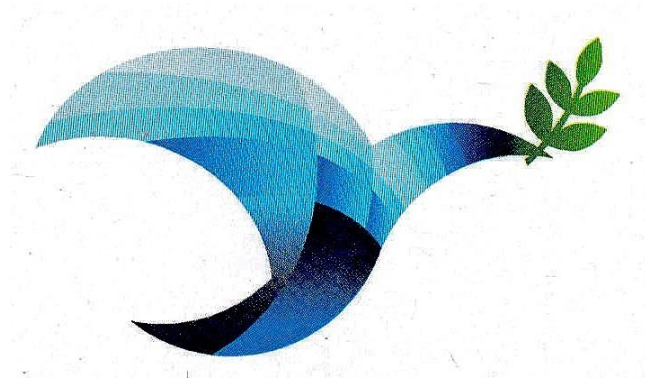


# THE FAIRFIELD FRIEND

*October 2021*



*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.org](http://www.FairfieldFriends.org)

**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR, PHIL GULLEY*****SEASONING***

Fall has arrived and summer is past, with many of my summer plans left undone. I had wanted to take a week-long motorcycle trip, but the delta variant bared its teeth and kept me home. I bought lumber from a sawmill to build a screenhouse, but lumber first must season so now the screenhouse won't be done until November when it's too cold to enjoy. I had hoped there might be time to clean the ditches at our farm, but that's still on the *Things I Need to Do* list, along with re-nailing the gutters, decluttering the garage, and clearing the fencerow.

Don't even get me started on the plans I had for Fairfield. By now, I wanted to be done with Covid, with everyone settled back in our meetinghouse and our online family joining us via screens. I had hoped to have the families of Family Promise safe and sound within our walls, and Sherry Rediger, our new resident therapist, plying her craft in our office space. Alas, all of that will have to wait.

I'm not very good at waiting, having grown accustomed to my desires being quickly met. Amazon now brings things to my door within a day, and a wealth of information is at my fingertips. Do I want to know when Saint Augustine was born, or the exhaust valve clearance for a 1971 BMW r75/5 motorcycle? Easy peasy. November 13, 354 and 0.008-inch, respectively.

Our impatience with waiting hinders our maturity, which usually depends upon our willingness and ability to let things season. Common to most religions is the belief in the power of waiting, whether it is the Israelites in the desert, Jesus in the wilderness, or George Fox in the English countryside. Seasoning takes time. Fifteen years ago, I planted a tree in our yard to shade our porch from the late-day sun. It has taken fifteen years, but we are finally able to enjoy the shadow it casts.

Not all our aspirations are realized in one season. Life is not a to-do list with events and duties neatly crossed off. Sometimes, lumber must dry. What is seasoning in your life these days? What are you waiting to have happen? Is it within your power to do it now? Or are you having to wait for an opportune moment? How are you handling this seasoning? Does it frustrate you or make you angry? Or are you cultivating patience and

**THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR, PHIL GULLEY (Cont'd)**

discipline? Are you using this time to lay the groundwork for other dreams? I never dreamed a pandemic would come along, pressing pause on my aspirations. But this time needn't be wasted. Other dreams and duties await. Maybe not the ones we had in mind, but important, nonetheless. What is seasoning in your life these days?

**MINISTRY AND COUNSEL**

Since we have gone back to Zoom in August, our services have also been on Facebook. Just as we had to adjust and fix problems with Zoom when we first started, we are finding that we also have to learn about Facebook livestreaming. The services are automatically recorded on Facebook, but Facebook also has the right not to post them, and that is what happened on Sept. 19. A video was used which the Meeting did not have the rights for, (YouTube did!) and therefore that service was not posted. As said, we are learning as we explore all this technology. Ministry and Counsel appreciate everyone's patience as these kinks are worked out. Usually, the recordings of the services will be available on Facebook if the Zoom or live feed on Facebook was missed. One can go to **Facebook.org/FairfieldFriendsMeeting** to view the recordings.

Treg Hopkins is training others to run Zoom, just as he trained others to man the camera when we were in-person. With several people trained, it is hoped that Treg will not be so tied down each Sunday, and we appreciate his spreading his knowledge to those excited to learn! Ministry and Counsel applaud all these people.

As this is being written, there is good news that the vaccine may be available in the next few months for children under the age of 12. If this can happen and the positivity rate in Indiana and Hendricks County can get under control as it did in early summer, we may be able to start in-person one of these days. Let's hope.

