

Friendship Times

Friendship Friends Meeting

Calendar

- Sun, Mar 2 9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Mar 9 10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
- Mar 15-17 PFF annual meeting, NGFM
- Sun, Mar 16 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
At rise of meeting: forum on revising Faith and Practice
- Fri, Mar 21 and Sat, Mar 22 All Meeting Retreat
- Sun, Mar 23 9 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting.
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Tues, Mar 25 Deadline for March newsletter
- Sun, Mar 30 9 am Extended Meeting for Worship
10:30 am Meeting for Worship
- Sun, Apr 6 9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet
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, Midweek Meeting for Worship, is 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 you will find our monthly lesser known Quaker quotation, an announcement of our rescheduled annual All Meeting Retreat, the Communications Committee annual report and a proposal from that committee.

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, Mar 25.

Month's Query

Query #3 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?

Brief Minutes

2nd Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 2/9/2014

Meeting began with a brief period of silent worship.

1. Treasurer's Report

The Finance Committee (Stephen Holland, Ray Treadway, George White, and James Rouse) met on February 2nd to create a proposed budget for 2014. The Committee agreed to propose a budget of \$23,280. Since a significant proportion of the budget goes to support other organizations, the Committee decided to write a summary of "Organizations Supported by Friendship Friends Meeting."

Upon approval of the Budget, the balances in the Funds and Reserves will need to be adjusted according to standard procedures. Ray Treadway and Stephen Holland will adjust the balances in the Funds and Reserves upon approval of the new budget.

Expenses of note in January were \$111.87 for sandwiches; \$82.93 for electricity; and \$43.03 for maintenance. Income in January was \$950 to the General Fund and \$100 to Emergency Assistance Fund.

Summary for January 2014

	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$ 950.00	\$ 237.83	\$ 12,652.17
All Funds	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 237.83	\$ 22,263.03

Submitted by Stephen Holland, Treasurer

2. Finance Committee Proposal of the Annual Budget

- The Finance Committee created a proposed budget.
- They also created an information sheet detailing the organizations we support financially to accompany the budget.
- The 2014 budget was approved with the following changes to the proposal:
 - Operating Expenses: Outreach—\$1,200 was approved instead of the proposed \$900
 - Support: Quaker Voluntary Service and School of the Spirit—Friends would like to add a line item of support for QVS and School of the Spirit. Members have offered to contribute \$300 towards these two organizations for the meeting for the 2014 budget. The contribution will be split equally between the two organizations.
- The Nominating Committee has been asked to suggest an ad hoc committee to discern the amount of support to different Quaker and non-Quaker organizations for the 2015 budget.

3. Liaison Report on the Revisions of Faith and Practice

- The Clerk has made copies available of the current proposed revisions to date.
- Worship and Ministry will hold a forum on March 16th on the Revisions of Faith and Practice, presented by Sidney Lee Kitchens and Deborah Shaw.

- Representative Body meets in April, and the hope is to give our meeting's feedback on the revisions to the Revisions Committee.

4. Nominating Committee Report

- The Nominating Committee presented a report about new committee members. The members were approved.
 - Jim Rouse has been added to the Finance Committee.
 - Susan Carlyle is the Sandwich Making Coordinator.
 - Judy Purvis has joined communications committee.
- Friends greatly appreciate Marilyn and George White for serving as Sandwich Making Coordinators for many years.

5. Annual Report from Communications Committee

The Communications Committee members are Dave MacInnes and Chris Nelson. Our primary jobs are to publish a monthly newsletter and to update the Meeting website which we have done this year. The newsletter has tried to include pictures of Meeting events, a monthly schedule, and features such as little known Quaker quotations, provided by Patricia Loring. Among other things, the web site includes the newsletter, meetinghouse cleaning schedule, and information about Friendship for visitors. While there are many other things that could be included on the website or in the newsletter, the two committee members feel that their time has been well used and are not looking for more work at this time. Having more members would allow us to expand the scope of the committee.

6. Proposal from Communications Committee

- The Communications Committee proposed a weekly email newsletter.
- The proposal was approved.
- The proposal follows.

