

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Tenth Month, 2021

- **Monthly Query:** *How do I affirm and support the presence of God/Spirit in the process of discernment and reaching a decision?*
- **Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee:** *Friends who set aside time each day for meditation, personal prayer, or reflection often find it strengthens and deepens their experience with the living silence of meeting for worship. Such preparation readies the mind and opens one's heart and spirit to engage in deep communion with others.*



Upcoming Zoom Forums

October 3: Prison from the Inside Out. Co-authors *William "Mecca" Elmore and Susan Simone* will share the story of his journey from a life sentence to freedom, as told in their newly-released book.

October 10: Why Is War Not the Answer? Nancy Milio

October 17: Meeting for Business

October 24: Freedman's School. The story behind the new historical marker in Carrboro. Teaser: it mentions the Society of Friends.

October 31: Day of the Dead

November 7: Living with the Natural World. Pat Mann and Pam Schwingl

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

FCNCL Annual Meeting - October 2, 10am - 12:30

Quakers are called to prophetic witness. On October 2, 2021, 10am-12:30pm, the FCNCL Annual meeting will, among other items, ask members to consider how their faith leads them to lean into advocacy for legislation and policies that are more just. Join us this first Saturday of October in understanding how FCNCL can advocate for NC legislation that is consistent with Quaker values. There is strength in numbers, and Quaker faith in action is urgently needed to voice our values in solidarity with others who share them.

To register please click on the link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZuVYTqPP52lgUFXH0VvUxUfE_bK43q4sdmmeL-H7UlipZKw/viewform

Movie Discussion, Oct 17, 4pm

CHFM Quaker Earthcare Witness group invites Friends to join us on Sunday, October 17, 2021 at 4 pm via Zoom to discuss David Attenborough's Netflix documentary [Breaking Boundaries: The Science of Our Planet](#). The Zoom link will be sent closer to the date of October 17.

Please watch the film in advance, available on Netflix.com, and come with questions, responses and thoughts about how we each might address the climate crisis. Please contact Alice Carlton, CHFM QEW Clerk, with questions at amberalice47@gmail.com.

Quaker House 5K Peace Race, Oct 23 - 30

We want to race to peace, and we invite you to join us virtually! The last week of October, design your own 5K or 100 yard run/dash/walk and run it in your location. We would love it if you include place(s) that speak to you of peace and/or social justice (peace for all of us). Take photos or write about the route you chose and share it with us! We will do the same. Know other people who would enjoy this? Please share it with them! We want this to involve as many people across the nation and even across the globe as we can.

<https://runsignup.com/Race/NC/Fayetteville/TheQuakerHouse5kPeaceRace>

Quaker House is happy to announce its inaugural race! Join your family, friends, and fellow meeting members between October 23, 2021 and October 30, 2021 as you make your way through a virtual 5k for peace. All of your donation and a significant portion of your registration fees will go to supporting Quaker House as it continues to manifest the Friends' Peace Testimony and encourage peace around the world!

For \$20, participants can register to run wherever they are! Just track your time and upload it via this website when you are finished. Your registration also provides you with the inaugural Quaker House 5k Peace Race T-shirt in the size of your choosing and the participants holding the fastest three 5k times will win a Visa Gift card!

If you desire to receive your shirt prior to the race, we ask that you register prior to October 2, 2021. The final day for registration in order to receive a shirt is October 29, 2021. This will allow us the opportunity to have a final headcount and send you your wonderful shirt after the race is over. We have made the registration fee as low as possible to encourage all to participate, but we urge everyone to donate what they feel so that we can continue to serve our mission and spread peace across the world.

In this virtual 5k, you can run anywhere between October 23, 2021 and October 30, 2021! In your neighborhood, your local park, your favorite hiking path, wherever! Keep track of your time in whatever way you choose (you can even use your favorite smartwatch or fitness tracker!) and just upload your recorded time to this website. For Quaker meeting members, we are encouraging everyone to sign up with their local meeting and get to know your meeting members a little better! For those local to Quaker House, we will be walking (or running, if you so choose) together on October 30, 2021 at 9:00am, so come on out and join us! Participants are allowed to submit times until 6pm on October 30, 2021.

Friends General Conference Gathering, July 3 - 9

The Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering 2022 is being hosted by Piedmont Friends and will be held in-person nearby – at Radford University, Radford, Virginia.

The Gathering is a week of Quaker worship, workshops, and community for all ages. Friends come together from across the US and Canada (and sometimes further) to deepen our connection to one another and the Spirit.

The dates are July 3 through July 9. The theme for 2022 is “...and follow me.”

Given the proximity, the hosting by our yearly meeting, and the first in-person sessions since 2019, this is a rare opportunity to participate.

The week of the Gathering is packed with programs and events, from small group workshops to evening plenaries, and programs for children, teens, and young adults. You can register to attend the full event, or just the parts that fit with your schedule.

Registration will be open early in 2022. A reminder—if you need financial assistance to attend the Gathering, Chapel Hill Friends through the Shotts Leadership Development Fund and Piedmont Friends can contribute for part of the cost.

We have opportunities to participate in planning the event. Piedmont Friends have a Hosting Committee. The FGC Gathering Committee has subcommittees for the following aspects of the event: Adult Young Friends (18-35), Local Arrangements, High School, Junior Gathering, Evening Programs, Workshops, Worship, and Communication.

