

# Friendship Times

February 2011

## Calendar

- Sun, Jan 30 9:00 Extended Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Feb 6 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel  
Peace and Social Concerns meet  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Feb 13 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship. A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Feb 20 9:00 am Friendly Bible Study  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tue, Feb 22 Last day to send newsletter material to Editor
- 7:30 pm Rebecca Grunko & Alexander Levering Kern, Judith Weller Harvey Quaker Scholars, will speak at Bryan, Jr. Auditorium, Guilford College
- Sun, Feb 27 9:00 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting  
10:30 Meeting for Worship

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, 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.

**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

## In this Issue

The Minutes from First Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. These Minutes include several annual reports. In addition you will find announcements of a work/study trip to Israel and Palestine, and a lecture sponsored by Friends Center, a current issue for action and conservation notes from the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, and updates for the *Handbook Directory*.

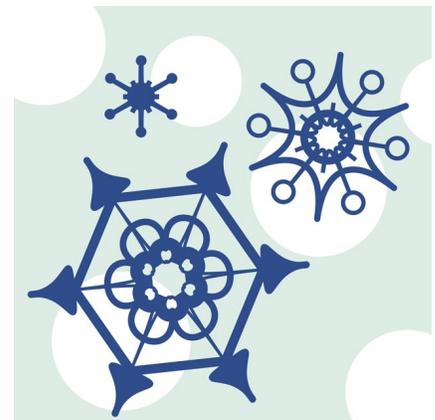
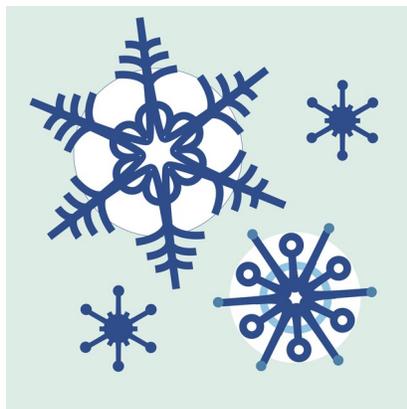
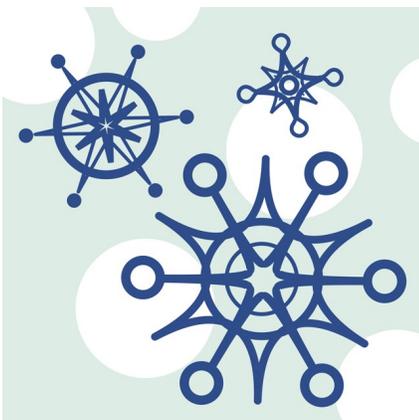
## From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month; this will be February 27<sup>th</sup> for the March issue. Material for the March issue should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than **Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help.

Cyril Harvey, [cyrilhh@triad.rr.com](mailto:cyrilhh@triad.rr.com)

## Second Month's Query Meeting for Worship

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



## Minutes

### FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> OF FIRST MONTH 2011

Friends gathered in waiting worship after a period of food and fellowship. Friends in attendance included: Dave MacInnes, Patricia Loring, David Barron, Carole Treadway, John Bowles, David Bailey, Stephen Holland, Neil Swenson, Judy Harvey, Marilyn White, George White, Sidney Lee Kitchens (Clerk), and Benji Hebner (Recording Clerk). Meeting opened with a period of waiting worship.

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

| <u>Twelfth Month</u> | Income     | Expenses   | Balance     |
|----------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| General Fund:        | \$8,260.00 | \$2,155.51 | \$12,950.37 |
| All Funds:           | \$8,410.00 | \$2,155.51 | \$19,091.23 |

Expenses of note during the month: newsletter and postage – \$111.11, sandwiches for Urban Ministry (2 months) – \$92.83, child care – \$105, supplies and miscellaneous – \$181.69, regular donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses – \$100; contribution to Friends Homes – \$150, contribution to People of Faith Against the Death Penalty – \$150, contribution to Urban Ministry – \$600, electricity – \$370.90 (settlement for the year); gas – \$94.47; phone – \$64.41, and water and sewer – \$19.60. The Meeting received one contribution to the contingency fund of \$50 and one contribution to the property fund of \$100. **The Meeting has essentially depleted the property fund (balance now \$233.05) and needs specially earmarked contributions to this fund.**

For the entire year (2010), our total income to the general fund was \$22,448.34 which exceeded the budget for the year by about \$150. Checks can be made out to Friendship Friends Meeting and sent to POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419.

