

# The Living Light

*"...and Christ shall give thee light." Ephesians 5:14*



**Volume 53, Number 8**

**First Friends Church of Whittier**

**Eighth Month, 2014**

## Meet Our Pastoral Candidate

### **Whittier Well Represented at FUM Triennial**

On June 11, fifteen from First Friends gathered at Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion IN for the 30th Triennial sessions of Friends United Meeting (FUM). Those in attendance included Lynda Ladwig, Ted and Mary Marshburn, Amara Overmyer, Becky Overmyer-Velazquez, Ethan Purkiss, Katerina Ryder, Bob Secord (Assistant Clerk of the General Board, N. America), Lou Secord, Bella Sturr, Jasmine Sturr, Mel Sturr, Wes Van Dorn, Anatheia Woirhaye, and Cedric Woirhaye. Approximately 300 people attended the Triennial. Again, a number of Kenyan Friends were refused visas.

FUM is composed of 12 yearly meetings and two "Associations" (one of which is our WARSF) in North America and 20 yearly meetings in Kenya. There are more than 160,000 Friends in Kenya and 35,000 Friends in North America who are part of FUM. FUM offers support to the yearly meetings and organizes and administers our ministries around the world.

During the business meetings three new yearly meetings (two in Kenya and one in Tanzania) as well as the New Association of Friends (in Indiana) were added as new members. Representatives approved revisions of the Organization and Procedure Manual. Also approved was the plan for a \$3 million "Comprehensive Campaign." With more funding there will be renewed emphasis on North American ministries. Colin Saxton will continue as the General Secretary of FUM and Cliff Loesch will continue as the Presiding Clerk.

Colin Saxton, James Bryan Smith and Richard Foster were all dynamic speakers and brought inspiring messages. The Worship Sharing Groups, with 6 to 12 in each, gave us the opportunity to get better acquainted and helped form bonds of friendship.

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The Pastoral Search Committee has enthusiastically recommended Loletta Barrett as a candidate for Pastor of our Meeting. The choice was announced at the July Monthly Meeting.

Loletta first established bonds with our Meeting as interim pastor in 2012 and has been a welcome visitor since that time, most recently this spring when she told us of being a visiting Church of Christ pastor in Namibia.



The recommendation of the Pastoral Search Committee comes after over a year of search and prayerful discernment. One of the principal guides was the survey completed by the members and attenders of our Meeting last fall. Important among all the many needs expressed by the survey is that our Pastor be "a fellow traveler." The committee is confident that this describes Loletta abundantly!

In describing her life goals, Loletta expresses her wish to be an agent of transformation who can encourage both individuals and groups to flourish as spiritually-centered compassionate leaders.

Loletta will visit First Friends in September to meet with our members and committees and will bring the message at Meeting for Worship on September 7. After Meeting, there will be a gathering in Fellowship Hall to give our church family an opportunity to meet with Loletta informally and discuss our possible collaboration as we move toward a decision together.

Please plan to join us on Sunday, September 7 to spend some joyous time with Loletta Barrett.

*— Elisabeth Elliot*

# Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

**Dear Friends,** This summer has been a time for visiting and traveling.

**Friends Celebrate:** Bill & Marygene Wright hosted their Massachusetts granddaughter, **Ellen Wright** and her fiancée **Yaroslav Mikhaylov** for two days. Eighteen family members shared in conversation and food on Saturday, July 12.

**Friends Visit:** **Laura Kaneko** was in town from Brooklyn, NY where she just completed her first year teaching fourth grade. It was good to see **Marci Vaden** at church on June 22. She was visiting Whittier for a few days from Columbus OH. **Judith Austin's** son and his wife visited her from Alabama at the end of May. **Betsy Wood**, and her daughter **Emily**, visited her parents, **Bill & Marygene Wright**. Emily will be starting college this Fall at Trinity University in San Antonio TX. **David Votaw** was in town visiting and came to Meeting with **Don & Shirley Votaw**. **Bethany Marshburn** is back in Whittier for the summer visiting **Ted & Mary Marshburn**. A recent Picnic in the Park gave Friends a chance to share a meal with **Ron & Becky Mommelaar** who were in So Cal for a family reunion with Ron's brother and three sisters.

