

THE LIVING LIGHT

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

Ephesians 5:9

Volume 57, Number 1

Whittier First Friends Church

January, 2018

Looking for the Light

As Quakers, we value our time traveling spiritually together as much as reaching our destination, and seeking as much as finding. We welcome 2018 as the year of “That of God in Every One,” as we seek out, embrace and celebrate vibrant spiritual life within us and around us.

On Saturday, February 10, Friends and friends are invited to go deeper in their spiritual experience at Quaker Forum with filmmaker and musician Jon Watts. This year’s theme is “How Do Quakers Speak?” We’ll explore how the most distinctive piece of Friends’ message is not *what* we say, but *how* we say it. Our words have the power to heal and to hurt, to

build and destroy. How does our faith lead us to engage with one another?



Jon Watts is the director of *QuakerSpeak*, the award-winning online video project by Friends Journal. For the project, Jon has interviewed more than 200 Quakers from a wide variety of

backgrounds on topics ranging from our inner spiritual lives to our outer activism, our shared history and future, and what matters most to us as Friends. *QuakerSpeak* has gathered 20,000 followers on various social media platforms and recently celebrated 1.4 million views online. We encourage all Friends to browse a while at QuakerSpeak.com.

A concert featuring Jon and f(F)riends will follow on Saturday evening. We will top off the weekend as Jon brings the message at Meeting for Worship on Sunday, February 11.

Ashley Ryder assists the creative work at The Monday B4 Christmas. See page 4 for details.



Cold Weather, Warm Service

For over 20 years, the Whittier Area Interfaith Council has sponsored the Cold Weather Shelter, a program that provides meals and shelter during the winter months for approximately 40 persons at night. It operates on a weekly rotating schedule among churches, including First Friends. The shelter provides dinner, breakfast, and a warm place to sleep. Each person is treated with dignity and respect as guests.

Our week hosting begins at the evening meal on New Years Day! We are serving dinner and breakfast all week until the morning of January 8th. In addition to our own youth groups, who will be cooking under the direction of Lynda Ladwig, Boy Scout Troop 546 and Scoutmaster Lou Grimaldi have volunteered to provide a dinner. Other head cooks for dinners are Carrin Bouchard, Ted and Mary Marshburn, Gwen Woirhaye and the Woirhaye Family. Thanks to Debbie and Bruce Nelson, Barbara Healy, and Alene Burke who are assisting.

Continued on page 4

Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

Dear Friends, Another busy year has come to an end. I hope it was a good one for you. I try to report on our Friends' news to you all, but I can only share with your help! If you hear anything during the months that follow, please send me a quick email so we can all stay connected to each other.

New Friends: Prayers of joy for the arrival of **Ryan Ruby June Fant**. Her proud parents are **David & Sarah Fant**, and grandmother is **Marilyn Fant**.

Friends Visit: **Elinore Petoletti** was happy to be home from her travels long enough to have her eldest (**Lynda Bates**) and youngest (**Steve Bates**) visit over Thanksgiving weekend.

Friends About Town: **Dan Wright & Milton Wright** enjoyed driving their 1914 Model T and 1938 Chevy Truck in the Uptown Whittier Holiday Parade with members of the Whittier Museum in their cars.



Friends Travel: **Lynda & Mike Ladwig** and **Bob & Lou Secord** traveled to Las Vegas (separately), where they met up for dinner. They also went to the Ethel M Botanical Cactus Garden in Henderson and saw a million lights on three acres and then the Fremont Street Experience. Bob & Lou went to several museums and the Hoover Dam. They also checked out the many Christmas displays at the large hotels in town.

School and Work News: **Anathea Woirhaye** was on the Orange County High School of the Arts mock trial team which has done pretty well as a first year entry — they made it to playoffs to compete at the state level. Anathea, participating as forensic pathologist for the defense, received an award of most valuable player.

Deanna had a really great time watching how these courtroom trials played out differently each time.

