

Friendship Times

Friendship Friends Meeting

Calendar

Sat, April 6	Query workshop beginning 8 am
Sun, April 7	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues, April 9	12:30 – 2:30 pm meet Shan Cretin, AFSC general secretary
Thurs, April 11	7:30 pm at the Meetinghouse, Esther Mombo, "Let the Living Waters Flow"
Sun, April 14	10 am Group Singing 10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
Sun, April 21	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues, April 23	Deadline for March newsletter
Friday, April 26	6:30 pm Forum at Friendship on migrant Farm workers in North Carolina.
Sun, April 28	9 a.m. Deepening the Life of the Meeting. 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, May 5	10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Weekly Meeting for Worship 10:30 am each First Day. Child care is available for Worship and Business Meetings., There are two opportunities for Midweek Meeting for Worship, Tuesday 7 pm in the second floor lounge of the 5000 building at Friends Homes West and on Wednesday, in the Prayer Room, 7th floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford, occasionally followed by discussion at 8 pm

In this Issue

In this issue, besides the usual business meeting minutes with a report from our annual All Meeting Retreat, you will find our monthly lesser known Quaker quotation, another quote and announcements of local events of interest.

From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month. Material should be submitted, preferably by email, no later than Tuesday, April 23. Besides announcements and publicity for events we welcome poems and other thoughts to go into the newsletter.

Month's Query

Query #4 Do we assume our rightful share of the expenses of the 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

3rd Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Meeting began with a brief period of silent worship.

1. Treasurer's Report for second month.

- Ray Treadway presented the Treasurer's Report
- The summary follows and the report is attached.

Treasurer's Report for Second Month, 2013

Reported on Third Month 10, 2013

Fund	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General	\$ 773	\$ 2,576	\$ 11,228
All Funds	\$ 823	\$ 2,576	\$ 20,053

Expenses of note during the month: social concerns project (No More Deaths expedition for students at Guilford College) – \$200; refreshments for social concerns forum – \$23.57, supplies \$86.23; donation to North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative – \$1,500; donation to Piedmont Friends Fellowship – \$350; donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville – \$100; electricity – \$102.92; gas – \$113.91; telephone – \$72.00, and water and sewer -- \$9.98. There was a contribution of \$50.00 to the emergency assistance fund.

Contributions to the Meeting in January and February (\$3100) are below what is needed (\$3900) to maintain the Meeting's budget.

Contributions to the general fund and to our special funds, particularly to the property fund, 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.

2. Report from Worship and Ministry

- Darlene Stanley read a letter that Worship and Ministry received from Deborah Shaw requesting a Travel Minute. Her request was approved and the Clerk will write a Travel Minute.
- Darlene Stanley presented a proposal from Worship and Ministry to change our process of sharing joys, sorrows, and reflections that didn't rise to the level of vocal ministry during Meeting for Worship. Worship and Ministry proposes a trial period of now through August to give a time at the end of Worship, before shaking hands and breaking Meeting, when the Clerk would invite those present to share joys, sorrows, and messages that didn't quite rise to the level of vocal ministry.
 - Discussion included: When do we add this time, before the hour of Worship is over, or an extension of Worship? Would the children have returned to Worship from First Day School for this time? Would this time become informal and chatty and feel less worshipful? Is this adding a programmed time into our unprogrammed worship? What sort of eldering would need to happen?

- We will let this proposal season and consider it at next month's Meeting for Business.

3. Audit Committee report

- Darryl Waisner presented a report from the Audit Committee, submitted by Dave MacInnes.
- The report was accepted and follows.

The responsibility of the Audit Committee is to express an opinion on the financial statements of the Treasurer, based on our audit. The purpose of the audit is to obtain a reasonable assurance that the Meeting's financial statements are free of material misstatements.

