

# Friendship Times

January 2008

## Calendar

- Sun, Dec 23 10:00 am Meeting for Worship
- Mon, Dec 24 7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service  
Living Room, Friends Homes/Guilford
- Sun, Dec 30 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Mon, Dec 31 9:00 pm New Years Eve Celebration  
David and Mae Brown's home
- Sun, Jan 6 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel,  
and House and Grounds meet  
9:15 am Peace and Social Concerns meets  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Jan 13 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship, A potluck meal  
follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Jan 20 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tue, Jan 22 Last day to send newsletter materials to Editor
- Sun, Jan 27 10:30 am Meeting for Worship  
4:00 pm Quaker Book Group, Meetinghouse



Child care available for Worship and Business Mtgs.  
7:30 pm Fourth Day, Midweek Mtg. for Worship, in  
Prayer Room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes,  
occasionally followed by discussion at 8 pm.  
9:00 am fifth First Day (when there is one), Extended  
Meeting for Worship.

**Winston-Salem Worship Group.** Meeting for  
Worship, 9:30 a.m. First Day, at The Blessings, 823  
Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem.  
Contact: Louise Harris/John Cardarelli. 750-0631

## Quaker Book Group

The Quaker book club will meet Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm in the meetinghouse. Please read for the meeting, if possible, the first chapter of *The Holy Way* by Paula Huston. For further information contact Judy Heitfield, 643-0257.

## In this Issue

Minutes from Twelfth Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. The minutes include annual reports from the Worship and Ministry and Hospitality committees. In addition, there are announcements of a upcoming events, photos of interest to meeting members, and updates for the *Handbook*.

### From the Editor:

My intention is to distribute the newsletter two weeks before Monthly Meeting, which will be January 27<sup>th</sup> for the February issue. Material for the newsletter should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than Tuesday, **January 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help. Cyril Harvey, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

### Delivery Options (ESP)

You may receive your copy of the *Friendship Times* in one of three ways: (1) **E**mail delivery, (2) **S**nailed mail delivery (US Postal Service), or (3) **P**ick up at the Meeting House (**P**ersonal delivery is possible at Friends Homes/Guilford). If you would prefer to change your current mode of delivery to either of the other options, please let me know: Cyril Harvey, 925 New Garden Road, #2110, Greensboro, NC 27410, (336) 299-8269, or [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

## First Month's Query Meeting for Worship

*Do we faithfully uphold our testimony for worship which is based on silent waiting, and for a free and unprogrammed ministry that may be shared by all? Is there a living silence in which we feel drawn together by the Light of Christ, the power of God in our midst; and is this inspiration carried over into our daily lives? Do we come to meeting with hearts and minds open and ready to worship in silence or in vocal ministry or prayer as the Holy Spirit leads us? Does our Meeting encourage those who may have a gift in the spoken ministry?*

## Minutes

### FRIENDSHIP MONTHLY MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> OF TWELFTH MONTH 2007

Meeting opened at 12:35 pm after a period of silent worship. Friends in attendance included: David Bailey, Sandy Bowles, Judith Harvey, Kembra Howdeshell, Claire Koster, David MacInnes, Harry Nagel, Janet Nagel, Chris W. Nelson, Bonnie Parsons, Don Smith, Rebecca Sullivan, Carole Treadway, Ray Treadway, Darryl Waisner, Priscilla Zuck.

In the absence of the Recording Clerk, Claire Koster was approved as Recording Clerk-for-the-day.

David Bailey, Assistant Clerk, read Query #12:

Do we welcome newcomers and non-members to our meetings? Are they encouraged to share in Meeting activities and to consider membership when they are in agreement with the principles and practices of friends? Are our younger members appointed to committees and encouraged to share in other responsibilities of the Meeting? Do we visit one another frequently, remembering those who may be lonely? Does this visitation and caring extend beyond the members of our own Meeting?

Friends unite in the following response:

It is felt that Friends in this meeting seek to follow this query and one Friend spoke of being uplifted by emails and contacts received.

We do endeavor to include younger members in our committees.

It was suggested that in trying to improve incorporation of new/younger members, we need to recognize not only illness but also reaching out to new parents.

We agree that it is harder for us with our present lifestyle and many pulls on our time, to reach out. We have diverse interests in Meeting, Guilford College, Friends Homes and New Garden Friends School, which makes it difficult for us to concentrate just in our own circle.

We recognize our corporate responsibility for outreach to those in need.