**CLERK PLEASE—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING CLERK****CLERK PLEASE****October, 2021**

The following highlights are drawn from minutes for the September 12 Monthly Meeting:

- Now that we have returned to Zoom meeting for worship for the foreseeable future, Phil will likely limit home visits to outdoor gatherings and make a special effort to connect with people via telephone and email.
- We continue to maintain good financial health. The current surplus of reserve funds will be offset by quarterly assessments for both Western Yearly Meeting and United Services Sharing, which are due in September and will likely be around \$4,000.
- Ministry & Council approved Hugh Hanlin's plan for a second level of the Quakerism class. The class will be on Zoom and will begin in late September. Sign up information for the class is in this issue of the newsletter on page 5.
- Ministry & Council approved a proposal from the Stewardship Committee, to have four talks per year to present information regarding Fairfield's giving. These would replace the message during Meeting for Worship, so Phil and Mike Furnish will meet to discuss dates.
- A reconditioned AED (automated external defibrillator) unit with a full warranty is available for \$995. A generous donation will allow this purchase to move forward. Debbie Draper reported that the company from which we plan to purchase the AED will change the batteries and check the unit periodically. They have also offered to conduct a training class on using the unit either in person or on Zoom. Debbie will contact the company to get specific details and communicate to the Meeting via the newsletter.
- Next Monthly Meeting will be October 10.

**CLERK PLEASE—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDING CLERK (Cont'd)**

## MONTHLY MEETING DEVOTION October 2021

Last month I introduced 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 one of my favorites from the month of August

**A Creation Full of Mystery**

*Wendell Berry*

We must learn to acknowledge that the creation is full of mystery; we will never entirely understand it. We must abandon arrogance and stand in awe. We must recover the sense of the majesty of creation, and the ability to be worshipful in its presence. For I do not doubt that it is only on the condition of humility and reverence before the world that our species will be able to remain in it.

Source: *The Art of the Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays*

We sometimes 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

**NEW DEFIBRILLATOR AND AED TRAINING**

We are happy to share that Fairfield will be getting a new to us, technologically current defibrillator soon! We will also be able to take advantage of training that comes along with the unit. Everyone is welcome to attend the training whether you have a medical background or not. Children who are old enough to understand can participate as well. Further information on the training will be in the next newsletter.

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR A QUAKERISM 102 CLASS

These sessions will examine early Quakers from these three perspectives:

1. Where did the concept of “The Light” originate and what did it mean for early Quakers? What were the strengths and challenges of attending to “The Light”?
2. What was the role of scripture for early Quakers and what was the nature of their relationship to other religious groups and churches at that time?
3. What were the ethical challenges for Quakers in living “in the light”? This question reflects the ethics of early Quakers and helps us to discern how they perceive themselves as creating “thy kingdom on earth.”

Examining and discussing these three questions helps us to understand the original Quaker experiences and perspectives. Our understanding into the origin of Quaker beliefs and experiences may provide insight into the challenges of contemporary Quakers attempting to “live in the light,” while experiencing similar challenges and successes as the first Quakers.

Six sessions are planned to occur every one or two weeks depending on other scheduled Fairfield meetings. The sessions will occur on Zoom, and a class of 10-15 might be best for discussions. You may also comment if the class needs to be split into two classes if the number of interested individuals exceeds 15-20 people, or if all individuals need to be in the same session. Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings are possible depending on your preferences. If you are interested, please email me at [hughhanlin@att.net](mailto:hughhanlin@att.net) with the day and time you prefer as well as the class size. The plan is to begin the sessions during the first week of October.

## FAMILY PROMISE

September 26 begins our Family Promise pledge week. We adjust to the challenges life throws our way, but no one blooms with the promise of stability quite like those who could not hang onto their home. They lived close to the financial edge, always in danger of toppling over with any financial crisis. Covid became one more topple factor. It rattled the stability of the Family Promise program and provided additional challenges as well as additional resources.

The churches that provided housing closed their doors and instead provided financial assistance for hotel rooms. It was a loss of community feel but much needed separation. The parents in our program who lost their jobs were anxiously re-employed. We adjusted to new food delivery rules and the supply continued. Never before has ‘need’ screamed louder than ‘want’.

I love Family Promise and our Meeting for how flexible everyone has been. We made sure our homeless are not in a tent city like the homeless in other counties. Family Promise continues to make sure each family has its situation addressed with individual focus and love.

Many Thanks for the journey,

I continue to learn.

Theresa Minton

## **CARING FRIENDS**

### **HOLD IN THE LIGHT LIST**

**Kayla Brown and Cara ( Lee Edmondson's co-worker & her cousin)**

**Mary Louise Cardwell**

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

**Family of Karisa Brown (Treg Hopkin's friend)**

**Betty Strietelmeier (Mark's mother)**

**Alan and Helen Huess (Cindy Strietelmeier's parents)**

**Nancy Messer**

**Mary Dooley**

**Brett Stewart**

**Daryl T. Brown**

**Julie Kindle**

**Patty Bowling**

**Charles Lee (Leslieann's husband)**

**Beth Sotkiewicz**

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

**Jennifer Hodge**

**Joni Leverett**

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

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

**David Hodge**

**David & Bobbie Garver (Cindy Hurst's friends)**

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

**Chris Gautier**

**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

October
Michael Warner (10/01)
John Pierce (10/02)
Helene Reyburn (10/02)
Georges Gandolfo (10/05)
Thomas Duran (10/05)
Brett & Jo Heald ((10/05)
Jonas Stewart (10/14)
Madalyn Cunningham (10/17)
Christian Gautier (10/21)
Bella Lucas (10/24)
Robert Mork & Jill Wiley (10/24)
GeorgeAnne Baker (10/27)
Lee Comer (10/27)
Sean Horton (10/27)
Jay & Elaine Hackett (10/27)
Steven Blacketer (10/28)
Cathy & Carl Lucas (10/29)
Ronald Frye (10/31)

