

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter



October 2009

Monthly Query:

“Are our meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance? What is the quality of our vocal ministry?”

Contents:

Forums.....	2
Potluck & Welcoming.....	2
“Exploring Quakerism”.....	2
Afghanistan Documentary.....	3
Friend Needs a Place to Stay.....	3
Hear Bishop Spong.....	3
Compassionate Listening Training.....	4
Immigration Conferences.....	5
Hope for Children of Guatemala Dump.....	5
Help IFC for the Holidays.....	6
PFF Fall Meeting.....	6
Picking Cotton.....	7
Small Groups Forming.....	7
Interested in Health Care?.....	7
Quaker Earthcare Witness Update.....	8
Visitors Still Needed for War Resister.....	8
Note from James Bartow.....	9
Proprioceptive Writing Group.....	9
Friendly Book Reviews.....	9
Visitors Welcome in Africa.....	11
Reply to Our Letter.....	12
Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, 9/3.....	12
Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, 9/20.....	13
Calendar	20

Upcoming Forums

9:45am in the Meetinghouse

- Oct. 4 “NC’s Energy Future”—John Blackburn will discuss energy options and issues for NC
- Oct. 11 “Personal Sharing”—Linda Dilorenzo
- Oct. 25 “What’s Happening at the IFC: Current Challenges and Opportunities”—Chris Moran, director of the Interfaith Council
- Nov. 1 “What do you have faith in and how do you describe your faith”—A panel discussion and conversation about the different religious or spiritual traditions Friends have embraced along their spiritual path and the meaning one derives from the way one’s faith is described or defined.

Potluck and Welcoming Party

Sunday, October 4

There will be a welcoming party for Jason Foureman and his family (wife, Megan, and daughters Nora and Matilda) at the potluck on Sunday, Oct. 4. Jason was welcomed to membership in the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on Sept. 20, 2009. See the minutes from that meeting for a brief bio on Jason.

Exploring Quakerism

Sunday, October 4

1:00-2:30pm in the Meetinghouse

Lloyd Kramer’s class on the history, spiritual traditions, and current directions of Quakerism continues this month. Remaining dates include: November 15, January 10, February 14 and March 14. These discussion meetings will include an introductory overview of key themes and small group conversations, and each session will focus on a chapter in the concise book by Pink Dandelion, “The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction.” Contact Lloyd Kramer for more information (lskramer@mindspring.com).

Afghanistan Documentary

Monday, October 5

7:15pm at Carol Woods

“Rethink Afghanistan,” a new documentary on the key issues surrounding this war, will be shown on Monday, Oct. 5, 7:15pm, in the Assembly Hall, Carol Woods, 750 Weaver Dairy Road, Chapel Hill.

Afghanistan: Why are we there? What would victory look like? What is the economic impact on the US economy? View the film, discuss the issues, talk about alternatives. This film is sponsored by Elders for Peace.

Friend Needs a Place to Stay

Beginning Sunday, October 11

Marnie Clark’s daughter Clare needs a place to stay beginning October 11 for about ten days or so, while she is visiting Marnie in the Health Center at Carol Woods. If you are able to provide her a place, call her at 315.370.2039, or call Marilyn Dyer at 918.3622.

Opportunity to Hear Bishop Spong!

Friday-Sunday, October 16-18

Episcopalian bishop John Spong will be speaking in Charlotte at the Myers Park Baptist Church. Rabbi Spiro has said of Spong that his luminous interpretations of Jesus’s humanity provide his readers, whether religious or non-religious, with an intellectually energizing and pioneering perspective. Spong integrates his controversial stands on the Bible, Jesus, theism, and morality into an intelligible body of thought based on critical thought rather than blind faith. Publishers Weekly named his “Why Christianity Must Change or Die” as the best book of the year. Dismissing the dispute about Jesus’s nature that consumed the church’s leadership for the first 500 years of Christian history as irrelevant, Spong proposes a new way of picturing the divine in Christ: as the ultimate dimension of a fulfilled humanity (from his “Jesus for the Non-Religious”).

