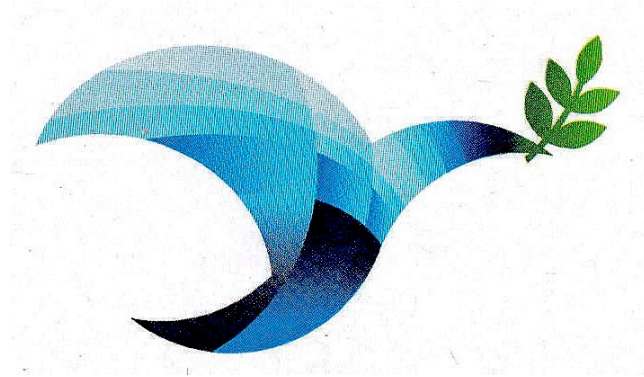


THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

July 2022



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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The Fairfield Friend – June 2022

Dear Friends,

The Newsletter seems to be coming together. Constance Ward has stepped up to help with the mailing of the newsletter to those without e-mail access. Please continue to alert me about changes that need to be made. I do still need your assistance in updating the lists of birthdays and anniversaries. Your patience and input in all matters are appreciated.

M. Beth Symons

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

Family Promise

Our Meeting House and the other Hendricks County volunteers have been the foundation of the Family Promise program. Since March of 2020, the stability of the program was rocked to its core. They lost the housing provided by the collective churches, as well as the social interaction those groups gave the families. Our involvement had reinforced what the counselors taught, and it was noticeably missed.

Fortunately, the AUMC house allowed Family Promise to regroup for several months, followed by the family isolation in the hotel rooms (with our support). Additional funds came in and Family Promise expanded. People in need of guidance, contacted the loving ‘can do’ staff at Family Promise. The staff stretched beyond their original family model and helped the single adults, as well as the ex-inmates, and those with SUD (substance use disorders). Their extended counseling has enriched our community. Family Promise and the Stability Builders gained both clients and staff as they expanded to meet the increasing need in Hendricks County.

The RJS foundation donated the funds to purchase a seven-bedroom house. Almost Home will begin its service this July but it will *only* house the families that meet the original Family Promise requirements. Fairfield rocks when it comes to our support for Family Promise. We made a real difference to many families who have now graduated from the program. The pandemic added distance between the homeless families and the loving interaction our Meeting House provided for so many years. Family Promise does not want to lose its foundation.

Watch the Friday Flash for the Almost Home open house information expected to be in July. Everyone is welcomed to experience this facility and identify what we can do going forward. Consider this facility as an extended Meeting House for the families in need. Keep shining the light of hope, love, acceptance, and understanding. Thanks to all.

Thanks, Theresa 317 509-1728

PAYING ATTENTION

Proverbs 4:25-6 *Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Give careful thought to the paths for your feet and be steadfast in all your ways.*

Walking through the Dallas-Fort Worth airport, I was suddenly in the path of a three-foot tall red-headed torpedo that apparently had been released without a guidance system into oncoming targets. I became his first “kill” WHAM! A dead hit. A bit startled, but still under power, he bounced off of me and ran broadside into an elderly couple who momentarily pinned him between them, at least long enough for the Mother Ship to catch up, do an apology and quick damage-control evaluation on the couple and me.

“Jason, you must pay attention,” the Mother Ship shouted while taking her torpedo in tow and hurrying on down the airport’s corridor.

That is one of my three favorite commentaries on life – PAY ATTENTION!

Torpedo Jason is not the only one that runs through life out of control and unconsciously bumping into new experiences. At times, we all do. Paying attention has a lot of synonyms: Look where you’re going. Stop and smell the roses. Slow down. Take a breath. And just plain – LOOK.

Life is an observational sport. Most of us have five pretty good sensory devices with which to play the game. How often have you detected or ‘paid attention’ to a fragrance and perhaps have it transport you to another time and place where you were paying attention. New mown hay in the early summer is a pay attention event. It can elevate your mood to a new level and perhaps take you to that time in one of the summers of your youth when you were riding the hay wagon in the field pulling 60-80 pound blocks of hay out of the mouth of the bailer--stacking the blocks in an interlocking pattern so they would hold over the bumpy field until we got them to the barn for storage.