Kembra Howdeshell volunteered to revise and edit the query response for First Month.

Ray Treadway presented the **Treasurer's Report** for Eleventh Month which was accepted. The complete report is attached to the minutes; a summary

follows:

<u>Eleventh Month</u>	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$1,422.03	\$1,015.94	\$ 9,136.33
All Funds:	\$1,452.03	\$1,015.94	\$ 20,585.05

Expenses of note during the month are: \$50.00 for assistance for travel to a committee meeting of Friends World Committee, \$600 to the Greensboro Urban Ministry, \$100 to Quaker House of Fayetteville, and \$36.36 for a three-month payment for water and sewer.

With one month left in our fiscal year, we have **under-spent** our budget for operating expenses by more than \$3,000, including more than \$1,000 unspent for conference and committee travel. While the meeting has spent slightly more money than budgeted for electricity and water, it has spent much less than budgeted on gas for heating. We have also **under-spent** our budget for equipment and repair by almost \$750. On the other hand, income to the general fund for the first eleven months of the budget year is nearly **\$6,000 less than** the amount needed to maintain our general fund budget.

Designated contributions to our special funds (building, contingency, emergency assistance, and property) are always welcome. Contributions to Friendship Friends Meeting may be left in the basket on the table in the fellowship room or may be sent to Friendship Meeting, POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419.

The Treasurer's report was accepted with thanks.

**Worship and Ministry Committee Annual Report**  
Darryl Waisner presented the annual report of the Worship and Ministry Committee. It was accepted with appreciation and is as follows:

Now in its third year as a separate committee of Friendship Meeting, **Worship and Ministry** continues to refine its understanding of its mandate and its relationship with its counterpart, the Care and Counsel Committee. Of the eleven meetings of the committee, three were held jointly, at least in part, with Care and Counsel, including one to prepare for the Fifth Month memorial service for Caroline Elliot.

Membership of the committee has been quite stable. O. Theodor Benfey, Mary Ellen Chijioke, Darlene Stanley, Carole Treadway, Ray Treadway, and Darryl Waisner have served for the entire year. Deborah Shaw rejoined the committee in Eighth Month, when David MacInnes also joined in his ex officio capacity as Clerk of the Meeting.

The mid-year change of committees also saw the completion of Ted Benfey's service as Clerk of Worship and Ministry, to be succeeded by Darryl Waisner.

Besides completing such formal responsibilities as answering the Yearly Meeting's queries for Ministers and Elders, the two committees (Worship and Ministry and Care and Counsel) worked together to consider broad issues facing the Meeting. Two surfaced as particularly important at this time: supporting the spiritual and personal needs of all members and attenders as we continue to grow, and preparing for the possibility of a move from our present location as we seek to conform to city water management policies. We also considered together suggestions for possible changes in the Meeting's First Day schedule, but could find nothing better than we currently follow, except to make forums more on an as-needed basis.

In cooperation with Care and Counsel, we again held an evening Christmas program (Twelfth Month 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006) prior to Christmas Day at Friends Homes, with readings, instrumental music, solo singing of Silent Night, and worship based on silence. Rather than piano music before and at the end of the program, we enjoyed listening to two of our guitar players, one a teen-ager. We are in the midst of preparations for this year's service on Christmas Eve (Twelfth Month 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007).

Instead of a fall retreat in 2006, we decided to move away from the busy weeks before Thanksgiving and Christmas and hold the retreat in mid-winter. We had to cancel our preferred date because of a virulent virus sweeping through Friends Homes and the city. We held the retreat on Second Month 24<sup>th</sup>, 2007. It was well attended and again combined worship sharing, grappling with major problems facing the Meeting, communal work, and meals and fellowship.

In Fifth Month, Worship and Ministry received a concern that our members who have attended the School of the Spirit receive little support from the meeting in relating their experience to their home worship community. While grateful for the Meeting's financial support, these alumnae can feel bereft in their own spiritual home, with little way to express their inward transformation. The committee is working with the alumnae, as well as with current School of the Spirit students and their support committees, to respond to this concern and to ensure that the Meeting is able to discern and make use of newly developed gifts and that the spiritual growth of all members and attenders is recognized by us corpo-

rately and individually. Responding to this concern continues to be both a major responsibility and a source of great reward as we listen carefully to each other in a common endeavor to deepen the spiritual life of the Meeting.