Marilyn Dyer will be attending the lectures and is seeking others who may also be interested in attending the event which has a fee of only \$10.00. A

modest motel for two nights is nearby. Marilyn will drive. Please contact her at 918.3622 if you are interested.

One-Day Introductory Compassionate Listening Training

Time: Saturday, October 24, 2009

9:30am-5:30pm at the Meetinghouse

Cost: \$25 - \$75 (sliding scale according to need, however, no one will be turned away)

Compassionate Listening is a foundational skill-set designed to empower individuals and communities to build powerful cultures of peace.

As peacemakers, we learn to move beyond a mindset that dehumanizes and demonizes the 'other', seeking instead to listen, to feel compassion for, and to see ourselves in the 'other', the 'other' in ourselves. The Compassionate Listening Project offers practices that reach deep into the heart of discord, teaching people to listen with a different "ear" to those around them. These workshops are based on the work of Quaker peacemaker and therapist, Gene Hoffman, and will be facilitated by CHFM member Jan Hutton.

Come explore these heart-based practices of Compassionate Listening:

- * Having compassion for oneself and others
- * Suspending judgment
- * Maintaining balance in the heat of conflict
- * Listening with the heart
- * Speaking from the heart with language that reflects a healing intention

Jan Hutton, MSW, a certified Compassionate Listening facilitator, believes in supporting wholeness in each human being. Over the last 38 years, she has served as a community organizer, social worker in hospice and hospital settings, meditation teacher, and, she hopes, a 'kind' person.

Contact Jan Hutton for more information and registration:
janhutton@earthlink.net, 919-967-1959

The Compassionate Listening Project: www.compassionatelistening.org.

Immigration Conferences

The NC Council of Churches' series of six mini-conferences called "Immigration 101" continues this month. These mini-conferences will take an in-depth look at various elements of immigration, including local enforcement, education, the economy, and how people of faith can respond. Each event is free and open to the public.

Learn more at <http://www.welcometheimmigrant.org/>. Remaining conference dates are as follows:

Burlington - Saturday, October 24, 9:30am-12:00pm

Greenville - Saturday, November 7, 9:00am-12:30pm

Greensboro - Saturday, November 14, 9:30am-12:00pm

Giving Hope to the Children of the Guatemala City Garbage Dump

Friday, October 30

6:00pm at the Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

Come have some fun and support a good cause at the same time!

The Safe Passage Tenth Anniversary Benefit Concert featuring Marta Gomez will be held at the Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (ERUUF) on 4907 Garret Road in Durham:

6:00 Reception

7:30 Introductions and Information

8:00 Live Auction

8:15 Concert with Marta Gomez

9:30 Raffle Drawing and Reception

Event website: www.safepassagebenefit.com

Safe Passage is a non-profit that works with the children of families working in the Guatemala City garbage dump. Within a safe and caring environment, we provide a comprehensive and integrated program that fosters hope, good health, educational achievement, self-sufficiency, self-esteem and confidence. To learn more visit: www.safepassage.org.

Even if you can't make the event, you can participate in our raffle to win a trip for two to Guatemala: airfare, lodging, and a tour of the project included.

The second place prize is a weekend for two at the Celo Inn, in the NC mountains. Raffle tickets costs: \$10.00 for one ticket, \$25.00 for three tickets, \$50.00 for seven tickets, and \$100.00 for fifteen tickets. Email Tristan Green at thubsta@gmail.com for raffle tickets and/or more information.

Help the IFC in November and for the Holidays

Sunday, November 1

The November special food items to donate to the Interfaith Council (IFC) food pantry are corn muffin mix and Ramen noodles, two of the many high priority needs at the pantry. Please bring either of these foods as the Meeting's special donation items for the first Sunday in November. Encourage everyone to participate!

Please consider contributing to IFC's program "Holidays are for sharing": "Share your holiday meal—with someone who needs it. Only \$25 helps IFC offer a holiday meal to an entire family. Put your check in the Meeting's IFC envelope with "holiday meal" in the memo line.

