

Volume 56, Number 3

Whittier First Friends Church

Third Month, 2017

How Does Your Garden Grow?

Friends Cultivate Hope for the Present and the Future

Never has Quaker advocacy been needed more in our country. That's why four representatives from First Friends will join hundreds of other young people in Washington DC for Friends Committee on National Legislation Spring Lobby Weekend March 18 to 21.

Young adults Jasmine Sturr and Weston Van Dorn will attend this annual event with Young Friends Fellowship members Kat Ryder and Bella Sturr along with Mel Sturr. Spring Lobby Weekend presents the opportunity to take part in the conversation with lawmakers as advocates for a more just and moral society. This year's questions are:

- How will you provide health care to the 22 million people at risk?
- Are you willing to stand up against the oncoming cuts to core programs that keep people out of poverty?
- Will Congress institute big tax cuts for the wealthy while simultaneously dismantling the safety net that millions of working families rely on?

We look forward to an energetic report from our representatives!



Hoot Williams, Jaimie Mudd and Matt Hisrich of Earlbam School of Religion brought us a challenging message at Meeting for Worship on January 29.



Wait—is that actually SNOW? See page 4 for details.

Missions Bloom and Multiply

It all started as Monthly Mission Monday, one night of the month when Friends would gather for a compact project that could be completed in just an hour or two.

We soon realized we needed more scheduling flexibility to achieve our goals, so we dropped the Monday and became Monthly Mission last year opening up the other six days of the week to support a ministry in our local community, such as the Thanksgiving food distribution at the Interfaith Food Center.

Now it's become clear that our enthusiasm cannot be contained to just one week or even one month, so we're evolving again. This year, Friends will see multiple opportunities to participate in Missions made up of multiple weeks and even multiple months. This will give Friends even more ways to contribute to our ongoing projects.

—Lynda Ladwig

A CHRISTIAN PEOPLE CALLED TO LISTEN, GATHERED TO SEEK PEACE AND SENT FOR TH TO SERVE

Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

Dear Friends, It's an early deadline month for *The Living Light,* and news has been a little slow coming in for the Friendly Fare. Therefore, as I often threaten to do, you get to hear about my family this month. After a couple of years of saving up, I was so excited that my family (finally) got annual passes to Disneyland again. It was one of those milestone birthdays for me, and I really wanted to celebrate in a big way. It is really fun to anticipate family outings together. Several years ago, I shared a four-generation picture in front of the White Rabbit's door. Here is an updated version of that.



Friends Celebrate: Anne & Harry Eggleton have wonderful news this month! Their son, Micah Eggleton just got engaged to Julie Schaffer. They met in college at UC Davis, and have been together for six years. He made a very romantic proposal at the park next to the Golden Gate Bridge. Anne says they are hoping for a summer wedding. Stacy Bouchard Day and husband Adam have been honored with a couple of baby showers for their upcoming twins. We at the Meeting are excited for the family and are looking forward to a time after the babies are born to celebrate their arrival. We'll have more information about a shower at First Friends in the future.

Friends About Town: Ashley Ryder's U14 All Star soccer team finished a rain-shortened season of four games with two wins & two ties. They were the only undefeated team of the eight teams but because of the point system they ended up with a second place medal. Congratulations! Loletta Barrett has been dog sitting for Bill Peterson & Gail Benson. We are keeping Bill in our prayers for peace, comfort and discernment so they can take Maggie home again soon.



Minister's Note: Maggie is not on the bed. She is not allowed on the bed. It is a magical photographic illusion that she is on the bed.

School and Work News: After 18 years of mom duties and volunteering, **Mindy Van Dorn** has rejoined the paying work world. She had her orientation at the corporate offices of Enterprise Holdings in Orange and has started at the Fontana hub as a part-time driver taking rental cars and "retired" cars to and from the hub, rental agencies, airports, and dealerships all across Southern California. Mindy will be driving three days a week. She anticipates becoming an expert on using a GPS as well as all of our freeways. She says it has been really nice to see our beautiful green SoCal countryside (after all of our rain.) Here's to a new adventure!

Friends Remember: We receive many lovely notes from Friends that like to stay in touch. A Christmas card from Phil & Liz Ellis included a note, "your kindness in keeping us connected to First Friends is so much appreciated." They included a picture of Kirsten Taylor, their oldest granddaughter, who graduated with honors from high school last May.



Friends Travel: Dave & Iris Harris are attending Marina's performance of Mimi in "La Boheme" with Bend Opera on March 10. They will also be enjoying old friends and family while they're there.

