

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## Newsletter

### Fifth Month, 2020

**Monthly Query:** *What are we doing to welcome newcomers to Meeting for Worship, to listen sensitively to their needs and hesitations, and to encourage their continued attendance?*

#### Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

*If you are so led to speak during meeting for worship, please stand and speak simply and clearly in language that reflects your spiritual experience. Do not feel compelled to explore all the implications of your insight. Leave room for the Light to work through the next person, potentially building on your words and possibly extending them in an unexpected direction.*

All CHFM Quaker-related activities at the meetinghouse and in the school house have been canceled until later notice, pending reassessment.

The Building and Grounds committee has requested that those who rent on the premises find alternate options until we reopen.



#### Virtual Meetings

##### Meetings for Worship; Meetings for Worship With Attention to Business; and Weekly Forums:

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting has been using Zoom software as an online platform to hold Meetings for Worship; including meetings with attention to business, forums, social hours, and committee meetings. Friends are doing our best to sustain spiritual connections and support the life of the Meeting during the pandemic.

Ministry and Worship and the Zoom ad-hoc committee ([zoom@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:zoom@chapelhillfriends.org)) wish to make this experience as rich as possible. Even apart, we wish to come together in the Light. To aid this, we advise those attending of the following:

- On entering the Meeting for Worship via Zoom, everyone's microphone will be muted (you do not need to mute yourself on entry). We suggest remaining muted when not speaking to avoid background noise.
- If led to share vocal ministry, the "Unmute" button on the bottom left of the Zoom screen is pressed. When finished speaking, the "Mute" button may be pressed in the same location.
- We recognize you may need to move around and settle. If doing so Friends are asked to use the "Stop Video" option (bottom of screen next to Mute) – your name or profile picture will display until pressing "Start Video" again. This will minimize visual distraction for others,
- There is an option on the upper right of your Zoom screen to select "Speaker View" for a large window for the current speaker or "Gallery View" that shows small windows for all participants.

The Ministry & Worship Committee reminds Friends that our traditional Quaker practice in Meeting for Worship, in-person or online, is to refrain from sharing vocal ministry more than once in the hour to give

others space for messages. Though it may be more challenging online, we strive to listen deeply in the silence and be open to the leadings of the Spirit that may move us to speak.

More information about Zoom is available on the Meeting's website:

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/zoom.html>

**The link to Zoom for the Forum and Meeting for Worship is sent weekly via the listserv.** If you wish to visit with us for the first time or are a regular attender but do not have access to the listserv please contact us at [zoom@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:zoom@chapelhillfriends.org). Comments are warmly appreciated at the same email address. See you online!

### **Upcoming Zoom Forums**

**May 24:** IFC Update. Jackie Jenks, Director of the Interfaith Council, will discuss with us the challenges of providing services for vulnerable people in our community during the pandemic and how the current situation affects progress on Food First and other initiatives.

**May 31:** Personal sharing: John Hite on traveling with simplicity.

**June 7:** Forum with attention to graduation. Join us at this online forum where we will hear from our high school graduating seniors about their experiences growing up in a Quaker Meeting. The seniors are: Phoebe Hulbert (Waldorf School), Will King (Cedar Ridge High School) and Lily Wuerth (East Chapel Hill High School).

### **Online Social Event, Thursdays, 7pm**

Chris Stanley shares with Friends:

As we have been doing recently, we will have a time to gather and touch base to see how everyone is doing. Last week, we looked at Catherine Alguire's garden during the call. Feel free to bring pictures of your garden or current project to share. There is no agenda and it is just a time to see a friendly face and say hello. Join us, if you are interested. - Chris

### **QuakerCraft Online Game, Sundays**

Sam Leeman-Munk shares with Friends:

Hi everybody,

This email is about a Minecraft server that Finn and Henry have set up for us.

It is a peaceful server with no player versus player and no monsters, so it is appropriate for young Quakers. The server is available 24/7, but we particularly encourage people to log in at the same time so we can play together. This event started April 19 and happens every Sunday between 1:30 and 3:30.

