## **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

#### **Newsletter**

#### Ninth Month, 2021

- Monthly Query: How do we recognize, develop and nurture the spiritual gifts of all in our community?
- Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee:

When taking in another's vocal ministry, take a moment to test your own reactions. Where do they come from? Are you listening through to the Light behind the message? If you find yourself struggling with another's words, search for the Love behind them



### **Upcoming Zoom Forums**

September 2021

September 5 - Hank Elkins Sharing

September 12 - TBA

September 19 - No Forum ~ Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at 9:00 a.m.

September 26 - Quaker Practice Series: Silent and Vocal Ministry

#### **Upcoming Events**

• Online Course: Exploring Spiritual Practices, Starting Sept. 7

#### Recurring Events

- Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, Wednesdays, 7-9pm
- Pendle Hill Worship via Zoom, Daily, 8:30-9:10am
- Sloth Radio Is On the Air, Tues, Thursdays, 8pm

#### **Announcements**

- QuakerSpeak: I Am Always At Meeting For Worship
- Help Support Planning the 2022 FGC Gathering
- Visiting the Meetinghouse During Covid
- Newsletter & eNews Reminder

#### Anecdotes from AntiRacism Committee

• The School-to-Prison Pipeline

#### Personals

Looking for Temporary Housing

#### **Small Group Worship at the Meetinghouse**

After listening carefully to our community and giving thoughtful consideration to ways to meet the needs of our community, the Ministry & Worship Committee received permission from the Meeting to begin offering responsible opportunities for small group worship in a variety of settings. We invite the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting community to try and help us evaluate options for small group worship over the coming weeks. In this unprecedented time, the committee is not pursuing the perfect answer to how to worship together, and we do not know the lowest risk way to proceed.

**Note**: To promote safety and reduce the possibility of Covid 19 transmission and infection, the completion of vaccination protocol and the **wearing of masks** around others on meeting property is lovingly expected. A risk assessment tool is available as well (https://www.microcovid.org/paper/5-activity-risk).

The options do not yet include "hybrid" meetings, using the Zoom platform blended with in-person attendance for worship and religious education. The committee will request time for a discussion about hybrid meetings at a future Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

To keep the trial simple, there will be no refreshments available (bring your own water), indoor participants will be urged to go outside at the rise of meeting to limit time in the building, and the building will be closed between early and late meetings. Friends are asked to not go downstairs (except for the nursery), for simplicity in preparation and maintenance of safe spaces.

Children older than 3 are encouraged to attend the first 15 minutes of worship and will be led down to the playground for First Day School, which is on the playground during Covid. However, there will be at least one adult on the playground starting at 11:00 for those who are nervous about indoors. For children under 3, the nursery open downstairs if needed.

## **Upcoming Events**

Online Course: Exploring Spiritual Practices, Starting Sept. 7

Registration is open for a Fall 2021 online course starting Tuesday Sept. 7th, Exploring Spiritual Practices, led by Marcelle Martin, author of Our Life is Love: the Quaker Spiritual Journey. During the ten week course, participants will experiment with numerous approaches to meditation, prayer, and presence. We'll seek to know more fully the nature of consciousness, our true self, and our connection to the Spirit. We'll explore how mindfulness, awareness, and communion with the Divine affects not only our inner and outer lives, but radiates beyond us into the world. We will learn which spiritual practices are most suited to each of us at this time and explore how to make them a more integrated part of our daily lives. Online class time will include brief presentations, experiencing different spiritual practices, sharing in pairs and groups, and class discussion. No particular beliefs in God or prayer are required, only a willingness to earnestly try different practices, notice what we experience, and listen respectfully to the experiences and beliefs shared by others. Using Zoom and a private website for communicating with one another, we will be forming a vibrant community to go deeper together in our spiritual experience and explore the awesome mystery of our relationship to the Divine.

#### TWO SECTIONS OF THE COURSE ARE OFFERED:

Early Morning: 10:30 am to 12:30 pm Eastern Time

Late Afternoon: 7 to 9 pm Eastern Time

Intrigued? Go HERE to read details and register for Exploring Spiritual Practices.