Cedric Woirhaye recently was inducted into the National Hispanic Honor Society as a top student in his Spanish studies at Don Bosco Technical Institute. This is also Cedric's third year of being a member of the National Honor Society. **ABCDE Woirhaye** holds the other Whittier First Friends families in the Light for those who have students, like Cedric, applying for colleges this year. Slowly, some of our birds are flying from their nests. **Landon Caringella**, **Bishop Aereaux**, and **Elyse Woirhaye**, students at Whittier

Friends School, take music lessons through Orange Coast Musical Arts, a music program for home school and small school students. The boys played in their first violin recital at the Christmas program. **Darrell Warren** is retiring. He will still be available for consulting and volunteer work at the school.



Congratulations! **Mary Boltz** enjoyed her son's birthday at Lucille's Smokehouse in Cerritos, where she got to hold her granddaughter Chloe.

Friends Remember: **Sue Pickering Hall** passed away in November. She was the daughter of **Seth & Mary Fae Pickering** and sister-in-law of **Kathy Hall Robison**. **Roy Rosedale** of Lake Arrowhead died on Nov. 26 at age 84. He and his twin brother **Ralph** were once regular members of the Meeting's youth group, which included Ted Marshburn. In the 1950s, he spent three years in India with the American Friends Service Committee, sharing the agricultural skills and methods he had learned at UC Davis. Later, he and his family spent four years as missionaries in Indonesia. After joining the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ, Roy earned two seminary doctorates, helped establish new seminaries in several countries, and taught missions in CCC's School of Theology near his home. Roy's mother, of the Whites who founded Whittier's White Emerson Mortuary, graduated from Whittier College in 1922. His father graduated in 1923 from Penn College in Iowa, where he and **Sabron Newton's** parents knew each other.

Friends Sharing News: Help to keep the Friendly Fare going. Take a picture with *The Living Light* to continue our tradition: "**The Living Light Travels.**" **and/or** email me a quick note and tell me your news. Send to Lea at lealouw@gmail.com, or deliver to me at Meeting for Worship on Sunday. Happy New Year from me, and see you next month!



This Month in Meeting for Worship

January 7	Lynda Ladwig brings the message <i>Label Makers</i> Luke 7:36-50
January 14	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>In Order to Follow</i> John 1:43-50, 1 Samuel 3:1-10, 1 Corinthians 6:11-15, 19-20
January 21	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Hey, Didn't We Just Do This?</i> Mark 1:14-20, 1 Corinthians 7:29-31, Jonah 3:1-10
January 28	Jay Marshall brings the message <i>Turn the Volume Up</i> 2 Samuel 6:12-22



At Monthly Meeting on December 3, we approved moving forward with installation of solar panels to provide power for the church property. This will save an average of \$150 per month. We discussed the challenges facing us in the year ahead and beyond. For several years, we have been making up shortfalls in our operating budget with reserves consisting of earnings from our endowment, and these reserves will be exhausted by mid-2018. It was requested that Friends prayerfully consider how we can adjust our budget and income, including sharing our space to a greater extent and adjusting the personnel budget.

Monthly Meeting for January is January 7 at Rise of Meeting.

Earlham is Coming to Town



Our f(F)riend Jay Marshall, Dean of Earlham School of Religion, will bring the message on January 28. He will tell us about the exciting things happening at the school, including the status of their Entrepreneurial Ministry project.

Come and hear the news about how ministry and church are rising to meet the challenges of the New Year and era in Meeting for Worship and at lunch afterwards.

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 communicuaker@gmail.com.

Loletta's Lines

A fresh New Year reminds us of new possibilities. It also reminds us of time going by—2017 sped by, much too fast, in some ways. In other ways, it is good to wave it goodbye, along with the many challenges we saw. It was difficult to say the least, and there are always more to face. But, as I write this, we learn voters in Alabama made a moral choice against a candidate with obvious flaws, and we know there is always hope when people of good conscience stand up for truth. We can claim George Fox's encouragement, "I saw also that there was an ocean of darkness and death, but an infinite ocean of light and love, which flowed over the ocean of darkness." We are called to be part of the ocean of light and love.