**Friends About Town:** There has been lots of music for **Pat & Sarah Garland** who attended the Camarillo Greek Festival in June at the Camarillo Airport. (Opa!) They attended a concert at the Hollywood Bowl in July to hear Dreamworks Animation film scores. Pat also went to the D2K Cher concert in July at the Honda Center. **Milton** and **Dan Wright** drove their 1921 Studebaker and 1929 Model A Ford for their annual visit at an Adult Day Care



Center in Anaheim. Just for fun Milt's car took *The Living Light* along. **Dan Wright** took his Chevy 490 to the Woodworkers of Whittier meeting and talked about his 1919 car and his calliope. Three of **Deanna Woirhaye's** photos were

selected for an exhibit of photography by local artists at Whittier City Hall. One was a portrait of **Elyse** called "Windows of the Soul." Another was the photo of African elephants she took in Kenya. The exhibit opened on June 24 with a ceremony presided over by the Mayor. Deanna also had photographs on exhibit during the summer at the Santa Fe Springs library.

**Out of Town Friends:** Here is a new subject/category for our readers. **Gerald & Sara Adams** have just completed their move to a house in the Mayflower Retirement Community in Grinnell, Iowa. They are really enjoying being a part of this wonderful community and they invite anyone to visit them. They have a large guest room and a very pretty small town setting.

**School and Work News:** **Anathea Woirhaye** recently completed her Shakespeare camp. It concluded with her performance of Helena in a scene of *Midsummer Night's Dream* which was followed by demonstrations of stage combat with a rapier and biomechanics (partnered balancing acts). Deanna says they intend to have **Elyse Woirhaye** enroll in a similar class suited to her age group very soon. Both Anathea and Elyse along with **Ashley** and **Katerina Ryder**, **Ella** and **Gavin Huffaker**, and **Amara Overmyer** "showcased" their dance skills in Claylee's Dance Academy's production of "The Wizard of Oz" at La Mirada's Theater of Performing Arts.

**Friends Travel:** **Karlene & Bill Wright** had the pleasure of meeting with a long-time friend of Karlene's for two weeks in Florence, Italy, where she had an apartment for a month. They visited Florence, Venice, Rome, Siena, Verona and Fiesole. They had a wonderful time. Bill was able to get to the Ferrari Museums in Modena and Maranello. He says, "a lot of red cars!" Here they are in Verona, in the Di Castelveccchio, near the home of Juliet Capulet with *The Living Light*, continuing our tradition: "*The Living Light Travels.*" (Remember, your submissions are welcome and



needed.) Yes, they saw the balcony! **Elinore Petoletti** traveled to Ireland and Wales and rode a lot of trains with her travel companions. **Steve Bates** visited with family and friends in So Cal in June & July. **Lara** and **Gary Wemmerus** had a South Dakota adventure. They stayed with Gary's sister, Tricia, who is raising chicks in her house. **Ken & Joanne Camp** spent the 4th of July with family at Lake Arrowhead as they have done for many years. At the end of July they traveled to Oregon with their daughter Colleen. **Marilyn Fant** house sat in Cambria for **Anne & Harry Eggleton** for a few days in July on her way north to see her father. Four of the **Beede** siblings: **Jo Nita**, **Tina**, **Norm** and **Ben** flew to Indiana for the 90th birthday of their aunt, **Louise Beede**, which was observed on July 12 at Connor Prairie, a living history museum in Indianapolis. **Jasmine Sturr** flew out from Baltimore to join **Mel**, **Sharon**, and **Bella** on a weekend trip to Monterey to attend the wedding of Laura Newman, the daughter of Mel's sister, Maggie. They had a wonderful time catching up with family members from around the country. They got back just in time to take Jasmine to the airport so she could finish her summer research project in Baltimore.

**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!

## **Campers Learn History Through Arts and Games**



Nine grade-school youngsters had a fine time the last week of June as they studied early colonies of Europeans in America. The Whittier Friends School 2014 summer camp titled "Colonies of the Americas" continued the series started three summers ago of the general theme "Discovering History Through Art." This summer folk-arts and crafts were emphasized in learning to appreciate

our multi-cultural roots.

