

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## Newsletter

Fourth Month, 2023

**Monthly Query:** *How does our Meeting embrace continuing revelation? How do I remain open to new truths?*

### Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W

**Committee:** *Not all vocal ministry will be equally meaningful to all present. Remember, ministry that does not speak to your condition may nevertheless be valuable to others. Be patient. Take care to separate the message from the minister.*



**Upcoming Zoom Fora - 9:30 am** <https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/forums.html>

April 2: **Reproductive Health, Racial Equity, and Abortion.** Dick Grossman OB-GYM and Stan Becker Demographer of Johns Hopkins, co-clerks of the QEW Population Group.

April 9: **John Woolman.** Lloyd Kramer and Mark Toles.

April 16: MFWB

### April 23: **F/friends in Unlikely Places: Engaging Those Who Disagree**

Does talking to friends, family, and legislators who don't agree with you feel like an exercise in futility? In this workshop, we'll make the case for engaging people with differing views and discuss how to have those conversations faithfully and effectively. Drawing on theoretical, strategic, and spiritual frameworks from Quaker tradition, this workshop will equip F/friends with new skills for communicating across political divides, practicing seeing that of God in people we disagree with, and building relationships to make change in our communities and in Congress. Facilitator: [Bobby Trice, FCNL Quaker engagement program manager](#). In this role, he cultivates relationships with Friends and coordinates FCNL staff and volunteer engagement with Quaker communities across the country. Bobby is passionate about supporting Quakers' spirit-led advocacy, communicating across political divides, and building relationships to make change within and beyond Congress. Bobby is a member of Friends Meeting of Washington (Baltimore Yearly Meeting).

# Upcoming Events

Piedmont Friends Spring Gathering Sat, Apr. 1, 10:30 to 3:00

**High Point City Lake Park**

601 West Main Street

AND

**Mendenhall Homeplace**

603 W. Main Street in Jamestown, NC 27282

<https://www.mendenhallhomeplace.com/about-mendenhall-homeplace>

To register: <https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/emf/PiedmontFriends/SpringGathering>

Your family is invited for fellowship with Piedmont Friends.

- Bring your own picnic to beautiful High Point City Lake Park, with playgrounds and activities for young Friends. We'll gather in one of the lake-side shelters.  
<https://www.highpointnc.gov/facilities/facility/details/High-Point-City-Lake-Park-12>
- After the picnic fellowship, we'll travel across Main Street to the Mendenhall Homeplace for a 1:30 tour of the historic Quaker homeplace, featuring stories from the Underground Railroad (approx. 90 minutes). All ages are welcome.

Piedmont Friends will be paying the fee for the City Park shelter and Mendenhall Homeplace Tour (\$5). Friends may choose to make a donation to Piedmont Friends with their registration.

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## Thursday Night Threshing Session, April. 6, 7- 9 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81623332380?pwd=U3RncIFqR1NSVWQxbC9aaVBHdzJSQT09>

## Saturday Afternoon Threshing Session, April 8, 2- 4 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83176074202?pwd=U2tqRnpNMGIUZGhFR2wwL1NjMSt6UT09>

## Request for Discernment Regarding Reproductive Health and Abortion

FCNL's Policy Committee invites your Quaker discernment group to focus on the issue of reproductive health care, including abortion, and advise us whether FCNL should revise our policy statement.

Queries and structure to support discernment:

1. What does reproductive health care look like in the world that you and your community seek?
2. How are the Quaker values and testimonies relevant to the issue of abortion?
3. Should the FCNL Policy Statement be revised on the issues of abortion and reproductive health and abortion?
4. If so, what should the Policy Statement say?"

For more information about FCNL's discernment request, see

<https://www.fcnl.org/about/world-we-seek/legislative-priorities/request-discernment-regarding-reproductive-health-and-abortion>.

FCNL's Policy Statement reads:

"III.2.6: Health Care. Universal access to affordable, effective, comprehensive health care is a right and is necessary to allow all people to fulfill their potential. Comprehensive health care includes primary, acute, and long-term care, including prescription drugs, as well as mental health and substance abuse treatment. To ensure access, health services should be provided where an individual's needs can best be met. Our country can only maintain and improve the physical and mental health of the population with affordable health care that covers the entire life span, from prenatal to the end-of-life care. Public health services, which protect us all, require robust federal support."

"III.2.7. NOTE: Members of the Society of Friends are not in unity on abortion issues. Therefore, FCNL takes no position and does not act either for or against abortion legislation. On occasion, FCNL may appeal to lawmakers not to use the abortion debate to paralyze action on other legislation."

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## Welcoming Party for Mansir Petrie on April 16, rise of Meeting

Mansir Petrie transferred his membership from Yellow Springs, Ohio and has been actively involved in the life of our Meeting since he and his family arrived in Chapel Hill. Please join Friends at the rise of Meeting on Sunday, April 16, to welcome him, as we gather outside for conversation, refreshments and celebration.

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## Welcoming Gathering for Susan Newcomer, Sun. Apr. 23, 3-5 pm

All are invited to a welcoming gathering for new member Susan Newcomer. Date: April 23, 3 to 5 PM. Location: Home of Carolyn and Peter White, 300 Tripp Farm Rd Chapel Hill (really Carrboro). We hope to see you there!

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## #FreeCyntoia, Sun. Apr. 23, 2-4 pm

Emilie Condon shares with Friends:

After serving 15 years of a life sentence #FreeCyntoia went viral, kickstarting social media campaigns and resulting in her full clemency in 2019. Join us as she shares her story of redemption and advocacy in the U.S. criminal justice system.

Sunday, April 23  
2:00 - 4:00 PM  
Sonja Haynes  
Stone Center  
Open to the Public

Registration is required for this free event. Visit <https://stonecenter.unc.edu> to register! Doors open at 1:30pm.

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## Announcements

### Documents from the Forum on Reproductive Health

On Sunday, April 2, Dick Grossman, OB-GYN, and Stan Becker, Demographer of Johns Hopkins, co-clerks of the Quaker Earthcare Witness Population Group, presented a forum on Reproductive Health, Racial Equity, and Abortion. The slides presented during that forum are now available on our website: [https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/PDF/AbortionForum\\_04\\_02\\_2023.pdf](https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/assets/PDF/AbortionForum_04_02_2023.pdf). Also on our website is a paper by Richard Grossman entitled [What is the Truth about Abortion](#).