For more information, visit the FGC website (<https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>) and see a 6-minute video about the Gathering. Or contact our Piedmont Friends representatives: Ann Miller and Leslie Rountree (PFYM) and Jasmine McKewen and Brad Schultz (PFF).

Recurring Events

Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN Virtual Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Join us when you can for as 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: prayers@chapelhillfriends.org. The list of names to be held in the Light will be renewed each month. Names must be resubmitted each month to be maintained on the list. We'll send an updated list on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for joining us!

This virtual prayer service continues under the care of the Ministry and Worship Committee and each week, a volunteer will collect and post the names that are submitted and will read them aloud during the time of the service. You can be one of these volunteers! Please contact the Ministry and Worship Committee (mw@chapelhillfriends.org) or Chris Stanley (clerkofmeeting@chapelhillfriends.org) to join the volunteers supporting this ongoing ministry.

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

Participate in a Song Project - No Musical Background Necessary

Claire Bates and Jeff Brown invite Friends and friends to answer the question: "How do you sense the Spirit in music?" for a musical project they are working on. If you respond with interest, they will interview you about one or more songs in which you sense Spirit. Using their own musical skills, and perhaps involving other musicians, they hope to work with you to present this song in a way that has meaning for you. (You need not have any particular musical skills that you have confidence in, but it is fine if you do!) They hope to gather songs in a collection to be shared over time. Please write to Claire (clairebatesmusic@gmail.com) with interest.

Please Volunteer!

Friends, each Sunday a small number of volunteers have been installing fans in the meeting room windows before early meeting. More volunteers are needed - two per week- to continue this. Volunteers should be able to stand on benches and hold a fan against the top frame of the window while another volunteer pushes up the sash. Add your name to the Doodle poll (link is below) and select the Sundays when you can help.

Installation takes 20 mins and we start at 7:45 except at 7:30 on 3rd Sundays of the month. Guidance will be provided.

For Sundays with no or one volunteer, there will be no fans or just fans in the lower sash openings exhausting air from the meeting room (i.e. no forced fresh air).

Thank you.

https://doodle.com/poll/2xkf9aqr5g8q6sxr?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link

The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Dottie Henniger shares with Friends:

The Inter-Faith Council pantry continues to need donations of food items. Please think of the IFC as you do your grocery shopping! The basket in the meetinghouse foyer is available to receive your contributions. For attenders who worship on Zoom, plastic bins will be put on the front porch on the last Wednesday of each month for your donations. Please also remember that financial gifts are always welcome. You can make your contributions online at the IFC website, ifcweb.org. Thank you!

Dottie

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.

(continued next page)

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.

Newsletter & eNews Reminder

Note: If you think that you haven't received your weekly enews or monthly newsletter, it helps to add news@chapelhillfriends.org to your contacts. Otherwise it might go to your Spam folder (and likewise for other chapelhillfriends.org mailing lists such as pfym@chapelhillfriends.org).

Please send items for the weekly eNews email and the monthly print Newsletter to news@chapelhillfriends.org. **Note:** The eNews is formatted using Google Docs, so submissions in that format are most welcome!

- The deadline for weekly eNews is *midnight on Wednesday*. Please put "**for eNews**" in the subject line.
- The deadline for the monthly print Newsletter is on the *last Sunday of the month*. Please put "**for Newsletter**" in the subject line.

To unsubscribe, email to news@chapelhillfriends.org with the subject line, Unsubscribe.

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 as 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 (linda.drake100@gmail.com) or Matt (matthiascdrake@gmail.com). We'll send an updated list on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for joining us!

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:

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/arc-anecdotes.html>.

We invite/encourage Friends to contribute from their own experience. Please send to lbassinger@gmail.com. Contributions will be vetted by the ARC before being placed in the CHF M 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.

"I ♥ MY CHINESE SISTER-IN-LAW"

With increasing alarm and sadness, I've read about anti-Asian attacks occurring throughout the country. After learning an elderly Asian woman was punched in the face--so hard she that blacked out--I knew I had to channel my feelings of helplessness into some form of action. But what? I decided to communicate that these attacks are not something I support. Using a Sharpie, I wrote "I ♥ MY CHINESE SISTER-IN-LAW" on a strip of paper and pinned it to my shirt.

Because I do. Agnes is from Hong Kong, and she is one of the best things that ever happened to my brother.

I've been wearing this handmade sign whenever I leave the house, and have encountered a variety of reactions. White people typically tend to stifle nervous giggles, or look at me in puzzlement. Sometimes they do smile, but a smile has yet to be the first reaction. Nonwhite people, on the other hand, have tended to give me some of the warmest glances and smiles I've ever received from strangers in my life.

"I ♥ MY CHINESE SISTER-IN-LAW" is simply an expression of love for a member of my family. It's hardly a deep thought, and yet publicly expressing it seems to illustrate a deeper truth: Each of us--no matter who we are, where we live, or who we vote for--each of us truly loves someone and is loved by someone.

It is often said that Love is all there is. If that's true, every single person I encounter in life is a person who is truly loved--by someone. When I can remember to focus on that Love, anything difficult falls away.