We met on Second Month 19, 2013 to check over the financial books of Friendship Meeting for the year 2012. Upon individual examination thereof, we mutually certify the great care taken with maintenance of the books. In our opinion, the Treasurer's books and statements given during 2012 accurately present the financial position of Friendship Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Respectfully submitted, Dave MacInnes,
Jim Hood and George White, Audit Committee

4. Proposal from Women's Joy Circle for a garden in the backyard

- The Clerk read a proposal from the Women's Joy Circle, submitted by Lissa Carter.
- The proposal follows.
- The Meeting approved the proposal with the addition that, if the Women's Joy Circle is no longer able or willing to maintain the garden, they will return

the area to landscaping instead of just abandoning the garden. The proposal will be referred to the House and Grounds committee to help pinpoint an appropriate location and size.

Women's Joy Circle would like to put a tea/herb/flower/vegetable garden in the rear corner of the property (far side of the parking lot from the play structure... or if preferable to the Meeting, at the back of the property behind the play structure and along the parking lot) for use in tea for the Meeting, herbs and vegetables for potlucks, and flowers for everyone's enjoyment. We would like to host a high tea in the Meeting yard at some point in April to raise money for soil amendments and seedlings, and we would provide the labor and maintain the garden (planting mostly easy-care perennials so this wouldn't be a huge responsibility).

5. Report from the All-Meeting Retreat

- The Clerk read a report from the All-Meeting Retreat (Third Month 9, 2013) at the rise of Worship.
- Darryl Waisner read the report again during Meeting for Business.
- It will also be included in the newsletter.
- The report follows.

The Meeting proposes a committee separate from the Meetinghouse Renovations Funding committee to focus on helping the Meeting continue to discern our vision for the future Meetinghouse. This planning committee would visit other Meeting houses and have forums to invite speakers of Meetings who have experience, strength, and hope to share with us. The committee would also need to meet with the Trustees of Friends Homes to discuss

car access from Arcadia Drive.

The Meeting approved that Nominating Committee will nominate a Meetinghouse Planning Committee to present at next month's Meeting for Business. We approve to rename the Meetinghouse Renovations Funding committee as Meetinghouse Fundraising committee.

Report from All Meeting Retreat - Ninth of Third Month, 2013

Twenty two people including a representative from QLSP (Quaker Leadership Scholars Program) attended the retreat sponsored by Worship and Ministry which was wonderfully planned by Darlene Stanley and Neil Swenson. Our named theme and focus was *"Discerning our future space: What is our vision for a renovated or new Meetinghouse?"*

Individual, small group, and facilitated discussion plus worship sharing of the whole group revealed the following shared themes: Desire for a new meeting house rather than a renovation of the current structure that would be "green"; larger space for younger Friend's religious education; access from Arcadia in addition to New Garden Road; larger worship space; larger place of fellowship and dining; more natural light throughout; to be of greater utility to the larger community; green space usable for outdoor activities and; last but not least, a wraparound porch!

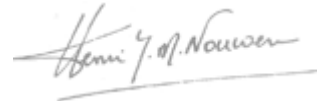
In our final discussion we discerned that it was important to share this report with all those attending our meeting for worship, as well as those gathered for Meeting for Worship with attention to business.

Those in attendance of this Spirit led opportunity felt a great sense of excitement and joy filled urgency envisioning the creation of an intentional place of worship for future generations of Friends.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

An interesting quote offered by Darlene Stanley

Discipline is the creation of boundaries that keep time and space open for God. Solitude requires discipline; worship requires discipline, caring for others requires discipline. They all ask us to set apart a time and a place where God's gracious presence can be acknowledged and responded to.



From our Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Join Peace and Social Concerns for a Friday Night Forum on Migrant Farm-workers in North Carolina. Sheri Grace and Lori Kamala will lead us in learning about present conditions, the journey of farm-workers, and ways we can get involved in raising awareness and addressing issues that affect their well-being. The forum will be held on April 26th at 6:30. A light meal will be provided.

Also: A representative of the Center for Development in Central America in Guatemala (which our meeting supports) will be at Friends Homes Guilford on Friday, April 5. She will give a talk on the work at the Center at 2:30 p.m. and will have handicrafts from the center available for purchase.

