

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

December 2009



Monthly Query:

“Is our worship together the source and inspiration of all other activities of our Meeting life?”

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Celebrate Advent

Tuesdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22

7:30pm at Scales' Home

On Tuesday evenings in December, you are invited to anticipate and celebrate the birth of the Christ-child into the world and into our hearts. For an evening of worship sharing, prepared and closed with candlelight, readings from scripture, song, and goodies to share, bring yourself at 7:30 to the home of Allie and Ian Scales at 1300 Blackwood Mountain Road in Chapel Hill. Facilitated by Judy Purvis and Pam Schwingl. For directions, contact Allie at 932-3733 or gingerbred@mindspring.com. It would be helpful, but not required, to know who can come so we can plan refreshments. We look forward to seeing you!

December Forums

9:45am in the Meetinghouse

- Dec. 6** "Aging: Spiritual and practical perspectives on the challenges and opportunities of the Later Stages of Life," a sharing of personal perspectives and experiences
- Dec. 13** "Who on earth was Jesus: new perspectives on an old question"
- Dec. 27** "Music and the celebration of life," musicians within the meeting will be invited to share musical pieces that are meaningful or significant to them
- Jan. 3** "Poetry that speaks to Quakers"

Friends School Fall Open Houses

Sunday, December 6

2:00-4:00pm

The last of the Friends School Open Houses will be held this Sunday. Friends are welcome to attend the Open Houses offered by Carolina Friends School this Fall. Families are welcome to meet teachers and students, learn about curriculum, and explore the campus. If you have school-aged children, know school-aged children, or would like to explore ways in which you might connect with CFS, we'd love to meet you.

Main Campus Open House (for families of students 3 to 18) will be on Sunday, December 6, from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Drop in any time. An Upper School panel begins at 2:30. Please sign in at the gym.

For information visit www.cfsnc.org or call Kathy Kirschmann or Kathleen Davidson at 919.383.6602 x221 or 240.

Our Mission: Carolina Friends School is a vibrant and inclusive learning community empowering students to think critically, creatively, and independently. We foster active exploration and quiet reflection, individual endeavor and collaborative engagement. Inspired by Quaker values — pursuit of truth, respect for all, peaceful resolution of conflict, simplicity, the call to service — we teach our children that it is possible to change the world.

Miscellany Giveaway

Sunday, December 6

On Sunday, December 6, there will be a “give away” of items found in the Library and in the First Day School closet that are not needed in either place. Among them are extra crayons, games, notebooks, containers, miscellaneous office supplies, etc. These will be placed on a table in the library between the early and late meetings. Anything not claimed will be taken to the thrift shop.

Holiday Party

Sunday, December 13

4:30-6:30pm in the Schoolhouse

The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting’s annual Christmas Party will feature children’s performances, a “giving tree,” potluck finger food, song, and good cheer. Please join your Friends in celebration from 4:30 to 6:30pm in the Schoolhouse!

Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24

5:30pm in the Meetinghouse

The Christmas Eve Service will take place on December 24 at 5:30pm. As we did last year, we will begin with silent worship with one candle on the table in

the center and lights off. As it becomes slowly darker outside, and as the spirit moves us, each of us will light our candle from the central candle and add our lighted candle to the table in silence and/or give whatever message we may feel led to share, slowly bringing light to the darkness. After about 45 minutes, we will close with singing “Silent Night” and other carols as the spirit moves us. Children are welcome to worship with us. Bring a candle with a holder, Extra candles will be provided for those who forget to bring their own.

Oceans of Spaghetti for IFC

Sunday, January 3

The IFC donation for the first Sunday in January is Spaghetti—both sauce and noodles, please! Last time we met this specific request with seas of sauce. Can we do oceans full this time?

Please bring your donation before the first Sunday in January (Jan. 3). Donations in the form of checks are also most welcome by the IFC community.

Hollister Is Coming

Saturday, January 9

10:00am-5:00pm in the Schoolhouse

Where on Earth are we going? And what can we do about it? These are two of the questions at the heart of the Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream Symposium. The Symposium originated in response to an indigenous tribe in Ecuador who made a call to the people of the North to become more aware of their interactions with the Earth. Through the Pachamama Alliance their voice is being heard globally. The Symposium is a profound inquiry into a bold vision: to bring forth an environmentally sustainable, spiritually fulfilling, and socially just human presence on Earth. Come, listen to their call and be a part of this important movement. Explore what this vision means for you, and partake in this opportunity to create an inspiring future. The Environmental Concerns Committee invites you to join Hollister Knowlton, former clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness, at the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting school house on January 9th from 10:00am - 5:00pm.

Bring a sack lunch, and contact tommunk@westat.com for child care. \$20.00

is the recommended donation to support the cost of the workshop and Hollister's travel and ministry. Please donate what you can; all additional proceeds will go to the Pachamama Alliance. Space is limited, so please let us know that you plan to attend. We will hold spots for people in the Meeting until December 20th and then will open to the wider community. To pre-register please contact jacksem@earlham.edu and for additional information: www.awakeningthedreamer.org.

Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns Midwinter Gathering

Friday, February 12, to Monday, February 15

All Friends are warmly invited to the 2010 Midwinter Gathering of Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns at the Graymoor Spiritual Life Center in the Hudson Valley of New York State. Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns is a North American Quaker faith community that affirms that of God in all people. Gathering twice yearly for worship and play, we draw sustenance from each other and from the Spirit for our work and life in the world. We are learning that radical inclusion and radical love bring further light to Quaker testimony and life.