Paying attention allows you to see the couple, probably in their eighties holding hands and speaking softly – perhaps about their futures. Or noticing the waitress in the restaurant squeezing her temples trying to push some tension out of her head. Or viewing the picture of three little girls leaning on the shoeshine stand smiling back at the artist who made my shoes and me feel better.

Paying attention means living consciously. Not in that gray-dull and blurry place of pedestrian life, but turning your senses up on high – inviting and letting things in. Close your eyes for a moment and scan your body slowly from top to bottom and back again. Notice anything? Where did that discomfort on my third cervical vertebrae and left hip come from? I hadn’t noticed that before. Paying attention.

I could probably write a whole section on paying attention and maybe I will, but all too often we are “Torpedo Jasons” slamming and banging through the unconscious fogs of our lives and the lives of others.

Our eyes see over 60,000 bits of information every second. One would think a few more of those bits would get our attention. And that is yet another part of the paying attention issue. We are wanting or expecting things or others to ‘get our attention’. We need to be ready and willing to be ‘got’.

Sights, smells, sounds, touches, tastes – all ‘getters’ looking for a receiver. Sometimes ‘getters’ come at you like a fastball while others might be a feathery touch of a loved one trying to make a special contact with you. We need to exercise our ‘get-abilities’.

By JB Symons

Ministry and Counsel

The Ministry and Counsel committee was privileged to present the book – [A Quaker Book of Wisdom](#) by Robert Lawrence Smith - to graduating high school seniors Araya Smith – daughter of Chad and Elise Smith, Chase Rhodan – son of Kyle and Lesley Smith, and Abby Matthews – granddaughter of Lynne Durocher on May 22 during worship service. Johnathan Baker, grandson of Ralph and Gan Baker, Peiper Hesson – granddaughter of Larry and Madalyn Hesson, and Mawlida Sulaiman, daughter of our Sulaiman Family from Syria received their books later as they could not attend the service.

Fairfield was pleased to have Mike Goss and Ned Steele bring messages on the two Sundays in June when Phil and Joan were in Alaska visiting their son Sam and daughter-in-law Kelsey. We are blessed to have these two contribute to our Meeting.

Save your Thursday evenings of the last 2 weeks of September and the first 3 weeks of October for an opportunity to participate in a Quakerism Class led by Max Carter, the retired director of the Friends Center of Guilford College and college roommate of our own Larry Cordray! This class will be held on Zoom and will be an exceptional opportunity to interact with this expert on Quakerism and author of several books on Quakers. Watch for more information concerning this!

MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION June, 2022

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. You can subscribe at <https://www.plough.com/en/subscriptions/daily-dig>. The following is the June 17 edition.

Read It Slowly

Keith Giles

Sit down tonight with your Bible. Open up to the Gospel of Matthew. Find the Sermon on the Mount. Read it slowly. Listen to Jesus and what he commands with a new heart. Allow him to crucify your nationalism and, yes, even your political affiliation. Allow him to put to death anything and everything that confuses his authority with any other. I invite you to follow Jesus totally untangled from the powers of this world.

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

CLERK PLEASE—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING CLERK

CLERK PLEASE – JULY 2022

The following highlights are from the June 19 Monthly Meeting, be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- The treasury continues to be in good health, and there were no unusual expenses in May. Income exceeded expenses, leaving the Reserve balance at 96% of our target, an increase relative to 85% in April. It was observed that the Financial Statement is somewhat confusing in labeling the WYM assessments we pay. Mike Furnish, who reviewed the Financial Statement, stated that there will be significant clarification when we introduce a narrative budget in January.
- Ministry and Counsel presented the book *A Quaker Book of Wisdom* by Robert Lawrence Smith to graduates. Average attendance for April was 67, this is lower than usual due to the 5th Sunday which is often not well attended.
- The LP gas tank supplying the 1892 Meetinghouse, will be emptied this month with money refunded to Fairfield. The tank will then be removed by Frank Gladden, from whom the tank was donated. Appearance of the building remains a concern. Weeds need attention and fallen limbs hinder mowing. A volunteer to take on this work would be appreciated.
- The trustees have agreed that the folding partition space formerly used by Family Promise transition to USFW. Folding tables and chairs, along with storage shelving on wheels, will be used such that, when additional dining space is needed the room can be easily emptied and the partitions folded back.
- A minute of appreciation was recorded, for Gan and Ralph Baker's many years of work with the children of Fairfield. This is the same statement read in their presence on May 22 at meeting for worship.
- An All Clerks meeting will be held on July 12 @ 7:00P on Zoom. An important concern will be formation of a committee to oversee updating of the Fairfield handbook.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be July 10. This a week earlier than usual, due to the planned absence of Randy Horton on July 17.