To begin to find ways to do this, your Ministry and Counsel felt led to ask the query; "How we can be better at 'answering that of God in everyone?'" Monthly Meeting was then presented with a theme for 2018, again from George Fox: "Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come, that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them; then you will come to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in every one." Friends recognized the need to go deeper, to tune ourselves to hearing and following the Generous Loving Spirit of God that we find in Jesus, ourselves and the world around us. We were drawn to the Quaker tradition of Advices and Queries, specifically those found in the Faith and Practice of the Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends in Britain.

We have grouped them in four themes: Be—getting our own "house" in order; Encounter—understanding how we engage the world from our own (hopefully growing broader) perspective; Preach—and walk cheerfully, ministering to the world, and Answering—that of God by being open to being transformed and participating gently. Examining the queries and understanding which are most relevant to our lives and meeting will assist us in our relationship with God's Light, families, community, meeting and ourselves. It will also help us to grow into our individual ministry and the ministry our meeting is called to engage.

"God's people are God's temple, and God dwells in them." You are invited and welcomed to join in this journey with F(f)riends as we begin to more completely understand this amazing reality.

YOUNG FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP



Thanks to our youth and to the adults that helped them in their candy making endeavors and to those who purchased the yummy results.

Candy sales at the Family Christmas Dinner program netted the youth \$400. The beautiful stained glass star, designed by D&L Stained Glass, went to Ken and Shannon Ladwig with a winning bid of \$325. The total of \$725

will be split between the Cold Weather Shelter breakfast fund, relief for Puerto Rico and youth programs and activities.

This is the 10th year that First Friends has provided a holiday for parents of our community by offering “Monday B4 Christmas.” This children’s workshop gives parents the chance to take care of last minute shopping, cleaning, baking or just take a break during this busy season. This year, Marilyn Fant, C.J. Conklin, Alene Burke, Russ Litchfield, Ashley Ryder and Lynda Ladwig kept 20 neighborhood children engaged in various activities from morning until early afternoon. They played games, sang familiar and favorite Christmas songs, made several items to keep for themselves or to give away. These included beautiful glittered lanterns, foam ornaments for the tree, a paddle game with uniquely colored and decorated pieces, and we finished off by making a graham cracker house (which should have been titled “Let’s See How Much Candy Can You Put on a House Without the Roof Collapsing”). We wrapped up the day with the Disney short film “The Small One” and a few games.

Our youth are looking forward to preparing and serving a meal for the Cold Weather Shelter on Wednesday, January 3. After that, we’ll get for the highlight of January—the winter retreat trip to Lake Arrowhead at the home of Don and Shirley Votaw January 26-through 28.



News from Whittier Friends School

Whittier Friends School’s annual parking lot rummage sale is sure to be a fun event, with lots of great bargains, for the benefit of our school. On January 27, from 7:30 am to around 1:00 pm, the First Friends Church parking lot will be transformed into a multi-vendor market, with all kinds of items available for sale. You can support this fundraiser in several ways! Do you have a small business with items you could sell, or a garage that needs cleaning out? Get your own booth for just \$10 and sell your own items. Are you not interested in selling, but still need to clean out that garage? Donate gently used items to WFS for us to sell at our school booth. Do you have no items to offer, but love the social and fellowship opportunity? Volunteer to work at our school booth to help sell for just a couple of hours. Don’t have time or energy to work our booth? Come shop, support our booth and our other vendors. Have friends, family members, or neighbors who love yard sales? Tell them about our event so that they can shop too! We look forward to having First United Methodist join us that day with their own booth as well. This will be a great day of people coming together. We hope to see you there!