-Anonymous

Quaker House house plan - Part 1

The Quaker House was built in 1929, when having a maid/cook who came in daily was common. In this house, the kitchen and wood porch (for a wood stove) were under the same roof but had no direct access to the rest of the house. The servant walked around the left side of the house and came to this small porch, where the wood for the stove was kept. Once you were standing on this porch, the kitchen door (with a large window) was directly ahead, the door to the dining room on the right and the door to the back porch of the house to the left. The "servant quarters" were well and truly hidden from public view.

The key to this kitchen door was different from the rest of the house - but only from the outside. The same lock, from the kitchen side, matched all the other house locks. The servant could not lock themselves in. I have no idea how you key such a lock! But it was a real thing - we had two keys for that door. One on the frig to lock/unlock it from the inside and another for doing the same from the outside.

The point? The servant could arrive early to start cooking, but they could not enter the house until allowed in by the family ~ Wendy Michener

Quaker House house plan - Part 2

So the Quaker House house plan included a toilet just for the servant. (This was an innovation - so what did servants do before this time? A bucket in the kitchen? The backyard?) This toilet was in the basement. Quaker House is on a steep hill, so the back 17 feet or so is a walk-in basement. In the original, it was bricked in on each side for maybe 10 feet and open in the center. That center has a brick floor. The left "wing" had a wide outside door, the right 'wing' was just brick. The toilet was in the left "wing". A wall was built to block it off from the center bricked area, so it had three walls, the fourth was open to the crawl space under the rest of the house, same as the rest of the walk-in basement.

The toilet was set directly over the sewer line which ran from the front of the house, back to this toilet room and then did a u-turn to run back to the street and the city sewer line which had just been put in - one of the first in the city to be laid. The floor of this room was sandy dirt - not brick. The wood wall is open studs - only the other side was finished. And it had no water line. The water heater was only 6 feet away, but this toilet was never plumbed. You had to carry a bucket of water with you to flush the toilet. And it likely had no electric light. Did the servant hang a blanket on the fourth wall for privacy? There is no one living to tell us.

This was deliberate and planned. Not an accident. It was a casual viciousness, likely never thought out, just done because that was how you treated your black servants. I was angry the first time I realized it wasn't plumbed. I get angry every time I remember it. Why do this? What is the root of this behavior?

-Wendy Michener

Freedom?

Recently I went to the coast on vacation, the first trip my family had taken in fourteen months. Since not everyone was old enough to be vaccinated, we packed plenty of masks and planned to avoid indoor activities.

One outdoor activity our children were especially excited about was our visit to a sea turtle sanctuary and hospital. It was packed with humans, maybe 15% of whom were wearing masks. It was amazing to me to see so many unmasked faces, but what really stood out to me was how most of the faces were white, and how very, very many of these white people were wearing freedom-themed t-shirts, like "Freedom Ain't Free," "BBQ, Beer, and Freedom," "Defending Freedom," "Freedom Warrior," or simply "FREEDOM!!"

I didn't see a single freedom-garbed person wearing a face mask, and I didn't expect to. There was a lot of subtext about being both maskless and free. Still, as I stepped back to make room for yet another group of proudly free white people, I caught sight of a tall black woman calmly reading an exhibit sign. She was wearing a mask, and it occurred to me, not for the first time: Who has the truest claim on the theme of freedom in this country? People descended from slaves.

So why are so many white people obsessed with it? Former prisoners of war, I can certainly understand. But this goes way past that.

-Anonymous

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Minutes

9 am Sunday September 19, 2021

Online via Zoom

Chris Stanley, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk

In attendance: Chris Stanley, Jeff Brown, Wendy Mitchener, Carolyn White, Monteze Snyder, Faye Stanley, Ben Ray, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Jasmine McKewen, Betsy Brinson, Dottie Henninger, Joe Groves, Ann Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Tom Munk, Drake, Kate Vinita Fitch, Jan Hutton, Ken Grogan, Dave Curtin, Alice Carlton, Karen Jessee, Paul Munk, Buffie Weber, Nancy Milio, Emilie Condon, Ben Ray

1. Chris Stanley, Meeting Clerk, opened the meeting with worship centered on the Query: How do we recognize, develop and nurture the spiritual gifts of all in our community?
2. Chris welcomed the Meeting and reviewed the agenda. There were no first-time attenders
3. Susan had prepared the Minutes of the August Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). Friends approved the August MWAB minute as presented.
4. Deborah Gibbs, Clerk of the Adult Religious Education Committee, prepared the committee's annual report, and Tom Munk presented it. It is attached here as Appendix 1. Friends expressed appreciation and noted that attendance has increased on Zoom so it is a good idea to continue on that platform. Friends accepted the report with gratitude.
5. Bob Durovich, Clerk of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, presented their annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 2. Friends discussed and expressed appreciation for the committee's ongoing work in keeping our Meeting House and grounds well cared for and COVID-safe. The report was accepted with appreciation.
6. The Meeting received a request for membership from Alicia Abrams and it has been referred to the Ministry and Worship Committee. A Clearness Committee is being formed. Her request:
I would like to become a member of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. I have been visiting the meetings for a few years now and I feel drawn to officially join the community. I have really come to appreciate surrounding myself with a community who shares the same goals to live simply, practice non-violence and advocate for equal value of all people. I would like to become more involved with the community and I believe this is the first step. Thank you for your consideration! Best Regards, Alicia Abrams
7. Monteze Snyder, Clerk of the Finance Committee presented their annual report, which had been drafted by Rich Godfrey and Buffie Weber. It is attached here as Appendix 3. She responded to Friends' questions to clarify a few points. The Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business minutes its deep appreciation of Maura Murphey's diligent service as Treasurer over the last ten years. Friends accepted and approved the annual report of the Finance Committee.