Peace and Social Justice Committee

The wonderful Quakers of Kyiv have worked hard at keeping the lines of communication open for the world. Please let them know that we pray for them and all of Ukraine. You can reach out to them on Facebook (Quakers of Kyiv).

JB Symons

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW)

**Annual Spring Steering Committee Meeting, April 7, 2022-April 10, 2022
A Summary Report, Anita Camic, QEW Publications Committee clerk**

Once again, the QEW Annual Spring Steering Committee meeting was held via Zoom. Although the group has become comfortable with conducting the meeting via Zoom and feels it is certainly effective, discussion is underway regarding if the Fall Steering Committee meeting should be held via Zoom or if the group should return to in-person meetings. The Steering Committee and Co-Clerks acknowledge that while in-person meetings foster relationship building, they may also be prohibitive for some due to budget constraints; additionally, the Committee recognizes the resources used for several persons across the country to converge at a single location. Therefore, the Committee is discussing whether to hold the fall meeting via Zoom, in-person, or in some hybrid format.

For those of you unfamiliar with Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW), it is described on the QEW website as a network of Quakers in North America and other like-minded people who are taking spirit-led action to address ecological and social crises from a spiritual perspective, emphasizing Quaker process and testimonies. QEW has grown over the last 25 years out of a deepening sense of spiritual connection with the natural world. Out of this has come an urgency to work on climate and related issues. This work includes engaging and connecting to create a larger community in this action, deepening spirituality in the conviction that the crisis of ecological sustainability is a spiritual crisis, living our testimonies to get in right relationship with the Earth, and speaking out that Creation is to be held in reverence in its own right and that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring Earth's ecological integrity.

Prior to the weekend, QEW staff provided the QEW Annual Report as well as reports from the General Secretary, the Communications Coordinator, and reports from many of the standing committees and working groups. The theme of this meeting was "Way Forward" and began with a review of the QEW Vision and Witness, the purpose of QEW, QEW goals, as well as a review of a new "Community Safety Agreement" which serves as supporting documentation for QEW in its process of becoming a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organization. Discussion over the four days of the meeting included a focused review of the QEW Aspirations, an in-depth discussion of volunteerism as it relates to QEW, and also included time for meetings of each of the standing committees and working groups. Each day of the meeting included worship sharing with queries provided, as well as meeting for worship. Special presentations included Divestment from Fossil Fuels, International Climate and Human Rights Policy, and Earthcare and Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples.

In closing my report, I would like to share QEW's Vision and Witness statement:

"We are called to live in right relationship with all Creation, recognizing that the entire world is interconnected and is a manifestation of God. We work to integrate into the beliefs and practices of the Religious Society of Friends the Truth that God's Creation is to be respected, protected and held in reverence in its own right and the Truth that human aspirations for peace and justice depend upon restoring the Earth's ecological integrity. We promote these truths by being patterns and examples, by communicating our message and by providing spiritual and material support to those engaged in the compelling task of transforming our relationship with the Earth."

For more information as well as multiple publications, please visit the QEW website at <https://www.quakerearthcare.org/>.

July Birthdays

Ann Tarvin	July 01
Karen Heald	July 02
Kylee Horton	July 05
Gage Boyd	July 06
Amy Cunningham	July 07
John Essex	July 09
Albert Vidal	July 15
Rhonda Impink	July 17
Trevor Settles	July 17
Craig Stewart	July 21
Dinah Geiger	July 22
Araya Smith	July 23
Jeff Gabbard	July 24
Spencer Gulley	July 24
Jimmy McClung	July 25