PFF's Fall Meeting: Quaker Quest

Saturday, November 7

9:00am-3:00pm in Winston-Salem

The Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF) Fall Meeting this year is at the Winston-Salem Friends Meeting House (3151 Reynolda Rd, Winston-Salem) and will feature an introduction and explanation session on Quaker Quest, a form of outreach that supports Friends in clarifying and speaking convincingly of their faith experience, while simultaneously serving as a powerful form of meeting inreach. It assists a Meeting in developing a stronger sense of itself and of what it has to offer seekers, and in the process strengthens community.

The meeting begins with breakfast at 9:00am and also includes lunch and an afternoon spiritual enrichment session. For more information on Quaker Quest visit www.quakerquest.org or www.fgcquaker.org/quakerquest. \$10 per adult will be collected at the door; free childcare provided. Please RSVP to Kristin at jfkkmok@mindless.com.

Authors of Picking Cotton to Speak

Saturday, November 7

6:00pm at Temple Emanuel

People of Faith Against the Death Penalty will be celebrating its 15th anniversary! Come hear keynote speakers Jennifer Thompson-Cannino and Ronald Cotton, authors of the New York Times bestseller, *Picking Cotton*, a memoir detailing their powerful story of forgiveness and hope. The annual awards banquet will be held on November 7 at 6:00pm at Temple Emanuel, located at 1129 Jefferson Road in Greensboro. For more information or to buy tickets, please visit www.pfadp.org or contact Kristen Smith at 933.7567 or ksmith@pfadp.org.

Small Groups Forming

At a forum sponsored by Ministry and Worship on September 13th, we received a wide variety of suggestions for groups that Friends would find meaningful. If you did not attend that forum and have suggestions for groups please let Dottie Heninger know. Intergenerational group topics for adults and children (grades 6-12) are especially welcome. Please call (918-2622) or email Dottie (timdothenin@mindspring.com) so that your ideas can be included in the sign up listings.

Interested in the Health Care Conversation with Kay Hagan?

The September Meeting for Business approved the following statement, which has been sent to Rep. Price, Sen. Hagan, and Sen. Burr. “Our Quaker testimonies of equality, community, and simplicity tell us that health care is a human right. We ask our representatives in Washington to ensure that all of us receive the health care we need just as the citizens of other wealthy nations do. We particularly endorse Medicare for All or, at minimum, a robust public option.”

The Meeting also asked the Peace and Social Concerns Committee and other interested members and attenders to carry on a dialogue with Senator Hagan over the next few months around this issue. Meeting members with such an interest should consider the following actions:

- 1) contact Tom Munk (munk.tom@gmail.com)
- 2) come to the next Peace and Social Concerns committee meeting at the rise of late meeting on the second Sunday in October.

Quaker Earthcare Witness Update

Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) is dedicated to providing opportunities for Friends to help heal the earth and to learn about environmental issues. Ruth Hamilton is the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting representative to QEW and the clerk of the Mini-Grant Committee. Ruth will be representing PFF and CHFMs at the Fall QEW Gathering in Bellingham, WA, Oct. 7-10.

Quaker Earthcare Witness awarded 10 mini-grants of \$250 matching funds to Friends meetings and groups throughout America. These grants were to support environmental projects and educational programming. The mini-grant projects offer practical ways to involve meetings and yearly meetings. Every project presented reflects a highly effective way to help our environment. Among the many funded projects, the Environmental Concerns Committee of CHFMs was awarded a mini-grant for the community garden. This committee is directed by Lauren Carreto. Please email Lauren if you would like to serve on this committee (laurencarreto@earthlink.net) and be sure to check out the new composting system installed by the committee that is located on the kitchen side of the Education Building.

Visitors Still Welcome for GI War Resister in Camp Lejeune Brig

A call from Quaker House has come to us to help support Cliff Cornell, one of the first soldiers in Canada to be deported for his refusing to be deployed in the Iraq War. He got a 12-month sentence at the brig in Camp Lejeune, in a room with 45 other prisoners of various charges. He desperately needs visitors.

Chuck Fager of Quaker House is hoping that several meetings will help Cliff through this very lonely and fearful time. Cliff's family and friends are nowhere close so friendly and supportive visitors are welcomed. Visitor's hours are noon to 3:00pm on Saturday, Sunday, or holidays. No pre-registration is necessary but you are required to get a pass at the entrance of the post and must

show driver's license, auto registration, and auto insurance. Two or three may visit at a time so carpooling is possible. No gifts are allowed: that includes food, books, papers, etc.

