



Volume 56, Number 4

Whittier First Friends Church

Fourth Month, 2017

# Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom



*Photo by Bob Newton*

## CELEBRATE EASTER

### **Good Friday, April 14**

An interactive observance hosted by Whittier Area Clergy Association

Noon

First Christian Church at Greenleaf and Hadley

### **Easter Sunday, April 16**

Sunrise Service

The Gardens at Rose Hills

6:00 a.m.

Easter breakfast presented by Young Friends

9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

(No Sunday School classes)

Meeting for Worship at 11:00 a.m.

*Deep in their roots, all flowers keep the light.*

—Theodore Roethke

Just as a plant's roots will press against a pot if it's too small, so our Meeting's enthusiasm to serve and contribute to the community is compelling us to seek more room and more time to flourish.

All through April, Friends will have the opportunity to give their time and talents in support of the Women and Children's Crisis Shelter through Shelter's Right Hand, an auxiliary of the Crisis Shelter. We've planned a month full of programs that every age can enjoy. Here's the slate of activities and opportunities. How will the Spirit call you to take part?

- Volunteer on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons at the Shelter's Right Hand Thrift Store and A Step Up boutique on Washington Blvd.

*Continued on page 4*



## Wait with Us

Beginning April 7, we invite you to unprogrammed meeting for worship on Fridays at 4:30 p.m. in the chapel. This is in response to many requests expressed by

Friends to Ministry and Council for more opportunities for unprogrammed worship, especially in light of the spontaneous worship events across the country during the inauguration and The Women's March in January.

Unprogrammed meeting will continue to be held in the chapel on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. (8:30 a.m. in the summer).

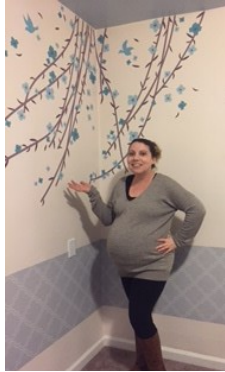
Bring a F(f)riend to meeting!

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

## Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

**Dear Friends,** My email box has been over-flowing with pictures this month. It's so fun for me to share with readers. Remember to take your *Living Light* with you when you travel to help continue our tradition: "*The Living Light Travels.*" (Remember, your submissions are welcome and needed.)

**New Friends:** There is a lot of excitement mounting as we await the arrival of the Bouchard-Day twins. Here is **Stacy (Bouchard) Day** showing off the babies' room that the future grandparents, **George & Carrin** prepared.



**Friends Visit:** We recently had visitors to the meeting house. Seated on the facing bench in this picture from left to right are three of the great-great grandchildren of **Jonathan & Rebecca Bailey: Raymond Hunnicutt, Phyllis Hunnicutt Woods** and **Carol Hunnicutt Holt**. They have warm memories of visiting their grandmother, **Iva Hunt Hunnicutt**, who owned the Bailey House until she passed away in 1964. They remember the facing bench from their grandmother's porch and were happy to see it again at First Friends. All three of the Hunnicutt kids attended First Friends throughout their childhoods. And Carol met her husband-to-be, **Russ Holt**, when he attended services here during college. Their names are on one of the benches in the courtyard. If my knowledge of genealogy is correct, our **Lois Hunnicutt Joyce** would have been the aunt of these nice people.



**School and Work News:** **Anathea Woirhaye** recently made finals in the Orange County High School of the Arts Acting Festival in the Shakespeare category. She and her mother, **Deanna** will be participating in the Santa Fe Springs Art Festival on May 12. Anathea will be performing a Shakespearean monologue in addition to displaying her recent drawing while Deanna will show a few of her framed photographs. Deanna just participated in the Hillcrest Art Festival and received Honorable Mention on one of her submissions. She reports being very grateful to have sold her prized piece along with another out of five presented. She had many interesting conversations with other artists and viewers. **Cedric Woirhaye** recently attended Don Bosco Tech's Unity Ceremony celebrating the passage

from boyhood to young adult and the brotherhood between the boys. He also participated in a robotics competition with his classmates at the end of March. **Elyse Woirhaye** has been working hard on her National History Day project at Whittier Friends School while **Brendon Woirhaye** found himself very happy to return home from a week-long business trip to India. He didn't think the change in daylight saving time would affect him so much as he crossed several time zones.