### Finance Committee Report on 2011 Budget

The Finance Committee met at Friendship Friends Meeting on First Month 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Present were George White, David Brown, Stephen Holland, James Hood, and Ray Treadway.

We began by reviewing the treasurer's summary of income and expenses for the 2010 fiscal year. Income to the general fund in 2010 was about \$150 more than the 2010 budget and was \$1,800 more than our actual expenses, since the expenses were under budget in a number of categories. In addition, \$1,700 were donated to our special funds, namely the building fund, the contingency fund, and the property fund, to off set substantial emergency expenses from the latter two funds. The committee also examined

those line-items in the 2010 budget that were either over or under budget. We reviewed specific requests for the 2011 budget from committee clerks, suggestions from individuals, known costs, and past history of spending, such as for utilities. We considered the unexpected increase in the cost of the property and liability insurance (from \$643 to \$801) and have found an alternative carrier which will offer comparable insurance at a lower cost (\$549).

Two students from Friendship Meeting will be attending New Garden Friends School during the 2011-1012 school year and should receive scholarship help. Reviewing the need for financial support for these students, the Finance Committee felt that support in the amount of a total of \$4,000 would be appropriate. We discussed the alternatives of a) budgeting \$3,000 for the scholarship line-item of the general fund and spending \$1,000 from the contingency fund or b) budgeting \$2,000 from the general fund and taking \$2,000 from the contingency fund, with the expectation of special giving to replace the funds so spent. The latter approach seems to give more transparency to the process and recognizes that the extra funds are approved for one year only. **The Finance Committee proposes authorizing spending \$2,000 from the contingency fund to provide additional scholarship support for the 2011-2012 school year.**

The Finance Committee submits its proposed budget. The 2011 budget will provide two scholarships of \$1,000 each. We continue to feel that the Meeting should support members who travel to Quaker conferences and to committee meetings of Quaker organizations by only slightly reducing the amount budgeted for conferences and travel (from \$750 to \$700). Since all of the organizations that we support need more money to carry out their important work, the new budget will keep our contributions at the same level as last year. We encourage individuals to contribute directly to these organizations.

This budget is cautiously optimistic that donations in 2011 will increase in comparison to those of 2010. We trust that there will a number of persons who have not given in the past but will be able to donate some amount or make modest increases in 2011. **The Finance Committee proposes a slight (5%) increase in the 2011 budget from 2010, from \$22,300 to \$23,175.**

Submitted by Ray Treadway, Treasurer

Friends approved the proposals noted in **bold** in the report, and the budget for 2011 was approved.

### Web Committee Report

Friends are reminded that we have an active webpage at [www.friendshipmeeting.org](http://www.friendshipmeeting.org). The web committee recently had a telephone conference via Skype and worked on updating our webpage. We would like to encourage you to check it out. Besides pictures and

links to other Friends organizations, it includes current and past newsletters, the most recent meeting-house cleaning schedules, and a brief history of the meeting. Suggestions for other additions and improvements to the webpage would be welcome.

Submitted by Dave MacInnes

This report was accepted.

### **Hospitality Committee Annual Report**

Neil Swenson read the annual report from the Hospitality committee.

The Hospitality Committee has the weekly responsibility of serving refreshments after meeting for worship. The committee also sets up potluck lunches before meeting for business as well as coordinating set-ups for other events that are scheduled in the Meetinghouse.

Committee members rotate First Day duties for setting up refreshments and cleaning up. Committee members are responsible for leaving the Meetinghouse in good order and locking the building upon departure.

Hospitality coordinated scheduled events such as a picnic in June co-hosted by the Religious Education Committee, the desert portion of the annual Progressive Dinner to welcome new Guilford students, and an upcoming Christmas Party.

The committee monitors the use of the Meeting House by outside groups. Guidelines for use of the kitchen and other rooms are posted over the kitchen sink.

Claire Koster purchases supplies for weekly refreshments.

Bonnie Parsons is our liaison with House and Grounds Committee.

Gay Bowles coordinates the First Day greeter schedule. Greeters are given a reminder telephone call prior to their assigned First Day. Greeters welcome members, attenders, and guests as they enter the Meetinghouse. The greeter remains for a short interval after meeting for Worship has started to direct latecomers to the Meeting room.

Membership on Hospitality Committee is low and could use a boost. Hospitality Committee is actively seeking help from QLSP students in the hopes to have someone provide refreshments and clean-up, particularly on fifth First Day of each month. More members are needed.