Curious but not ready to commit just yet? Watch this 3-minute introductory video. Or Sign up here for a free introductory webinar where you can sample the course on Sept 7th. Co-sponsored by New England Quakers in partnership with the Beacon Hill Friends House, this course is open to people of diverse faiths.

#### **Recurring Events**

#### Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, Wednesdays, 7-9pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN Virtual Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, Wednesday evenings, 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Join us when you can for a long as you wish-from your own home. Do you have a name or a group of people to add to - or remove from - the list of those we will hold in our hearts and prayers? If so, please send to Lynn (<a href="mailto:linda.drake100@gmail.com">linda.drake100@gmail.com</a>) or Matt (<a href="mailto:matthiascdrake@gmail.com">matthiascdrake@gmail.com</a>). We'll send an updated list on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for joining us!

#### Pendle Hill Worship via Zoom, Daily, 8:30-9:10am

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

**Note**: The above link takes you *not* to the meeting but to a page of general instructions. Look for the sentence "You can join us via Zoom **here**, or by clicking on the image below."

#### Sloth Radio Is On the Air, Tues, Thursdays, 8pm

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: https://unc.zoom.us/j/9194488892

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

#### **Announcements**

#### QuakerSpeak: I Am Always At Meeting For Worship

Jan Hutton shares with Friends:

"I am always at Meeting for worship. How could I not be?
This Earth is the meeting place. This is the meeting place."
https://quakerspeak.com/video/always-at-quaker-meeting-for-worship/

#### Help Support Planning the 2022 FGC Gathering

Ann Miller shares with Friends:

Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting is excited to be hosting the 2022 FGC Gathering in Southwestern Virginia at Radford University. We are reaching out to Monthly Meetings in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee to ask them to help us find members to support the Planning of the FGC Gathering.

We are hoping you may be willing to help us with two things:

- Recommendations to people who might serve on these committee's who we could send individual invites to.
- Share the link committee volunteer interest form with your members and attenders. (www.tinyurl.com/PlanGathering2022)

Interested Friends could also ask Leslie Rountree or Ann Miller about getting involved in planning and we will be happy to connect you with the planning process.

## **Visiting the Meetinghouse During Covid**

Building and Grounds shares with Friends:

As you know we've curtailed use of the meeting house during the pandemic. Occasionally, people have, and needed to, gone into the meeting house to support the few essential tasks of the meeting. We appreciate that those visits have been brief and infrequent. We do ask though that anyone that needs to go into the meeting house to please notify John Hite, by phone or text, prior to going. Thank you.

#### **Anecdotes from AntiRacism Committee**

These are short stories that illustrate racist OR anti-racist actions. They should ideally be no longer than 100 words, but this is not an ironclad rule. Catch up with all the anecdotes: <a href="https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/arc-anecdotes.html">https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/arc-anecdotes.html</a>.

We invite/encourage Friends to contribute from their own experience. Please send to <a href="mailto:lbassinger@gmail.com">lbassinger@gmail.com</a>. Contributions will be vetted by the ARC before being placed in the CHFM e-news. Please indicate whether we should print your name or "Anonymous."

A member of Meeting was hesitant to submit a story, not sure that it fit the billing – to be about racism. When we read it, it was emphatically about both racism and being a strong anti-racist. We suspect that every person in Meeting has stories they can tell, once they give themselves permission to speak. It is in the naming that we will understand what we are faced with and figure out how to proceed. It is in sharing our Light that we can begin to see clearly.

## **Giving Back**

My favorite story to tell White people who say "Blacks take money from the system and never give back" is about a client of mine with 8 children: First, she gave me some Avon products (which she sold to keep her family going). Then she invited me to stay for dinner, an offer I initially refused. But she and the kids begged me to stay---she said she wanted me to know how much she appreciated my help, and she was a great cook, and please would I stay? The kids pushed me as well, so I did. She served us all and was still carrying things to the table when I told her to join us.