### **Friends Celebrate:**

Marygene Wright had a special Valentine's Day lunch with her three daughters. (left to right: **Jeananne Coop, Betsy Wood, Lea Thirkettle** and **Marygene Wright**).



**Friends Travel:** **Bob & Sabron Newton** flew north on a very rainy February weekend to join Friends from Bay Area meetings for the Quaker Heritage Day program at Berkeley Friends Church. They are pleased to report success in figuring out how to use BART to get into Berkeley from the Oakland airport. They both attended the WARSF board meeting on Friday and annual session on Saturday, and joined the Berkeley Friends in their meeting for worship on Sunday. You can read their full report on page 6. While they were in the Bay Area, Bob & Sabron also enjoyed an evening with two of Bob's nieces and their husbands. **Elinore Petoletti** had dinner with her daughter, **Lynda Bates**, at the Spaghetti Factory in Folsom when she was between trains in Sacramento. It was a short visit but fun. They also visited a new Museum of Wonder and Delight. Elinore says, "Google it."



**Friends About Town:** It was a great day for poppies: with Mary Marshburn and Iris Harris!

**Friends Remember:** Please hold the family of **Tom Van Dorn** in the light of God's love. Tom's father, Ernie Van Dorn passed away in March.

**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](mailto:lealouw@gmail.com), or deliver to me at church on Sunday. See you next month!



## This Month in Meeting for Worship

April 2	Paul Anderson brings the message <i>Following Jesus: the Heart of Faith and Practice</i> John 15:1-15
April 9 Palm Sunday	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Passionate Palms</i> Matt 21:1-11, 27:57-66
April 16 Easter Sunday	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Love Always Rises</i> Psalm 118 (selected verses), John 20:1-18
April 23 Earth Day	Message in Music <i>Missa Gaia</i>
April 30	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Clothed With Power</i> Luke 24:36-49, Acts 2:14-24, 32-33



At March Monthly Meeting on March 12, we rejoiced in the number of new faces we are seeing at Meeting for Worship. Annual reports from all committees were submitted. Brian Padilla was

welcomed as the new tenor section leader of the Friends Choir. Fundraising ideas were discussed.

Monthly Meeting is very early this month on April 2. Jim Hopkins will be the guest chef. Carrin Bouchard will prepare the meal at Monthly Meeting on May 7.

## Paul Anderson to Speak April 2

Paul Anderson is the professor of Biblical and Quakers studies at George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon, and is also a visiting lecturer at Chapman University in Orange and a visiting associate professor at Yale Divinity School. He is a self-described “student of D. Elton Trueblood.” Paul’s special interests are the Gospel of John, Jesus and Spirituality and Quaker Studies. He is married with three grown daughters. Ted and Mary Marshburn attended one of his recent lectures and found it valuable for college students and professors—and presumably Friends!

**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](mailto:communiquaker@gmail.com).**

## Loletta's Lines

At our Quaker Forum, Jan Wood helped us identify and begin to claim our spiritual gifts, and to ponder how our gifts complement and can be combined as a meeting. It was an empowering and affirming



time of the uplifting gifts we see in our Friends! Then, in Meeting for Worship, Jan encouraged us to re-channel our energy from searching for gifts to match a pre-determined need. Instead, she used the example of Moses’ direction from God to simply examine “what is in your hand,” and to look at those activities and places that bring us joy. She gave a beautiful example of a love of quilting and project of providing compassion quilts; it expanded exponentially into an empowering ministry across the globe by simply following the leading of the Spirit in joy, step by step. It is an encouragement to trust God to lead us to those things that we can be effective in doing; because we have the gifts, and the passion and joy to engage in them with energy.

Frederick Buechner, educator and theologian stated, “Your vocation in life is where your greatest joy meets the world’s greatest need.” We may be fortunate to have a job be our vocation or find a match for our greatest joy in a volunteer situation. I was fortunate to find joy in released, full-time ministry. But Spirit never stops moving, tugging and pushing us into places of growth, joy and service. Recently, I had a chance (read Spirit-led) encounter with Friend and teacher extraordinaire Barbara Healy Sprague. Now, volunteering to be with her students in whatever way is needed is absolute joy for me. I have found (another) vocation as a kindergarten aide to Barbara! There is no telling what possibilities Spirit will open through it.

