

# Friendship Times

## Friendship Friends Meeting

### Calendar

Sun Aug 4      9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Sun Aug 11      10 am Group Singing  
10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business

Sun Aug 18      10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Sun Aug 25      10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Sun Sept 1      10:30 am Meeting for Worship

Weekly Meeting for Worship 10:30 am each First Day. Child care available for Worship and Business Meetings. There is a Midweek Meeting for Worship, on Wednesday, in the Prayer Room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford, occasionally followed by discussion at 8 pm.

9 am fifth First Day (when there is one),  
Extended Meeting for worship.

Ann Joy Swenson has a birthday this month on Friday August second.

### In this Issue

The minutes for Sixth Month's meeting for worship with a concern for business are in this issue. You will also find reports from Peace and Social Concerns, Care and Counsel and Nominating Committees and the Membership Recorder as well as other items.

### From the Editor

My intention is to distribute the newsletter no later than the last Sunday of the month; this will be August 25<sup>th</sup>. Material should be submitted, preferably by email, no later than Tuesday, August 20.

### Month's Query

*Query 8: Do we observe simplicity and honesty in our manner of living? Are we careful to live within the bounds of our circumstances, punctual in keeping promises, prompt in the payment of debts, and just in all our dealings? Do we choose those activities which will strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual life; and do we avoid those harmful to ourselves and others?*

## Minutes

### 6<sup>th</sup> Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, Sixth Month 9, 2013

Meeting began with a brief period of silent worship.

#### 1. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report for Fifth Month, 2013

Fund	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General	\$ 1,235	\$ 609	\$ 9,987
All Funds	\$ 1,360	\$ 584	\$ 17,113

Expenses of note during the month: supplies for the Care and Counsel Committee – \$12.42 (mailing); child care – \$114.00, regular donation to Quaker House of Fayetteville for operating expenses – \$100; electricity – \$102.92; gas – \$44.74; telephone – \$71.92, and water – \$34.37. The Meeting received contributions to the building fund of \$25.00 and the emergency assistance fund of \$100.00, in addition to a reimbursement to the emergency assistance fund of \$25.00.

For the year (five months) we have received approximately \$7700 to the general fund in donations, while we should have received over \$9800 to maintain our budget. Contributions 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 or left in the contribution basket in the gathering room at the Meetinghouse.

#### 2. Annual Report from Peace and Social Concerns

Outreach:

Wanting to continue or response to the current economic crisis, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee has continued to engage in outreach this year.

1. We kept an ongoing donations box for Urban Ministries.
2. We continued the tradition of the Angel Tree in December, and many donations were contributed, requiring a truck to get them there.
3. We have kept ourselves informed of the Burmese family's situation, via many updates from Judy Reece. In the summer of 2012, Bonnie Parsons facilitated the efforts of Fiends to provide summer enrichment opportunities to the girls. The religious education committee responded to Bonnie's request to have the First Day kids raise money from a bake sale for donations to a scholarship fund for the oldest girl.
4. We had three forums, one on Palestine by Raleigh Bailey in May 2012, one on No More Deaths in Feb. 2013, and one on Migrant Farmworkers in April 2013. All were moving. Some attendees and P&SC donated money to No More Deaths. Several members will travel to migrant camps in eastern NC over the summer on outreach with Farmworkers Legal Services Witness for Justice Program. An interest group will be presented at NC Yearly Meeting in July.
5. We helped facilitate Mel Zuck's call to write a Meeting Minute opposing the Death Penalty, and helped some members send out post cards.

6. Some of our following recent donations have included:

- Faith Action-\$200
- Friends Emergency Materials Assistance Program-\$150
- Interactive Resource Center \$ 150
- No More Deaths Spring Break Service Trip \$200
- AFSC Immigrant Rights Program-\$200
- El Cambio (DREAMERS)-\$200
- \$150-Family Literacy Program at Migrant Head Start in Booneville, NC

7. We have made the following In-Kind donations:

- Food Donations to Urban Ministries (which now will go to First Friends' food pantry)
- Kitchen appliances and winter wear for African Services Coalition
- Recycling of bottle caps(which is no longer needed)
- Collection of cancelled stamps

8. Education:

Wanting to stay informed about current issues relevant to our committee, we have made an effort to educate ourselves and Meeting at large.

