

# Friendship Times

## Friendship Friends Meeting

### Calendar

Sun, April 29	9 am – Extended Meeting for Worship 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, May 6	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, and House and Grounds Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship 12 noon Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets
Sun, May 13	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, May 20	10:30 am Meeting for Worship a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
Tues, May 22	Deadline for June Newsletter
Sun, May 27	9 am Deepening the Life of the Meeting 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, June 3	9 am Worship and Ministry, Care and Counsel, and House and Grounds Committees meet 10:30 am Meeting for Worship 12 noon Peace and Social Concerns Committee meets

Weekly Meeting for Worship 10:30 am each First Day. Child care is 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, 7<sup>th</sup> floor Woolman Hall, Friends Homes Guilford

Bible Study at 7 pm at the Meetinghouse every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday

Men's group meets at 6:30 pm at the Meetinghouse every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, May 22.

### Month's Query

Query #5      *Do we regularly attend our meetings for business, and are they held in a spirit of love, understanding, and forbearance? Do we seek the right course of action in humble submission to the Authority of Truth and in the patient search for a sense of unity under Divine guidance?*

### May birthday

Herold, Sierra (Granddaughter of Anne Cassebaum)      5/3/98

## Minutes

Opening Minute. At the regular meeting for business of Friendship Friends Meeting held at the meeting house on the afternoon of Fourth Month 8, 2018. The meeting began near the appointed hour with a period of waiting worship.

Query Four. Friends united in the following response to Query Four:

In this time of increased financial need in and for the meeting, we see that many Friends are stepping forward to share in the expenses of the meeting. We do feel that our time, talents, and possessions are given to us in trust that we will share them freely and for the benefit of all that God loves. Our Joys & Concerns and Announcements on each First Day give evidence that we are acting in unity with this trust

### Treasurer's Report:

Income in March 2018 totaled \$8,056.14 with \$735.00 to the General Fund and \$7,321.14 to the New Building Fund.

Expenses in March 2018 totaled \$509.14. General Fund expenses totaled \$509.14 which included: Operating Expenses of \$255.36 primarily for childcare; no Supporting Contributions; and Meeting House Expenses of \$253.78 primarily for utilities.

2018-039. Letter of Introduction. Susan Carlyle read a letter of introduction drafted for Walid Mosarsaa and addressed to Earlham School of Religion, where he has recently been accepted for graduate study. The letter follows:

Greetings,

With this letter we introduce and commend to your Christian care Walid Mosarsaa. He was a regular attender at Friendship Monthly Meeting of the North Carolina Religious Society of Friends (Conservative) while he was as student at Guilford College in Greensboro, NC.

During his time at Guilford, our meeting sponsored a Syrian refugee family. Walid generously gave of his time to act as interpreter to help our small committee engage with this family to get their basic needs met and help them establish themselves in our city.

We were also delighted to offer Walid support when he applied for his work with Quaker Voluntary Service after his graduation.

We are glad that he has kept in touch with us this past year and are especially happy that he has chosen Earlham School of Religion to continue his studies. He will be a welcome addition to your community.

In Peace,

Susan Carlyle

Friendship Friends Meeting

### **Peace and Social Concerns Annual Report, 2017-18**

Peace and Social Concerns has initiated several projects this program year, many of them in response to a needs and interest assessment that was conducted with Friendship in the fall.

**Forums** have included: Sanctuary presentation with Hana Brown from Wake Forest University facilitated by Annie Cahill; White Privilege with George Friday, human relations consultant facilitated by Anne Cassebaum; proposed FCNL priorities facilitated by David Parsons; Quaker House updates with Director Kindra Bradley facilitated by Bonnie Parsons; and planned April forum on Earth Quaker Action Team facilitated by Richard Phillips.

**An AFSC NC Centennial “Planting Seeds of Peace and Justice”** activity touring Greensboro Civil Rights sites was promoted in September in partnership with Beloved Community Center. Close to a hundred people from the broader community joined the civil rights tour.

