

SPOKANENWORD

February
2023



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Excerpts from a **Letter to God's People in Washington**
by Clarence Jordan

[Editor's Note: This letter was written in 1968, when the word "man" was still understood by many to include both men and women. To us today, the use of more inclusive language has become so familiar that we notice when it is not present. This letter is presented as it was written and is not edited to take into account our more modern sensibilities.]

... Accept a brother whose faith is immature, but don't get into a hassle with him over petty points. While one person believes it's all right to eat anything, an immature person might eat only vegetables. Well, don't let the man who eats something look down his nose at someone who won't, and don't let the guy who doesn't eat a thing damn the person who does. For God has accepted the man you reject. You, there, who are you to pass on; another man's worker? Whether he's a success or failure is up to his own boss. (But he'll be a success, because The Boss is able to make a success of him.)

Now here's a fellow who decides that a certain day is more important than another, and there's a man who decides they're all alike. All right, let each one make up his own mind about it. For he who observes a certain day, observes it in the Lord's presence and he who eats does so in the Lord's presence, since he thanks God for it. Also, he who doesn't eat refrains in the Lord's presence and he too thanks God for this. For not a one of us lives all to himself. For if we live, we live in the Lord's presence, and if we die, we die in the Lord's presence. This is why Christ died and lived, that he might be Lord of both dead people and live ones. So you, now, why do you sit in judgment on your brother? And you over there, why are you so snooty towards your brother? For *we all* shall stand up before God's bar, just as the Scripture says:

"As sure as I live," says the Lord, "every soul will get down on his knees before me, and every man's tongue will admit that I'm God."

So then, each of us will account for *himself* before God.

I know and am convinced beyond all doubt that from the Christian viewpoint no external thing is of itself wrong, except something which is *considered* wrong by another. From his standpoint it is wrong. So, if your brother is grieved by your food habits, you are no longer walking the way of live. Don't destroy, with your food habits, a person for whom Christ died. Therefore, don't let the good name of you all be ridiculed, for the Gove Movement is not doughnuts and coffee, but justice and peace and joyfulness with the Holy Spirit. He who puts his Christian service on this basis is pleasing to God and trustworthy to men.

In the light of, let's go all out for the things of peace and the things that strengthen our life together. Do not tear up God's work for the sake of a food habit. Everything external is quite all right; but the evil is through the *obstacle* set up by a person with this view. It is fine indeed not to eat ham or drink wine or do anything else for your brother to stump his toe on. You just hang on to the faith which you have between yourself and God. A man who straddles the fence on the issue of eating is in a bad way, since his position is not one of conviction. And it's a sin when you have no conviction on anything.

We mature Christians ought to help the immature ones over their rough spots and not try to make an easy go of it just for ourselves. Let each of us make it easy for our neighbor to get along well in the church community. For Christ didn't put his interests first, but did as the Scripture says: "The spit of those spitting at *you* hit *me*."

(continued on next page)

Sunday Schedule

Traditional worship in stillness
begins at 9:00 a.m.
when first person sits down
Programmed worship 10:00 a.m.
In-Person and via Zoom
See Website For Link

First Sunday of the Month
Potluck Meal at rise of worship

Third Sunday of the Month
Monthly Meeting for Business
begins at rise of worship

(continued from last page) . . . Since I've had for several years a deep longing to visit you, I'll try to make it when I go to Maine. I do hope to see you on my way through, and when I've been filled in on various details by you all, I'd appreciate some help from you on my travel expenses.

Right now, however, I'm heading for Charleston with some funds for the church members there. For the Mississippi and Louisiana churches voted to raise a certain sum for the hard-up members in Charleston. I said they voted; actually, they *owed* it, because if the white Christians shared their spiritual things with the Negro Christians, the latter are morally obligated to share their material things with their white brothers. So when I've wound up this job and have a signed receipt from them for the full amount, I'll set out for Maine via Washington. And I'm sure that as I travel to you I'll come with Christ's full blessing.