- Marilyn White made sure that an FCNL advocacy focus was in the newsletter each month
- Bonnie Parsons made a monthly newsletter submission regarding ecological notes and actions

9. Events:

- No More Deaths Forum
- Migrant Farmworker's forum

10. Ongoing Actions:

- Collecting food

11. Committee Structure:

- We have had difficulty with attendance at committee meetings. Bonnie Parsons was in France hosting a Quaker B&B; Judy Reece, as is her custom, spent winter in Florida. Dennis Dressler is working on a home out-of-state, Daniel Rhodes was unable to attend all year.
- Sheri Grace, Marilyn White, Joan Tillotson, Judy Reece, Dennis Dressler, and Anne Cassebaum will be members in 2013-2014.

12. Goals:

1. Have more forums
2. Have service events
3. Recruit more active members

### 3. State of the Society Report

The clerk is writing the State of the Society report and will share the report with members by email. The report will be read at Yearly Meeting in July.

### 4. Report from Nominating Committee

- Jim Hood presented a report from the Nominating Committee.
- There is a proposed change in the Handbook as to the Nominating Committee's charge. The proposed changes were approved, and the text follows.

#### Nominating

Each year a committee, composed of the Clerk of Monthly Meeting, Clerks of Care & Counsel and Worship & Ministry Committees, and the Treasurer, name

the members of a nominating committee for approval by the monthly meeting. The Clerk of this committee must be a member or sojourning member of Friendship Friends Meeting. The Nominating Committee will name the *members of each committee as well as a convener, whose task will be to gather the committee for its first meeting. It is understood that it is the work of each committee to discern who will preside as clerk.* It starts work in March since nominees for new officers, *conveners*, committees, and representatives are presented at the May monthly meeting for business and held over for approval at the June monthly meeting. Nominations take effect beginning in August. The Nominating Committee interviews members and regular attenders to learn their interest in the work and various activities of the meeting. It considers their experience, potential leadership and talents as they relate to the meeting's needs.

Before presenting to the meeting names for offices and committees, the nominating committee should undertake a general review of the tasks of each office or group and the human resources available, so as to ensure that all members and attenders are engaged in meeting business in ways that are productive to the meeting, and rewarding to the individuals. The committee should obtain the agreement of the individual before bringing forward any name for new or continued service. During the year, the committee may nominate additions or replacements if

required. The Nominating Committee is responsible for naming a member to the Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee. The Clerk of the Yearly Meeting should be notified of these appointments in June by our Meeting Clerk.

**Officers** section—add descriptions for two officers listed on main page of handbook:

The **Assistant Treasurer** is available to assist the Treasurer with the responsibilities outlined for that position. In the event that the Treasurer is unable to perform those duties, the Assistant Treasurer will assume them.

The **Assistant Membership/Statistics Recorder** assists the Membership/Statistics Recorder with accurate record-keeping for the meeting. In the event that the Membership/Statistics Recorder is unable to perform the responsibilities of that position, the Assistant Membership/Statistics Recorder assumes them.

- The Nominating Committee slate was approved. We recognize that some committees are in need of more volunteers and hope to use the gifts of other members and attenders to help with the work of the Meeting. The report follows.

### **Friendship Friends Meeting 2013 Nominating Committee Report**

*“To serve on a committee (or take on other Meeting responsibilities) is a commitment to the life and wellbeing of the Meeting, whether or*

*not it makes full use of our gifts or is invariably stimulating in its consideration of profound spiritual issues."*

Patricia Loring. 1997. *Listening Spirituality, Volume II, Corporate Spiritual Practices Among Friends*, page 171.