Suddenly I realized I was eating her pork chop! She had served me the food originally intended for her own plate. I was upset, but she stopped me. "No one had ever gone so out of their way" for her and her kids before, she told me. She needed to let me know how big that was, how much it meant to her.

I told this story one time to a Texas contingent on our boat cruise. They said nothing in reply, but avoided me for the rest of the trip. However, a number of other people got wind of the story and asked if they could sit at my table.

**Bonnie Ludlow** 

#### My First Encounter With An African American

When I was twenty I left home to travel. First stop was my Uncle Barry's house in Oakland. I stepped out to go touring San Francisco and found myself opposite a neighbor across the street. And I was instantly, deeply terrified. He was black.

I grew up literally 200 miles from the nearest African American male. He was my first encounter.

I was instantly mortified. My mother had explained that many people had an automatic fear of black people and that it was unrelated to anything real. Today we would say it is a meme, with a life of its own.

I had not known until that moment that I had it in me. I was ashamed. I had been taught the Testimonies, not as religious tenets but as truths that we live by; my mother never mentioned Friends. I knew this meme violated several truths – that of God in everyone, we are all equal; people are fundamentally good, integrity, being truthful. And it clearly had nothing to do with this actual, small 10-year old boy standing in front of me.

I turned on that meme and killed it. I did not realize that I had done this until I moved to North Carolina, because my life continued to be entirely among white people until then. When I got here and encountered the fears of other people, I realized that I did not have that fear. For which I am grateful. It has allowed me to go places and do things I might not have done otherwise. It has allowed me to be friendly to young black men I happen to encounter in parking lots late at night (true story for another time).

Wendy Michener

## Integration

As a teenager, I was a part of the integration of the Winston-Salem schools in the early 1970s, nearly two decades after Brown v. Board outlawed the practice of segregation. Teachers integrated one year, students the next. Yet, somehow, the large majority of my classes remained almost lily-white. With the exception of gym and social studies, I was "tracked" into "honors" classes that excluded Black students.

Tom Munk

#### The Best Man

Just after graduation, back in the 60's I worked as a chemist for Mobil Oil, in Brooklyn. One summer a man started there as an intern, and worked there for about a year. Dave and I became good friends, I later found out that his grandfather, and uncles were all top executives at Mobil Oil and they expected that he would follow suit. He didn't continue at Mobil but we remained friends for many years. I was invited to his home, met his family, and spent time with them on their yacht.

Dave moved to Michigan but we stayed in touch. A few years later when he was engaged, he asked me to be his best man and I agreed that I would. The wedding was to take place in Gross Point Michigan, the hometown of his fiancee. We made all the plans by phone for my tuxedo, flight arrangements from New York etc. He had told her family all about me and they couldn't wait to meet me. That is, until the bride's father found out that I was Black, just a few days before the wedding.

All hell broke loose... Dave's future father in law said that there would be no wedding if the best man was Black. Dave called, he was distraught about the situation. He was devastated because he had fought so hard to change the father in law's mind but there was nothing he could do. I had to console him, and convince him that I would be OK. I was OK because this is the way I must live my life. I cannot afford not to be OK.

Lambson Sandy

#### The School-to-Prison Pipeline

I was 25, a young teacher at Wm. Cullen Bryant High School, Queens, New York. I had lunchroom duty. It was my job to keep students in the lunchroom. One black student wanted to leave and nudged me aside as he did so. I reported the incident to an assistant principal. I was carefully counselled about what lies to tell at the hearing in the Board of Education offices in Brooklyn in order to have the student suspended. I didn't tell the lies, but I gained some unpleasant understanding about our "justice" system.

I wish I could tell you what happened with that student, but I can't. I was a young and very busy teacher at a big, impersonal school. I went on with my life.