On Ninth Month 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 a Spiritual Retreat Weekend was held with Lloyd Lee Wilson facilitating. The response was very positive. The feedback echoed repeated expressions of the need for small-group worship and fellowship, reflecting a hunger for getting to know each other more deeply on all levels. One such program that will begin shortly is the Experiment with Light program brought forward by members Janet Nagel and Judy Heitfield. Worship and Ministry is considering other ways to meet the spiritual and community needs of the Meeting.

One of the tasks of our committee is to provide suitable readings for Meeting attendees. Our member Craig Fox drafted a pamphlet that describes Friendship Meeting, its history, worship, and activities. After detailed consideration and minor revisions by our committee and the Meeting as a whole, the pamphlet is now available to Friends as they enter the Meeting. The "Quakers and..." series from Friends General Conference provides additional, more specific material for our pamphlet rack. We are very pleased to see increased use of the Meeting library and thank the Library Committee for its work.

At the end of Meeting for Worship, we ask attendees to identify themselves and to share any afterthoughts and/or concerns. If the latter involve holding a person in the Light because of sickness or grief, we now ask Friends to pause briefly before the introductions continue.

In all its work, the committee maintains a clear focus on its core mandate to nurture the spiritual life of the Meeting and of each of its members and its attenders. We feel blessed by the wealth of spiritual gifts in our community and welcome all ideas as to how to allow them to serve the Spirit of Truth and Love fully.

On behalf of the Committee,  
Darryl Waisner, Clerk

#### **Care and Counsel Committee**

David Bailey, on behalf of the Care & Counsel Committee, submitted the following suggested procedure for setting up a lost/inactive members list.

### Procedure for reaching Lost/ Inactive members of Friendship Friends Meeting

- 1) Each September the treasurer will give C&C committee a list of all those members who have not given a financial contribution to the meeting in the past two years. (It is assumed that by giving a financial contribution the member wants to remain active in the meeting)
- 2) C&C committee will review this list at their October committee meeting and remove from the list anyone who is known to be currently active in the meeting (i.e.: attends meeting, on a committee, etc.)
- 3) The amended list will be read at the October monthly meeting and anyone still on the list will be removed if someone at monthly meeting knows of their desire to remain on our active list of members.
- 4) The remaining names on the list will be put into the November *Friendship Times* asking if anyone knows about these members. If we get a response indicating a desire for someone on the list to remain active in the meeting then their name will be removed from the list.
- 5) In November a registered letter will be sent to all of those names still on the list (letter - below)
- 6) If no response is received by the December monthly meeting then the final list will be read at business meeting for approval to move those names from the active members list to a lost/inactive member list which will be kept on file.
- 7) A lost or inactive member will be returned to the active member list if this is desired at any time.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

We have missed seeing you at Friendship Meeting, and hope this letter finds you well. Membership in the Religious Society of Friends is a relationship of mutual support. The meeting has a responsibility to make sure that each individual member is receiving the support he or she needs from the meeting, and it is the responsibility of each member to support the meeting. Since we have not had contact with you for some time, we are hoping that your spiritual needs are being met. Please let us know how we can support you on your spiritual journey, or whether you no longer wish to be considered a member of Friendship Friends Meeting.

The best way to support the meeting is through regular attendance at meeting on First Day, and through your prayers of support. If this is not possible for you now, perhaps you wish to maintain your

connection to Friendship Meeting through committee work, or a financial contribution. If other reasons prevent you from joining us in worship, perhaps we can share ministry through a call or visit. Many Friends who have moved out of the area choose to maintain membership in the Meeting through an affiliation called "Sojourning Friends."

Enclosed is a self-addressed envelope for you to respond, letting us know if you wish to continue your affiliation. If you do, please let us know how we can best support each other in our spiritual journey.

In Peace,

After much discussion, it was felt that the Care & Counsel Committee should continue with its discussion of this issue. It was suggested that they might consider contacting other meetings in our Yearly Meeting and checking out our Faith & Practice for guidance.

A **travel minute for Deborah Shaw**, endorsed by Friends General Conference's Traveling Ministry was received and read.

Friends happily approved having the **New Year's Eve Party** this year at the home of David and Mae Brown.

### Hospitality Committee Annual Report

Judith Harvey presented the annual report of the Hospitality Committee. It was accepted with gratitude and is as follows:

The **Hospitality Committee** continues to host refreshments following meeting for worship, rotating responsibilities among committee members. The committee also sets up potluck lunches for meeting for business.