### **Officers**

Clerk: Sidney Lee Kitchens  
 Co-clerk: Neil Swenson  
 Treasurer: Ray Treadway  
 Assistant Treasurer: Stephen Holland  
 Recording Clerk: Hannah Logan Morris  
 Membership/Statistics Recorder: Claire Koster  
 Assistant Membership Recorder: we're suggesting that this position be filled by the Recording Clerk

### **Board of Directors**

President: Sidney Lee Kitchens  
 Vice President: Neil Swenson  
 Treasurer: Ray Treadway  
 Secretary: Hannah Logan Morris  
 Directors: Jim Hood, Darlene Stanley, David Brown, Judith W. Harvey

### **Committees**

Audit: George White, Dave MacInnes, convener  
 Care & Counsel: Ray Treadway, convener, Judith W. Harvey, Raleigh Bailey, Bonnie Parsons, meeting clerk/ex officio  
 Communications: Dave MacInnes - newsletter, Chris Nelson - web  
 Finance: George White, Stephen Holland, Ray Treadway, convener  
 Handbook: Dave MacInnes, Claire Koster, convener, Ted Benfey  
 Hospitality: Claire Koster, Judy Reece, Darryl Waisner, convener, Christy Hopkins, Jesse Garvin  
 House & Grounds: Richard Phillips, Carey Reece, convener, Jim Hood, David Parsons  
 Meetinghouse cleaning schedule coordinator: Anne Morris  
 Supplies purchaser: Deborah Shaw  
 Sandwich coordinator: Marilyn White

Greeter coordinator: Judith W. Harvey  
 Library: Carole Treadway, convener, Anne Rouse  
 Peace & Social Concerns: Sheri Grace, convener, Marilyn White, Joan Tillotson, Judy Reece, Dennis Dressler, Anne Cassebaum  
 Religious Education: Kembra Howdeshell, convener, Anne Morris, Sheri Grace, Hanna Passmore Hobson  
 Worship & Ministry: Darlene Stanley, convener, Carole Treadway, Deborah Shaw, meeting clerk/ex officio  
 Calendar Coordinator: Sidney Lee Kitchens/Neil Swenson  
 Meetinghouse Fundraising Committee: Kembra Howdeshell, convener, David Brown, Jim Hood, Judith W. Harvey  
 Meetinghouse Planning Committee: Richard Phillips, Carey Reece, convener, Mae Brown, Juliette Smith, Don Smith, Neil Swenson

### **Representatives:**

Piedmont Friends Fellowship: Joan Tillotson, Richard Phillips  
 Quaker House: Joan Tillotson  
 Friends Committee on National Legislation: Marilyn White  
 Yearly Meeting Nominating Committee: Sidney Lee Kitchens

### **5. Annual Report from Membership Recorder**

- Claire Koster presented the Annual Report of membership.
- The Meeting approved to change the distribution of the directory to August.
- The report follows.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT FOR 2012-2013 YEAR TO SIXTH MONTH, 9TH, 2013**

The changes in our membership rolls were as follows:

We lost one member to death - Helen Parker passed away on 6th month, 29th, 2012

One member requested withdrawal of his name from membership - Brian Sebastian in 2nd month 10th, 2013

Our membership total is now 100 (including 5 sojourners)

As was the case last year, no directories have been electronically distributed yet, nor have any been printed, since I am waiting for confirmation of some changes.

Printed copies of the directory go to members who do not have computers, some specially designated Friends, to send to the Archives, and to have on hand for distribution to attenders. Last year, 23 hard copies were printed at a cost of \$18.16. We will submit a report on the cost at our next business meeting.

In considering the time of year for the directory to be distributed, it would appear that August, which is when our new committee year begins, would be better suited for this, and we therefore request of business meeting approval to change the calendar to include this item in August.

Claire Koster & Gay Bowles, Membership Recorders

## **6. Update from Meetinghouse Planning Committee**

- Cary Reece shared an update from the Meetinghouse Planning Committee. They are beginning the process of discerning what a new or renovated meetinghouse might look like, and exploring whether or not to acquire additional property. They ask for members and attenders to share their input and visions with members of the committee.