This year's theme will be "Stitching our quilts - Waving our banners." Join us!

We intend our theme of "Stitching our quilts, Waving our banners" to be an opportunity for us to explore the diverse ways we build relationships and communities, how we build and claim pride in that diversity, and how we build mutual support and accountability with our wider communities. We will have a keynote speaker and a panel to speak about the variety of our relationships and how our Meetings support us in that diversity. There will also be a threshing session and time in our Meetings for Worship for Business to consider how to bring to life the FLGBTQC Midwinter Gathering 2009 epistle, which speaks of "bringing Quakers together to help us all understand what is meant by 'that which God joins together'."

The weekend will also include the opportunity to participate in small-group

worship sharing each morning, workshops and interest groups, evening social activities, free time to relax and explore the beautiful grounds, and all-community worship each day.

Details on childcare, financial aid, transportation, our program, and the site are available online at <http://sites.google.com/site/midwinter2010> or by contacting us at nymidwinter@gmail.com, 410-236-3372. Registration materials are also available at that website. Register early to ensure on-site housing!

News about News: Listserv and Newsletter Updates

Many Friends receive announcements and "In The Light" prayer requests as members of the CHFM listserv. The announcements go out twice each week early on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings, and "In The Light" goes out as needed. If you have information you would like distributed via the listserv, send it to news@chapelhillfriends.org. With the above schedule in mind, we would like to receive your requests by 4:00pm on Monday or Wednesday. Also, if you'd like to have your email address added to the listserv, just send that request to us, as well! Get the Meeting scoop!

Publications and Records, at the suggestion and with the help of the Environmental Concerns Committee, is trying to "go green." Investigation into going to 100% recycled paper for the newsletter is currently underway. To further green our efforts, we are also looking at reducing the total number of newsletters printed, and encouraging Friends to access the newsletter on the Meeting's website. We would not, of course, completely discontinue the printed version. It is important to keep printed versions available for visitors, the paper archive, and for those Friends who cannot or prefer not to read the newsletter online. We would like to ask Friends to consider this proposal prayerfully and help us determine the proper quantity to have available. We currently print 95 copies each month, and end up recycling about 5-10. We will need your help in arriving at the "right" number to print. This issue will be brought back to a future business meeting for a decision.

Greensboro Meeting Seeks Music Director

The New Garden Friends Meeting in Greensboro was seeking a Music Director; the deadline was Nov. 30 or “until the position is filled.” Responsibilities include directing the adult choir, creating a music program for the children, and working with the organist to plan music for worship. To see if the position is still available, contact the meeting at 336-292-5487 or newgardoff@aol.com.

“Marnie’s Cabin” Available

Chris and Sharon Ringwalt would like to remind Friends that their house at Lake Hyco (which Marnie and her husband built, and Marnie sold to them) is available for use by members and attenders of Meeting. Lake Hyco is located approximately one hour north of Chapel Hill. The house, which overlooks the lake, has two bedrooms, a living/ dining/ kitchen area, a loft, one bathroom, and a deck. One bedroom has two twin beds; the other has a king-sized bed. There is a double-sized futon in the loft, as well as room for several sleeping bags. In lieu of rent, the Ringwalts request that those who use the house make a contribution to either the Friends Meeting or to Carolina Friends School.

A canoe and small fishing boat (which is not currently licensed; one day licenses are available from the nearby camp ground) are available for use. The house does not have a land-line telephone, but most cell phones now work there. If you are interested in using the house, please contact Sharon Ringwalt by e-mail (sharon.ringwalt@unc.edu).

Exciting New CHFM Library Updates

The Library Committee is following a leading to refresh the library and her procedures. In the spirit of the simplicity-striving and thrifty Quaker, and with your help, we hope to tighten the borrowing process, recall long overdue books, and better retain our current inventory, purchased mostly with Meeting’s precious funds.

To help the library committee, always go through the check-out process; take no books straight home from the shelves. Also please don’t take books from the

white “returns” box, which contains books waiting to be processed.

Many books leave the library forever. Please check your shelves at home. To avoid wasting library funds and to encourage returning books for others to use, we will try a new system of gentle monthly check-ins with long-term borrowers.

Pamphlets have been re-situated to make them more available. Borrow and return these without the need to check out. Lastly, please keep extraneous items from coming to roost in the library. Thank you!

What I Did On My Summer Vacation ~ The Quaker Tapestry

From Allie Scales

www.quaker-tapestry.co.uk/

This summer I took part in a series of workshops in embroidery given by Bridget Guest, the manager of the Quaker Tapestry on display in the Kendal Meeting-house, in Cumbria, in England. The 77 panels of the Tapestry, made on the lines of the Bayeux Tapestry, began life in the 1980s as a First Day School project. Led by Anne Wynn-Wilson, this blossomed into an intentional worldwide community mission to create a “visual chronicle” of Quaker history, and drew on sewing experts and novices from Meetings in many countries. The original project is complete, but everywhere groups are employing the original methods and intention to create community, by telling histories through stitching. I met one such group, of Quakers, who intend to create a panel for their own Meeting and then expand into their wider community. I also met a group of church women, not Quakers, who are working on an unlimited series of panels to celebrate their historic town. Accomplished and often beautiful as the original panels are, they were not for the most part made by experts. The intention was to bring the whole community in on the project, from choosing subjects for the panel, to making designs and drawings, to allowing any and all to contribute to the stitching. It is helpful to have a core of good needleworkers, but anyone can take part. A small number of easily learned stitches, plus the specially created Quaker Stitch, are used to create a huge variety of artistic and textural effects.

