

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter: Ninth Month, 2023



Monthly Query: *In what ways do we support each other in our spiritual journeys?*

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

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Upcoming Zoom Fora - 9:30 am

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

September 3: [Woolman Hill Anti Racism Remonstrance](#). Led by Campo Larrick, signatory

September 10: Personal Sharing with Carolyn White



Upcoming Events

Couple Enrichment Workshop: "Savor Your Relationship", Sept 8-9

Join us for a sacred time of connection with your partner. LGBTQIA+ friendly. Learn a practice for a lifetime grounded in Quaker peacemaking principles: Couple Dialogue. Couple Dialogue slows us down, helping us to listen and understand one another before jumping to solutions (or jumping on each other!) Hone your practice and deepen your relationship in a community seeking the joy of lifelong companionship. No fixing. No judging. Share at your own level of comfort.

Friday, September 8, 6 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, September 9, 9:30 am - 4 pm

Durham Friends Meeting, 404 Alexander Avenue, Durham

Suggested donation \$50/couple. [Click here to register](#) or scan this qr code:



Want to know more? Then Sip or Sample.

Sip by having a brief conversation with Marsha & Mike by zoom or in person during August. For dedicated times and locations, scan the code

Sample by attending a free 90-minute event. Come as you are, with or without a partner.

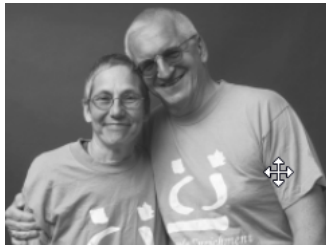
August 15 (Tues.) at 8 pm Online (registration required.)

August 24 (Thurs.) at 7 pm Orchard Park Shelter, 1000 S Duke St.

August 27 (Sun.) at 4 pm Durham Friends Meeting, 404 Alexander Ave.

August 29 (Tues.) at 12:30 pm . . Online (registration required.)

For more details and to register, use the qr code above.



Durham Anchor Couple Marsha & Mike Green

Marsha & Mike have been creating safe, sacred spaces for couples for over 30 years with Friends Couple Enrichment. Witnessed Couple Dialogue has become their relationship yoga practice. They love to share this practice with whomever and wherever the opportunity arises. This is their vocation, grounded in their Quaker faith and practice of peace-making, equality, integrity, and community. They live in Durham, NC.

Friends Couple Enrichment (FCE) has been nurturing relationships for 50+ years. It is grounded in Quaker testimonies and belief that the Spirit is continually revealed. Anchor couples are trained, mentored, and follow their calling across the U.S. and Canada offering events at minimal cost. FCE is a 501(c)3 non-profit. Learn more at www.friendscoupleenrichment.org.

“Something To Say” Art Exhibit, Sept 27 - Oct 15

Dear Friends,

We have planned this year's “Something to Say” art exhibit for September 27 through October 15th. The exhibit will showcase the visual art and poetry of men who are incarcerated at Orange Correctional Center(OCC). The “Friends & Family” event will be held on Saturday, October 14th. In past years, the timing for this event was 4:30 to 7:30, but we will probably adjust the time, as sunset will be earlier!

We are so grateful to Margaret Lane Gallery for hosting the exhibit which will be held in the “green room” at the back of the gallery rather than the main room of the gallery. The “green room” is a light-filled, beautiful space with a back door that leads to the backyard of the gallery.

Like last year, we are inviting the men to submit poetry as well! One of the highlights of the Friends & Family event is the reading of the poems.

Once again, we hope to invite groups and organizations that support incarcerated people and returning citizens. It’s a great opportunity for individuals and organizations to build connections and community!

If you would like to help us plan or participate in the Friends & Family event, please let me know at sallyfreeman@earthlink.net

Thank you so much!
Sally Freeman

School of the Spirit Contemplative Retreat, Oct 26-29

The School of the Spirit is bringing back in-person contemplative retreats. We will be offering a retreat at the Avila Center in Durham, North Carolina, October 26-29, 2023. Using the theme *Thresholds as Invitations: A Contemplative Retreat in the Manner of Friends*, we will explore those moments of in-between, of possibility, of endings and beginnings. The retreat is a program of [The School of the Spirit](#) ministry.

During the retreat, participants will experience the distinctly Quaker manner of knowing solitude in community. Opening to change and unknowing as gifts takes faith and practice and community. We invite you to come and explore contemplative practices that can make thresholds more welcome invitations. There will be silent time for prayer and reflection, walks among the trees, and contemplative interaction with scripture. We will gather in worship and worship sharing, and participants may, if they wish, meet one-on-one with a retreat leader.

Thresholds as Invitations will be led by April Allison newly of the Durham Friends Meeting in North Carolina and Jan Blodgett former member of the School of the Spirit board. Scott Wagoner of High Point Friends Meeting in North Carolina will participate in leadership as part of the mentorship program.