Check out the Spiritual Gifts survey in the March issue of *The Living Light* or pick up a copy at Meeting for Worship. Where are your gifts/joys? If you find one that matches a Friend, call him/her and affirm the gift! Our journey together is one of understanding how our spiritual lives motivate our passion for service, finding where joy resides in our activities, and connecting innate giftedness in our meeting with need in our community. This amazing gathering of God’s people already brings a healing, loving, peaceful presence in so many ways. As we seek to be open and perceive clearly the movement of the Spirit and God’s purpose in this time and place, we have something unique to share as Friends.



## YOUNG FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP

On February 26 at rise of meeting, our young Friends braved the gentle mist of rain and gathered for lunch and then were off to the homes of Jean Sponsler and Loletta Barrett to pick the bounty of citrus that the trees had to offer. The boxes and bags filled with the results of their labor were gratefully picked up by the Interfaith Food Center for distribution.

On March 17, Katerina Ryder, Bella Sturr, Jasmine Sturr and Mel Sturr headed off to Washington, D.C. for the Friends Committee on National Legislation Spring Lobby Weekend. They hope to learn about the do's and don'ts of lobbying and more about the topic of economic justice. Be sure to speak to them to find out about their experience.

On March 26, we attended a screening of the newly released movie "The Shack" followed by discussion and of course, food!

Ever had lasagna for breakfast? Come to Easter Breakfast this year and give it a try. Breakfast lasagna, bacon, sausage, and juice are on the menu. The youth will be serving from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children age 5-11. There is no charge for children under five.

—Lynda Ladwig

### 'Shelter's Right Hand' Continued from page 1

- Be a Walker or sponsor a Walker at the Shelter's Right Hand 5k Walk at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 22. This non-competitive walk follows a 3.1 mile scenic route through the historic business and residential districts of Uptown Whittier.
- Keep a lookout for bins at the church to collect your gently worn clothes and housewares.
- Bag some goodies at Monthly Mission at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 17. We'll be putting together gift bags for Walk participants.
- Join the conversation with Dolores Salomone, Executive Director of the Crisis Shelter, at All Friends Fellowship Night on Wednesday, April 12.
- Help the shelter meet its everyday needs by making an in-kind donation from our immediate needs list today. Check out the WCCS Needs List at [www.wccshope.org](http://www.wccshope.org) for the most up-to-date needs.
- Mail a check or money order made out to Women's & Children's Crisis Shelter (WCCS).



## News from Whittier Friends School

It is time for Whittier Friends School's annual Spring Event, a month earlier than in prior years! Our spaghetti dinner and silent auction begin at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 29. You can look forward to gift cards, gift baskets and other items up for auction, including many contributions from Whittier businesses such as Whittier Village Cinema and Brickhouse Pizza. After dinner, our preschool and elementary students will be performing "Robin Hood's Sherwood Shenanigans," a fun, rhyming take on the traditional story about the hero who took from the rich and gave to the poor. Favorite songs like "Rainbow Connection" and "Zip-a-dee-doo-dah" are integrated into the play. After the performance, dessert will be served and the auction will finish up.

Pre-sale tickets will be available a few weeks before the performance, and are \$11 for adults and \$5 for children. Tickets bought at the door will be \$1 more. If you've got a local business and would like to advertise at our event by donating a gift card or gift basket, let us know. We hope many people will be able to join us while our school children share what they have learned about medieval England.

—Cassie Caringella

Women and Children's Crisis Shelter is dedicated to breaking the cycle of violence and restoring those who are victimized to wholeness, providing victims with the tools and resources that they need to put their lives together and move forward. Violence can be actual or threatened, physical, emotional or psychological. Services offered include a 24-hour crisis hotline in English and Spanish, emergency intervention and support groups, meals and clothing, legal and law enforcement advocacy, transitional housing advocacy, healthcare advocacy, and transitional housing for victims of domestic violence and their children.

How will you step out against domestic violence? Join in throughout April as we experience times of fellowship and of serving, and for educating ourselves about the world around us and ask how is what we are called to do rooted in the Spirit of our lives.

For more information, visit [SheltersRightHand.org](http://SheltersRightHand.org).