Monday the 23rd was devoted to the English colonies of the North Atlantic Coast, starting from the mysterious failed colony of Roanoke, to the first enduring colony at Jamestown Virginia, and the most familiar one at Plymouth in Massachusetts. Campers made corn muffins and played traditional childrens' games of hopscotch and blind man's buff.

On Tuesday campers studied the Spanish colonies from Florida on down to South America. Campers made tortillas and salsa and learned how to make wax candles by the dipping method. A trip on Wednesday to Olvera Street, the "main drag" of early Los Angeles, helped to add appreciation for the Spanish-American heritage.

The French New World colonies were reviewed on Thursday — Quebec, Acadian Maine and Creole New Orleans. Hands-on activities included making French bread baguettes and butter. Campers also prepared "Jackwax," a colonial French treat, from snow (crushed ice) and maple syrup.

Each day campers added to their map of colonial America, and worked on their time-line of events, under the tutelage of WFS teachers Cassie Caringella and Alicia Atkinson, who designed and skillfully moderated the week-long program. Parents Jody Collins and Candice Ryder helped to chaperone the Olvera Street trip.

On Friday, campers learned to make quill pens, a basic skill in the colonial school. Parents gathered to watch the campers pantomime life in four kinds of early American homes, including a slave cottage of the Old South. Participants of the 2014 summer history camp came away with an enhanced understanding of the origins of our traditions.

— Bob Newton



### **Welcome, Candice, Kat and Ashley!**

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" sang the congregation as they pressed forward eagerly to the front of the Meeting Room to welcome new members Candice, Katerina and Ashley Ryder following their introduction by Lynda Ladwig during Meeting for Worship July 20. Hugs and handshakes expressed the affection developed for mother and daughters through their active participation in the life of First Friends over the past several years.

Candice was born and raised in Whittier and is a graduate of Whittier College, holding both bachelor's and master's degrees from that institution. She has taught language arts and social studies at Shively Middle School in South El Monte for the past 20 years. She and husband Bill have attended First Friends Church since 2000.

The Ryders connected with adoptive daughter Katerina (Kat) through the L.A. County foster care system in 2002. Kat has been active in our youth program and a student in Whittier Friends School from kindergarten through 8th Grade graduation this spring. Even before starting school at Whittier High, she began working out with the school's soccer training program. Kat is also a good musician. She has contributed to Meeting for Worship as a pianist and to WFS theatrical and Peace Café events as a singer, and has been a Peace Camp counselor.

Ashley came to the Ryders in 2004 and was adopted two years later. She will be entering the 5th grade in Whittier Friends School, where she has been a student since preschool. Like her sister, Ashley loves music and dramatics. She is also learning the sport of soccer under father/coach Bill. She is known among Friends as a lover of animals. Right now she thinks her calling will be to the field of nursing. Earlier this year, her poster "Nurses in the American Civil War" won a finalist ribbon at the county-wide History Day competition.

Coffee Hour in Founders Court at the rise of meeting was an especially joyful event in celebration of the Ryders' membership.

— Bob Newton



### *Friends Represented at FUM Triennial continued*

Of special interest for some of us were the reports from our Friends ministries in other countries. Joyce Ajlouny spoke about the Ramallah Friends School in Palestine with 1,350 students and 96 senior high school graduates this year. The Lugulu Friends Hospital in Kenya is doing well. The Kaimosi Hospital, managed by Friends for many years, is doing well but now operated by the National Council of Churches in Kenya. Ann Riggs spoke about Friends Theological College (FTC) and its improved academic status, now training many Friends pastors and other leaders for Kenyan churches. And it has assisted in the development of the new Rwanda Theological College. Robert Wafula is replacing Ann as the FTC principal. For an interim year, Dale Graves will be in charge of the program in Belize. Others spoke about the Amari Play Center in a refugee camp in Palestine, development of pure water systems in Africa, and other projects.

