sister team of Tom Spragg and Renie Batton is nearly complete.
- Although not reported directly, the Christian Education committee sent a list of items that are currently being discussed, including the children's safety policy considering the current policy is now ten years old. They will also discuss children's church and the nursery as well as discuss a design brought forth by Rita Goss for a children's playground area which had initially been discussed by Trustees.
- Sue Walton is still seeking help with Books and Brunch, for publicity in particular.

- One of the topics of annual meeting was the inclusion of and attracting young adult Friends. Western Yearly Meeting has hired Rachel O'Mahoney, Pastor of Valley Mills, to help WYM gain an understanding of this group through interviews. Randy shared an email he and Phil received from her; her goals are to provide some tangible suggestions to WYM on how to be supportive of young and young/middle-aged groups, and also to create some activities and programs that WYM might offer. The focus is on people between 22 and 45 years of age.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be Sunday September 17 at the Meetinghouse.

FAIRFIELD MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION

August 20, 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 14 edition.

WAITING IN SILENCE

Isaac Penington

God is to be worshipped in spirit, in his own power and life, and this is at his own disposal. His church is a gathering in the Spirit. If any speak there, they must speak as the oracle of God, as the vessel out of which God speaks; as the trumpet out of which he gives the sound. Therefore there is to be a waiting in silence till the Spirit of the Lord move to speak, and also give words to speak. For we are not to speak our own words, or in our own wisdom or time; but the Spirit's words, in the Spirit's wisdom and time, which is when he moves and gives to speak.

from [On the wisdom of silence from an early Quaker](#)

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

September Birthdays

Thomas Farrington	Sept. 05
Diana Jerry	Sept. 06
Allison Swift	Sept. 06
Mike Mott	Sept. 08
Ralph Baker	Sept. 09
Ava Matthews	Sept. 09
Lynne Durocher	Sept. 14
Bob Heald	Sept. 15
Pam Smith	Sept. 19
Patti Siemantel	Sept. 20
Diana Chamness	Sept. 25
Mark McClure	Sept. 25
Sarah Lookabill	Sept. 26
Beth Sotkiewicz	Sept. 28

September Anniversaries

Dale and Margaret Gladden	September 05
Herb and Stacey Denny	September 06
Ralph and Gan Baker	September 10
Bob and April Stevens	September 16
Kyle and Leslie Rhoden	September 29

Ministry and Counsel September 2023

M&C has been busy planning and assisting with several late summer and fall events. Here are some things to look forward to:

- The end of summer **pitch-in picnic** will be held on August 27 following worship. Bring a picnic worthy dish and join us. If the weather is good, a few tables may find their way to the porch. Drinks will be provided. All are welcome!
- While you are at the picnic, check out the new map on the wall in the dining room. We need to update where we live. The old map was over 10 years old. **Plant your flag while you are at the picnic!** You might find another attender who lives closer than you thought. If you have already planted your flag, check anyway to see if someone has appeared near you. Check it out whenever you are in the meetinghouse.
- The **Fall Hike** will be held on October 7 at Little Africa, an African-American settlement in Orange County dating from 1817. The original families traveled from North Carolina with anti-slavery Quakers. This is near Gulley's farm and they will provide lunch at the farm house. Those not taking the walk are encouraged to visit and enjoy the scenery. Directions and additional details will come soon.
- **Books and Brunch** is coming on Saturday, November 3. Sue Walton will be organizing this event; she needs **help NOW** with publicity and advance planning. If you can help with that aspect, contact Sue (1-847-209-0047 or sue@suewalton.com)!.

Ann Tarvin, Clerk

Green Team

DIY: Simplicity

As I learn more about what being a Quaker means, I find that following the SPICES resonates deeply with me. One of them, Simplicity, is easily put into practice by replacing pricey laundry detergents with the DIY option below.

This recipe makes a lot, so it lasts a long time. I'm very happy with the way it cleans. It is very inexpensive, and with no plastic bottles to contend with, it's environmentally sound.

Instead of using fabric softener sheets, consider using a wool dryer ball to reduce your waste even more. Adding a few drops of your favorite essential oils to the dryer ball is also an option.

DIY Laundry Detergent Powder

Ingredients:

OxiClean With Odor Blasters (#3)

Arm & Hammer Super Washing Soda (55 ounces)

Borax (76 ounces)

Baking Soda (#4)

3 bars Fels-Naptha Soap or Zote pink soap or Bronners bar soap (Fels Naptha seemed to be harsh)

Downy Unstoppables (19,5 ounces) Can be added to the above ingredients, or added separately to the wash cycle as you desire.

Mix the dry ingredients. Grate the bars of soap. Combine the two (dry ingredients and grated soap); when you see the soap evenly dispersed, you'll know it's properly mixed.

Store in a glass canister or other suitable airtight container to avoid clumping. For High Efficiency washers use 2 Tablespoons.

