

THE LIVING LIGHT

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

Ephesians 5:9

Volume 56, Number 11

Whittier First Friends Church

December 2017

Guide Us To Thy Perfect Light



Share the Joy of the Christmas Season

A “starry” Family Christmas Dinner, a tree in need of decoration, caroling caroling, and a remedy for parental Christmas stress—all on page 6 and 7!

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

Friendly Fare by Lea Wright

Dear Friends, As another orbit around the sun begins for me, I find I am able to get that often sought after senior discount more and more, sometimes even without asking.

Friends Celebrate: Friends and family came from near and far to join in wishing **Marygene Wright** a very happy 90th birthday. A new book, "Leonardo Da Vinci" by Walter Isaacson was added to and by the Whittier Public Library in honor of Marygene on her birthday. **Mahlon & Gwen Woirhaye** and **Brendon & Deanna**

Woirhaye celebrated 75 years of marriage together: 50 and 25 respectively. **Marielle Askew**, the Whittier Friends School teacher, married **Chris Parham** in October. Many extended Bouchard and Day family members were on hand for the baby dedication of **Annabelle Day** and **Adrian Day**.

Friends About Town: Each year, 12 donors are chosen by the Fresenius Kabi Donation Hall of Fame (the blood/platelet processing machines company) from names submitted by the Red Cross blood donation centers. They recognize individuals nationwide who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to blood donations. This year, **Tom Van Dorn** has been inducted into the Hall of Fame. The ceremony was Thursday, November 16. Tom started donating whole blood in 1987, and became a platelet donor ten years later. In July 2016, Tom gave his 900th donation, and set a new, inspiring goal: reach 1,000 units by early 2018. **Deanna Woirhaye** exhibited several recent photos at the Whittier Art Gallery in November. A reception there on November 4 brought the artists together with many appreciative viewers.

Friends Reunite: **Alene Burke, Joanne Camp, Gerry Wolfe, Jerome Montgomery** and **Robert Semans** attended their 65th Whittier High School reunion dinner, held at the Whittwood Mimi's Café on October 21. About 70 classmates of the nearly 400 who graduated together in 1952 made it back for the reunion. Robert, currently of Carson City NV, is a relative of the Marshburns who grew up attending First Friends and visited church with them the next day. On October 29, **Ella Uemura Campbell** visited First Friends, which she remembers attending while a



student at Whittier College. She was in town for her 50th college reunion. Originally from Hawaii, she now lives near her grandchildren in Albany NY. **Fred Edinger**, who teaches geology in South Carolina, was also in the Whittier College Class of 1967 and attended as well. He came to church on Oct. 22 and 29 with his wife, **Nancy**, and his sister, **Linda Flournoy**, who moved, with her husband **Jim**, to Bellingham WA in late November. **Steve McGihon** of the Whittier College Class of 1983 came from Palm Desert in October for his 34th reunion and returned to Whittier on November 12 to connect with his roots by attending Meeting for Worship. His great grandmother, **Anna Sammis Antle** was in the first graduating class of the Whittier Friends Academy, which changed its name in 1896 to Whittier College.

School and Work News: **Ellie Bewley** was in Richmond IN on Sept. 23 for the inauguration of **Alan C. Price** as the 18th president of Earlham College. An alumnus of the Earlham Class of 1988, he came to the position highly recommended from administrative positions in the Peace Corps and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Sitting through the long outdoor ceremony with the temperature at 100 degrees, Ellie nearly melted in the academic gown she wore as a college trustee. In October, she traveled to New York and Massachusetts to see fall colors but was disappointed to find it unseasonably warm there too, with little color this year. **Candice Ryder** took a group of her Shively Middle School students in the GATE program for accelerated learning to visit the Department of Earth and Space Sciences at UCLA. **Bob Newton** arranged with the Professor of Mineralogy, Dr. Abby Kavner, to host a mineral identification exercise. Most of Candice's very bright students correctly identified all ten of the mineral unknowns. The students also toured the UCLA campus. **Haviva Airon** is getting a Masters in Library Science through a hybrid program at the University of North Texas. She still lives in Whittier. **Noah Airon** is now a Systems Administrator at Green River Community College in Auburn, WA.