Friends Sharing News: Help to keep the Friendly Fare going. Email me a quick note and tell me your news. Send to Lea at lealouw@gmail.com, or deliver to me at church on Sunday. See you next month! We don't have any pictures with *The Living Light* this month. Help us continue our tradition: "*The Living Light Travels*." Remember, your submissions are welcome and needed.

This Month in Meeting for Worship

| March 5 | Jan Wood brings the message <i>What's In Your Hand?</i> |
|----------|---|
| | Exodus 4:2 |
| March 12 | Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Be a Blessing</i> |
| | Genesis 12:1-9, John 3:1-8 |
| March 19 | Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Why Samaria?</i> |
| | John 4:5-42 |
| March 26 | Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Jump in the Pool!</i> |
| | John 9:1-41 |



At Monthly Meeting on February 12, we approved the budget for 2017. There are concerns and continuing discussion regarding how to

balance the needs of our operational budget with income projections. There continues to be a sizeable gap, and we ask all Friends to give prayerful thought to long term solutions. We are considering scheduling unprogrammed meetings for worship on weekdays as needs arise. Friends are requested to be attentive to scheduling events using Event Registration Forms (also known as "pink sheets"). Submitting these forms assures communication and smooth operations in our Meeting.

Monthly Meeting for March will be March 12. Mindy Van Dorn will be the chef.

Quaker Forum is Saturday, March 4

Call the church office if you haven't made your reservation.

To help prepare us for the Forum, facilitator Jan Wood has suggested we take some time to think about our own abilities and desires. A guide to our own "giftedness" can be found in this issue's insert.

We welcome and encourage your comments as well as your contributions and photos for inclusion in *The Living Light*.
Kindly send your email to Elisabeth Elliot at communiquaker@gmail.com.

Loletta's Lines

Where are your growing edges? Some our young Friends are growing physically, and all their "specifications" are constantly changing. Some of us more "chronologically



advanced" Friends are still growing physically too; and fighting it, every step and every bite! Some of us are growing intellectually; studying, reading, acquiring new skills, doing word and memory puzzles, and engaging in academic or political discussions. Some of us are growing emotionally; learning to listen and empathize more with others, seeking and creating new relationships. Some of us are growing spiritually; engaging in devotions, praying, listening to God, pushing ourselves to walk ever closer to the path Jesus revealed.

In Ephesians 3:16-19 and 4:15, we find verses that encourage us to grow individually and as a meeting. "I pray that...you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love...that you may have the power to comprehend...what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God...speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into ... Christ...as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love."

Being sent forth to serve can mean a lot of things. It can mean we grow and develop new musclesliterally. We get tired and sore, but it's a good tired and sore. It can mean being challenged and pushed and pulled into new shapes of thought and action. Sometimes we even make mistakes we can learn from. It is meant to transform us and nurture our growth. We cannot transform the world into kingdom of Heaven on earth without growing into who we were created to be. It will change us. Where are you growing? Where is our meeting growing?





YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

On the last weekend of January, Lynda, my dad Mel, Kat, Ashley, Anathea, Lara, and I all joined Don and Shirley Votaw at their cabin in Lake Arrowhead. This was the first year in a very long time that we went up to the mountains and there was a LOT of snow. For anyone who has not been to the Votaws' cabin, it is on a hill and driving, ice, hills, and the

church van do not go together very well. This particular ice is called black ice, which means that it is formed into the ground and is very hard to melt. After a few attempts, my dad bravely drove up the first hill but we could not make it up the second hill. So they put the tire chains on the van and made another attempt. It still didn't work. We ended up parking in the neighbor's driveway because they were out of town. It was around 10 o'clock and we all were safe and inside the cabin ready for the next day's adventures.

When we woke up the next morning there was no way that we were going to try to get out of their driveway to head out to find some activity. But because there was so much snow where we were, we decided to just go sledding nearby. We found a hill and joined another family in some serious sledding. They built up a sled run so we were able to speed down the hill and have a ton of fun. Even though I fell off the sled every time I tried going down, I still had a great time. When we got back to the cabin, we ate lunch and decided we wanted to go to the Lake Arrowhead Village. Because we weren't able to take the church van, Don allowed us to take his car.





News from Whittier Friends School

Last month, Whittier Friends School had an exciting adventure when three third graders from China joined us in our classroom for 13 days. They joined our elementary students in our usual class activities, such as writing, math, reading groups, science and PE, while working on improving their English language skills. The highlight of their visit was our Chinese New Year celebration, when our visiting

students brought doughnut treats and made a red paper fish good luck charm for each of the children in our class. It was exciting getting to know children from somewhere so far away, and the children enjoyed learning how life in Beijing is both the same and different than life here in Whittier.



