

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Third Month, 2018

Monthly Query:

~ How do I incorporate into my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth?



Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

~ If you feel moved to speak in meeting for worship, take a moment to test your message. Is it from the Inward Light? Is it meant only for me, or for the entire Meeting?

Contents:

Page 1 - Forum Schedule

Page 2 – Local Anti-Gun Violence Opportunities; Animal Law Symposium; Who are Our Neighbors; Laundromat Library League;

Page 3 –FCNL’s Lobbying Agenda

Pp 3- 4 – PFF/PFYM Annual Weekend Retreat; CFS Board Article; Quaker Burial Ground Cleanup

Pp 4-5 – Quaker House presents *This Evil Thing*; Let M&W Support Your Spiritual Deepening

Pp 5-7 – Minutes of 02/2018 Meeting For Worship With Attention to Business

Page 8 - Report Regarding Meeting Trustees

Pp 8-10 – Children’s and Youth’s Religious Education Committee Annual Report

Page 10 - Proposed Minute from Familial Member Task Force;

Page 10 - Charlotte Monthly Meeting Minute on Global Climate Change

Page 11 – Welcome Transferred Friends; Celebrate Matt’s Birthday;

Page 12 - A Thought to Sit With

Upcoming Forum Schedule - March 2018

3/4 - Cognitive Diversity - A tool for understanding ourselves and others and the world. Led by Dirk Kelder. The term "cognitive diversity" will be introduced in terms of the part we play in creating the reality we live in and how this impacts our lives in many ways, including how we function in the world, and how we relate to and communicate with others. Plans are to include small group discussion.

3/11 - Who Comes First? Trump Priorities and Quaker Responses

Nancy Milio will discuss the priorities of the Trump Administration in both foreign and domestic policy areas and how the Friends Committee on Legislation (FCNL) is responding to them.

3/18 - NO FORUM: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (9am)

3/25 - Let's talk about the Birds & the Bees.... and the Plants!

Barbara Driscoll, from the New Hope Audubon Society, will discuss the importance of using native plants and other key features in our home and local landscapes, to support birds, pollinators and other essential elements of environmental biodiversity and sustainability.

Two Local Opportunities To Get Involved In Anti-gun Violence Efforts In Chapel Hill

Karen Porter shares with Friends:

If you go to this website, you will see

- A Feb. 28 organizing meeting and
- A meeting on March 6 to make “soul boxes” commemorating shooting victims.

Both these events are ways to get involved locally NOW and end gun violence: <https://everytown.org/>

The Everytown site also has events all over the country for your friends and relatives who might want to get involved locally. Everytown is Michael Bloomberg’s national campaign to end gun violence. The time is now.

Animal Law Symposium, Mar 3, 8:30am-1:30pm

An “Animal Law Symposium” will be at Duke Law School on March 3, 8:30am-1:30pm.

Join us for a discussion on the social justice issues surrounding the hog-farming crisis in North Carolina, a legislative update from Humane Society of the U.S., an Animal Legal Defense Fund update, and more. The symposium features speakers from the Humane Society, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and New York University School of Law and the “McLibel” case. Vegan breakfast, coffee and lunch will be provided to attendees. The event is free, but registration is required. Go to events.law.unc.edu or contact Robin Harper (robinwharper@gmail.com) for more information.

Who are Our Neighbors: An Evening to Learn about Undocumented Immigrants in Our State and Sanctuary

Sponsored by Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Peace & Justice Committee and

The American Friends Service Committee

FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2018 - 6:30-8:30PM

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

531 Raleigh Rd. Chapel Hill, NC 27514

*Light meal provided

*Childcare provided

SPEAKERS:

-Ann Marie Dooley, Greensboro immigration attorney (and Quaker)

-Local immigrants sharing stories

-Pastors of Sanctuary churches

-Lori Khamala, AFSC staff

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1941503415860069/>

For more information, contact Naveed Moeed (naveedmoeed@gmail.com) or

Karen Porter (karenporteresq@gmail.com)

Laundromat Library League

Local citizens are fortunate to have many opportunities to share children’s books, and I would like to add another opportunity: the Laundromat Library League, <http://laundromatlibraryleague.org/>.

A friend of mine started this organization in Pennsylvania, and my job has been to expand it into our area (after moving here about 18 months ago). Here’s what we do:

“Our laundromat libraries are in some of the most severely underserved communities in Pennsylvania, as well as in Arkansas, California, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio and Virginia. The Laundromat Library League seeks to encourage children’s literacy at a fundamental level with free books. It is a small but important link in a support network to encourage lifelong learning.