Hospitality coordinates scheduled events and welcomes requests to assist with special hospitality arrangements. Our customary progressive dinner/dessert party, cosponsored with New Garden Meeting, for new Guilford College students was held in August with almost 100 people attending. Hospitality assisted with meals and refreshments for two All Meeting Retreats, one held in February and the other in September. Other events at the meeting house may include a December Christmas party, welcoming new members and occasional weddings and birthday parties.

The loss of our beloved friend, Caroline Elliot, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007, was deeply felt by the Friendship Meeting community. Our committee coordinated arrange-

ments and refreshments for a reception following Caroline's memorial service, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007, held at New Garden Friends Meeting. Many friends of David Bailey and his family and friends of Caroline's family provided food and support both at the time of the memorial service and in the immediate weeks following the service.

The Hospitality Committee clerk coordinates the First Day greeter schedule. Greeters are given a reminder telephone call prior to their assigned Sundays. Greeters welcome members, attenders and guests as they enter our meeting house. The greeter remains for a short interval after meeting for worship has started to direct latecomers to the meeting room.

The Hospitality Committee is small in number and relies on others to help with clean-ups when necessary. Help after monthly meeting is often needed and volunteers always are on hand. This additional help is appreciated by the committee.

The committee monitors the use of the meeting house by outside groups. If the meeting house is not left in good order the committee clerk will contact the group to clarify our guidelines for use of the meeting house and offer our help when needed. Guidelines for use of the kitchen and other rooms are posted over the sink.

Mae Brown continues as a committee liaison with the House and Grounds Committee. She assists in coordinating supply purchases needed by both Hospitality and House and Grounds. The Hospitality clerk purchases supplies for weekly refreshments.

With the birth of her son this year Sue Hebner has rotated off the committee. We thank Sue for faithfully providing refreshments for her assigned first day during her time on the committee. We wish Sue and Benji the best with their parental responsibilities of their first-born!

At the time of this report Melissa Kammerer has asked to resign from the committee due to her work schedule. Since we are small in numbers we ask the Nominating Committee to select at least one and preferably two people who can join the committee. We particularly need help with regular clean-ups on First days.

I am grateful to committee members for their generous and readily available help. It is our hope that we facilitate a warm welcome to all those who enter our meeting home.

Judith Harvey, clerk.

David Barron, Gay Bowles, Mae Brown, Kembra Howdeshell, Melissa Kammerer, Claire Koster, Gail Pickett, Darryl Waisner

The **Nominating Committee** was asked to find a replacement for Melissa Kammerer who has resigned from the Hospitality Committee.

The Meeting then **adjourned** at 2:06 pm, after a brief period of silence to meet again on First Month 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008, if consistent with Divine Will.

Claire Koster  
Recording Clerk-for-the-day

David MacInnes  
Clerk



Friendship Friends Monthly Meeting

<http://www.ncymc.org/friendship/>

Photo by  
Chris Nelson

## Upcoming Events

### Christmas Eve Service

**Monday, December 24th, at 7:30 pm**  
**Living Room, Friends Homes/Guilford**

There will be readings, music, worship based on silent waiting, a live fire in the fireplace, and, at its end, refreshments. This event is sponsored by:

Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel

### New Years Eve Celebration

**Monday, December 31, beginning at 9:00 pm**  
**At the home of David and Mae Brown**  
**1208 Pinewood Drive**

Please bring your favorite games or puzzles, finger type snack food and a short story or poem. If you have questions call the Browns at 294-2095.

### 18th Annual Religious Emphasis Week At Guilford College

**January 19th through 26th 2008**

Featuring: Noel Paul Stookey, Betty Stookey and Seyyed Hossein Nasr

Noel Paul Stookey is a folksinger and songwriter who rose to fame with Peter, Paul, and Mary. Following a commitment to Christianity in the late 1960s, he has also enjoyed success as a solo artist in Christian music. Betty Stookey is chaplain at Northfield Mount Hermon School in Massachusetts.

The Stookeys will appear as Luby Casey Campus Ministry Visitors, with Noel Paul giving a concert of Peter, Paul and Mary classics and his own Christian music Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm in Dana Auditorium.

Betty Stookey will bring the prepared message in College Meeting for Worship Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 pm at New Garden Friends Meeting. Noel Paul will share musically.

Seyyed Hossein Nasr, making his second visit to Guilford in five years, will give a lecture on the heart of Islamic faith at 7:30 pm on Wednesday, January 23<sup>th</sup>, in Dana Auditorium.