My wish is that CHFMs might be led to discuss creating a panel of our own, telling the story of the Meeting then and now, with reference to the wider com-

munity during its history. The larger intention is to make the work a project that would include any and all in Meeting, from elders who can supply historical information, to children's meeting putting in a few wobbly stitches. It would be a project of several years (and some bucks), but if anyone thinks they might like to know more or begin work with me on the idea, I would be grateful.

In the meantime, since I am sadly aware that the Tapestry is not easily accessible for those on this side of the pond, I am going to approach Guilford College to persuade them they would love to help stage a traveling exhibition of some of the panels. Bridget would love to come and do workshops too – she hasn't seen this part of the world! Plan (and work) for a miracle! Thank you.

On Speaking out of the Silence:Vocal Ministry in the Unprogrammed Meeting for Worship

Douglas V. Steere, Pendle Hill Pamphlet 182

Review by Alice Carlton

Active in the Religious Society of Friends since his conviction in 1932, Douglas Steere has written and spoken in many Friends gatherings til his death at 93 in 1995. In this pamphlet published in 1972, he reflects on several questions about vocal ministry that I found helpful. First he asks "why do we come here for our period of waiting expectant worship?" Because we know there is something else there, perhaps hidden by the distractions of our often too busy lives. Because we long to pull the scattered pieces of ourselves back to center and find solid ground on which to stand. Because we are seeking guidance for the challenges of daily life. He reminds us that we do not come alone to sit in silence. We join together with others in their own seeking.

In that joining we may create what we call the gathered meeting. He advises us to sit in awareness of our companions in this silent waiting, to come with open minds and hearts, neither decided not to speak nor to speak but to listen deeply for divine guidance. He reminds us that "learning to move in the exercise of the meeting so that one is part of it, yet taken beyond it and brought to see some new light as a result of it, is most important in creative ministry." He suggests we set aside the critical mind and adopt the willingness to be taken

deeper by each message, to listen beneath the words. When we have a message we might share, first sit with it til it is shaken down to its essence. It may need further testing by our own behavior over time or it may come ready to be shared. Not every message is meant to speak to everyone. For a meeting to provide fertile ground for ministry to arise, we must nurture a climate of warmth and deep acceptance of each other. It is in the heart of a gathered meeting where the “authentic tendering” of effective ministry occurs. Steere provides much food for thought in this pamphlet. You can find it in our meeting library. It bears reading and rereading.

Piedmont Friends Fellowship Seeks Input

From Wendy Michener, clerk

(These are the questions that will be considered at the Dec. 3 Appointed Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business—Ed.)

Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF) had its genesis in 1968 in response to a felt need within NC Friends Meetings for support and fellowship around issues of social justice. Following a few years of fruitful annual gatherings Friends felt led to formalize the organization in 1971. Since then and over the years PFF has continued to offer annual family retreats, workshops, and youth activity from time-to-time. In 1975 PFF affiliated with Friends General Conference and it regularly appoints Friends to represent PFF in FGC work. This affiliation remains an important and beneficial function of PFF today. For additional history and a listing of PFF affiliated meeting and worships groups refer to the PFF website <http://www.rtpnet.org/friends/PFF.htm>.

Since its inception, and still today, PFF considers itself as a Fellowship of Friends Meetings and Worship groups that seeks to provide fellowship, support and spiritual nurture for Friends from unprogrammed, programmed, liberal and conservative traditions.

From time to time the question has been raised and considered as to whether PFF would benefit by becoming a yearly meeting. The question of becoming a Yearly Meeting has most recently come up again in relationship to inquiries from North Carolina Meetings and Worship groups considering affiliation with PFF and, explorations by PFF meetings around affiliation with a Yearly Meeting that

has FGC affiliation.

In light of these inquiries and explorations PFF representative body feels that it is rightly ordered to again ask the question of whether PFF should become a yearly meeting affiliated with Friends General Conference. In order to facilitate this discussion we are asking each monthly meeting and worship group that is affiliated with PFF to carefully and prayerfully consider and respond by February 1, 2010 to the questions on the attached page. Friends appointed by your Meeting/worship group to PFF representative body are available to support your discussion and consideration of these questions.

On behalf of the PFF Representative Body

Wendy Michener, clerk

Copy of letter for: 1) Monthly Meeting Clerk; 2) Ministry & Counsel/Worship Clerk

Attachment: Questions for Monthly Meeting/worship group
cc. PFF Representatives

Respond to questions on the matter of whether PFF should become a Yearly meeting affiliated with Friends General Conference:

- (1) Is your meeting interested in PFF considering the question of becoming a Yearly meeting?
- (2) How important is this question to your meeting?
- (3) How do you see Yearly meeting affiliation strengthening your meeting?
- (4) If PFF were to become a yearly meeting, how do you see that affecting your meeting?
- (5) What concerns does your meeting have about PFF becoming a yearly meeting?
- (6) Are there further concerns or issues that your meeting would like to bring forward to this discussion?

