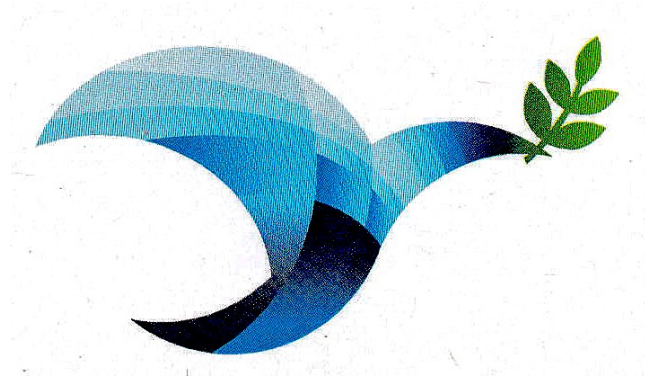


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*April 2021*



*Fairfield Friends Meeting is a diverse Quaker community that lives and shares the peace, love and Light of God in the world.*



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**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR, PHIL GULLEY***If Only We Have Eyes To See*

Our Quaker Men's Wednesday lunch group met in person last Wednesday, dining *al fresco* at Hummel Park in Plainfield. It was windy, but the temperatures were mild and the fellowship warm. Larry Hesson baked a cake to share with us, which was, as always, gratefully received. We hadn't been together since autumn and had important matters to discuss, but instead spent the time telling bad jokes and making fun of one another. It was, in a word, exhilarating.

Our son, Sam, and his wife, Kelsea, phoned the other day to tell us they were coming home for a visit this June, which will be a year and a half since we've last seen them. We FaceTime every Sunday, but you can't hug your loved ones over a smartphone. Our hearts know the difference between seeing someone on pixels and seeing someone in person.

Nevertheless, I've been profoundly grateful for pixels this past year. Pandemics have a way of unseating deeply held prejudices, one of which was my snobbish contempt of technology in Quaker worship. For decades, I've spoken dismissively of churches who use screens. "They have screens," was my shorthand way of saying a church was shallow, superficial and trendy. Now that we've passed the one-year mark of worshipping via screens, I have changed my mind. If screens in the meetinghouse can help us learn, think, and grow, I'm all for them. Just because I'm an auditory learner, doesn't mean everyone is. Many people learn not by hearing, but by seeing, so thank God for pixels.

In addition to challenging my biases, this pandemic has helped me discern what is essential and what is not. Before the pandemic I was planning on spending thousands of dollars renovating the bathrooms in our house, but now I'm just happy to have toilet paper. Just before the pandemic, I mistakenly purchased a case of single-ply toilet paper to use at the farm. Since time immemorial, we've been a two-ply family, so Joan promptly dubbed it our "apocalypse toilet paper," to be used only in emergencies. Then along came an apocalypse and we've been thanking God ever since for single-ply toilet paper. We've since spent a total of three weeks at the farm and we're only on the second roll. How's that for Quaker simplicity!

As folks get vaccinated and we emerge from seclusion, I'm already starting to miss elements of our pandemic. Children are returning to youth sports, so families aren't taking walks around the neighborhood after supper anymore. My neighbor isn't calling to see if I need anything from the grocery store. I miss these moments and gestures. It's a shame it took a pandemic for me to realize the blessings of family time and neighborliness. In this season of Easter resurrection, let's never forget that goodness is always at hand, if only we have eyes to see.

**Clerk Please—A message from the Presiding Clerk**FAIRFIELD MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION  
March 14, 2021

The Sermon on the Mount is fascinating to me for among other things, what I see as the potential to heal the world. After all, it includes the Golden Rule, which Christians find in the book of Matthew 7:12. I think it is well established that some form of the Golden Rule can be found in the literature of many of the world's religions. Much of Jesus's teaching appears in parables found throughout the gospels, and is summarized in this Sermon.