8. Carolyn White presented a proposal from the Nominations Committee to fill a gap that had opened on the Finance Committee. Since Rich Godfrey has had to step down, the proposal is that Tom Ludlow extend service for another year, and that Ann Miller re-join the committee. Friends approved the proposal.

9. The Ministry and Worship Committee provided an update report on the experiment with returning to face-to-face worship. It is attached here as Appendix 4. Friends accepted the report.

10. Dottie Heninger, a member of the Ministry and Worship Committee, presented a new welcoming document for approval. It is attached here as Appendix 5. Friends requested the addition of the link for the online guest book, and approved the document with appreciation for its clarity and precision.

11. Chris reminded Friends that our next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on October 17th, 2021.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Friends are reminded to send items for the weekly eNews to news@chapelhillfriends.org, and to put “for eNews” in the subject line. Deadline is each Wednesday at midnight. For the monthly print newsletter, email news@chapelhillfriends.org. Put “for Newsletter” in the subject line. Deadline is the last Sunday of the month.

1. The annual Clerks’ Retreat will be held online on October 9th from 9 AM until noon. All committee clerks and anyone wanting to learn more about our process are encouraged to attend.
2. Jeff Brown announced the FGC Gathering 2022 planning needs. It is attached here as Appendix 6.
3. CHFM Quaker Earthcare Witness group invites Friends to join us on Sunday October 17, 2021 at 4 pm via Zoom to discuss David Attenborough’s Netflix documentary *Breaking Boundaries: The Science of Our Planet*. Please watch the film in advance and come with questions and responses and thoughts about how we each might address the climate crisis. Questions? Contact Alice Carlton, CHFM QEW Clerk, at amberalice47@gmail.com.

12. Friends closed the meeting with worship and a virtual circle.

Appendix 1

ARE Annual Report 2021

The Adult Religious Education Committee works to enhance the spiritual life of the Meeting community and to nurture the spiritual and intellectual growth of Meeting members. One of our main functions is to provide weekly forums on different topics connecting us to each other, our Quaker faith and practice, and to our role in the greater world. We ask committee clerks to suggest ideas for forum topics. We also consider suggestions from members and attenders, and ideas generated by ARE committee members.

We attempt to provide a rich range of topics and periodically review the representation of different types of topics. Some forums fall into several categories. Between late August of 2020 and mid-June of 2021, forums included personal sharing (3), Quaker faith and practice (11), racial equity and justice (3) other social issues (7), and community nurturing (7). The forums addressing Quaker faith and practice included a series on the testimonies of Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, and Equality. Among 33 forums, 8 were sponsored by committees, and 10 included outside speakers. As we did during summer of 2020, ARE continued offering forum sessions during the 2021 summer months, with a series of worship sharings on Quakerism, Race, and Connection.

Since March of 2020, forums have been offered by Zoom. This has allowed us to engage a wider range of outside speakers, including Karen Tibbals of NJ, Paulette Meier of Cincinnati, and Mary Rider from Raleigh. Meeting electronically has enabled our traditional Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals to be even more inclusive. Participation in these zoom forums has been robust. We thank the Zoom Working Group for their steadfast assistance, and encourage members and attenders to consider joining the tech host group.

ARE welcomes suggestions for forum topics as well as suggestions for improvement. We thank the committee clerks and Meeting members for their forum suggestions as well as their willingness to prepare and lead forums. The committee works with the Publications Committee and Ministry and Worship Committees to ensure that forums are announced in a timely fashion. Forums are listed in the newsletter, on the Meeting's website and announced at the rise of all Meetings for Worship. We appreciate the contributions of departing committee members, Naveed Moeed and Max Drake. In July we welcomed new members John Bell and Ann Filiaci. Continuing members are Lori Fernald Kahmala, Jennifer Leeman, Tom Munk, Mark Toles, and Deborah Gibbs (clerk).

A list of forums from late August 2020 through mid-August 2021 is attached.