Response to questions provided by:

Meeting/Worship Group: _____

Person submitting the response: _____

Position in the Meeting: _____

Contact information: Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please send your responses by February 1, 2010, to: David Bailey at 1712 Lakemont Drive, Greensboro, NC 27410; or electronically to

dlloydbai@gmail.com. Send requests for an electronic version of the questions to David Bailey.

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Eleventh Month 15, 2009
Jennifer Leeman, Clerk, and Judy Purvis, Recording Clerk pro tem

We opened in worship and Clerk Jennifer Leeman read the following query: “Is our worship together the source and inspiration of all other activities of our Meeting life?”

Welcome

Jennifer welcomed Friends and noted that Mary Bastin is attending our Meeting for Business for first time. Jennifer reviewed the agenda.

Approval

Friends approved the minutes for the Tenth Month meeting for worship with attention to business as published in the newsletter.

Buildings and Grounds

Don Hopper presented highlights of the annual report of the Buildings and Grounds committee (report attached). Friends accepted the report with gratitude to the committee for its careful supervision and care of our physical facilities.

Request for Membership

Jennifer read a letter from Wren Hendrickson asking for a clearness committee for membership (letter attached). The request will be forwarded to the Ministry and Worship committee for action.

Care and Counsel

Lynn Drake, clerk of Care and Counsel, presented a request to change the name of the “Overseers Fund” to the “Care and Counsel Fund.” Friends approved.

Naming Committee

Emilie Condon, on behalf of a committee of Emilie, Hank Elkins, and Jennifer, brought forward the names of Leslie Rountree and Buffie Webber to join the Nominations Committee (report attached). Friends approved their joining the committee.

Conversations with Senator Hagan

Tom Munk reported on continuing efforts to converse with Senator Kay Hagan about health care issues. His report is attached. He reviewed the activities to date: although he and other Friends have not been able to meet face to face with Senator Hagan, they do have a conference call scheduled with her aide in charge of health issues. Friends are encouraged to add their individual voices to this effort. Tom will keep the Meeting informed about progress. Friends expressed their appreciation for the hard work that has resulted in this conference call.

Publications and Records

James Harper, clerk of Publications and Records, reported that the committee is exploring printing the newsletter on 100% recycled paper. This is expected to increase the cost of printing. The committee will also be monitoring how many newsletters are left over each month and increasing Friends' awareness that the newsletter is available on our website. They hope to gradually reduce the number of printed copies, while ensuring that copies are available for visitors, the archives, and those who do not have access to the internet.

Shotts and Leadership Development Funds

Asta Crowe, on behalf of Mike Green, the clerk of the committee, reported on recent use of money from the Shotts and Leadership Development funds. The report is attached. She encouraged Friends to consider using the funds and to make others aware of the funds to support their activities. Friends suggested sending out reminders through our listserve and encouraged the committee to follow up with recipients, asking them to report back to the Meeting about their experiences. One Friend brought forward the idea of using some of our money, not just from these funds, for carbon offset of Friends' travel; we referred this back to the Environment Concerns

Committee; Friends expressed considerable interest in this possibility. Friends accepted the report with great appreciation for the committee's work.

Treasurer's Report for End of Fiscal Year 2008–2009 and for October, 2009

Judy Purvis presented both reports and responded to questions. The reports are attached. The Finance committee and the Treasurer are working on improving data collection to further improve the end of year report for this fiscal year. The reports were accepted with thanks.

Adult Religious Education

Dan Darnell, clerk of the committee, brought a request to purchase a digital audio recorder to record forums, for about \$100, plus cable and other equipment (\$50) to transfer the present audio tapes to digital files. Such a recorder would make our forums more accessible and archivable. The committee is also requesting that we purchase a projector, costing perhaps \$700. Friends also suggested considering the purchase of a small microphone and sound projection system to help Friends who cannot speak loudly. ARE expects to use a significant part of their budget for other purposes, and so is requesting that most or all of this equipment be supported by the Discretionary Fund.

Friends approved granting up to \$1000 from the Discretionary Fund to purchase this equipment, including the portable microphone.

Announcements:

* Curt Torell informed Friends that copies of a brochure, Islam at a Glance, are available on the table in the foyer and that Quaker House has just published a short book of about 50 pages entitled, Patience & Determination: Tools for Ending Torture & Seeking Accountability. It is now available in the Meeting library. His full report is attached.

* The Environmental Concerns Committee announced that Hollister Knowlton will be coming on January 10th and 11th for a weekend workshop; she is a former clerk of Quaker Earthcare Witness.

* At our evening Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on Twelfth

Month 3rd day, we will be considering queries sent to us from Piedmont Friends Fellowship as to whether PFF should become a yearly meeting. *(These queries appear elsewhere in this newsletter—Ed.)*

* Marilyn Dyer would like someone to ride with her to visit a conscientious objector imprisoned at Camp Lejeune.

* Our Thanksgiving day celebration will begin with worship at noon, followed by a potluck. The sign-up sheet is on the door to the Meetinghouse.

* Lloyd Kramer announced that the next session of Quakerism 101 would meet that day after lunch.

We closed in worship.