Friends Travel: **David & Pier Airon** traveled to Salem, OR to view the solar eclipse with friends. They say it was amazing (!!) and well worth the trip. They then visited GRCC in advance of Noah's final interview there. They ended their trip in Victoria, British Columbia, for their cousin **Sey**'s 90th birthday.

Friends Sharing News: Help to keep the Friendly Fare going. Email me a quick note and tell me your news. Send to Lea at lealouw@gmail.com, or deliver to me at church on Sunday. See you next month!

This Month in Meeting for Worship

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| December 3 | Loletta Barrett brings the message
<i>Why Christmas? Or Just a B Year</i>
Isaiah 64:1-9, Mark 13:24-37 |
| December 10 | Loletta Barrett brings the message
<i>Waiting for a Leader of Light</i>
Isaiah 40:1-11, 2 Peter 3:18-15 |
| December 17 | Music Sunday |
| December 24 | Loletta Barrett and Lynda Ladwig bring the message
<i>Opening Our Hearts</i>
Luke 1:26-38 |
| December 31 | Loletta Barrett brings the message
<i>(Re)Dedicating Ourselves</i>
Psalm 148, Luke 1:22-23 |



At Monthly Meeting on November 12, we expressed appreciation of the veterans and conscientious objectors in the Meeting. Dates for Monthly

Meetings in 2018 were approved. (A schedule as well as a list of 2018 committee clerks will be published in the January issue of *The Living Light*.) The Friends Choir is seeking a soprano section leader. We renewed the

Continued on page 6



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.

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.

Loletta's Lines

This year we focused on the last part of our motto. “A Christian people called to listen, gathered to seek peace, **sent forth to serve.**” I know it is Christmas, but remember Palm Sunday? Friends responded to the query, “What are you passionate about?” We wrote it on the palm of hand-shaped paper and pinned it to a beautiful mosaic of the world. On Easter, the palms became lilies surrounding the earth!



I “read your palms,” and there are as many ways to express passions as there are Friends! Caring and compassion toward the most vulnerable among us; human, creature and creation. Providing basic needs for all; food, safety, health, homes, jobs. Ensuring justice and respect by increasing tolerance, acceptance and bridging divisions, boundaries and barriers. Working toward peace; reducing weapons, conflict, and violence and eliminating war. Seeking and living Truth and learning to be present in the moment and to share the abundance.

So how did we live these passions **sent forth to serve?** We served individuals experiencing homelessness and domestic violence with the Cold Weather Shelter and Shelters Right Hand. We presented the beautiful Misa Gaia (Earth Mass). We helped Oscar Mmbali get to Belize and provided finances to build the community center there to show peace is possible in a place experiencing violence. We fed hundreds at Thanksgiving and throughout the year with the Interfaith Food Center. We continued research on solar panels. We supported Right Sharing of World Resources to help women build economic stability for families, educate children, and create community. We provided free entertainment for low income children. We provided Know Your Rights training for Friends and community. We approved two minutes of support for our brothers and sisters needing sanctuary and relief from violence based on national origin and the color of their skin. We exercised our passions together in a year of service!

But the “palm” expressing our passions best leads us into the New Year, “to answer that of God in everyone.” As we move forward, let us hold on to this passion and learn what the Spirit has to teach us about how we are called to live God’s pure unconditional love.



YOUNG FRIENDS FELLOWSHIP

How best to spend \$125.00 but not more—yet not much less? Young Friends got their annual exercise (both mental and physical) in sensible abundance at the Great Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt in mid-November. By solving riddles and clues, teams were challenged to locate 28 items for the Interfaith Food Center and not go over budget.

The winning team this year was Kat Ryder and the three Woirhayes (Anathea, Cedric and Elise), who spent a grand total of \$124.65.

**Ready to Shop—
Amara Overmyer
and Kat Ryder get
set to rock and roll
their grocery list.**



**Ready to Serve—
Sharon Huffaker
shares the sweetness
of the Young
Friends' labors at
the Interfaith Food**



News from Whittier Friends School

The Chili Cook-Off and winter play program is December 1 at 6:00 p.m. and will probably be in full swing as this *Living Light* hits your mailbox. Besides the entertainment of the play and Christmas songs by the elementary and preschool classes, dozens of varieties of chili are up for tasting and competition, with gift card prizes. This annual event always leaves everyone feeling full in their stomach and satisfied in the Christmas Spirit.