, , , I highly recommend to you our sister Phoebe, who is a minister of material things in the Topeka church. I ask that you receive her as a full member of the fellowship and that you lend her a hand in whatever way she may need you, for she herself has a reputation for helping others — including myself. Say hello to Prissy and Adrian, my co-workers for Christ Jesus. They stuck their necks out to save my life, and for this not only am I thankful but all the Negro churches as well. Greetings also to the church that meets in their home. Hello to my dear Ellwood who was the first real Christian in Alabama. And hello to Mary, who worked so hard for you. Warm regards to Andy and Junior, my kinfolks and fellow captives, who are highly respected in ministerial circles. Best wishes to Ansley, so dear to me in the Lord. Greetings to Howard, our Christian co-worker, and my dear Stocky. . . . Give my love to Austin, Phil, Herb, Perry, Herman, and the brothers with them. Much love to Frank and Julia, and to Maro and his sister, and to Ollie and all the other Christians with them. Give everybody a big hug. . . . My co-worker Timothy sends his regards, as do my cousins Lou, Jake, and Daddy-boy. (I, Terry, the stenographer for this letter, greet you all in the Lord.) Garry, host to me and the whole fellowship, wants to be remembered to you. Hank, the city treasurer, and Brother Charles send their greetings.

And now, praise forevermore to him who has the power to shape you up according to my Great Story and the message of Jesus Christ, according to the unveiling of the secret which was locked up for ages but which is now, by Eternal God's order, has been opened up through prophetic writings and made known to all races for their obedience to the faith! Praise forevermore, I say, to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Editor's note: You have been reading the "Cotton Patch" version of parts of Romans 14-16. Paul's letters were written in the contemporary Greek of his day. It was the language of the street, the field, the market-place — the tongue of the common man as he went about his daily life. The Koinonia "cotton patch" translation is an attempt to recapture this vivid color and aliveness for modern readers. It seeks to span the separating centuries so that the Christians of both the first and twenty-first centuries may share a common experience. Copyright, 1968 by Clarence L. Jordan, Koinonia Farm, Americus, GA 31709.



Celebrate with The Fig Tree

This year The Fig Tree celebrates **50 years** of publishing the annual **Resource Directory**, which connects people in need of resources to transform their lives (and is also a great source for networking). You may pick up your own copy of the Directory in the hospitality area of the Meeting House.

There are two opportunities to join the celebrations:

March 3: Benefit Lunch at 11:30 am, Cataldo Hall, Gonzaga University (also on Zoom)

March 15: Zoom only Breakfast-time Benefit

Each celebration will feature a short program with speakers from four Spokane agencies who share the Resource Directory with clients, followed by a short video featuring people whose lives have been affected by the Resource Directory. There will be an opportunity to donate to The Fig Tree.

To attend one of these celebrations you can RSVP at development@thefigtree.org or call 309-535-4112.

Copies of the **Resource Directory** are available to pick up in the hospitality area of the Meeting House if you want your own copy.



MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES

15 January 2022



The meeting was called to order by Laverne Biel with prayer. Fifteen people were present.

The minutes from the November 2022 meeting were presented and approved as read.

The Elders report was presented by Krista Maroni. Conversations have been had with members about the pastoral care position and what this would encompass. Walter Simon is pursuing avenues to get Spokane Friends name more in front of the public., and will pursue possibly recording the sermons. Elders are open to suggestions for sermon themes and specific topics.

For pastoral duties, there was discussion of whether the congregation could take on portions of this, as their interests and abilities lead them. Pastoral care would include visitation, contact with visitors and new attendees. This was referred back to Elders for discussion about having no administrative duties included, with the focus on personal relationships, along with a job description and volunteer openings for members.

Treasurers report. Jon Maroni presented the financial statement and a proposed budget for 2023. Draft showed a deficit at the end of the year. Clarifications were made. There was silent time to consider how to use the money held by Everence.