It is not my intention to read to you the Sermon on the Mount, you can review it yourselves in Matthew 5-7. However, I will frequently use this time to share parts of and words inspired by it. As we emerge from pandemic driven isolation and reengage our communities, we might be better prepared by having these thoughts in our hip pocket.

One source of inspiration is the book, Salt and Light, Living the Sermon on the Mount, a collection of works by Eberhard Arnold, who grappled with it his entire adult life. He was part of a movement of German Christians who resisted the rise of the Nazis. The following is from the forward.

**WE HAVE LISTENED** to the Sermon on the Mount and perhaps have understood it. But who has heard it aright? Jesus gives the answer at the end (Matt. 7:24-29). He does not allow his hearers to go away and make of his sayings what they will, picking and choosing from them whatever they find helpful and testing them to see if they work. He does not give them free rein to misuse his word with their mercenary hands, but gives it to them on condition that it retains exclusive power over them.

Humanly speaking, we could understand and interpret the Sermon on the Mount in a thousand different ways. Jesus knows only one possibility: simple surrender and obedience, not interpreting it or applying it, but doing and obeying it. That is the only way to hear his word. He does not mean that it is to be discussed as an ideal; he really means us to get on with it.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Respectfully,

Randy Horton, Presiding Clerk

**PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE****Earth Day, April 22, 2021**

<https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>

In recognition of Earth Day, please consider the following summary excerpt from the Fourth National Climate Assessment, first published in 2018:

[www.Nca2018.globalchange.gov](http://www.Nca2018.globalchange.gov); [www.science2017.globalchange.gov/](http://www.science2017.globalchange.gov/)



Together, we will  
fight climate change

Together, we will  
**RESTORE OUR  
EARTH**

**SUMMARY FINDINGS:**

Earth's climate is now changing faster than at any point in the history of modern civilization, primarily as a result of human activities. The impacts of global climate change are already being felt in the US and are projected to intensify in the future, but the severity of future impacts will depend largely on actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the changes that will occur.

Climate-related risks will continue to grow without additional action. Decisions made today determine risk exposure for current and future generations and will either broaden or limit options to reduce the negative consequences of climate change. While Americans are responding in ways that can bolster resilience and improve livelihoods, neither global efforts to mitigate the causes of climate change nor regional efforts to adapt to the impacts currently approach the scales needed to avoid substantial damages to the US economy, environment, and human health and well-being over the coming decades.

The assumption that current and future climate conditions will resemble the recent past is no longer valid; observations collected around the world provide significant, clear, and compelling evidence that global average temperature is much higher, and is rising more rapidly, than anything modern civilization has experienced, with widespread and growing impacts. The warming trend over the past century can only be explained by the effects that human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse gases, have had on the climate.

Climate change threatens to exacerbate existing social and economic inequalities that result in higher exposure and sensitivity to extreme weather and climate-related events and other changes. Marginalized populations may also be affected disproportionately by actions to address the underlying causes and impacts of climate change, if they are not implemented under policies that consider existing inequalities.

**PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE (Cont'd)**

This report concludes that the evidence of human-caused climate change is overwhelming and continues to strengthen, that the impacts of climate change are intensifying across the country, and that climate-related threats to Americans' physical, social, and economic well-being are rising. These impacts are projected to intensify, but how much they intensify will depend on actions taken to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the risks from climate change now and in the coming decades.

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

April
Eugene Crawley (04/01)
Randolph Horton (04/02)
Dominic Lucas (04/02)
Bruce Borud (04/09)
Caden McClure (04/10)
Kris & Marrinda Schoen (04/10)
Chase Rhoden (04/13)
Carolyn Frye (04/15)
Richard & Pamela Wilson (04/18)
Joan Gulley (04/20)
Hugh Hanlin (04/20)
Cristina Emch (04/21)
Margo Lawson (04/24)
Chris & Anne Gautier (04/27)

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)

**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	Mary Denbo	Alan Andrews	Kim Brown
Joyce Gant	Carol Hinkle	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	
Carl and Cathy Lucas (and family)			

**COVID-19 GROUP**

Fairfield Friends Ministry and Council formed an ad hoc committee called Covid-19 Group to discuss the possibility of resuming Meeting for Worship outdoors this summer. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to infect people throughout Indiana. The committee has determined that we cannot safely meet together face-to-face. If you have any questions or concerns for this committee, please contact Bill Smith at [billsmith49@earthlink.net](mailto:billsmith49@earthlink.net) or (317)413-9869. This committee will continue to meet in the hope that this pandemic will lessen.