### **We are playing Minecraft: Java Edition**

<https://www.minecraft.net/en-us/store/minecraft-java-edition>

An account costs about \$27, but anyone who identifies as a child may reach out to Finn James, Tom Munk and me to get an account. For best results, include all three of us on the email so we can work together. Finn James runs the server, and once you have a screenname you can give it to him and he will give you access. For how to access the server, [click here](#).

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/hospitality/quakercraft.htm>

## **DISCORD SERVER**

We may be Quakers, but what fun is playing with friends if it's all in silence? I have set up a discord server for chatting while we play. This server will be your first lifeline when navigating the vibrant, potentially overwhelming world of MineCraft, so be sure to join!

<https://discord.gg/F2Jf9MQ>

For more detailed discord instructions, [click here](#) :

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/hospitality/quakercraftDiscord.htm>

## **Brad Kershner Hosts Bi-Weekly Online Meditation Group, Sundays and Tuesdays**

The online guided meditation group led by Brad Kershner will now be meeting twice every week, on **Sundays and Tuesdays at 7:30pm**. Participants have gotten a lot out of this group and have asked for more! You are welcome to join any Sunday or Tuesday. If interested, send an email to:

[integratedemergence@gmail.com](mailto:integratedemergence@gmail.com).

*There has never been a better time for an online meditation group!*

## **Sloth Radio Goes Online, Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Kathleen McNeil shares with Friends:

Hi Friends/friends,

The First Day School Middle POD (the Sloths) will be sharing our Sloth Radio Hour every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 8PM. You don't need to be in the middle pod to join us. All are welcome. We are reading the first book of the Harry Potter series. We will read for 30-60 minutes depending on interest level. The program will continue to be on zoom at the same address.

[Zoom meeting link available]

Please spread the word if you have any friends that you think would like to join us!

## **(Virtual) Community Prayer - From Your Own Home, Wednesdays**

JOIN US IN A TIME OF (VIRTUAL) COMMUNITY PRAYER - FROM YOUR OWN HOME- on Wednesday evenings from 7 PM-9PM. Join us any time between 7 PM and 9 PM, and stay as long - or as briefly - as you wish. Ministry and Worship Committee is sponsoring this time of prayer together. We view it as an opportunity to nurture our spiritual community while we are unable to gather in our usual Meetings for Worship.

Lynn and Matt Drake have volunteered to "clerk" the virtual gathering for prayer and healing. Let them know if you plan to participate, if you have questions, if you have names of people to pray for, suggested prayers, etc. Email: [matthiascdrake@gmail.com](mailto:matthiascdrake@gmail.com) or [linda.drake100@gmail.com](mailto:linda.drake100@gmail.com)

## **Pendle Hill Daily Worship via Zoom, Daily**

Pendle Hill Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center is now opening their daily morning worship to everyone, by way of Zoom or phone. A lovely opportunity for gathered worship every morning. "A handful of Pendle Hill residents continue to gather daily in the Barn – from 8:30am to 9:10am Eastern Time – expanding the 90-year-long tradition of daily worship here on campus. Beginning the week of March 16, 2020, we started an experiment of opening the circle of worship to YOU in your home. You can join us here via Zoom."

<https://pendlehill.org/explore/worship/join-us-online-for-worship-in-the-barn/?bblinkid=210290749&bbemailid=19903873&bbejrid=1408822779>

## **Friends General Conference Survey on Virtual Gathering**

Jan Hutton shares with Friends:

Friends General Conference (FGC) has canceled its on-site annual gathering. However, you can respond to a [survey requesting your feedback](#) about the possibility of a virtual FGC Gathering. This would be an opportunity for many Friends who've never attended, in person, to take a deep dive virtually.

## **Quaker Earthcare Witness Meeting has Moved Online**

Our meeting will take place online, beginning Thursday, April 23 and ending on Sunday, April 26. Quaker Earthcare Witness (QEW) will be holding their Steering Committee meeting, April 23-26. Friends are welcome to join any or all of their online sessions. QEW is a North American network of Friends carrying concerns for Earthcare. QEW's job is to connect Friends who are taking Spirit-led action and to inspire all of us through sharing stories.

