

# 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 #5

Whittier First Friends Church

May, 2018

## Go Into All The World

On our corner in Whittier, we can lose awareness that we are a part of a wider world—and a world in need of compassion at that.

We have a vital role to play, whether it's getting our hands dirty on a physical service project, holding another f(F)riend in prayerful support or applying active Quakerism to a larger community that seems to have lost its way when it comes to simply talking to one another.

There's work to do—all kinds of work. This summer, Cuba is our focus as the Friends United Meeting (FUM) Summer Mission Project turns its hands to the rebuilding of the Wilmington School in Puerto Padre. More details about this project—and our Meeting's role in it—are coming soon.

Our bridge to FUM is through the Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends (WARSF). This year, First Friends hosted the general meeting (see Bob Newton's report on page 6).

It sometimes seems that there are so many fractures in the world, we don't know where to start. And it takes money. The American Friends Service Committee continues to raise funds to protect immigrant rights. AFSC is also offering a monthly e-course in anti-racist practice for sanctuary, accompaniment and resistance. And that's free.

Quakers always find a way to heal wounds and encourage civil debate. Last year, Friends Committee on National Legislation opened the Quaker Welcome Center adjacent to the FCNL headquarters on Capitol

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*FCNL Executive Secretary Diane Randall shares Quakerly conversation with Reps. Anna G. Eshoo (D-Calif) and Ryan Costello (R-Pa) at the Quaker Welcome Center*

## Cleansing the Lines of Communication

The Communications Committee wants to know how we can discover ways of sharing information to better serve all Friends.

The Meeting's financial deficit continues to weigh on our minds and hearts, and all committees have been busy evaluating how to best use their budgets. But what initially seemed an unwelcome obstacle course is

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

## Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

**Dear Friends,** It's always nice to hear from Friends about their many adventures. As we start our busy summer time, I hope we hear from people that we haven't heard from in a while. (See my email address at the end.)

**Friends Visit:** Christy Tavernelli made a quick trip from Philadelphia (where she works at the American Friends Service Committee) to attend her cousin's wedding in San Diego. Although her visit was too short to permit joining us for Meeting for Worship, she was able to squeeze in a quick lunch with her equally-busy friend, **Tammy Van Dorn**. Christy was rushing back to take part in a protest organized by Earth Quaker Action Team, the Philly-based Quaker environmental group. Tammy is a full-time college student (graduating in May) and part-time dance instructor. Christy and Tammy have been dear friends since they met in kindergarten at Whittier Friends School over 20 years ago. So nice to see that they always make time to see each other. Here they are pretending to hold *The Living Light* continuing our tradition: "*The Living Light Travels*." (Remember, your submissions are welcome and needed.) **George & Carrin Bouchard** enjoyed the Easter visit of **Stacy & Adam Day** and the twins. Friends enjoyed seeing them all at Easter breakfast and in Meeting for Worship.



**Friends About Town:** The American Guild of Organists chapter in Long Beach recently had a members recital. Six people, including **Russ Litchfield**, played a diverse program of "pieces that sound difficult but aren't." Russ enjoyed every person's performance and heard some repertoire that he did not know. He said, "The organ was fun to play and sounded great." **Deanna Woirhaye** will be having her photographic art presented during the upcoming Santa Fe Springs Art Festival on May 4th, 3 to 11 pm at the historic Clarke Estate in Santa Fe Springs. She encourages everyone to join her.

**School and Work News:** Our high school seniors are in the midst of making plans for next year. **Bella Sturr** made her final decision to attend the University of Redlands as a biology major. **Cedric Woirhaye** and family attended Admitted Dolphin Day at CSU Channel Islands. Remaining procedures to enroll,

programs (both student-centered and socially-conscious) and housing topics were explained. CSUCI is beautifully nestled along the coast in Camarillo against the Santa Monica Mountains. The campus is very serene with only 7,000 other students providing a 21:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Cedric is looking forward to being a Dolphin. **Kat Ryder** has been accepted at Cal Poly Pomona, where she'll major in animal science.

**Anathea Woirhaye** performed as a faerie in Orange County School of the Arts production of William Shakespeare's, "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in April. Meanwhile, **Elyse Woirhaye** will soon begin taking her Cecchetti method ballet exam classes, preparing her to take her final dance exams this month. Elyse enjoys ballet. **Rex Jones** is now pastor of the Greenfield IN Friends Church, a little east of Indianapolis.