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### Friends Journal Available Online

Jan Hutton shares with Friends:

The monthly **Friends Journal** is now free to be read online, <https://www.friendsjournal.org/>, and is also available by subscription for a gift of any amount. This month's issue is an unthemed issue, with a variety of Quaker perspectives on spirit, outreach, loss, and safety, among other topics. Enjoy and continue to check in for new articles each month.

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## The Meeting Is In Need of a New Treasurer

Perhaps you or someone you know would like to serve in this position. Our current treasurer will be able to support the new treasurer until July 1.

Skills required include: Understanding of how databases work and computer skills, knowledge of bookkeeping, experience with QuickBooks or other financial management software.

The treasurer is an ad hoc member of the finance committee, which meets monthly and reports quarterly to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Time commitment is between 5-10 hours per month.

If interested, please contact Nominations at [nominations@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:nominations@chapelhillfriends.org) or Susan Inglis or Carolyn White, co-clerks of Nominations.

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## Report from Quaker House

Curt Torell shares with Friends:

The story is a familiar one: A Marine had been suffering from anxiety and depression, and no one was helping him. When his condition continued to decline, he left training without permission (called unauthorized absent in the Marine Corps). Two months later he called us about surrendering. We told him that normally this length of unauthorized absence would signal to the command that he would never be a Marine they could rely on, and typically they would discharge people in his situation. In this case, when the Marine turned himself in, he was sent back to restart his training.

Another person called after his training had been interrupted by hospitalization for attempted suicide. At first, he was told he would be separated, but suddenly he was given orders to restart training. Before he hung up, he put a friend on the phone. This friend had been hospitalized multiple times for suicide attempts. He too had just been told he was going back to try another round of training. He described a conversation with his sergeant. The sergeant said that he had already had chances to kill himself by now, so the fact that he hadn't showed that he was just trying to get attention. At one point, this same trainee was ordered to train with a rifle, even after protesting that he felt suicidal and didn't feel safe picking up a lethal weapon.

We are noticing more and more situations like these where the military is holding on longer to people who previously would have been discharged as unfit. Many of these cases involve trainees undergoing mental health struggles. It's evident that these trainees are not adapting to military life; however, instead of letting them go, the military recycles them for another term of training to see whether this time around, somehow, they might graduate.

The reason may be explained by recent news stories that say military recruiting is missing targets and will likely continue to struggle. According to NBC News on June 27, 2022: "Every branch of the military is struggling to make its 2022 recruiting goals..."

'This is the start of a long drought for military recruiting,' said Retired Lt. Gen. Thomas Spoehr of the Heritage Foundation, a think tank. He said the military has not had such a hard time signing recruits since 1973, the year the U.S. left Vietnam and the draft officially ended. Spoehr said he does not believe a revival of the draft is imminent, but, '2022 is the year we question the sustainability of the all-volunteer force...The pool of those eligible to join the military continues to shrink, with more young men and women than ever disqualified for obesity, drug use or criminal records. Last ... [May], Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville testified before Congress that only 23% of Americans ages 17-24 are qualified to serve without a waiver to join, down from 29% in recent years.'"

Regardless of whether the military can make its recruiting targets, it's very disturbing to hear the risks the military is currently taking with people's lives. As counselors, we offer support and explain to people how they can stay safe in these circumstances. We encourage them with information on how they can keep bringing attention to their medical limitations in ways that normally lead to discharge. We make sure they have resources at their fingertips in case they go into crisis. We let them know they have not been forgotten, that someone on the outside is following their situation.

Some get impatient and decide to refuse to train. We warn them that refusing to train does put them at risk of punishment (for refusing an order). At the same time, we are honest that in the past, refusal to train often leads the military to give up on the trainee in question and to initiate discharge. We try to make sure each person makes their own safe, informed decision about how to deal with their irrational circumstances. We also warn that discharges may take longer now than in the past, but they have our support as long as they need it.

We wish that instead of pressuring people who want out to stay in, those in charge of policy decisions would decide to cut back the US military mission in order to accommodate the shortfall in troops—perhaps one day, no one will agree to fight, and all wars will end. For now, it's difficult to know how long this new normal will last and hard to think about what tragedies it might take for the military to rethink its current push for retention. We hope we can prevent at least some of those tragedies from occurring.

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## Books Wanted

Pam Schwingl shares with Friends:

I have recently met with Mr. Lee Williams, the racial equity officer at Orange County Schools. He is working to build a racial equity library there to help teachers build their own backgrounds in these topics, as well as working to get the 1619 curriculum integrated into their history classes.

I found out about him after he presented at a Northern Orange Dems meeting. There he said that instead of folks being concerned about taking books OUT of school libraries, bringing books INTO libraries would be an important act. I was inspired. So I brought about 40 of my books on African American history and issues. He was very excited about these. I told him I would ask around for other books to help build this library.

If you have the space/leading to round up books that you are no longer reading or sharing, please let me know, Pam Schwingl at [pschwingl82@gmail.com](mailto:pschwingl82@gmail.com). I am happy to coordinate with you to get any books.

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## Zoom Tech Hosts Wanted

Support Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's Zoom worship and forums by becoming a tech host. The role is much more simple than you would imagine. Trust us! We need your help and will train you. Please contact the Zoom Subcommittee if interested, or have questions: [zoom@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:zoom@chapelhillfriends.org).

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## The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Carolyn Stuart 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 on First Days. We are no longer offering last-Wednesday food donation pickups, as Friends tend now to either support the IFC through financial contributions or bring food items to the foyer on First Days.

Thank you.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto: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 Care and Counsel Committee and each week, a committee member will collect and post the names that are submitted and will read them aloud during the time of the service.

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### 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."

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### 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.

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## Personals

### Help Wanted with Computer

Hart Pillow shares with Friends:

I am looking for someone to assist me to clean up/organize the documents on my MacBook Air computer and to learn a few key processes.

I would be willing to barter or pay directly for assistance.

Contact me by any of the means below.

Armstrong Hart Pillow  
16 Glenmore Drive  
Durham, NC 27707  
hart.pillow@gmail.com  
919-381-4320 land line  
TEXT ONLY 919-909-9961

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### House Sitter Wanted

Deborah Gibbs shares with Friends:

Tom Smith and I will be out of town from April 18 to May 25 -- lucky us! -- traipsing around Spain and Portugal. It seems a shame to leave our home, in Carrboro's Pacifica Cohousing Community, sitting empty. If you know someone who'd like to be here during that time, in

exchange for some plant-sitting and a bit of money, please be in touch with me at [GibbsDeborah@gmail.com](mailto:GibbsDeborah@gmail.com).