Announcement

Friends World Committee (FWCC) – Section of
the Americas

LET THE LIVING WATER FLOW PROGRAM

Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. Friendship
Friends Meetinghouse

FWCC is carrying out a series of programs to bring the experiences of the 2012 World Conference of Friends to local Friends communities throughout the Americas, focusing on the Biblical theme of "Let the Living Water Flow." For more information, visit <http://www.fwccamericas.org/LivingWater.shtml>

Esther Mombo, who gave one of the plenary talks at the World Conference and who has written on a variety of Kenyan and global issues, will be coming to the Piedmont of North Carolina for a series of talks during April 11-14, 2013. You are particularly invited to attend her talk at Friendship Meetinghouse on the evening of April 11. She will also be speaking at Guilford College, at local Friends Meetings, and at the North Carolina Yearly Meeting Peace Conference

<http://www.ncym-fum.org/peace&socialissues.html>

Esther Mombo is a lecturer and deputy Vice Chancellor Academics at St Paul's university Limuru, Kenya. She teaches African church history and theologies from women's perspectives. She was born and brought up in a

Quaker home with her grandmother the late Enis Mugesia who was among the first Quaker converts in her village. Enis served in the women's meetings and was one of three or four women who carried out prison ministry among female prisoners. Esther was influenced by Enis Mugesia in her early days and in her choice of the ministry that she undertook in theological education for herself and for the work she does today.

Her highly-regarded writings have been on such diverse topics as women's issues, HIV/AIDS, Christian-Muslim relations, and poverty in Africa. She has contributed in the development of different programs including a first Master's Program in Christian Response to HIV/AIDS and others. She has made significant contributions to developing women's ecclesiastical leadership through theological training and has contributed to different books including *A Historical Analysis of the roles and status of Abaluyia women in Kenyan Quaker Christianity 1902-1979* and *Harahamisi and Juma: The Development of the Women's Meetings in East Africa Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers)*.

She has spoken in different conferences in different Christian denominations, including the World conference of friends Kenya 2012. She is a graduate of Friends Theological College, St. Paul's, Limuru; Trinity College, Dublin; and Edinburgh University.

Friends House Moscow

The Friends House Moscow carries on humanitarian work. However, currently they report in their newsletter that it is becoming more difficult to work for a civil society and for social justice issues in Russia. If anyone is interested in the work of Quakers in Russia and would like to learn about projects and issues as news becomes available please see the current newsletter and past issued at the FHMSA website:

<http://friendshousemoscow.org>

LESSER KNOWN QUOTATIONS

Each month you will see a lesser known quotation or two 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's lasted to today.

Selected by our member Patricia Loring, they are to stir your own reflection and meditation on what we are about at this time in our history.

The core of the Quaker tradition is a way of inward seeking which leads to outward acts of integrity and service. Friends are most in the Spirit when they stand at the crossing point of the inward and the outward life. And that is the intersection at which we find community. Community is a place where the connections felt in the heart make themselves known in bonds between people, and where the tuggings and pullings of those bonds keep opening up our hearts.

The Society of Friends can make its greatest contribution to community by continuing to be a *religious* society -- I mean, by centering on the

practice of corporate worship which opens itself for continuing revelation.

Parker J. Palmer: *A Place called Community*, PH Pamphlet #212, 1997, p 27

New attenders at Friendship

Please welcome Brian and Betty Poynton to Friendship. Their telephone number is 336-676-6194

Meeting with AFSC's general secretary

You are invited to a luncheon with American Friends Service Committee **General Secretary Shan Cretin** and panel discussion on AFSC's local work and partnerships.

Tuesday, April 9 from 12:30-2:30pm

Friendship Friends Meeting
1103 New Garden Rd. Greensboro, NC 27410

To RSVP: Please go to
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KgPvl8jWEOdRaqYc5KF2N_eW9CGdStjY3h5WJviZM3k/viewform

and fill out this online form.

Space limited

Questions:

LKhamala@afsc.org or [336-854-0633](tel:336-854-0633)

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Sidney Kitchens, Clerk
Ray Treadway, Treasurer
Claire Koster, Membership Recorder
Hannah Logan Morris, Recording Clerk

Darryl Waisner, Co-Clerk
Stephen Holland, Assistant Treasurer
Gay Bowles, Asst Membership Recorder
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

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