2020-2021 Forums

1. August 23: Military Might in Our Environment. Quaker House's executive director, Kindra Bradley, and GI Rights Hotline Counselor, Steve Woolford
2. August 30: Tom Ludlow. Mental Health and Addiction.
3. September 6: Climate Change and COVID-19 in Bolivia. Rebeca Ramos, the visiting teacher from Bolivia
4. September 13 : Your right next step? Naveed Moeed.
5. September 27: Ruth Zalph, personal sharing. Moderator: Naveed Moeed
6. October 4: Getting Through the Pandemic. Leslie Rountree and Jasmine McKewen ,
7. October 11: How do you get your news? How do you show your light? Tom Munk
8. October 25: Quakers and Reparations: What Canst Thou Say? John Bell.
9. November 1: Celebrating loved ones who have died.
10. November 8: M&W Spiritual practices during uncertain times. Alice Carlton and Matt Drake.
11. November 22: Orange County Bail/Bond Justice Project. Kimberley Brewer, Chair
12. November 29: How Do You Practice Gratitude, with Matt Drake and Ben Ray.
13. December 6: Holiday Songs and Stories.
14. December 13: Barbara Fedders, Policing in schools.
15. December 27: The winter solstice and finding the Light. Peter and Carolyn White January 3: Ringing in the new year.
16. January 10: Quaker Testimonies Series: Simplicity.
17. January 24: Timeless Quaker Wisdom in Plainsong. Paulette Meier
18. January 31: Facing A New World: the Biden Administration and FCNL. Nancy Milio.
19. February 7: Service to the Meeting. Givers of Time and Service
20. February 14: Quaker Testimonies Series: Community.
21. February 28: Climate Change in North Carolina: The Challenge for a Sustainable Future. Sally Robertson and Madeline Parker of NC WARN.
22. March 7: Persuade, Don't Preach: finding that of God in those we dislike. Karen Tibbals, Rahway Plainfield Monthly Meeting.
23. March 14: Quaker Testimonies Series: Peace. Mary Rider.
24. March 28: Bonnie Ludlow, Personal Sharing.

25. April 4: Quaker Testimonies Series: Equality.
26. April 11: PFF. No forum
27. April 18: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
28. April 25: IFC Update. Jackie Jenks
29. May 2: Quaker Testimonies Series: Integrity.
30. May 9: Mothers and Mother Figures
31. May 23: Graduation Forum
32. May 30: Climate Change: Starting a Conversation. Quaker Earthcare Witness members.
33. June 6: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Animals
34. June 13: Ben Ray Personal Sharing
35. June 27: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: What is it about Quakerism that feeds your soul?
36. July 4: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: What does the fourth of July mean to me as a Quaker?
37. July 11: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: As we emerge from pandemic quarantine, what lesson or practice would you like to keep?
38. July 25: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: How do we heal the political divide in this country and what role can you play?
39. August 1: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: When you think of your soul, what does that mean to you?
40. August 8: Simple forum series on Quakerism, Race, and Connection: Do you feel we are all connected, no matter race, gender, political views, etc., and if so, how and what does this mean to you?

Appendix 2

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Buildings & Grounds (B&G) Annual Report for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year

Responsibilities

1. Monitor the conditions of the meeting house and property
2. Schedule workdays to engage Friends in the care of the meeting house and property
3. Assess need for professional or extensive work and recommend same to MWAB
4. Oversee professional work
5. Oversee use of the meeting house and school
6. Recommend applicants for the position of meeting house resident
7. Oversee the meeting house resident's activities
8. Work closely with meeting house resident

Foreword

1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there were no meetings held in the meeting house during the 2020-2021 fiscal year. The resident continued living in the resident apartment. Individual access to the meeting house was limited to meeting essential tasks (e.g. pick-up of donations) and Friends were requested to inform the resident before arriving.

2. B&G, like other committees, met monthly on Zoom which was effective for committee discussions but did little for camaraderie.

Activities

3. The committee reviewed the proposed installation of a solar panel system that was sized to meet the power requirements of the meeting house and the Chapel Hill Early School. The committee had no installation or maintenance concerns with the project as proposed.
4. In the winter, the committee attempted several times to consider ways to reduce the risk of viral transmission in the meeting house. Several Friends believed enabling meeting for worship was tantamount to spreading the virus and no progress was made. In March, M&W requested B&G to investigate HVAC improvements to reduce viral transmission risk and B&G began that work. A professional engineer from Engineered Design, Inc (EDI), a company that focuses on HVAC systems, preliminarily reviewed our HVAC systems and building. A proposal followed for a detailed study that would result in recommendations. The work itself and the study would take 4-6 months to complete. A rough estimate put the cost between \$20K and \$50K depending on the study findings and improvements needed. The committee reached out to Pete Malone who has a professional background in HVAC systems. Pete measured the output from the HVAC systems and reviewed their design. The systems have limited filtering capability, little fresh air make-up and no treatment of re-circulated air. As changes to the mechanical system would require time, if implemented at all, B&G conceived a basic approach to refresh air in the meeting room using window fans. When resumption of meeting for worship on July 4th was announced, B&G bought eight window fans and three portable HEPA air purifiers to help reduce the risk of COVID transmission.
5. The committee diagrammed a “stage-gated” process which could help a committee address a meeting need in unity with the meeting with appropriate participation by members of various standing committees. B&G will seek to share and evolve the process in the coming year, should the meeting or other standing committees see value in doing so.
6. B&G held workdays in December and May. Friends, wearing masks and remaining socially distant, attended to outdoor building and property maintenance.
7. Due to the pandemic inside meeting house projects were held in abeyance. These included 1) the library/hospitality project, 2) efforts to address the downstairs sound issues, 3) addressing comfort issues associated with the building HVAC systems and 4) finishing of the downstairs cabinet doors.
8. The committee under spent its \$6,600 budget by a bit more than \$2,500. A tree was not removed as planned. Some tasks such as power washing and window washing were done by meeting members and the cost of other tasks was below that budget.
9. Don Hopper continued caring for the Memorial Garden.

