

Friendship Times

Friendship Friends Meeting

Calendar

Sun, May 27	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
Sun, June 10	10:30 am Meeting for Worship, a potluck meal follows, then Monthly Meeting for Business
Sun, June 17	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, June 24	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, July 1	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, July 8	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
July 11-15	NC Yearly Meeting at Guilford College
Sun, July 15	10:30 am Meeting for Worship at Guilford College
Sun, July 22	10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Tues July 24	Newsletter deadline
Sun, July 29	9 am Extended meeting for worship (5 th first day) 10:30 am Meeting for Worship
Sun, Aug 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

Weekly Meeting for Worship 10:30 am each First Day. Business Meeting is the second First Day of the month. 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 on 5/31, 6/28, and 7/26

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

June and July Queries

Query 6 Do we endeavor by example and precept to cultivate in our children a sense of openness and expectancy about life, and to aid them in their growth in spiritual understanding and moral discernment? Do we share with them the faith that guides the practice of Friends, while encouraging them to develop their religious insights as the Spirit of God may lead them?

Query 7 Do we endeavor to live in the life and power that takes away the occasion of all war, seeking to do our part in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations? Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against nuclear and all other military preparations, the bearing of arms, and all participation in war?

JUNE

Bailey, Elliot (Son of Jessica Bailey) 6/23/07

Morales, Eric Resendiz 6/24/15

JULY

Morales, Yoari (Son of Kathe Rodriguez) 7/22/08

Marlin, Brianna 7/22/10

Swenson, Seanie 7/24/05

From the Editor

The newsletter covers both June and July. My intention is to distribute the Eighth Month newsletter no later than the last Sunday of July. Material should be submitted, preferably by email, no later than Tuesday, July 24.

5th Month Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

2018-049. Opening Minute. At the regular meeting for business of Friendship Friends Meeting, held on the afternoon of Fifth Month 20, 2018, at the meeting house. The meeting opened near the appointed hour with a period of waiting worship.

Response to Query Five. Friends united in the following response to Query Five:

We are happy to report that attendance at our meetings for business has risen over the past several years. Still, not all Friends attend regularly. We try to hold our meetings in a spirit of love and forbearance and believe we can say this is often the case. There is a welcoming spirit that invites attendance and participation. We

take time to pause and recenter, and are not afraid to hold a decision over for seasoning and more discernment when no unity is apparent. A new practice is the designation of a "person of presence" whose task it is to hold our meetings for business in constant prayer.

Visit among Cuban Friends. Stephen Holland reported on his and Claire's recent trip to Cuba. The endorsements of Cuban Friends in response to his letter of introduction was read, in Spanish and English.

Endorsements of Deborah Shaw's Travel Minute. Darlene Stanley read two endorsements of Deborah Shaw's current travel minute.

Travel Minute for Deborah Shaw. Darlene Stanley, clerk of Deborah's support committee, read a proposed new travel minute for Deborah Shaw. The proposed minute follows:

To Friends everywhere;

With this letter we introduce and commend to your Christian care Deborah Shaw, our dear Friend and recorded minister of Friendship Friends Meeting of the North Carolina Religious Society of Friends (Conservative.) She was recorded by FFM in 1998 and has traveled widely as both minister and elder in gospel ministry. Deborah's travels in the ministry are most often to lead retreats in the United States and in England. In addition, she has just completed 25 years of service as Director of the Quaker Leadership Scholars Program at Guilford College

providing guidance, oversight and nurture to young Friends in the program.

We are grateful for the work of the support committee that has formed around Deborah, providing the nurture, oversight and accountability that faithful ministry requires.

In expectation that Deborah and her support committee will continue to work closely together in the specifics of each opportunity for service, Friendship Friends Meeting issues this general travel minute for Deborah Shaw for the period from Eighth Month 1, 2018 to the rise of yearly meeting sessions in Seventh Month 14, 2019.

With Deborah we send you our greetings in and through that Greater Love.

Treasurer's Report: Fourth Month 2018 Income and Expenses

Income in April 2018 totaled \$5,611.94 with \$1,622.24 to the General Fund and \$3,989.70 to the New Building Fund.

Expenses in April 2018 totaled \$414.40. General Fund expenses totaled \$414.40 which included: Operating Expenses of \$252.00 primarily for supplies; no Supporting Contributions; and Meeting House Expenses of \$162.40 primarily for utilities.

Fundraising Committee Report.