It is our hope that we facilitate a warm welcome to all those who enter our meeting home.

Submitted by Christy Hopkins, Clerk

This report was accepted.

### **Worship and Ministry Annual Report**

Neil Swenson read the annual report from the Worship and Ministry Committee.

In its sixth year as a separate committee of Friendship Friends Meeting (FFM), Worship and Ministry is continually refining its understanding of its mandate and its relationship to its counterpart, the Care and Counsel Committee

Membership has been relatively stable. The 2009-2010 year saw the committee's first clerk and long-time member, Theodor Benfey, step aside after five years of service to the MM on this committee. The committee currently consists of Darlene Stanley, Carole Treadway, Deborah Shaw, Darryl Waisner, Neil Swenson, Pat Loring, and Sue Hebner. Sidney Lee Kitchens also serves in an ex-officio capacity as Clerk of the Meeting.

As has been the tradition for several years, Friendship Friends Meeting's Worship and Ministry Committee held an evening Christmas Eve Worship (Twelfth Month 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009) at Friends Homes Guilford. Included in the program were readings, instrumental music, singing of Silent Night, and worship based on silence. The attendance in 2009 was less than had been in previous years. However, there were still a moderate number of Friendship Meeting members/attenders present.

A sub-committee of Worship and Ministry met and responded to queries sent to all Monthly Meetings affiliated with Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF).

These queries were regarding the possibility of PFF becoming a Yearly Meeting. The sub-committee consisted of members/attenders from across generational lines. PFF has yet to make any definitive resolution to the question of becoming a Yearly Meeting. The sub-committee report was presented to Monthly Meeting in First Month 2010.

After several years of being a Worship Group, Salem Worship Group sought clearness to become a Monthly Meeting. In Eleventh Month 2009, a clearness committee was convened to meet with Salem Worship Group.

The clearness committee felt clear that Salem Worship Group was stable and viable to become a Monthly Meeting. FFM approved this.

Salem Monthly Meeting has not found way clear in determining a Yearly Meeting affiliation.

A forum was co-sponsored with Care and Counsel Committee utilizing the Monthly Meeting's alumni from the School of the Spirit. This was held on 16<sup>th</sup> of Fifth Month, 2010. Not all of the alumni were able to participate. The forum was well received and waiting for guidance on how to further inte-

grate the experiences of these members into the Monthly Meeting.

The All-Meeting Retreat was held 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Second Month, 2010. While well planned, the attendance again was down. Worship and Ministry is seeking to develop an evaluation procedure for those who attend the Retreat in order to develop future retreats.

In all of its work, the committee seeks to maintain a clear focus on its core mandate to nurture the spiritual life of the Meeting and of each of its members and attendees. Friendship Meeting is blessed by the wealth of spiritual gifts in our community and welcomes all ideas as to how to allow them to serve fully in the Spirit of Truth and Love.

Submitted by Darryl Waisner, Clerk

This report was accepted.

The clerk read the First Query:

*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?*

Friends united in the following response:

We practice silent worship without any written program. We have also established a convention of offering everyone an opportunity to share thoughts that didn't quite rise to ministry as they introduce themselves and share announcements immediately after rise of meeting. Friends testify to a palpable sense of connection and oneness among those in attendance at our meetings for worship. Spoken prayer is not common in our meeting, but prayer requests are often heard and honored in the silence. The practice of silent worship makes it easier to be open, mindful, and attentive to others in daily life. After our silent worship, there is strong verbal connection among participants. We do support and encourage those led to vocal ministry. The ongoing commitments that each of us make to live out our light in our daily lives contribute to the strength of our worship; it follows that our worship serves to fuel the ministry that each of undertakes in daily life.

Neil Swenson agreed to edit our response.

The clerk read our revised response to the Twelfth query. Friends united in the following response:

The Meeting generally receives visitors warmly. Staying in contact with absent and sick members has been a special point of emphasis for Care and Counsel. We consistently invite younger members and attenders to involve themselves in the life and work of the meeting. However, there is always the possibility

for an individual to be overlooked. It is harder to assess how well we extend our network of care to include those outside of the meeting, but many of our members are actively engaged in the care and support of persons in the wider community regardless of affiliation.

David Barron was approved as our new representative to Quaker House, Fayetteville.

Meeting closed with a period of waiting worship.