November
Emily Lucas (11/05)
Madalyn Hesson (11/06)
William Smith (11/07)
Laura Day (11/15)
Rich & Joni Hendren (11/15)
Jacob Swift (11/16)
Terry Denbo (11/19)
Rob & Cynthia Stonerock (11/19)
Russ & Ginger Arnold (11/20)
Jasmine Swift (11/21)
Sue Roe (11/24)
Larry Hesson (11/25)
Levi Lucas (11/26)
Michael Chenoweth (11/27)
Michael Furnish (11/29)



## MEETING CONTACTS

<u><b>Pastor:</b></u> <b>Phil Gulley</b> Philip@philipgulley.com	317-446-4923
<u><b>Presiding Clerk of the Meeting:</b></u> <b>Randy Horton</b> randyhorton4251@sbcglobal.net	317-839-9682
<u><b>Recording Clerk:</b></u> <b>Lynne Durocher</b> Ld091449@yahoo.com	317-888-7242
<u><b>Treasurers:</b></u> <b>Mike Chenoweth</b> mocnenoweth@gmail.com  <b>Karen Heald</b> healdrobt@att.net	317-445+0387  317-696-6133
<u><b>Membership Coordinators:</b></u> <b>Larry &amp; Carol Cordray</b> daffodil327@hotmail.com	317-372-2777 317-372-1678
<u><b>Bulletin:</b></u> <b>Tom Farrington</b> thomasfarrington1946@gmail.com	317-839-3902
<u><b>Newsletter (info due by 20<sup>th</sup> of the month)</b></u> <b>Cindy Hurst</b> cshurst@comcast.net	317-402-1995
<u><b>United Society of Friends Women:</b></u> <b>Sarah Lookabill</b> slookabill@att.net	317-839-4712
<u><b>Fairfield Men's Fellowship:</b></u> <b>Ralph Baker</b> baker7298@sbcglobal.net	317-831-3526
<u><b>Outreach Committee:</b></u> <b>Stacey Denny</b> hdenny123@att.net	317-313-1171
<u><b>Caring Friends Committee:</b></u> <b>Becky McClung</b> rgmcclung@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

October--Monthly Activities

<u>Sunday (09/26)</u>		<u>Sunday (10/03)</u>		<u>Sunday (10/10)</u>		<u>Sunday (10/17)</u>		<u>Sunday (10/24)</u>	
Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am
Finance	11:45 am	Outreach	11:45 am	Monthly Meeting for Business	11:45 am	Write Group	1:00 pm	Finance	11:45 am
		Write Group	1:00 pm						
<u>Monday (09/27)</u>								<u>Monday (10/25)</u>	
USFW	10:00 am							USFW	10:00 am
						<u>Tuesday (10/19)</u>			
						All Clerks Meeting	7:00 pm		
		<u>Wednesday (10/06)</u>				<u>Wednesday (10/20)</u>			
		Trustees	6:30 pm			Newsletter Articles Due			
		<u>Thursday (10/07)</u>		<u>Thursday (10/14)</u>					
		Ministry & Counsel	7:00 pm	Meeting for Eating	11:30 am				
<u>Saturday (10/02)</u>				<u>Saturday (10/16)</u>				<u>Sunday (10/31)</u>	
Yarn Works	2:00 pm			Peace and Social Justice	9:30 am			Fifth Sunday	

*Fairfield Friends host  
Family Promise  
September 26*

November—Monthly Activities

<u>Sunday (10/31)</u>		<u>Sunday (11/07)</u>		<u>Sunday (11/14)</u>		<u>Sunday (11/21)</u>		<u>Sunday (11/28)</u>	
Fifth Sunday		Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am	Meeting for Worship	10:30 am
		Outreach	11:45 am	Monthly Meeting for Business	11:45 am	Write Club	1:00 pm	Finance	11:45 am
		Write Club	1:00 pm						
						<u>Monday (11/22)</u>			
						USFW	10:00 am		
<u>Wednesday (11/03)</u>								<u>Wednesday (12/01)</u>	
Trustees	6:30 pm							Trustees	6:30 pm
<u>Thursday (11/04)</u>		<u>Thursday (11/11)</u>				<u>Thursday (11/25)</u>			
Ministry & Counsel	7:00 pm	Meeting for Eating	11:30 am			THANKSGIVING			
				<u>Saturday (11/20)</u>					
<u>Saturday (011/06)</u>				<u>Newsletter Articles Due</u>				<u>Saturday (12/04)</u>	
Yarn Works	2:00 pm			Peace & Social Justice	9:30 am			Yarn Works	2:00 pm