1. Pledges and payments paid on pledges through May 7, 2018:
2. Payments made in YTD 2018
\$ 11,065.00
3. Pledges made (prior to MGC):
\$ 154,920.00
4. Payments paid on pledges:

\$ 117,960.00 (76%)

Outstanding pledges:

\$ 36,960.00 (25%)

1. Progress toward the \$150,000 Matching Gift Campaign (as of May 7, 2018):
2. Pledges made (MGC):
\$ 19,990.00
3. Total outstanding pledges (MGC)
\$ 4,475.00
4. Total donations YTD 2018
\$ 35,331.84
5. Total donations (with Yard Sale)
\$126,795.57
(85%)
6. Outstanding pledges + total donations
\$131,270.57 (88%)
7. Amount needed to reach MGC goal
\$ 18,729.43
(12%)

Jim Fernandes is preparing a grant application to the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting for funds toward new meetinghouse construction. We will advise the meeting when the application is submitted.

State of the Society Report

At Friendship Friends Meeting we seek the presence of God in our midst. We designate a "person of presence" at each monthly meeting for business in the Spirit of worship to hold our proceedings up to the abiding presence of God. We have resumed a former practice of reading a portion of the Advices and of responding to Queries in the face of the meeting each month. This has deepened the spiritual quality of our time together in the conduct of our business.

In our worship the vocal ministry is grounded in the Spirit. There are also times of silent gatherings which are covered by the Divine Presence as well.

We continue with regular Bible study, quiet Tuesdays, midweek meeting for worship at Friends Homes - Guilford, and a men's group, as well as a monthly worship sharing opportunity called Deepening the Spiritual Life of the Meeting. When a month has five First Days, on the fifth one we hold extended meeting for worship for an hour before the regular meeting for worship. And each week at the rise of meeting, a "designated Friend" is available to answer any questions about Quakers or about our meeting.

The Quaker Leadership Scholars Program uses our meetinghouse regularly for their worship during the week and we welcome new Guilford College students and faculty each August with an open house complete with dessert.

We held a Committee Clerk's breakfast again this year and experienced an exchange of ideas and the raising of some challenges which are to be considered in the future. The work of the meeting is done by some 15 committees and many committed Friends. Some of the highlights follow.

Our Religious Education Committee seeks intergenerational opportunities for our Young Friends such as taking charge of our meeting for an occasional first day, usually if there is a fifth First Day. They greet people coming in, ask for joys and concerns near the close of meeting for worship, and lead us in our custom of introductions and

announcements when worship is over. Our teens are either helping with First Day school or remaining in meeting for worship. They are busy in their outward lives putting their faith into practice with both leadership and participation in social justice issues in our community.

Peace and Social Concerns Committee looks for ways to engage members and attenders by inviting them to lead or take part in forums. The Finance Committee has transferred most of our money from Wells Fargo Bank to Self Help Credit Union to better align our actions with our beliefs. The Meetinghouse Planning Committee and the New Meetinghouse Fundraising Committees are coordinating efforts. They have decided on a contractor for our new meeting space and we are making significant progress toward raising enough money to receive a matching gift offered to us. We are also looking for and applying for grants to assist with this fundraising.

We enjoyed our second Quaker Tea event this Spring to help provide information about our meeting's history and our practices as Conservative Friends. Although designed for relative newcomers to Quakerism, it provides yet another opportunity for building community among us.

We welcomed a new sojourner to our meeting and were pleased that another long time sojourning member has become a member of Friendship Friends Meeting.

Friends suggested several specific Peace & Social Concerns activities that could be added to this report. Friends approved the

report with minor additions to be made by the clerk to incorporate these suggestions.

Nominating Committee Draft Report.

Clerk: Lloyd Lee Wilson
 Co-Clerk: Deborah Shaw
 Recording Clerk: Hannah Logan-Morris
 Treasurer: Stephen Holland
 Assistant Treasurer: Ray Treadway
 Membership & Statistics Recorder: Claire Koster
 Assistant Membership & Statistics Recorder: Judy Reece
 Registered Agent, FFM Corporation: Ray Treadway

STANDING COMMITTEES

Calendar Coordinator - Susan Wilson
 Care & Counsel
 Dave MacInnes (convener), Gay Bowles, Maureen Burns, Rachel Knight, Janet Nagel, Betty Poynton, Judy Williams, Clerk of Meeting as led or invited

Communications
 Dave MacInnes (convener), Chris Nelson, Judy Purvis

Finance
 Stephen Holland (convener), Hannah Logan Morris, Lisa Ross, Ray Treadway, Clerk of Meeting as led or invited

Handbook
 Bonnie Parsons

Hospitality
 Susan Wilson (convener), Maureen Burns, Christy Hopkins, Sid Kitchens, Brian Poynton, Judy Reece
 Greeters Coordinator: Judy Harvey