There was no Stewards report There was no further business. The meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Keehnen, Recording Clerk

Financial Report for the Year 2022	
Income/Giving	\$ 40,068
Expenses	\$ 40,294
Difference	- \$ 226

Sunday Speakers

- Feb 12 John Kinney
- Feb 19 Ruthie Tippin
- Feb 26 Johan Maurer
- Mar 5 Danny Beard



OUT and ABOUT WITH SPOKANE FRIENDS

Spotted downtown at the Martin Luther King Jr. events on January 16 were Don and Lorna Hyslop, with grandson Ryker, Lois Kieffaber behind the Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane 's (PJALS) Table at the Resource Fair following the March, and Earl Moore, on security detail at the Convention Center.

And on the following Saturday at Spokane valley United Methodist Church, Lois Kieffaber attended the Faith Action League's 2023 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference. Of particular interest was a panel of four Native American speakers addressing the topic of Indigenous Voices on Environmental Justice.



The opinions expressed within this Newsletter and on our website are those of the authors, not the Meeting.

Something Different from Caritas



We are familiar with the types of food that the Caritas Food Bank gives to our neighbors in need. But many people have not experienced cooking from pantry staples, so Caritas has provided recipes to help us get started. Dried beans have a myriad of uses and are full of fiber, protein, and nutrition. Pairing canned tuna with pasta and chopped vegetables make a filling casserole. Here is a list of the recipes available on the Caritas website:

Here are some of the recipes that are available on the Caritas Website at <https://caritasoutreachministries.org/recipes-helpful-hints/>

Vegetarian Baked Beans

Corn Chowder

Easy Creamy Chicken Enchiladas

Desserts

Summer Salads

Eggs!

Ground Beef Country Casserole

St. Patrick's Day Menu

Tuna Casserole

Chicken Salad

AND . . . Here is a sample recipe from Caritas:

EASY CHICKEN ENCHILADAS

- 1 10-oz. can Red Enchilada Sauce
 - 2 1/2 cups shredded chicken
 - 1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
 - 1 8oz package cream cheese cut into 1/2 inch cubes
 - 1 (1 ounce) package fajita seasoning mix
 - 10 flour tortillas for soft taco and fajitas (6 inch)
- Heat oven to 375 degrees. Spray a 9 x 13-inch (3 quart) baking dish with cooking spray. 1/4 cup of the enchilada sauce in the bottom of the baking dish. In a medium bowl mix the chicken, 1 cup of the Cheddar cheese, the cream cheese, and the seasoning mix with a spoon, breaking apart the cream cheese cubes. Spoon slightly less than 1/2 cup of the filling onto each tortilla. Roll up each tortilla tightly, place seam side down in the baking dish. Drizzle with the remaining enchilada sauce. Sprinkle with remaining 1/2 cup Cheddar cheese. Cover with foil and bake for 15 minutes. Uncover and bake 15 minutes longer or until bubbly and lightly browned.