“The LLL places ‘Library Boxes’ in laundromats and occasional other sites. A deliverer monitors these twice a month and, when needed, delivers a bag of replacement books to refresh the box. From time to time a ‘sort and sticker’ session of volunteers is convened to place the LLL sticker on received books, sort them,

and place them into bags for eventual use. Each replacement bag has the full range of books from toddler to teen, fiction and nonfiction.”

I have set up two Laundromat Libraries in Carrboro and plan a third in Chapel Hill. I can always use more books, particularly in Spanish (very popular). I could also use volunteers as to help with this effort locally, which does not take a lot of time. The Laundromat managers tell me the kids are reading and borrowing the books! This is so worth doing.

Let me know if you are interested in volunteering and/or have books to donate. Thanks!

Karen Porter
Karenporteresq@gmail.com

Guide to FCNL's Lobbying Agenda for the next 2 Years

Help by suggesting what FCNL should consider giving primary attention to in lobbying the 116th Congress in 2019-20.

Friends may identify up to 7 priorities, either in writing or electronically, by April 13, 2018.

The Policy Committee will then engage in a process of reviewing all of the responses received and discerning which among them best reflect the chief concerns of the body of Friends participating in this effort.

Additional information and background materials can be obtained from FCNL's website at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FCNLpriorities>

<https://www.fcni.org/updates/setting-legislative-priorities-1169>

Submit input to peaceandjustice@chapelhillfriends.org, co-chairs Naveed Moeed and Tom Munk

PFF/PFYM Annual Weekend Retreat, Mar 30-Apr 1

Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting Annual Retreat will take place March 30 – April 1, 2018 at Carolina Friends School in Durham. The theme of the weekend is Peace and Alternatives to Violence.

This year activities begin Friday afternoon March 30th, featuring presentations by Quaker organizations with updates of recent work and discussions. Friday evening, a potluck dinner will be followed by ice breaking activities led by Raleigh Friends Meeting.

Saturday, March 31 includes an adult program and a combined adult/teen session.

(1) John Shuford and Deborah Bromiley will lead a 90-minute workshop on the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). They will describe AVP and share their experiences establishing AVP in North Carolina, their recent trip to Nepal for the AVP World Gathering, and session attendees will experience some of the exercises.

(2) Quaker House will present a session on Conscientious Objection (for teens, adults and Meetings), led by Curt Torell. This workshop will help Friends be better informed and inspired to think about, nurture, articulate, and document a claim for conscientious objection when our teens, both men and women, turn 18 years old. The workshop will feature handouts for in-depth reference as well as a panel of young adults to react and contribute to this narrative.

Saturday afternoon will continue youth programming with the theme of peacemaking. Afternoon multi-generational activities include group songwriting with special guest Steve Deasy.

Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting sessions will take place in two sessions on Saturday afternoon beginning at 1:30.

Fellowship break-out sessions, and dinner will round out the afternoon. Saturday evening, singer/songwriter Steve Deasy will perform a concert as he has done for Friends General Conference.

Easter Sunday, April 1st includes Worship, youth programming, an egg hunt, and the PFF Annual Meeting.

Information and a link to the registration form is on the PFF/PFYM website:

<https://piedmontfriendsfellowship.org/welcome/retreat-info/pff-spring-retreat-and-pfym-annual-sessions/>

From Matt via Friends on the CFS Board of Trustees

A NY Times article that relates the FL school shooting to Quaker faith and practice at the Costa Rica Friends School:

In the Aftermath, There Really Are No Words: <https://nyti.ms/2BZUqt5>

Quaker Burial Ground Cleanup

John Bell shares with Friends,

A second Eno historic Quaker burial ground clean up has been scheduled on Saturday March 10th at 10:00 am. Volunteers are sought to cut small seedlings, rake and remove debris, and flag headstones and grave depressions.

We ask volunteers be 18 years of age or older, have health insurance, and bring their own hand tools. Pick up trucks are needed.

Please contact John Bell at johnbellnc@gmail.com for exact location and additional information.

Theatrical: *This Evil Thing*, by Michael Mears

Quaker House is hosting this well-reviewed play in collaboration with the Center on Conscience and War. It is on tour from England and portrays the experiences of an English WWI conscientious objector.

Date: March 16, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Sternberger Auditorium, Guilford College, Greensboro, NC

Cost: Free. Donations accepted at the door.