Resident’s Report

John Hite, as the meeting house resident, continued providing basic care and security for the meeting house, the meeting grounds and the Chapel Hill Friends Early School (CHES) during the pandemic. He supported

the work of the B&G, M&W and CYRE committees and also the Zoom ad hoc committee. John served as our daily liaison with CHES assisting with a few school building issues which occurred outside of school hours. Due to the pandemic, there was no UNC football game parking which John normally coordinates and spearheads.

Committee Membership

1. 2020-2021 Committee membership: Richard Miller (co-clerk), Bob Durovich (co-clerk), Wendy Michener, Tom Smith, Tom Ludlow, Dottie Heninger, Bill Cleaver, Dave Schneider, Kurt Hein, Brad Kershner (CFES representative & ex officio member) and John Hite (resident & ex officio member)
2. With the end of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, Richard Miller and Tom Smith ended their service to the meeting through B&G. Brad Kershner, ad hoc member representing the CFES, ended meeting service in June as he left the school for a position in Kimberton, PA.
3. Beginning with the 2021-2022 fiscal year, Pete Malone officially joined the committee but actually began supporting B&G activities in April.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Durovich, co-clerk, for the Building & Grounds Committee

Appendix 3

FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

The Finance Committee has the responsibility for stewardship of the financial resources of the Meeting, which allows the Meeting to continue its work. The Finance Committee is responsible for:

- a) Fundraising, collecting donations, and payment of Meeting obligations;
- b) Working closely with the Meeting Treasurer to maintain an accounting of income and expenditures, the Meeting's bank and investment accounts, and a financial reserve for use in case of emergencies; and
- c) Preparation of an annual budget for allocation of funds, after consultation with and according to the needs of the committees, and as directed by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, for maintenance of the Meeting House as well as for funding committee activities and benevolences.

The goals of the Finance Committee are to support the stewardship of the financial resources of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting by:

- a) Maintaining a balanced budget;
 - b) Supporting the work of vital committees and providing support for designated Quaker organizations and other local entities approved by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (benevolences);
 - c) Providing and monitoring the level of savings for routine and unanticipated repairs for our facilities and flexibility to cover contingencies; and
 - d) Maintaining sufficient assets and savings to meet future needs.
- Meeting accounting is done on a "cash" rather than accrual basis.

The Treasurer reported to the Finance Committee monthly on income and expenses and worked with the Committee in the preparation of the 2020-21 fiscal year report, the quarterly reports to the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business and the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Clerks of the Meeting's committees advised us on their needs for additional funds, if any, and provided information necessary for budget preparation. The Treasurer kept on-going records to assist in our task. We continue to use Servant Keeper and QuickBooks to track our finances.

The financial plan for the Meeting has two segments.

The first part is the budget that includes ordinary income and expenses for the operation of the Meeting. At the end of each fiscal year, income should meet or exceed budgeted expenses. The budget, which pertains only to the ordinary expenses of the Meeting, is reset for each fiscal year.

The second part of our financial plan includes funds that may carry over from one year to the next, such as building renovation, special endowments (Schotts Leadership) and other funds managed for specific purposes such as Returning Citizens, Youth Service Trip, Care and Counsel, Physical Plant Reserve Fund and the Building Renovation Fund.

1. Operating income and expenses

Income: Due to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee lowered its estimated income from contributions about 30% from previous years. For much of the year, contributions tracked roughly in-line with these lowered estimates of income and were sufficient to cover our anticipated expenses and benevolences. However, the Meeting received several large gifts at the end of the fiscal year that resulted in overall contribution income significantly in excess of our lowered estimates.

Income from contributions for the 2020-2021 fiscal year was \$70,249, exceeding our planned level of \$53,550. As we anticipated, the Meeting received no income from building rental or parking fees. In comparison, contributions for 2019-2020 amounted to \$76,450. By way of reference, the largest total of contributions received in recent years was \$84,945 in fiscal year 2018-2019.

Expenses: Overall, we spent 83% (\$44,882) of our reduced operating budget this year. Benevolences totaled \$20,714, and therefore constituted about 46% of the operating budget. However, Committees, which constitute 24% of our budget, spent just 53% of their approved funds, and ten of the thirteen spent less than half of their budgets, and five spent nothing at all. Administrative expenses constituted about 39% of our expenditures versus a budget estimate of 37%.

Net Operating Income: As a result of the increased income and reduced spending by committees, we show an overage in the operating budget (net ordinary income) of \$25,367.16 (FY 2020-21 income less expenses) for the year. In the previous fiscal year the net ordinary income was \$21,311.

FY 2021-22 Budget: We prepared a budget for July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022, which has been reviewed and approved by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Compared with last year's budget, this budget contemplates an 8.5% increase in ordinary expenses and anticipated income consisting of \$2,500 of additional contributions and \$2,100 in UNC football parking fees. The budget reflects committee-requested budgetary spending based on their past use of funds.

An important consideration in the budgeting process for the Finance Committee is the known and anticipated effects on the Meeting's finances caused by the ongoing and unpredictable COVID-19 pandemic. There are still many uncertainties relating to in-person worship at the Meeting House, attracting new members and attenders, receiving building rental income and

levying fees from parking for UNC football games. The Finance Committee will monitor contribution and expense levels closely throughout the year, and we stand ready to amend the budget totals in early 2022.