Quaker News

- ⇒ **Everence** (whom Spokane Friends invests with) is offering **college scholarships**. Regional scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded by the student's local Everence office. From the regional winners, Everence awards three national scholarships – one of \$2,000 and two of \$1,000. This means the top three recipients will receive scholarships totaling \$3,000 or \$2,000. Applications for the 2023-2024 academic year will be accepted until February 28, 2023. Apply at <https://www.everence.com/living-the-values/grants-and-scholarships-and-awards>
- ⇒ **The Quarterly Meeting of Sierra-Cascades Yearly Meeting** will be at Camas Friends (where Jon and Ruthie Tippin and Johan and Judy Maurer attend) on February 25th. To provide a workshop there, please contact registrar@scymf.org before February 1, 2023. The workshops will be from 3:00-4:30 pm on Feb. 25th.
- ⇒ The second offering of a wonderful interactive Zoom Workshop entitled "Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples" will be on Feb 11, 2-4 pm MST. Register at <https://friendspeaceteams.org/trr-workshop-jan-2023/>
- ⇒ **FCNL** is still advertising for eight staff members and also has many volunteer opportunity for young adults. More information is available at <https://www.fcnl.org/about/work-fcni>
- ⇒ **Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends** will hold its annual sessions at George Fox University on July 23-27, 2023. It is also advertising for three lead pastors. For more information, visit nwfriends.org/job-openings/
- ⇒ **Camp Tilikum** is looking for college-age (18-25+) people who love Jesus and kids! Day camp format; the 10-week season is from May 30 - Aug 6, 2023. The schedule is Monday to Friday, from 7:30 am to 5 pm. Pay and benefits include: First year staff - \$5,000
Lifeguards - \$5,200
Support Staff - \$6,700
Housing is provided at George Fox University (a \$2,000 value). <https://camptilikum.org/employment-at-tilikum/college-summer-staff/>
- ⇒ **Quaker Hill Camp and Twin Rocks Camp** (micah@twinrocks.org; angelyn@twinrocks.org) are also hiring for the summer season.
- ⇒ Quaker Cove is interested in a couple or single person coming to volunteer to help with various aspects of camp. The ideal candidate would come for one to a few months and have an RV or small camper. The camp has RV hookup options. If interested please contact Christy De Hart at quakercove@gmail.com

During the month of January, Spokane Friends have been looking at Quakers who have influenced and strengthened the Quaker testimony. This has included Quakers in the past as well as those who have mentored us in the Quaker faith personally or have welcomed us into the Quaker community. We are hoping that stories of influential Quakers will not be restricted to the month of January, but will be sprinkled in throughout the year.

Those Grimke Sisters Compiled by Lois Kieffaber

Many of us recognize the picture of Sarah Moore Grimke, because it is often used to represent Quaker women of the late nineteenth century, just as the picture of Elias Hicks is used to represent a Quaker man.

Sarah was born in 1892, and her sister Angelina was 13 years younger. They left their slave-holding family in Charleston, South Carolina, moved to Philadelphia, and joined a Quaker community where they became well-known for speaking out against slavery and for women's rights. In 1838, Angelina was the first woman to speak before a legislature (Massachusetts) where she called for an immediate end of slavery.

But back in Charleston, their brother Henry continued the family tradition of owning slaves. He became a lawyer and had six children, three with his wife and three with a light-skinned enslaved woman named Nancy Weston. These three, Archie, Frank, and John, were raised to consider themselves separate from darker skinned slaves, although they were slaves themselves and suffered terrible abuse at the hands of their white half-brother Montague.

After the Civil War, the nephews went north. Sarah and Angelina decided to sponsor their nephews' education and entrance into the Black elite, who were supposed to uplift the masses into respectability. This was made possible by the family's wealth, but they never demanded that Henry release his slaves. Rather the nephews were encouraged to forget the past and focus on the future. Archie became a lawyer and diplomat in Boston and later was the national vice president of the NAACP, while Frank was a pastor and leader of a Black church in Washington, D.C.

The Grimké sisters continued to fight for women's rights and the fair treatment of African Americans for the rest of their lives. Sarah was the vice president of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association in 1868. A few years later, she led a group of women in Hyde Park, Boston to vote in the local election even though it was against the law. Angelina wrote "An Appeal to the Christian Women in the South" (1836), unique because it is the only written appeal made by a Southern woman to other Southern women regarding the abolition of slavery. It reflects the sisters' lifelong enthusiasm for the universal education of women and slaves. Unfortunately, leaders in the South were so offended by their ideas against slavery, that they burned the booklet and warned Sarah and Angelina that they would be arrested if they ever came back to South Carolina.

The Grimke sisters continued to fight for women's rights and the fair treatment of African Americans for the rest of their lives.

References:

www.nytimes.com/2022/10/29/books/review/the-grimkes-kerri-greenidge.html

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[en.wikipedia.org › wiki › Angelina_Grimké](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angelina_Grimké)

[en.wikipedia.org › wiki › Sarah_Grimké](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sarah_Grimké)



Sarah Grimke



Angelina Grimke



The Nephews:
Frank, Archie and John