# April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Schedule for Sundays</b> <b>Unprogrammed Worship—9:30a</b> <b>First Day Classes—9:30 a</b> <b>Meeting for Worship—11:00a</b>						1
2 12:15p Monthy Meeting	3 1:30p Writing Class	4 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 9:00a Trustees 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	5	6 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	7	8 6:30p Family Movie Night
9	10 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class	11 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	12 6:00p AFFN	13 <b>Friendly Fare Deadline</b> 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	14	15 <b>Living Light Deadline</b>
16 9:30a Easter Breakfast (serving until 10:30a)	17 1:30p Writing Class 6:00p	18 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	19	20 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	21	22 Shelter's Right Hand 5K Walk
23 12:15p Music Committee 12:15p JHF/YFF Fellowship 12:30 Christian Ed Committee 12:30p Outreach Committee	24 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class	25 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	26 <b>Living Light Folding</b>	27 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	28	29 5:00p WFS Spagetti Dinner and Auction Fundraiser
30 12:15p Quarterly Clerks' Meeting						



Peggy Anderson	Lloyd Kaneko	Lou Secord
Audrey Bailey	Kathy Marin	Ann Smith
Mary Coop	Wendy Marsh	Paige Tillman
Jeananne Coop	Nancy Marshall	Carol Urner
Todd Cramer	Kat Ryder	Doree Votaw
Christian Eggleton	Gabriel Sadler	Bonnie Wright-Scott
Betty Gibson	Abigail Sadler	

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!



## Western Friends Convene

First Friends Church participates in the larger world of Quakerism through the Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends (WARSF). Yearly gatherings of this body alternate between our Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church. This year, the WARSF Board of Oversight Meeting and Annual Meeting of Members were held on Friday and Saturday, February 17 and 18, in conjunction with Berkeley's annual Quaker Heritage Day.

The spiritual tone of the gathering was set by Heritage Day speaker Marcelle Martin of Swarthmore (PA) Friends Meeting. Her topic "Our Life is Love" was taken from the title of her book, which our adult Sunday School class, as well as Berkeley's class, has been studying.

Bob Newton represented our Meeting at the Board of Oversight meeting held Friday evening after a potluck supper prepared by Berkeley Friends. Bob and Dharma Galang (Berkeley Friends) have now completed two successive three-year terms on the Board, and, according to the Bylaws, must be replaced. Mel Sturr and Elisabeth Elliot have agreed to represent the Meeting on the Board. Bob Secord has been asked to serve again as Assistant Clerk and Lea Wright will continue as Finance Clerk.

Keith Barton of Berkeley has accepted a one-year appointment as Recording Clerk and Brian Young will continue as Convening Clerk for the coming year. All of these appointments were approved by the Board.

The following appointments from WARSF to larger Friends groups were approved: Bob Secord to Friends United Meeting (where he continues to serve on its General Board); Brian Young and Deanna Woirhaye to Friends World Committee for Consultation Section of the Americas; Dorothy Kakimoto of Berkeley to continue with the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), and Tim Root and Sue and Rob Settlege along with John Maurer of Berkeley and Elisabeth Elliot (tentatively) to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL).

A financial statement for 2016, reviewed and stated to be correct by Lynda Ladwig, was received. WARSF continues to be in good financial health. The 2017 budget, essentially the same as for 2016, was approved.

Brian Young reported that WARSF had received an inquiry from an individual in one of a group of churches now part of Northwest Yearly Meeting, which is in the process of restructuring. This group hopes to organize in a way that will welcome diversity in their membership. The Board approved of entering

## Quakers in Unity News From Friends Around the World



**American Friends Service Committee**—Sanctuary Everywhere is the simple idea that everyday people can work to keep each other safe—wherever we are. Through Sanctuary Everywhere, we hope to equip thousands of people with tools and training to interrupt hateful acts and government actions that put our communities at risk, and to encourage concrete policies and practices that create greater safety and a welcoming environment for all. #SanctuaryEverywhere. [www.afsc.org](http://www.afsc.org)

**Friends United Meeting**—The "Stoking the Fire" retreat is July 9-12 in Wichita, Kansas. The theme is "Claiming Spiritual Power for Transformative Action." We welcome Friends from all across our global body who are discerning risky new steps or are simply longing for deeper worship. Join Friends as we stoke our spiritual fires and stretch ourselves through communal worship, learning, and fellowship. The FUM Triennial follows on July 12-16, also in Wichita. The schedule of events and registration information is online now. [www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org).