It will be helpful for us to keep track of numbers planning to attend. Your free ticket is available on Eventbrite or please simply contact Quaker House to RSVP by emailing qpr@quaker.org or calling (910-323-3912). We hope to see you there!

Let Ministry and Worship support your Spiritual Deepening

2018 FGC Spiritual Deepening eRetreat Schedule.

March 4 - April 13, 2018: Silence & Light eRetreat (6 weeks)

May 6 - June 1, 2018: Becoming Patterns & Examples eRetreat (4 weeks)

September 9 - November 2, 2018: Silence & Light eRetreat (8 weeks)

October 14 - November 9, 2018: Understanding and Healing White Supremacy eRetreat (4 weeks)

The Ministry and Worship Committee would like to encourage Friends and attenders, with financial grants, who choose to participate in FGC Spiritual Deepening E-retreats. Spiritual Deepening E-retreats connect you with other curious seekers in an online exploration of Quaker thought, a deepening of your own spiritual practices, and the sharing of stories from your life and your personal journeys. Each eRetreat is facilitated

by a deeply grounded Quaker. Please email ministryandworship@chapelhillfriends.org with your request for a grant.

Each week, there will be a new topic with videos, quotations, and activities, and you'll be able to engage at your own time and pace. You'll connect with other participants through private discussion boards and one optional video chat session. Participants are encouraged to explore a personal spiritual practice during the eRetreat.

The suggested fee for participating in an eRetreat varies by the session length and the number of facilitators. Ultimately, it is a "pay as you are led" e-retreat. Please contact M&W for support, if you choose; this financial support is not need-based

4 week session = \$25

4 week session with two facilitators* = \$35

6 week session = \$35

8 week session = \$45

More detail on the FGC Spiritual Deepening eRetreat are at

<https://www.fgcquaker.org/deepen/spiritual-deepening/spiritual-deepening-eretreats>

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
Minutes
February 18, 2018
Matt Drake, Clerk, and Robin Harper, Recording Clerk pro tem

Attending: Lynn Drake, Faye Stanley, Pam Schwingl, Pat Mann, Bob Simmons, Winnie Simmons, Lois Ann Hobbs, Ken Grogan, Alice Carlton, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Karen Porter, Perry Martin, Max Drake, Deborah Gibbs, James Harper, Jeff Brown, Carolyn White, Dave Curtin, Julia Cleaver, John Hite, Richard Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Andrea Wuerth, Herbert Struemper, Joanna Selim, Leslie Rountree, Wendy Michener, Madelyn Ashely, Sean Chen, Lori Khamala, Paul Munk, David Penny, Gwyn Hein, Kurt Hein, Robin Harper, Matt Drake

1. Opening worship and query – Matt Drake, Meeting Clerk

Query: "How do I affirm and support the Divine presence in the process of discernment and reaching a decision?" Friends shared from the silence:

"It's good to be reminded of the divine presence when making a decision. It's also good to give time for that discernment to occur."

"Be open and listen."

2. Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda – Matt

We welcomed first time attenders Bob and Winnie Simmons.

3. Minutes of the January 21, 2018, MWAB – Matt for Jennifer Leeman, Recording Clerk

We approved the January 21, 2018, minutes.

4. Report and recommendations concerning Meeting trustees (see appendix) – Matt Drake

The report created by Matt Drake and Tom Munk, with assistance from Wade Barber, is in the appendix. The recommendations are as follows:

1. The Meeting names three trustees.

2. A trustee must be a member of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

3. Trustees serve staggered terms.

4. If a trustee resigns before the end of her/his term, the MWAB will name another member to complete the term.

5. The Meeting will continue to maintain trustee liability coverage as part of the Meeting's insurance policy.

6. The Meeting clerk and/or committee clerks and/or committee members are expected to alert trustees beforehand about the need for them to read and sign contracts. The trustees should be provided with explanations of the purposes and descriptions of the documents that need to be signed and with time in which to consider the documents before signing.

7. Trustees are encouraged to gain whatever information they need to sign a contract that will serve the Meeting well. The trustees may consult with those involved in the contract and may, on behalf of and with the approval of the Meeting or the clerk of the Meeting, employ an attorney's services if the trustees and the Meeting clerk agree that such assistance is necessary.

8. Signatures of two of the three trustees on any one document are usually sufficient.

9. Nominations Committee will propose to a 2018 MWAB the number of years in a trustee term and the number of consecutive terms a trustee may serve.

10. Nominations Committee will propose to a 2018 MWAB the years of the next terms of the on-going trustees and the name of a Friend to serve as the third trustee, starting in July 2018.