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## Affordable Car Needed By Refugee

Emilie Condon shares with Friends:

Friends,

Below is an email to me from Flicka Bateman of the Refugee Support Center:

If you or someone you know has an affordable car that could be bought by this refugee in need, please respond to the email below.

with gratitude,  
Emilie Condon

Dear Friends/Volunteers of the Refugee Support Center,

One way, though infrequently, we assist refugees is by helping them acquire their first car. Sometimes this is through a purchase and other times through a vehicle donation. Currently, we are seeking a vehicle donation to help someone who doesn't live on a bus line but needs a car so he can accept employment. If you have a car that needs a new home or know someone who might donate or sell at a very reasonable price, please call or email our Community Outreach Facilitator at 919-215-9030 or [halister@bellsouth.net](mailto:halister@bellsouth.net). Any vehicle must be in good working condition, up for a daily commute, and have an automatic transmission. The interior need not be beautiful but presentable.

We will help you with all the legal aspects/paperwork and provide a letter verifying a donation for tax purposes.

Thank you for all the help you have given in the past and for your consideration of this current need.

Flicka

Flicka Bateman, Director  
Refugee Support Center  
401 Hwy 54 Bypass, E # 15  
Carrboro, North Carolina 27510  
Mailing Address: PO Box 1025  
Carrboro, NC 27510  
Phone: 919) 423-1478

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## Minutes of Last Month's Business Meeting

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

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

### **Minutes**

**9 am Sunday March 19, 2023**

**Online via Zoom**

**Ann Miller, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk**

In attendance:

Hank Elkins, Quaker Harmon, Carolyn White, Kate Vinita Fitch, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Dottie Henninger, John Hite, Campo Larrick, Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Monteze Snyder, Julia Cleaver, Jan Hutton, Allie Scales, Susan Peterson, Susan Newcomer, Dave Curtin, Alice Carlton, Wendy Michener, Curt Torrell, Gwynne Pomeroy, Lloyd Kramer, Buzz Borchardt, Rob Jones, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Nancy Milio, Deborah Gibbs, Carolyn Stuart, Jeff Brown, Peter Malone, Pam Schwingl, Hart Pillow, Rebecca Estes, Colleen Fey, Paul Munk, Joyce Munk, Asta Crow, Priscilla Preston, Jasmine McKewen, Betsy Brinson, Max Drake, Ann Miller, Susan Inglis

1. Ann Miller, Clerk, led the Meeting in Opening worship and presented the query: How do I faithfully attend Meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, fully expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?
2. Ann welcomed the meeting and reviewed the agenda. There were no first-time attenders.
3. Susan had prepared the Minutes of the February Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). They were approved.
4. Quaker Harmon presented the Hospitality Committee's annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 1. Friends voiced their appreciation for the committee's work, especially through the trying times of the pandemic, and accepted the report. There was also a conversation about how reports are posted on our website. They are included in Minutes of MWAB. Dave Curtin for Publications and Records promised to take the question of whether reports should be posted separately to the committee for discussion.
5. Monteze Snyder reported for Finance Committee with an update on contributions. Contributions are behind where we should expect them to be at this time of year, currently at only 64% of the expected level. This shortfall is a continuation of the trend from last month. Friends are asked to consider their giving.
6. Susan Inglis for Ministry and Worship Committee brought the recommendation that Susan Peterson be accepted into membership, sharing brief biographical sketch that is included here as Appendix 2. Friends approved with joy. A welcoming committee was formed of Susan Inglis Gwynne Pomeroy and Peter Malone.
7. Wendy Michener presented Peace and Justice committee's recommendations for Benevolences. Appendix 3 describes the organizations that the committee considered. Wendy clarified for Friends that

the amount of the fund will be divided evenly among the 5 organizations: Peaceful Schools NC, Friends House in Moscow, Reentry House, Bolivian Quaker Education Fund, Alamance Orange Prison Ministry, and noted that it was determined that the other organizations considered did not need our support at this time. Friends expressed appreciation for generosity beyond our Meeting, noted that there are also “legacy benevolences” that our meeting continues makes, then approved the recommendations.

8. The Clerk brought a request that Finance Committee pay the Legacy Benevolences at this time, making payments to Carolina Friends School, Friends Committee on National Legislation, Quaker House, American Friends Service Committee, and Inter-Faith Council. These legacy benevolences comprise 79% of the total Benevolence Budget. Benevolences are paid when we are in a cash position to do so. Friends approved.

9. John Pilgrim was appointed to join the ad hoc committee working on the contract renewal between Carolina Friends School and Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

10. The Clerk shared that she has received a request for membership from Gabriel Bump and referred it to Ministry & Worship Committee.

11. Matt Drake provided an update from ad hoc committee working on the contract renewal between Carolina Friends School and Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. It is attached here as Appendix 4. Friends discussed and Matt responded to questions, clarifying what CFS has paid for in the past, and that the committee will be discussing whether foundation issues are “maintenance”. CFS is being kept in the loop as the committee works.

12. Peter Malone provided an update from Buildings & Grounds committee. It is attached here as Appendix 5. Friends approved Buildings & Grounds’ sending thank you notes to those who have done the work on the porch. The HVAC system will be further reported in April. The Committee will meet with Library and Hospitality Committees to thresh out their needs in the library space, as reconfiguration is anticipated to accommodate the system for improved airflow in our Meeting House. Later there will be similar meetings with Ministry & Worship Committee, which is responsible for the quality of our worship.

13. The Clerk called for other and unseasoned concerns of Friends, to be identified only and simply heard or referred.

It was noted that the Quaker Earthcare Witness newsletter includes an article by Bill McKibben on money and how the biggest banks continue to fund fossil fuel production.

11. The Clerk reminded friends that the next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on 4/16/2023.

Announcements:

- Finance reminds committees that March 30 is the submission date for responses to 1) the likely expenditures to be incurred by June 30, 2023 and 2) budget requests for July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.
- 3/22/23 is FCNCL Lobby Day. Friends should contact Pam Schwingl for more info and to be involved.

- Our Zoom Sub-Committee needs additional Tech Hosts. The task is easy, and training is provided. If you are interested please contact Jan Hutton.
- Nominations Committee is seeking to fill committee seats. Friends are encouraged to discern what Committees they may want to be a part of. Finance, Buildings & Grounds and Peace & Justice are particular needs currently.

