

THE LIVING LIGHT

For the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.

Ephesians 5:9

Volume 58, Number 3

Whittier First Friends Church

March, 2019

Opening Our Doors

Our community is about to get wider.

After much prayer, Beth Shalom of Whittier has entered a six-month lease agreement with First Friends to share our church facilities. The agreement was approved at February Monthly Meeting. They will officially move in on March 27 and their first Sabbath worship will be Friday evening, March 29. Visitors are most welcome at all services.

The congregation recently sold its property in Whittier. They are currently looking into acquiring a smaller building, and we are so happy to welcome them while they search for a permanent home.

Beth Shalom will hold Sabbath worship in the Meeting House on Friday evenings at 7:30 p.m. They will also have use of Fellowship Hall and establish their full-time offices in the Christian Education building in the space formerly used for yearly meeting and the counseling center. They will also use our facilities on occasional Saturdays and during the week for events.

As they say on their website (bethshalomofwhittier.net), Beth Shalom is a “modern, dynamic, and inviting Synagogue practicing a warm and welcoming service...services blend liturgy and music, to draw people in with the sounds and motions of Judaism, in a most inspirational and innovating fashion.”

When entering the Meeting House starting in late March, Friends will see an ark, a large pulpit and some other furniture. These items are all portable and will go in a designated storage area on the side of the room. While using our facilities, Beth Shalom employs a discreet security staff.

We are carefully entering dates and times that Beth Shalom will be sharing our facilities into our master calendar. Please make sure to check with Mary Boltz before you schedule any events to make sure that there are no conflicts with times or rooms.

Beth Shalom has served the area for over 60 years and is currently served by clergy and cantor Hazzan Lance Tapper. Lila Held is president of the board of directors.

We will extend a warm welcome to members of Beth Shalom at a celebration to be scheduled in the near future.



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

Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

Dear Friends, It's been a cold wet winter for us in SoCal who enjoy our normally warm winter months. In February, **Joanne Camp** was seen showing friends a photo of their family cabin and grounds at Lake Arrowhead, completely covered with snow.

Friends Celebrate: **Julia Weitkamp** welcomed her new baby sister **Natalie Erin Weitkamp**, born

January 18. Mom **Crystal Cush-Weitkamp** is recovering well. Happy Julia is the great-granddaughter of **Martha Cush** and loves being a big sister. Natalie will be dedicated at First Friends Church in late spring. **Lily Marie Harris** was born February 5 in North Carolina—ten fingers, ten toes and absolutely perfect in every way. Proud parents are **Alyssa & Clint Harris** and ecstatic grandparents, **Iris & Dave Harris**, are busy preparing a pilgrimage in mid-March.



Many at First Friends signed birthday cards for **Carlos Bailey**, who turned 105 on Jan. 27. **Loletta Barrett** stopped by to deliver the cards, along with ice cream to enjoy with the relatives celebrating the occasion with him.

Friends About Town: **Deanna Woirhaye** and her fellow photographer **Louis Rico** are currently exhibiting their Whittier specific photography at the Ruth B. Shannon Center for the Performing Arts. The show, "In the Beginning," can be viewed 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through April 5, with a reception on March 29th from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Deanna also exhibited new photographic works at the 59th Hillcrest Festival of

Fine Arts in February. **Tom Van Dorn** was honored by the American Red Cross Desert to the Sea Region recognizing local individuals and organizations committed to creating safer, stronger communities and providing help when disaster strikes. Tom received the Gift of Life Hero Award for supporting the life-saving mission of the American Red Cross through blood and platelet donations and inspiring others to give blood and platelets. He is one of four people in Southern California to give over 1,000 platelets since 1997. The selection committee said they were deeply moved by his story, commitment and dedication as a platelet donor. Tom is already in the Blood Donor Hall of Fame.