Matt and Wendy Michener of B&G answered questions and provided additional information.

Meeting united in approving the ten recommendations.

Thanks were expressed to Matt and the others who worked on this report and recommendations.

5. Children's and Youth Religious Education Committee annual report: Carolyn Stuart and John Hite, Co-clerks, presented the report (ATTACHED)

Friends spoke to the strength of the friendships formed among the children, over and beyond the First Day School curriculum, and expressed appreciation for the teachers.

The report was accepted with gratitude.

6. Robert and Winifred Simmons Transfer of Membership – Matt Drake

Bob and Winnie have attended our Meeting since their move to the area. At the end of January Matt received the Honolulu Friends Meeting's Certificates of Transfer for Bob and Winnie to our "Friendly care and love."

We accepted the transfer of membership of Robert and Winifred Simmons with joy.

7. Gwyn and Kurt Hein Transfer of Membership – Matt Drake

Gwyn Hein and Kurt Hein have attended our Meeting since their move to Pittsboro. On February 11, Matt received their transfer of membership from the Patuxent Friends Meeting, Lusby, MD, where they have been members since 2006.

We accept the transfer of membership of Gwyn and Kurt Hein with joy.

Matt requested volunteers to establish a welcoming committee ". . . to introduce the new members into fellowship and acquaint them with the local Meeting activities"? Matt and Lynn Drake, and Madelyn Ashley will form a welcoming committee for both the Simmonses and the Heins.

Matt will inform the Honolulu and Patuxent Meetings of our decision.

8. Marriage under the care of the Meeting – Deborah Gibbs, Clerk, Care and Counsel Committee

Deborah reported that C&C had formed a clearness committee for Lori and Sean consisting of Matt and Lynn Drake and Herbert Struemper and Andrea Wuerth. The committee recommended to C&C and C&C now recommends to Meeting that Lori Fernald Khamala and Sean Chen be married under the care of the Meeting.

Friends joyfully approved the marriage of Lori Fernald Khamala and Sean Chen under the care of our Meeting.

Sean and Lori were thanked for sharing their joy, commitment, families, and lives with us.

The wedding and reception will be held from 4:00 – 7:30 PM, Saturday, April 7, 2018, at Durham Friends Meeting. RSVP to lorifk@gmail.com. Leslie Rountree, Andrea Wuerth and Herbert Struemper, and Julia Cleaver will serve as their Wedding Oversight Committee. A Friend reminded us that the Meeting continues to care for all marriages under the care of the Meeting, and that its support continues long after the wedding.

9. Addition of new membership designation – Pam Schwingl, member, Ministry and Worship Committee

Pam read the recommendation (ATTACHED) and brought M&W's recommendation for the addition of a new membership designation, that of Affiliated Member. The new designation is intended for young adults who may or may not be familial members, and who choose not to seek adult membership but would like to keep CHFM in their lives as their spiritual home and loving community while they seek further discernment after their high school years. Many questions were asked, and Friends were encouraged to be in touch with M&W with any concerns. M&W will continue to work out details and specifics on how the designation will be implemented.

Approved.

10. Plans for the annual PFF retreat – Jeff Brown, Meeting Appointee to Piedmont Friends Fellowship

The annual PFF retreat will be held at Carolina Friends School, Friday, March 30 – Sunday, April 1. The theme is "Peace and Alternatives to Violence." Since school is closed early for Easter weekend, events will begin at 3:30pm on Good Friday. AFSC, FCNL, Quaker House, and FGC will all offer programs. Curt Torell and John Hite, and Raleigh Friends John Shuford and Deborah Bromiley will lead adult sessions. The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday. Performance by singer/songwriter Steve Deasy, an Easter egg hunt, great activities for kids, and opportunities for fellowship round out activities. Paper and online registration is available. Fee is \$40 for the weekend,

and Shotts and Leadership funds are available again this year. There will be opportunities to offer home hospitality to those coming from farther away, and there may be needs for infant and preschool care assistance.

Thanks were expressed to Jeff for his work and leadership.

11. Minute on Climate Change – Matt Drake

At its monthly meeting for business on February 4, Charlotte Friends Meeting united on a minute on climate change and agreed to share the minute with all PFYM meetings. Charlotte Friends expects to bring their minute to PFYM Annual Sessions on March 31, asking the YM to discern if this is a PFYM corporate concern. "Meetings are asked to discern on this matter and come prepared to speak to it during Annual Sessions." Messages before 3/31 to Charlotte Meeting regarding the minute are welcome. Matt referred the issue to the Peace & Justice Committee for P&J to bring to the March 18 MWAB.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• FORUMS:

Feb 25: Personal Sharing: Perry Martin

March 4: "Cognitive Diversity": a tool for understanding ourselves and others and the world. Led by Dirk Kelder. The term "cognitive diversity" will be introduced in terms of the part we play in creating the reality we live in and how this impacts our lives in many ways, including how we function in the world, and how we relate to and communicate with others. Plans are to include small group discussion.

Mar 11: "Who Comes First? Trump Priorities and Quaker Responses" Nancy Milio will discuss the priorities of the Trump Administration in both foreign and domestic policy areas and how the Friends Committee on Legislation (FCNL) is responding to them.

Mar 25: "Let's talk about the Birds & the Bees.... and the Plants!" Barbara Driscoll, from the New Hope Audubon Society, will discuss the importance of using native plants and other key features in our home and local landscapes, to support birds, pollinators and other essential elements of environmental biodiversity and sustainability.

- Don Hopper invites your thoughts on meeting room renovations. Send them to donald.hopper@gmail.com or tell a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.
- Joanna Selim and Elizabeth Taylor invite your suggestions for renovating the foyer. Send them to joannaselim@gmail.com or to etlodo@gmail.com or talk with a member of Hospitality Committee.
- Chapel Hill's Quaker-Freedmen School, UNC School of Education Graduate Student Talk, Thursday, Feb.22, 6 to 7:30 pm, The Marian Cheek Jackson Center, 512 W. Rosemary St. RSVP to iaar@unc.edu
- **"Who are our neighbors? An evening to learn about undocumented immigrants in our state and sanctuary,"** sponsored by P&J Committee and AFSC, Friday, March 2, 6:30-8:30PM, at the meetinghouse. Light meal and childcare provided. Speakers include Ann Marie Dooley, Greensboro immigration attorney (and Quaker), local immigrants sharing stories, pastors of Sanctuary churches, and Lori Khamala, AFSC staff. For more information, contact Naveed Moeed (naveedmoeed@gmail.com) or Karen Porter (karenporteresq@gmail.com).
- Animal Law Symposium to be held at Duke Law School on March 3, 8:30am-1:30pm. Join us for a discussion on the social justice issues surrounding the hog-farming crisis in North Carolina, a legislative update from Humane Society of the U.S., an Animal Legal Defense Fund update, and more. The symposium features speakers from the Humane Society, the Animal Legal Defense Fund, and New York University School of Law and the "McLibel" case. Vegan breakfast, coffee and lunch will be provided to attendees. The event is free, but registration is required. Go to events.law.unc.edu or contact Robin Harper (robinwharper@gmail.com) for more information.
- We received a card thanking us for helping to keep the IFC open during the snow days.
- We received a letter from Joshua Cashell at OCC, thanking us for a wonderful Christmas card, and for allowing FDS children to make it.
- There will be a Friends Music Camp this summer at Earlham College.
- FCNL's new Welcome Center just opened in Washington, DC.
- The Library Committee is putting out a selection of duplicated books that are free for the taking.
- Come help us celebrate Matt's 80th birthday on March 2, 2:30-4:30pm in the multipurpose room of the Chapel Hill Early School. Wonderful music will be performed by son-in-law Gabriele Pelli and Will Ridenour. Refreshments will be available. Please NO gifts, but if you would like to share a story/memory/comment/birthday wish with Matt, write it on a note card and we'll put them together for Matt.

12. We closed with worship and prepared for 11:00AM meeting for worship.

A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS REGARDING TRUSTEES OF THE CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING . . . for the January 21, 2018 MWAB Matt Drake, Tom Munk, assisted by Wade Barber

BACKGROUND: The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting trustees hold the Meeting's property (meetinghouse, schoolhouse, playground, parking area, and associated grounds) in trust for the Meeting. Legally, the trustees are considered the owners of the Meeting property. Trustees serve as signatories of legal documents for the Meeting. These may be "in-house" documents, such as conscientious objection letters written by Meeting members and attenders and approved by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). Trustee signatures are also required on formal contracts with individuals and companies. For example, trustee signatures were required in the spring of 2017 on construction contracts with the company overseeing the renovation of the lower level of the meetinghouse.