# Appendix 1

## Hospitality Committee Annual Report 2023 Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

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

- greet attenders and welcome visitors to meeting, including sending a welcome note to visitors
- manage monthly potluck
- provide fellowship and refreshments at the rise of meeting
- assists with special occasions such as the mid-December Christmas party, new attender teas, memorials and weddings
- serve as first responder for emails to friends@chapelhillfriends.org

Although our activities continue to be impacted by the COVID pandemic, during the last year Hospitality was able to resume many of our usual activities.

### **Active members of the committee:**

This year Colleen Fey and Gordon Davies completed their terms on the committee, Colleen provided indispensable support for potlucks while Gordon was an expert dishwasher, we thank them for their service. Quaker Harmon replaced Buzz Borchardt as clerk. Buzz Borchardt and Jennifer Leeman graciously extended their time on the committee to support Quaker in her first year as Clerk. Active members also include Evelyn Fendler-Lee, Hart Pillow, and Pam Schwingl. We recently welcomed Andrea Wood and Susan Peterson to the committee. The committee would also like to recognize John Hite as an honorary member who provides support to Hospitality activities.

### **Greet attenders and welcome visitors to meeting:**

We continue to greet attenders and welcome visitors to the meeting. We are grateful to numerous Friends who have volunteered to greet when someone from the Hospitality Committee was not available.

Along with greeting visitors, the Hospitality Committee sends a welcome email to those who sign our guestbook. Hart Pillow carefully crafts a personal email to every newcomer welcoming them to the Meeting and offering additional resources or an in-person meeting as desired. We are grateful for Hart's service and acknowledge her valuable role in making newcomers feel welcome.

Since our last report at least 50 people have signed the guestbook. We also continue to use an online guestbook. We have had 20 people complete the online guestbook over the last year. The guestbook is available through the [Visit and Learn](#) and the [Online Meeting](#) pages of our website. A link to the guestbook is entered into the chat at the rise of the online meeting on zoom.

### **Provide opportunities for fellowship**

We were pleased to restart in-person fellowship this year. In May 2022 Hospitality hosted a Newcomers Tea on the Early School Playground. Both newcomers and regular attenders welcomed the opportunity to socialize. Following the success of the Newcomer's Tea, in July 2022 Hospitality started to provide Fellowship with Food under the magnolia tree at the rise of Meeting on the first First Day of the month. During the summer months the children from the First Day School provided fancy drinks and treats. We are grateful to Pam Schwingl who has coordinated these events and provided both coffee and delicious food. Hospitality members and those from the Meeting also

contribute treats. John Hite provides support and helps with set-up and clean-up. We are grateful to everyone who attends and makes this a rich experience.

In December 2022 Hospitality supported two special events at the Meeting House. In early December we celebrated the 85th Anniversary of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting with cakes and fellowship. Later in December the First Day School presented the Nativity. Hospitality provided hot cider and treats under the magnolia tree following the play. We are grateful to everyone who baked and helped make these events special.

### **Serve as first responder for emails to [friends@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:friends@chapelhillfriends.org):**

Since August of 2020, the Hospitality Committee has been the first responder for emails to [friends@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:friends@chapelhillfriends.org). The idea being that the response represents the point of view of the meeting at large. The clerk of Hospitality triages emails and sends the email on to the most relevant Meeting Committee with follow-up as necessary. Most of the email received is spam or generic newsletters. More relevant emails include inquiries about visiting the Meeting as well as requests for more information about the Meeting. Thank you to everyone on committees who has assisted in responding to these emails.

### **Looking ahead**

COVID is still a concern and we have not restarted monthly potluck, nor are we providing refreshments indoors at the rise of Meeting every week. We look forward to a time when Hospitality can resume all of our activities.

Respectfully submitted: Quaker Harmon, Buzz Borchardt, Evelyn Fendler-Lee, Jennifer Leeman, Hart Pillow, Pam Schwingl, Andrea Wood, Susan Peterson



## Appendix 2

### Introducing Susan Peterson

Susan Peterson grew up in the Catholic Church and still appreciates many prayers and habits from that faith tradition, but she has long been drawn to the simplicity and integrity of Friends' manner of worship. She was introduced to Quakerism by a friend years ago and has learned much more about our faith from reading. She keeps two book about Benjamin Lay in her car for re-reading when she has an unexpected wait.

With her beloved border collie, she came to North Carolina from Florida where she had moved from Pennsylvania to care for her aging parents. Here she first attended the Durham Friends Meeting, and began attending CHFM before Covid-19 lockdown. When we moved to worship on Zoom, she found the format suited her well and since has been seen there regularly.

She has joined our Hospitality Committee and has already earned a good reputation for her tasty contributions to our monthly social hour.

## Appendix 3

### Peace & Justice Recommendations for Benevolences

#### Contents

- BOLIVIAN QUAKER EDUCATION FUND
- ALAMANCE ORANGE PRISON MINISTRY
- Peaceful Schools NC ([www.peacefulschoolsnc.org](http://www.peacefulschoolsnc.org))
- FCNCL
- Friends Committee on NC Legislation (FCNCL) - [www.fcnc.org](http://www.fcnc.org)
- Friends House Moscow
- NC WARN CURRENT PROJECTS
- ReEntry House

#### **BOLIVIAN QUAKER EDUCATION FUND**

65 Spring Street, Fredonia, NY 14063-2128 [www.BQEF.org](http://www.BQEF.org)

**Background:** Bolivia, South America's poorest nation, has the continent's highest proportion of indigenous people. Oppressed in Bolivia for centuries, indigenous people were not allowed to attend public schools until 1952, and still possess only a fraction of the economic means and political power of those of European extraction. Bolivia's 33,000 indigenous Friends constitute the world's third largest Quaker population.

**Program:** The Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) provides scholarships to Quaker students attending public universities. Since tuition is free, the scholarships at \$700 per year pay for books, meals, and transportation. Without the scholarships, most scholarship holders would not be able to go to university. Thus a relatively small amount of money facilitates a much greater educational value. 248 scholarship recipients have graduated and are taking roles of leadership in the country as environmentalists, agronomists, nurses, dentists, and teachers. The graduates have formed their own scholarship program and are giving back. One graduate works as a lawyer in a key governmental environment agency; another graduate after receiving a master's degree at Earlham serves as a Quaker pastor; two have established a Quaker Center in the heart of La Paz to foster Quaker studies. They support the Center by translating to and from Spanish, English, and indigenous languages. Another graduate is using her training in cooking to create healthy foods and research alternative grains to help enrich the diets of malnourished children in El Alto.