All are welcome. If you plan to attend full day sessions, please register in advance (for registration and an agenda, see <https://www.quakerearthcare.org/upcoming>) If you are attending just one session, drop-ins are fine and fees are waived. Contact [Shelley@quakerearthcare.org](mailto:Shelley@quakerearthcare.org) with questions.

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**9:00 am Sunday, April 19, 2020**  
**Clerk: Chris Stanley; Recording Clerk: Alice Carlton**

Attendance: Alice Carlton, Chris Stanley, Dave Curtin, Jeff Brown, Max Drake, Lois Ann Hobbs, Hank Elkins, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, John Bell, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Carolyn White, Tom Munk, Ken Grogan, Dottie Heninger, Jan Hutton, Deborah Gibbs, Dave Schneider, Faye Stanley, Kurt Hein, Gwyn Hein, Pam Schwingl, John Hite, Bob Durovich, Naveed Moeed, Monteze Snyder, Mike Conway, Betsy Brinson, Julia Cleaver, Buzz Borschardt, Jasmine McEwen, Jennifer Leeman, Carolyn Stuart, Richard Miller, Kitty Bergel, Lloyd Kramer, Gwynne Pomeroy, Emilie Condon, Catherine Alguire.

1. Opening worship and query. Query: How do we demonstrate in our ways of living and in what we teach our children that love of God/Spirit entails acknowledging "that of God in every person"?
2. Welcome to our first online Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to hold MWAB in March. We are currently holding worship, committee meetings, and MWAB via the Zoom video conferencing platform. We recognized first time attender John Bell. Jeff gave an introduction to Zoom for those new to it. We reviewed the agenda.
3. Minutes of the February MWAB were approved as written.
4. Will King's presentation of his request of support as a Conscientious Objector will be postponed until we can meet in person.
5. Bonnie Ludlow's membership was approved. She had sent the following letter to the Meeting Clerk: "In your capacity as the Clerk of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting I am asking you to present my request for membership to the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. I understand that I must share and explore with Friends what membership in the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting means. I look forward to meeting with a clearness committee to do this. My request for membership comes after a long search for a spiritual

home. I wish to continue ‘seeking’ among, and with the help of Friends.” Alice Carlton, Clerk of the Membership Clearness Committee for Bonnie, reported that the committee met with her twice and came to unity to joyfully recommend her for membership.

6. Rich Godfrey’s membership was approved. He had sent the following letter to the Meeting Clerk: “I’ve been attending the Meeting for about a year, and I’d like to begin the process of exploring membership....Recently, I have started to feel a strong direction to explore membership. I am interested to learn about how to go about doing this. My experience at the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting has been extremely meaningful for me and helpful for my spiritual health and development. Thank you for allowing me to worship with you.” Jeff Brown, Clerk of the Membership Clearness Committee for Rich, reported that the committee met twice and joyfully recommends Rich for membership. (See Appendix 1.)

7. Tom Munk, Co-clerk of the Peace & Justice Committee (P&J), presented the proposed benevolences requested by P&J for this year. We approved the proposed benevolences. (See Appendix 2.)

Tom also presented a letter to Rep. David Price, approved by P&J, written by the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) Advocacy Team about COVID-19 and Iran requesting targeted sanctions relief for Iran for a period of time until the pandemic passes. We approved the letter with gratitude. Tom shared that next they will request a meeting with their contact person in the office of David Price. (See Appendix 3.)

8. Jeff Brown presented the revised response to Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting (PFYM) regarding how Chapel Hill Friends Meeting opposes racism. We discussed minor changes to the written statement, decided to hold it over until next month and hopefully give final approval at that time. (See Appendix 4.)

9. Dave Curtin, Clerk of Library Committee, presented a proposal to form a subcommittee to investigate priorities for renovations in the foyer and library of the Meeting House. “The Library Committee would like to have the Meeting form an ad hoc subcommittee to consider renovations of the library and foyer. We have been talking to the Hospitality Committee and Buildings & Grounds Committee (B&G) and believe members should come from Library, Hospitality, Ministry & Worship, Finance, B&G, and any other committee that wishes to contribute.” A long discussion ensued raising concerns about how to proceed during this pandemic when we are not using the meeting house. We will hold it over until next month for a final decision.