**Friends Travel:** **Iris Harris** and **Liz Ellis** were in Maui for a week. During their week, they did a lot of



hiking, swimming, snorkeling, and driving. They visited the Maui Ocean Center, and an exhibit of 6 sea turtles now ready for release. On their day "upcountry" they saw hundreds of Protea flowers at a research center. A well-known glass blower gave each of them a hand-blown peace sign, so they told him they were Quakers, and promised to put them to good use. They also visited the Kula Botanical Garden, still privately owned and a labor of love. **Elinore Petoletti** joined a group of friends in Greece, where they visited the Acropolis and other sites.

**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 Meeting for Worship on Sunday. See you next month!

## This Month in Meeting for Worship

May 6	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>World Conquerors</i> 1 John 5:1-6, John 15:9-17
May 13	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>Mothered by God</i> John 17:6-19
May 20	Loletta Barrett brings the message <i>When the Spirit Goes Dry</i> Acts 2:1-8, Romans 8:22-27, John 15:26-27, 16:8-15 and Ezekiel 37:1-14
May 27	Lynda Ladwig brings the message <i>What is Quakerly?</i>



At Monthly Meeting on April 8, we discussed the dedication of our new solar power installation. Quakers are notoriously humble but this is a time to blow our environmental horn. We also discussed what it means to be “a Quaker town,” and how the spirit of this phrase is often misappropriated.

We enthusiastically approved that the Trustees move forward with a proposal from Temple Beth Shalom to share our facilities with them (see page 5). Business and Finance reported the welcome news that in spite of our investment in our solar power system, our endowment has not been reduced as much as expected.

The next Monthly Meeting is Sunday, May 6 at Rise of Meeting.

**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

Easter reminded us of the legacy of Jesus. Just days after, on 50th anniversary of his assassination, the nation honored the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. In May, we remember mothers and those who died serving in the armed forces. In our End of Lives with Dignity workshops, we have been working on tidying up our affairs, making decisions about health care, living spaces, finances, heirlooms, and jettisoning “stuff.” Some of this is important for the people we will leave behind, but it is even more important for our lives now. We are asking: what do I want to remain behind when I am gone, and what do I want people to remember about me? The underlying query is what is my legacy?



Many people create wonderful legacies for children, grandchildren, extended family, friends, community, even the world. College funds, houses, endowments, foundations, works of art and literature, monuments, mausoleums, buildings, businesses, libraries, steeples and cathedrals, and playgrounds. You can probably think of many more. These financial and concrete legacies are an important part of our literal and figurative landscape. But when we think of the most important people in our lives and our world, what do we really admire and remember about their lives?

I shared in a message that as I grew I went from believing my mother had eyes in the back of her head to knowing that my parents had eyes all over the community. The thought kept me from getting in trouble (most of the time). When my parents had both passed on, I came to the realization that from heaven they could now “see” me all the time. Instead of just wanting to stay out of trouble, I was inspired to make them proud. Whether they are watching or not now, I know I am their legacy and I am their best legacy when I emulate their very best traits, things they learned from their parents, and the Master Teacher.

Isn't the best way to remember someone to act the way they taught you to act, to be their legacy? What do we want our legacy to be? Are we already acting that way?



## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP



The youth service project of harvesting fruit continues this month. We were not able to harvest it all on one Sunday afternoon, though we did manage to fill 38 bags of freshly picked oranges from the trees of Rob and Sue Settlege and Liz Ellis. These were delivered to the Interfaith Food Center (thank you Jack Huffaker). On April 22 following Meeting, we again loaded youth, bags and fruit picker into the church van and headed out to glean the fruits of Friends.



On April 15, the youth gathered to help the Shelters Right Hand stuff 500 goodie bags for those taking part in the Shelters Right Hand 5k walk on April 21. They were joined by Friends from our Meeting and friends from the community, making quick work of this pleasant task to support the Women and Children's Crisis Shelter.