The variety of Workshops informed us in much more detail about some of FUM's missions and projects. A Global Marketplace featured gifts and articles brought for sale by Friends from the USA, Africa and elsewhere.

FUM's overall theme has been "Gathered in Christ, in Community, for Mission." Colin Saxton has challenged FUM for this triennium to work to "energize and equip Friends on a local level" and "connect us on a global level." We can be energized by a deeper relationship with the living Christ. We all are equipped with talents and can use them. We need to work at connecting with other people.

This FUM Triennial was a rich time of fellowship, visiting with old friends, meeting new friends, learning more about Friends around the world and hearing inspiring messages. We are thankful for the opportunity to have been present there.

— Ted Marshburn

## ***Triennial Experiences of a Youth Program Participant***

The first thing that the youth group (Katerina, Anatheia, Amara, Ethan, Wes, Bella, Jasmine and I) experienced was a foggy and rainy day in Indianapolis. We drove with Rex Allen Jones, a former pastor of First Friends Church, to Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) in Marion, IN. As we drove through a moist, green environment, we saw apartment buildings with lakes that have fountains at their centers and some farmland with corn crops. When we ate breakfast at "Cracker Barrel," we heard an oil lamp's glass shield suddenly shatter into pieces. Luckily, immediately after the lamp fell, the glass was cleaned up. When we were done eating, we played a game of checkers on a checkerboard with gigantic checkers. As we left "Cracker Barrel," we saw a roller skating rink called "Skateland," like the rink my mother told about that used to be on the corner of Washington Boulevard and Whittier Boulevard. As we were heading to IWU, I saw a vast expanse of farmland, many water towers, and a fire that I tried to get a photograph of, but failed. As we neared IWU, we approached a town called Gas City, Indiana which I first thought of as a town that is full of gas stations, but it looked like a normal town.

Finally, we arrived at IWU and got to know the youth and the staff (interns) in our triennial group: Kaitlyn, Taylor, Chloe, Chanie, Tyler, Sarah, Lauren, Andrew, Gary, Gail, Aaron, Emily, Brad, Scott, Jeff, and Brock, young Friends from Iowa, Indiana, and North Carolina. Lauren was a funny, beautiful female intern who is taller than me by just about 1.5 inches which is rare because I'm taller than most young women. Lauren is in college, Gary

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# August 2014

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>Schedule for August Sundays</b> <b>Unprogrammed Worship—8:30a</b> <b>Meeting for Worship—10:00a</b>					<b>1</b> Last Day of Peace Camp	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 11:15a Quakerism/ Membership Class	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 7:00a Spiritual Growth & Quaker Men 9:15a Trustees 7:30p M&C	<b>6</b> 6:00p Picnic in the Park- Michigan Park	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 11:15a Monthly Meeting (Lunch will not be served)	<b>11</b> 10:00a Quiltmakers	<b>12</b> 7:00a Spiritual Growth & Quaker Men	<b>13</b> <b>Friendly Fare  Deadline</b> 6:00p Picnic in the Park- Michigan Park	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Living Light  Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> <b>7:30p Special  Event:</b> Black Tie Opera- Hansel & Gretel
<b>17</b> 11:15a Quakerism/ Membership Class	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:00a Spiritual Growth & Quaker Men	<b>20</b> <b>Editors  Compose  Living Light</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>10:00a Special  Event:</b> Train Day
<b>24</b> 11:15a Quakerism/ Membership Class 11:15a Outreach Meeting	<b>25</b> 10:00a Quiltmakers	<b>26</b> 7:00a Spiritual Growth & Quaker Men	<b>27</b> <b>Living Light  Folding</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:00a Meeting for Worship					<b>On September 7 Meeting for  Worship will begin at 11:00 a.m.</b>	



Bishop Aereaux  
Trevor Allen  
Ellie Bewley  
George Bouchard  
Savanah Burke  
Mary Case  
Josh Fant  
Linda Flournoy  
Pat Garland

Laura Kaneko  
Alex Marshburn  
Emma McIntosh  
Jane Moody  
Bruce Nelson  
Tish Purkiss  
Gloria Rice  
Sandra Robison  
Jennifer Root

Rob Settlege  
H. Russell Smith  
Bonnie Streeter  
Mel Sturr  
Tom Van Dorn  
Marylinn Wheatley  
Deanna Woirhaye  
Isaac Wright  
Philip 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!