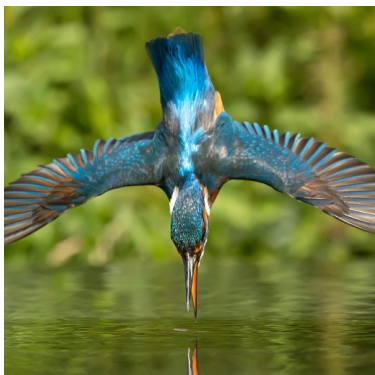
July Anniversaries

Stewart, Craig and Tara	July 01
Symons, JB and mBeth	July 04
Edmundson, Lee and Ann Tarvin	July 06
McClure, Mark and Liane	July 06
Jerrell, Mark and Diana	July 08
Settles, Tim and Paige Robbins	July 08
Impink, Rhonda and Hugh Hanlin	July 14
Smith, Bill and Pam	July 29

Kingfisher

An early July evening
Pond gazing perfecting
Mirrored water tree reflecting
Satin green surface calming
Stirred by water beetles zipping
Dragonfly zagging
Frogs burps croaking
Hopeful of mating
Then you came
From your sycamore perch flying
Like a blue meteor arrowing
Into the glassy water diving
Beneath the surface then returning
Prey in your spearing beak showing
Your raucous chatter announcing
Timeless natures balancing

Don Adams,
On Bethel Pond, July 2021



CARING FRIENDS

Hold in the Light List

Ron & Kaye Frye

Chris Gautier

Carol Gabbard (Jeff's mother)

Ruth Turner (daughter of the late Charlie and Elsie Carter)

Evan Maxwell (Tara Stewart's brother)

Adalyn (Cathy Lucas's granddaughter)

Margaret Tutewiler-Cox

Joe Sadler (Phil/Joan Gulleys friend)

Laura Chin (daughter of Larry Cordray)

Martha Pokorny (wife of Cliff Prentice's friend)

Olya Mangusheve (Amanda Gainey's friend)

Brenda Sellers (Linze Southwick's mother)

Kathe Bryant (Plainfield meeting)

Rochelle Florence Colestock (Randy Horton's sister)

Quentin Rush (Joan Gulley's great nephew)

Randy Coffin

Daryl T. Brown

Curtis (Joni Leverett's friend)

Julie Kindle

Margie Wollitz (Mary's twin sister)

Beth Sotkiewicz

Bob Church (Rosemary's husband)

Margo Lawson

Patty Bowling

Rochelle Florence Colestock (Randy's sister)

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:

Mary Denbo (Terry's mother)

Charles & Leslieann Lee

David & Jennifer Hodge

Abdul & Misreen Rasheed family

Tom & Jeanne Seger (Phil's sister & husband) **Mildren Kirchhoff** (Steve's mother)

Alan & Helen Heuss (Cindy's Streitelmeier' parents) **Bill & Jo Maris** (Stacey Denney's parents)

Gage Boyd (Margo Lawson's grandson)

Jack Apple (Joan Gulley's brother)

July 2022 Calendar

- July 3** Chat Room 9:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30am
- July 4** Independence Day
- July 6** NA Support Group 7pm
- July 7** Ministry and Counsel Committee 7pm
- July 9** Garden Club (zoom) TBA
Peace and Social Justice 9:30am
- July 10** Chat Room 9:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30am
Writing Group 1pm
- July 12** All Clerks Meeting 7pm
- July 13** NA Support Group 7pm
- July 14** Finance Committee 7pm
- July 16** Garden Club (in person) TBA
Friends United Meeting TBA
- July 17** Chat Room 9:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30am
- July 19** Stewardship Committee 2:30 pm
- July 20** NA Support Group 7pm
- July 21-24** Western Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions
- July 27** NA Support Group 7pm
- July 31** Chat Room 9:30am
Meeting for Worship 10:30 am

Meeting Contacts

Pastor

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Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton
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Recording Clerk:

Lynne Durocher
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317-3794132

Treasurers

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Karen Heald

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Membership Coordinators

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Newsletter (info due by 20th monthly)

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Fairfield Men's Fellowship

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Outreach Committee

Stacey Denny
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317-313-1171

Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung
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To Be Added to the Email List

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317-839-3902

J.B. Symons

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317-409-3945

Nursery (under age 3)

Sue Roe
Sue.roe@sbcglobal.net
317-445-9333

Children's Meeting (age 3-3rd grade)

Ralph & Gan Baker
baker7298@sbcglobal.net
317-831-3526

Fantastix Friends (4th-8th grade)

Tara Stewart
Tara_m_stewart@hotmail.com
317-627-8964

Young Friends (9th grade-college)

Jimmy McClung
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765-346-8848