## **7. Report from Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel**

- Darlene Stanley presented a report from both the Worship & Ministry and Care & Counsel committees.
- The committees would like to recommend to the Meeting that the Communications Committee be entrusted with setting up a section of our website for members to log in where the directory could be included and the information would be protected and utilized by members and attenders only. This would create a secure place for announcements to be posted for members/attenders only. The committee would also ensure that personal information in the newsletter is deleted before it is posted on the website. In addition, we recommend setting up a special clerk's email address, for example [clerk@friendshipfriendsmeeting.org](mailto:clerk@friendshipfriendsmeeting.org) and posted on the website and thus would not have to change with each clerk change.
- The Meeting approved setting up a clerk's email on the Meeting website.
- The Meeting approved asking the Communications Committee to look into creating a secure section of our website, and report back to Business Meeting.
- The committees would like to consider better placements for our pamphlet display, name tags, and guest book to increase accessibility and decrease congestion at the front door.
- The Meeting approved that the committees will address this in our next committee year or sooner.

Report to Sixth Month Monthly Meeting from Care and Counsel and Worship and Ministry

Our yearly retreat set the tone for our work, which was entitled: *Members One of Another, a new committee year, taking a step forward.* It was the goal of the retreat to find ways to become informed of the needs of our community. Out of our joint retreat, came the Friendship Friends Meeting Survey and recommendations to the Meeting body. The intention of this report is to share our process in creating the Meeting survey and to report summaries of the results.

We wish to make a recommendation to be forwarded to the Communications committee and a request to move the pamphlet stand with the intention of relocating it out of the entrance area. Our two committees will continue using the information gleaned from the surveys in our work in the coming year.

Meeting survey: We have compiled summaries of the results of the following topics covered in the survey: Work of the Meeting; Business Meeting; Programs; physical space; outreach; committees and nominating committee. The summaries are attached.

Members of Care and Counsel and Worship and Ministry personally contacted members and attenders of the Meeting, by email and phone. All responses were held confidential. We got about twenty responses, and several couples answered jointly. Some members and attenders never responded, despite repeated attempts at contact. Most responses came from regular members or attenders, but we were not as successful with newer attenders, or those whose attendance has dropped off. Committee members transcribed responses, which were

compiled and summarized by a few committee member volunteers.

The All Meeting Retreat this year addressed the topic of physical space and, as noted in the summaries, most Friends were in agreement with enlarging or building a new Meetinghouse. The results from the physical space section of the survey will be forwarded on to the Meetinghouse Planning Committee.

Our committees also felt the need for more communication and potential visitation with New Garden Friends School parents. A proposal has been made at Fifth Month Meeting for Business to invite New Garden Friends School folks to join us for First Day worship followed by a potluck on a date to be announced.

These examples of actions that have come from our retreat we trust will enhance our Meeting community. We have experienced a year with many members of our community dealing with ongoing health issues, illness, sorrows and various life challenges. We have continued to be in awareness of those needs and hold our community in ongoing pray and support.

### **Summary of Meeting Survey Responses**

#### *Work of the Meeting:*

Overall, Friends expressed that the primary work of Friendship meeting is to provide a space for unprogrammed Quaker worship and to be a safe, caring community of people who look after each other and nurture each other spiritually. Several Friends elaborated that this base of worship and community provides for other types of outreach and service to the wider Quaker community and the non-Quaker communities we live in, as well.

*Business Meeting:*

All respondents reported that they attend business meeting regularly or when possible. There was no clear majority or consensus about the time Business Meeting is held, but Business Meeting might attract better attendance if wordsmithing is kept to a minimum, and less time is wasted on such things as monthly annual reports. (Additional responses showed that some members/attenders either do not attend or rarely attend meeting for business.)

