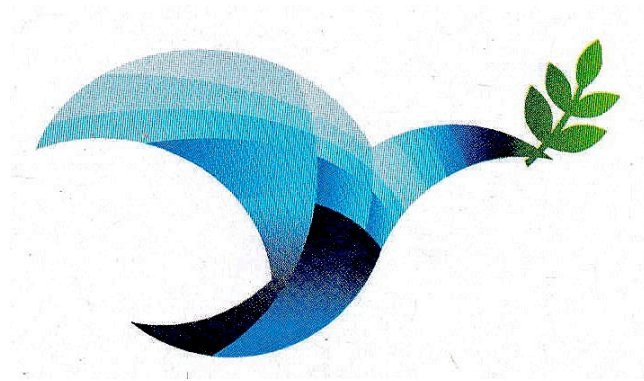


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*October 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 – October 2022

**Dear Friends,**

I was able to add a few more birthdays and anniversaries this past month. Please keep sending them. I hope to have an updated calendar eventually.

M. Beth Symons

### Thoughts From the Pastor, Phil Gulley

#### Our New Grandson

You didn't honestly think I was going to let the birth of our new grandson pass without my writing about it, did you? Of course you didn't.

Reports from Alaska are encouraging. Our son Sam reports that Henry Gulley is a good and steady sleeper, not prone to bouts of crying, and eats every four hours on the dot. He's added nine ounces since his birth on August 31<sup>st</sup>. His father seemed pleased by this, even after I pointed out that at this rate Miles will weigh 307 pounds by his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, 614 by the age of 42, and 892 by the time he's my age. Unless, of course, he starts exercising, which thankfully he has done. His mom and dad took him on a 5K walk this past week and he made it the whole way without one complaint.

I don't believe grandchildren are supposed to live in Alaska when their grandparents live in Indiana, so one of us is going to have give in and move. Joan is headed up there on September 27<sup>th</sup> for two weeks. I'm staying home to tend the dog and our granddaughter Madeline, whose father will be busy with the fall harvest. I love Madeline more than life itself, but am at the same time terrified of her, given her habit of asking me to play Barbie with her.

"You be Barbie," she says, handing me a Barbie, "and I'll be Skipper."

Skipper, you'll remember, is Barbie's little sister.

I hand Madeline my phone and ask if her she wouldn't like to have her own Facebook page and Twitter account, but she says no, that she'd rather play "Barbie and Skipper Go to Purdue and Become Veterinarians."

What is it with kids these days?

We FaceTime with Miles nearly every day. He sleeps through most of our calls, waking occasionally to peer around the room and smile at the dog, who is ever-present, never straying from Mile's side. If I had my way, every baby would come with a dog. A child needs to know the blessings of unearned affection and selfless devotion. But then, don't we all.

Sam has eleven years to go before he can retire from the Army, and there's no guarantee they'll return to Indiana to live. So if Miles is to be a part of our lives, it will require frequent airplane trips to Alaska. It would be cheaper and easier to move there, but then we'd never see Madeline. We are a house divided, one piece of our hearts in Alaska, the other in Danville.

A big problem with life is the many directions our affections pull us. We often feel torn between competing desires, wanting it all, even as we realize its impossibility. It would be easier if all our decisions were between an obvious good and an obvious bad, but matters are seldom that clear. Instead, we're pulled between the people and values we most treasure. When my friend Joe was dying, I watched his wife, in determining the way forward, forced to choose between life and death. Each had their blessings, each their struggles. I wish they had classes in school about how to choose.

I want my grandson in Indiana, but his parents love Alaska. Is my happiness more important than theirs? Is theirs more important than mine? Decisions, decisions. For now, it looks like we'll be flying to Alaska several times a year. On the plus side, summers are beautiful in Alaska. And a big chunk of my heart is there, to boot. May God bless his little round tummy.

## Ministry and Counsel

Beginning September 22, the Max Carter Quakerism classes will continue until Oct. 20, occurring each Thursday for 5 weeks on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. Fairfield Friends are being joined by Friends from around the country and world for these classes.

The Ministry and Counsel committee was glad to hold an ice cream social at the end of August and are excited that social occasions are once again being held after a break of a couple of years.

The next happening will be a combined event held by the Trustees selling items from the 1892 Meetinghouse, the Library committee selling used books, and USFW having a purse, jewelry and scarf sale. A brunch will also be available during this time. This event will occur between 9 AM and 1 PM on October 15.

## Family Promise

Stone Creek (Mindy Cunningham) has been a consistent contributor to Family Promise homeless. Their willingness to adjust to individual meals for the Pandemic years and to manage the last minute changes as families move in and out of the program with their variety of food restrictions has been very impressive.

Once during tight times the restaurant closed to give overworked staff a much needed break. A chef came in to work just to complete our FP pledge.