10. Buzz Borchardt, Clerk of the Hospitality Committee, presented the annual report. We approved the report with gratitude. (See Appendix 5.)

11. Annual reports for Transition and Support Committee, Publications & Communications, and InterFaith Council Committees will be presented next month.

12. Next MWAB will be 9 am Sunday May 17, 2020.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: To send items for the weekly eNews, email [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Put “for eNews” in the subject line. Deadline is each Wednesday at midnight. For the monthly print newsletter, email [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Put “for Newsletter” in the subject line. Deadline is the last Sunday of the month.

13. Closing worship and preparation for 11 am Meeting for Worship.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1

#### Rich Godfrey Bio

Rich Godfrey was born in Italy, educated in England and finally found his home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina where he lives with his wife Cyan, daughter Jasmine, and three cats.

Rich enjoyed a 20-year career in banking and finance in the City of London, New York and Singapore before starting a consultancy focused on financial investigations and compliance in the investments business,

Rich has enjoyed the privilege of attending meeting for worship at Chapel Hill Friends meeting since November 2018. He is deeply grateful to have found such a peaceful and welcoming place from which to continue his spiritual journey.

#### Bonnie Burke Ludlow biographical statement

I have been on a spiritual journey for as long as I could ask questions, first of my Catholic father and Presbyterian mother...then in catechism classes...later in college and the philosophy classes to which I was drawn. The questions...there were always questions.

On to Elmira College and then NYU School of Social Work for an MSW. My experience began as a child care worker at the Wiltwyck School for Boys and Leake and Watts Children's Home. After graduate school it was the Division of Child Foster Care in NYC Bureau of Child Welfare and later as a therapist at a NJ child guidance agency. Most challenging was my job as director of the first of 25 federally funded child abuse programs in the country – and later a private practice clinician for children, families and marriages and a trainer for social work agencies in NJ.

Seeking a home for a religious base was always in process...trying out various religious affiliations, always volunteering my time to work with children. I attended meeting for worship at the Shrewsbury Friends Meeting in NJ. I never found a "home", though, until the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting "took me in". You have blessed me with the welcoming place and space to further explore and develop my beliefs.

## Appendix 2

<b>Benevolences 2019-2020 Budget</b>	<b>2018-19</b>				<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2019-20</b>
Chapel Hill Friends Meeting	<b>2018-19</b>		<b>2019-20</b>		<b>2019-20</b>	
April 13, 2020	<b>Approve d</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Approve d</b>
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>New Amount</b>	<b>Pct</b>
<b>Legacy Benevolences</b>						
AFSC Natl. (AFSC-P)	\$900	3.7%	\$1,231	5.0%	\$331	1.3%
AFSC Carolinas (AFSC-C)	\$900	3.7%	\$0	0.0%	(\$900)	-3.7%
Carolina Friends School (CFS)	\$4,300	17.6%	\$4,300	17.5%	\$0	-0.1%
Friends Com. On Nat'l Leg.(FCNL)	\$2,350	9.6%	\$1,823	7.4%	(\$527)	-2.2%
Interfaith Council (IFC)	\$5,500	22.5%	\$5,500	22.3%	\$0	-0.2%
Quaker House (QH)	\$6,600	27.0%	\$6,600	26.8%	\$0	-0.2%
<b>Subtotal for Legacy Benevolences</b>	<b>\$20,550</b>	<b>84.0%</b>	<b>\$19,454</b>	<b>79.0%</b>	<b>(\$1,096)</b>	<b>-5.0%</b>
	<b>Approve d</b>	<b>Approved</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Propose d</b>
	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Pct</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Peace and Justice Proposed Benevolences</b>						
Alamance Orange Prison Ministry	\$400	1.6%	\$360	1.5%	(\$40)	-0.2%
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF)	\$800	3.3%	\$720	2.9%	(\$80)	-0.3%
Dispute Settlement Center	\$100	0.4%	\$90	0.4%	(\$10)	0.0%
Friends Com. On NC Leg. (FCNCL)	\$0	0.0%	\$939	3.8%	\$939	3.8%
Friends House Moscow (FHM)	\$150	0.6%	\$135	0.5%	(\$15)	-0.1%
NC WARN	\$1,400	5.7%	\$1,707	6.9%	\$307	1.2%
Orange Co. Peace Coalition (OCPC)	\$50	0.2%	\$45	0.2%	(\$5)	0.0%
Orange County Justice United (JU)	\$500	2.0%	\$450	1.8%	(\$50)	-0.2%
Planned Parenthood	\$100	0.4%	\$100	0.4%	\$0	0.0%
Quaker Earthcare Witness	\$100	0.4%	\$400	1.6%	\$300	1.2%
Sanctuary (Church of the Reconciliation)	\$250	1.0%	\$225	0.9%	(\$25)	-0.1%
Snow Camp Outdoor Theater (SC)	\$50	0.2%	\$0	0.0%	(\$50)	-0.2%
<b>Subtotal P&amp;J Benevolences</b>	<b>\$3,900</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>\$5,171</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>\$1,271</b>	<b>5.0%</b>
<b>Budgeted Totals</b>	<b>\$24,450</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$24,625</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$175</b>	<b>0.0%</b>