Our spring and summer calendar is filling up quickly with activities. This month, we will be heading up to Lake Arrowhead to enjoy the hospitality of JoAnne Camp and her daughter Coleen. June is still a mystery but in July, you will find us traveling up to Quaker Center in Ben Lomond, CA for a working retreat.

—Lynda Ladwig



*Cedric enjoys the fruit of his labor*



## News from Whittier Friends School

For Whittier Friends School, April was a month of lull before a storm of non-stop activities and events. We enjoyed a leisurely visit with Anatheia Woirhaye, Whittier Friends School alum, and her chicken, Beverly. Anatheia showed the children Beverly's blue eggs, and they got to watch Beverly eat her dried mealworm treat.



April also brought big winds, knocking down our play yard shade-cloth and keeping us without power for almost the whole of Friday, the 13th. We are currently working

toward buying a new shade cloth to prepare for the coming hot months.

Look for news in *The Living Light* about our annual Spring Event, which was held on Saturday, April 28, and upcoming Grandparents' Day on Friday, May 4 and Whittier Founders' Day on Saturday, May 12.



*Penelope Iniguez isn't quite sure about Beverly.*



## A Leading to Share

At Monthly Meeting in April, the Trustees presented us with an intriguing opportunity. Temple Beth Shalom is currently without a rabbi, is experiencing a shrinking congregation and is no longer able to support their facilities on Hawes Avenue in Whittier. They have made the difficult decision to sell their property. Their synagogue has asked if we would be interested in sharing our facility with them for worship services and events.

Their regular worship times are Friday nights with an attendance of between 10 and 20 people along with Saturday services once a month. High Holy Days attendance is higher, usually between 30 and 85 people. In addition to worship space, they are asking for event space on Saturday once a month as well as space for educational series on Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. They also require some storage space and signage.

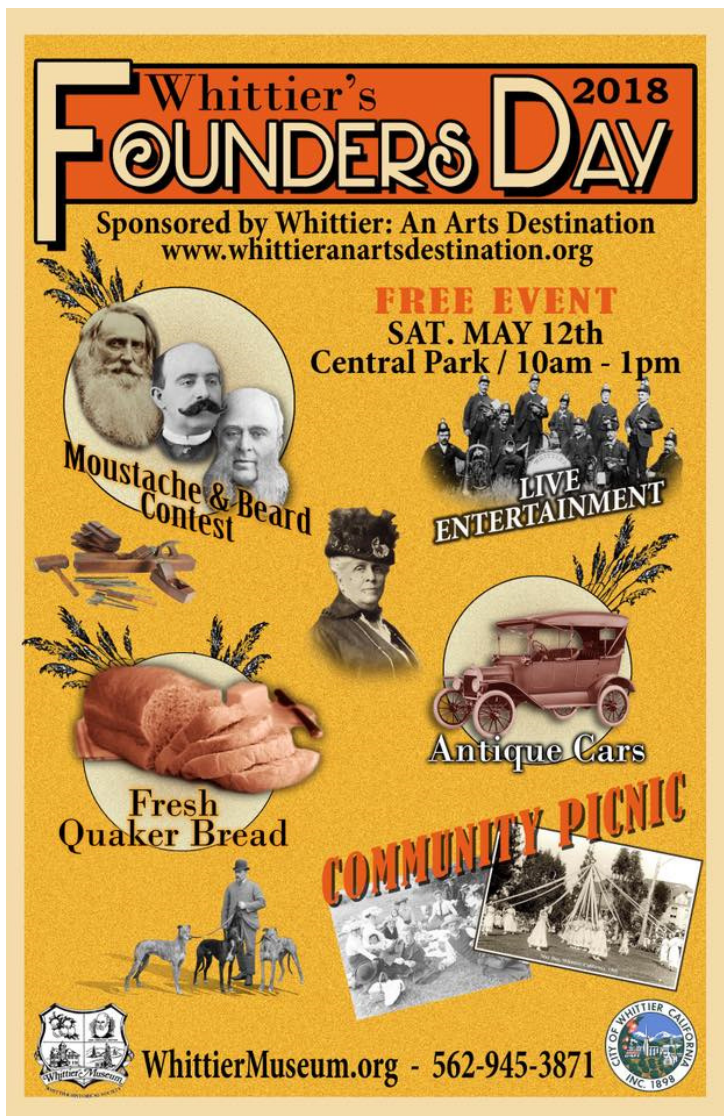
Our property offers several options for all their needs, including the former counseling center in the Christian Education building. There would not be significant intrusion to the character of the Meeting House—in fact, one of the reasons the Temple has approached us is our lack of symbols in our worship space.

