

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

January, 2015

Monthly Query:

In what ways do I keep my life uncluttered with things and activities, and avoid commitments beyond my strength and light?

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

"Let us then try what love will do." William Penn

Contents:

Upcoming Forum Schedule	2
Quakerism 101	2
MLK Day Lecture by Scholar-Activist, Angela Davis	3
This I Believe, Quaker Style	3
Book Group: A Testament of Devotion	3
Book Groups Forming to Read Troubled Minds	4
"Ready the Ground" Usher Training in Raleigh.....	4
Quaker House Workshops.....	5
A Letter from Miriam Alave Condori	6
BYO Plate	8
Reminder: Hillsborough Worship Group	8
Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business	9
(Nominations committee, C&C Annual Report, Finance, Faith Connections on Mental Illness, Public Safety Initiative, P&J Items)	
Calendar	14



Upcoming Forum Schedule

January 11: "The Monteverdi Friends School in Costa Rica," with Jim Palmer.

Description: Jim will tell about his recent experiences volunteering at this Quaker school and living in its Quaker community. Moderator: Robert Lee

January 25: "Renovating the Meetinghouse," Don Hopper, Clerk, Buildings and Grounds Comm. Description: An update on plans to renovate the downstairs. Moderator: Matt Drake

Quakerism 101

The Ministry and Worship Committee is offering Quakerism 101, beginning in late January (see dates and topics listed below.) There will be a series of four two-hour sessions focused on learning about living in the Religious Society of Friends. We'll cover history, beliefs, worship, social witness, decision making and other traditions of Friends. Each class will be designed to "stand alone;" you may attend one or multiple sessions. The classes will meet every two weeks and each session will be offered twice—once each on a Saturday afternoon from 2:00–4:00pm and again on the following Monday evening from 7:00–9:00pm. This will enable the maximum number of people to participate, as well as provide some flexibility in personal schedules.

If you plan to participate, even in only one session, we would still like to hear from you. A listserv of all participants will be created and will be the vehicle for disseminating readings several weeks prior to each class. Please contact Lynn Drake (lsdrake at email.unc.edu) if you wish to participate.

They will be held in the school building.

Session 1: Foundations of Quakerism

Saturday, January 24, 2:00–4:00pm

Repeated Monday, January 26, 7:00–9:00pm

Session 2: Meeting for Worship

Saturday, February 7, 2:00–4:00pm

Repeated Monday, February 9, 7:00–9:00pm

Session 3: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Saturday, February 21, 2:00–4:00pm

Repeated Monday, February 23, 7:00–9:00pm

Session 4: Faith-based witness in our world

Saturday, March 7, 2:00–4:00pm

Repeated Monday, March 9, 7:00–9:00pm

MLK Day Lecture by Scholar-Activist, Angela Davis

Part of UNC's Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration 2015
January 19, 7:30 PM at Memorial Hall on UNC Campus
<http://diversity.unc.edu/programs-and-initiatives/mlk/>

Ms. Davis has spent decades working to reform the prison industrial complex, and considers herself a prison abolitionist. Alice Drozdiak is currently reserving 10 tickets for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting; please contact her if you would like to be included in the group! If more people show interest, we will try to obtain more tickets. Alice can be reached at adrozdiak@gmail.com

This I Believe, Quaker Style

Coming on February 12, March 12, and April 9

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting is a gathering of people who have diverse beliefs, practices, and experiences about what is spiritual, about "God," and about the "Light." However, most of us can only guess, or really don't know much, about the spiritual beliefs and practices of one another. We are creating an opportunity to begin conversations with each other in a safe and non-judgmental environment in the Meetinghouse. We will begin with worship, then a Query, which those attending can discuss in small groups and end with worship sharing, leaving space for any vocal ministry resulting from your time in groups. We hope you can join us for this ongoing journey, gathering the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Meetingroom, from 7:00-8:30pm.

Contact Jan Hutton (919-967-1959), Pat Mann (919-489-1802) or Robin Harper (919-606-4574) if you have questions.

Book Group: A Testament of Devotion

Please join the Hillsborough Friends worship group for an exploration of the book, *A Testament of Devotion*. Published in 1941, this inspirational collection of essays was written by Thomas Kelly, and is considered one of the great books on devotion and Quaker mysticism.