**“Welcome Neighbor” signs** in three languages were sold at meeting as a fund raiser for Quaker Voluntary Service internship of Walid Mosarsaa. An additional Welcome Neighbor sign was provided for Meeting’s front yard.

**Peace and Social Concerns budget contributions** included AFSC Sanctuary support in NC; Quaker Voluntary Service;

interpreter for AFSC Centennial event; Student Action for Farmworkers; planned Ramadan dinner support for a local mosque; and contributions for the Angel Tree project of Friendship Meeting.

**Angel Tree** project has become a project of Young Friends who assisted a Congolese refugee family of 9 this past Christmas in cooperation with Stacey Chu of Friendship and Church World Service. Peace and Social Concerns is quite pleased that Young Friends have taken this project on with our encouragement.

**March for our Lives** movement activities opposing gun violence have been promoted by our committee, and we are delighted that at least two of Greensboro Young Friends provided leadership for the Greensboro event in March.

**Other activities** have included collecting food for the First Friends Food Pantry, promotion of events at some other local Friends Meetings, and support for the Sanctuary movement active in other churches and AFSC in Greensboro. The ad hoc Committee for Refugee Resettlement has been laid down, but we are pleased that some members of meeting continue relationships with the Syrian family we sponsored. We continue to participate in larger community peace and justice activities and bring information to meeting about events, especially through announcements and newsletters.

**Discernment** is sought concerning role of Peace and Social Concerns Committee in Friendship Meeting. As we engage in peace and justice activities in the broader community, do we represent Friendship Meeting? How loudly do we identify as Quakers, and as members of Friendship in those activities? Is this our ministry? A proposed forum is under discussion with Worship and Ministry Committee to explore this in the fall. We hope to find ways to engage more Meeting members in the future, including young friends, as well as special projects that might engage the Guilford QLSP community.

Travel in the Gospel Ministry. Lloyd Lee Wilson reported on his exercises in the gospel ministry over the past year. Susan Carlyle read a proposed general travel minute for Lloyd Lee for the year beginning in Seventh Month 2018. The letter reads:

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you in the Light and Love of Christ from Friendship Friends Meeting.

We commend to your Christian care Lloyd Lee Wilson, a member in good standing of our meeting, in his faithful openness to the leadings of the Holy Spirit to travel variously in Gospel Ministry. It is our prayer that both you and he will be blessed through the opportunities of gathering in the Presence that his time with you will afford.

This certificate of travel is for the coming year, Seventh Month 2018 through Seventh Month 2019.

In and through that Love and Light,

Susan Carlyle, clerk

Meeting House Planning Committee.

At last month's meeting for business the Meetinghouse Planning committee received approval from the meeting to proceed with the pre-design phase with R.P.M Partners. Therefore, the committee met again shortly thereafter to confirm our priorities and prepare for the first meeting with the contractor. At this committee meeting we made two decisions. The first was to approve R.P.M Partners' recommendation of Archer Joyce as the architect for our project. He is a local architect that has worked extensively with R.P.M Partners, including for a number of congregations in town, and received good references when we were making earlier rounds of calls. We also agreed to review the important elements of our master plan at our first meeting. In addition to the basic master plan, though, we decided to ask about the feasibility of having a lower level to the new meeting room given the slope of the land.

This past week we met with Andrew Wells from R.P.M Partners and the architect Archer Joyce. It was a productive meeting in which we discussed the parameters of the project and next steps. Andrew will draw up these discussions into an initial contract for the pre-design phase and share that with us for review soon. Some highlights of the discussion to share with the meeting were:

1. After the more in-depth discussion at our meeting, Andrew now estimates that the pre-design process will take us up to our October anniversary. That would mean we would have agreed upon basic architectural designs and site plans for review by the city. He also estimates that the next phase, the design phase, would be shorter.
2. Andrew asked for a preliminary budget figure to have in mind as he and Archer began their work and we said that \$450,000 was our initial number although it was not a hard cap.
3. We will meet again on Fourth Month 18 and at that time Archer will provide some very rough initial sketches to get feedback to guide his work.

