

Friendship Times

April 2010

Calendar

- Sun, Mar 28 9:00 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Apr 4 Easter
10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sat, Apr 10 9:00 am to Noon, Workday at the Meetinghouse
- Sun, Apr 11 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel
Peace and Social Concerns meet
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Fri, Apr 16 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm Game Night, Meetinghouse
- Sun, Apr 18 9:00 am Friendly Bible Study
10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse
10:30 am Meeting for Worship. A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Apr 25 9:00 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Religious Education Forum at rise of meeting
- Tue, May 25 Last day to send newsletter material to Editor

Weekly 10:30 am each First Day, Meeting for Worship.
Child care available for Worship and Business Mtgs.
7:30 pm Fourth Day, Midweek Mtg. for Worship, in
Prayer Room, 7th 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.

Salem Worship Group. Meeting for Worship, 9:30
a.m. First Day, at The Blessings, 823 Reynolda Road,
Winston-Salem. Contact: Meg Zulick. 725-2377

Monthly Meeting Rescheduled

It was decided at the last Meeting for Worship with attention to Business that due to the 1st First Day of April being the Easter holiday all committee meetings be moved to the 2nd First day for Fourth Month. This will also mean moving Meeting for Worship with Attention for Business to the 3rd First Day. We will revert to the normal schedule in Fifth Month. Please modify your calendar for 4th month only.

In this Issue

A synopsis of the Minutes from Third Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business is in this issue. In addition you will find announcements for Game Night, Meetinghouse Workday, and a Religious Education Forum, a current issue for action, and an update for the *Handbook Direc-*

From the Editor

Monthly Meeting in April has been rescheduled for April 18th. Since Judy and I will be departing on a trip April 24th, leaving insufficient time to gather and edit items for the newsletter, ***there will be no May newsletter.*** Material for the combined June — July issue should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than **Tuesday, May 25th**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help.

Cyril Harvey, cyrilhh@triad.rr.com

GAME NIGHT

7:00 to 10:00 pm on Friday, April 16th

Fourth Month Birthdays
of our Young Friends
Moe Owen 4/12/92

Fourth Month's Query Work of the Meeting

Do we assume our rightful share of the expenses of our Meeting? Do we regard our time, our talents, and our possessions as given us in trust, and do we use them freely for the needs of others?

Minutes — Synopsis

FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 14TH OF THIRD MONTH 2010

Friends gathered in waiting worship after a time of food and fellowship.

The third query was read:

Do we follow the teachings of Jesus and seek the inspiration of His Holy Spirit in our daily lives? Are love and unity maintained among us? Do we cultivate a forgiving spirit, and do we avoid and discourage needless and destructive criticism of others? When differences arise, do we endeavor promptly to resolve them in a spirit of love, honesty, and humility?

The following response will be edited by Dave MacInnes:

There are two kinds of queries: one kind becomes part of how you live; the other is one you can answer in words. The first part of this query is the first kind. We cannot answer for the entire meeting as to whether we follow Jesus' teachings; this query is to challenge us daily. Friends maintained a long silence. Obvious differences between friends are easily engaged, and rarely become serious problems. Subtle differences can be more complex since they are easier to overlook. Most don't need to be "resolved" so much as acknowledged. Friends are not aware of anyone regularly exercising needless and harmful criticism. Most of us try to open ourselves to understanding differences. One friend referred to a recent conflict in which one person felt unfairly criticized. Reactions were open and appropriate, and the concern was quickly resolved.

Ray Treadway presented the **Treasurer's Report** for Second Month, which was accepted with gratitude. The complete report is attached; a summary follows.

<u>Second Month</u>	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund:	\$1,665.00	\$2,437.54	\$9,559.51
All Funds:	\$1,765.00	\$2,837.54	\$20,601.53

Expenses of note during the month: sandwiches for Urban Ministry — \$58.76, donation to North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative — \$1,500, donation to Piedmont Friends Fellowship — \$350, donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses — \$100, electricity — \$67.79, gas — \$255.76, telephone — \$62.93, and water and sewer — \$9.89. The Meeting received a loan repayment to the emergency assistance fund of \$50. There was one contribution to the building fund of \$100.

Contributions to the Meeting in January and February (\$2,345) are significantly below what is needed (\$3,700) to maintain the Meeting's budget. Contribu-

tions to the general fund and to our special funds would be appreciated. Checks can be made out to Friendship Friends Meeting and sent to POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419.

Marilyn White reported on behalf of Peace and Social Concerns committee on the five priority recommendations to the Friends Committee for National Legislation. The five priorities were approved.

Gay Bowles reported on behalf of Care and Council committee and brought three concerns to the attention of the meeting.

To the matter of dinner circles, some friends expressed regret at not having been able to participate in the last round of Friendly Eights. A sign up sheet for interested parties, including a few practical questions, will be made available for at least two First Days.