## Barefoot Boy Returns

Do you remember Whittier's famous poem "The Barefoot Boy," written in 1855 when he was nearing 50? It begins:

*"Blessings on thee, little man,  
Barefoot boy, with cheek of tan!  
With thy turned-up pantaloons,  
And thy merry whistled tunes;  
And thy red lip, redder still  
Kissed by strawberries on the hill;  
With the sunshine on thy face,  
Through thy torn brim's jaunty grace;  
From my heart I give thee joy, —  
I was once a barefoot boy!"*

For the City of Whittier Centennial in 1988, California artist Tita Hupp was asked to create a life size bronze sculpture of this Barefoot Boy. She spent two years on the project, learning the techniques of working in bronze, duplicating in foam the measurements of a real 11-year-old boy, and sculpting his features on a thin layer of clay from which several molds were made. A foundry in Burbank poured molten bronze into the molds. The cooled bronze pieces were cleaned and assembled and a dark brown finish applied. Hat beside him, the boy was seated on a rock by a pond, watching a frog which was just out of reach of his stick. Behind him were two busy squirrels—probably interested in his lunch. (The poet's personal pet squirrel, "Friday," if you recall, was stuffed when it died and now resides in the archives at the Whittier College Library.)

The Whittier Beautiful and Barefoot Boy Statue Committees, aided by the Chamber of Commerce, sold paintings and posters of the city's official "Whittier Friendship Rose" to help raise the necessary funds. Upon completion, the statue was presented to the city as a gift. After the dedication in June 1988, the Barefoot Boy sat quietly in the shrubbery at the west end of City Hall for over 20 years.

Then the space was needed for construction of a new police station, and just after the city and college observed the Bicentennial of the 1807 birth of the poet for whom our city was named, the Barefoot Boy went into storage. For four years, the city's Art in Public Places Advisory Committee, of which Sue Settlege is a member, kept the search for a new location on the city's agenda. A more public site, not far from the original one, was selected and approved, and a new pond, fed by water cascading down over carefully selected area boulders, was constructed beside the east entrance to the Central Library, where the relocated Barefoot Boy was re-dedicated on June 24.

The re-dedication ceremony began at 10:30 a.m. with the ringing of the old Bailey St. School bell, which sits outside City Hall. Mayor Cathy Warner and Councilman Owen Newcomer welcomed attendees. Ruth B. Shannon,



## M<sup>3</sup> Packs It Up

Thirteen Friends gathered for Mission Monday in Fellowship Hall on July 21 to sort the supplies gathered to complete the Backpack Rescue Drive. The drive began last May as seniors at Whittier College donated lightly used backpacks, along with numerous pens and pencils, folders and other school supplies upon moving off campus.

At the beginning of July these items were augmented by a Saturday school supply drive at Office Depot organized by Darrell Warren and marketed thru Dan Wright's construction of our very own "Backpack Bob." Members of the meeting also donated sizeable amounts, resulting in three 33 gallon trash cans filled to the top with the much needed school supplies.

Satisfied that our group had done its best to fill the 116 backpacks, many donated by Office Depot, with a myriad of goodies, we joyfully welcomed the presence of Amy Catt, Executive Director of the Interfaith Food Center, and helped her load the backpacks for transport. The backpacks will be disbursed to the children serviced by the Center before school starts in August.

Mission Monday will start up again on September 15 with another outreach into our community. Watch the *Living Light* for details and plan to spend the evening of the third Monday of September helping us help others,

— Lynda Ladwig

Co-Chair of the original Statue Committee, retold the story of how it all came to pass, and Virginia Boles, who chaired the Whittier Centennial Committee in 1988, read the opening lines of the Whittier poem. Many others involved in either the original project or the relocation were recognized and applauded. The artist herself, who now lives in northern California, was present to be thanked and photographed, and one of her sons shared his memories of her work on the Barefoot Boy. She has done hundreds of bronzes since, including a replica of the Barefoot Boy for the public library in Haverhill MA, Whittier's birthplace. After formalities ended with City Manager Jeff Collier cutting the ribbon around the pond, the library staff served refreshments.