### **Fundraising Committee Report - April 5, 2018**

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

1. Pledges and payments paid on pledges through April 2, 2018:
  - a. Payments made in YTD 2018  
\$ 9,915.00
  - b. Pledges made (prior to MGC):  
154,920.00
  - c. Payments paid on pledges:  
116,810.00 (75%)
  - d. Outstanding pledges:  
\$ 38,110.00 (25%)

2. Progress toward the \$150,000 Matching Gift Campaign (as of April 2, 2018):
  - a. Pledges made (MGC):  
\$19,990.00
  - b. Total outstanding pledges (MGC)  
4,725.00
  - c. Total donations YTD 2018  
32,359.29
  - d. Total donations (with Yard Sale) 123,823.02  
(83%)
  - e. Outstanding pledges + total donations 128,548.02  
(86%)
  - f. Amount needed to reach MGC goal \$ 21,451.98  
(14%)

3. We submitted a grant application and supporting documents to the Friends General Conference Friends Meeting House Fund. Their board will meet next month (Fifth Month). After submitting the application, we were notified that there are other applications also seeking funding this round. We replied that Friendship Friends Meeting would be willing to wait until the FGC board next meeting in Seventh Month meeting, if that would be to our advantage

### Ad Hoc Committee on Memorial Markers

We met and have the following information to report back to the Meeting.

Dave MacInnes and the Browns are preparing a map of existing memorials on our property.

Since Care and Counsel conducts memorial services, we agreed that they should keep the records of any memorials on the property. Dave MacInnes has checked that the Handbook description of the committee reflects this specifically.

For now, our committee will wait to recommend how to handle the memorial trees at the side of the driveway. As the meetinghouse planning committee gets closer to planning landscaping, we will work with them as needed.

We encourage the meetinghouse planning committee to consider including some sort of memorial wall or paving stones in a garden that could also serve other functions, such as outdoor meeting space, contemplation, or weddings. We have ideas, but it's too soon to be specific.

Committee members: Judy Purvis, Dave MacInnes, Carole and Ray Treadway, Kembra Howdeshell, Mae Brown, Janet Nagel

Friends accepted this report with thanks. The Ad Hoc Committee will continue its work as way opens.

2018-045. Closing Minute. No further business appearing, and with hearts and minds being generally clear, Friends adjourned, purposing to meet again at the appointed date and time in Fifth Month, if consistent with Divine will.

#### Clerks' Corner

A newsletter feature where every month or so something will be submitted for the benefit of our members' continuing education on Quaker history, thoughts and practices.

Meeting for business is about looking for Truth as a body, rather than about our individual senses of truth. We need to enter worshipfully into our meeting for Business. We need to wrestle with the issues, to share our glimpses of the Truth as we see it, and then we need to let go and listen deeply until all those glimpses give us a sense of the Truth as a whole. This takes time, patience and surrender.

- from Michael Wajda, Pendle Hill pamphlet 388, 2007 *Expectant Listening: Finding God's Thread of Guidance*

#### Called Meeting for Business 4/15/2018

2018-046. Called Meeting for Business. A called meeting for business was held at the rise of worship on First Day, Fourth Month 15, 2018 at the rise of meeting for worship. There were 38 Friends and attenders present.

2018-047. Fifth Month Meeting for Business Date. The meeting was in unity that both the monthly potluck meal and the regular meeting for business for Fifth Month 2018 be held on the third First Day, 5/20/2018, at their regular times.

2018-048. Closing Minute. The meeting for business was then adjourned.