Financial arrangements have yet to be discussed but funds from a facility rental would help reduce though not eliminate our own budget deficit.

Russ Litchfield, clerk of Trustees, shared that the people of Temple Beth Shalom are similar in many ways to Friends. They have a similar world view and progressive leanings. There would be opportunities for harmonious shared worship and social interactions.

The Meeting enthusiastically approved that the Trustees move forward with Temple Beth Shalom in exploring a relationship that would be both practical and spiritual, and we look forward to where the Spirit leads both of our congregations.

—*Elisabeth Elliot*



**Doree Votaw**, longtime member of our Meeting and cousin of Don and Shirley Votaw, passed to new life on February 25. She and her husband Dick moved to Newberg, Oregon in 1991, and Dick passed away in 2010.

Doree loved people and people loved her. We remember her as a wonderful conversationalist, and for her knack for making people feel comfortable. We were always happy to see her in Meeting for Worship during her visits to Whittier.

After Dick's passing, Doree enjoyed several trips overseas including a mission trip to Rwanda Friends Theological College. Friends wishing to make a memorial gift may make it through West Chehalem Friends Church, 16700 NE North Valley Rd, Newberg, OR 97132 and designate it for Rwanda Friends Theological College.



## Western Friends Discuss the Future

Eleven Friends gathered after our annual Quaker Forum in February for the General Meeting of the Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends (WARSF). Clerk Bob Secord convened the annual gathering, with Board of Oversight members Mel Sturr and Lea Wright present. Keith Barton, Board of Oversight Recorder, represented Berkeley Friends Church. The Board had met the previous evening for their annual meeting with Board member Darrell Warren in attendance. Saturday's open meeting participants included Loletta Barrett, Ted Marshburn, Mary Marshburn, Bob Newton, Sabron Newton, Tim Root, Lou Secord and Carol Uner, all from First Friends.



WARSF is the organizational body linking First Friends with Friends United Meeting and the wider Quaker world, and provides a structure through which meetings, churches or individuals may enjoy a relationship with FUM. Annual meetings are held to provide the entire membership with an opportunity to review the work of the Association, and to take any actions necessary for its continuing operation.

Bob Secord reviewed the minutes of last year's WARSF meeting, held at Berkeley Friends Church. He presented a brief but concise financial report prepared by Finance Clerk Lea Wright, and a proposed 2018 budget, both of which were approved.

Bob read reports submitted by WARSF delegates to Friends organizations. Dorothy Kakamoto and Louise Neal of Berkeley Friends, representatives to the American Friends Service Committee, reported on the April 2017 annual meeting in Philadelphia, which

## Quakers in Unity New From Friends Around the World



**American Friends Service Committee**—Temporary Protected Status grants protection from deportation to people from certain countries that are afflicted by natural disasters, war, or other dangerous conditions. In the last few months, TPS has been eliminated for over 250,000 immigrants. Thousands more may face the same fate in coming months. Join us to save TPS and call on Congress to create a roadmap to citizenship for all immigrants. [afsc.org](http://afsc.org).

**Friends United Meeting**—Regretfully, Stoking the Fire has been cancelled this year because of lack of participants. Please join us in 2019. [fum.org](http://fum.org).

**Friends General Conference**—Join Friends from across the US and Canada at the 2018 FGC Gathering “The Power of Truth” July 1-7 in Toledo, OH. [fgc.org](http://fgc.org).

**Friends World Committee for Consultation**—Please hold in the Light our Executive Committee as we wrap up our meeting this weekend in Florida. It is a blessing to work with these loving and faithful Friends. [fwcc.org](http://fwcc.org).