Submitted by Carol Stradling

The Green Team (subcommittee of Peace & Social Justice)

You can find more information about each of the ingredients on this website:

<https://www.wethreeshanes.com/how-to-choose-the-best-homemade-laundry-detergent-for-your-family/>

Family Promise

September 24th through Sept 30th Fairfield Friends has a Family Promise support week. We prepare one extra-large family dinner to be shared with those who live at the almost home residence. We also stock the refrigerator/pantry at the Resource Center for those who need extra supplies or live in their vehicles. With the house at capacity, a large meal could be daunting. There is an opportunity of splitting the meal with someone else if anyone would like to supply part of a meal. I'll be posting the chart at the meeting house in September. If anyone would like to know more about the program, please give me a call, text, or e-mail.

Theresa Minton 317 509-1728, theresaminton@att.net.

Peace and Social Justice Committee

2023 Festival of Faiths: Nourishing Our Spirits

Join hundreds of people from faith traditions across Central Indiana in Nourishing Our Spirits at the Center for Interfaith Cooperation's 2023 Festival of Faiths on Sunday, September 10!

The festival will kick off at 1:00 PM at University Park in downtown Indianapolis with a drum circle led by Bongo Boy and Taiko drums, Procession of Faiths (all are welcome to join in) and blowing of the shofar.

Our souls will be nourished with music, prayers, and dance from the Sacred Arts Stage. Visit over 50 exhibitor booths from faith communities across Central Indiana, including making an interfaith bracelet and previewing the Indianapolis Children's Museum's Sacred Places exhibition.

Food vendors from Mexican, Filipino, and sweets will be available for purchase.

The festival is free and open to the public, and Friends will be present to represent the Quaker Testimonies. The festival will close with Dances of Universal Peace by 5 PM; all are invited to join in!



September 10, 2023
1pm - 5pm
University Park, Downtown Indianapolis

FESTIVAL OF FAITHS 2023
nourishing our spirits

This is a **FREE** event for everyone of all ages!

Food Trucks!
*Food trucks aren't free

The **BIG STAGE** is back!

For more information about the event, vending, being an exhibitor, or being a sponsor, scan the QR code.



Children's Health and the Environment

As Quakers we are committed to equality. But our nation and our state are not doing enough to reduce environmental hazards that severely impact the health, quality of life and future for our children. Air pollution in Indiana is some of the most toxic in the nation. Children are harmed by lead, asbestos, pests and pesticides, ground water contamination, seepage from manufacturing sites and waste incinerators.

Today we will focus on lead. Lead in any amount is not safe according to the Environmental Protection Agency. It permeates our homes and schools and even day care centers, and any structure built prior to 1978. It is present in dust from those buildings even when they are demolished. It is also in some toys, antique furniture (when it starts to peel), soil near roads and highways because lead was in gasoline until the late 1980's and it is even sometimes found in some ceramics. And of course, it is in our water. Flint, MI is not the only place where lead in the water has occurred. This year Indiana finally passed a law to have the water in day care centers tested.

Lead is not obvious in our environment. It can be on a wall that was painted years ago and is now starting to peel. Sometimes new paint is used to cover the older lead paint, but when it starts to peel the exposure to lead is there. You do not see it enter a child's body, but the damage to IQ or damage to the child's development can severely impact a child's potential future without warning. Exposure to lead can only be measured by blood tests. Once the damage is done it CANNOT be reversed.

"Roughly 31 millions homes still have lead paint on their walls, the EPA said, and scraping and sanding creates dust that can cause lead poisoning if it's ingested. A Government Accountability Office report in 2019 estimated that more than 15 million students were enrolled in school districts that found lead-based paint in their buildings. Lead paint exposure can cause behavioral problems, lower IQs and slow growth, the EPA said".

* https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2023/07/12/lead-paint-dust-epa/?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=wp_news_alert_revere&location=alert#:~:text=The%20new%20rules%20would%20almost,levels%2C%20the%20agency%20said

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

Exposure to lead can seriously harm a child's health. Children aged 6 and younger are especially vulnerable because their bodies use the toxic lead in brain and bone development. Young children also touch surfaces adults don't and tend to put their hands or other objects into their mouths. This is why the most common source of lead exposure in young children is lead dust that they swallow.