We will be gathering on the fourth Sunday of each month at 10:00, before our Meeting for Worship, which starts at 11:00. We meet at Hillsborough Yoga, 121 W. Margaret Lane, next to the Orange County Library.

We'll read and discuss two chapters a month. All are welcome.

January 25: "The Light Within," as well as "A Biographical Memoir"

February 22: "Holy Obedience" and "The Blessed Community"

March 22: "The Eternal Now and Social Concerns" and "The Simplification of Life"

Book Groups Forming to Read *Troubled Minds*

In this month's business meeting, we agreed to join with other churches to co-sponsor the annual conference of Faith Connections on Mental Illness. Faith Connections is an ecumenical group in Chapel Hill that works with all faith communities to educate, support, and advocate for individuals and families who are living with mental illness. The conference this year takes place on April 10, 2015 at St. Thomas More Church (cost: \$25) and will feature Amy Simpson, author of *Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission*. Faith Connections is encouraging Chapel Hill congregations to form book groups to discuss Amy Simpson's book in preparation for hearing her in April. Our Mental Health Group will begin discussion of this book at our next meeting January 25. If there is sufficient interest, I [Alice Carlton] have agreed to organize other groups within our Meeting. Look for a signup sheet at Meeting. This book is available through Amazon in paperback or kindle versions and at any of our local book stores. Here is what Amazon says about it:

Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission

The 2014 Christianity Today Book Award Winner (Her.meneutics) Winner of a 2013 Leadership Journal Book Award ("Our Very Short List" in "The Leader's Outer Life" category) Mental illness is the sort of thing we don't like to talk about. It doesn't reduce nicely to simple solutions and happy outcomes. So instead, too often we reduce people who are mentally ill to caricatures and ghosts, and simply pretend they don't exist. They do exist, however—statistics suggest that one in four people suffer from some kind of mental illness. And then there's their friends and family members, who bear their own scars and anxious thoughts, and who see no safe place to talk about the impact of mental illness on their lives and their loved ones. Many of these people are sitting in churches week after week, suffering in stigmatized silence. In Troubled Minds Amy Simpson, whose family knows the trauma and bewilderment of mental illness, reminds us that people with mental illness are our neighbors and our brothers and sisters in Christ, and she shows us the path to loving them well and becoming a church that loves God with whole hearts and whole souls, with the strength we have and with minds that are whole as well as minds that are troubled.

I have almost finished it and find it well written, full of useful information, heart wrenching anecdotes, and inspiring stories of what other churches are doing to address the mental health needs of their congregations and communities. I highly recommend it. Feel free to contact me [Alice Carlton] with ideas or questions.

“Ready the Ground” Usher Training in Raleigh

As conditions change throughout our world, people-power actions – like rallies, demonstrations, vigils, and pickets – are increasing. Gain valuable skills to help welcome new participants and help keep our demonstrations peaceful, coordinated, and effective in bringing about positive social change. This in-depth, highly interactive training will prepare

you to serve as an usher for demonstrations. Beginners and those with experience are equally welcome.

Ushers welcome people, provide good information, model the tone desired for the event, and handle any trouble (things that interfere with the operation of the event or with the clarity of its message). Ushers function in a welcoming, guidance, hospitality, and diplomacy role. They do not serve as enforcers or bouncers. In recruiting ushers we look for friendly people who have good judgment, who can remain calm and effective in moments of excitement or stress, and who interact respectfully with all kinds of people.

Each training offers six hours of preparation facilitated by experienced trainers and usher leaders. You'll get a bit of theory and lots of experiential learning in an expertly designed workshop format. Plus lunch, childcare, Spanish-English interpretation, and lots of chances to ask questions and learn from facilitators and each other.

The training will be in Raleigh on Saturday, January 24 at Teamsters Union Hall (6317 Angus Dr, Raleigh NC 27617). For more information, please reach out to us at readytheground@gmail.com or by phone: 919-834-2693.

Ready the Ground Training Team would like to thank The Sonja Haynes Stone Center for Black Culture and History, Greenpeace North Carolina, NC Justice Center, Raise Up Fast Food Workers Union, Teamsters Local 391, and many movement workers whose wisdom and example we pass on.