This year's Feast Day at Whittier Friends School was comprised of busy little people, good food, and uproarious laughter. 16 boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 10 helped prepare hand-mashed potatoes, creamed corn, peas, bread, rotisserie chicken, and baked apples, among other things. After they feasted on their lunch creation (in which they were joined with a few family members as well), they spent the next hour and a half cleaning up. A school tradition for many years, our Feast Day, on the last day before Thanksgiving break, not only gives the children a chance to eat good food and practice cooking skills, but also shows what great things can be accomplished when all bring just a little bit to share, and put in a great effort as a community. We are so proud of the accomplishments of our children.

—Cassie Caringella



December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Schedule for Sundays Unprogrammed Worship — 9:30a Meetings for Learning — 9:30a Friends Choir Rehearsal — 9:30a Meeting for Worship — 11:00a					1 6:00p WFS Chili Cookoff	2 12:30p Youth Group Candy Making
3 12:15p Monthly Meeting	4 1:30p Writing Class	5 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	6 10:00a Personnel Committee Meeting	7 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	8	9
10 3:00p New Century Singers Concert 5:00p Annual Christmas Dinner	11 10:00a Quiltmakers 1:30p Writing Class	12 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	13	14 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	15	16
17 12:15p Music Committee Meeting 12:15p Christian Education Committee Meeting	18 Monday Before Christmas Children's Workshop	19 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group 7:00p M&C Meeting	20	21 7:00p Friends Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24	25 1:30p Writing Class	26 7:00a Spiritual Growth Group	27	28	29	30
31 6:30p New Years Eve Celebration						



Lisa Adam	Luke Marshburn	Jay Oberholtzer
John Bateman	Elise Marshburn	Amara Overmyer
Ann Davidson	Brooke Marshburn	
Elisabeth Elliot	Holly Marshburn	Chris Thirkettle
Jack Huffaker	Ted Marshburn	Milton Wright
Russ Litchfield	Becky Memmelaar	

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!

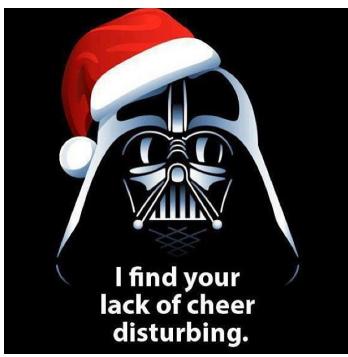
With Candy Canes and Silver Stars Aglow

Reservations are now being taken for the Family Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Dine on turkey and roast pork prepared by Harry and Anne Eggleton and George and Carrin Bouchard and served by Young Friends Fellowship. The Young Friends will also have the eagerly-anticipated plates of homemade candy for sale.

After dinner, Whittier Friends School will collaborate with members of our Meeting for Learning students for a winter play with a starry theme of hope. "Star Trip—Our Faith Awakens" tells the tale of three magi—Luke Skywatcher, Only One Kenobi, and Yoma (if these names sound vaguely familiar, wait until you see Herod and his stormtrooper advisor). The magi come to realize that they have been misplacing their hope on worldly things: placing their hope only in themselves, their families, and in the scientific world, rather than placing their hope in the one who gave them life, gave them their families, and gave them the world. In their quest to follow a new star, these three magi discover that all is a gift from God.

Please bring an unwrapped toy or canned food item for the Interfaith Food Center. Tickets for the Family Christmas Dinner are \$9 for adults and \$5 for children through third grade. Reservations are a must, and can be made in Founders Court after Meeting for Worship on Sunday, December 3 or through the church office Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Reservations through the office must be made by Wednesday, December 6.



Monthly Meeting continued from page 3

recording of Lynda Ladwig as a Quaker minister. New carpet for the Christian Education building was approved. We continued discussion of a solar power system for the church, and this will be submitted for approval in January. Ministry and Counsel presented a query regarding the use of symbols in the church buildings.

Cold Weather Shelter Volunteers Needed

We are grateful to Friends who have already signed up. And we need you, too! Help us prepare meals, supervise overnight and provide a warm welcome for our guests at the United Methodist Church January 1 through 6. There is a need for supervisors (one male, one female) to be on site each night from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. and 12 to 7 a.m. each morning. Coffee and breakfast are free to volunteers.