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN: [For more information, or to register](#). All are welcome; it is not necessary that you be a Quaker to participate. The retreat begins at 5 pm on Thursday, ending mid-day on Sunday. Flexible fees are available.



Announcements

Bolivian Quaker Education Fund News

Pam Schwingl shares with Friends:

1. Board members of the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) (www.bqef.org) are working to strengthen ties between Bolivian Quakers and Quakers elsewhere through programs that enhance the educational opportunities of Bolivian Friends and nurture their service work. Currently we are seeking new board and committee members, liaisons, and advocates to help us! Individuals from Quaker meetings, churches, or organizations, individuals aligned with Quaker values, interested in education, economic equity, Latin America, and/or who have Spanish language skills are cordially invited to apply. Together with staff in Bolivia, BQEF has provided university and technical school scholarships, and other support to over 244 Bolivian Young Adult Friends, who have graduated and entered professional lives of service to their communities. There is an urgent need for this type of support, as there are many qualified young adults among the more than 30,000 Friends in Bolivia.

We are a small group, and need help in extending our reach and spreading the word about Bolivian Friends' education aspirations and accomplishments. Thus, any individuals interested in learning about these opportunities or joining us in any of these capacities, can go to <https://tinyurl.com/2zhrps88> to find out more to apply. Alternatively, if there are individuals interested in engaging with this work, please contact me, Pam Schwingl at pschwingl82@gmail.com

2. Note that BQEF is planning a 2024 Study Tour to Bolivia (mid-July) and we will be sending out more information about this opportunity. But let me know if you would like more information about this trip.

3. Magaly Quispe Yujira from Bolivia has an article in the service section of the August Friends Journal on p.32-4. She talks about the AVP program she started in prisons and now in schools, and her Aymara traditions, the Bolivian Quaker community, joining Friends and getting BQEF scholarship support as well as AVP training from an New York Yearly Meeting Friend. Worth a read!!!

Quakers Today Podcast

AFSC is sponsoring season two of the [“Quakers Today” podcast](#), which features musicians, writers, and others who seek wisdom and understanding in a rapidly changing world. This month, Friends were asked “What was a time when you rebelled and why?” Timothy Tarkelly talks about his experience being a Quaker, lover of nature, and a hunter and Erin Wilson discusses Quaker values, the testimony of equality and how that helped her understand her identity as an LGBTQ+ person. For the next podcast episode, Friends are asked to consider the question “Who is someone who has inspired your faith or worldview?” To share your thoughts, call 317-QUAKERS (317-782-5377) or email podcast@friendsjournal.org .

The Peace Booth at the NC State Fair

Wendy Michener shares with Friends:

The NC Peace Booth has been a presence for peace at the NC State Fair for 72 years and brings a message of peace, social justice and nonviolence to thousands of people. It commonly has 3 petitions of NC concerns for Fair attenders to sign, crafts for the children, peace testimonies from local faiths for people to take and numerous exhibits for browsing.

The Peace Booth is staffed by volunteers. It is open 12 hours per day for the 11 days of the NC State Fair (**Oct. 12 -22**), requiring over 100 volunteers from civic organizations and numerous churches and faiths. **Volunteers staff the booth in pairs for a 2-hour shift and receive a free pass into the Fair.** There is a short training for volunteers to familiarize them with the materials and usual procedures. Congregations and civic groups can staff the booth as a group on specific days. We place a placard at the booth stating the group(s) staffing the booth that day.

The theme for this year is "Lets Talk Peace". You can find out more about the Peace Booth at <http://www.ncpeacebooth.org>. If you are interested, please contact Jon Arnold at arnoldjon@bellsouth.net for more information.

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.

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.

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.

Newsletter & eNews Reminder

Please send items for the weekly eNews email and the monthly print Newsletter to news@chapelhillfriends.org.

- The deadline for weekly eNews is 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.

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).



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 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.

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/?bbblinkid=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."

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.



Personals

Young Puppy Trainers Wanted

Deborah Gibbs shares with Friends:

If you've been to in-person Meeting lately, you may have noticed me with a (mostly) well-behaved pup. Eyes, Ears, Nose, and Paws trains these dogs for people with mobility and medical challenges. Most of the training is done by incarcerated trainers in the At Both Ends of the Leash program, which includes a team at Orange Correctional Center.

EENP is currently looking for Young Puppy Trainers to care for younger puppies, between two and six months of age. EENP provides all food, equipment, medical care, and training classes for the puppies. Young Puppy Trainers provide a safe and loving home, basic training under the supervision of EENP staff, and positive socialization experiences to help pups grow into confident and happy young adults. When the pups are 6-9 months of age, they enter the ABEL prison program to continue training.

If you're curious about doing this, I'd be delighted to talk with you (gibbsdeborah@gmail.com).

More information is available on EENP's website at:

<https://eenp.org/volunteer/young-puppy-trainers>.



Business Meeting Minutes

August was a month of recess for the monthly business meeting.

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377