On Monday, April 17 at 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall, we will be putting together goodie bags for the participants of the Shelter's Right Hand 5K Walk.

into dialogue with this group and encouraged Brian to stay in contact with these Friends and other concerned individual Friends in the Northwest.

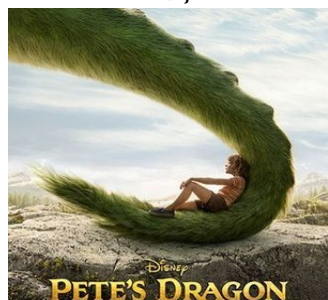
Actions of the Board were related the next day at the Annual Meeting of Members, which followed the Quaker Heritage Day program. Bob Secord reported on the activities of FUM and Tim Root reported for FCNL. A written report from AFSC representative Dorothy Kakimoto announced that Joyce Ajlouny, the former director of the Ramallah Friends School, will be the new General Secretary of AFSC, which celebrates its first centennial this year.

Next year's annual meeting will be held in Whittier as we again join with Friends throughout the west.

—Bob Newton

## FRIDAY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 7



FRIDAY, MAY 5



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

**ALL FRIENDS  
FELLOWSHIP  
NIGHT**

On Wednesday, April 12, at 6:00 p.m., we look forward to a program presented by Dolores Salomone, Executive Director of the Women's and Children's Crisis Shelter. She will share her experiences at the Shelter and the services the Shelter provides.

Potluck dinner begins at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with the program to follow at 7 p.m. Sign up in Founders Court to bring a main dish, salad or dessert. 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 their parents.

—Ted Marshburn

## On Our Calendar...

Founders Day	Saturday, May 6
Peace Cafe	Saturday, May 13
Serve Weekend	May 20 and 21
New Century Singers concert	Sunday, May 21
YFF Summer Camp	June 2-4
Jeanette Wong in concert	Sunday, June 4
Picnics in the Park	Wednesdays, June 21—August 9
Summer Film Series	Friday evenings, June 30 through August 25
Summer Worship schedule	July 2—September 3
Peace Camp	July 24—28



## Sing, Sing All Earth!

The Friends Choir will offer “Missa Gaia” (Earth Mass), A Mass in Celebration of Mother Earth, as the Message in Music at Meeting for Worship on Sunday, April 23. Written by Paul Winter and his associates Jim Scott, Paul Halley, Oscar Castro-Neves, Kim Oler and Jeremy Geffen, the Mass premiered at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City on May 10, 1981.

Paul Winter envisioned a celebration that was both ecumenical and ecological, that would embrace all life on Earth. Wild animal calls, African and Brazilian percussion accompany the serene voices of the choir, and a sense of celebration for the congregation infuses the work. The backbone of “Missa Gaia” is four texts from the ordinary of Mass, Kyrie Eleison (Lord, have mercy), a four note motive from a wolf howl; Sanctus (Holy) and Benedictus (Blessed is He who comes), from whale song, and Agnus Dei (Lamb of God), with harp seal calls. Colleagues contributed ideas for melodies, rhythms and harmonies for other elements that include the Beatitudes, St. Francis’ “Canticle of Brother Sun” and two original songs.

The Friends Choir will be joined by an ensemble of instruments, including saxophone, percussion, piano, bass and guitar. The music mixes elements of jazz, traditional choral writing, and world percussion to produce an upbeat celebration of Earth and the Divine Creator.

Invite a friend and come celebrate Mother Earth as we worship God through the ancient words of the Mass and contemporary expressions of faith that come together in this excellent music.

—Russ Litchfield

## Traveling Ministry Comes to Sunday School

As a part of its traveling ministry program, Earlham School of Religion has produced a video and discussion curriculum on how we read the Bible. Join us beginning April 23 on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. as we take a look at “Signs of Reading the Bible Responsibly” with ESR Professor Nancy Bowen.

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### ***Order Easter Lilies by April 9***

Please place \_\_\_\_ lily plant(s) in the meeting  
 house on Easter Sunday, April 16, for \$10 each.

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I will take after Meeting for Worship

☐ Please deliver to home-bound Friends.



*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  
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