Friends Visit: **Marci Vaden** visited her sister **Gwen Woirhaye** and other family in Whittier. She reports that a peahen has made her home on the property of the Woirhaye family, at the edge of the Whittier Hills. **Steve Bates** along with three other teachers brought 17 students from Denmark this winter for a "U.S. Road Trip Exploring the Southwest." Steve was able to stay behind for a week of planting succulent plants at his mom's, his sister's and around the CE building.



Friends Remember: **Maureen Russell** passed to new life on Valentine's Day. Please remember her family and friends in your prayers.

School and Work News: **Anathea Woirhaye** took third place for directing a one-act play at the Orange County School of the Arts New Play Festival. The creative writing conservatory worked with the acting conservatory to create the top eight best one-act plays written by students. **Ellie Bewley** has been busy attending meetings of the Earlham College Board, which has just announced Dr. Anne Houtman as Earlham's first woman president, taking office on July 1. Dr. Houtman is a graduate of Pomona College, UCLA, and Oxford University. She is married to Will Prouty, has two adult children, and she is a Quaker. **Darrell Warren** is a member of the Manzanar Committee which has been busy planning upcoming commemorative events.

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

Loletta's Lines



'Tis the Season- of Lent. Doesn't quite roll off the tongue like, "Tis the season to be jolly." Growing up, I didn't see any good to Lent. All it meant was different food. On Friday, every church (Eastern Orthodox town) had a fish fry, or we ate fish sticks. That was good for my mother who observed Lent on Friday, maybe for relief from cooking, but not me. I didn't like fish; fresh fish bones stuck in my throat, and even fish sticks tasted... fishy.

Later, I discovered the forty days of Lent recall the wilderness experience of Jesus. There are no fish involved, in fact Jesus fasted forty days and nights. Then Satan dared him to turn stones into bread and challenge God to rescue him from a jump. Finally, Satan got straight to the point and invited Jesus to trade worshipping God for him.

We might not see it, but these are things we wrestle with as well. Just to eat; we create or work jobs that do not pay a living wage, create unfair economic competition and damage the environment. We challenge God when bad things happen because of our own poor decisions, or when we are randomly affected by life, thinking somehow God should make us immune. And trading worshipping God for Satan is the worst. Oh not the red pointy-ear-and-tail guy, but green paper or the NYSE, a fancier automobile or spouse, flashy bling, brunch instead of worship, or keeping my family smarter, richer and ahead of the Joneses. (Some of whom are loving, church-going people.)

But Satan should have known he was going to lose this competition. Jesus was hungry, thirsty and needed a bath, but he was walking with God the whole time! That's the good news of Lent; we are invited to find a way to take more time to walk with God. By the way, we don't have to fast or give something up—especially chocolate! And the fish fry also included potato-pierogi, sauerkraut, and cheese! And fish sticks can be paired with mac and cheese, and the catsup bottle circulated freely to wash them down. Which explains why I can't eat mac and cheese without catsup. But that's a culinary rabbit hole for another day.

March 3	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Shining With Light</i> Exodus 34: 29, Luke 9:28-31, Sirach 27:1-12, 2 Corinthians 3:17-4:2
March 10	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>What Can We Assume?</i> Deuteronomy 26:1-11, Psalm 91
March 17	Lynda Ladwig brings the message <i>Face Time</i> Exodus 34:27-35
March 24	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Turn and Look Around</i> Luke 13:1-9, I Corinthians 10:12
March 31	Earlham School of Religion Sunday Angeline Carpenter brings the message



At Monthly Meeting for February on February 10, we announced our lease agreement with Temple Beth Shalom (see page 1). Plans are being made for sharing a meal with them later this spring. We accepted 2018 annual reports for all committees. The Envisioning Group has begun their work. We are considering how our significant outreach funds will be distributed throughout the year.

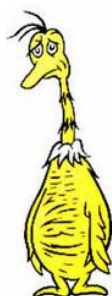
Monthly Meeting for March is March 10.

Can You Teach a Sneech?



Our monthly intergenerational Sunday School session will feature Dr. Suess' *The Sneeches* on Sunday, March 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Sharpless Lounge.