—Cassie Caringella

‘Cold Weather’ continued from page 1

Guests of the Cold Weather Shelter arrive at the First United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. each evening and dinner is served at 7 p.m.

Overnight monitors arrive at 8 p.m. and many of our volunteers spend the entire night. At the time *The Living Light* went to press, the overnight team was still forming up with commitments by Russ Litchfield, JoNita Beede, Alene Burke, Cory Benjamin and Kathy Hall. We will have two people each night so that they can alternate sleeping from 8 p.m. until 5 a.m. And breakfast is provided! Breakfast prep gets rolling at 5 a.m. with the meal coming out at 6:30 a.m. Guest are also given a snack as they exit the shelter for the day.

Thank you to everyone who is pitching in to make our week of service meaningful and comfortable for the guests at the Cold Weather Shelter. Monetary donations for breakfast meals continue to be accepted. A big thanks to Bob and Sabron Newton for contributing paper goods for the week and to Young Friends Fellowship for their \$100 gift from the Family Christmas Dinner candy sale.

—Marilyn Fant

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30p Business & Finance Committee Meeting	4 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	5	6
7 12:15p Monthly Meeting	8 1:30p Writing Class	9 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	10 6:00p AFFN	11 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	12	13 2:00p End of Life With Dignity Workshop
14	15 1:30p Writing Class	16 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p Handbell Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30p Quakerism Class	18 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	19	20
21 12:30p Clerks' Quarterly Meeting	22 1:30p Writing Class	23 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p M&C	24 6:30p Quakerism Class	25 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	26 4:00p Youth Group Snow Camp Begins	27 Youth Group at Snow Camp 7:00a WFS Parking Lot Sale
28 Youth Group Returning from Snow Camp 12:15p Music Committee Meeting 12:30p Lunch with ESR	29 1:30p Writing Class	30 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	31 6:30p Quakerism Class			
					<p align="center">Schedule for Sundays</p> <p>Unprogrammed Worship — 9:30a</p> <p>Meetings for Learning — 9:30a</p> <p>Friends Choir Rehearsal — 9:30a</p> <p>Meeting for Worship — 11:00a</p>	



Jacob Adam
Carlos Bailey
Olivia Bald
Matthew Bouchard
Mark Brickley
Barbara Coté

Christopher Foley
Marshall Hockett
Barbara Koch
Janice Lindsay
Meredith Marshburn
Norah Martinez

Robert Semans
Cedric Woirhaye
Alli 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!



Family Christmas Dinner 2017



Photos by Deanna Woirhaye

Christmas Gratitude

Darth Vader: I know what you're getting for Christmas.

Luke Skywalker: How do you know?

Darth: I can feel your presents.

Arrggh! My apologies to all for the goofy Christmas jokes during the auction portion of this year's Family Christmas Dinner, but we certainly did all "feel the PRESENCE," didn't we?

Marilyn Fant's "Star Wars" decorations were amazing. Spending all day Saturday, she was able to achieve the near impossible—combine the joy of the holiday with an intergalactic theme. You're amazing, Marilyn, and we love you. And, as always, thanks for your hospitality in hosting us at your home.

Once again, we were able to return to our beloved First Friends and see all our wonderful friends and First Friends family. Thank you. The youth of the meeting grows and grows every year, and it was so especially inspiring to see how the older youth have become mature and confident near-adults. Love it!



Dan and Phillip Wright once again created a marvelous glass masterpiece. We particularly appreciated the Le Moyne "quilt" pattern this year—simple, elegant, perfect. How you do your creative genius is a wonder and a blessing.

So, many people make the celebration a success—truly a Meeting family working together—it's hard to know where to start.

Carrin Bouchard was our "voice to the Meeting," encouraging Friends to donate, participate, and who can resist her? But she was under the weather and wasn't able to make it to the dinner herself, so we had to carry on without her. George, Anne, and I did our best, but Carrin was certainly missed.