BQEF has established the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) in prisons and has brought AVP to all six major cities in the country. The AVP message of nonviolence is new in Bolivia. Since facilitators volunteer their services, the AVP workshops run on minimum cost and extraordinary enthusiasm.

BQEF has explicitly prohibited discrimination “on the basis of sex, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, culture, or other conditions.” Under the leadership of Evo Morales, Bolivia’s first indigenous president, Bolivia modified the Bolivian constitution to guarantee the rights of LGBT persons in Bolivia. As the Washington Post reported, the 2016 Constitutional Revision makes same-gender sexual activity legal in Bolivia and bans discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

For the school year 2008-2009, a Bolivian scholarship recipient and experienced teacher, Alicia Lucasi, taught Spanish at Carolina Friends School (CFS) and spoke at Friends General Conference. A second Bolivian scholarship recipient, Vanessa Ely Maldonado Choque, taught Spanish at CFS during the winter and spring of 2019.

**Finances and Employees:** 2021 contributions were \$96,518 plus a \$60,000 one-time anonymous bequest for a total of \$156,518. 2022 contributions were \$94,111. For both years there were a total of 1.75 full-time equivalent employees, 1.25 in Bolivia and 0.50 in the U.S.A. BQEF employees earn minimal wages and benefits. Recent inflation challenges both students and employees. Despite these challenges, BQEF is aiming to support the educational successes of Bolivian Aymara students - and to meet the continued and expanding need for more educational opportunity among this population.

Chapel Hill Friends are invited to volunteer in Bolivia to work with scholarship students in La Paz and to teach English or computer literacy in Quaker schools.

## **ALAMANCE ORANGE PRISON MINISTRY**

P.O BOX 9932, CHAPEL HILL, NC 27515

Alamance Orange Prison Ministry (AOPM) serves men incarcerated at Orange Correctional Center (OCC) in Hillsborough (a minimum security state prison). The Chaplain, Josh LeRoy, works with volunteers, clergy, and families/friends for the transition of men to civilian life. Our own Transition and Support Committee (T&S) partners with OCC residents and collaborates with the Chaplain to identify and support their needs including housing and employment.

**The Mission:** The Ministry strives to better prepare our residents with skills, abilities and motivation to successfully reintegrate into their communities and families upon release and, where possible, provide support and encouragement to those receiving them. The Ministry works to connect all concerned to available resources to be found at Orange Correctional Center (OCC) and in the surrounding community.

### **Specific functions of the Ministry:**

- Administration of religious programming at Orange Correctional Center
- Provision of pastoral counseling to residents and staff.
- Cooperation with volunteers, clergy and mediators who work with men and their families/friends
- Distribution of clothing and hygiene items donated by volunteers and religious community

**Finances:** The AOPM raises about \$50,000 a year from faith organizations and individuals. With these funds, the Ministry pays the entirety of chaplain’s salary, the single employee of the Ministry.

## **Peaceful Schools NC ([www.peacefulschoolsnc.org](http://www.peacefulschoolsnc.org))**

The **mission** of Peaceful Schools NC is to provide strategies for building and sustaining positive relationships within school communities so that all members can thrive through intentional collaboration and programming.

*Peaceful Schools NC is not a one-size fits all program. We do not have a packaged product that we swoop in to administer. We believe that peace comes from within communities and that it is the members of the community who hold the power to make a change. We also do not work with our schools in isolation. The Peaceful Schools NC network is a supportive learning community. Teachers visit one another's schools. We build connections between school leaders. We generate new ideas via think tanks tackling a common challenge. Our work becomes stronger with each school that becomes involved.*

*We work to empower schools to actively create and sustain a positive school climate. Through an individualized approach, we offer consultation, professional development, and ongoing resources for teachers, administrators, students, staff, and parents. Our work with schools often includes:*

- *Workshops for teachers throughout the year*
- *Consulting and planning with administrative teams*
- *Parent education nights*
- *Programs for students*
- *School climate surveys*
- *Participation in Student Day*
- *New-teacher orientation and training*
- *Ongoing consulting and support as needed*
- *Discounted fees to attend our biennial conference*
- *A supportive network of schools working together to support each other in this work*

### **The Core Values include:**

- Child-Centered Education
- Equity Focus
- Interactive and Experiential Programming
- Holistic View of Community
- Restorative Practices
- Student Voice, Responsibility, and Agency
- Teacher Voice, Responsibility, and Agency

### **Contracts with public, charter, independent and other schools; overall, peaceful schools has worked with 8 public, 10 charters, 5 independent, and 4 others**

*(Bolded schools are current contracts)*

- Central Park School for Children (2+ yrs)
- Community School for Digital and Visual Arts (2+ yrs)
- **“The Point” College Prep and Leadership Academy (2+ yrs)**
- **J.W. Parker Middle School (2+ yrs)**
- **Northern Granville Middle School (2+ yrs)**

- **Southwest Middle School**
- The Hawbridge School (2+ yrs)
  
- **NC School of Science and Math**
- **Montessori Community School**
- **Durham Public School District**
- **Carolina Friends School (2+ yrs)**
- **Durham Academy**
- Exploris (2+ yrs)
- G.R. Edwards Middle School
- Jordan High School
- Susie King Taylor Community School (2+ yrs)
- The Experiential School of Greensboro (2+ yrs)
  
- **SterlingMontessori (2+ yrs)**
- **Edgecombe County School District**
- **AmeriCorps Project MARS (2+ yrs)**
- UNC School of Education (2+yrs)
- APP State (2+ yrs)
- Maureen Joy Charter School
- Triangle Ultimate
- Cary Academy (2+ yrs)
  
- **Sidwell Friends School**
- **Discovery Charter School (2+ yrs)**

**This year, there have been several additional New inquiries** - Cumberland county schools, 3 charters in Durham and Raleigh), Governor Morehead school; New Garden Friends School; **Last year we impacted 245 teachers, reaching over 1,200 students. This year so far we've worked with 645 teachers, and because some of them are district-wide positions, the reach extends to nearly 12,000 students!**

**How Peaceful Schools implements its mission: Achievements of the organization:**

- Launched Summer Institute, generating income and new connections
- First facilitators training
- Revised mission and core values
- New and improved website
- Onboarded first marketing and communications support
- Launched strategic planning
- Task force for organization structure developed recommendations

**Planned activities this year:**

- NC Association of Independent Schools training
- Friends Council on Education Head of schools presentation, Philadelphia
- Development of strategic planning goals
- Implementation of task force proposal on organizational structure
- Conduct spring facilitators retreat
- Implement spring giving campaign
- Plan and conduct 2023 Summer Institute