Attending

Jennifer Leeman, Judy Purvis, Wren Hendrickson, Catherine Elkins, Don Hopper, Perry Martin, Dirk Spruyt, Jan Hutton, Mary Bastin, Bettie L. Flash, Dottie Heninger, Lloyd Kramer, Pat Mann, Pam Schwingl, Asta Crowe, Buffie Webber, Emilie Condon, Ken Grogan, Max Drake, Robin Harper, James Harper, Dan Darnell, Jeff Brown, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Ann Miller, Terry Mehlman, Marilyn A. Dyer, Anne Smith, Nancy Elkins, Hank Elkins, Tom Munk, Ed Brown, Curt Torell

Annual Report of Building And Grounds Committee Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of The Religious Society Of Friends 6 November 2009

* Committee Members for 2009-10: Don Hopper(Clerk), Faye Stanley, David Schneider, Tom Smith, Robert Rogers, John Hite (ex officio, Resident), Margie Brache, Peter DeLeeuw, Daniel Hilgenberg, Bill Cleaver

* Retired from Committee: Matt Drake, Max Drake, Chip GrawOzburn

* Monthly Meeting: Usually meets the 2nd Sunday of the Month in the Early School at 8am

* Responsibilities: Monitor the condition of the meeting house and the grounds and see to the maintenance and repair of same. Arrange work mornings for Friends to share in the maintenance of the building and the landscape. Oversee the Resident's activities, screen applicants and make recommendations for the Resident's position when necessary. Oversee the

use of the meetinghouse and the schoolhouse by meeting groups and external groups, charging rent when appropriate.

* Highlights of 2008-2009:

Since reporting to the Meeting last year the committee has maintained the Meeting house and grounds in an acceptable fashion. The sashes in the Meeting room were replaced with new energy efficient sash replacement kits. The exterior was factory painted and the interior sashes were painted by meeting volunteers on a work morning and other days. There was some rot repaired on the window sills on the East and West walls.

John Hite continues to serve in good standing as our Resident. We are grateful for John's work for the Meeting in general and specifically for his work with the teen group and Buildings and Grounds.

We contracted with Bartlett Tree experts to remove weak branches in the large oak trees out front. They also removed a dead tree in the parking lot and trimmed some others. .

A "whole house" surge protector was installed to protect electrical equipment in the building. Several work mornings were held where some repairs were undertaken and much landscape work completed.

Most of the benevolence money which was dedicated to energy efficiency has been spent, but the fireplaces still need to be closed and insulated and the library windows need to be inspected and recaulked if necessary.

The Early School Building was completely painted inside and out. There was also some rotten trim replaced in the process. This was paid for by CHFS at a cost of \$12,000. The lines in the Parking lot were repainted by CHFS and an additional handicap space included.

The committee stayed within the budget. We continue to try to be a wise yet frugal caretaker of the Building and Grounds. The long term goal of refitting the Meeting Room will have to wait until we build up our reserve fund. At that time we can make the room more energy efficient.

The bills are paid, the lights are on, the heat and AC work fine and the roof does not leak.

Submitted by Don Hopper for the Building and Grounds
Committee.

Letter from Wren Hendrickson

Hi Jennifer,

I have decided that I want to apply for membership of the Meeting. Jan Hutton said that I need to send you a brief statement about this so here it is:

I have been attending Meeting since 1996. I have been a member of the Youth Religious Education Committee since it started, about 12 years ago. I am currently serving as clerk of YRE. I was a member of the original PFF youth programming committee, when it first started, but left that committee because I had become involved with Southern Appalachian Young Friends, and decided to put my energy into that program instead. I have been a member of the SAYF Steering committee since then, about 11 years. I have been actively involved with the youth of our meeting (and SAYF) since that time. For the last two years, I have attended Meeting for Business whenever I am in town during it, and have occasionally contributed my thoughts. I am bonded with this Meeting as a whole, and with many individuals within it.

The reason I have now come to feel that I want to become a member of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, is because I want to be able to participate more fully in the important work of the Meeting, such as Ministry and Worship. I care about the Meeting, and I love Quaker process, and want to be able to learn more and share my understanding, on a deeper level.

Thanks for considering my request.

Wren Hendrickson

Naming Committee Report

Hank Elkins and I responded to Meeting Clerk Jennifer Leeman's call for volunteers to assist her in responding to the request by Jeff Brown, convener of Nominations Committee, to the need for two additional members for that committee. We hoped that the two new members would have served as conveners of committees, for we felt that experience would be invaluable in serving on Nominations. To that end, we bring to Meeting for Business the names of previous committee conveners Leslie Rountree and Buffie Webber, who have both agreed to serve on the Nominations committee.

Health Care Concerns

The Peace and Social Concerns Committee, together with many other concerned Meeting members and attenders, and with the support of the Meeting for Business, is continuing to pursue a conversation with Senator Hagan about Health Care Policy. Senator Hagan is, of course, one of the swing members of the Senate in relation to the health care reform discussion.

The text of the most recent letter to Sue and Michelle is below. At the bottom of the letter is a set of phone numbers for Congress. Please add your personal voices to our corporate voice.

“A nation that continues year after year to spend more money on military defense than on programs of social uplift is approaching spiritual death.” Martin Luther King, Jr. 1967

“Of all forms of inequality, injustice in health (care) is the most shocking and the most inhumane.” Martin Luther King, Jr. 1966

Dear Sue,

We write to thank Senator Hagan for her efforts in support of health care reform and to continue our conversation with her. We would like to pursue two paths, based on your suggestions. First, we would like to continue the productive conversation that we have shared with you, adding Michelle Adams as a participant. Second, if speaking with her in North Carolina is unlikely, we ask if you could arrange a conference call with her. Our responses to your emails follow.