You may also wish to send a letter of support to him at:

Cliff Cornell
Bldg. 1041, PSC 20140
Camp Lejeune, NC, 28542

If you are flexible on when you can visit Cliff, please let Chuck Fager (chuckfager@aol.com or 910-323-3912) know so he can coordinate visits. Otherwise, just go and give Cliff a chance to talk to a supportive, caring person. Other questions can be directed to Curt Torell. (Read more about Cliff at <http://www.couragetoresist.org/x/content/view/685/114/>).

Note from James Bartow

James Bartow is able to provide house sitting, dog walking, or interior painting services as needed. Feel free to contact him any time at 919-932-2682.

Proprioceptive Writing Group Proposed

If anyone is interested in a Proprioceptive Writing group—a type of meditative writing to help us connect with our inner selves—please contact Perry Martin (perryvrs@msn.com). She would be willing to lead the group.

Friendly Book Reviews

***Quaker Summer* by Lisa Samson, 2007 Winner of Women of Faith Novel of the Year**

by Tom Munk

This is an easy-to-read 325 page novel about the transformation of Heather Curridge, a shopaholic Christian school graduate who starts to come to grips with Christ's real message. Her transformation begins when her artistic teenage son is teased in his Christian school, bringing back shameful memories of how she treated some of her less fortunate classmates. The book is filled with memorable characters, including a pair of elderly Quaker sisters who provide her a refuge as she sorts out her values and also serve as role models for how to be in

the world but not of it. Other characters include a variety of Christian-school mothers; Sister J, who runs a downtown homeless shelter; the charming and violent drug dealer who tries to look out for the shelter; and Heather's long suffering surgeon husband, who is quietly trapped by Heather's spending habits. I recommend this humorous, inspirational book. It delivers a lovely portrayal of two modern Quakers and much, much more.

***Trick Or Treatment* by Edzard Ernst and Simon Singh
by Emily Buehler**

Recently I read a book that completely changed my thinking about alternative medicine. I wanted to share it but felt hesitant, knowing many people value alternative medicine; but after thinking about the importance of the truth, I decided I should talk about it.

The book looks at four main areas of alternative medicine (acupuncture, homeopathy, chiropractic, and herbal medicine) and evaluates them from a scientific or evidence-based perspective. Right off the bat I did not like the authors' attitude that "Science is the best way to the truth," so I read skeptically. I should mention that my background is in science, and I have often felt like some alternative medicines "don't make sense" but tried to be open-minded and accepting even if I didn't see how they could work.

One thing that really affected me was reading the history of each practice. I had accepted them by telling myself they had a long history, or that I couldn't argue with "ancient wisdom." Knowing the actual history made it harder to hang onto this justification. For example, the book explains how acupuncture was being put aside for western, scientific-based medicine, much in the same way that bloodletting and leeching had been put aside in Europe. But when Mao came to power in China, he had promised healthcare for everyone, and acupuncture was cheap. He recommenced the teaching of it at medical schools, even though he said he didn't think it worked and that he'd never use it.

Another thing that really affected me was reading about the money being made off alternative medicine. For example, the French company Boiron makes its homeopathic cold remedy from duck innards. The basis of homeopathic medicine is that by diluting the active ingredient, it gets stronger; therefore, one duck is used to make a year's supply of the medicine, which then sells for millions of dollars. The pills are essentially sugar pills, with their healing power

coming from the imprint of the duck innards that has purportedly been left on them. Before I read this book, I thought of homeopathic remedies as coming from small grassroots-type companies, and now realize that they are often from large corporations.

Overall, the authors look at all the clinical trials they can find for alternative medicines. (Often there are not many because they are not subject to the same rules as conventional medicines.) They find that (with a few exceptions) alternative medicines do not have a beneficial effect, or when they do it is entirely a placebo effect. (For example, the people who thought they had acupuncture needles in them when really they were just being poked felt just as good as those who actually had acupuncture.)