Tom Munk

## **Personals - Looking for Temporary Housing**

Dear Friends,

I am a Quaker who attends Adelphi meeting in Maryland. I will be in the Chapel Hill area to visit family from around Sept 23 - Oct 16. I am looking for a place to stay/work from remotely should friends have a need for a house sitter or a basement apartment available. I am vaccinated and enjoy caring for pets and plants. These dates are also flexible. I also frequently come down for visits, so could certainly arrange for another time that works for you.

A bit about me: I am 44 years old and work as an instructional designer for Johns Hopkins. I enjoy painting, singing and doing yoga.

Thank you,

Jessica Arends (814)769-6906 jessica.arends@gmail.com portfolio

## **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

## **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

#### **Minutes**

## 9 am Sunday August 15, 2021

#### Online via Zoom

## Chris Stanley, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk

#### In attendance:

Joyce Sandy, Dave Curtin, Carolyn Stuart, Pat Mann, Ken Grogan, Bob Durovich, Maura Murphy, Wendy Michener, Buffie Webber, Montese Snyder, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Ellen O'Brien, Joe Groves, Emily Condon, Hart Pillow, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Deborah Gibbs, Buzz Borchardt, Rich Godfrey, Faye Stanley, Alice Carlton, Hank Elkins, Paul Munk, Joyce Munk, Ben Ray, Lois Ann Hobbs, Jan Hutton, Dottie Henninger, Lloyd Kramer, Julia Cleaver, Ann Miller, Jasmine McKewen, Betsy Brinson, Pam Schwingl, Nancy Milio, Kate Vinta Fitch, John Hite, Susan Inglis, Chris Stanley

1. Opening worship and query – Chris Stanley, Meeting Clerk.

Query: How does our Worship nurture all worshipers, creating a deeper sense of community?

- 2. Chris welcomed the Meeting and reviewed the agenda. There were no first-time attenders.
- 3. Susan: Minutes of the July Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB) were approved with the correction of a name.

- 4. Maura Murphy, Treasurer, presented the quarterly financial report for July. It is attached as Appendix 1. She responded to Friends' questions and comments, and the report was approved with gratitude for Maura's long service and for the clarity of her report.
- 5. Bob Durovich, Clerk of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, requested that their annual report be presented in September, and it was rescheduled.
- 6. Carolyn Stuart, Clerk of the Care and Counsel Committee, reported on the interment service for Robin Evangeline Neal, which occurred on July 18, 2021. The service was prepared by her husband Greg Neal and took place in good order with 14 individuals attending, all finding it meaningful and moving. Robin's name will be added to the plaque and her memorial minute to the Memorial Book. A memorial minute will appear in the newsletter.
- 7. Monteze Snyder from the Finance Committee reported on the placement of income over expenses from the prior fiscal year. The money that was left from the last fiscal year was split 50/50 between the Designated Renovation Fund and the Physical Plant Reserve Fund. Friends approved the report.
- 8. Joyce Sandy of the Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) of the Peace and Justice Committee presented a letter and survey regarding the "Change the Name" project that the committee is leading. It is attached here as Appendix 2. The committee was seeking approval to distribute the letter and survey to several other Chapel Hill churches and organizations, asking them to engage with us to support this project. Joyce responded to Friends' questions and comments, clarifying that the letter with survey will be sent to First Baptist Church, Chapel of the Cross, St. Paul's AME Church, Binkley Baptist Church, North Carolina Hillel, NAACP, NAACP Youth, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Chapel Hill NOW. It requests that they join us in the effort to 1) change the name of Cameron Avenue to Pauli Murray Avenue and 2) build on the improvement with other name changes. It is expected that other churches and community groups will get involved as the effort progresses. She also clarified that changing a street name in Chapel Hill takes approval of 75% of landowners on the street, then a public hearing called by the Town Council before they vote on the request. The committee has been working about a year on this effort and expects it to take several more. With discussion, Friends approved the request and expressed gratitude.
- 9. Alice Carlton provided the Ministry and Worship Committee's update on the experiment with returning to face-to-face worship. It is included here as Appendix 3. Friends approved the report with appreciation.
- 10. Chris reminded Friends that our next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on September 19th, 2021.