Sid Kitchens (clerk)

Benji Hebner (recording clerk)

Our prayers have been with David Brown and Claire Koster in recent weeks. Claire has recovered well from gall bladder surgery which, thankfully, is quite routine these days. David has been home for several weeks after heart problems but he is out and about now. We missed him in the Friends Homes dining room and we are glad he's back at his usual table!

### **Summer Work/Study Trip to Palestine and Israel**

Max and Jane Carter will lead a Friends United Meeting-sponsored trip to Israel and the Palestinian territories June 17<sup>th</sup> - July 4<sup>th</sup>. The trip will focus on volunteer work at the Ramallah Friends Schools, travel to religious and historical sites, and study of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict with leaders in the peace communities in the region. For applications and further information, contact Max Carter: (336) 316-2445 or [mcarter@guilford.edu](mailto:mcarter@guilford.edu)

### **Judith Weller Harvey Quaker Scholars Lecture Series Sponsored by Friends Center**

**Rebecca Grunko & Alexander Levering Kern**

**“Life after Guilford: Adventures  
in Quakerism, Activism, and Family Life”**

**7:30 pm on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Joseph M. Bryan, Jr. Auditorium**

While at Guilford College, Becca and Alex were in the first class of Quaker Leadership Scholars. Since graduation and marriage, they have started a family, and traveled abroad in Quaker ecumenical and interfaith peace-building efforts. Becca has served as coordinator of the First-day School at Cambridge Friends Meeting and as a public school ESL teacher. Alex serves as Brandeis University's Protestant chaplain and Executive Director of Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries in Boston, and has edited *Becoming Fire: Spiritual Writing from Rising Generations*.

### 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.

The Friends Committee on National Legislation is asking Friends to write letters to their Congressional representative urging him to stand up for EPA's efforts to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. The first EPA regulations of carbon dioxide went into effect on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the new chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee has made stopping these regulations a top priority. These regulations will protect human health, reduce health care costs, stimulate a green economy and help to mitigate global warming. It is important that they remain in effect.

FCNL defeated attempts to stop the regulations last year and plans to do so again this year, but they need help from us as Congressional constituents to let our Representatives know that we oppose any attempt to stop the EPA from regulating greenhouse emissions or other pollutants.

For more details, see:

[www.fcnl.org/energy/](http://www.fcnl.org/energy/)

### Handbook Changes

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

#### New Address:

Danielle Horsley and Bennett Grills  
35701 Bramblegate Rd., #M  
Greensboro, NC 27409

#### Updated Addresses:

Jim & Daniel Hood  
600 Woodvale Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27409

Mary Ellen Chijioko  
4A Unuagu St., I/L  
P.O. Box 4832  
Enugu HQ  
Enugu 400001, Nigeria

### Also from Peace and Social Concerns

#### Ecological and Conservation Notes THE EARTH CHARTER

This month Ecological and Conservation Notes would like to highlight the principles that undergird The Earth Charter. The charter was adopted by Earth Charter Commissioners in 2000 at UNESCO.

#### The Earth Charter Part I: Principles

#### RESPECT AND CARE FOR THE COMMUNITY OF LIFE

##### 1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity

- a. Recognize that all beings are interdependent and every form of life has value regardless of its worth to human beings.
- b. Affirm faith in the inherent dignity of all human beings and in the intellectual, artistic, ethical, and spiritual potential of humanity.

##### 2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love

- a. Accept that with the right to own, manage, and use natural resources comes the duty to prevent environmental harm and to protect the rights of people.
- b. Affirm that with increased freedom, knowledge, and power comes increased responsibility to promote the common good.

##### 3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful

- a. Ensure that communities at all levels guarantee human rights and fundamental freedoms and provide everyone an opportunity to realize his or her full potential.
- b. Promote social and economic justice, enabling all to achieve a secure and meaningful livelihood that is ecologically responsible.

##### 4. Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations

- a. Recognize that the freedom of action of each generation is qualified by the needs of future generations.
- b. Transmit to future generations values, traditions, and institutions that support the long-term flourishing of Earth's human and ecological communities.

Submitted by Bonnie Parsons  
Peace and Social Concerns Committee

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

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

Sidney Kitchens, Clerk  
Ray Treadway, Treasurer  
Claire Koster, Recorder  
Benji Hebner, Recording Clerk

Neil Swenson Co-Clerk/Reading Clerk  
George White, Assistant Treasurer  
Gwen Erickson, Assistant Membership Recorder  
Cyril Harvey, Newsletter

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

Address Correction Requested

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**