The one thing that really bothered me about the book was that the authors barely address the problems/side effects of conventional medicine, which gives the impression that there aren't any. Also, I'm still unsure about the lack of value of a placebo effect; while I think knowing the truth is most important, the placebo effect might provide a way for people to think more positively and thus improve their health. Maybe it is just too difficult to use "positive thinking" on its own. But it is sad that people have to pay someone else to benefit from this.

I would encourage everyone who uses alternative medicine to read this book. Check out the website: www.trickortreatment.com. They have it at the Chapel Hill Public Library. It looks big but is not hard to read. You can skip much of the first chapter, which is all about bloodletting and scurvy.

Visitors Welcome in Africa

Ann Riggs has been in Kenya about 2 months now and plans to leave around the first of August 2010. She has guest rooms and opportunities to serve from teaching short courses on Quakerism to cutting hay with hand tools. Chapel Hill Friends would be very welcome to visit.

Contact Ann via email (annkriggs@gmail.com) or through the following:

Friends Theological College

P. O. Box 9

TIRIKI 50309 Kenya

+254 734 72 85 64 or +254 718 769 802

Reply to Our Letter in the *News & Observer*

Duke's Muslim Chaplain sent this reply to Nancy Milio after he read our letter to the Editor in the *News & Observer*, September 4:

“Alhamdulillah! Praise be to the Lord! I just read it. Beautifully done. May the Almighty reward you and all those behind this noble idea and effort. It means A LOT to many of your Muslim brothers and sisters locally and beyond. Blessings. Abdullah [Antepli].”

As a reminder, the text of Nancy's letter to the *News & Observer* is in the August Business Meeting minutes (September newsletter).

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Evening Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business September 3, 2009

The meeting began with silent worship.

The clerk explained that the evening's topic was the question of support for Ann Riggs – a request that was first brought to business meeting in June by Peace & Social Concerns, was discussed in July, and is now being discussed for the third time.

The clerk read the letter from Ann Riggs explaining her calling to serve as interim director of Friends Theological College in Kaimosa (attached).

The clerk asked the meeting to separate the decision about supporting Ann's call to this ministry from the question of providing financial support for the ministry.

After heartfelt discussion, the meeting approved the following minutes:

The meeting minutes its prayerful support of our member Ann Riggs' call to ministry as interim director of Friends Theological College in Kaimosa, Kenya. We recognize her commitment to ecumenical work, and encourage her leading to strengthen the peace and social justice curriculum and activities at FTC.

The meeting did not reach unity on P&SC's recommendation to provide \$2000 to support Ann Riggs in her call to ministry as interim director of FTC in Kaimosa, Kenya.

The clerk will share these minutes with Ann.

Given that there were some members who were uncomfortable with the separation of the decisions about supporting Ann's ministry and providing financial support to her ministry, the meeting spent some time at the end of the evening sharing their thoughts and feedback on the process used during the evening.

The meeting ended with worship and hugs.

Attending:

Jennifer Leeman (clerk), Marsha Green (recording clerk), Mike Green, Maria Darlington, Wren Hendrickson, Bettie Flash, Tom Munk, Carolyn White, Dottie Heninger, Faye Stanley, Ann Kessemeier, Nancy Williamson, Judy Purvis, Pat Mann, Lois Ann Hobbs, Terry Mehlman, Anne Smith, Ken Grogan, Pam Schwingl, Robin Harper, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Marilyn A. Dyer, Ruth Zalph, Miriam Thompson.

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

September 20, 2009

Query

The meeting opened with worship on the query: "Are our meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance? What is the quality of our vocal ministry?"

Welcome

The clerk welcomed Jason Fourman as a first-time attender to business meeting.

Approval

The meeting approved the minutes for the August 16, 2009, Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, as printed in the newsletter.

Ministry & Worship

Jan Hutton, clerk of Ministry & Worship, reported that a clearness committee consisting of Pat Mann, Carolyn White, Asta Crowe, David Brower and Jan met with Jason Fourman to consider membership. Jan read a brief introduction to Jason (attached). Ministry & Worship is pleased to recommend his request for membership. The meeting approved Jason's request for membership. Carolyn White has offered to have a welcoming party at her home at a time to be announced later.