Be sure to support our fundraisers this month. Eat at Buffalo Wild Wings at Whittwood anytime until May, inform them you are part of "Team H" and proceeds will be donated to our school. On March 22, take a flier to Chili's at the Quad, and proceeds will be donated to our school. And on March 18, our school will be joining in with the Historic Homes Yard Sale, so be sure to donate items and come shop the large sale. Finally, our annual See's Candy sale is currently taking preorders. These preorders will be delivered in April, when we will also have some chocolate available after Meeting for Worship for sale.

We have three important events in March. Friday, March 3 is Grandparents Day. We look forward to the children celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday with these favorite family members and volunteers. (If you would like to come and help, we can always use more "grandparents"). Then Wednesday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m. is our school's Open House. All children, preschool through sixth grade, will present their science and history projects to visiting family members and friends. Be sure to come so you can see what amazing projects our students have been working on. Lastly, on Saturday March 25, the children in fourth grade and up will take their history projects to the county-wide competition of National History Day at Azusa Pacific University.—Cassie Caringella

March 2017

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Schedule for Sundays Unprogrammed Worship—9:30a First Day Classes—9:30 a Meeting for Worship—11:00a | | | 1 6:30p Business & Finance Committee | 2 7:00p Choir Rehearsal | 3 9:00a WFS Grandparents Day 5:30p Family Movie Night | 4 8:30a Quaker Forum |
| 5 | 6 1:30p Writing Class | 7 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 9:00a Trustees Meeting 7:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal 8:00p M&C | 8 6:00p AFFN | 9 7:00p Choir Rehearsal | 10 | 11 |
| 12 12:15p Monthly Meeting | 13 Friendly Fare Deadline 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class | 14 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal | 15 Living Light Deadline 6:00p WFS Science & History Fair | 16 7:00p Choir Rehearsal | 17 | 18 4:00p Chorale Bel Canto Concert |
| 19 12:30p Christian Education Committee 3:00p Beth Strader Memorial Service | 20 1:30p Writing Class 6:00p Monthly Mission | 21 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal | 22 Editors Compose Living Light | 23 7:00p Choir Rehearsal | 24 | 25 |
| 26 12:15p JHF/YFF Fellowship Lunch & Movie 12:15p Music Committee 12:30p Outreach Committee | 27 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class | 28 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Bell Choir Rehearsal 8:00p M&C | 29 Living Light Folding 6:30p Business & Finance (April Meeting) | 30 7:00p Choir Rehearsal | 31 10:00a Rio Hondo Symphony Guild Concert Preview | |



| Sara Adams Carole Borries Jack Carlisle Helen Carlisle Micah Eggleton | Evan Mooney Rose Nedrow Debi Nelson Sabron Newton Lee Riley | If we birthc (and We're |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| James Garland Eric Haynes Debbie Hays Sheri Hendrix Pati Jackson-Johnson Susan Marshall Lauren Marshburn Zermeno Jonathan Moody | Sue Settlage Lara Wemmerus Gerry Wolfe Emily Wood Dan Wright | ked calen plea w |

If we've missed your birthday, we apologize (and happy birthday)! We're working hard to keep our birthday calendar up-to-date so please let us know if we're forgetting anyone. Thank you!

FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 7





6:30 p.m. in FELLOWSHIP HALL Free admission and popcorn Open to the community Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult

Donations of canned goods for the Interfaith Food Center are appreciated

| On Our Calendar | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Easter Breakfast | Sunday, April 16 |
| Shelter's Right Hand 5K Walk | Saturday, April 22 |
| Music Sunday | Sunday, April 23 |
| Junior High Fellowship/ Young Friends Fellowship | Sunday, April 23 and Sunday, May 7 |
| Whittier Friends School Spring Event | Saturday, April 29 |
| Founders Day | Saturday, May 6 |
| Serve Weekend | May 20 and 21 |
| New Century Singers concert | Sunday, May 21 |
| Jeanette Wong concert | Sunday, June 4 |

Youth Fellowship continued from page 4

Overall, this was a very eventful trip and we would all, as a group, like to thank Lynda and my dad for taking us and Don and Shirley for allowing us to stay in their cabin for the weekend.

—Bella Sturr

Youth Fellowship meets at Rise of Meeting on Sunday, March 26 for lunch and a movie.



Join us in Fellowship Hall on March 20 for a project to be announced.

April begins a month-long project for the benefit of Shelter's Right Hand.



