

Friendship Friends Meeting (336) 854-5155

friendshipmeeting.org

# Friendship Times

March 2012

## Calendar

- Sun, Feb 26 10:30 Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Mar 4 9:00 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel  
Peace and Social Concerns meet  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Mar 11 10:00 am Group singing, Meetinghouse  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship. A potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Sun, Mar 18 9:00 am Friendly Bible Study  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tue, Mar 20 Last day to send newsletter material to Editor
- Sat, Mar 24 9:00 am Meeting Work Day
- Sun, Mar 25 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 Meetings. 7:30 pm Fourth Day, Midweek Meeting 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.

Third Month Birthdays  
of our Young Friends

Imani Khamala

## In this Issue

The Minutes from Second Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. In addition you will find announcements of a upcoming Women's Retreat for the Yearly Meeting, and a prayer meeting, an update on Quaker house, a current issue for action from Peace and Social Concerns Committee, and, of course, more quotations from Pat' Corner.

## From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month; this will be March 27<sup>th</sup> for the April issue. Material for the April issue should be submitted, preferably by email, ***no later*** than **Tuesday, March 20<sup>nd</sup>**. Thanks to everyone in advance for your help.

Dave MacInnes [davmacinnes@gmail.com](mailto:davmacinnes@gmail.com)

## Meeting Work Days

March 24 9-12 Saturday

May 19 9-12 Saturday

Please come to help us keep our Meetinghouse and grounds nice.

## Third Month's Query Love and Unity

*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?*

## Minutes

FRIENDSHIP FRIENDS MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS GATHERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> OF SECOND MONTH 2012

Friends gathered after a time of food and fellowship. Dave MacInnes was approved as acting clerk in the absence of Sid Kitchens.

Ray Treadway presented the annual report for the Finance Committee, which included a proposed budget for 2012. The report was accepted with gratitude, and the attached budget was approved.

Report of the Finance Committee – Friendship Monthly Meeting - First Month 2012

The Finance Committee met by e-mail to consider the financial report of income and spending in 2011 and to prepare a proposed budget for 2012 for consideration at our business meeting in Second Month. The fiscal condition of Friendship Meeting continues to be relatively healthy.

Income to the general fund in 2011 was \$23,450, exceeding the 2011 budget by \$275. In addition, our actual expenditures were only \$19,702.70 since the expenses were under budget in a number of categories. It is important to note, however, that our contributions to some of special funds were low and need to be increased in 2012.

We began our deliberations with the observation that income in 2011 exceeded expenses by approximately \$4000, so that we had extra funds to work with. Some line-items which were under spent would need additional funds in 2012. In preparing the 2012 budget we contacted committee clerks and others to tell us of expected expenses for 2012. We agreed to increase the budget for Religious Education to allow for an increase in the hourly pay for child-care providers and to buy additional supplies. We agreed to provide one scholarship to New Garden Friends School for a child connected to the Meeting. Since all of the organizations that we support need more money to carry out their important work, the new budget will generally maintain the amounts which we gave them last

year. Because of the historical relationship and commitment to Quaker House, we agreed to maintain the amount we give to it. We increased the budgeted amount by \$100 for FCNL, AFSC, and FWCC because of the important national international work that these organizations do. Because decisions about reducing the cost of our telephone service have not yet been made, the budget for the telephone has been determined based on our current service.

This budget is cautiously optimistic that donations will stay even with those of 2011. We trust that there will a number of persons who have not given in the past but will be able to donate modest amounts in 2012. Overall, there will be a modest decrease in the 2012 budget from 2011, from \$23,175 to \$22,185. Friendship Meeting continues to need the contributions of everyone to allow us to undertake these many activities. We are grateful for the generosity of the Meeting’s supporters.

Ray Treadway, Convener

Ray Treadway presented the Treasurer’s report for First Month 2012, which was accepted with gratitude. The complete report is attached; a summary follows:

Treasurer’s Report for First Month, 2012.

Fund	Income	Expenses	Ending Bal-
General	\$ 1,215.00	\$ 889.96	\$ 11,417.54
All Funds	\$ 1,290.00	\$ 864.96	\$ 20,068.40

Expenses of note during the month include sending the newsletter – \$17.64, supplies and stamps – \$35.77, electricity – \$78.13, gas – \$144.12, telephone – \$70.59, water and sewer – \$43.75 and payment for property and liability insurance – \$487.00. The Meeting received a loan repayment to the emergency assistance fund of \$15.00. We received a designated contribution of \$50.00 to the property fund and \$25.00 to the building fund.