Loletta Barrett will read the story and facilitate discussion of how the tale reflects the Quaker testimony of equality, the dividing lines in our society and living together peacefully regardless of our external differences.



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.

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

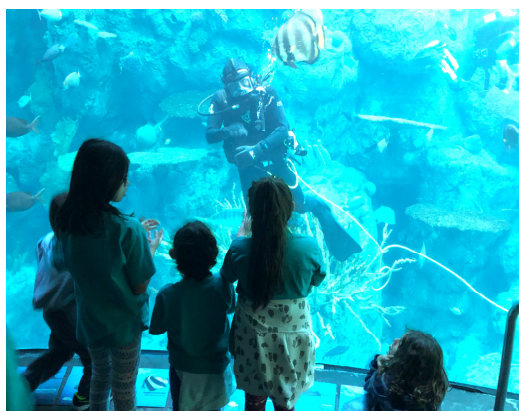


What do you do when your snow camp trip to Lake Arrowhead gets cancelled? Well, if you are part of Young Friends Fellowship at First Friends, you make pancakes! On a Sunday morning in February, we got together and made breakfast in the kitchen. After breakfast, we continued working on the adaptation of the story of Zacchaeus in preparation for “We’re a Little Short,” our fund-raiser lunch on February 24 (details in the April issue of *The Living Light*).



This month, Snow Camp is back on the calendar for the first weekend in March. We look forward to good weather, enough snow for the snow disks to glide downhill, and the roads that are safe and clear.

—Lynda Ladwig



Whittier Friends School students explore the mysteries of the deep.



News from Whittier Friends School

Whittier Friends School is looking forward to our annual Science and History Open House, on Tuesday, March 5 at 6:30 p.m. All children, preschool and elementary, are presenting projects to visiting family members and friends. Drop by for a walk-through to see our campus, recently spruced up by our families and friends at our recent Campus Cleanup Day. Pay particular attention to our new succulent gardens, within the school yard and out by the front door, planted by Steve Bates. Our children are excited to share their research projects with you and tell you all about them!

Open House is also the official beginning of registration for the 2019-20 school year. We encourage prospective families to attend our Open House to see our classrooms and what our students are learning this year. If you know of a family who needs an invitation to our special night, let me know at cassie.wfs@gmail.com and I will send them information.

Whittier Friends School is beginning our See's Candy and gift card pre-orders. We are selling the traditional See's chocolate eggs and select gift cards to restaurants and other local businesses. We are also adding an assortment of candy bars to our sale this year. Speak with a WFS student to get your pre-orders in. Pre-orders will be delivered before Easter, with extra chocolate eggs and candy bars available for sale after Meeting for Worship on the two Sundays before Easter April 7 and 14. Who do you know that would appreciate a little treat this spring?

WFS preschool and elementary students met at Aquarium of the Pacific on January 30 for a field trip. The children especially enjoyed touching the sharks and rays. Many were surprised at what the skin of these two animals felt like! They also enjoyed watching the volunteer scuba diver talk about his work at the aquarium. Only one veterinarian is employed at the aquarium, so sometimes it is the volunteers who notice if an animal is sick or injured first. The children also learned that the coral in the aquarium is artificial, because it would have taken hundreds of years for coral to grow to the size it is. But the sea animals living in the aquarium do not mind if the coral is not real. It is always impressive to see all that the children can learn while “in the field.” It was a fun, satisfying trip for young and old.

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Schedule for Sundays Unprogrammed Worship—8:30a First Day Classes—9:30 a Friends Choir Rehearsal—9:30 a Meeting for Worship—11:00a					1 4:00p Youth Winter Retreat	2
3 9:30a Intergenerational Meeting for Learning 12:30p Envisioning Group	4 1:30p Writing Class	5 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	6 6:30p Business & Finance Committee Meeting	7 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 12:15p Monthly Meeting	11 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class	12 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	13 Friendly Fare Deadline 6:00p All Friends Fellowship Night (AFFN)	14 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	15 Living Light Deadline	16
17 12:30p Walking with Friends 12:30p Music Committee 12:30 Clerks' Quarterly Meeting 3:00p Jeanette Wong Recital	18 1:30p Writing Class	19 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	20	21 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 12:30p Walking with Friends 12:30p Outreach Committee 12:30p Music Committee 31 12:30p ESR Luncheon 2:00p Envisioning Group	25 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class	26 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	27 Living Light Folding	28 7:00p Choir Rehearsal	29	30