Our "Turkey Team" came through once again with beautiful birds—cooked and uncooked, along with the fixin's. Ted and Mary Marshburn brought a surgically-carved turkey and I understand Mary got up at 3 a.m. the night before just to make sure it would be ready for us (Thanks SO much, Mary, you and Ted always go above and beyond.) Sylvia Graber-Pastrone put us over the top by donating not one, not two, but *three* turkeys. Very generous! George and Carrin came through with their beautifully prepared turkey again this year, as well as Lynda Ladwig (*Editor's note: I believe Harry is referring to Lynda's turkey, not Lynda herself*). Thanks to all!



We had great help in the kitchen this year! It's wonderful to see everyone pitch in and do whatever is needed to make it all work—a 'family' working together in the kitchen. Sarah Garland is amazing in the kitchen—jumps right in. Loletta is an old hand now at helping out, and we also had the 'new, but experienced hands' of Kathy Hood. And people showed up just when we needed them to help out—Sharon, Mel and Bella Sturr; Dan, Lea, and Phillip Wright; Mary Marshburn; Barbara Coté; Sylvia Graber-Pastrone; Eleanore Petoletti, and Brendon Woirhaye—all pitched in and were wonderful.



Though mentioned already above, a couple people deserve a special 'shout out' (would 'shout out' be the right term for usually quiet Friends?). Philip Wright comes in, quietly takes up the toughest duties in the cleanup area and works tirelessly the whole time—yes, we do notice, Philip, and appreciate your help so much. And George Bouchard—though Carrin couldn't make it this year, it was almost as if you were working twice as hard to make up for her absence. You bounced around in your new shiny shoes doing whatever it took to make it all work. The dinner would not have come together but for you help, good f(F)riend!

We must remember the junior high and high schoolers. Thanks for serving and tending tables, young Friends!

Once again, thanks to ALL, and thanks for working to make a Merry First Friends Christmas! You know any of you are welcome to visit us in Cambria! Love and joy to you and yours...and let us know the promise of Peace in our hearts, lives, and world in 2018.

—Harry Eggleton



Of the Father's Love Begotten

Music Sunday at Meeting for Worship on December 17 was a carol-and-scripture service that topped off the Christmas spirit of worshippers. Russ Litchfield's organ prelude, "The Word" by Olivier Messiaen, a 20th century French composer, invoked the mysteries of Creation and the Nativity, as related in John 1. The music that followed, sung by our Friends Choir and accompanied by Russ on piano or organ, were compositions spanning the centuries from Roman times to the present. The choir presentations were interspersed with scripture narratives of the Nativity, familiar carols sung by the congregation, and selected readings by choir members from Quaker authors, starting with George Fox and including contemporary British Friends Janet Scott and Lorna Marsden.

Friends did a double-take at some of the names in the bulletin of composers of the choir anthems. Jacob Clemens non Papa was a prominent Dutch composer active around 1550. His name was apparently a whimsical means of distinguishing him from the contemporary Pope, Clement VII. Clemens non Papa's "To Us a Child is Born" was done well by the Choir. Karl Marx (not who you're thinking, but a prominent 20th century German composer) wrote the complex and exquisite anthem "The Holy Three Kings," rendered by the choir and organ.

Add to the list of distinguished composers the name of Russ Litchfield. Russ directed his own a capella choir piece "Love Came Down at Christmas. "Pengyou, Ting!" is a lovely Chinese carol, sung in the original language. The text of "Of the Father's Love Begotten" dates from Roman times. The familiar tune, of ancient origin, was beautifully sung by our choir. Mezzo-soprano Allison Coop sang "My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord" in a manner which would have gratified its late composer Randall Thompson. The well-known words of praise uttered by the expectant mother Mary are from Luke 1.

The congregation joyously belted out several beloved Christmas hymns, including "O Come All Ye Faithful," "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," and "The First Noel."