- Conduct workshops on restorative practices for educators and school leaders
- School to Peace-pipeline
- Student day
- Program development and evaluation

**Funding Sources: The goal is to decrease the proportion of funding from CFS over time, and increase income generated from programming, and increase return of funds to CFS (see handout)**

- CFS school budget
- Programming with schools
- Donations
- Events

**2020-2021 - Revenue \$35.5k (Programming \$17k, Giving \$17.5k); surplus, \$20k 2021-2022 - Revenue \$80.0k (Programming \$43k, Giving \$37k); surplus, \$35k**

**Projected: 2022-2023 - Revenue \$94k (Programming \$64k, Giving \$30k); surplus \$0k, with \$35k remaining from previous year.**

***No additional surplus is expected by the end of the year, which will be essential for any growth we'd have over time, making fundraising an absolute priority. In fact, shifting our organizational structure to add more paid positions is our one and only Strategic Planning Goal. For now, we really need to be building capacity to meet the growing demand.***

## **FCNCL**

FCNCL is an organization of North Carolina Quakers advocating for legislation and good government practices that embody the Quaker testimonies of peace, simplicity, equality, community, integrity and stewardship.

On December 18, 2022, Pam Schwingl, the CHFM representative to FCNCL gave the annual report to business meeting on the work of FCNCL for the previous year.

### **Policy Priorities and Actions.**

The policy priorities for the upcoming legislative session are: 1) Equal Access to Quality Public Education; 2) Protecting Participation in the Democratic Process for All; 3) Concern for the Health and Safety of All North Carolina Residents; 4) Protecting the Environment; and 5) Criminal justice reform.

Much of our efforts since the start of this year, and the start of the 2023-2024 legislative session has been on Medicaid Expansion. In February we partnered with a statewide coalition of organizations supporting expansion including NC Justice, Down Home, and several other nonprofits by joining them in their lobby day on February 14, 2023.

FCNCL is planning a state-wide FCNCL Lobby/Advocacy Day in Raleigh on March 22 to provide an opportunity for Friends to meet with their legislators and to lobby for a clean

Medicaid Expansion bill which would go into effect as soon as possible, not waiting until next January. Meeting members and attenders are welcome to join us! **Please sign up for the lobby day and a March 15 training on our website**

We have also solicited the creation of fact sheet on LGBTQ and transgender bills working their way through the legislature. New versions of several bills which FCNCL did not support (critical race theory in the schools, abolishment of gun permits, etc.) and were vetoed by Gov. Cooper last year may be able to pass, given the election results this past fall which gave more power to those who supported these bills.

**Contributions and expenses.** The organization has no paid staff but is powered by volunteers from meetings across the state of North Carolina. The total reported contributions to FCNCL from meetings and individuals amounted to \$3790. We ended the year with a balance of approximately \$8200.

The organization, being as it is completely volunteer run, does not have regular expenses, and there is enough of a cushion to get through expenses incurred in the 2023 lobby day effort.

### **Friends House Moscow**

- a paragraph about their work
- challenges FHM is facing with the war footing of Russia
- How many paid people (FT equivalent)
- Income for the last two years
- A general statement of the project's need

Friends House Moscow is a project of Quakers internationally. For almost 30 years, it has supported peace-building in Russia and the former Soviet Union. It provides resources for worship groups, for conflict resolution programs and for those conscientiously opposed to war. Such resources are available thanks to our energetic translation and publication program. Any Russian speakers at your Meeting may be interested in the publications at <https://quakers.ru>. FHM also provides support to Russians working with refugees and the disabled.

Right now, all non-governmental groups in Russia are extremely vulnerable. Financial support coming from abroad, in particular from a foreign religious organization, may present risks for all concerned. Thanks to mutual trust, built over many years, our Russian colleagues have been able to maintain relationships with long-time "project partners." "FHM is an international collaboration between two charitable organizations (FHMSA in the USA and FHM in the UK), which are run voluntarily by trustees and committee members - they have no paid staff. Translation, reporting and research services are provided by a small business owned by two Russian Quakers, who work under contract with us. In 2020, income via FHMSA (USA) was USD \$49,427, via FHM (UK) GBP 60,150; in 2021 USD \$29,278, GBP 48,003. Donations from Friends in Belgium, Germany and Sweden are funneled through FHM (UK).

Friends House Moscow's need, at present, is to respond to the human landscape which has been so tragically changed by the war in Ukraine. A conflict resolution project in Estonia

now works with Ukrainian refugees, Estonians and resident ethnic Russians. A potential project is a school for Ukrainian refugee children, which has been organized by members of the Russian diaspora (themselves refugees) in a former Eastern Bloc country. We are assembling and translating resources for the psychologists who are needed to work with the moral trauma of war in Russia itself.

## **NC WARN CURRENT PROJECTS**

NC WARN is pushing Duke Energy to make the transition from fossil fuels to clean energy by:

- continuing our Climate Emergency campaign calling on Governor Cooper to stop Duke's massive buildout of fracked gas-fired power plants (over 40 scientists, 80 organizations and 12,000 individuals have joined the call)
- opposing Duke's proposal to weaken net metering policies for residential solar customers
- pushing for a cleaner, quicker and more affordable carbon plan that includes distributed solar on rooftops, parking lots and brownfields, combined with battery storage
- educating state nonprofits and households about how they can reduce their energy costs by taking advantage of opportunities available under the Inflation Reduction Act
- preparing to challenge applications Duke will file in late 2023 for permits to build new gas plants.

## **STAFF SIZE**

Our staff is relatively small right now, largely due to attrition during the pandemic years. Currently, NC WARN has 5 full-time equivalent staff with a combined tenure of 67 years with the organization. We are in the process of hiring an additional staff member who is likely to be full-time. In addition, we are really fortunate to continue our relationships with 3 excellent contractors: attorney (5 years), engineer (8 years) and accountant (8 years).

## **INCOME**

For 2022, and for 2023 (projected), our income is in the \$1.5 million/year range. As we have explained in the past, we are fortunate to be able to devote a large portion of our expenses to public education and mobilization via a wide range of outreach tools including paid advertising across a host of online and traditional platforms. This has been vitally important to taking our message straight to the public across North Carolina in order to successfully and substantially (though not fully!) counter Duke Energy's giant propaganda machine that distorts and suppresses open public debate on climate and energy justice issues.