On September 18th Stone Creek began our Fairfield Friends Support week at Almost Home. Stone Creek is a wonderful example of excellence within our community.

We see the homeless stories repeat, but for each family it is a new, raw life experience. Thanks to all of our contributors for providing the support so that the Family Promise families experience community of love.

Theresa Minton



## October Birthdays

Michael Wamer	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
Steve Blacketer	October 28
Ron Frye	October 31

## October Anniversaries

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

### My Summer Vacation

I had hoped for the beach,  
Caribbean blues, flip-flops  
Brimmed hats on foreign  
Shores, searching for shells  
Shed from ancient clams,  
And mussels. Toes lost in  
Hot sand. Sun burnt flesh.  
Mind cleansed, renewed,  
Reawakened by summer.

Alas, I did not find a beach,  
Did not wade in turquoise  
Waters. Did not count the  
Grains of sand or renovate  
My thoughts with the serenity  
Of seascape sunsets. I did  
Not do these things, but still  
The summer arose and ebbed.

I did read books. And walked  
The grassy edge, inhaled green,  
Felt the nubs of new life sprout,  
Communed with friends, basked  
In their kindness. Hearts swell  
In affable exchange. And still I  
Smile, flaunting my pale flesh.  
And as one might expect, shells  
Can always be bought on Amazon.

M. Beth Symons

## **Holding in the Light List**

### **Neighborhood Bible Church**

**Ron and Kay Frye**

**Dinah and Louie Geiger**

**Diana Hadley**

**Randy & John Haymaker** (friends of Treg Hopkins and Don Adams)

**David Longo** (Hugh Hanlin's friend)

**Kathe Bryant**

**Mary Denbo** (Terry's mom)

**Bill and Jo Maris** (Stacey Denny's parents)

**Helen Symons** (JB's mother)

**AnnaBelle Westfall** (Carol Cordray's friend)

**Deann Waltz** (Zoom Friend)

**Pat Bostwick** (Pam Smith's friend)

**Patti Evans** (Frank Burns Sister)

**Barbara and Keith Raffell** (Frank Burns sister and brother-in-law)

**Becky McNabb**

**Curtis** (Joni Leverett's friend)

**Kaye Frye (& Ron)**

**Randy Coffin**

**Bob Church** (Rosemary's husband)

**Rochelle Florence Colestock** (Randy Horton's sister)

**Carol Gabbard** (Jeff's mother)

**Margaret Tutewiler-Cox**

**Margo Lawson**

**Patty Bowling**

**Martha Pokorny** (wife of Cliff Prentice's friend)

**Lauren Chinn** (daughter of Larry Cordray)

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

**Joe Sadler** (Phil & Joan Gulley's friend)

**Daryl T Brown**

**Julie Kindle**

**Beth Sotkiewicz**

**Margie Wollitz** (Mary's twin sister)

**Brenda Sellers** (Linze Southwick's mom)

**Chris Gautier**

*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:*

**David and Jennifer Hodge**

**Charles and Leslieann Lee**

**Abdul Sulaiman & Nisreen Rasheed family**

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

**Mildred Kirchhoff** (Steve's mother)

**Alan & Helen Heuss** (Cindy Streitmeier's parents)

**Bill & Jo Maris** (Stacey Denny's parents)

**Jack Apple** (Joan Gulley's brother)

**Gage Boyd** (Margo Lawson's grandson)

## CLERK PLEASE

October 2022

The following highlights are from the September 18 Monthly Meeting, be sure to see the final minutes for details:

- For Phil, the month of August was not as productive as most, given his gall bladder removal and subsequent recovery. He is pleased to report feeling much better, and appreciates the well wishes and support of the Meeting during his illness and recovery.
- August was another good month for the treasury, expenses and revenue resulted in a net surplus of around \$5,800 for the month. Average weekly offering for August was up significantly relative to the year to date. Reserve funds reached 93% relative to our target of 75% of last year's expenses.
- Ministry and Counsel sponsored a highly successful ice cream social on the last Sunday in August. Around 200 people from around the country and the world have signed up for the Quakerism classes to be led by Max Carter. Due to the large audience, the committee is paying to expand our Zoom capacity from 100 to 500. In concert with the trustees, USFW, and the library committee, M&C has planned a Fairfield Sale/Books/Brunch for Oct. 15. Singing three hymns sometimes shortens the time available for silence, so the committee is suggesting we have only two hymns for a time, and then reevaluate the number of hymns after hearing comments from attenders.
- Trustees reported that surveyors from Plainfield have been working at the property as plans for the intersection continue in the development stage. Tom Farrington proposed an alternate to the current camera system used for the Zoom broadcast. If successful, it may replace the iPad as it offers more view options. Also, the modem has been moved from the office to the sound booth, thereby enhancing band width. General improvement have been made to landscaping, with tress trimmed, mulch spread beneath many bushes, and planting done along the south face of the building. A sale of items from the 1892 Meeting House will held on October 15. Items will be displayed beneath the entry canopy. A police chase and subsequent car wreck resulted in damage to fencing along Camby Road as well as damage to two headstones. Insurance agencies are working toward resolution of cost involved in repairs.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be October 16.