Universal health care. You have said that the Senator “does not believe universal health care is the solution for the U.S.” As you know, we believe that health care is a human right. Furthermore, it is well established that enlarging the pool of the insured can bring costs down. Can you please elaborate on the Senator’s position?

Budget neutrality. We agree with the importance of wisely investing our national resources. We also know that budget neutrality is waived for matters deemed to be of pressing national importance. Because lack of health insurance kills 45,000 Americans each year, we believe health care is such an issue. Is the Senator willing to apply the budget neutrality standard to our occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan? If not, why are these military operations more important than saving the lives of those of us who remain peacefully at

home?

Robust public option. Although the Senator has supported the public option found in the HELP bill, we are concerned that she also has provided verbal support for triggers, co-op models, and opt-outs, which can only weaken the public option. In addition to expanding coverage, a robust public option, available to all, can decrease costs by increasing both competition and efficiency. As her party's State Executive Committee resolved on August 29, private health insurance systems typically spend approximately 33 percent of their cost on the administration of such plans, in contrast to the dramatically lower costs of 3 percent expended by government administered plans, such as Medicare. Can we count on the Senator as a strong voice for a robust public option?

We look forward to your responses to these questions and to an opportunity to speak with the Senator. We hope to be able to report good news to our regular Meeting for Business on November 15.

From The Peace and Social Concerns Committee of the
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting,
9 November 2009:

Ruth Zalph, Buffie Webber, Miriam Thompson, Dirk Spruyt, Ann Shy, Hart Pillow, Tom Munk, Hank Maiden, Jennifer Leeman, Michael Grathwohl, Deborah Gibbs, Hank Elkins, Kay Eager, Max Drake, Asta Crowe, Francis Coyle, Caleb Cole, Ed Brown

Please consider adding your individual voice to this conversation. Call the Capitol to thank Rep. Price for his vote, to encourage Sen. Burr to allow a vote, and to share your personal thoughts, leadings, and experiences with Sen. Hagan. Toll-free Capitol numbers: 877-851-6437; 800-828-0498; 800-833-6354

(The report on this topic that was missing from the October Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business minutes can be found at the end of these minutes.—Ed.)

Report to Meeting – Sunday, November 15, 2009
Bridging the Faith Divide Subcommittee

As part of the announcements, the following report was read by Curt Torell: “The Bridging the Faith Divide ad hoc subcommittee is deliberating over the

recent events at Camp Hood and subsequent media and politicians' speculation tying Maj. Hasan to wider terrorist endeavors. Given the increased magnitude, complexity, and pressure on American Muslims, working with, and not in isolation of, our Muslim brothers and sisters is increasingly essential. If you have comments about this, please see me after the meeting or email/call me. An expanded report of the committee's activities this past month will appear in the meeting minutes as an attachment."

Attached Report from Bridging the Faith Divide Ad Hoc Subcommittee:

The committee continues making contacts and developing friendships with Muslims at local mosques. In Chapel Hill, the following letter was sent to Hadi Haddad; his reply follows that:

Dear Hadi Haddad and other members of the Chapel Hill Islam Society:

We extend our deep sympathy for the burden the American Muslim community may have to bear because of the terrible events at the Texas military base last week. We deplore the instances of backlash that have already occurred. We recognize that other such murderous rampages do not identify the religion of the shooter, nor do people lash out at e.g., the "Christian" community. We will do what we can to oppose such reactions.

We wish you peace and look forward to future contact with your group.

Nancy Milio and Curt Torell

For the Bridging the Faith Divide Committee,
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

Dear Nancy Milio and Curt Torell

On behalf of the Chapel Hill Muslim Community I would like to thank you for your kind concern about our community because of the horrible events at the Texas military base last week. We are deeply saddened for the loss of these lives and the suffering of so many others.

We pray to the Almighty God to give us ALL the strength and the wisdom to cope with these sad events that cause so much agony.

Thank you again and hope that we keep in touch.

May peace be with you ALL.

Hadi Haddad

Zeba Syed Khan, from the same Chapel Hill Muslim Community, has been contacted to speak in our First Day School about her Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca). She has agreed and dates will be confirmed upon her return.

In the next couple of weeks, Nancy and Curt will meet with Imam Amr Saeed Dabour at the Durham Mosque, Jamaat Ibad Ar Rahman. Their Mosque was recently vandalized for the second time.

We are planning a forum in January hopefully with Abdullah Antepi, Chaplain at Duke's newly formed Islamic Student Center to talk about his experiences as a Muslim in America.

Several brochures entitled *Islam at a Glance* are available on the table in foyer. Please Note: Quaker House has just published a short book of about 50 pages entitled, *Patience & Determination: Tools for Ending Torture & Seeking Accountability*. It is now available in the Meeting library.

The next meeting of the committee is Sunday, November 29 at the rise of second meeting. Anyone is invited to attend.

Health Care Reform Update October 18, 2009

(This is the report that did not appear in the October Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business minutes, in November's newsletter.—Ed.)