We sang a less-well-known hymn, "A Stable Lamp is Lighted" by the contemporary American composer David Hurd. The lovely tune is an old Spanish carol.

The beautiful painting gracing the bulletin cover is an interpretive Nativity scene set in a pine-wood, with adoring Magi, angels and forest animals peering at baby Jesus, while amazed shepherds were distracted from their flocks on a nearby hillside. I saved my copy for a Christmas tree decoration.

—Bob Newton

On Our Calendar...

Quaker Forum	Saturday, February 10
Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends (WARSF) annual meeting	Saturday, February 10
Jon Watts and Friends in Concert	Saturday, February 10
Whittier Friends School Candy and Flower Sale	February 13-March 5
Stoking the Fire	May 17—20
Friends General Conference Gathering	July 1—7



ALL FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

We are fortunate to have Nancy Caruso bring our program on Wednesday, January 10. She is a well-known marine biologist working on many projects locally and the founder of Get Inspired! Inc. For 15 years, she has directed the Giant Kelp Restoration Project and has established ocean restoration programs in 10 schools this year. Other school projects have included Aquaponics (growing fish and plants together for food). Nancy is also very involved in the Green Abalone Restoration Project. Come and learn more about these projects and their value and importance to the sea and to us.

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. All are welcome. Please come and enjoy the fellowship and program.

—Ted Marsburn

Quakerism Class

A new series of classes exploring the spirit of Quakerism starts Wednesday night, January 17 and continues through February 7.

Learn about the past, present and future of our friendly and fascinating faith, as well as discover tools to spark your inner Light.

Quaker Advocacy Looks to a Faithful Future

Another year and another terrific Annual Meeting for Friends Committee on National Legislation. Hundreds of Friends from across the country came together in November for worship, listening, advocacy, and community.

The meeting was very different from last year because we had so much to celebrate. Our Capital Campaign raised 17.5 million dollars, 2.5 million over our goal of 15 million! Thanks to all of you who helped make this happen.

The new Quaker Welcome Center is open, next door to the FCNL offices, and hosts weekly training sessions for visiting senators and representatives, as well as open worship. The Center also offers a gathering place for groups who come to D.C. Because it is zoned for residential use, the newly renovated building will also offer apartments for rent. The year Sue and Rob Settlege's daughter, Chrysanthi, was an intern (they are now called Program Assistants), FCNL could only afford three positions, but thanks to the success of the Capital Campaign this year we now have nine. This post-college program is known by many as the best in Washington.

We spent Thursday and Friday lobbying for a faithful budget that reduces spending for the Pentagon and military. Those of us from California visited the offices of our senators and met with their staff members. Anthony Manousos, from Orange Grove Friends Meeting, and Tim Root met with their representative, Judy Chu CA-27. All three of Tim's members of Congress were open to the idea of reducing military funding.

Members of FCNL's General Committee met to approve members of our 2018 General Committee, set the budget, and lay out plans for the future.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday were times for worship and community. Our featured speaker this year was Sister Simone Campbell, of "Nuns on the Bus" fame, and she certainly lived up to our high expectations. Using the nine program assistants to represent different income levels, she demonstrated how these levels have changed over the last 35 years as the people in the top levels moved further and further from the middle and lower levels. The economic disparity in our country is overwhelming.

Next year, we celebrate the 75th anniversary of FCNL. We hope you will think about joining us in Washington November 29 through December 2, 2018.

—*Tim Root and Sue Settlege*

Join the Discussion

The second meeting of the End of Life with Dignity series is will be January 13 at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Friends gather a great deal of wisdom and courage traveling together through life's journey. Every part is sacred, including the end. You are invited to join us in sharing information, resources, and collective wisdom on how we can plan to maintain dignity in the future, releasing us to be fully present in the now. independence, dependence and interdependence, financial issues; heirlooms; memorials and celebrations of life, and caring for relationships.