CHFM HISTORY: The trustees' responsibility of holding property in trust for the Meeting was evident with the February 5, 1950 purchase of the land for the future Friends meetinghouse at 531 Raleigh Rd, Chapel Hill, 27514. The deed states that the owners, W.C. Coker and his wife, Louise Venable Coker, conveyed their property to ". . . D.D. Carroll and A.W. Hobbs, Trustees for the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of Friends, their successors in office and assigns, that certain tract or parcel of land situated, lying and being in Chapel Hill Township, Orange County, North Carolina, and bounded and described as follows . . . "

RESOURCES AND SUPPORT: Resources and support for the Meeting's trustees include a copy of Chapter 61, of the North Carolina General Statutes, which can be found in the Trustee file in the library. The North Carolina General Assembly enacted the Religious Societies Act in 1796 authorizing religious societies to appoint trustees to receive and hold property. This is codified as Chapter 61, Religious Societies in the North Carolina General Statutes.

As authorized under 61-1 (a) of the NC General Statutes, Chapel Hill Friends Meeting trustees are selected upon the recommendation of the Nominations Committee for consideration and approval by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), the governing body of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. In accordance with 61-2, trustees of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (CHFM) may hold property in trust for the Meeting and be accountable to the Meeting for the use and management of such property. In accordance with 61-3, the title to lands owned by the Meeting is vested in the CHFM trustees. In accordance with 61-4, the CHFM trustees may mortgage or sell any land owned by the Meeting, when directed to do so by the Meeting.

A further support for the Meeting trustees consists of liability coverage via Director, Officers and Trustees liability coverage through the Meeting's contract with the Church Mutual Insurance Company. (See Finance Committee records.)

AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT TRUSTEES:

- Asta Crowe and Emilie Condon are willing to continue serving as trustees, years to be determined by MWAB.
- Bettie Flash will serve through June 2018 and then will step down as a trustee

**CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT
February 2017-February 2018**

The Children's and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Committee is responsible for the development, oversight, and support of curricula and activities for young Friends in preschool through high school. CYRE is also responsible for childcare in the nursery. In addition to supporting the First Day School (FDS) program and two paid staff positions (FDS Coordinator and Childcare Provider), the committee recruits teachers, selects materials, assesses progress, clarifies goals and objectives, oversees a budget, and communicates with the Ministry and Worship Committee. The committee plans and organizes events to strengthen community among families, connect young Friends with larger Quaker organizations (Piedmont Friends Fellowship/Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting, Friends Committee on National Legislation). In summary, the CYRE Committee nurtures the spiritual development of children and teens and their families, and works to integrate families and young Friends into the life of the meeting.

John Hite and Carolyn Stuart serve as co-clerks. In August 2016, Julia Cleaver asked to leave the committee to pursue other leadings in the meeting. We expressed gratitude for Julia's service and welcomed Herbert Struemper as a new member. Continuing members on the committee, in addition to John Hite and Carolyn Stuart, are Sean Chen, Jasmine McKewen, Stacey Sewall and Laura Young. Kathleen McNeil continues to offer excellent service as First Day School Coordinator, as does Stacey Sewall as the Childcare Provider in the nursery. Kathleen McNeil (FDS Coordinator) serves on the committee as an ex-officio member

First Day School (FDS) program

We are delighted that the fall brought new families and children into the First Day School program. We encourage all to welcome our newest and youngest Friends, assisting CYRE in creating a welcoming and nurturing spiritual home for

all. Attendance in the nursery (birth to age three) continues to be sporadic. However, we are pleased to have two infants and two toddlers coming to the nursery. CYRE wishes to express gratitude to a core of nursery volunteers who assist Stacey, ensuring that we meet the “best practice” of having at least two adults with each group. These include: Catherine Alguire, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Lynn Drake, Nancy Elkins, Eloise Grathwohl, Jason James, Dottie Heninger, Jasmine McKewen, Wendy Michener, Carolyn Stuart and Carolyn White,

Approximately thirty children participate in the nursery and FDS programs, though attendance varies greatly from week to week. Pod configurations changed slightly in fall to accommodate developmental needs of children. The younger pod (pre-school to second grade) is comprised of three to seven children. Teachers are Bennett Kirkpatrick, Jasmine McKewen, Allie Scales, Carolyn Stuart and Laura Young. As many as ten children are included in the middle pod (generally third through fifth or sixth grades), though attendance is generally from five to eight on a given Sunday. Middle pod teachers are Mark Hulbert, Kathleen McNeil and Andrea Wuerth. Ten teens participate in the upper pod program (middle and high schoolers). Their teachers are Sean Chen, John Hite, Leslie Rountree and Herbert Struemper.