Adjustments were made to fund balances at the beginning of the fiscal year, following the Meeting's policy that the beginning balance for the year in the general operating fund will be one-

half of the annual budget and the beginning balance in the operating reserve will be equal to the annual budget of \$22,185. The net result was to move \$4,242.30 out of the general operating fund and to move \$990.00 out of the general reserve and then to move \$5,157.30 into the building reserve fund. Our investment in PAX World received no capital gains, but it did receive a dividend of \$294.04 and an increase in market value of \$3,563.91 over the three-month period from October 1 to December 31, 2011.

Contributions to the general fund and to our special funds, particularly the property fund whose balance is only \$1,233.05, would be appreciated. Checks can be made out to Friendship Friends Meeting and sent to POB 8652, Greensboro NC 27419 or left in the contribution basket in the Gathering room.

The clerk read the second query: *Are we faithful in our attendance at meeting 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.*

Carol Treadway agreed to edit our responses.

Friends responded as follows: This is a question that addresses members' individual behaviors. Generally speaking, we have few empty seats, though it varies from meeting to meeting. We seem to have few friends who arrive tardy, and the friends who do are responsible about not disturbing meeting. Younger friends have gotten better about remaining quiet during worship. One friend asked if there could be a door installed between the meeting room and the kitchen so as to limit noise. The depth of silence in our meeting was acknowledged as nurturing to participants and to the ministry that flows therefrom. We have a significant number of members who are physically unable to attend first-day worship, many of whom attend the worship on Fourth day evenings at Friends' Homes, but we also have a significant number that doesn't show up or keep in contact for unclear reasons. Appointing a working assistant to the membership recorder was suggested as a

way of doing more to keep in contact with distant members.

Sheri Grace presented the annual report from the Peace and Social Concerns committee. The report was accepted as follows:

Darlene Stanley reported on behalf of the clearness committee for the membership of Daniel Rhodes, and they recommended that his membership be approved. His membership was approved. Sue Hebner, Darlene Stanley, and Dave MacInnes volunteered to form a welcoming committee.

The clerk read a request from the House and Grounds committee to change from a land-line phone service to a cell phone, which would result in a significant monetary savings. Numerous questions were raised in relation to the ease with which a cell phone could be lost, the fact that 911 calls are not instantly traced through a cell phone the way that they are through land lines, and alternative phone-service possibilities. In consideration of these questions, the subject was tabled and returned to committee.

The clerk read our edited response to the First Query. It was approved.

John and Gay Bowles wish to donate a wheelchair to meeting, both for John's use and for others with serious mobility difficulties. It would need to be stored somewhere. This will be forwarded to the House and Grounds committee.

The meeting closed with a moment of expectant waiting.

Dave MacInnes (temporary clerk)  
Benji Hebner (recording clerk)

## **Quaker House News**

**Lynn and Steve Newsom of Charlotte, NC**, have been hired to be the next Directors of Quaker House. They will begin November 1, 2012. The search committee searched nationally and internationally before arriving at the decision to hire in-house, selecting members of their board. Steve and Lynn are both longtime members of the Society of Friends. Together they have been involved with Monthly Meetings in Chapel Hill, Cincinnati, Roanoke and Charlotte. Since 2007, they together have served on the QH board from the Charlotte Meeting. Steve has experience growing up in a military family, as a veteran, and as a volunteer with the Plowshares Peace Center in Roanoke and the Center for Peace Education in Cincinnati. Lynn served on the early Quaker House board as a representative from the Chapel Hill Meeting. She brings extensive classroom teaching experience, including conflict resolution training, as well as her leadership skills in clerking Quaker meetings and committees.

**Quaker House support** has remained remarkably strong despite the recent financial downturns; however we rely on your continuing support to carry out our mission. Fundraising is about \$15,000 short from the previous years. Please consider donating to help us continue this important work. Checks can be sent to: Quaker House, 223 Hillside Avenue, Fayetteville, NC, 28301, or donations can be made on the website: [www.QuakerHouse.org](http://www.QuakerHouse.org). Click on the "Donate Now" box. It is possible to automatically donate as little as \$5 per month as an ongoing supporter of Quaker House. Quaker House needs to receive a request from an individual, with either check information or credit card information, to authorize Quaker House to receive recurring funds in this way. For more complete news of Quaker House, there are current copies of the newsletter available at the Meeting house and/or it is available on line at the website.