If you missed the first meeting, please contact Loletta so she can catch you up and give you part one of the materials.

Our Meeting at a Crossroads

At December Monthly Meeting, I listened as Business and Finance presented the budget request for 2018, and some hard facts became clear and unavoidable—we have come to a place offering many directions, requiring all of us to consider our future.

For several years, we have been able to bridge the gap between our income and the operating expenses of the Meeting with a reserve fund consisting of accumulated earnings from our ministry's endowment.

We knew this time was coming, and we are here. The reserve fund is nearly exhausted, and we can no longer make up the difference between our expenses and the income we receive from what we pledge and other sources.

Prayerful and difficult conversations have begun as to where we go from here, as we rethink who we are, what we are and how we intend to remain a viable community on this corner in uptown Whittier.

As I have listened to discussions, like all of you I've experienced acute frustration and fear in the face of our situation, and have prayed for my own intellectual grasp on the components to tighten, and for my anxiety to loosen. But, surprisingly, I've also found a spirit of discovery leaping up. In black and white on an Excel spreadsheet, the math is stark and intimidating. But I am finding myself drawn out of the columns and out into a space where I can be part of a community that is eager to evolve, ready to challenge and stands in anticipation of what I am sure will be the most spiritually vital of times. How will we move forward? Are we willing to look at ourselves with fresh eyes? I look forward to engaging in the searching of our joined souls and listening to the Spirit's leadings.

—*Elisabeth Elliot, Editor*

Committees and Clerks for 2018

Monthly Meeting

Presiding Clerk: Ellie Bewley
 Assistant Presiding Clerk: Mel Sturr
 Recording Clerk: Sarah Garland
 Assistant Recording Clerk: Jasmine Sturr

Business & Finance Committee

Brendon Woirhaye (Clerk)
 Carrin Bouchard
 Pat Garland
 Tim Root
 Bob Secord

Christian Education Committee

Marilyn Fant (Clerk)
 Alene Burke
 Barbara Coté (Library)
 Randy Hays
 Vikki Kendrick
 Tish Purkiss (Children's Library)
 Darrell Warren
 Milton Wright (Library)

Communications Committee

Elisabeth Elliot (Clerk)
 Russ Litchfield
 Bob Newton
 Neva Root
 Lea Wright

Fellowship Committee

Lea Wright & Deanna Woirhaye (co-Clerks)
 Carrin & George Bouchard (Kitchen Committee)
 Cassie Caringella
 Sharon & Jack Huffaker (Coffee Hour)
 Lynda Ladwig*
 Mary Marshburn (Decorating, memorials and receptions)
 Ushers: Ted Marshburn (coordinator), Jack Huffaker, Tom Purkiss, Bella & Mel Sturr, Brendon and Deanna Woirhaye

Ministry and Counsel

Rob Settlage (Clerk)
 Jasmine Sturr (Recording Clerk)
 Jo Nita Beede
 Jamie Benjamin
 Elisabeth Elliot
 Iris Harris
 Tom Purkiss
 Candace Ryder

Music Committee

Lou Secord (Clerk)
 Jamie Benjamin
 Michael Elliot
 Pat Garland
 Lloyd Kaneko
 Jean Sponsler
 Mindy Van Dorn

Nominating Committee

Jo Nita Beede & Sue Settlage (co-Clerks)
 Iris Harris
 Mary Marshburn
 Darrell Warren

Outreach Committee

Carrin Bouchard (Clerk)
 Ted Marshburn
 Bob Newton
 Becky Overmyer-Velasquez
 David Warren
 Deanna Woirhaye

Pastoral Care Committee

Presiding Clerk: Ellie Bewley
 Assistant Clerk: Mel Sturr
 Co-Clerks, Personnel: Tim Root and Bob Secord
 Clerk, Ministry and Counsel: Rob Settlage