Given historical underspending by committees, the Finance Committee encourages Committees to regularly assess their available resources and make good use of the funds allotted to them in the budget. In February we routinely provide a report of expenditures to date and budget balances to Committee clerks and ask if any adjustments are needed. Committee members are welcome to contact the Treasurer at any time during the fiscal year to get an update on their budget.

2. Special funds and Accounts

Income and Expenses: The second segment of our financial plan includes funds that carry over from one year to the next such as building renovation, special endowments (e.g., Shotts Leadership) and accounts for designated purposes: Returning Citizens, Youth Service Trip, Care and Counsel, Physical Plant Reserve Fund, and the Building Renovation Fund. Last year Returning Citizens incurred expenses of \$907.11, Care and Counsel Outreach paid out \$500, and Shotts Leadership dispersed \$440. There were no expenditures from the other accounts.

3. Net Total Income

Net Total Income: This year, the net total income was \$24,963. This net total income figure combines the operating income and operating expenses as well as income from building renovation and donations and miscellaneous sources and the expenses from our special purpose accounts as indicated above.

Regarding the allocation of the balance, the Finance Committee discussed several options, and, aware of the great uncertainties in the upcoming year, the Committee decided that the surplus should be allocated evenly between the Building Renovation Fund and the Physical Plant Reserve Fund.

4. Balance Sheet

Assets: Approximately 29% of the Meeting's financial assets are held at Friends Fiduciary Corporation in Philadelphia, PA. The remaining 71% represents cash in accounts with BB&T. As of June 30th, around 78% of the cash held in the BB&T accounts is held in checking or savings accounts. The remainder is held in accounts with a designated purpose. Overall, the Finance Committee considers that the Meeting's financial health is good, and our financial positions are sufficient to address our obligations, repairs, and the leadings of the Meeting.

Allocation: The Finance Committee monitors the returns achieved in the Friends Fiduciary accounts, and allocates Meeting funds between investments, checking and savings accounts. The Committee monitors bequests and other specific designated accounts.

5. Other activities

This year the Finance Committee has also:

- Finalized a bequest and gifts policy, to be reviewed by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business;
- Determined a policy that, in order to comply with IRS guidelines for non-profits and so as not to imperil our status as a tax-exempt organization, our Meeting is unable to accept donations designated for the benefit of a specific person (pass-through contributions, in

the language of the IRS);

- Spent extensive time discussing possible capital projects for the Meeting, including solar, upstairs renovation, ventilation, a media system, sound abatement, and shoring up the foundation of the Meeting House. We concluded that we did not have sufficient funds to undertake all these projects at this time. We also decided that the top priority, unless the Meeting indicated otherwise, would be preparing the Meeting House for return to face-to-face worship. We recommended against borrowing for capital projects and concluded that if the Meeting decides to move forward with projects, a capital campaign would be necessary.
- Moved the “Donate” button on the website to a more readily findable location, to facilitate an increase in the use of online donations for contributions;
- Continued paying the FDS/childcare person during the pandemic, when face to face worship has been suspended;
- Consolidated several bank accounts previously held separately at BB&T to achieve operational efficiency while maintain proper segregation of the funds for their designated purposes in the Meeting’s accounts;
- Begun the process of understanding Financial Accounting Standards Board Topic 958 (Update 2016-14), which describes current net asset classification requirements and the information presented in financial statements and notes about a not-for-profit entity’s liquidity, financial performance, and cash flows.

This has been an unprecedented and tumultuous year in the life of our Meeting. We thank all who contributed for their generosity and stewardship of resources. We encourage Friends to continue to support the work of the Meeting and to consider including the Meeting as a bequest in their wills.

The 2020-21 members of the Finance Committee were: Monteze Snyder (co-clerk), Mike Jokinen (co-clerk), Geoff Metcalf, Tom Ludlow, Gwynne Pomeroy, Bob Durovich, Rich Godfrey and Maura Murphy (Treasurer and ex officio member).

Appendix 4

Report on the Status of Worship to the September 19 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

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 offers the following observations:

1. Early worship in the meeting room from 8:15 to 9:15 AM continues to be attended by about a half dozen, with capacity for more.
2. Forum via Zoom only, 9:30 to 10:30, continues to be attended by 20 to 30 or so.
3. Worship in the meeting room from 11:00 to 12:00 ranges from 17 to 25. There tends to be a core group in attendance. With those numbers in the meeting room, there is plenty of room to spread out. Fans are working well to exchange the air through open windows. Volunteers are needed to help with early morning installation.
4. Worship outside from 11:00 to 12:00 under the Magnolia tree has ranged from 6 to 14, with capacity for more in a circle. There tends to be a core group outside.
5. Worship via Zoom from 11:00 to 12:00 has ranged from 17 to 34.
6. Friends continue to hold meeting for worship at Carol Woods at 11:00.
7. First Day School on the playground or on the school house porch from 11:00 to 12:00 has been attended by several children and youth, some remotely.

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

M&W plans to follow up with clerks of committees. An opportunity next month will be the annual Clerk's Retreat, now scheduled for the morning of October 9. We extend the invitation to 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, is in the process of scheduling a trial of a blended (hybrid) meeting for worship, to be followed by a listening session to share experiences of the combination of Zoom and in-person worship. The committee would then consider a recommendation. At this time, M&W will not schedule a trial of a blended meeting for worship until further testing of audio equipment is completed. M&W is grateful for the working group's attention to detail and efforts to make a trial a satisfying experience for both in-person and online participants.