From January through mid-April, 2017, the FDS curriculum focused on New Testament Bible study. Developmentally appropriate lessons were designed and taught to the various age groups. Teachers of the younger children explored Jesus’ life and teachings through the use of children’s literature, dramatic play and art activities. The older children and teens discussed in greater depth the moral and ethical issues relevant to the life of Jesus and his apostles. In particular, older children and middle schoolers explored what loving their brothers and sisters, as well as their enemies, would look like in everyday situations.

The multi-cultural unit was taught from mid-April through the first Sunday in June and included a field trip to the Won Buddhism Temple in Chapel Hill. Students studied Buddhism prior to the visit, learning about Buddhism’s emphasis on kindness and peaceful interaction with all living beings. At the Temple, we were led in different types of meditation, including sitting, chanting and walking. Lessons for the younger pod included experiences in Christian denominations, including baptism and communion. Older children explored mindfulness, prayer, and good works as approached in a variety of Buddhist and Christian traditions.

From late August until late November, all pods studied Quaker history, testimonies and practices. Godly Play was used for younger children as we studied the lives of Lucretia Mott, George Fox, Elizabeth Fry, William Penn and more. We also explored Friends’ experience in meeting for worship and the meaning of the testimonies. Older children explored the testimonies in greater depth.

From late November through the first Sunday in January, the FDS students participated in multi-age holiday activities, which included making cards for residents of Carol Woods who cannot regularly attend meeting and friends who reside at Orange Correctional Center, creating ornaments for the meeting Christmas tree, caroling at Carol Woods, a presentation of a nativity play at the Christmas party and making bird feeders. A special treat this year was the opportunity for children and teens to sing for the Quakers at the Carol Woods meeting. With Hospitality committee and Ministry and Worship committee, CYRE organized the meeting’s Christmas party, which was joyful.

Two well attended family potlucks were held over the past year, one in the home of Jason James and Donna Bell in March and another in September in the home of Jennifer Leeman and Tom Munk. These gatherings, which included games for all ages, provide opportunities for families to get to know each other better and for children to develop closer friendships.

Teen Activities

In addition to three lock-ins providing opportunities for community building, the teens have provided service to the meeting. The alternative gift mart this year focused on eight organizations, including Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry, Inter-Faith Council, Friends Committee on National Legislation, NC WARN, Planned Parenthood, Quaker House, American Friends Service Committee and Fondation Enfant Jesus in Haiti. A total contribution of \$3600 was raised. The teens also collected money for parking spots in the meetinghouse lot during home football games, earning a total of \$6,080, which was contributed to the meeting. In addition, John and the teens set up tables and chairs for potlucks on First Days and closed meeting for worship on a Sunday during months that include five Sundays. Emma Hulbert, Grace Schneider and Finn James read letters to the meeting for worship with attention to business to support their desire to be considered conscientious objectors should the draft be reinstated.

Last May a forum and meeting for worship was held to honor our graduating seniors: Emma Hulbert, Grace Schneider and Emelia Stern. Kamiya Hedges, Finn James, Olivia James, Grace Schneider and Lily Wuerth led a forum on gratitude in November. Tallulah Chen and Lily Wuerth participated in a Friends Committee on National Legislation program teaching young people to become effective lobbyists. They presented their experience at a forum in June.

Summer Activities

During the summer, Friends who are not FDS teachers are invited to lead classes for children of all ages. The purpose is twofold: it gives our regular FDS teachers a much-needed break, and it provides meeting members with an opportunity to share their passions and interests and to have fun with our wonderful children. Thanks to the meeting at large for volunteers to lead these classes. We are extremely grateful to all Friends who participated.

Collaboration with Other Meeting Committees

Since last spring CYRE has participated in the Task Force on Familial Membership, along with representatives from Ministry and Worship, Archives, and Publications and Communication to update meeting policies on familial membership.

Looking Forward

We are delighted to have greater numbers of families in our meeting. Our hopes for the upcoming year are to strengthen our relationships with these families and continue to further the spiritual growth of families and our youngest Friends

Respectfully submitted by the CYRE committee:

Sean Chen, John Hite (co-clerk), Jasmine McKewen, Kathleen McNeil (FDS Coordinator, ex-officio), Stacey Sewall, Herbert Struemper, Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk) and Laura Young

PROPOSED MINUTE FROM THE TASK FORCE ON FAMILIAL MEMBERS February 18, 2018, MWAB

The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting presently has three categories of worshippers: Member, Familial Member, and Attender. The Task Force on Familial Members, on behalf of the Ministry and Worship Committee, recommends that the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting approve the addition of a new designation, that of Affiliated Member, to those of Member, Familial Member and Attender. An Affiliated Member is an interim status for young adults who may or may not be familial members, and choose not to seek adult membership but would like to keep CHFM in their lives as their spiritual home and loving community while they seek further discernment after their high school years.

At present, teenagers in First Day School, with or without familial status, who leave without having sought adult membership in the Meeting often end up with a vague relationship to the Meeting. In order to offer a more welcoming relationship to youth as they explore their own beliefs and identities post high school, we would like to introduce an interim status for young friends who have not yet reached a discernment about their adult membership in our or any other religious community. Our intention is that this status will clarify to all teens who actively participate in our First Day School program that Chapel Hill Friends meeting wishes to continue to offer them a spiritual home and a loving community as they continue to explore their spirituality.

In our research we learned that some adult Young Friends in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting have claimed the status of "Affiliated Members." As our Task Force members discussed this status and how it might apply to CHFM, we agreed that this status would ease our quandary of how to clarify the relationship between the Meeting and young people post high school who are not yet members while giving them time to settle into adulthood and reach decisions about full membership in the Religious Society of Friends or in another spiritual community.

Task Force on Familial Members:

Julia Cleaver (Archives Committee)

Lynn Drake (Ministry and Worship Committee)

Kathleen McNeil (Childrens and Youth Religious Education Committee)

Pam Schwingl (Ministry and Worship Committee)

CHARLOTTE FRIENDS MEETING, CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA - MINUTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE Read in and approved at meeting for business 4th day of second month, 2018

We, the members and attenders of Charlotte Friends Meeting, offer the following minute on climate change: We acknowledge the grave and worsening crisis of all the interacting variables included in the phrase "climate change." We are inspired by this statement by Charlotte Friend Robert Oberg, "Climate change is the most critical issue facing us, apart from the consciousness that created it." We recognize the urgency of a response from our Friends' community.

We come to this moment grounded in the testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends. The testimonies of community, equality, stewardship and integrity call us forward in our work. We recognize that, both globally and locally, peace is increasingly linked to climate justice. With deep concern for Earth and all the life it supports, we are motivated by our love of our children, recognizing that their futures are in our hands. We affirm the Native American advice: "In all our deliberations, let us consider to the seventh generation."

We know that there is much about these times that can cause us to feel fearful, angry and helpless. We will be gentle with ourselves and take time for our feelings as we continue the work, knowing that we are a part of the rising tide of thousands around the world, who, in the words of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, "seek an earth restored."

We, the Friends of Charlotte Meeting, commit to the following:

1. We continue to seek the Light through worship and prayerful consideration. We shall be led by the Spirit in the face of climate change.
 2. We seek to understand the role we play as humans, and the dangers unfolding through climate change. We continue to educate ourselves rigorously on these matters.
 3. We commit to act on our responsibility, both in personal use of resources and in the management of our meetinghouse resources. We ask: How can we have greater integrity in these matters?
 4. We commit to learning about and engaging in collective action and advocacy at the local, state, national and global levels.
 5. We seek to be examples and patterns, carrying this message forward to other Friends communities and to others who carry a concern and love for Earth. We are grateful for the many in this meeting who carry our concern forward. Thank you, Friends.
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Welcoming for transferred Friends

Bob and Winnie Simmons and Gwyn & Kurt Hein will be welcomed to the Meeting on Sunday, March 18 from 3 - 5:00 PM at Lynn and Matt's house, 100 Homewood Dr. (near the Weaver Dairy Rd and Erwin Rd intersection in Chapel Hill). Please drop by and welcome these Friends!

Family and Friends celebrate Matt's 80th birthday!

On March 3, Friends gathered to join the Drake Family in celebrating Matt's BIG birthday. Wonderful music was performed by Matt and Lynn's son-in-law Gabriele Pelli and Will Ridenour. Food and Refreshments were plentiful and delicious.



A Thought to Sit With

As a gift to the Meeting for Worship, please fill the benches and chairs further from the door first when you enter. Thanks from the Ministry and Worship Committee."

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 on First Days at 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30 AM–12:15 PM

First Day School from 11:15 AM–12:00 PM

Clerk of the Meeting: Matt Drake (919) 968-0044

Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

- **Newsletter.** This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Communications 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 10 PM on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org or call Peter Malone, (919) 270-4456. Please include "newsletter" in the subject line.
- **E-news.** To send a news or "In the Light" announcement in the Meeting's e-news, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org. Please include "e-news" or "in the light" in the subject line. This e-news goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the e-news at www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html.
- **Website.** To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.