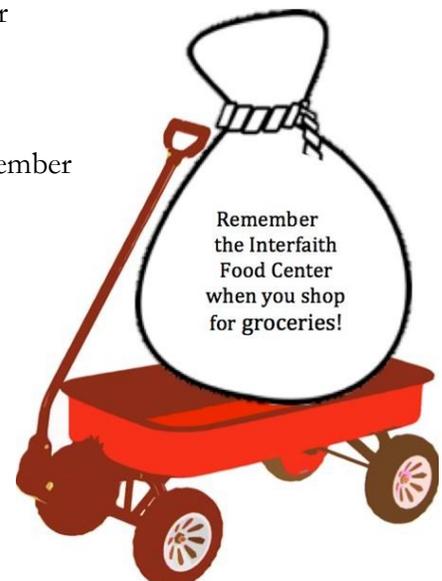
Personnel Committee

Tim Root and Bob Secord (co-Clerks)
 Carrin Bouchard
 Gerry Montgomery

Trustees

Russ Litchfield* (Clerk)
 Sharon Huffaker
 Jean Sponsler
 Don Votaw
 Dan Wright

*As a church member



Return Service Requested
Postmaster: send address changes to:
The Living Light
First Friends Church
13205 Philadelphia St
Whittier, CA 90601-4303

Periodicals
Postage Paid at
Whittier California

The Living Light
 USPS 316-320
 Volume 57 Number 1
 Issue Date: January 1, 2018

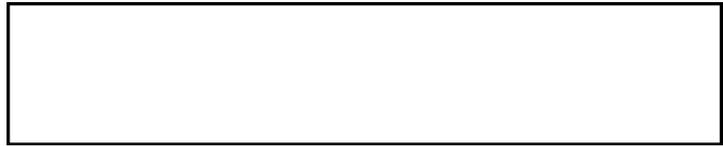
The Living Light is published monthly by First Friends Church, 13205 Philadelphia Street, Whittier, California, 90601-4303. Periodical postage paid at Whittier, California.

Elisabeth Elliot..... Editor
 Marie Kaneko..... Copy Editor
 Loletta Barrett..... Pastor
 Lynda Ladwig..... Associate Pastor
 & Christian Education Coordinator
 Russell Litchfield.....
Dir of Music Ministries & Organist
 Mary Boltz Office Administrator
 Lorenzo Mora Custodian

Telephone 562-698-9805
 FAX 562-698-1127

www.firstfriendswhittier.org

Whittier Friends School Staff
 Marie Kaneko.....School Committee Clerk
 562-945-1654



Your Gifts, Our Action

You may remember the story of about five thousand people coming to hear Jesus speak by the Sea of Galilee. Five thousand people who didn't pack a picnic. They began to get grumpy and hungry. One of the disciples found a boy who had five loaves of bread and a couple of fish to offer, which Jesus took and split into small pieces, and managed to feed the whole crowd. He was able to take a simple offering and multiply the impact immensely to serve his community. This miracle is the only one to appear in all four Gospels.

In our own way, our contributions to the Meeting enable our own service to the community from programmed and unprogrammed worship, music programs, the Friends United Meeting mission around the world, helping hurricane victims in the Caribbean to supporting H.O.W. House, and feeding the homeless closer to home. The offerings we make to the Meeting allow us to magnify the impact of our giving to enable so much more.

As we come to the end of the year, the Monthly Meeting and our committees are prayerfully contemplating our budgets, to make the choices to best serve with what we have been given to work with in the next year. If you have not yet turned in a Faith Promise card, please consider doing so soon, and help the Meeting be the most predictable in serving as we are called.

—Brendon Woirbaye, Clerk of Business and Finance



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

Peggy Anderson
Audrey & Carlos Bailey
Helen & Jack Carlisle
Phil & Liz Ellis
Betty Gibson
Rose Nedrow
Maureen Russell
Ann Smith
Vi Smith
Ella Tiffany
Ami Troedsson
Gerry Wolfe