House & Grounds
 David Parsons (convener), Chris Biber-Peterson, Ash-Leigh Brown, Kim Carlyle, Jim Fernandes, Hanna Hobson, Jeffrey Hobson, Kerry Hobson, James Hood
 Cleaning List Scheduler: Seannie Cahill-Swenson
 Supplies Purchaser: Phayth Myer

Internal Review

Library
 Carole Treadway (convener), Lloyd Lee Wilson

Meetinghouse Fundraising
 Kembra Howdeshell (convener), David Brown, Jim Fernandes, Cyril Harvey, James Hood, Mel Zuck

Meetinghouse Planning
 Neil Swenson (convener), Mae Brown, Janet Nagel, Richard Phillips, Carey Reece,
 Don Smith, Ray Treadway

Nominating
 Susan Wilson (convener), Maureen Burns, Darlene Stanley, Judy Williams

Peace & Social Concerns
 Raleigh Bailey (convener), Anne Cassebaum, Francis Coyle, Sheri Grace, Lisa Ross,
 Paul Sherman

Religious Education

Anne Morris (convener), Kembra Howdeshell, Hanna Hobson

Worship & Ministry

Judy Purvis (convener), Deborah Shaw, Darlene Stanley, Neil Swenson, Carole Treadway, Clerk of Meeting as led or invited

OUTREACH and AD HOC COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committee on Memorial Markers

Mae Brown, Kembra Howdeshell, Dave MacInnes, Janet Nagel, Judy Purvis, Carol Treadway, Ray Treadway

Pathways – continuation requires discernment by Monthly Meeting

REPRESENTATIVES

NCYMc Nominating Committee: Carole Treadway

NCYMc Records Committee: Claire Koster

NCYMc Annual Sessions: to be named in Monthly Meeting

NCYMc Interim Body: to be named in Monthly Meeting

Quaker House Board: Bonnie Parsons, Joan Tillotson, Paul Sherman

FCNL: David Parsons

PFF: Judy Williams

The preliminary report of the Nominating Committee was accepted. Friends agreed to defer action on recommended changes to the Internal Review Committee until Sixth Month. The meeting asked Finance Committee for a more specific description of how needed oversight and accountability could be provided if the Internal Review Committee were laid down.

2018-059. A Welcoming and Affirming Faith Community. Friends approved adding the words “A Welcoming and Affirming Faith Community” to our meeting’s website home page. The meeting asked the Communications Committee and Worship & Ministry to coordinate in a comprehensive review of our various communications and outreach tools.

Pathways Project Report from Lisa Ross

Friendship Meeting has been providing after school snacks for the children who live at Pathways for the last year. As the program coordinator, I shop for the snack items and bring them to the meeting on one Sunday each month. At the rise of meeting, the children lead the effort to pack brown paper bags with a juice box, a fruit snack and a bag of chips or crackers. Then I drive the donation to Pathways during that week.

This project provides an opportunity for community building at Friendship and a service opportunity for us to live our values. We are building a relationship with the staff at Pathways that is starting to lead to other opportunities – we are discussing the possibility of Friendship children playing on the playground at Pathways with the children there. This possibility is attractive because it highlights the equality of all people in Greensboro and provides an opportunity to find that of God in everyone.

Steve Sandercock, the director of Pathways Center is very grateful for our contributions. Although not an essential part of their operation, it is something that they truly appreciate. He gave an example

of when two children got off the bus from school and found that their mothers had been delayed and were not there. Steve was able to pull out two after school snack packs and sit with them and talk about their day while they waited for their moms to get back from work. The Pathways center is always full, only having vacancies when someone moves out and the apartment is being cleaned and readied for another family.

Steve suggested that the snacks not include apples, since they use the snack bags throughout the month and not all at one time or on one day. So, raisins, juice boxes, pretzels or cookies make a great little snack. He recommends that we continue this project and he is open to expanding Friendship's involvement at Pathways

Lisa has expressed her desire not to continue with this personal commitment. Friends approved moving the Pathways Project under the oversight of the Peace & Social Concerns Committee.

Poor People's Campaign. Lloyd Lee Wilson reported orally on the *Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival*.

Poor People's Campaign: Lloyd Lee reported that he has begun attending planning meetings for the 2nd Poor People's Campaign (PPC). This is a follow up to the initial Poor People's Campaign started in 1968 by Martin Luther King, Jr. and others. The new campaign is being mobilized by Rev. William Barber and others, and is building on the organizing approach used in the Moral Monday Campaign the Rev. Barber initiated in North Carolina. The new

PPC is a national movement but managed on the state level so that different states can focus on their issues and successful strategies. PPC has noted that conditions appear to have worsened since the initial campaign 50 years ago.