Quaker House Workshops

Quaker House is sponsoring Alternatives to Violence Project workshops in 2015 for all three levels:

Basic on January 16-18

Advanced on February 20-22

Training for Facilitators on March 20-22

AVP is an experiential learning model to help individuals manage feelings, deal with conflict and anger, build relationships, and much more. It began in prison in cooperation with several Quakers and is now used in communities, schools, colleges, and conflict situations worldwide.

Each workshop has a nominal fee of \$70 to cover meals and other expenses, but scholarships are available for military personnel, Quakers, and students. Attendance at all three is not necessary. Those who never took this training should start with the Basic Course.

For more information, see the flyer posted in the foyer or contact Curt Torell from our meeting (919-968-2174) or Lynn Newsom, Quaker House co-director (qpr@quaker.org, 910-323-3912).

A Letter from Miriam Alave Condori

Miriam Alave Condori is a Bolivian Quaker whom we have supported for five years in dental school; her contact information has been removed for the newsletter.

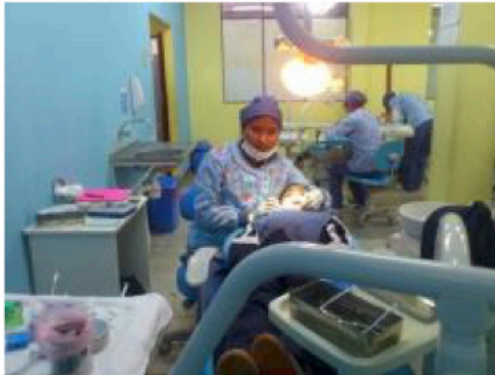
Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Through this letter I am pleased to greet you and wish you success in the activities you are carrying out. May God's Peace be always with you.

I am Miriam Alave Condori and am studying Dentistry in the Public University of El Alto, Bolivia. I am currently in the 5th year of my study.

Activities:

In the university where I am studying dentistry, there are five years of study and a sixth year of internship, in which the interns rotate among health centers for nine months. During my years in the university, I have been preparing myself intellectually by learning through all types of experience.



I recall the fourth year of dentistry in 2013 was for me the most stressful year, because we had to practice with patients in every aspect of the discipline. That was another stage in the process of my study. In my work in all the clinics, the specialty that stood out for me was pediatric dentistry. That specialty requires the integral treating of children less than twelve years of age, with special effort to avoid trauma. For children of this age, the chronology of dental development is quite varied and requires a careful diagnosis and plan of treatment.

Before beginning the treatment, it is essential to carry out a thorough examination of the mouth of the child since different types of pathologies may be found in the gums, periodontal ligament, and alveolar bone. It is important first to focus on communicating with the child, and second achieving the child's trust and cooperation. These are most essential elements in pediatric dentistry. One must work on the basis of a triangle consisting of the dentist, the child, and the parent.

To prevent the treatment from going wrong, the dentist must give recommendations in a subtle form, both to the parent and to the child.



Recreational activities in the children's clinic for integrated dentistry:



One of the most memorable experiences of my study was in my rotation in the clinic for integrated dentistry where the goal is to rehabilitate the entire dental structure of a child. Integrated dentistry constitutes a specialty within pediatric dentistry. In my effort to achieve a high level of trust between the dentist and the child, the treatment plan was highly personalized. Undoubtedly, achieving a high level of trust with the children led to better treatment.

After completing the treatments for the children, we carried out recreational games focused on the children. The games lasted two and a half hours. After the games, we served refreshments of a beverage and a pastry. The winners of the games carried away the best toys. It was a joy to share that experience with the children.

I am confident that with more practice and continuing study, I will achieve even better success in my goals to serve in the areas of need.

Personal gratitude:

I am immensely grateful to the scholarship committee and fellow Quakers of the North, especially Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, who helped me economically through all my years of study. When I received the scholarship, it was an extraordinary joy in my life and for my family since I did not have sufficient funds, and the study of dentistry requires a great deal of money.