M&W reached clarity on another worship opportunity. Since mid-April 2020, Lynn and Matt Drake have held weekly Wednesday evening Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light. Starting this month, Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light will be held on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings, hosted by the Meeting Clerk, Chris Stanley, and Lynn and Matt Drake, respectively. Please see instructions on how to participate via "In The Light" messages from Chris.

With attention to written words of welcome to newcomers to Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, M&W is in unity to recommend approval of a new welcome statement that includes a brief overview of who we are, Quaker testimonies, outreach and a brief history of CHFM. Details will be presented next.

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

September 19, 2021

Ministry & Worship Committee

Jeff Brown, clerk, Madelyn Ashley, Alice Carlton, Matt Drake, Dottie Heninger, Carolyn White and Chris Stanley, ex officio

Appendix 5

New Welcoming Document

WELCOME TO CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING of the Religious Society of Friends

Our worship is the heart of our Quaker community. It is based in the central belief that the Inner Light is present equally within everyone. We come together in silence and "expectant waiting for divine guidance." Early Quaker George Fox taught that all who listen to the Voice Within may find the guiding spirit. Spirit, by any name, comes to us in the gathered silence of meeting for worship. Spirit speaks to us in the quiet; it may speak to each one of us and to our own condition. We encourage listening deeply with an open heart, both during the silence and when messages are given.

Quaker Testimonies: How Friends live their faith (fgcquaker.org)

We interpret these testimonies as we are individually led.

Peace is based on love and concern for the well-being of all. It leads us to work for reconciliation and active nonviolent resolutions of conflict. The work of peace is to sustain relationships of mutual human regard; of seeing and speaking to that of God in everyone; of seeking peace within ourselves, our family, our community, and the world.

Equality is rooted in the understanding that there is that of God in everyone, including those who differ with us and people from widely varying life experiences and beliefs.

Simplicity is the right ordering of our lives, placing Spirit at the center. It encourages us to focus on what is important and to let other things fall away.

Integrity calls us to wholeness. When our lives are centered in the Spirit, beliefs and actions are congruent and our words are dependable.

Community calls us to sustain caring relationships. It depends on mutual regard and support, and on nurturing our relationships with one another, with society, and with the environment.

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (CHFM) Outreach: outward actions inspired and supported by our faith

As we live our faith, CHFM supports benevolences that have a long legacy within our Meeting: The Interfaith Council for Social Services, American Friends Service Committee, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Carolina Friends School, and Quaker House. These benevolences express our support for social and racial justice and our opposition to war and violence. For a number of years, our Meeting has maintained a special relationship with incarcerated friends at Orange Correctional Center. Currently, racial justice is a major focus of our learning and actions. Additional benevolences and individual support further reflect our attenders' and members' faith in action.

A Brief History of CHFM

Our Chapel Hill Friends Meeting began in 1937, when a few Quakers gathered for worship on the UNC campus. In the 1950's we bought land here on Raleigh Road and then built our own meetinghouse in 1960. The School House building adjacent was built in 1994 to serve as our First Day School on Sundays and as the Chapel Hill Early School for Carolina Friends School during the week.

Thank you for joining us in worship today. If you can, please linger after Meeting so Friends may meet you. If you would like to know more, please introduce yourself at the close of Meeting for Worship and talk with the meeting closer, who is a member of our Ministry and Worship Committee. Please visit our website at www.chapelhillfriends.org to learn more.

Appendix 6 Announcement

The Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering 2022 is being hosted by Piedmont Friends and will be held in-person nearby – at Radford University, Radford, Virginia. A car trip takes 3 hours from the Meeting House to the campus in southwest Virginia.

The Gathering is a week of Quaker worship, workshops, and community for all ages. Friends come together from across the US and Canada (and sometimes further) to deepen our connection to one another and the Spirit.

The dates are July 3 through July 9. The theme for 2022 is “...and follow me.” Given the proximity, the hosting by our yearly meeting, and the first in-person sessions since 2019, this is a rare opportunity to participate.

The four co-clerks of the Gathering are Toby Berla of Durham Friends, and three young women, Suzanne Cole Sullivan and Rebecca Cole Sullivan from Atlanta, and Keira Wilson from Iowa.

The week of the Gathering is packed with programs and events, from small group workshops to evening plenaries, and programs for children, teens, and young adults. You can register to attend the full event, or just the parts that fit with your schedule.

Registration will be open in early spring. A reminder—if you need financial assistance to attend the Gathering, Chapel Hill Friends through the Shotts Leadership Development Fund and Piedmont Friends can contribute for part of the cost.

I understand that we have opportunities to participate in planning the event. Piedmont Friends have a Hosting Committee. The FGC Gathering Committee has subcommittees for the following aspects of the event:

- Adult Young Friends (18-35)
- Local Arrangements
- High School
- Junior Gathering
- Evening Programs
- Workshops
- Worship
- Communication

For more information, visit the FGC website (<https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>) and see a 6-minute video about the Gathering. Or contact our Piedmont Friends representatives: Ann Miller and Leslie Rountree (PFYM) and Jasmine McKewen and Brad Schultz (PFF).

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