Although NC WARN is currently on firm financial footing – and pledges to inform the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting if that changes – we are far more reliant than we'd like to be on a single, wealthy but elderly couple, and continue seeking to diversify our funding base. We remain deeply grateful for the years of generosity from the Meeting.

## **ReEntry House**

**Reentry House Plus, Inc**

*Mission: Reentry House Plus (RHP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to provide housing and needed support to individuals transitioning from prison, Reentry House Plus is devoted to assisting formerly incarcerated people reintegrate back into the community as healthy, productive citizens. We at Reentry House Plus believe in second chances and are*



*committed to doing our part to ensure that people receive the support, skills, and encouragement they need to rebuild their lives. ([https:// reentryhouseplus.wildapricot.org/](https://reentryhouseplus.wildapricot.org/))*

**What ReEntry House (RHP) does.** A house accommodating up to 5 men was purchased in Hillsborough, NC and opened June 1, 2021, and is the first facility in northern Orange County to provide the housing and emotional support to reduce recidivism and rebuild lives. In addition to providing shelter, Reentry House Plus has partnered with SWIT – *Success While in Transition* ([www.successwhileintransition.org](http://www.successwhileintransition.org)) – to offer life skills training and one-on-one mentorship to the residents. A justice- involved individual's integration back into the community requires social skills such as self-advocacy, respect for community and the ability to form positive relationships.

SWIT classes teach these important life skills while certified Peer Support Specialists provide personalized counseling and help residents find permanent housing, employment and needed healthcare services. Our in-house manager is a certified Peer- Support Specialist.

**Our History.** A group of volunteers and supporters arising out of Yoke Fellows at Orange County Correctional started the non-profit corporation to provide housing and needed support for those being released from prison. In September, 2019, the founding Board of Reentry House Plus, Inc. voted to incorporate. The first year was spent determining a reentry model and raising needed funds for a house and SWIT operations. In November 2020, the board began offering SWIT classes, alternating monthly between a church in Chapel Hill and one in Hillsborough. In January, 2021 the Board made a commitment to find a house in the Hillsborough area and began to raise the necessary funds. In March 2021, we placed a bid on a home in the Carolina Loop neighborhood, close to the bus and shopping. Within 3 months, the \$93,000 was raised for the closing costs and down payment, through Self Help Credit Union of Durham. The house began operation in June 2021, and is fully functioning with 4 residents, a residential manager and the SWIT Program.

The SWIT program was developed by Tommy Green and William Elmore who themselves are formerly incarcerated. Green and Elmore understand the challenges of reentry, and have considerable training and experience working with people in transition. They oversee the day to day operations of Reentry House Plus and are responsible for hiring staff. RHP also responds to the need for education and support beyond the walls of our transition house by opening the SWIT program to participants in the larger community.

**Accomplishments.** In 2022 RHP developed its ability to help returning justice-involved men and women by fulfilling several goals:

- RHP diversified its Board with the inclusion of 5 men and women of color - ALL of whom are either previously incarcerated or heavily involved with justice-related issues.
- A Fundraising and Development Committee was created to diversify and strengthen our fundraising efforts. To that end we have:
- Added an ABC grant to our monthly income.
- Increased our Wild Apricot contact list to over 450 participants
- Increased the number of monthly givers by 100% to over 30.

- Received over \$20,000 of in-kind donations which was used to fund a separate transportation budget.
- Ran a successful **Giving Challenge** that doubled total gifts up to \$5000 for both the Board and the outside community. Over \$16,700 was received from outside donors and the Board participated with another \$3,900. Including the matching we received a total of \$29,535.
- Purchased a second-hand Prius that is used exclusively to transport residents to work, shopping, medical and legal appointments, etc, all while keeping gasoline usage low.
- Participated in several retreats including the Board and SWIT to create the foundation of Mid-term and Long-term Strategic Goals. This work in process is often referenced as we endeavor to find the best paths forward for RHP.
- Opened initial dialogue with Wounded Healers to better understand how our two missions are complementary and to find ways to increase the effectiveness of our two organizations by applying the strengths of each to help the other. To that end, RHP has welcomed Edward “Scottso” Scott, a founder of Wounded Healers, onto our Board and we are exploring the premise of a joint application to the United Way, after having been encouraged by United Way to apply.

**Future Plans.** The theme for this coming year is to greatly expand our services as a Community Resource, thus, meeting more identified needs. To begin, that will include finding leaders for both Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcohol Anonymous (AA) classes to be held at the Loop house. In addition, Tom McQuiston will work with Will and Tommy to better define and to formalize in written form the 21 principles that comprise the core of the SWIT teaching.

RHP will work with Will and Tommy to again open the SWIT classes with a follow-up Peer Support component to the greater community. These outside classes will not only provide a needed incubator to test the viability of the newly-defined principles of the SWIT classes, but they will also allow Will and Tommy to train others to run the classes, thereby lightening their personal teaching load going forward.

RHP will be partnering with UNC Health to offer Living Healthy-Chronic Diseases classes at the Loop House. Tommy is already a certified “Lay Leader” who can lead the six once-a-week classes which – to start - would also include a volunteer from the UNC program. Before July of 23, Peer Support Specialists from SWIT will also go through the UNC Living Healthy training process and Tommy will re-certify. Under this RHP/SWIT/UNC collaboration, men and women who attend the classes will be offered additional “outside” support from SWIT for help with transportation and follow-up help in their quest to Take Control of their chronic condition. Tommy is uniquely positioned to manage this new offering since he has been the head of the NC FIT program for Orange County for some years and both programs are sponsored by UNC Family Medicine.

## Appendix 4

### SCHOOLHOUSE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE MARCH 19, 2023 MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

In the early 1990s, the Meeting was growing. The meeting room was often crowded with latecomers required to stand or sit on the floor for the first 15 minutes. First Day School classes had outgrown the space downstairs; the oldest students walked to a nearby UNC classroom. The Meeting's resident was housed in a tiny bedroom upstairs with a small kitchen downstairs. Potlucks using the resident's kitchen and eating in the meeting room were increasingly difficult to manage. In addition, Carolina Friends School (CFS) was eager to expand their half-day Early School program that met downstairs during the week in the meetinghouse to a full-day program. Following a two-year process, the Meeting came to unity to build a schoolhouse that would provide the space needed for the Meeting's First Day School, for potlucks and other Meeting celebrations, and for Carolina Friends School to utilize the building Monday through Friday with their full-day Early School program for three to six-year olds.