Thanks to the scholarship, I was able to purchase the necessary dental instruments which I used with each patient. And when I graduate, the scholarship will be of great benefit to me in all my clinical practice of dentistry. Dentistry is one of the most expensive areas of study in Bolivia. God was always at my side to guide me in all my studies, exams, and treatment of patients.



For his faithfulness and great Love, God will never forget to help us and the goals I have to specialize. I always lift up in prayer my thankfulness for his Blessings for family, home, and work. Fellow Quakers of the Chapel Hill Meeting, I am very grateful for the economic support you are giving me in this opportunity for my study. May our God be with you and infinitely bless you in your work and in all your families.

Gratitude from my family:

Fellow Quakers of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, my father, Batriel Alave, my mother Beatriz Contori, my brother Efrain Alave, and I, in the name of our saviour are infinitely grateful for the economic support you have given us during all these years. When we were in the worst situation economically, I received notice from the Bolivian Quaker Educational Fund (BQEF) that I had received a scholarship. That was an enormous joy. I do not have stable support. My father's work of making costumes for mariachis is seasonal. Members of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, I feel very grateful to you and to God for having been given the opportunity to complete my studies and be a professional. I will always hold you in the Light and pray that you, your work, and your homes be infinitely blessed.



God is great and will always help us along the path of our activities we carry out throughout time.

May the peace of God always accompany you and enlighten your life. I also hope that you will count on me in the activities you carry out and that we may exchange ideas.

I bid you farewell and repeat my sincere greetings.

Miriam Alave Condori

BYO Plate

We celebrate the often large attendance at potluck and we thank the meeting for continued help with potluck cleanup. However, large attendance does create a lot of dishes to wash. Therefore, we request that Friends bring their own plates, cutlery, and glasses to potluck and take them home to wash. We know of other groups that use this practice successfully and we propose it as another way to be environmentally friendly. We recognize not everyone will remember to do so. Those who do will be allowed to be first in line for potluck. Thank you.

Reminder: Hillsborough Worship Group

The Hillsborough Worship Group meets on Sundays at 11am at the Hillsborough Yoga Downtown studio at 121 West Margaret Lane. There is parking next door at the library. This group is under the care of the Durham Meeting and has a minute of support from our meeting.

**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

December 21, 2014

Minutes

Tom Munk, clerk; Robin Harper, recording clerk

Worship and query: *Do we walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone?*

This query inspired rich sharing from many Friends:

There's a lot to be gloomy about, and it's a curious challenge to be of good cheer.

It is a challenge, and I am not always able to be cheerful. But I think God is okay with that. And sometimes it's important to step back and take care of myself and not express everything I'm feeling. And hope for cheerfulness tomorrow.

It's hard to be cheerful; I've been thinking about the two policemen shot in retaliation for the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner, and the many who are not able to eat three meals a day as I am.

I like to interpret "walking cheerfully" as "walking joyfully." It's possible to be joyful no matter what else is going on inside me or out in the world. I feel joy to have the privilege of doing work that has meaning, no matter what shape you are in and to the degree you are doing it. Find joy in being on the right side of history.

I am a cheerful person. I feel blessed in my life and feel lucky to be able to share that with others. Lines in the post office are not often a cheerful place. There was a long line in the post office yesterday. There was a clerk halfway down the line to expedite things, whom I thanked. I got into a conversation with others, which resulted in cheerful exchanges. I feel that walking cheerfully over the earth is a selfish act, because I feel so much better that way.

I can be cheerful looking for beauty in the world. I find it, and it turns encounters like the above into something where the Divine is possible.

I like the image of a dark room, and lighting a single candle, and what happens to that room. When we can share even small things like a smile or pat on the shoulder, that can be like that candle, and we can have no idea what that might mean to some people.

I am also a cheerful person, but I have a family member who has a very difficult time at this time of year, because she is told to be cheerful. She struggles just to make it to neutral.

This query, a quote from George Fox, starts with be patterns, be examples. George Fox himself is a pattern for me. He was a cheerful revolutionary. He cheerfully went into the steeple house and cheerfully told the minister to come down from the pulpit, and cheerfully got himself beat up over and over again. I know Fox got this from the Bible because I feel that Jesus was the same way. He felt this joy because he felt God was working through him to bring heaven to earth.

1. Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda—Clerk

We welcomed first time attender Isaac Barbee, recently returned to freedom!

2. Approval of November minutes—Clerk

The recording clerk read a correction received from a Friend regarding last month's minutes. The statement in the Finance Committee report that 48 gifts totaling about \$9,000 had been received should be changed. The number of gifts at that point totaled 28, not 48.

Otherwise approved.

3. Approval of the nominations of Karen Durovich, Ed Bowen, Sean Chen, and Joyce Munk for the Nominations Committee, by the Naming Committee—Clerk

Approved.

4. Annual Report from Care and Counsel—Chris Stanley (CORRECTED REPORT ATTACHED)

Chris read the report, and responded to questions.

One Friend offered her thanks to the committee for their help in the marriage of her son, and to the whole Meeting for the work for this event and for making so many people welcome during it.

Others expressed gratitude for the work of this committee, especially in reaching out to Friends who can no longer attend.

The report was corrected to add the birth of Alice, to Marie Hopper and Joseph Drust.

Friends accepted the report with thanks.

5. Update from Finance Committee—Matt Drake

Matt offered a thank you to those who have contributed or have promised to do so. He feels confident that we will reach our budgeted goal. This update is a report of appreciation.

6. Faith Connections on Mental Illness—Alice Carlton, for the Mental Health Group

Alice told us about this group that meets monthly, and holds a yearly conference in April. She requests that we sponsor that conference, as we have done in the past, in the amount of \$99.00. It will be held at St. Thomas More on 4/10/15, and the topic will be “Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church’s Mission.” This is also the title of a book by Amy Simpson, who will speak at the conference. Shirley Dancer, who does pro bono mental health counseling in the community, will also speak. The individual charge for the conference is \$25.00. Faith Connections on Mental Illness (faithconnectionsonmentalillness.org) is allied with NAMI (the National Alliance for Mental Illness)

This support would have to come from the contingency fund, since we are past budget planning time. Matt Drake, clerk of Finance, says there is enough money in the fund.

Friends approved this support.

Alice also asked if there would be interest in our Meeting in having a book group to read and discuss the above title. She shared that mental health groups in many local congregations, including our own, would be doing so. She will put up a sign up sheet to see if others would like to form an additional book group and if so, she will organize it. Alice recommended that P&J and C&C also consider reading it.

7. Initiative on the part of the Department of Public Safety—Hank Elkins, for Peace & Justice Committee

Following the death of Michael Carr, a mentally ill prisoner who died in solitary confinement of thirst and neglect in a NC prison, W. David Guice, Commissioner of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice, NC Department of Public Safety, has proposed major improvements in the treatment of mentally ill prisoners. At present, 9.8 percent of prisoners in NC prisons receive some type of mental health treatment, but prison officials recognize that the treatment is inadequate and that prison is not the best place to house the mentally ill. Currently 72 beds dedicated to mentally ill prisoners are unused because of budget constraints.

A substantial number of mentally ill prisoners are held in solitary confinement. At most state prisons, there is no middle disciplinary ground between the general prison population and solitary confinement. North Carolina prisons have over one thousand solitary confinement cells including 40 cells at the segregation building at Orange Correctional Center (OCC) in Hillsborough. Some in OCC have been held in solitary for a year and more. Outside of the U.S., many nations consider solitary confinement to be torture. It has been shown that solitary exacerbates and contributes to mental health issues.

Commissioner Guice is proposing 372 new staff in prisons and 72 new probation officers to deal with mental health, at a cost of \$30 million. He also proposes reducing solitary confinement for the mentally ill and providing “out of cell” programming for those in solitary confinement. The UNC School of Social Work is being asked to help evaluate the new effort.

At the county level, our new Sheriff, Charles Blackwood, thinks our county jail houses far too many prisoners suffering from mental illness. Our new Orange County Manager, Bonnie Hammersley, is fresh from championing innovative efforts at the Madison, Wisconsin, jail. She has suggested appointing a coordinator for education and other services within the county jail.

P&J requests that CHFM applaud this initiative and find a way to support it. Many friends spoke in favor of the suggestion; many questions of detail were raised. For example, how can we cooperate with this effort? How can we learn from other states that have made such changes? Could IFC, Caramore, or other facilities receive people directly from OCC? Currently all we can do within Yoke Fellows at OCC is find out what prisoners are in solitary, and send them letters and books. There are points of exploration to find how we can move forward.