Sara Adams
 Carole Borries
 Jack Carlisle
 Helen Carlisle
 Adrian Day
 Annabelle Day
 Micah Eggleton
 James Garland
 Eric Haynes

Debbie Hays
 Sheri Hendrix
 Pati Jackson-Johnson
 Allison Lew
 Erik Livingston
 Susan Marshall
 Lauren Marshburn Zermeno
 Jonathan Moody
 Evan Mooney

Rose Nedrow
 Debi Nelson
 Sabron Newton
 Willie Lee Riley
 Sue Settlege
 Lara Wemmerus
 Gerry Wolfe
 Emily Wood
 Dan Wright

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!

Walking With Friends

A Meeting for Learning

March 17 and 24

At rise of Meeting for Worship

Walk with Friends past and present as we learn about the beginnings of Quakerism, the growth and expansion of our faith and what Quakers are doing in the world today. Elisabeth Elliot and Lynda Ladwig will facilitate the two-part class. All are welcome to come and share this walk with Friends. We will meet in the library from 12:30 til 2:00 p.m.

Please sign up in the foyer or call the church office. Let us know if you will be bringing your lunch or want us to order a Subway sandwich for you.

But the blazing discovery which Quakers made, long ago, is rediscovered again and again by individuals, and sometimes by groups. The embers flare up, the light becomes glorious. There is no reason why it cannot break out again, today, with blazing power. The world needs it desperately. It is in the hope that you and I, today, may rediscover this flaming center of religion that those words are written—not in an historical interest in a charming past.

—Thomas Kelly

Stoking the Fire

June 7-10

at the Quaker Center in Richmond, Indiana

Reserve Now at

<https://www.friendsunitedmeeting.org/connect/stoking-the-fire-2019>

BELLS, CHIMES AND GONGS!

Sunday, March 17

3:00 p.m. in the meeting house.

Jeanette Wong, piano

Beverly Howard, organ

Music by Liszt, Debussy, Saint Saens, Verne, and Mussorgsky inspired by all types of bells: sacred and civic bells, alarm clocks, waterlogged cathedral bells, and other "wild bells, to the wild sky" (Tennyson).

A free will offering will be taken

Quakers in Unity New From Friends Around the World



Friends Committee on National Legislation—A bipartisan group of 46 representatives has joined to cosponsor a bill to repeal the 2001 Authorization for Use of Military Force. It is long past time for Congress to have a thorough debate on U.S. wars. A 17-year old, nearly limitless authorization for war is not a reasonable foundation for our national security policy. We look forward to weighing in on this debate and we urge all members of Congress to cosponsor and vote in support of the bill. www.fcnl.org.

Friends United Meeting—In late January, a delegation of Friends traveled to Tanzania to organize the plan of evangelism being led by Tanzanian pastors and a missionary couple from Kenya, Nicholas and Dorcas Otieno. This delegation consisted of John Muhanji, Kelly Kellum, and Ron Bryan from FUM, and Eric Dale and Eric Fleck from Indiana Yearly Meeting. That Nicholas and Dorcas are answering the call to become missionaries in Tanzania has inspired Friends in Indiana Yearly Meeting to organize support for their ministry. We are excited to announce that Nicholas and Dorcas will be sponsored through FUM's Living Letters program. www.fum.org.

Friends World Committee for Consultation—Friends are invited to join in spiritual preparation for the Section Meeting this month in Missouri. Come and See! (John 1:46), a printable 8-Day Devotional can be found at: fwccamericas.org/_wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/FWCC-Spiritual-Preparation-for-2019.pdf.