With the Senate Finance Committee passage of the Baucus bill, health care reform has reached a critical point. Senator Harry Reid and a small committee, including White House representatives and the Senate Finance and Health Committee chairs, will meet behind closed doors to reconcile the two Senate committee bills. We need to let Senator Reid and the White House know through letters and phone calls that we want a strong public option.

Senator Kay Hagan's position is not secure. She needs to continue to hear from us as well.

Here are the addresses and phone numbers.

* Senator Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader. 202-224-3542 and 877-264-4226; 528 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510; <http://reid.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm> Fax: 202-224-7327.

* President Barack Obama. 202-456-1111 and 202-456-1414; The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500; <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact> Fax 202-456-2461

* Senator Kay Hagan. 202-224-6342, 877-852-9462, 919-856-4630, or 336-333-5311; 521 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510; <http://hagan.senate.gov/?p=contact> Fax: 202-228-2563

Please write or phone Senator Reid and President Obama today with the message that we need a strong public option that is inclusive, affordable, cost-effective, and competitive. Call or forward this note to 10 friends and relatives, asking them to do the same. The health care industry is pulling out all the stops to weaken reform and preserve its profits. Only a great groundswell of public activism can ensure the real reform the country needs.

Contact Diane Robertson at dianerobertson9@gmail.com or 919-219-1600 to join the phone bank at Weaver Street Realty on Main Street in Carrboro. And get the word out to the larger community with letters to the editor; see the attached document for addresses.

Remaining steps to a health reform bill

Senate

- * Closed-door reconciliation of bills from the Senate Finance and Health Committees into a single bill.
- * Debate on the Senate bill and several amendments (including single payer and strong public option) that will be offered by progressive Democrats.
- * Cloture vote to shut off debate in the Senate.
- * Vote on the Senate bill.
- * Final debate and vote on the bill from the Conference Committee.

House

- * Closed-door reconciliation of bills from the three House Committees into a single bill.
- * Debate on the House bill and several amendments (including single payer and improvements to the public option) that will be offered by progressive Democrats.
- * Vote on the House bill.
- * Final debate and vote on the bill from the Conference Committee.

Conference Committee

- * Closed-door reconciliation of the House and Senate bills.

President

- * Signing the final bill.

Other Resources

www.fcni.org Friends Committee on National Legislation

http://www.healthcareforamericanow.org for ongoing analysis of bills

http://www.pnhp.org or www.healthcare-now.org for following the single payer amendments to be introduced in the House and Senate after the committee bills are reconciled.

Treasurer's Report for Fiscal YTD through October 31, 2009

Treasurer's Report for Fiscal YTD through October 31, 2009

Income

	10/1/09– 10/31/09	2009-2010 budget	Cumulative total from 7/1/09	Budgeted funds to be raised
Unrestricted Income				
Unrestricted personal	\$4,900.00		\$13,736.00	
Unrestricted building use	\$75.00		\$1,150.00	
Total Unrestricted Income	\$4,975.00	\$69,530.00	\$14,886.00	\$54,644.00
Restricted Income				
Football parking (YRE)*	\$1,510.00		\$2,760.00	
ARE Book Sales			\$460.00	
Total Restricted Income	\$1,510.00		\$3,220.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,485.00		\$18,106.00	

*Total applied to YRE expenses before budget (see Expenses)

Expenses

<i>Committee Expenses</i>	<i>10/1/09 10/31/09</i>	<i>2009-2010 budget</i>	<i>Cumulative total from 7/1/09</i>	<i>Budget Remaining</i>
Adult Religious Education		\$300.00		\$300.00
<i>Q 101 books</i>			\$540.80	<i>(offset by sales)</i>
Buildings & Grounds	\$1,420.13	\$15,300	\$4,910.72	\$10,389.28
<i>Insurance</i>	\$902.00	\$5,550.00	\$2,154.00	\$3,396.00
<i>Utilities</i>	\$453.13	\$5,500.00	\$2,188.25	\$3,311.75
<i>Maintain & Improve Landscaping</i>	\$65.00	\$3,250.00	\$568.47	\$2,681.53
		\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Care & Counsel		\$100.00		\$100.00
Children's Religious Educ.	\$379.91	\$5,100.00	\$542.01	\$4,557.99
Environmental Concerns		\$650.00		\$650.00
Finance		\$300.00	\$8.80	\$291.20
Hospitality		\$450.00		\$450.00
Library		\$400.00	\$192.42	\$207.58
Ministry & Worship	\$76.00	\$1,300.00	\$323.00	\$977.00
Nominations		\$25.00		\$25.00
Peace & Social Concerns	\$121.89	\$300.00	\$209.89	\$90.11
Publications & Records	\$137.37	\$1,800.00	\$288.95	\$1,511.05
Youth Religious Educ *	\$732.13	\$2,000.00	\$1,032.67	\$2000.00
Total Committee Expenses	\$2,867.43	\$28,025.00	\$6,475.79	\$21,549.21
Fund for Quaker Service		\$2,550.00	\$1,111.96	\$1,438.04
Discretionary Fund		\$2,550.00		\$2,550.00
External Benevolences		\$32,770.00		\$32,770.00
Phys. Pl. Repl. Fund		\$1,500.00		\$1,500.00
Leadership Dev. Fund		\$3,000.00		\$3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,867.43			

*Expenses subtracted first from fundraising income: \$2760 - \$1032.67 = \$1727.33 available over Meeting budget

CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING – TREASURER’S REPORT – 2008-2009 BUDGET YEAR

Judy Purvis, Treasurer Meeting for Worship for Business, November 15, 2009

2008-2009 INCOME

Contributions (includes building use)	\$75,736.86
Football parking	\$ 6,150*
TOTAL INCOME	\$81,886.86

2008-2009 EXPENSES

	BUDGETED	SPENT
Buildings & Grounds		
Insurance	\$5,350	\$3,508.82
Utilities	\$5,250	\$5,150.96
Maintain/Improve	\$2,770	\$3,340.74
Landscaping	<u>\$1,000</u>	<u>\$ 882.00</u>
MEETINGHOUSE UPKEEP	\$14,370	\$12,882.52
Children’s Religious Education	\$4,800	\$3,683.80
Youth Religious Education	\$2,500 (+\$6,150*)	\$5,030.59
Adult Religious Education	<u>\$ 300</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	\$7,600	\$8,714.39
Care & Counsel	\$100	\$ 0
Environmental Concerns	\$650	\$159.57
Finance	\$400	\$274.37
Hospitality	\$250	\$391.69
Library	\$400	\$142.05
Ministry & Worship	\$1,750	\$1,387.04
Nominations	\$25	\$ 0
Peace & Social Concerns	\$300	\$69.51
Publications & Records	<u>\$1,800</u>	<u>\$1,607.40</u>
OTHER MEETING COMMITTEES	\$5,675	\$4031.63
Leadership Development Fund	\$3,000	\$3,000
Physical Plant Replacement Fd	\$1,500	\$1,500
MEETING’S FUTURE NEEDS	\$4,500	\$4,500
Environmental Discretionary	\$3,000	\$ 0
Fund for National Quaker Service	\$2,000	\$2,059.62
Meeting for Sufferings Fund	\$ 135	\$ 0
Social Action Discretionary	\$3,000	\$ 0
SPECIAL FUNDS, CURRENT USE	\$8,135	\$2,059.62

Carolina Friends School-\$8,370, Quaker House-\$8,000, American Friends Service Committee-\$1,200, Friends Committee on National Legislation-\$1,500, Piedmont Friends Fellowship-\$550, Friends General Conference-\$700, Friends Journal-\$300, School of the Spirit-\$250, Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer Concerns-\$200, Friends World Committee for Consultation-\$200, Quaker Earthcare Witness-\$1,000, Right Sharing of World Resources-\$300, Bolivian Quaker Education Fund-\$600, and Friends Center at Guilford College-\$150

WIDER QUAKER COMMUNITY \$23,320 \$23,320

Interfaith Council-Chapel Hill-\$7,000, Alamance-Orange County Prison Ministry-\$400, Habitat for Humanity-Orange County-\$100, NC Council of Churches-\$400, \$NC Warn-\$300, People of Faith Against the Death Penalty-\$300, Rural Southern Voices for Peace-\$100 and Planned Parenthood of Central NC-\$100.

LOCAL & REGIONAL ORGS \$8,700 \$8,700

BUDGET TOTAL: \$72,280 EXPENSE TOTAL \$64,208.16

TOTAL INCOME: \$81,886.86 EXPENSE TOTAL \$64,208.16

The income-over-expense amount of \$17,678.70 is held primarily in the Bank of America checking account, with some in the General Fund at Friends Fiduciary Corporation.

Bank of America cash balance July 1, 2008 = \$23,846.

Cash balance July 1, 2009 = \$37,952.52

Our investment funds in the Friends Fiduciary Corporation totaled \$45,591.85 on June 30, 2008. On June 30, 2009 they totaled \$28,841.01 (up from \$25,495.14 at the end of March). The June 30, 2009 amount consists of \$9,167.55 in Bequest funds, \$10,070 in the General Fund, and \$9,563.86 in the Physical Plant Replacement Fund.

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.

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

Sun. 12/6	8:30am 9:45am	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum - "Aging: Spiritual & Practical Perspects." Miscellany Library & FDS Giveaway
	11am 11am 12:30pm	Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods Potluck & IFC (pinto beans) - Schoolhouse Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
	2-4pm	CFS Open House - Main Campus
Tue. 12/8	7:30pm	Celebrate Advent - Scales Home
	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 12/11	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 12/13	8:30am 9:45am	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum - "Who On Earth Was Jesus?"
	11am 11am	Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	4:30-6:30pm	Christmas Party - Schoolhouse
Tue. 12/15	7:30pm	Celebrate Advent - Scales Home
	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Wed. 12/16	10am	Quaker Women's Gathering - Bettie Flash's Home
Fri. 12/18	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 12/20	8:30am 9:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early) Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business
	11am 11am	Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	7:30pm	Celebrate Advent - Scales Home
Tue. 12/22	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
	5:30pm	Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship
Thu. 12/24	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Fri. 12/25	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
Sun. 12/27	9:45am	Forum - "Music and the Celebration of Life"
	11am 11am	Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Fri. 1/1	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot
Sun. 1/3	8:30am 9:45am	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum - "Poetry that Speaks to Quakers"
	11am 11am 12:30pm	Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods Potluck & IFC (spaghetti) - Schoolhouse Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse
	7:30-8:30pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
Tue. 1/5	10am	Quaker Women's Gathering - Bettie Flash's Home
Wed. 1/6	11am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Thu. 1/7		
Fri. 1/8	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot