

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Fifth Month, 2022

Monthly Query: *What does the testimony of simplicity mean to me?*

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.



Upcoming Zoom Fora -

May 1: Reentry House Plus (Hank Elkins) Moderator: Tom. Until a few months ago, Hillsborough had no housing options for those returning from prison. That recently changed when a group of concerned citizens formed a non-profit organization and bought a house. Well located close to a bus route and a supermarket, the house is called ReentryHouse Plus. The word "Plus" signifies that ReentryHouse Plus helps their residents overcome barriers and succeed. Doug Peterson, William Elmore, Tommy Green, and Ran Hammer will describe the evolution of ReentryHouse Plus, the Success While in Transition Program (SWIT), and how to invest in the success of Reentry House Plus.

May 8: Renewing Burial Traditions Presented by Anne Weston of the [Green Burial Project](#), and Heidi Hannapel of [Bluestem Conservation Cemetery](#). Anne and Heidi will provide background and basics on green burial and consumer options in North Carolina. They will review the distinctions between green cemeteries and conservation cemeteries, and share details about Bluestem, the Piedmont's first conservation cemetery opening later this summer in Cedar Grove.

May 15: Meeting for Business

May 22: Quaker Practice Series (Weddings and funerals. Carolyn Stuart from Care and Counsel). Moderator: Deborah. Panelists: Jimmy Malone & Zac Lawhon; Lucy Gorham; Lori & Sean; and Jeff Brown.

May 29: What does Memorial Day mean to me as a Quaker? Moderator: Karen Jesse.

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/tracker>). To keep the small group worship 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 is open downstairs if needed.

Upcoming Events

Newcomers Tea, May 15, 12:15 pm

Newcomers and old timers are invited to a newcomers tea outdoors at the meeting house on May 15 at 12:15 p.m. We will provide light refreshments ~ *Hospitality Committee*

Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting and, June 4

Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting will gather in person for annual sessions on Saturday, June 4 at Guilford College in Greensboro. For those unable to travel, there will be webcasting via Zoom that day. The theme is “Radical Hospitality – Welcoming the Light in Others.” Activities include Friday evening fellowship via Zoom, a Saturday morning program on the theme, a young Friends art gathering in the morning, lunch, an optional walk in Guilford Woods led by Quaker historian Max Carter, afternoon annual sessions of Piedmont Friends and on Sunday morning via Zoom, closing Meeting for Worship. For details, a flyer, and registration, see the webpage for the retreat: <https://www.quakercloud.org/cloud/piedmont-friends-fellowship-and-yearly-meeting/events/2022-piedmont-friends-retreat-annual>

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).

Announcements

Help Make the Truce in Yemen Permanent

Tom Munk shares with Friends:

FCNL and sixty-nine other organizations ask that Friends support an end to US support for Saudi Arabia's seven-year-old brutalization of the people of Yemen. Read more and take action [here](#).

Learn About the North Carolina Immigrant Rights Program

Naveed Moeed shares with Friends:

The North Carolina Immigrant Rights program (NCIR) seeks to build a community that values the worth and dignity of every person in our state. We organize a multi-racial cross-class group of people of varied immigration statuses to move our state towards immigrant, racial, and economic justice, knowing these issues and our communities are interconnected. Our participants include immigrants and refugees of many nationalities, Black immigrant and nonimmigrant people, Quakers and other people of faith, nonimmigrants committed to immigrant justice, and parents who seek a better world for all children.

NCIR works with immigrants and allies towards justice and policy change at all levels of government, including: equitable housing, fair criminal justice policies, supporting humane federal immigration policy, resisting and stopping the separation of families, supporting pro-immigrant state legislation like tuition equity

and driver's licenses for undocumented residents, and supporting pro-immigrant local policies to reduce ICE collaboration and promote the equity and safety of all North Carolina residents.

- Follow our [Facebook page](#) to stay current on our work

<https://www.facebook.com/afscnc>

- [Donate](#) to Hiatt residents being displaced

<https://tinyurl.com/ypr86ycr>

- [Join](#) a Voter Registration & Education team

Timely Video from FCNL

Jan Hutton shares with Friends:

If “War is not the Answer” what is? Diane Randall of FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation) talks Quaker pacifism, pentagon spending, and the military industrial complex:

<https://quakerspeak.com/video/war-is-not-the-answer/>

Haverford College New Website:

Manumitted: The People Enslaved by Quakers

Jan Hutton shares with Friends:

Haverford College’s Quaker and Special Collections has begun a new project named “Manumitted: The People Enslaved by Quakers.”

<https://www.friendsjournal.org/inside-haverfords-manumission-archives/>

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.

Pray for Peace

From Friends House Moscow:

Link to the Daily Meeting for Worship for Peace sponsored by FHM/FHMSA: (Friends House Moscow)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4165005614?pwd=NUtieEtqbDBYbjBrcGdMMzBKQ3drQT09>

Meeting ID: 416 500 5614

Passcode: 182805

The room opens at 8:45am Pacific time (10:45 EST); worship begins on the hour and ends an hour later. After worship there will be time to share brief thoughts that did not rise to the level of ministry. You may also want to rename yourself indicating your geographic location. There will be no audible indicator when one enters or leaves, and everyone will be muted on entry. Please leave yourself muted unless giving ministry.

Ministry may also be shared in the chat, but it is not the place for private conversations. If you are new to Quaker unprogrammed worship and wish to talk with someone about it, send a message to the host and someone can join you in a breakout room.

Diplomacy is the Only Solution

As the Russian invasion and assault on Ukraine continues, we stand in solidarity and sympathy with the people of Ukraine, the people of Russia, and all those in the region whose lives are being torn apart by war. We grieve the loss of life and destruction that war inevitably brings.

We are deeply concerned that new massive and broad sanctions imposed on Russia will not just impact Russian leadership, but further harshen the lives of ordinary people in Ukraine, Russia, and the region. The only solution is diplomacy—not further violence.

Act Now! [Tell your lawmakers that diplomacy is the best way to protect human lives and avoid further suffering.](#)

The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Dottie Henniger shares with Friends:

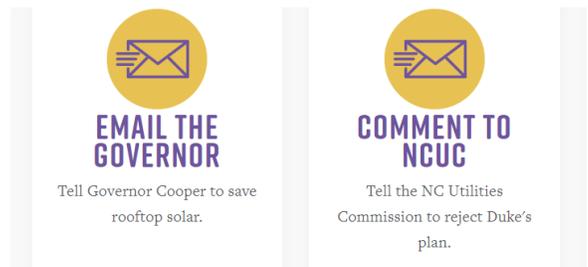
The Inter-Faith Council pantry continues to need donations of food items. Please think of the IFC as you do your grocery shopping! The basket in the meetinghouse foyer is available to receive your contributions. For attenders who worship on Zoom, plastic bins will be put on the front porch on the last 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

Save NC Solar

The CHFM Quaker Earthcare Witness group (QEW) recommends to all to send the message to “Save NC Solar” through this link: <https://www.ncwarn.org/our-work/net-metering/>

Scroll down the page and look for these action buttons:



Duke Energy is not fulfilling the plan for net metering of rooftop solar from homes, and should be reminded of the duty to develop pathways to renewable energy, versus their capital projects to build nearly 50 gas-fired turbine generating plants. Send your message today to Governor Cooper and the NC Utilities Commission through this link provided by NCWarn.

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.

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!

Personals

Our Housing Search

Dirk and Martha Kelder want to share with Friends:

Dear Community,

We are a quiet, responsible, retired couple (artist, chaplain - calligraphers), searching for a quiet, 2 to 3 bedroom duplex, separate apartment, or house to rent (or buy), (@1,000 sq. ft.). Washer/dryer preferred, some storage and walking paths nearby would be ideal, (in Orange, Chatham or Durham counties).

Thanks so much for any leads!

martha.kelder@yahoo.com

(919) 942-2112

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.

Minutes and Appendices

of April MWAB Follows

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Minutes

9 am Sunday April 17, 2022

Online via Zoom

Chris Stanley, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk

In attendance: Lois Ann Hobbs, Tom Munk, Jeauince Burnette, Carolyn White, Naveed Moeed, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Jan Hutton, Dave Curtin, Alice Carlton, Wendy Michener, Maura Murphey, Joe Groves, Ellen O'Brien, John Hite, Buzz Borchardt, Tom Munk, Deborah Gibbs, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Jeff Brown, Betsy Brinson, Dottie Henninger, Jasmine McKewen, Nancy Milio, Emily Condon, Hart Pillow, Jennifer Leeman, Paul Munk, Ken Grogan, Hank Elkins, Gwynne Pomeroy, Monteze Snyder, Max Drake, Ann Miller, Eric Hansen, Chris Stanley, Susan Inglis

- Opening worship and query – Chris Stanley, opened worship centered on the Query: How do I act as a faithful steward of the environment?
- Chris Welcomed Friends and reviewed the agenda. Jeauince Burnette was attending Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business for the first time.
- Susan had prepared the Minutes of the March Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). Friends considered and approved the March MWAB minutes as posted.
- Tom Munk, Co-clerk of the Peace and Justice Committee with Wendy Michener, presented the annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 1. With response to Friends' questions, the report was accepted with appreciation.
- Maura Murphy, CHFM Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's quarterly budget report. It is attached here as Appendix 2. Maura responded to questions and Friends accepted the report with gratitude.
- Nancy Milio, our Representative to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, presented the annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 3.
- Naveed Moeed, our Representative to the American Friends Service Committee, presented the annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 4. Naveed responded to questions posed by Friends, who then accepted the report with particular appreciation for hanging in during difficult times.
- Carolyn Stuart, Clerk of the InterFaith Council Committee, asked to delay the annual report until May.
- Sean Chen, Clerk of the Publications and Communications Committee, asked to delay the annual report until May.
- Jeff Brown provided the Ministry and Worship Committee's update on the experiment with returning to face-to-face worship, and responded to questions. The report is attached here as Appendix 5.
- Chris announced that the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on May 15th, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- To send items for the weekly eNews email 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. Put “for Newsletter” in the subject line. Deadline is the last Sunday of the month.
- Joe Groves provided an update on the status of efforts to support Afghan refugees in this area, and noted that there are opportunities for involvement. It is attached here as Appendix 6.
- Chris Stanley, Meeting Clerk, will be out of the country at the time of the June MWAB and the new Meeting Clerk will begin serving July 1st so the May MWAB will be his final business meeting as Clerk. Carolyn Stuart has agreed to clerk the June meeting.
- With closing worship and a virtual circle,,Friends prepared for 11:00 AM Meeting for Worship.

Appendix 1

Peace and Justice Committee Annual Report 2022

March, 2022

Since our last report, in April of 2021, the Peace & Justice Committee has been busy. We conduct open meetings each month at the rise of late Meeting on second Sundays. All Friends are invited to join us! Use the regular Meeting link, used for Forums and MfW, at 1pm. We conduct informative, and at times spirited discussions of the many peace and justice activities of the Meeting and of individual Friends. This report highlights only some of these activities, which are too numerous to report in full.

We used the listserv, the newsletter, and announcements to educate and encourage Friends about

- ways to support refugees from Afghanistan
- activities and opportunities with the Orange County Bail Bond Project
- the needs and activities of Re-entry House in Hillsborough
- action items provided by our own Emma Hulbert, currently working for FCNL
- a letter sent by the committee to Representative David Price, asking him to co-sponsor HR 751, condemning Israel’s designation of six Palestinian NGOs as terrorist organizations
- contacting Senators Burr and Tillis this Friday, asking them to vote for SJ Res 10, to repeal the 2002 Authorization for the Use of Military Force. (under the auspices of the FCNL North Carolina Advocacy Teams)

We supported FCNL and educated Meeting members by

- Sponsoring a Forum to allow Meeting members to share their leadings regarding the best directions for FCNL lobbying efforts in Washington, gathering those leadings, seasoning them in committee, bringing them for approval at the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and sending them on to FCNL.

With the Transition & Support (T&S) Committee, we recommended that **CHFMs partner with the Orange County Bail Bond Project**. Volunteers will be welcome to be court observers, provide transportation to court, and perform other tasks once training resumes. Financial contributions from individuals are welcome.

Anti-Racism (sub) Committee. Our Anti-Racism (sub)Committee (ARC) consists of several members of the Peace and Justice Committee and several other Meeting members and attenders. ARC took several actions this year:

1. Shared several dozen anti-racism anecdotes from Meeting members in the Meeting listserv and newsletter. The complete set can be found at our CHFM website - go to Committees in the left Menu, find P&J and click on documents.
2. Published lists of books, YouTube and movie reviews relevant to the subject of antiracism which lists can be found at the CHFM website at P&J documents.
3. Seasoned Joyce Sandy's Change the Name Project (CtN), which was approved by Peace and Justice and by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. When major changes were subsequently requested by ARC, CtN was removed from the care of the Meeting by Joyce. Joyce and Faye Stanley continue to move CtN forward, with Tom Munk and Naveed Moeed serving on its board. P&J minuted support for the continued work by these and other Meeting members and attenders. The website for CtN can be found at **ctn.8hcollective.com**
4. Presented, in a Forum, three of the leading voices in anti-racism work and took reflections from the people who attended. The notes from that Forum will be posted on our CHFM website among the P&J documents.

Benevolences.

1. We reported out to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business about the activities of two of our benevolences: the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry, and NC Warn. We sponsored a Forum on NC Warn. FCNCL is the third benevolence and they will report on themselves.
2. We confirmed that all of last years' benevolences were received in the correct amounts by their recipients: Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry, Friends Committee on NC Legislation, and NC WARN.
3. Recommended an equal distribution this year to the same three beneficiary organizations, with expectation to return to a more robust process next year. These recommendations were approved by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.
4. The committee will present a forum about Re-Entry House + in 2022, with the goal of raising \$1000 for it and considering it for a benevolence next year.

We are particularly grateful for the services of Faye Stanley, who was recording clerk of the committee for the first half of this year. In response to Faye's criticism of our committee's bent towards activism, we have suggested to M&W that they sponsor a Threshing Session (two hours or three) on the balance of inward worship and outward service in our Meeting with the purpose of airing feelings and opinions and bringing us, by virtue of listening to each other, to greater unity and understanding of ourselves and our Meeting's place in God's work.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Bassinger, Hank Elkins, Joe Groves, Wendy Michener (co-clerk), Tom Munk (co-clerk), Ellen O'Brien, Joyce Sandy

END

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
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