Peace Café

An evening of social justice through music, poetry, art, conversation and fellowship



**Saturday, March 16
Doors Open at 6:00 p.m.**

Admission is free

Pay-what-you-will donations are gratefully appreciated
Proceeds support Peace Camp



ALL FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Come hear some good short stories at All Friends Fellowship night on Wednesday, March 13. There will be a variety of stories read by our Writing Group led by Gwen Woirhaye, and they are

always interesting to hear.

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.

Dinner begins at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with the program to follow at 7 p.m. Please sign up in the foyer to bring a generous salad or a dessert as the writing class storytellers will be our guests. Drinks and bread will be provided. 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 a parent.

—Ted Marshburn



Photo credit: Hills for Everyone

The Hills Are Alive

California is home to one of the world's most diverse natural bio-communities, exceeded only by the tropical rainforests. Saving this natural treasure for the inspiration of future generations is the goal of many ardent environmentalist groups. Hills for Everyone is one of the most active groups working to safeguard some of the remaining wild areas of Southern California that are under assault by residential and industrial developers. Hills for Everyone Executive Director Claire Schlotterbeck explained her mission to a large All Friends Fellowship Night audience on February 15.

Claire's elegant slide show presentation explained how all members of the natural community, including even the largest predators, the cougars, are essential to maintaining a stable ecology, and without which it

On Our Calendar...

Monthly Meeting	April 7
Music Sunday	April 7
Stoking the Fire at Quaker Hill Center in Richmond, Indiana	June 7-10, 2019
Promotion Sunday	June 16

would collapse. A key factor in a stable wildlife ecological system is continuity across broad areas. For this reason, local environmental groups have worked to keep open a "Wildlife Corridor" extending from the Cleveland National Forest to the western end of the open space in our Whittier Hills. In addition to the demand for development space, even roadways through this area can disrupt the continuity, creating isolated, ecologically unsustainable segments.

Hills for Everyone was formed in 1978 by a group of environmental activists. Its first great achievement was spearheading the creation of Chino Hills State Park. The state of California spent hundreds of millions of dollars to create this large area of woodland and grassland, with hiking, biking and horse-riding trails for the enjoyment of millions of city-bound people.

Another important contribution of Hills for Everyone was securing funding for animal migration underpasses beneath the 91 Freeway and Harbor Blvd. in Orange County. It was necessary to purchase large tracts of adjacent land to build the tunnels, which are essential links between otherwise isolated areas of the Corridor. A very recent major achievement, announced the same day as Claire's AFFN presentation, was the relinquishing of the large Tres Hermanos Ranch open area by the City of Industry, who gave up the idea of converting much of it into a solar energy farm. The area is now under the administration of a tri-city authority who have declared intention to preserve it, with public access.

According to psychologists, Nature Deficit Disorder is a common affliction of humans, resulting in restlessness, anxiety and depression. We need the hills for our well-being!

A fine pre-program potluck supper engineered by Mary Marshburn was served on tables decorated for St. Valentine's Day.

—Bob Newton

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Easter Flower Order Form

Place a plant in the meeting house on Easter Sunday
\$10.00 each.

Order deadline is Sunday, March 31
 Additional forms are available in the church office
 and in the foyer after Meeting for Worship

In memory of _____

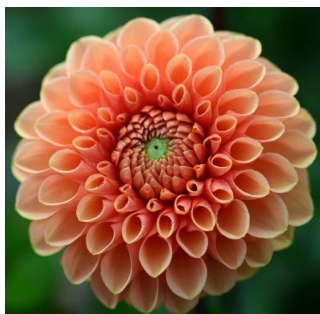
or

In honor of _____

Name _____

Phone _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

- [] I will take after Meeting for Worship on
 Easter Sunday
 [] Please deliver to those unable to worship
 with us regularly



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

Peggy Anderson
 Carlos Bailey
 Helen & Jack Carlisle
 Rose Nedrow
 Kathy & Klane Robison
 Ann Smith
 Ella Tiffany
 Ami Troedsson
 Carol Urner
 Gerry Wolfe