The Meeting hired a local architect and builder for a project to renovate a portion of the meetinghouse and to build the schoolhouse. Members of the Meeting community contributed a total of \$591,000 divided between \$481,300 for the schoolhouse and \$109,700 for the meetinghouse. CFS contributed \$50,000 to the schoolhouse to expand the size of the back classroom to meet the needs of their oldest children. The schoolhouse was constructed, and the Early School opened in 1993. For almost 30 years, up to 29 children, their parents, and six teachers have enjoyed the schoolhouse facilities each year.

The Meeting and Carolina Friends School signed a 30-year agreement starting September 1, 1993. While the initial agreement ends this year, a 2002 update of the agreement states that the School has the option of "three subsequent five-year renewal periods." Indications to date point to the School's continued commitment to use the schoolhouse for their Chapel Hill Early School program. Reviewing and updating the agreement will be a primary task of the Schoolhouse Ad Hoc Committee. The agreement will come to the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB) for the Meeting's approval.

Another focus of the Committee is the investigation of problems of the foundation under the Schoolhouse. Such problems come as no surprise, since CHFM has been dealing with meetinghouse foundation problems over many years, most recently, with the front porch. Over the last few years, cracks have appeared on the interior walls of the schoolhouse – primarily near and in the multi-purpose room, areas of the floor have been found to be uneven, some doors do not close properly, etc. Last year, the schoolhouse entry doorway had to be rebuilt. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has asked the Schoolhouse Ad Hoc Committee to assume the task of researching the schoolhouse foundation problems and proposing solutions to the Meeting. We have accepted the B&G request since the solution to the schoolhouse foundation problems will have implications for future agreements with the School.

The Schoolhouse Ad Hoc Committee currently consists of Matt Drake, Marie Hopper, and Lloyd Kramer (Meeting Trustees), John Hite (B&G representative), Rob Jones (Volunteer member), and Monteze Snyder (Finance representative).

The Committee met on January 26, March 12, and plan to meet again on April 2, following the Meeting’s Spring Event.

Matt Drake, Committee Clerk

## Appendix 5

### Update from B&G for 03.19.2023 MWAB

B&G is pleased to say that with the touch-up painting completed 03.16, the porch patio work is considered “Done and Dusted”

Note: Restoration of some landscaping will be handled this Spring

- B&G is forming a consultative body of members and attenders from the Meeting at large, who have an interest in horticulture, in order to work on and set out long range plans for the needs of the Meeting in the living environment. An initial outdoor meeting was scheduled for 03.12.2023, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

B&G wishes to thank each of the respective outside entities that participated in completion of the work:

AA Takla Engineering (Atef)  
Ibarra Construction (Pablo)  
Cornerstone Foundation (Jonathan)  
Mendez Concrete Finishing (Fernando)  
EPC Material Placement (Eric)  
CFS Staff (Mark and Kate)

Letters to each will be sent by B&G.

The wording will follow something like this and B&G requests the oversight of the Clerk of Correspondence on the final draft:

[Example: Atef Takla]

*Let the Reader know that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, in its Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on 03.19.2023, received words of appreciation from the Buildings and Grounds and Finance Committees, and duly records that this letter of appreciation be sent to thee, with warm and loving regard:*

*Atef Aziz Takla, Professional Engineer*

*for consultation and design of a robust replacement entry patio and access ramp.  
Thank You for your work on behalf of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting*

B&G has commenced with the next phase of the ventilation work, this being a preliminary budgeting and fact finding.

A rolling timeline for the work is established, and some of the work will commence on 03.20.2023 that when completed will permit removal of fans from windows, and will supply ventilation air to the Meeting Room through the Energy Recovery Ventilators for the onset of the main cooling season in June and beyond

The electrical engineer of record on the 2017 Lower Level renovation has visited the site on 03.15.2023, and was given a summary scope of work to evaluate the needed changes to the electrical system to facilitate connecting the new equipment indicated as needed by the Load Calculation study completed as Phase 1

Mobilization for initial work on Upper Level has begun, which means moving the energy recovery ventilators out of storage and into their respective positions in the attic. This becomes visible on week of 03.20 and will be continue throughout the week.

Costing RFPs for roof flanges are prepared, but need final dimensions applied; installation has been discussed with one contractor, Ibarra Construction and Roofing, and will be reported in follow up with overall budget. This work can be let, and connection of the ERVs and related flexible ductwork to the existing system can commence under contract with permit approvals from Town of Chapel Hill. The application documents will be prepared on or about 03.22.2023, and approval is expected to be immediate once the full application package is submitted.

No prolonged interference with operation of the system for Upper Level is anticipated and every effort will be made to have all system components in operation on every First Day throughout the duration.

To reach the farther shore of completion of work on Upper Level will entail upgrading electrical, and the process of defining the scope of that work has started, and the electrical engineer's estimate for design services should be complete soon, following that initial 03.15 site visit, and the presentation of scope by B&G on 03.16.2023. No further action to report at this time. The purpose of the upgrade is to permit operating new 1.5 ton heat/cool unit to make up a deficit in the Meeting Room.

Impacts to building fits and finishes:

B&G needs to interact with Library Committee, Hospitality Committee, and affected committee(s) to participate in a threshing session that focuses on the changes that will affect the Library and Foyer, so that there is broad understanding that refurbishing those spaces will need to follow the disruptive parts of the HVAC and Electrical work, in order to agree on locations of new holes in ceilings and walls, and closing old holes in ceilings where needed.

Changing the locations of return grilles from ceiling level to within the lower walls areas near the floor as recommended by our consultant in the Phase 1 report, is at the root of this concern, and will not block progress on the ventilation project, only leave the

system operating with ceiling level returns until these changes can be agreed and the work done. Only then can the consultant actually design the arrangement that we want built without later being told to change the design due to misunderstandings in our group.

B&G recommends that the interactive process be established by Meeting for Business, with due direction minuted to clerks and respective committees if Friends feel so led to go forward in this manner.

B&G expects to continue to operate with fans in Meeting Room for ventilation for the short term, hoping to have started the cut-over to ERVs before the next Meeting for Business (in April), depending upon contract process, budget and availability of labor. Peter holds the belief that initial operation of ERVs using ceiling level returns is achievable by mid-May.

In any event, operation of Upper Level systems without window fans is expected to be available before the onset of full Summer air conditioning season in June, with the fullness of added ventilation air stipulated in the consultant's report.

A proposal will be introduced in B&G committee to commence letting contract for design of the Lower Level ventilation upgrades, for budgeting purposes, and should be in the April committee meeting agenda for opening discussion, and will be reported back to MWAB following committee meeting.

<END>