Friends United Meeting—Friends United Meeting has successfully negotiated the purchase of new property on the Southside of Belize City. At the juncture of a Southside residential area and an industrial port neighborhood, the new property has two structures totaling over 8,800 square feet of interior space, and will house an expanded school, a worship space, a community center, staff housing, and offices. With the appointment of Oscar Mmbali as pastoral minister for Belize, foundational pieces of FUM's vision for an expanded ministry in Belize are moving into place. Praise God that after at least three years of searching for suitable property within the Southside neighborhood, God has provided just the right space for a flourishing Friends ministry!

Friends World Committee for Consultation—Last chance to register for the 2017 Section Meeting in Stony Point, New York March 23 – 26. Workshop options include: Learning Spanish and English from Friends, Becoming a Better FWCC Ambassador, Quaker Social Change Ministry, Stewardship Ministry, and Follow-Up to the Pisac Sustainability Minute. **www.fwcc.org**.



ALL FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Come hear some good short stories read by our own Monday "Memoir Writing Group" led by Gwen Woirhaye at All Friends Fellowship Night on Wednesday, March 8. There will be a variety of

stories which are always interesting to hear.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with the program to follow at 7 p.m. It has been our custom each March to have an Irish menu of corned beef and vegetables as well as a vegetarian option. These main dishes will be prepared by Mary Marshburn. Drinks and bread will also be provided. Sign up in Founders Court to bring a generous salad or dessert. Please bring \$1 per person with food or \$3 per person if you do not bring food but will be joining us for dinner. There is no charge for children 12 or under with their parents. All are welcome.

—Ted Marshburn

AFFN Travels Into a Busy World

Did you know that bees must visit two million flowers to make one pound of honey? This and many other intriguing facts about honey bees were related at All Friends Fellowship Night on February 8 to a rapt audience of about 30. The speaker, Bob Cymbolin, knows the habits of bees intimately—he is an amateur beekeeper. His unique hobby began eight years ago after a beekeeper friend interested him in bee culture and honey production.

Bob and his wife, Elizabeth, own a large property in La Habra Heights, where it is legal to keep beehives (it is not in Whittier). They keep several hives with a population of many thousands of bees. Bob sells a portion of his honey yield, but gives much of it away, and also rents hives of pollinating bees to farmers, including almond growers in the Central Valley.

Bee culture is quite a complex art and science. One must know a lot about these seemingly very intelligent creatures in order to make a successful habitat for



them. Bob did a lot of research before ordering a functional swarm of several thousand bees from a mailorder supply company in Georgia, along with the essential components of a hive. The bees and their new

came almost home overnight. Bob then bought a queen bee (twice the size of a bee) from worker another source. The bees cannot function without an acceptable queen, who may be raised by the hive or imported. A foreign queen must be introduced to her new followers gradually, with initial concealment until her specific aroma can permeate the hive and become familiar. This



can take days, and even then the workers may reject and kill her. Under the leadership of a successful queen, the workers begin to fly out and scout for nectar-rich flowers.

Honey bees have a complex, little understood navigation system. Scouts sally forth, make a few passes around the hive to memorize landmarks, and explore up to three miles from the hive. When they return, they tell the collecting workers where to go by a body-motion sign language. The pollen brought back mixes with enzymes to become food for the worker bees, their queen, and a small number of male drones whose only function is to mate with the Queen. 95% of the bees are female workers, but only the queen reproduces. She can lay up to 1,500 eggs per day, each the size of a grain of rice. She deposits each egg in one of the separate hexagonal wax cells of the honeycomb, where it will be tended by nurse bees until it hatches.

Bob brought with him a complete beekeeper's outfit, with gloves and face mask of dense netting. He also showed some of the beekeeper's tools, like the smoke-generator repellant. He entertained us with anecdotes of the problems (and sometimes perils!) of his fascinating hobby, and handed out information on his own bee farm, a bee trivia sheet, and small souvenir bottles of his honey.

Friends dining on a superlative pre-lecture potluck organized by Mary Marshburn also enjoyed the Valentine's Day motif of the table decorations.

-Bob Newton

Remembering Beth Graham Strader

Elizabeth Hooton Richie was born in the family home in Brewster, New York on October 5, 1930. The house was called Yeomanoak, after the giant oak tree in the front yard. Elisha Roberts Richie, a Quaker doctor, brought his wife Dorothy Dilks to raise their family and establish his practice on the first floor of the house. Elizabeth, always called Beth, was their third child, after Alice Jane and Douglas Hill.