We propose providing Friendship Friends Meeting with a weekly email newsletter (called George Fox) that would help disseminate information, both routine and evolving. Examples of routine information might be the schedule for Sunday, including the Meeting for Business agenda, the food of the month for Urban Ministry, and the Wednesday lunch and worship opportunity. Evolving items might be news of Friends to hold in the Light, links to events of interest or registration for yearly meeting, or requests/information from specific committees.

We would send out the email each Wednesday or Thursday, using the email list that the meeting clerks use now.

Messages containing news about particular Friends would need to come either from that Friend or from someone such as the meeting clerk or the clerk of Care & Counsel, who presumably would have checked that it was okay to publicize it.

We will set up a drop box for putting things in the newsletter and link it to our email addresses so that we could respond quickly as needed. Items should contain the name of the person requesting that the item be included. Since it will take a while for people to get used to this arrangement, we encourage the meeting and the committee clerks to send news items through to the email newsletter editor.

7. Upcoming meeting gatherings and events

- The All-Meeting Retreat is scheduled for February 14 (7:30-9pm) and 15 (8:30am-3pm). The theme is *The Spiritual Path to a New Meetinghouse*. Guest speakers on Saturday morning will be Patty Levering from Davidson Meeting; Bob Passmore, Kent Wicker and Margi Dingman from Durham Meeting. Childcare will be provided.
- A memorial service for David Bowles is planned for February 22nd at 2pm at the meetinghouse.
- Worship and Ministry is sponsoring a forum on March 16th on the Revisions to the Faith and Practice.

The meeting ended with a period of silent worship.

Answers to second and third Month queries taken from the query workshop on First month 18, 2014

Query 2. 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?

Attendance varies considerably, influenced by the academic schedule and holidays. Some members come only occasionally. However, there is a core of faithful attenders who, by God's grace, maintain the life and spirit of worship for those who do not come as often. We rejoice that a few members who had not attended for a long time have recently begun attending again. We are aware that attendance alone is not enough, that the life and spirit of worship require preparation of mind and heart by each one of us. Meeting is seldom "disturbed" by anything other than the welcome sounds of children. Most people who

come to meeting for worship arrive on time or even a little early. Those who come a little later do not prevent or delay the settling of meeting. There is no pattern of behavior that indicates anything other than open submission to God in silent communion.

Query #3 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?

In our individual and meeting corporate lives we continue to seek the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit and strive to follow Jesus's teachings of love and unity and forgiveness. When differences arise we strive to find resolution with a forgiving spirit and promptly as possible resolve them with honesty, humility and love. We realize that sometimes we fall short. We continue to be mindful of making efforts to know one another at deeper levels and to share our spiritual lives, open to seeking unity and respect when differences are recognized. As a meeting, we continue with grace and deep listening to seek God's will for us.

Directory update

The address for Breanyn MacInnes is now
911 E Seattle Drive
Ellensburg, WA 98926

FRIENDS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND the upcoming **Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF) Annual Meeting** taking place the weekend of March 15-17. Frank Massey will be leading the adult program on the topic of recognizing and supporting spiritual gifts in ourselves and each other. There will be a children's program, a bookstore and presentations from Quaker organizations in the late afternoon. The program can be accessed on the PFF website at <http://rtpnet.org/friends/PFF.htm>.

Representative Body of North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative will meet April 26, 2014, (tentatively) at Durham Friends Meetinghouse.

Peace and Social Concerns ACTION BOX

Please bring in the following food item to go to First Friends Food Pantry during the month of February

Canned beans

March Birthday

Imani Khamala 3/5/08



The family for whom our Angel Tree provided a Christmas.

The photo shows the mother and her three teenage sons. The Peace and Social Concerns Committee deeply appreciates the Meeting community for their outpouring of generosity for this family in need.

All Meeting Retreat: The Spiritual Path to a New Meetinghouse

Friday evening 7:30 pm- 9 pm History of Friendship Meeting: A panel presentation

Saturday 8:30 am- 3:00 pm

8:30am - coffee and bagels

9am Opening Worship

9:30 guest speakers:

Margi Dingman, Bob Passmore, & Kent Wicker from Durham Meeting; Patty Levering from Davidson Meeting.