## **This year's Yearly Meeting program is now online**

Tommie Gipson has posted on [www.ncymc.org](http://www.ncymc.org) our outline of yearly meeting program highlights. You may tell people in your meetings that they can find preliminary information there. More detail will be added later.

## **Pat's Corner**

Each month Pat Loring shares with you some lesser known quotations from early and more recent Friends that remind us of the Quaker message as it came to Friends in the seventeenth century and as it has lasted to today. This month the quotes reflect the theme of our All Meeting Retreat

I think I have wasted a great deal of my life waiting to be called to some great mission which would change the world. I have looked for important social movements. I have waited to make a big and lasting contribution to the causes I believe in. I think I have been too ready to reject the genuine leadings I have been given as being matters of little consequence. It has taken me a long time to learn that obedience means doing what we are called to do even if it seems pointless or unimportant or even silly. The great social movements of our time may very well be part of the calling. The ideals of peace and justice and equality which are part of our religious tradition are often the focus of debate. But we cannot simply immerse ourselves in these activities. We need to develop our own unique social witness, in obedience to God. We need to listen for the gentle whispers which will tell us how we can bring our own lives into greater harmony with heaven.

Deborah Haines," Living in Harmony with Heaven on Earth," *Friends Search for Wholeness*. 1978.

True godliness doesn't turn men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it, and excites their endeavors to mend it.

William Penn: *No Cross No Crown*, 1682.

Action Box from Peace and Social Concerns

Friends Committee on National Legislation is concerned about the use of drone attacks by the U.S. military for various reasons: drone assassination is in direct violation of international law; drone missile attacks often target a single person for assassination, but end up killing dozens; these strikes have become a rallying cry for anti-government political groups and a recruiting tool for the same violent, extremist organizations that the U.S. claims to want to damage. Yet Congress has so far failed to offer any type of serious criticisms of the use of drones and instead 49 members have established a caucus to promote their use. Please urge your representative to question the new emphasis on drone warfare and instead encourage Congress and the administration to focus U.S. policy on diplomacy, development and international engagement.

**"Opening Scripture through Prayer"**

Prayerfully reading scripture to find nurture and comfort there that help us grow deeper in relationship with God. When we approach scripture through prayer, rather than intellectually or emotionally, we allow the Living One space and opportunity to meet us where we most need on any given day. In this workshop we will explore some ways to pray scripture. Beginning with *lectio divina* or sacred reading, we will also have the option to experiment with other forms of praying scripture as time and interest allow.

When: Saturday, March 10

Where: 720 S. Chimney Rock Road, Greensboro, NC 27409 Home of Lou Ouradnik

Time: 9:00 - 12:00 Noon

Cost: \$15

**WOMEN'S RETREAT**

**For  
NORTH CAROLINA YEARLY MEETING-  
CONSERVATIVE**

Come and join other women from yearly meeting for fellowship and time of learning.

Earlham School of Religion's Traveling Ministries program is sponsoring Carole Spencer, faculty at ESR, to present:

***Women Mystics: What They Show Us About the Spiritual Life***

In this retreat, we will look at the lives, witness, and writings of women mystics from the medieval period of European history including: Mechthild of Magdeburg, Julian of Norwich, and Teresa of Avila. We will, in particular, explore the vital egalitarian vision of gender and spirituality that they held.

Where: Durham Friends Meeting  
404 Alexander Avenue Durham, NC 27705-4706

When: April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
8:30 Registration and breakfast  
9:00 -3:00 Retreat

**\* Please bring writing material or a journal to write in.**

Breakfast: Will be provided  
Lunch: **Potluck lunch. Please bring food to share.** Drinks will be provided by Durham Friends Meeting.

Honorarium: **Free will offering for retreat leader.**

Please RSVP to Kristin Olson-Kennedy  
[jfkkmok@mindless.com](mailto:jfkkmok@mindless.com) 704-799-1711

**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  
Sid Kitchens, Assistant Membership Recorder  
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter

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

Address Correction Requested

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**