— Sabron Newton



*Cedric Woirhaye (rear, 4th from left) & Triennial youth group*

### *Triennial Youth Program continued*

was the oldest of the interns, and Sarah was the youngest intern. Jeff and Aaron led the activities and worship that our group did until Sunday.

The next day we did some activities in the gymnasium such as shooting down basketballs perched on top of PVC pipe towers with small balls.

On June 13, we went to a water park called “Splash House.” We had so much fun there playing on the slides. Later, we saw a movie called “Courageous” which was about the loss of a girl and criminal activity.

We were also in a lecture with the famous author, Richard Foster. The first idea that Richard Foster presented was that when God speaks to us, he is sometimes telling us what to do to help us be safe. The other idea that he presented was that we all grow toward Christ. The third idea that he presented was that Christ is with us all the time.

One day we worked on a puzzle to dance music that was very nice. The puzzle was not completed in the time given.

We had some ice cream at “Ivanhoe’s” in Upland, IN. When we were on our way to this ice cream shop, Gail told me that Gas City, IN, was named after a local natural gas reserve.

On our last day in Indiana, Scott took a group picture of himself and some of the remaining interns and youth including me. They are (above) from left to right: Tyler, Gary, Andrew, Taylor, Lauren, Gail, Emily, Brad, Chloe, and Wes.

In Indianapolis we went to the art museum and explored the downtown for some time and we finally went back to the airport and flew home.

In the Quaker religion, we believe that we should love everybody, meaning we treat everybody with respect. In Quaker spirituality, we believe that our hearts are our souls that contain God and Christ. My relationship with God was good when, at the end of each day, the dorm’s environment was calm and quiet.

— Cedric Alexander Woirhaye

## **Trumpeter Sywulka Contributes To Worship**

Multi-medium musician Edward Sywulka is well known at First Friends, having contributed to Sunday worship and special events on several occasions. On July 6 he got our summer season with its early worship time off to a good start with trumpet accompaniment of hymns, offertory and the call to worship.

Edward played the familiar “For All the Saints” with Russ Litchfield on the organ for the Call to Worship. The offertory hymn was “America the Beautiful,” celebrating the Independence Day weekend. Lynda Ladwig’s worship message centered on the concept of religious freedom, as advocated historically by Quakers, especially in William Penn’s Pennsylvania Colony Charter, much of which found its way into the First Amendment of our Constitution, according to historians.

Edward Sywulka graduated from Biola University in La Mirada as a music major and went on to receive a Master’s degree from Boston University. As a professional musician, he serves the Whittier area in several ways. He is the piano accompanist for the La Serna High School choir and rehearsal accompanist for the New Century Singers. Two years ago he and co-trumpeter Marc Barber made a fine contribution to our special Easter Sunday musical service. — Bob Newton

## **Congratulations to Jon-Paul Cook!**

On Sunday, July 13 Jon-Paul Cook contributed to Meeting for Worship by playing two cello pieces: Bach’s “Allemande” for the Prelude, and the well-loved hymn “Spirit of Holiness” for the offertory. Since taking up that instrument on a sudden impulse several years ago, Jon-Paul has become a proficient musician. In addition to worship appearances with his cello, he has sung in our choir.



Four years ago Jon-Paul entered Whittier College with a prestigious John Greenleaf Whittier scholarship, which he has maintained through graduation this spring with a physics major and a music minor. He has developed an interest in space physics and hopes to start training in that field with an internship at a major research institution like the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Way to go, Jon-Paul!

— Bob Newton

# 2014 ALL-MEETING RETREAT

## ***A Transformative Faith: Seeking Inner Renewal, Shared Community and Transformative Service***

Facilitated by Philip Clayton,  
Professor of Theology, Claremont School of Theology

**Friday September 26 through Sunday, September 28  
The Marina Inn at Dana Point**

At this year's All-Meeting Retreat, we celebrate our Christian and Quaker heritage. We meet in the conviction that our particular focus on seeking peace and listening for the Inner Light remains as relevant today as in the past — if not more so. Our goal is to grow in closeness to each other and to the Divine Light as we will seek God's leading for the next chapter of our lives together.