The goal is to change the moral agenda across the nation to focus on the issues of impacted people. These include: poverty, racism, militarism, and ecological disasters. The hope is to create a new moral dialogue. There are twelve principles called the Higher Ground Moral Declaration. National sponsors are Repairers of the Breach and Kairos. Impacted people will be primary leaders and community organizers with others as participants and supporters. The ongoing campaign will start immediately after Mother's Day with a 40 day campaign of direct action to include demonstrations in Raleigh on Mondays (where legislation is passed, and some might choose civil disobedience); videos and local educational activities on Tuesdays; other follow up activities during the week with local faith communities and others. Lloyd Lee has already completed a non-violent direct action training, participated in a local vigil on behalf of sanitation workers, and volunteered to reach out to other faith communities.

The meeting agreed to endorse the Poor People's Campaign and to encourage other meetings and individuals to do the same.

Meeting House Planning Committee. Since our report at last month's meeting for business, the Meetinghouse Planning committee has met with the architect, Archer Joyce, three times and Andrew Wells

from RPM Partners has been able to join us for two of those meetings. The meetings have been productive and collaborative. At each meeting Archer has brought several different design variations for us to consider and respond to. He has also listened carefully to our feedback, asked questions, and provided advice and suggestions. We have left each meeting with clear next steps for both Archer and for our committee.

On the advice of Archer, the first phase of discussion has been about the shape and size of the new meeting room, the placement of the exits in the new meeting room, and the location of the new restroom that will be required for this project. After discussions over several meetings with Archer, our committee has agreed on the following tentative decisions that we would like share with the meeting today and ask for feedback. We will then bring that feedback back to Archer and that will help guide our thinking as we move into the next phases of our planning.

The first tentative decision that we reached was that we are recommending a square meeting room whose south wall lines up with the south wall of the current meeting room. Archer shared with us other possibilities of both square and rectangular meeting rooms both lined up and offset from the current building. However, after further discussion we agreed on a square shape and lined up for several reasons. One, there were a number of people who felt that a square meeting room is more traditional and allows for a more gathered arrangement of chairs. Archer also says that it is a more efficient shape and that it will have a good flow between

the various entrances. It will also tie in visually with the current building better.

Related to this, after some discussion the committee reached a tentative decision that there should be doors in the middle of the east wall from the new welcome room, in the middle of the west wall so there can be direct access from the parking lot, and in the middle of the south wall with a porch wrapping around the west and south sides. We are still imagining that the custom will be to enter in the welcome room and provide hospitality in what is currently the worship room. However, we think the west door and south doors could be used by members and attenders to enter or exit directly into the worship room if they do not need to pass through the welcome room.

Finally, we will be required by code to add a unisex bathroom when making this addition to the meetinghouse. We spent some time discussing various possibilities for placement of this bathroom, including in the new welcome room, in the current worship room and in the current kitchen. In the end we have reached the tentative decision to place the new bathroom in the southern part of the current sunroom but then extend the north wall of the sunroom so that it has similar dimensions to what it has now but just a few feet further north. This location has the advantage of being near the new meeting room and welcome room but it does not take up space or open into either of those rooms. It is also located relatively closely to existing plumbing in the kitchen. Our committee has also been aware that the sunroom is a much loved and much used room in the

meeting and this plan preserves that role in this new design.

To summarize, the three tentative decisions our committee has reached and are asking for feedback from the meeting are:

1. The new meeting room will be a square and the south wall will be lined up with the south exterior wall of the current meeting room.
2. The doors will be placed in the middle of the west, south and east walls of the new meeting room and there will be porch on the west and south walls.
3. The new bathroom will be placed in the southern part of the sunroom and the north wall will be pushed back to preserve a similar amount of space.

We are seeking feedback and questions that we can take back to Archer and Andrew for their consideration. Once we are confident in these initial decisions we will move on to discussing the location of the parking and how this might affect the design of the building.

Friends accepted this report with thanks for the continuing excellent work of the committee.

Closing Minute. No further business appearing, and with hearts and minds generally clear, Friends adjourned, intending to meet at the appointed time in Sixth Month, if consistent with Divine Will.

Clerks' Corner

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

Reading: From New England Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, p. 206.

"In meeting for business, and in all duties connected with them, seek again the leadings of the Light; let our utterances be brief and without repetition. Let us keep from obstinacy and from harshness of tone or manner and admit the possibility of being in error. In all the affairs of the meeting community, let us proceed in a peaceable spirit, with forbearance and warm affection for each other."

The registration form for **Yearly Meeting sessions** is now on the Yearly Meeting web at www.ncymc.org. It includes current featured links to 2018 YM program information and registration. All are welcome. Folks are encouraged to register before June 10th to receive a discount and to help us with planning.

Friendship Friends Meeting
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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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