Dottie Henninger announced that Ed Gross, Carolyn White's father, died yesterday.

11. Closing worship concluded the Meeting in time for preparation for 11:00 AM Meeting for Worship.

10:39 AM 08/13/21 Cash Basis

## Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Budget v. Actuals July 2020 through June 2021

	Jul '20 - Jun 21	Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			_
Income Contributions	70,249.32	53,550.00	131.2%
Total Income	70,249.32	53,550.00	131.2%
Gross Profit	70,249.32	53,550.00	131.2%
Expense A-Obligations Bank Fee FDS Coordinator/Childcare Insurance Software License Fee UBIT, Storm Fees	0.00 6,819.76 5,620.00 724.46 781.56	50.00 6,800.00 5,900.00 1,000.00	0.0% 100.3% 95.3% 72.4% 97.7%
Utilities	3,383.07	5,300.00	63.8%
Total A-Obligations	17,328.85	19,850.00	87.3%
B-Committees Adult Religious Ed Building and Grounds Care and Counsel	0.00 4,071.00	60.00 6,600.00	0.0% 61.7%
Meeting for Suffering Care and Counsel - Other	0.00 100.00	120.00 110.00	0.0% 90.9%
Total Care and Counsel	100.00	230.00	43.5%
Children's/Youth Religous Ed	0.00	600.00	0.0%
Communication Technology Finance	268.48	500.00	53.7%
Contingency Fund Credit Card Fee Finance - Other	0.00 337.01 1,352.89	210.00 200.00 400.00	0.0% 168.5% 338.2%
Total Finance	1,689.90	810.00	208.6%
Friends Transition & Suppt-Yoke Hospitality IFC Library Ministry and Worship	129.75 122.00 0.00 150.00 308.18	500.00 240.00 120.00 270.00 540.00	25.0% 50.8% 0.0% 55.6% 57.1%
Nominations	0.00	10.00	0.0%
Peace and Justice National Quaker Service Peace and Justice - Other	0.00 0.00	900.00 300.00	0.0% 0.0%
Total Peace and Justice	0.00	1,200.00	0.0%
Publications and Communications	0.00	1,250.00	0.0%
Total B-Committees	6,839.31	12,930.00	52.9%
C-Transfers to other accounts Returning Citizens	0.00	770.00	0.0%
Total C-Transfers to other accounts	0.00	770.00	0.0%
D-Benevolences Legacy Benevolences M&W Benevolences P&J Benevolences D-Benevolences - Other	15,800.00 2,250.00 2,664.00 0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00 20,000.00	100.0% 100.0% 100.0% 0.0%
Total D-Benevolences	20,714.00	20,000.00	103.6%
Total Expense	44,882.16	53,550.00	83.8%

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## Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Budget v. Actuals July 2020 through June 2021

	Jul '20 - Jun 21	Budget	% of Budget
Net Ordinary Income	25,367.16	0.00	100.0%
Other Income/Expense Other Income Misc Income Building Renovation Donation	60.00		
Interest Income Shotts payout	7.71 1,375.38		
Total Misc Income	1,443.09		
Total Other Income	1,443.09		
Other Expense Care and Counsel outreach Returning Citizens (ReFac) Shotts Leadership	500.00 907.11 440.00		
Total Other Expense	1,847.11		
Net Other Income	-404.02		
et Income	24,963.14	0.00	100.0%

## Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Balance Sheet

As of June 30, 2021

	Jun 30, 21
ASSETS Current Assets Checking/Savings 1-Checking BB&T-2699	47.457.43
2-Savings BB&T-9737	29,671.50
3-Designated Renovat BB&T-4039 4-Designated Funds BB&T-4593	26,106.32
Care and Counsel Support Funds ReFac Support Funds	7,887.44 2,323.25
Shotts Leadership Support Funds	3,264.96
Youth Service Support Funds	3,116.28
Total 4-Designated Funds BB&T-4593	16,591.93
Total Checking/Savings	119,827.18
Other Current Assets	
FF- General Fund Designated FF- Physical Plant Resry Fund-D	31,230.16 27,573.59
Total Other Current Assets	58,803.75
Total Current Assets	178,630.93
Other Assets FF- Shotts Endowment Rst	43,888.03
Total Other Assets	43,888.03
TOTAL ASSETS	222,518.96
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities Current Liabilities Accounts Payable Accounts Payable	26.09
Total Accounts Payable	26.09
Other Current Liabilities Payroll Liabilities	520.33
Total Other Current Liabilities	520.33
Total Current Liabilities	546.42
Total Liabilities	546.42
Equity FF Unrealized Gain/Loss Opening Balance Equity Unrestricted Net Assets Net Income	22,261.42 134,376.03 40,371.95 24,963.14
Total Equity	221,972.54
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	222,518.96

# Appendix 2 Letter and survey regarding the "Change the Name" project

Dear Community Leaders,

The Anti Racism Committee (ARC) of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting is committed to a *Change the Name* project which seeks to remove the vestiges of racism from street names throughout Chapel Hill. We believe that the honor of a street name given to past slaveholders continues the negative impact of their words and deeds in our everyday lives. As caring residents who believe in equality for all, we seek instead to honor those whose very lives are examples of the positive values to which we all aspire.

The *Change the Name* project started with Cameron Avenue, named for Paul Cameron, a slaveholder of 900 slaves, on 30,000 acres in this area. Many of the slaves owned by Cameron were the earliest builders of the campus of the University of North Carolina. A replacement name, Pauli Murray Avenue, was chosen based on research and informal canvassing of black and white residents of Chapel Hill. Pauli Murray grew up in Durham. In spite of being a top student, she was denied entry to UNC because of her color. This first black woman to achieve a Doctorate of Law from Yale worked with Thurgood Marshall on Brown v. Board of Education, and spent a lifetime tearing down barriers blocking access to the American dream for so many. Later, as the first black female priest of the Episcopal Church, Murray came home to give her first sermon at the Chapel of the Cross in Chapel Hill. We invite you to learn more about both Pauli Murray and Paul Cameron at a Chapel Hill Friends Meeting forum on September 12, 2021. Please join our virtual gathering from 9:30 to 10:30 at https://zoom.us/j/96090762961?pwd=cjJWcG5ObXITMnZOQTdLVk55TUFIZz09.

The change from Cameron Avenue to Pauli Murray Avenue is not a "one and done" undertaking. Chapel Hill has many connections to champions of civil rights whose achievements deserve recognition, and many streets which carry the names of those representing the wrongful oppression of innocent human beings. It would speak volumes if Chapel Hill chose a pattern of lifting up those who fought tirelessly for equality and justice.

We envision a local coalition of faith-based and secular organizations that would be instrumental in engaging the community in the *Change the Name* project. This group would select and prepare for submission the names of other worthy Chapel Hill individuals, garnering the support and participation needed to make proposals to the town council. Here is the link to a survey to determine your interest in taking part in this coalition to change street names in Chapel Hill. We hope you, and your organization, will join with us in this important and meaningful work. (*See attached survey below to review questions*.)

Please return the survey on or before November 1, 2021.

In community,

The Anti-Racism Committee of The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## **Proposed Survey Questions**

- 1. Does your organization support the change in Chapel Hill street names from former enslavers to those with uplifting ideals which unite the community? YES NO
- 2. Will your organization represent this viewpoint at the public hearing of the Chapel Hill Council which by law must follow a successful Cameron to Murray change petition? YES NO
- 3. Is your organization interested in forming and joining a Change the Names Coalition which will select the new street names for other existing streets named after enslavers? YES NO
- 4. Will your organization be open to work with the residents of the selected streets to make the proposed changes a reality? YES NO

# Appendix 3 August 2021 Report on the Status of Worship

The Ministry & Worship Committee (M&W) recommends that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting continue to offer opportunities for small group worship in a variety of settings on a trial basis. Friends are attending all six options for worship and religious education, deciding for themselves what option on a First Day best meets their needs for safety and wellbeing.