### Appendix 3

Dear David Price,

We want to thank you for long-standing concern for US policy towards Iran and particularly for your co-sponsor of H.R. 5543, the No war Against Iran Act.

We would like to ask for your support for easing sanctions against Iran during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the last two weeks three important requests underscore this humanitarian need (letters attached):

- A letter from 25 U.S. organizations including the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Committee on National Legislation to President Trump, Secretary Pompeo, and Secretary Mnuchin;
- A call from the Iran Project and the European Leadership Council, signed by former US diplomats and European leaders, including Madeline Albright, Thomas Pickering, Paul O'Neill, and Thomas Shannon;
- A letter from 23 of your Congressional colleagues to Secretary Pompeo and Secretary Mnuchin.

All of these letters point out the need for *targeted sanctions relief* for a period of time until the coronavirus pandemic passes. Lifting specific sanctions for a limited period of time will not undermine ongoing US sanctions. Three immediate steps are of particular importance:

- Expanding the scope of humanitarian exemptions to include all devices and equipment necessary to effectively combat COVID-19. Currently, many forms of equipment, such as full-face respirators, require specific license approval from OFAC.
- Relaxing the stringent reporting requirements under the US-sponsored Swiss Humanitarian Trade Arrangement (SHTA). The requirements are so strict that they discourage companies from using the SHTA.
- Clarifying to European governments and businesses that using the European Instrument in Support of Trade Exchanges (INSTEX) for humanitarian trade with Iran will not result in US sanctions.

Targeted sanctions relief would be both morally right and serve the health and security interests of the United States and the world. A continued massive outbreak of COVID-19 in Iran will spread beyond its borders and endanger its Middle Eastern neighbors, particularly Afghanistan, Iraq, and the Gulf States and contribute to the global spread of the disease.

COVID-19 is a shared threat, requiring global solutions. We urge you to support any measures that will result in targeted sanctions relief for Iran for the good of us all. It may even open future doors for negotiation instead of the drumbeat towards war.

We understand that your office must be overwhelmed. If we can provide additional material or support for you or your staff to advocate for this relief, please let us know. In the meantime, we wish you and all your staff good health.

Signed by:

## Appendix 4

### **Racial Equity and CHFМ**

In response to a request by the Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting for a summary of activities concerning anti-racism in Monthly Meetings, Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (CHFМ) would like to share the following.

CHFМ is becoming more diverse in terms of race and ethnicity. The 11:00 AM worship usually attracts 70-80 participants. Of this number, often 10-15 bring a variety of skin colors. Included are regularly attending individuals, and inter-racial couples and families as well as visitors from the university and community. To emphasize the Meeting's inclusiveness, at each Meeting for Worship, a member of the Ministry and Worship Committee reads the following statement: "We joyfully embrace the full spectrum of the Light within, made visible through the participation of all people, no exceptions."