The Clerk proposed that members of P&J, the mental health group, and the Transition and Support Committee form an ad hoc committee to come up with suggestions to bring to MWAB. Tom McQuiston, Tom Ludlow, Richard Miller, and Emilie Condon also volunteered to serve. Hank offered to convene.

Friends approved the creation of this ad hoc committee.

Friends raised questions regarding identifying the mentally ill, an often hidden problem, and suggested use of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed after WWII, in the ad hoc committee’s work.

Hank will provide documents describing Commissioner Guice’s initiatives for the mentally ill to be put up on our website.

8. Two items from Peace & Justice Committee—Bill Jenkins

Item #1: P&J recently received a letter from the Bolivian student to whom our Meeting has given a scholarship, via our Bolivian Quaker Education Fund Benevolence. Now that this student’s need is ending with her successful graduation, the committee wants to know if we want to provide this support for another student. Currently the Benevolence is \$650/year; to provide another student with a scholarship the amount would be \$750/year. P&J is bringing this question now, rather than at the usual Benevolences time, because we are being asked to consider a commitment for several years, not just the usual one year period. Friends are asked to bring their concerns around this issue to P&J.

Item #2: New York Yearly Meeting has forwarded to us a statement of conscience in response to the failure of grand juries to indict the police involved in the homicides of unarmed African American men in Ferguson, Missouri, and in New York City. Friends can read their complete statement at <http://www.nyym.org/?q=BlackLivesMatter-AllLivesMatter>. P&J would like to propose CHFM distribute its own statement, abridged from the NYYM version, as follows:

“Chapel Hill Friends Meeting declares our grave religious and ethical concerns regarding the recent decisions by grand juries in Ferguson, Missouri, and New York City not to bring criminal charges against the police officers involved in the violent deaths of unarmed African American men in those cities.

“All lives matter. But our civil society is constructed in a way that black and brown lives matter less than white lives. This condition extends beyond the matters of policing into education, the media, the system of mass incarceration, housing patterns, employment, and virtually every aspect of life in the United States, including its faith communities.

“We call for both recognition and remedy of this condition. We call upon civil authorities to take leadership in bringing about this recognition and remedy. We call upon all people of faith, ourselves included, to understand how we may be complicit in a system that extends privileges to people racialized as white while denying the same to those racialized as people of color.”

P&J recommends that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting wholeheartedly endorse and support the statement of conscience by NYYM, and endorse our own statement to distribute locally.

Approved.

9. Announcements

- a. From listserv—Clerk
 - Chance to give to the Meeting
 - Alternative Gift Mart
 - Free gift table outside
 - Christmas Eve service, 5:00 & 5:30pm
 - Catered lunch to celebrate Nick Mann & bride, Dec. 28
 - New Year's Eve games, white elephant exchange, and Watchnight celebration, Schoolhouse, 7:00pm
 - Discussion on Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting on Jan. 10, Schoolhouse
 - HKoj March, Feb. 14
 - Newsletter delayed til Jan. 11
 - Worship tip: Where you find no love, put love, and you will find love
- b. Cooks are needed at the IFC shelter on Jan. 1, 9:00am-1:00pm
- c. ARE upcoming forums:
 - Dec. 28—Singing from your center, with Robert Lee
 - Jan. 4—Spiritual opportunities in 2015, with Matt Drake
 - Jan. 11—Monteverdi Friends School in Costa Rica, with Jim Palmer
 - Jan. 25—Renovating the Meetinghouse, with Don Hopper
- c. Quakerism 101 update coming within the next week

We closed with worship.

Attending: Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Jan Hutton, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Ben Ray, Carolyn Stuart, Jennifer Leeman, Richard Miller, James Taylor, Emilie Condon, Faye Stanley, Chris Stanley, Nancy Milio, Ken Grogan, Joyce Munk, Paul Munk, Ann Miller, Bettie Flash, Byron Steves, Isaac L. Barbee, Lloyd Kramer, Tom McQuiston, Barbara Williamson, Darnell Thomas, Jerry Williams, Maria Darlington, James Harper, Ruth Zalph, Perry Martin, Dirk Spruyt, Tom Ludlow.

CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS CARE AND COUNSEL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT - 2014

The Care and Counsel Committee serves the Meeting by overseeing the pastoral care of each member and attender of the Meeting, and is concerned with each one's overall wellbeing. In doing this work we are dependent on requests from those in need, as well as other members who may know of such need. The committee is always mindful of the necessity of privacy and confidentiality.

Members of the committee have participated in numerous clearness, support and membership committees this year, some of which are ongoing. The Meeting has welcomed Charleen Swansea and Dave Curtin as new members so far in 2014. Jimmy Malone and Zac Lawhon were married under the care of the Meeting this summer and the committee supported Jimmy Farris and Amber Sneed with their wedding plans. The Meeting also shared the joy of Marie Hopper at the birth of her daughter, Alice Hylan Drust on April 6, 2014.

Our Meeting community held memorial services for Francis Fay and for Brendan Wenberg this year. Care and Counsel supported families from our community as they interred the ashes of Isabelle Sheetz Lewis and James William Lewis in the Memorial Garden. The Chapel Hill Mennonite group interred the ashes of Cameron Roy Haney in the garden because he saw this space as his spiritual home.

Care and Counsel continued discussions concerning ways to better meet our committee calling to serve members of our community. Special attention was directed toward better visitation of those who can no longer attend Meetings and a subcommittee was formed to focus on that ministry. Care and Counsel also sponsored a Forum on how to visit such people. Other areas of particular consideration this year were the Transition Committee for Returning Citizens, a small group on end of life planning and the Mental Health Support Group. Some previous responsibilities related to records for the Memorial Garden were transitioned to the new Archives Committee, as well as responsibility for maintaining the Meeting's Memorial Book.

For purposes of financial assistance to individuals in the Meeting community when compelling needs arise, however infrequently, Care and Counsel oversees a separate fund as an ongoing resource for the Meeting.

The committee has been grateful to welcome new members Kitty Bergel and Tom Ludlow, who are already valuable contributors to our work. Other Care and Counsel Committee members for this year are Bill Schweke, Gwynne Pomeroy, Madelyn Ashley, Julia Cleaver, Jeff Brown, Deborah Gibbs, Jennifer Leeman, Tom Munk (ex officio) and Chris Stanley, Clerk.

Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

- Sun. 1/11** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
9:45am Forum: Monteverdi Friends School in Costa Rica (see page 2)
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
- Tue. 1/13 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Fri. 1/16 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Quaker House Workshop (see page 5)
- Sun. 1/18** 8am Meetinghouse open for worship
8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
9:00am Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
- Mon. 1/19 7:30pm MLK Day Lecture (see page 3)
- Tue. 1/20 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Fri. 1/23 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sat. 1/24 2-4pm Quakerism 101 (see page 2)
Ready the Ground Usher Training (see page 4)
- Sun. 1/25** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
9:45am Forum: Renovating the Meetinghouse (see page 2)
10am Book Group: A Testament of Devotion (see page 3)
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
noon Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness - Schoolhouse
(see page 4)
10pm Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
- Mon. 1/26 7-9pm Quakerism 101 (see page 2)
- Fri. 1/30 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Fri. 1/30 7pm Intergenerational Games - Schoolhouse
- Sun. 2/1** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)
9:45am Forum: tba
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
12:30pm Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse
- Tue. 2/3 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Thur. 2/5 9am-1pm CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
- Fri. 2/6 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 929-5377

Meetings for Worship at 8:30 and 11:00am
Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30am-12:15pm
First Day School from 11:15am-12:00pm
Clerk of the Meeting: Tom Munk (919) 537-9203
Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

- **Newsletter.** This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. Paper copies are available at the Meetinghouse and a PDF is posted on the Meeting website, www.chapelhillfriends.org. The deadline for submissions is 10pm on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756. Please include "newsletter" in the subject line.

- **Listserv.** To send a news or "In the Light" announcement on the Meeting listserv, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org. Please include "listserv" or "in the light" in the subject line. This listserv goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the listserv at www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html.

- **Website.** To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.