Addition to the Directory

Lisa and Lydia Lundeen  
[teamlundeen@gmail.com](mailto:teamlundeen@gmail.com)  
818 Larkwood Dr, GSO 27410  
336-686-0830

### Why Friendship is helping with the Pathways Center from Lisa Ross

I understand that Friendship used to assemble a pot luck dinner monthly to share with the people who live at Pathways Center - a transitional housing facility that is part of Greensboro Urban Ministry. It provides services varying from substance abuse treatment, to psychological assistance, job training, domestic violence assistance and so on. It was a way to get to know our neighbors and share a meal. I've heard that people enjoyed the dinners very much. When it became too much to continue providing the meals, Susan Carlyle asked the staff at Pathways if there was any other, simpler way for our meeting to continue to support their community. They suggested that we might like to donate bags of snacks for the children. I have been coordinating this effort. I buy a fruit, a juice box and a snack for each of 25 brown bags for the meeting. People assemble the bags at the rise of meeting once per month. I drive the bags over to Pathways on my lunch hour so that I can give them to Steve, the social worker there. He is always very happy to receive them and tells me that the children enjoy the snacks when they get off the school bus in the afternoon. And their parents enjoy talking to them about their day at school while they are sitting still long enough to eat the snacks.



Anne Joy at the Greensboro Town Hall meeting



Workers at the latest Meeting workday

Photos on this page thanks to Bonnie Parsons



At the baby shower for Elizabeth Judson-Rey and Daniel at the Meetinghouse

Book Review for *The Ecology of Quaker Meeting* by James W. Hood.

The author uses a simple walk in the Guilford College woods to organize and present his thoughts on what he calls “the ecology of Quaker Meeting”. The essay begins by describing what he sees on entering the woods and compares this with entering a silent meeting. I found the following words particularly appropriate

*In the silence and in the woods I move beyond the demands of self into a sensitivity to otherness. My mind and my body become focused on what exists and moves beyond the boundary of my own skin ... momentarily, my own ego's*

*importance fades.* page 14, Pendle Hill pamphlet 449

Jim clearly understands what happens when we sit down to corporate worship.

The next section of his essay presents how through words and language we have become estranged from Nature, to the physical detriment of the world around us. The heart of the essay addresses this issue. The author sets out how Quakers and their values can undo this artificial divide between human and natural worlds which comes from our overreliance on language and tradition. His view is that we can go beyond our senses to embrace a world where humans and Nature are one. Unfortunately, he leaves open how we can bring this insight to others.

Still walking in the woods Jim moves to examining the nature of the Quaker meeting for worship.

*The genius of Quaker meeting for worship is silence... Silence engenders a keener sensitivity to sensorial experience. ibid, p. 12.*

In this section Jim looks at the meditative nature of corporate worship. I found his thoughts here particularly insightful.

In his last section Jim concludes his walk in the woods using what he experiences to introduce the concept of ecology. He then moves from a scientific definition to one which applies to meeting for worship. As one well versed in the principles and

understanding of ecology as well as Quaker worship, I find both his definition and new application to corporate worship correct and compelling. The pamphlet ends with seven discussion questions which can be used to help readers both understand what they have read and relate Jim's words to their own personal lives. This is one of the better Pendle Hill pamphlets I have read and would recommend it highly to everyone in Friendship. Having personally traveled the same paths I can attest that Jim knows his plants, animals and soil well. If you are able, you should also walk in the Guilford College woods.

Reviewer: Dave MacInnes

Copies of this Pendle Hill pamphlet 449 are now in the Meeting library.

Note from Raleigh Bailey:

Friendship Friends has had a couple of friendly exchanges with the Divan Center, a network of Turkish Muslims in North Carolina over the last couple of years. The link below leads to the Global Journal of Peace and Praxis, an electronic journal hosted by UNCG. In the latest journal issue is an article by Raleigh Bailey called [The Divan Center as an Islamic Peace Movement](#) which discusses this movement in North Carolina as a peace movement, as well as the historical implications and current struggles of the movement in Turkey. This issue also has an article by Lizzie Biddle, member of New Garden Meeting and staff member of the Center

for New North Carolinians, on refugee resettlement under the Obama administration. An Adobe Acrobat Reader is needed on your computer to open the journal. The link to Raleigh's article can be found at <http://libjournal.uncg.edu/prp/issue/view/144>

Images of spring from our Meetinghouse



Photos by Dave MacInnes

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

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

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Address Correction Requested

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