Due to many years of work with the Orange Correctional Center, CHFМ's worship experience is much more diverse, racially and socioeconomically, than ever before. The spiritual benefits are incredible. Members of the CHFМ community participate in the Yoke Fellows program to be directly involved with the Orange Correctional Center (OCC) in Hillsborough, including sponsoring inmates to attend Meeting for Worship. The majority of inmates welcomed to our Meeting are African American. Chapel Hill Friends are grateful for regular opportunities to worship with current OCC inmates as well as former inmates who have become regular attenders.

CHFМ's Transition and Support Committee has a mission to serve and support men at OCC as they transition from incarceration to the community. Also, the Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee accepts and disburses funds to help men coming out of OCC and joining our community. The committee works with the Transition and Support Committee, which serves as a clearinghouse for information for resources within the community to which the men can be referred for help.

Other activities include the participation of CHFМ members in workshops on racial equity conducted by the Racial Equity Institute. Participants learned about research findings on racial inequity and how to be a catalyst for change.

In education, ongoing Meeting support of Carolina Friends School, including annual financial donations, four CHFМ members serving on the Board of Trustees, and shared facilities, honors the school's founding mission to be inclusive and diverse. Trustees have received training from the Racial Equity Institute.

A member of CHFМ initiated and sustains a local group of "Coming to the Table," an organization "Working together to create a just and truthful society that acknowledges and seeks to heal from the racial wounds of the past, from slavery and the many forms of racism it spawned."

Members of CHFМ have participated as individuals in numerous other community efforts to promote racial equity:

- The Hate-Free Schools Coalition's work with the Orange County School Board resulted in a ban on the confederate flag as well as other symbols of hate and derision.

- Orange County Justice United is working with the Orange County School Board and Orange County Schools to add African American and Hispanic staff and teachers. The School Board has augmented recruiting efforts among African Americans both for teachers and teaching assistants.
- Orange County Justice United organized five public actions and raised funds to launch a new affordable housing pilot project, involving master leasing.
- Successful organizing that banned the “check-box” in Chapel Hill, Carrboro and Hillsborough whereby application forms for public jobs no longer ask applicants to indicate if they have been convicted.
- Friends support efforts to reduce the large racial and ethnic disparity in incarceration in North Carolina.
- Friends are involved with community organizing against mass deportation of immigrants.
- CHFAM members regularly participate in peaceful counter-demonstrations at Ku Klux Klan and other white supremacist rallies in Orange County.
- Friends are active with the local NAACP.

Racism remains a challenge in North Carolina, and Chapel Hill Friends Meeting members have expressed a desire to do more in support of racial equity within and outside of the Meeting community.

## Appendix 5

### **Hospitality Committee Annual Report 2020 Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

The Hospitality Committee strives to make visitors feel welcomed and to foster community within the meeting. Specifically, the Committee serves to:

- greet attenders and welcome visitors to meeting
- manage monthly potluck
- assist CYRE with the mid-December Christmas party
- Help plan memorial services at the Meeting

**Members of the committee:** Returning members are Annette Broadwell, Buzz Borchardt (clerk), Gwyn Hein, and Hart Pillow. New members this year are Ben Ray, Gordon Davies, Jennifer Leeman, and Quaker Harmon. And we always appreciate and enjoy John Hite’s presence when he sits in on our meetings. In November we were saddened to lose the services of Lori Khamala and Jessica Harper. We greatly appreciated Lori’s energy and enthusiasm, but the joys of parenthood and a new job left Lori insufficient time to participate. And Jessica accepted a job as Clinical Social Worker at the Julian Keith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Center in Black Mountain. We wish her the best and thank her for her willingness to serve. And just this week we were further saddened to learn that Gwyn Hein’s travels make it impossible for her to continue on the committee. We thank her for her contribution and especially enjoyed the fact that Gwyn’s daughter, Cecily, often came with her Mom to help at potluck. Thanks particularly to the dedication and enthusiasm of the remaining members, the reduced committee continues to carry out its mission. And we are cheered to learn that Betsey Fenhagen has agreed to join the committee in July, and she has generously volunteered to begin helping with greeting even before becoming an official member.