First Sunday, which is normally the day for committee meetings, will fall on the day the world calls "Easter." To allow for conflicting morning celebrations, committee meetings will move to second Sunday, and Meeting for Business will move to 3rd Sunday in April.

The matter of the length of Business Meeting shall be carried over and discussed at the next joint Care and Council / Worship and Ministry meeting. The concern shall be returned to the body of friends thereafter.

A request for membership from Amanda Szabo was received and will be passed on to Care and Council who will suggest names for a clearness committee at the next Business Meeting.

The responses from Nan Bowles's traveling minutes to Davidson Monthly Meeting 2010 and to Scattergood and Earlham in 2007 were read.

Neil Swenson and Hannah Logan Morris were approved to join David Bailey on the Nominating Committee.

Selections were read from the approved minutes of Salem Worship Group.

The revised response to Query #2 was read and approved.

Are we faithful in our attendance at meetings for worship and are we careful not to disturb the spirit of the meeting with our late arrival? Is our behavior therein that of open submission to God in silent communion?

We believe our Meetings for Worship are faithfully attended. We generally quietly absorb late arrivals and this is important to Friends who find themselves arriving late on occasions. Meeting usually starts before the appointed hour, and there are few

disturbances, not only because early arriving Friends are tolerant of late-comers, but also because late arrivals are considerate and careful to enter meeting quietly.

The most important part of worship for some is the silence. That single element sets our manner of worship apart from most others. Our meeting has a tendency to respond to messages given in vocal ministry. Friends practice caution against this, for it can lead to discourse instead of open communion; however, this type of response seldom occurs in our meeting. Much of our vocal ministry speaks to concerns deeply felt by those attending meeting for worship. Though this speaks strongly of our unity in the spirit, this query challenges us to be mindful of the difference between responses that are born of our egos and those that come from the living spirit among us. Several Friends have spoken to the capacity of our meeting to speak directly to each of us in our need, not exclusively through verbal ministry, but also in the immediate sense of the divine moving in the silence. We feel a balance between striving for gospel order and allowing for the mutable requirements of the spirit.

Benji Hebner, Recording Clerk
David MacInnes, Clerk

Announcements

Game Night

Come one, come all! Game Night is on Friday, April 16th, at Friendship Friends Meetinghouse from 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Bring your favorite game to share. Friends and family are always welcome! Any questions, call Don Smith and Kembra Howdeshell (336-323-1537).

Work Day at the Meeting House Saturday, April 10th 9:00 am — 12:00 noon

We will be raking gum balls and pulling ivy outside, as well as cleaning some exterior areas of the meetinghouse. Please bring extra rakes. Inside work will include window washing and general spring cleaning.

Religious Education Forum

The Religious Education Committee invites you to a forum at the rise of meeting on April 25th. Ruth Lowe will report on her participation in the triennial gathering of the Young Quaker Christian Association, an organization of young adult Friends in Africa. She attended the gathering in Kenya in December 2009 as a representative of Friends United Meeting. While there, she also visited Friends missions and hospitals. We look forward to Ruth's presentation!

Our thoughts and prayers are with Anne Morris, Ernest Miller, Carole Treadway, Pat Loring, and Edith Mackie

Our thoughts and prayers are with Anne Morris and her family. Her grandfather is very ill and needs sustaining prayer to surround him at this time.

Ernest Miller is progressing after recent surgery and is walking without pain. He has returned to his assisted living room at Friends Homes Guilford after recuperating at Friends Homes West.

Carole Treadway continues to recover from her hip surgery.

Pat Loring has had extensive dental surgery and is recuperating also. We send all these Friends our support.

Edith Mackie is especially in our thoughts. Edith celebrated her 104th birthday on March 25th. If you drop by to see her she can still tell you marvelous tales from her long life!

Current Issue for Action

The **Peace and Social Concerns Committee** will often highlight issues of current importance that we would like to bring to the attention of the Meeting. Our hope is that Friends can use this information to educate themselves and take action where they feel led.

We need to support a new START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty). The previous START agreement with Russia, which had expired in December 2009, had been a cornerstone of efforts to reduce the buildup of nuclear weapons and helped prevent a U.S.-Russia nuclear arms race. Please ask your senators to support a speedy ratification of START. This treaty is one of the few pieces of legislation that will come before the Senate that has the support of top foreign policy officials from both parties in this country and thus offers the opportunity to make a dent in the partisan atmosphere in Washington. It is more effective to include personal details and explain why you care about this issue.

Reminder: Suggested items for the food and clothes boxes — brown rice, shoes and underwear. However, all items will be useful.

Handbook Changes

New Email addresses:

Megan Keiser
mmkeiser@charter.net

Tom Ehlers
te3@tlehlers3.com

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
Benji Hebner, Recording Clerk

Sidney Kitchens Co-Clerk/Reading Clerk
George White, Assistant Treasurer
Richard Phillips, Assistant Membership Recorder
Cyril Harvey, Newsletter

Friendship Friends Meeting
P. O. Box 8652
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Address Correction Requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL