

Friendship Times

Friendship Friends Meeting www.friendshipmeeting.org

Calendar

Sun, Jan 29	9 am extended Meeting for Worship 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Feb 5	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Feb 12	10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
Sat, Feb 18	9 am Query answering session
Sun, Feb 19	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues, Feb 21	Deadline for March newsletter
Sat, Feb 25	9 am, All Clerks Meeting
Sun, Feb 26	9 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting. 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Mar 8	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 available for Worship and Business Meetings.

Weekly events

Tuesday, 12:00–4:30 PM: Quiet Tuesday at the Meetinghouse

Midweek Meeting for Worship, on Wednesday at 7 pm, in the Prayer Room, 7th floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford

Bible Study at 7 pm at the Meetinghouse every 2nd and 4th and 5th Thursday

Men's group meets at 6:30 pm at the Meetinghouse every 1st and 3rd Thursday

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, Feb 21.

Month's Query

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?

Because of inclement weather there was no Meeting for Business held in First Month, thus there are no minutes to report. However a number of reports were submitted which are given below:

Hospitality Committee Report

8th of First Month 2017

Providing a warm and welcoming atmosphere that promotes fellowship at the Meetinghouse continues to be the purpose of the Hospitality Committee. The committee works to accomplish this with each member of the committee efficiently fulfilling specific responsibilities to the betterment of the Meeting. On a rotating schedule, members set up refreshments and clean up every First Day following Meeting for Worship. We each take one First Day a month, taking turns in the months with five First Days, so help from others is always greatly appreciated. We especially welcome extra help when members are ill or out of town. This committee has decided that it will be on duty all twelve months in 2017, even July.

The committee sets up potluck dinners that precede Meeting for Business. This small committee is very appreciative of the extra help supplied by other members of the Meeting to clean up after the pot luck so that all members can attend Meeting for Business.

It is responsible for locking the Meetinghouse.

Hospitality also coordinates set-ups and/or clean-ups for other Meeting events that are scheduled at the Meetinghouse. In the past year, this included the dessert portion of the annual Progressive Dinner to welcome new Guilford College students, set-up and beverages for a pot luck dinner to welcome our Syrian refugee family, refreshments for the memorial services for Pat Loring and Harry Nagel, and the annual Christmas party. We also set-up and provided beverages for a transgender potluck

and forum. When other special occasions arise requiring refreshments, this committee is available to provide them.

A large group of Guilford College students attended our portion of the Progressive Dinner. After being greeted in the meeting room, the students enjoyed the bountiful supply of desserts provided by our Meeting members. Many lingered to talk to Friendship members and to sing to some member-played music.

Claire Koster continues to purchase supplies for weekly refreshments.

We express gratitude to Judy Harvey for arranging greeters for each First Day. The greeters welcome all who enter the Meetinghouse, the first step of hospitality

The swiftness of House and Grounds in addressing concerns we contact them about is greatly appreciated.

The committee monitors the use of our building by outside groups. Guidelines for the use of the kitchen are posted over the kitchen sink.

Judy Reece and Susan Wilson, Co-Clerks

Members: Gay Bowles, Maureen Burns, Brad Chance, Christy Hopkins, Claire Koster, David MacInnes, and Brian Poynton

Fundraising Committee Report

January 8, 2017

Members: Jim Hood, Kembra Howdeshell (convener), David Brown, Judy Harvey and Cyril Harvey, and Jim Fernandes

1. Pledges and payments paid on pledges through December 31, 2016:
 - a. Pledges made:

\$164,720.00
 - b. Payments paid on pledges:

\$ 84,009.49

- c. Outstanding pledges:
\$ 80,710.51 (49%)
2. Progress toward the \$150,000 Matching Gift Campaign (as of December 31, 2016):
- a. Pledges made (MGC):
\$ 9,700.00
 - b. Monetary contributions (MGC):
\$20,545.74
 - c. Yard sale proceeds
\$ 1,848.41*
 - d. Total donations
\$22,394.15
(15%)
 - e. Total pledges + donations
\$32,094.15 (21%)
 - f. Gifts/new pledges needed to reach:
\$117,905.85 (79%)

*An additional \$16 in cash came in from the Yard Sale after last month's report was compiled.

Treasurer's Report: First Month 2017

Income in December 2016 totaled \$16,329.90 with \$7,919.00 to the General Fund and \$8,410.90 to the New Building Fund.

Expenses in December 2016 totaled \$1,395.16. The operating expenses totaled \$318.55 including \$112.17 for Communications plus other expenses. No supporting contributions were paid. Meeting House expenses totaled \$256.61 primarily for utilities. Contingency Fund expenses were \$200.00; and Emergency Assistance Fund expenses were \$620.00.