Membership Request for Mike Jokinen

Michael Jokinen's letter requesting membership (attached) was read to the meeting and referred to Ministry & Worship for the setting up of a clearness committee.

Peace & Social Concerns Committee Request

Hank Elkins, for Peace & Social Concerns, requested that the meeting add its name to the advertisement in the News & Observer calling for the NC congressional representatives to set an exit strategy for the war in Afghanistan. This advertisement is sponsored by Elders for Peace and will be in the newspaper on October 7, the anniversary of the incursion into Afghanistan. Peace and Social Concerns has donated \$50 from its budget for this effort.

Friends approved having the name of CHFM added to the letter.

Finance Committee Recommendation

Terry Mehlman, for finance committee, presented two recommendations.

I. Increase the 2009-2010 budget by \$1370 to cover the increased

benevolence to CFS. This would create a budget of \$69,370. Friends approved this increase.

2. Change the way discretionary funds are handled, combining the current Social Action Discretionary Fund and the Environment Concerns Fund and making one discretionary fund that is available to all committees.

After some discussion, friends approved the following minute:

The meeting will establish one discretionary fund as a line item in the annual budget. For the current year, the line item will be set at \$2,550. The procedure for requesting funds will be that a committee season the request and bring it to monthly meeting (as P&SC and ECC do now). If clear unity exists, the matter would be approved by Meeting for Business. However, as needed, the presiding clerk could recommend that a small committee of Friends further season the request and bring it back to Meeting for Business at a later time. Finance committee will work with members of P&SC to develop a worksheet that will make it easier for other committees to prepare a request for discretionary fund.

Terry confirmed that this discretionary fund would not increase the current year budget above the \$69,370 already approved, but that the amount can vary from year to year. Funds can be requested and, if approved, spent out during the fiscal year.

Treasurer's Report

Terry gave an update on August income (\$3,647.00) and expenses (\$2,414.80) and noted that Finance Committee plans to give the final fiscal year 2008 report to the Meeting next month.

Friends were reminded that although income exceeded expenses in August, we have not yet paid out any benevolences. The finance committee is planning to pay 50% of benevolences in February, when we have a good idea of what is coming in, and the remaining 50% at the end of the year.

Peace & Social Concerns

Peace & Social Concerns is involved in creating an ongoing conversation with Senator Hagan around health care issues. The meeting approved the following statement (already sent to Senator Hagan and other elected officials by the committee):

Our Quaker testimonies of equality, community, and simplicity tell us that health care is a human right. We ask our representatives in Washington to ensure that all of us receive the health care we need just as the citizens of other wealthy nations do. We particularly endorse Medicare for All or, at minimum, a robust public option.

Announcements

1. Buildings and Grounds reports that the meetinghouse now has wireless Internet connection, with no password needed.
2. Upcoming Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF) workshop: Winston Salem Friends will host the November 7 fall workshop. The morning program will be on Quaker Quest, led by representatives from Friends General Conference (FGC).
3. Friends wishing to join in small group discussions are invited to sign up on the sheets posted in the library. This effort follows upon the very successful forum in September.
4. The IFC is asking for donations of oatmeal for the next month.

The meeting ended with worship.

In Attendance

Tom Munk, Jeff Brown, Jason Foureman, Ken Grogan, Bettie L. Flash, Larry Tabor, Terry Mehlman, Dottie Heninger, Anne Smith, Ruth Zalph, Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Alice Carlton, David Curtin, Deborah Gibbs, Buffie Weber, Marsha Green (recording clerk), Jennifer Leeman (clerk)

Bio of Jason Foureman

Jason Foureman is a native of Durham, NC, being born there in 1976. As a child, he moved around quite a bit and lived in Oregon, Maine, and Washington, DC, before moving back to Durham. As a teenager, Jason attended Jordan High School where he met his future wife, Megan. After high school the two were married and attended UNC-G together completing their degrees in 2000. Soon after their first daughter Nora was born.