**Greet attenders and welcome visitors to meeting:** Each Sunday a member of Hospitality arrives early for 11 o’clock worship to greet attenders, welcome visitors and invite them to sign the guest book. Visitors who leave their email address are added to the listserv to receive our weekly enews. Visitors who leave their mailing address are sent a card welcoming them to our meeting along with a copy of the pamphlet “Welcome to the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting” from Ministry & Worship and the booklet “Silence and

Speech” from Quaker Press. Hart Pillow has done a marvelous job sending out these welcome cards—more than 40 of them— which she writes by hand to be more personal. Hart provides her contact information inviting the recipient to let her know if they want to be contacted by a member of Meeting. When one such recipient responded affirmatively, Jeff Brown kindly offered to meet with the visitor. And we thank Matt Drake, Jennifer Leeman, and Tom Munk for volunteering to be available to meet with visitors who accept our invitation for contact. We also thank Annalee Harkins who continues to use her creative talents to provide us her hand-made welcome cards even after leaving the Hospitality Committee.

We continue to host fellowship after worship where we can provide a welcoming place for visitors to connect with Friends and where all attenders can connect with each other. In order to support fellowship after meeting among Friends and to provide a welcoming place for visitors, we continue the tradition of providing light healthy snacks and tea and coffee after meeting. This year, thank you to Annette, we have added freshly brewed coffee to the instant coffee and tea options.

The Committee plans to reinstitute newcomer teas for recent visitors, new members, and some experienced Friends. This is a work in progress.

**Manage monthly potluck:** First Sunday potluck continues being an enjoyable activity and does much to foster friendly connections among members. The Committee purchases supplies, sets up and cleans up, and generally oversees potluck. But we certainly do not do it alone. We particularly appreciate John Hite’s continuing to set up tables and chairs beforehand, and we greatly appreciate the help of all the attenders who assist with set up and in the kitchen, and particularly those with strong backs who put the tables and chairs away after potluck. Thank you to Ben for also putting away tables and chairs and doing the final vacuuming and other clean-up after the post potluck games

We have continued the use of compostable plates that was instituted last year, and members on the committee and those who help with the dishes are pleased with the efficiency of this move in terms of time as well as the greater degree of sanitation it provides over hand washing.

**Assist CYRE with the mid-December Christmas party:** Committee members help with set-up and clean-up, and the Committee provides paper plates, napkins, beverages such as eggnog and hot cider, and table decorations for the Christmas potluck. Special thanks to Jennifer, Hart, and Quaker for handling the Christmas party while the Hospitality clerk was visiting his new grandson in Georgia—by all reports the party was a success.

**Help plan memorial services at the Meeting:** A representative from Hospitality participates with Care and Counsel in working with the family to plan any reception following a memorial service that is held on the grounds of the meeting. We thank Jennifer Leeman for volunteering to be our representative from Hospitality.

**Other news:** This past November the Committee decided not to ask for volunteers to share their Thanksgiving dinner with members who are without a local family to be with. The year previous we had no volunteer hosts and two would-be guests who fortunately found other venues for Thanksgiving. The year before that we had neither hosts nor guests. Perhaps we can identify a more successful way to observe Thanksgiving in the future.

One novelty this year for the Hospitality Committee was putting much of our committee information on the chapelhillfriends.org website. The Hospitality webpage there contains links to committee agendas, minutes, calendar, budget, potluck and Christmas party information, instructions for greeting, and other committee information. Buzz is grateful to Sean Chen for his immense patience in bringing him into the 21<sup>st</sup> century of web development to do these web pages, and to Finn James for creating the initial page that is the entry point for Hospitality information. To access the web page, go to *Committees* on our website and click the page icon next to *Hospitality*.

Finally, some members of our Committee have met with the Library Committee in discussing plans for renovating the library. Many of the thoughts about the library from a hospitality perspective came from a couple of years of thought and experimenting with what best supports fellowship after meeting. Items of agreement were written up and formed the basis of discussion with the Library Committee.

Respectfully submitted: Buzz Borchardt (clerk), Annette Broadwell, Ben Ray, Gordon Davies, Gwyn Hein, Hart Pillow, Jennifer Leeman, Quaker Harmon

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**

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