



Fellowship with Christ is participation in the divine life which finds its fullest expression in triumph over death. Life is a larger word than resurrection; but resurrection is, so to speak, the crucial quality of life.

—William Temple

Quiet prayer time is at 7:00am and 9:00 pm. If you pray at these time, you will that other Quakers are also praying at this same time. "Be still and know."

There are many ways to safely keep In touch with friends and neighbors, letters and greeting cards, phone calls, emails, text messages, face time, instant messaging, Skype, and lifting others in prayer. Love your neighbor by safely keeping connected and checking on others in a safe way.



"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"

(1 John 3:1, NIV).

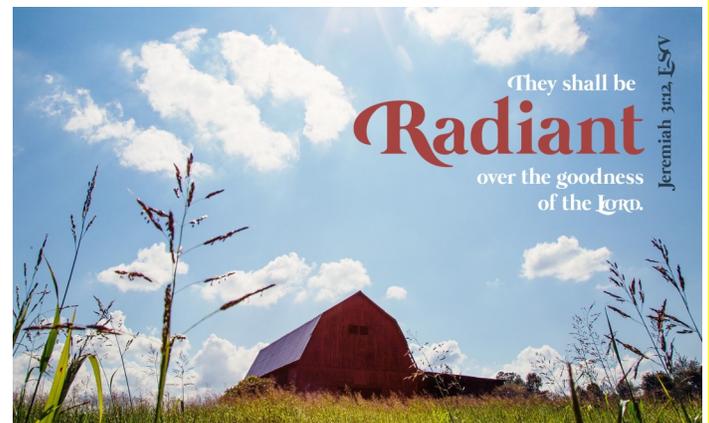
Thank you, God, for claiming me as your child.

Easter Lifts the Fog

A friend stood one day where he could view the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. At first it was completely shrouded in early morning fog. But as the sun rose, the fog lifted between the upright piers of the bridge, leaving the land anchors still unseen.

Is it not so with life? We see only what is between the great piers called birth and death. But Easter lifts the fog from both. Easter is the time when we see more completely the anchorages that sustain life.

—George Mecklenberg



Susan Block

Mary Gang

Dolly Kellar

Bea McMurtrey

Liz Nielander

Johanna Ridenour



Cheryl Sanford

Dan Sheridan

Alec Wessendorf

Walt Wessendorf

Emily West



Friends,

I wanted to share with you something that has been on my heart and mind during this time. It is something that Quakers have tended to believe, (me included) but it has been brought front and center during this crisis.

When we attend a Sunday morning meeting/service, we have certain expectations. Perhaps we like to attend Sunday School before the service. Perhaps we like to sing hymns or listen to the special music. Maybe we think going to church is to hear an inspiring message or to learn something new. And I know some of us go for the Open Worship.

But that's not why we go. Sure, it is part of why we go. But, the truth is, we could do Sunday School at home by reading a book study on a certain scripture. We could sing hymns and put on a record/CD/streaming service of some special music. We could even listen to special music live on certain websites. We could turn on the TV or find a video online of an inspiring message or teaching. And we can definitely have Open Worship or silent communion with God from our own house.

All of those things can be done at home. Those things are not the *real reason we get up and drive to the meetinghouse every Sunday.*

The real reason we attend a church service is because we are with other people. First Friends truly is a family. That is why we attend. We want to spend time with God with our church family.

I have been delivering Sunday messages (paper, audio and video), but it's not nearly the same for me as being there with you. And our conference calls get the job done. But, it feels like something is missing. Because you are missing. Or, I am missing you.

Church has never been a building or the music or the messages or the programs or even something as important as community service. No. Church truly is the people.

And yes, God is always with us. God lives inside each of us. And yet, 'where two or more are gathered, there I am with them'. There is something special, holy, sacred, about our gatherings.

And I can't wait until we can finally meet again face to face. What a celebration it will be!

Let us never forget the way this isolation for one another feels. Let us never forget that relationships are what matters in this life. And let us never forget that the church is, without a doubt, the people.

Grace and peace. Jon