The Meeting's response to Query 1 is taken from query session on Second Month:

Query 1: *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? Do we come to meeting with hearts and minds open and ready to worship in silence or in vocal ministry or prayer as the Holy Spirit leads us? Does our Meeting encourage those who may have a gift in the spoken ministry?

Friendship Meeting is faithful in its practice of waiting worship, seeking to feel for and be directed by the perceptible presence of the Spirit of God in our midst. Vocal ministry is widely shared by those present, and we understand that it is open to anyone who is so led by the Holy Spirit.

Our meetings for worship are frequently blessed with a sense of the presence and power of God in our midst, in which our experience of being a single community is strengthened and made more precious. The daily lives of those in our community bear witness to the ways in which this living presence stays with us.

The quality of our meetings for worship indicates that most arrive with hearts and minds open and prepared. There is little indication that any come with a set intention to speak or to be silent.

We are actively seeking a fuller understanding of what it means to have a spiritual gift, particularly a gift in vocal ministry, and what would be appropriate encouragement from the meeting as a body to those who give evidence of having such a gift.

Role of the Clerk

From the Clerk of the Meeting

Prepare the agenda with input from committee chairs.

Receive committee reports.

Find out whether I will be asking the meeting to receive, accept, or decide a matter.

The Spirit favors the well prepared.

Begin with a period of worship.

Create a safe environment:

*insist that people be recognized before speaking.

*interrupt if two or more people get into a dialogue with just themselves.

*ask the meeting to “settle” inviting time for reflection.

*be willing to interrupt people who burden the meeting by repeating what has already been said or by speaking at too great a length.

*slow things down by being slow to recognize the next speaker.

Help people stay focused on the matter at hand by identifying a matter that belongs elsewhere on the agenda or at a different meeting.

Role of those present

*Give thought to the meeting ahead of time.

If supporting materials are available in advance, give attention to them.

*Come prepared mentally and spiritually to do the business of the community in a spirit of worship.

*Wait to be recognized. Speak to the clerk, not to a Friend nearby.

*Speak your truth, but then release it to the meeting and to the Spirit guiding the meeting.

*Listen empathetically to others and hold in the Light those people and ideas with whom you seem be in disagreement.

Consider an attitude of curiosity rather than an attitude of judgment.

*Refrain from repeating what has already been said.

*Challenge yourself to trust the Light that is given to others, being open to new truth, revelation, and insight.

*Be teachable.

*Practice the spiritual discipline of patience.

*Hold the clerk and the recording clerk in the Light.

The role of those not present is to show up next time.

Save the date!

The Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting Annual Retreat will be March 10-12 at the Carolina Friends School campus.

The weekend features Friday evening potluck and fellowship, a Saturday program for adults on environmental concerns led by Mary Jo Kingel—a representative of Quaker Earthcare Witness—and youth programs for pre-school through high school.

The Yearly Meeting will hold sessions on Saturday.

Saturday evening includes fellowship activities.

Registration forms, schedules and opportunities to provide hospitality for Friends from far away will be available soon on the PFF website PiedmontFriendsFellowship.org.

For more information, contact Jeff Brown pff@chapelhillfriends.org

Changes to the Directory

Joshua Brown's address

Should be 826 E. Lexington Avenue, not 326

For Janet Nagel

home 336-763-0917

cell 336-686-0832

Dear Friends,

It has been the practice of Friendship Friends Meeting to answer the Queries for Monthly Meetings each year in writing and then read aloud at the Annual Sessions of NCYM-C.

We have done this in many ways, sometimes in monthly meeting for business and more recently in gatherings of those who are interested in meeting with others to prepare these answers.

I look forward to your enthusiastic response. My experience last year was an enjoyable and positive one. There was a concerted effort in the group of 10-12 Friends present to discern the Divine truth with love and understanding.

In that direction, I am asking you to read the attached queries of our Yearly Meeting and write a response to one or two of these queries for the discernment of the group which chooses to meet and discuss the responses.

Please let me know which query(ies) to which you would like to write a short response. We need only one person for each query to get the discussion by the group started.

The first gathering of those interested individual writers will take place on Saturday morning February 18th from 9-11 am. I'm sure that we'll have some coffee and tea and muffins

or bagels to sustain you during that time.

Your faithful servant,
Susan Carlyle

Pictures from John Bowles Memorial Service, Photos by Dave MacInnes



Friendship Friends Meeting
Box 8652
Greensboro, NC 27419
(336) 854-5155
www.friendshipmeeting.org

Susan Carlyle, Clerk
Stephen Holland, Treasurer
Claire Koster,
Membership/Statistics Recorder

Ray Treadway, Assistant Treasurer
Miriam Biber-Peterson Assistant
Membership Recorder:
Dave MacInnes, Newsletter Editor

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Address Correction Requested

First Class Mail