*Programs:*

The responses about programs, including meeting for worship, indicated a wide variety of opinions. Most were satisfied with the various programs currently being offered, although a large majority wanted to see more social events, including “fun” nights. A few said that they were interested only in meeting for worship and that was the limit of their involvement. More than half indicated that finding time in busy lives prevented them from being fully involved, while five or six indicated that they tried to participate in as many events as possible. Planning programs either before meeting for worship or after meeting for worship during the lunch hour on Sunday was problematic for many of respondents.

*Physical Space:*

Most Friends wanted to either enlarge the current meetinghouse or build a new meetinghouse. Among the suggestions for enlarging our space were renovating the basement. Several people suggested more natural light in a new meetinghouse. Either way, many cited the need for more space for worship, socializing, and First Day School.

*Outreach:*

Responders to the outreach questions gave thoughtful and often quite detailed answers. However there is a dominant theme running through answers about outreach. In short—we need MORE VISIBLE outreach. If we are to grow, if we are to attract new members or new seekers, we need to be, indeed must be, more visible to communities and people beyond Friendship Meeting.

*Committees/Nominating Committee:*

Most responses indicated people feel the Nominating Committee asks the right amount of commitment from the individual. People are generally forthright about what they can commit to the meeting in terms of time, energy and talents. Most feel their skills or gifts are recognized. Overall there is a sense that we appreciate each other while more sensitivity to all is always to be encouraged.

Respectfully submitted by Darlene Stanley,  
Worship and Ministry Clerk

**8. Delegates to Yearly Meeting**

- The Meeting approved the following names as Delegates to NCYM-C Yearly Meeting in July: Sidney Lee Kitchens, Deborah Shaw, Judy Reece, Carole Treadway, and Ray Treadway

**9. Requests for Membership**

- The clerk read a letter from Stephen Holland requesting membership. His membership request will be forwarded to Care and Counsel. We are glad to receive Stephen’s letter.
- Michael Scott is also interested in exploring membership. His request will

be forwarded to Care and Counsel.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

**Note to members and attenders:** Patricia Loring continues to improve at Golden Living Center -- Starmount, after a month stay at Wesley Long Hospital in May following surgery. Correspondence can be sent to her at 109 S. Holden Road, Greensboro NC, 27407.

Please welcome the following new attenders at Friendship Meeting:

Judy Purvis & John Schoonover

1005 Ridgecrest Drive  
Greensboro, NC 27410  
Tel: [919-618-4373](tel:919-618-4373) (Judy)  
254-2857  
[judypurvis921@gmail.com](mailto:judypurvis921@gmail.com)  
[john.schoonover@usa.net](mailto:john.schoonover@usa.net)

## Announcement

**FCNL and AFSC urge you to Support Humane Immigration Reform!**

The *Friends Committee on National Legislation* and the *American Friends Service Committee* (NC) are collaborating to urge Friends in Greensboro to help impact the immigration bill via local MEDIA and REPRESENTATIVES. We ask you to 1) write a letter to the editor and 2) Call your federal House member in support of humane immigration reform. We can help with talking points. This project is time sensitive. So please contact FCNL: Linnea at [linnea@fcnl.org](mailto:linnea@fcnl.org) or AFSC: Lori at [LKhamala@afsc.org](mailto:LKhamala@afsc.org) to get involved!!

## 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, meditation and discussion of what we are about at this time in our history.*

Neither be cumbered nor surfeited with the riches of the world, nor bound, nor straitened with them, nor married to them; but be free and loose from them, and be married to the Lord.

George Fox: *Epistle 161*, 1658

Friendship Friends Meeting  
Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 27419  
(336) 854-5155  
[www.friendshipmeeting.org](http://www.friendshipmeeting.org)

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

Neil Swenson, Co-Clerk  
Stephen Holland, Assistant Treasurer  
Hannah Morris, Asst Membership Recorder  
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

Friendship Friends Meeting  
Box 8652  
Greensboro, NC 27419

Address Correction Requested

## First Class Mail