## FAIRFIELD MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION

September 18, 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 September 10 edition. I think this supports the remarks Phil made this morning regarding the creative skills humans have developed, to craft musical instruments in particular.

## **Carpenter, Watchmaker, Blacksmith, Bookbinder**

GEORGE MACDONALD

To become able to make something is, I think, necessary to thorough development. I would rather have a son of mine a carpenter, a watchmaker, a woodcarver, a shoemaker, a jeweler, a blacksmith, a bookbinder, than I would have him earn his bread as a clerk in a counting house. Not merely is the cultivation of operant faculty a better education in faculty, but it brings the man nearer to everything operant; humanity unfolds itself to him the readier; its ways and thoughts and modes of being grow the clearer to both intellect and heart....What advantage the carpenter of Nazareth gathered from his bench, is the inheritance of every workman, in proportion as he does divine, that is, honest work.

**Source:** *The Gospel in George MacDonald*

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

## **Green Team News**

"Our parks and preserves are not mere picnicking places. They are rich storehouses of memories and reveries. They are guides and counsels to the weary and faltering in spirit. They are bearers of wonderful tales to those who will listen; a solace to the aged and an inspiration to the young."

- Colonel Richard Lieber, founder of the Indiana State Park System

Our Fall Nature Walk will be held October 8<sup>th</sup> at Turkey Run State Park. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting-wide trip to one of our state parks and should be a great time to enjoy the trees as the leaves start changing color.

We know that time spent in nature does wonders for our physical and mental wellbeing. It can lower anxiety and breathing fresh air has been shown to boost our immune systems. It also reminds us of the miracles of creation we are gifted with on this wonderful planet and inspires us to protect them.

In 1900 fellow Hoosier, Richard Lieber, was just so inspired. After a tour of Yosemite National Park, he came back to Indiana and began a journey that eventually led to creation of the Indiana State Park System.

During Indiana's statehood centennial in 1916, Lieber encouraged Indiana Governor Samuel M. Ralston to start the State Parks Committee, with Lieber as chairman. The committee started acquiring parks, succeeding with McCormick's Creek and Turkey Run both opening on December 11, 1916, without any state funds (The Indianapolis Motor Speedway was a major private donor).

So, join us, if you're able, and enjoy time spent in one of Indiana's great state parks.

Visit our website and register for the walk by October 1<sup>st</sup> at the latest.

<https://www.fairfieldfriends.org/eventsignup>

Or email Jeff Gabbard at [jgabbard42@gmail.com](mailto:jgabbard42@gmail.com)

## October 2022 Calendar

- October 2**      **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**  
**Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am**  
**Writing Group 1-3:00pm**
- October 5**      **NA Support Group 7-8:00pm**
- October 6**      **Ministry and Counsel Committee 7-8:00pm**  
**Quakerism Class 7-8:00pm**  
**Peace and Social Justice 9:30-10:00am**  
**Fall Hike – Turkey Run State Park 10:00am-2:00pm**
- October 9**      **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**  
**Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am**  
**End-of-Season Garden Walk Gathering 11:30am-1:00pm**
- October 12**      **NA Support Group 7-8:00pm**  
**October 13**      **Quakerism Class 7-8:00pm**
- October 15**      **NA Support Group 7-8:00pm**
- October 16**      **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**  
**Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am**  
**Meeting for Business 7-8:00pm**
- October 18**      **Stewardship 7-8:00pm**
- October 19**      **NA Support Group 7-8:00pm**
- October 20**      **Quakerism Class 7-8:00pm**  
**Finance Committee 7-8:00pm**
- October 23**      **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**  
**Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am**
- October 24**      **USFW 11:00am-12:00pm**
- October 26**      **NA Support Group 7-8:00pm**
- October 29**      **Green Team 10-11:00am**
- October 30**      **Chat Room 9:30-10:30am**  
**Meeting for Worship 10:30-11:30am**



## Meeting Contacts

### Pastor

Phil Gulley  
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317-446-4923

### Choir Director

### Presiding Clerk of the Meeting

Randy Horton  
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### Outreach Committee

Stacey Denny  
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317-313-1171

### Caring Friends Committee

Becky McClung  
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317-690-0160

### United Society of Friends Women

Sarah Lookabill  
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317-839-4712

### 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

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