M&W has observed options and offers the following notes:

- 1. Early worship in the meeting room from 8:15 to 9:15 AM has been attended by about a half dozen, with capacity for more.
- 2. Forum via Zoom only, 9:30 to 10:30, has been attended by 20 to 30 or so.
- **3.** Worship in the meeting room from 11:00 to 12:00 has averaged two dozen in attendance, which allows some social distancing; the Building & Grounds Committee's quick work in June on short notice resulted in successful application of window fans for ventilation; volunteers are helping with early morning installation and putting away at the rise of 11:00 AM meeting.
- **4.** Worship outside from 11:00 to 12:00 under the Magnolia tree has ranged from 5 to 14, with capacity for more in a circle.
- **5.** Worship via Zoom from 11:00 to 12:00 has ranged from 15 to 27.
- **6.** First Day School on the playground from 11:00 to 12:00 has been attended by a few children and youth, and the nursery has been used at least once.

Friends are wearing masks indoors and outside for the safety and health of all, including children who are under age for vaccination.

We are happy to add that Friends are again holding meeting for worship at Carol Woods at 11:00.

M&W and Buildings & Grounds had a joint meeting on July 20 for the purpose of aligning plans and efforts for in-person worship. In brief,

- The committees arrived at clarity and unity that the current in-person worship options should continue for a duration to be determined based on pandemic related conditions. The uncertain nature of COVID-19 risk factors clouds a shared vision for worship options.
- The committees will accept, process and share comments from the Meeting related to in-person worship. The committees will share updates about intentions and efforts regarding in-person worship, with the intention of another joint committee sharing in September.
- The committees did not reach clarity or unity about the intent, value or specific scope of a proposal to engage professional services for ventilation improvements.

M&W plans to follow up with Hospitality, Children and Youth Religious Education, Adult Religious Education, the Zoom Working Group and all committee clerks. One opportunity will be the annual Clerk's Retreat. Please hold the date—October 2—for a morning online session for committee clerks and anyone in our community with an interest in Quaker process as exercised in committees as they do the work of the Meeting.

M&W, in consultation with the Zoom working group, recommends postponement of additional testing of a blended meeting for worship until September to get past summer vacations and make time for a fresh assessment of health and safety risk factors. M&W is grateful for the diligence of the working group in supporting online religious education and worship.

The Ministry & Worship Committee reached clarity on another opportunity for ministry and worship. Since mid-April when the COVID-19 pandemic arrived in full force, Lynn and Matt Drake have held weekly Wednesday evening Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light. The Drakes proposed this "as an anchor for the Meeting" when the meetinghouse was closed. M&W approved their offer. Many of us have participated "off-line" from our homes within a 2-hour window. The Drakes will continue offering the opportunity through August and will then step away from full responsibility for the ministry. M&W agreed that the Wednesday evening prayers did provide – and continues to provide - an anchor for the Meeting. The committee invites other Friends to assume responsibility for one Wednesday evening a month. A small group of 4 to 6 could keep this going. A Meeting email address could be established where Friends could send names to be prayed for. Chris Stanley volunteered to coordinate an initial meeting of the volunteers. At this time, you may volunteer to be responsible for hosting an evening once a month. Volunteers will also be invited via "In the Light"/news@chapelhillfriends.org. M&W minuted its gratitude to Matt and Lynn Drake for conceiving and leading the weekly Prayer for Healing/Holding in the Light ministry.

As always, the committee values and invites your comments this morning or anytime via ministryandworship@chapelhillfriends.org.

July 18, 2021 Ministry & Worship Committee Jeff Brown, clerk, Madelyn Ashley, Alice Carlton, Matt Drake, Rich Godfrey, Dottie Heninger, Carolyn White and Chris Stanley, ex officio

#### **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

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