Philip Clayton, a Quaker and author of the provocative book *Transforming Christian Theology: For Church and Society*, will lead us as we consider the foundations of a transformative faith and how Quaker testimonies and practices are particularly well-suited to speak to the needs and desires of young people and young families today who are seeking a faith location and spiritual home.

Together, we will explore:

- What are the strengths of our particular faith tradition and of our community at Whittier First Friends Church, a Quaker Meeting?
- In the coming few years, what are some of the ways that we can "live into" who we are?
- What personal and communal practices contribute to growth in inner faith, in shared community and in meaningful service in our surrounding community?

We will gather at 7pm on Friday evening, continue on Saturday and conclude with Meeting for Worship on Sunday morning. The children's program will be led by Jacy Purkiss, assisted by Sarah Garland.

Bring: An open heart, an open mind, and a desire to discover new vistas along your own spiritual path.

**A \$50 deposit (payable to Whittier First Friends Church) is required by August 25, with the balance due by Sept 26.** Rooms may be available but cannot be guaranteed after August 25. If you have a scheduling conflict or financial assistance is needed, please contact a retreat committee member (Ted Marshburn, Pat Garland, Deanna Woirhaye or Lynda Ladwig).

Price includes two nights' accommodations with continental breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday.

Name: Adults \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

### Room Preference

Single (no roommate) \$200 \_\_\_\_ Double (2 people) \$226 \_\_\_\_ Triple (3 people) \$252 \_\_\_\_

Quad (4 people) \$278 \_\_\_\_

I would like a King room \_\_\_\_ I would like a Queen room (2 beds, max 4 persons) \_\_\_\_

I would like to room with \_\_\_\_\_ Please assign me a roommate \_\_\_\_

I can help with snacks \_\_\_\_ I will need transportation \_\_\_\_

## **Les and Ruth Marshall: Friendly Faces Up Close**

In 1946, Ruth Hinshaw decided to visit her family in Whittier for Easter. She had received her A.B. degree



from San Jose State College and was taking clinical training in occupational therapy in northern California. She took the night train to Los Angeles and since her two sisters were going to the First Friends sunrise service at the top of Turnbull Canyon Road, she decided to go along.

Les Marshall had been in the Marine Corps for 3 ½ years and was in San Diego, ready to be discharged. He had also decided to come home for Easter, and attend the same sunrise service. Les knew Ruth casually from Christian Endeavor meetings which he had occasionally attended with his cousin Mary Alice Marshall.

That Easter morning, Ruth was very sleepy after the all-night train ride and Les nudged her occasionally to keep her awake. As the sun rose, their eyes met more than once and there was an attraction that grew into a romance that has continued for 67 years. They married at First Friends in a double wedding ceremony with her sister Esther and Jack Gilbert in June 1947.

Both Les and Ruth were born in Whittier. Les lived in North Whittier Heights and attended Puente High School and Fullerton Jr. College. After being discharged from the service, he attended Santa Barbara State College (now UCSB) and received his B.A. degree there. He received a Masters degree and Administrative credential from Cal State Long Beach.

Les taught in Lancaster for a semester, then at Whittier High for four years. When Cal High opened, he transferred and taught there for 30 years. He was chairman of the industrial arts department and was recognized as the outstanding industrial arts teacher in Los Angeles County. He also did student counseling. Beautiful pieces of furniture made by Les grace the Marshalls' home.

Ruth graduated from Whittier High School. After she and Les were married, she worked at the Santa Barbara Public Library while he was going to school, and at the Whittier College Library after they moved back to Whittier. She then went on to work for the East Whittier City School District in library services for 22 years.

Our meeting has been an important part of their lives.