Effects of lead exposure can include:

- Damage to the brain and nervous system, including lower IQ
- Slowed growth and development
- Learning and behavior problems, including decreased ability to pay attention and underperformance in schools
- Hearing and speech problems

*From the Indiana Lead Free program: <https://www.in.gov/health/lead/home/>

Environmental Trigger & some Solutions:

- Cockroaches and other pests
 - Use Integrated Pest Management ([IPM](#)) to prevent cockroach and other pest problems.
- Mold
 - Fix leaks and moisture problems and thoroughly dry areas that are wet within 24-48 hours to prevent [mold growth](#).
- Animal dander
 - Remove classroom animals from the school, if possible.
- Tobacco smoke
 - Enforce no smoking policies on and near the school's campus.
- Dust mites
 - Make sure schools are dusted and vacuumed thoroughly, regularly, and keep classrooms free of clutter.
- Chemicals in cleaning products / Spray cleaners like Lysol
 - Use [green cleaning supplies](#) whenever possible.
- Perfumes / air fresheners
 - Reduce the use of perfumes and air fresheners in the classrooms.
- Pesticides
 - Establish a [chemical management program](#).
- Vehicle exhaust
 - Pass a [no-idling policy](#) near the school building for school bus and car exhaust.

*Excerpts from the Improving Kids Environment and Hoosier Environmental Council Newsletter (August 2023)

Air Quality & Asthma Related Events:

- **8/22/23** - EPA [Clean School Bus Grant](#) - Online
- **8/23/23** - [Drive Clean Indiana Annual Conference & Expo](#) - Michigan City
- **08/23/23** - [What To Do If a Student Has an Asthma Attack](#) - Asthma & Allergy Network
- **8/24/23** - [INJAC Asthma Huddle](#) - Online
- **Available until 8/31/23** - [Asthma Education for the Community Health Worker](#) - Online
- **11/10/23** - [2023 USAsthma Summit](#) hosted by the Asthma & Allergy Network - the Hilton Anaheim in California

Lead Related Events:

- **08/16/23** - Certified Lead Renovator initial (RRP) - [Ivy Tech](#)
- **10/24/23** - Certified Lead Renovator Initial (RRP) - [EPA](#)

Hoosier Environmental Council Events:

- **09/01/23** - [Maximize Your Impact. Be an Indiana Change-Maker.](#) - Zoom

Submitted by Rhonda Impink,

Peace and Social Justice Committee

For Questions, Contact Rhonda Impink at rhondaimpink606@gmail.com

September 2023 Calendar

- September 3** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- September 5** **Trustees Committee 6:30-7:30pm**
- September 6** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- September 7** **Ministry and Counsel Committee 7-8pm**
- September 9** **Peace and Social Justice Committee 9:30-10:30am**
Greem Team 10:45-11:45am
- September 10** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Book Club Discussion 11:45am-2pm
- September 12** **Stewarship Committee 1:30-2:30pm**
- September 13** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- September 14** **Finance Committee 7-8pm**
- September 17** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
Meeting for Business 7-8pm
- September 20** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**
- September 24** **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**
Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am
- September 27** **NA Support Group 7-8pm**

Holding in the Light List

Karen Adams (Pam Smith's Friend)
Jenny (Pam Smith's family)
Joseph McGowen (Treg Hopkins' friend)
Bob Montgomery (Goss's friend)
Family of Laura Mullis (Nancy Paledino's mother)
Tory Sprinkle (Don Adam's friend)
Dorothy and Katherine Edmundson
(Lee's brother Don's family)
Michelle Graham's family (Lynne Durocher's friend)
Liz Chrisinger (Lynne Durocher's friend)
Leah Oye (Cindy Strietelmeier's friend)
Louie Geiger
Debbie Draper
Jim Edwards (Ashley Smith's stepdad)
Mike (Stan Jones & Skip Lyford's friend)
Kim Brown (Jill Wiley's friend)
Josie Ullery (JosihHostetler's friend)
Ron Frye
Craig Reasoner
Marty (Carol Cordray's friend)
Beth Becker (Sue Walton's friend)
Baby Mara (Pam Smith's great-niece)
Jack and Marilyn Apple (Joan Gulley's brother)

Nancy Graham
Mary Lee Comer
Mike (Tara Stewart's friend)
Patty Bowling
Ann Denny & daughter Betsey (Herb's mom
and sister)
Tina (Mary Dooley's sister)
Mike Roland (Bill & Pam Smith's friend)
Jack & Mary Lee (Mary Dooley's friends)
Neighborhood Bible Church
Helen Symons (JB's mother)
Deann Waltz (zoom friend)
Bob Church (Rosemary's husband)
Margaret Tutewiler-Cox
Lauren Chinn (Larry Cordray's daughter)
Ruth Turner (daughter of the late Charles
& Elsie Carter)
Daryl T Brown
Julie Kindle
Brenda Sellers (Linze Southwick's mom)
Tom Spragg and family
Joni Leverett family
Phyllis Apple (Joan's sister-in-law)

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 Streitelmeyer'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)

Gage Boyd (Margo Lawson's grandson)
Mary Denbo Terry's Mom)
Beth Sotkiewicz
David and Jennifer Hodge
Margo Lawson

Meeting Contacts

Pastor

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

Choir Director

Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton
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317-839-9682

Outreach Committee

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

Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung
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317-690-0160

Becky Horton
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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