Lunch will be provided

Child Care will be provided

All are encouraged to attend!

News from David Snyder (former clerk of FFM) and Deborah Rouse

Deborah is still working at Oberlin College and thoroughly enjoys helping students think about their learning and teaching. David is either under-employed or semi-retired from his counseling work. He serves on two non-profit boards in Oberlin and has just assumed the clerkship of a standing committee of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL).



Their children were former little ones at the Meeting: Dain works in D. C. in the restaurant business and for a non-profit that helps citizens understand their constitutional rights. He loves being an uncle. Beirne is Director of Public Policy at CHANGE (Center for Health and Gender Equity) in D.C and is the mother of two photogenic children.

News from Abigail Moore Sebastian

Bob and I are very active in a local Methodist Church where I am an associate member (I still cherish my Friendship Meeting membership). Our kids all turned out great and the many visits to my folks (J. Floyd "Pete" and Lucretia Moore), our friends, Friends Homes and the greater Guilford Community were certainly a positive influence on them.

(a copy of her family Christmas letter is on the Meeting bulletin board)

Just received from Abigail: an interesting piece of history: a Friendship Meeting Directory for 1982-83

A brief perusal of the old directory shows there were 5 committees in 1982, the clerk was Bob Welsh, Carole Treadway was recording clerk, Ray Treadway Treasurer and Worth Mackie Reading Clerk. Meetings for Worship were held in Dana Auditorium's Moon Room except during college breaks when they met in the living room of Friends Home Guilford. During that time the Meeting had 57 members of whom 24 are now deceased.



Birth Announcement

Amelia Valerie West was born to Bre MacInnes and Kyle West on December 22, 2013.

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.

At last, after all my distresses, wanderings and sore travails, I met with some of the writings of this people called Quakers, ... After a long time, I was invited to hear one of them. When I came, I felt the presence and power of the most high among them, and the words of truth from the spirit of truth reaching to my heart and conscience, opening my estate as in the presence of the Lord.

Yea, I did not only feel words and demonstrations from without, but I felt the dead quickened, the seed raised; insomuch as my heart, in the certainty of light and clearness of true sense, said: "This is he, there is no other; this is he whom I have waited for and sought after from my childhood, who was always near me, and had often begotten life in my heart, but I knew him not distinctly nor how to receive him or dwell with him ." And then in this sense ... I was given up to the Lord to become his, both in waiting for the further revealing of his seed in me, and to serve him in the life and power of his seed.

Isaac Penington: *A True and Faithful Relation*, Quoted in Thomas Elwood's *Testimony* in the preface to Penington's works. Full text at <http://www.qhpress.org/texts/penington/ellwood.html>

Friends World Committee -- Section of Americas will meet in High Point.

Join Friends from the Americas for a weekend conference to

- learn new skills from one another to sustain and grow our meetings
- affirm our mutual Quaker identity
- consider the future of Friends as a while over the next century
- commit to practices to foster a thriving Religious Society of Friends.

4/11 6:00 pmt to 1:00 pm 4/13
High Point Friends Meeting, 800 Quaker Lane,
High Point, NC 27262

Friday Plenary Message on Living Water with
Ashley Wilcox, Freedom Friends Church (OR)

Saturday Workshops

- Conflict Transformations
- Intercultural Communications
- Quaker Leadership for the 21st Century
- Local Community Service Project

Sunday

- programmed worship with Kelly Kellum (North Carolina YM FUM)
- reporting back from workshops
- reflections and benedictions – how will we take this home to our meetings?

This is one of four regional consultations this spring and we are fortunate to have one so close to Greensboro.

More details can be found at www.fwccamericas.org

Friendship Friends Meeting
Box 8652
Greensboro, NC 27419
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www.friendshipmeeting.org

Sidney Kitchens, Clerk
Stephen Holland, Treasurer
Claire Koster, Membership Recorder
Hannah Logan Morris, Recording Clerk

Neil Swenson, Co-Clerk
Ray Treadway, Assistant Treasurer
Hannah Logan Morris, Asst.
Membership Recorder
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

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Address Correction Requested

First Class Mail