Ruth has been active in the Women's Society, editing its monthly paper for a number of years as well as serving as its assistant treasurer and has taught Sunday School. She has been co-chair of the church library for over 40 years, typing the catalog cards as well as processing and shelving the books. Les also taught Sunday School for several years. A longtime trustee, he helps coordinate the maintenance needs of the church and helps build, fix and repair things all over the church property. Among Les' most prominent and lasting structural contributions are the flower stands and the sound booth in the Meeting Room. He also made the Wonder Box!

Ruth and Les have two children. Janet is married and recently moved to Green Valley, Arizona after living for many years in Portland, Oregon. Kent is married and lives in Lake Forest, California. He and Cindy have two sons, both attending college.

Ruth and Les have enjoyed participating in a number of Tauck Tours in the "Lower 48" as well as traveling to Alaska, Hawaii, and Great Britain. Les likes deep sea fishing and, of course, woodworking. And Ruth, as always, enjoys the pleasures of reading a good book.

Les has been an usher for over 50 years and you can always see Ruth by his side, greeting you when you arrive on Sunday mornings. What better way to start Meeting for Worship?

— Ted Marshburn

## **Summer Picnics Are the Greatest !**

Picnics in the park are an important part of community life at First Friends during the summer. The 2014 picnic season got underway Wednesday evening, July 9 in Michigan Park with 16 attending.

There was an abundance of those things that are essential to a high-quality picnic, such as fried chicken, casseroles, pizza, tasty salads, and one of the glories of summertime, those big vine-ripened red tomatoes.

Friends came together for the second picnic on July 16. Before eating, they held hands and sang their grace, attracting approving smiles from other picnickers. A trivia quiz designed by the *Living Light* editor created a light-hearted interlude of community focus. Reluctant to leave their enjoyable reunion, Friends lingered into the twilight of a perfect evening blessed with a cool sea-breeze.

The following picnic was rescheduled to Tuesday evening, July 22, so that Becky and Ron Memmelaar could be with us, returning from their home in North Carolina. It was a wonderful reunion in a setting which brought back pleasant memories of our time with a beloved former pastor and her husband.

Our August picnics are scheduled on Wednesdays. Put August 6 and 13 on your calendars, bring some food to share, and join us at 6 p.m. in Michigan Park.

— Bob Newton

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The Living Light  
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**Periodicals**  
**Postage Paid at**  
**Whittier California**

*The Living Light*  
USPS 316-320  
Volume 53 Number 8  
Issue Date: August 1, 2014

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

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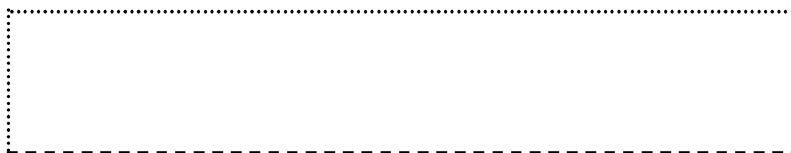
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## ***All Aboard for Train Day***



Woooo – woooo – woo – woooooooooooo! Come join the “Train Friends” for a Day of Trains on Saturday, August 23 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Several people will be bringing model trains to display and there will be track set up on which to operate some of them. We will hear stories about riding the rails and crossing safety. There will be continuous video of trains all day. There may be a railroad sing-a-long and an opportunity to do some hands-on model scenery making. Watch for signals with a more detailed schedule. All aboard!

— Russ Litchfield



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

## ***Hansel and Gretel Coming to First Friends***

*Hansel and Gretel*, an opera by Engelbert Humperdinck, will be presented in the Meetinghouse at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 16, by “Black Tie Opera.” This is a new group of local singers whose mission is to restore the beauty of opera by enhancing the richness and uniqueness of the art form through luxurious and intimate opera performances. Allison Coop and Chris Jones are members of the group and cast. The suggested donation is \$25. Twenty percent of the proceeds will be donated to First Friends. Come for the music and to support these performers.

— Russ Litchfield

Peggy Anderson  
Judith Austin  
Audrey & Carlos Bailey  
Helen & Jack Carlisle  
Rose Nedrow  
Jack Phinney  
Maureen Russell  
Vi Smith  
Ami Troedsson  
Gerry Wolfe