Beth attended Olney Friends School and Earlham College before she moved with her parents to La Habra Heights and attended and graduated from Whittier College. She received her degree in nursing from California Hospital School of Nursing and the University of Southern California in 1954.

The Richies became members of First Friends,

where they continued their long and active service with the American Friends Service Committee. They were famous for their hospitality as well as their social-ability and soon made many friends in the community, including John Graham and his brother Bill, who owned the Chevron dealership on the corner of Euclid and Whittier Blvd. Dorothy told Beth that if she was as smart as she claimed, she would settle down and realize that John was the man for her. John and Beth were married at First Friends in 1957 and moved into a ranch house in La Habra where they raised their daughters Elisabeth and Lori. Both girls attended Sunday school at First Friends and they remain active in the Meeting today.

In La Habra, Beth began her career as a chronic retirer. She served as a nurse in private practice and at several hospitals including Whittier Presbyterian (now PIH) before retiring to become what could be called a housewife and stay-at-home mom, except she was hardly ever home. She was a volunteer librarian in the school district, sang in the choir at First Friends, was a longtime member of the music committee (son-in-law Michael currently continues that tradition), was a devoted P.E.O. member, and was passionately active with the Republican Women of Orange County.

In 1972, she retired from being a housewife and became the first woman elected to the La Habra City Council. During her first two terms, she concentrated on several issues including the development of local business and the arts community. She co-founded the La Habra Cultural Arts Council, out of which came the Children's Museum and the Depot Playhouse. She was half-serious when she said she wanted arts in La Habra because she was tired of driving her girls to Whittier.

While on City Council, Beth served as Mayor in 1976 (the exciting bicentennial year) and 1980, and partnered with John for Lions Club activities (especially the Corn Festival), frequently bringing their girls along for the ride. She was named La Habra Citizen of the Year in 1976. John's license plate read LH 1ST MN.

After retiring from the City Council in 1980, Beth was appointed to the Orange County Grand Jury. She also served on the board of the Depot Playhouse and even appeared on stage from time to time.

John passed away suddenly in 1985 and the following years were rough for the family. Beth found comfort in supporting her daughters' activities and in sports as a rabid USC, Rams and Lakers fan. She then retired from being retired and was elected once again to the La Habra City Council in 1988 and again serving as Mayor.

Beth retired from the City Council in 1990 to marry Bob Strader, the widower of her best friend Jean and a good friend of John's in the Lions Club as well. They were married at First Friends. Together, they sold both of their homes in La Habra and built a brand new house in Willits, California, where they lived near Bob's family until his death. She retired from being a Lakers fan and became an even-more-rabid fan of the Golden State Warriors. Her bridge game remained legendary.

Upon her return to southern California, Beth was overjoyed to be among her First Friends family once again and be reunited with her daughters, even though they had both evolved into bleeding heart liberals in her absence. She was mostly soothed, however, that they inherited her excellent taste in husbands.

Beth retired from a productive, fun-loving and envelope-pushing life on January 14, 2017 after a long struggle with congestive heart failure and Alzheimer's disease. She is survived by Elisabeth and Lori, their husbands Michael Elliot and Bruce Crocker, and Bob's family: son Steve and his wife Ruth, son Scott, daughter Diane and her husband Darryl Clifton and four acquired grandchildren. Before their deaths, Beth and Bob were in complete agreement as to their final resting places. Bob is with Jean at Memory Gardens in Brea, and Beth is with John at Rose Hills.

A memorial celebration will be held at First Friends, the Quaker Meeting she loved, on Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m., followed by afternoon tea in Fellowship Hall. Return Service Requested Postmaster: send address changes to: The Living Light First Friends Church 13205 Philadelphia St Whittier, CA 90601–4303

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Save the Date(s) and Come to Wichita

Friends United Meeting "Stoking the Fire" Claiming Spiritual Power for Transformative Action July 9 through 12 followed by the Triennial Gathering July 12 through 16.

| [One] kindled soul may be the agent whereby the slumbering embers within are quickened into a living flame. — Thomas Kelly The Eternal Promise |
|--|
| a living flame |
| 31st Triennial Gathering of Friends United Meeting Friends University, Wichita, Kansas July 12-16, 2017 |
| Speakers: Miriam Were, Wess Daniets, Jan Wood and Colin Saxton |



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Please remember in prayer those Friends unable to worship with us regularly.

Peggy Anderson Audrey & Carlos Bailey Helen & Jack Carlisle Phil & Liz Ellis Rose Nedrow Maureen Russell Vi Smith Ami Troedsson Sue Walker Gerry Wolfe