Fairfield Friends Meeting will continue to have ZOOM Meeting for Worship and will publish the ZOOM link on Facebook and by email. In addition, Lee Edmundson will be placing the ZOOM link on the Fairfield Friends website weekly.

**USFW****FAMILY PROMISE OF HENDRICKS COUNTY**

Our Family Promise week began March 23<sup>rd</sup> with a higher than normal, resident count. The Ashley Motel in Plainfield was shut down and Family Promise staff scrambled to assist those living at that facility with their relocation needs. One couple who came from Colorado, chose to leave their three children with a family member. What a painful decision. They are working diligently to recover.

Another couple where the father works full time while the wife is a student, were surprised with the short notice as they scramble with their child for relocation needs. When working adults cannot find affordable housing, they can be easily toppled over the edge of stability. I am so impressed with the staff at Family Promise. With our help, they become a safety net from despair.

Thank you, Fairfield Friends for your timely contributions. We are making a difference in many lives.

**MEETING CONTACTS**

<b><u>Pastor:</u></b> <b>Phil Gulley</b> Philip@philipgulley.com	317-446-4923
<b><u>Presiding Clerk of the Meeting:</u></b> <b>Randy Horton</b> randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net	317-839-9682
<b><u>Recording Clerk:</u></b> <b>Lynne Durocher</b> Ld091449@yahoo.com	317-888-7242
<b><u>Treasurers:</u></b> <b>Mike Chenoweth</b> mocnenoweth@gmail.com	317-445-0387
<b>Karen Heald</b> healdrobt@att.net	317-696-6133
<b><u>Membership Coordinators:</u></b> <b>Larry &amp; Carol Cordray</b> daffodil327@hotmail.com	317-372-2777 317-372-1678
<b><u>Bulletin and Newsletter (info due by 20<sup>th</sup> of month):</u></b> <b>Tom Farrington</b> thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com	317-839-3902
<b><u>United Society of Friends Women:</u></b> <b>Sarah Lookabill</b> slookabill@att.net	317-839-4712
<b><u>Fairfield Men's Fellowship:</u></b> <b>Ralph Baker</b> baker7298@sbcglobal.net	317-831-3526
<b><u>Outreach Committee:</u></b> <b>Stacey Denny</b> hdenny123@att.net	317-313-1171
<b><u>Caring Friends Committee:</u></b> <b>Becky McClung</b> rgmclung@gmail.com	317-690-0160



**MEETING CONTACTS (Cont'd)**

<b><u>To Be Added to the Email List:</u></b> <b>Tom Farrington</b> thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com	317-839-3902
<b>J. B. Symons</b> jb@leadtogreat.com	317-409-3945
<b><u>Nursery (under age 3):</u></b> <b>Sue Roe</b> Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net	317-445-9333
<b><u>Children's Meeting (age 3—3<sup>rd</sup> grade):</u></b> <b>Ralph &amp; Gan Baker</b> baker7298@sbcglobal.net	317-831-3526
<b><u>Fantastix Friends 4<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade):</u></b> <b>Tara Stewart</b> Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com	317-627-8964
<b><u>Young Friends (9<sup>th</sup> grade—college):</u></b> <b>Jimmy McClung</b> moviemanjim@gmail.com	765-346-8848
<b><u>Restorative Connection Counseling</u></b> <b>Laura Jay-Ballinger, M.A., LMHC</b> restorative.connection.indy@gmail.com	317-902-7327