Please prayerfully consider how you can serve. The sign-up sheet is in Founders Court on Sundays and in the church office during the week. So please call or stop in—there's no better way to start the year we are sent forth to serve.

Donations are also being accepted to purchase breakfast groceries. Checks and cash can be placed in the little wooden meeting house next to the Christmas Tree of Peace in the meeting house foyer.



Decorate the Tree of Peace

Friends are invited to share their blessings of peace by adding a gift on or under the Christmas Tree of Peace in the foyer during the month of December. Decorate the tree with new socks, gloves, and hats. Put new blankets, jackets, umbrellas, and rain ponchos under the tree. All the decorations and gifts will be given to the St. Matthias Soup Hour to minister to our neighbors living on the streets. Share the warmth!

End of Life with Dignity Workshops Continue

How do you deal with a difficult subject that brings up difficult emotions, and requires difficult decisions? You gather with F(f)riends! Our first End of Life with Dignity workshop was well-attended with 20 individuals participating and many others planning on joining us soon. Participants were invited to bring a favorite coffee or tea cup with a story to share. We then concentrated on advanced directives and other such weighty subjects, in an atmosphere of friendly conversation and sharing.

Our next workshop will be January 13, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The focus will be “Independence, Dependence, Interdependence.” The January date will give the participants time to do their “homework” and enjoy the holidays. Participants are invited to bring a one minute story about their experience with the workshop topic to share.

If you were unable to attend the first workshop but are interested in participating, or receiving the resources as they become available, please contact Loletta Barrett at pastorffc@verizon.net.

On Our Calendar...

End of Life with Dignity workshop	Saturday, January 13
Cold Weather Shelter	January 1 through 7
Whittier Friends School Parking Lot Sale	Saturday, January 20
Quakerism Class	Wednesday evenings January 17—March 7
Quaker Forum	Saturday, February 10 (new date)
Western Association of the Religious Society of Friends (WARSF) annual meeting	Saturday, February 10 (new date)
Jon Watts in Concert	Saturday, February 10
Whittier Friends School Candy and Flowers Sale	February 13-March 5
Stoking the Fire	May 17-20



Quakers in Unity New From Friends Around the World

Friends Committee on National Legislation—the annual meeting was held in November in Washington DC. Watch *The Living Light* for a full report. fcnl.org.

Friends United Meeting—the search has begun for a new General Secretary, as Colin Saxton is retiring. The General Secretary is a key point person for the FUM family, providing inspiration and leadership for our work, and deeply involved in discerning priorities for the future. fum.org.



Join us for the next All Friends Fellowship Night on Wednesday, January 10 at 6 p.m.

Sing We Now of Christmas

Our annual caroling party at Brookside is Monday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m. Meet in the lobby across the street from the church to provide cheer for our neighbors.

Dear Parents. Take A Break.

Children kindergarten through sixth grade from the local community are invited to “The Monday Before Christmas,” a day of supervised Christmas crafts, singing, games and a movie on Monday, December 18 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

This is our annual gift to parents so they can have a day to shop, decorate or just grab some “us” time.

Snacks will be provided and children are asked to bring a sack lunch and a suggested donation of \$10.

New Century Singers presents

Repeat the Sounding Joy!

Sunday, December 10

3:00 p.m.

in the Meeting House

A free will offering will be taken



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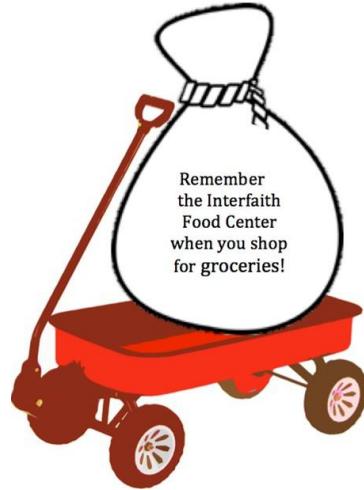
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Christmas Poinsettias Order Form

Place a poinsettia plant in the meetinghouse on Christmas Eve
\$8.00 each.

Order deadline is Sunday, December 17
Additional forms are available in the church office
and in Founders Court after Meeting for Worship

In memory of _____

or

In honor of _____

Name _____

Phone _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____

[] I will take after Meeting for Worship on
Christmas Eve

[] Please deliver to those unable to worship
with us regularly



*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
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