All events are free and open to the public. For information, contact Friends Center at 316-2445 or email Max Carter: [mcarte@guilford.edu](mailto:mcarte@guilford.edu)

### Experiment with Light

*Do you love the Light?  
 Then there is your teacher!*

— George Fox

Experiment with Light groups, or Light Groups, as they are often called for short, are sites for spiritual friendships. The format begins with settling and following verbal directions after each of which are generous intervals of silence. This lasts for 45 minutes to an hour. We then write in our journals to capture and stay with insights we may have been given. When ready, participants share out of the silence and we listen to each other respectfully and prayerfully. Bonds of love and empathy form among us . . . Our friendships and spiritual growth feed back into our Meetings. -- Joann Seaver, *Friends Bulletin*, Nov. 2005

#### A Light Group is forming at Friendship Meeting.

If you would like to be part of the Experiment with Light group starting in January please speak to Judy Heitfield (643-0257, [judyelh@yahoo.com](mailto:judyelh@yahoo.com)) or Janet Nagel (292-9699, [3nagels@bellsouth.net](mailto:3nagels@bellsouth.net)). The group will meet once every two weeks for two hours. Tentative meeting times, subject to agreement by the participants, are Thursday or Sunday evenings

You can find information about the Experiment with Light online at a British website:

[www.charlieblackfield.com/light/](http://www.charlieblackfield.com/light/). Friendship Library has a copy of *Light to live by: an exploration in Quaker spirituality* in which Rex Ambler explains his discovery and development of the Experiment with Light process. This book can also be purchased from [www.quakerbooks.org](http://www.quakerbooks.org) (\$12). You can also borrow a CD or tape of two lectures by Rex Ambler explaining the process.

#### Our thoughts and prayers are with

David and Mae Brown and their granddaughter Amy on the loss of Amy's father.

Darryl Waisner, whose father has been ill recently and is in the hospital.

Bill and Joanne Jeffries of Durham, upon the recent death of their son, Kalon. The Jeffries have a long association with Friendship Meeting. A memorial service will be held on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm in the United Methodist Church in downtown Raleigh, where Jonathan Jeffries (their youngest son) is the Associate Pastor.

### Friendship Meeting Christmas Party



Greensboro, North Carolina

16 December 2007

**\* \* \* Water Conservation Strategies \* \* \***

In response to a concern directed to the Peace and Social Concerns committee by Meeting for Business, we are gathering information about different strategies to help conserve water that we would like to make available to the Meeting. Our hope is that this will not only give people new ideas for how they can use less water, but also provide a forum for members of the Meeting to share with each other their experience with strategies they have tried.

One possibility is to do this on a 'wiki' (online list) where members could read information about conserving water, but also could add information and suggestions from their own experience. This method has the potential to be more up-to-date and more interactive, but it also requires people to be comfortable using the computer. The other possibility is to just compile a list on paper that we could keep at the Meetinghouse.

In order to know the best way to proceed, **we need some feedback from the Meeting:** would members of the Meeting be comfortable and willing to use a 'wiki' on the computer as a way of sharing information, or would you prefer a paper version?

Please share your thoughts about this with Neil Swenson so we can know the best way to help the Meeting proceed with this issue. You can contact Neil at [nswenson@aol.com](mailto:nswenson@aol.com) or 834-0890. Thanks!

— Peace and Social Concerns Committee

### Work & Play at Friendship Meeting

Photos by Chris Nelson



Greensboro, North Carolina

Leaves after Work Day

9 December 2007

### Handbook Changes

Please call Claire Koster (766-9769), clerk of the Handbook Committee, if you have questions about the *Handbook*. Give corrections, additions, or deletions for the *Handbook* to Claire, or email them to the editor, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com).

**New Address:**

Ernest Miller  
has moved to Woolman Hall, apt #311  
at Friends Homes Guilford  
Tartt Bell (Winston-Salem Worship Group)  
now resides in Sandy Springs Friends  
Home, Maryland. We have no exact address.

**FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING (336) 854-5155**

Friendship Friends Meeting  
Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 29419  
Phone: (336) 854-5155

Dave MacInnes, Clerk  
Ray Treadway, Treasurer  
Claire Koster, Recorder  
Martha Lang, Recording Clerk

David Bailey Co-Clerk/Reading Clerk  
George White, Assistant Treasurer  
Richard Phillips, Assistant Recorder  
Cyril Harvey, Newsletter

Friendship Friends Meeting  
P. O. Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 27419

Address Correction Requested

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**