**Right Sharing of World Resources**—The new home of the Quaker Missions Stamp Project will be at Indianapolis Friends Meeting. It has been beautiful to watch as the stamp ministry has become a community ministry. The transition has been smoothed by the kindness and generosity of so many Friends who are interested in being of service to this ministry. [rswr.org](http://rswr.org).

celebrated the 100th anniversary of AFSC. Dorothy is stepping down as AFSC rep and WARSF is currently seeking a replacement. A report on the annual meeting of the Friends Committee on National Legislation last November in Washington DC, prepared by representatives Tim Root and Sue Settlage and edited by Elisabeth Elliot, was presented. Bob Secord reported on the Triennial session of Friends United Meeting held at Friends University in Kansas last July. Bob is also Assistant Clerk of FUM. Many Whittier First Friends attended the Triennial, including a sizeable youth contingent. The well-attended meeting included 50 from Kenya. It was reported that Colin Saxton will be retiring after several years as FUM General Secretary.

The WARSF meeting, in the Quaker way, both began and ended in open worship.

—Bob Newton





## End of Life with Dignity Workshops Continue

On May 5 at 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall, we will discuss “Memorials and Celebrations of Life.” If you haven’t attended previous workshops, you are still invited to come! Just let Loletta know if you are coming for the first time. If you are interested in the handouts from previous workshops, see Loletta, she has lots of stuff for you!

### *New Century Singers Spring Concert*

Sunday, May 20 at 3 p.m. in the Meeting House  
A free will offering will be taken



### ALL FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Wesley Murray, a Whittier resident, will bring an interesting program about his life to All Friends Fellowship Night on Wednesday, May 9. Wes was in the U.S. Air Force as a navigator flying in a B-52, at times armed with nuclear weapons during the Cold War with Russia. After leaving the service he received a Masters degree in landscape architecture. He worked as an Area Planner, designing new towns and parks as well as commercial developments and the rehabilitation of mining sites. He also taught landscape architecture full time for a while at the University of Oregon.

More recently, Wes has been a guest lecturer in landscape architecture and urban planning at universities in Southern California. Since retirement, Wes has been a volunteer working on community service projects and has served on several committees and boards locally. He currently serves on the Whittier Library Foundation Board.

Potluck dinner begins at 6 p.m. in Fellowship Hall with the program to follow at 7 p.m. Sign up in the foyer 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...

Whittier Friends School Recognition Night	Thursday, June 7 6:30 p.m.
Monthly Meeting	June 10
Summer Worship Schedule	July 1—September 2
Friends General Conference Gathering in Toledo, OH	July 1—7

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Hill in Washington. This meeting space, where witness meets advocacy, is designed for and is already serving as a place for bipartisan discussions between members of Congress as well as public events. The Center is a key step in FCNL’s mission to equip people to change policy, nurture integrity in governance, and collaborate across political differences.

“It’s tremendously exciting, and we’re imagining all the possibilities of having a more intimate setting for dialogue,” said FCNL Executive Secretary Diane Randall in a recent interview in *The Washington Post*. “In some sense, I feel like we model good relationship behavior.”

Can we get an amen to that?

—Elisabeth Elliot

*“Communication” continued from page 1*

is instead turning into a clear way opening. We’re welcoming the opportunity to take a fresh look.

Take *The Living Light*. For over five decades, it has been printed on paper and mailed to Friends via the US Postal Service. This is a tried and true method that continues to serve its purpose for many. We mail it to 350 addresses—including yours. That’s the way it’s always been done.

So we’re asking some questions. Is this still the way you want your *Living Light* delivered to you? Would you rather pick it up at Meeting for Worship instead of it appearing in your mailbox? Would you like it emailed to you in a digital format so you can read it on your computer or tablet or print it out yourself? It’s always available at [firstfriendswhittier.org](http://firstfriendswhittier.org). Would you like to read it online? Do you already?

Please talk to us at Meeting for Worship, write us a note, leave us a message in the office or send us an email at [communicuaker@gmail.com](mailto:communicuaker@gmail.com). Communicate with us. We’re listening.

—The Communications Committee

Elisabeth Elliot, Russ Litchfield, Neva Root  
and Lea Wright

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## Music at First Friends

Suitcases, Sunscreen and Passport!  
 Inspiration from Abroad

Jeanette Wong, piano  
 Beverly Howard, organ  
*featuring the music of Bach, Mendelssohn,  
 Chopin and Liszt*

Sunday, June 3 at 3 p.m.

In the Meeting House

A free will offering will be taken  
 This program is kid-friendly and fun



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

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