After living in Greensboro for a time, they went to Louisville, Kentucky, where Jason pursued his Masters degree and was a teaching

assistant at U of L, finishing in 2006. Jason started attending Quaker meetings while living in Kentucky, and found it to be what he was looking for in a spiritual sense. While in Kentucky, their second daughter Matilda was born.

They moved back to Greensboro for a while and Jason taught and attended meeting at Guilford College. They then moved to the Triangle last year for his wife to attend graduate school. Currently Jason is a working musician, playing regularly with the NC Jazz Repertoire Orchestra, Melva Houston, and Joe Robinson, as well as with a whole host of other musicians throughout the south while teaching private lessons and jazz courses at UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State.

Letter from Mike Jokinen

Dear Jennifer,

I would like to request consideration for membership in the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting, Religious Society of Friends. I have given this matter serious thought for a considerable amount of time and feel I am ready to be considered for membership.

I was introduced to Quakerism by my wife, Ruth Hamilton. She and I were married in the manner of Friends at the Durham Monthly Meeting where Ruth had been a member since 1973. Ruth and I began attending the Chapel Hill Meeting nearly five and a half years ago and Ruth has since transferred her membership to this Meeting. I have served two years as Meeting Treasurer and am presently a member of the Finance Committee. I assisted Ruth in the formation of the Environmental Concerns Committee and once I complete my term with the Finance Committee I would like to join the Environmental Committee. Ruth and I are members of Quaker Earthcare Witness and she and I have served as representatives from Piedmont Friends Fellowship to Quaker Earthcare Witness.

I have found the manner of worship and beliefs of Friends to resonate strongly with me. Since beginning to attend the Meeting I feel I have been encouraged to grow spiritually and have done much contemplation and personal reflection. I have become greatly interested in the writings of Friends from all periods of Quaker history and read them on an almost daily basis. My quest for spiritual growth has also led me to read the Bible from beginning to end which I have found to be an enlightening experience, and I

know I would not have done this if I had not been encouraged by the spiritual atmosphere of the Meeting.

In contemplating membership I have asked the question, what is the advantage of becoming a member when one can attend the Meeting and obtain most of the same benefit? Ruth answered this for me. It's a matter of commitment. Becoming a member is a tangible sign that one is making a real commitment to the Meeting, to the Religious Society of Friends, and most importantly, to living one's life in keeping with Friends' beliefs under the guidance of the Divine Spirit. I feel I am ready to make that commitment.

With sincerest thanks,
Micheal P. Jokinen

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
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: Jennifer Leeman (929.9135)
Resident: John Hite (929.5377)

This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. The deadline for submissions is evening, last Sunday of the month.

Please email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org, or call James and Robin Harper at 768.9870.

To send Meeting News and In The Light announcements via email, or to get your name on our listserv, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org.

This and past issues of the newsletter are available online at www.chapelhillfriends.org.

To get items posted on our website, send the information to news@chapelhillfriends.org.

Monthly Query:

“Are our meetings for worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance? What is the quality of our vocal ministry?”

Calendar: (All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

Sun. 10/4	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum - “NC’s Energy Future”
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC (Oatmeal) - Schoolhouse
		Welcoming for Jason Foureman & Family
		Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
	1-2:30pm	“Exploring Quakerism” - Lloyd Kramer
Tue. 10/6	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Wed. 10/7	10am	Quaker Women’s Gathering - Bettie Flash’s Home
Fri. 10/9	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 10/11	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum - Personal Sharing - Linda DiLorenzo
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
Tue. 10/13	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 10/16	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 10/18	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:30am	Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
Tue. 10/20	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Wed. 10/21	10am	Quaker Women’s Gathering - Bettie Flash’s Home
Fri. 10/23	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sat. 10/24	9:30am-5:30pm	Compassionate Listening Training - Jan Hutton
Sun. 10/25	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum - “What’s Happening at the IFC”
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Fri. 10/30	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 11/1	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum - “What Do You Have Faith In....?”
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck & IFC - Schoolhouse
		Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
Wed. 11/4	10am	Quaker Women’s Gathering - Bettie Flash’s Home
Thu. 11/5	11am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter