

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

October, 2010



## Monthly Query:

*How does the Meeting support families of all kinds to improve communication, family life, and the rearing of children in a context of love?*

## Contents:

Upcoming Forum Schedule .....	2
IFC Needs .....	2
IFC Volunteer Needs .....	3
IFC Annual Meeting and Potluck .....	4
Newcomers Lunch.....	4
Volunteer to Provide Meals.....	4
ECC Film Series .....	5
Meeting House Work Morning .....	5
A Brief Overview of Buddhism .....	6
<b>Minutes from Appointed Evening Meeting (Sept 9) .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Calendar .....	21
Help Update the Directory .....	22-23

*"This we know: the earth does not belong to man, man belongs to the earth. All things are connected like the blood that unities us all. Man did not weave the web of life, he is merely a strand in it. Whatever he does to the web, he does to himself." -Chief Seattle*

## **Upcoming Forum Schedule**

- Oct. 3** "Against the Tide," post prison adjustment, coordinated by Asta Crowe and Hank Elkins
- Oct. 10** personal sharing - Buffie Weber
- Oct. 24** "A Conversation with Quaker House," facilitated by Curt Torell, Quaker House board member and treasurer
- Oct. 31** "Muslim Sisters: Reaching Out to the Community," presentation by Millie Khatria Azariah, CFS parent, coordinated by Nancy Milio
- Nov. 7** personal sharing – Judy Purvis
- Nov. 14** "Quaker Advocacy in Palestine," with Betsy Brinson and Gordon Davies

## **IFC Needs**

The InterFaith Council (IFC) item for October is spaghetti sauce or cooking oil! Please add one or both of these items to your shopping carts to donate in the green bin in the entry room. Other items the Food Pantry needs at this time are Canned Pinto Beans, Canned Greens (Collards, Spinach, etc), Spaghetti, Snack Crackers and Saltines, Baked Beans or Pork-and-Beans, Jelly, Dry Cereal, Corn Muffin Mix, Empty Egg Cartons, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet paper, and other personal care items.

The IFC can always use bags. Brown bags with handles are best, but they can use other types as well. Bring your extras to Meeting any Sunday.

## **IFC Volunteer Needs**

The IFC is in need of the following volunteers:

HomeStart is in need of volunteers to assist their Residential Assistants in the Evenings (6 – 9pm or 6:30 – 9:30pm). Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings most needed. Contact Karen Carr at 929-6380 ext. 30 or [volunteer@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:volunteer@ifcmailbox.org)

HomeStart and Community House are in need of volunteer Social Workers. Background in social work, social justice issues, and case management skills are preferred. Days and times are negotiable. Contact Karen Carr at 929-6380 ext. 30 or [volunteer@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:volunteer@ifcmailbox.org)

Community Kitchen is in need of meal preparation groups and it is also in need of food sorters on Mondays from 1-3pm. Meal monitors are needed for Thursdays from 11-12:30 and an extra kitchen helper on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9-12. Contact Karen Carr at 929-6380 ext. 30 or [volunteer@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:volunteer@ifcmailbox.org).

We also keep a roster for SUBSTITUTES! If one of our volunteers is suddenly unavailable, we will call you to step in for that shift. You can “sub” as a delivery/pick-up driver, receptionist or food sorter. Contact Karen Carr at 929-6380 ext. 30 or [volunteer@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:volunteer@ifcmailbox.org)

# **IFC Annual Meeting and Potluck**

**Thursday, October 21, 6:00-8:30 PM, United Church of Chapel Hill**

IFC Friends and Partners are welcome on Thursday, October 21, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. for IFC's Annual Dinner and Meeting, to be held at the United Church of Chapel Hill (1321 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.). Bring a favorite food dish to share with friends in celebration of our work together.

Come learn about IFC's programs and plans for new facilities! Meet the architects and our new Project Manager! Find out how you can help! Please RSVP by email at [rsvp@ifcmailbox.org](mailto:rsvp@ifcmailbox.org) or call Elizabeth at (919) 929-6380 ext.15.

## **Newcomers Lunch**

**October 24, noon**

There will be a newcomers lunch at the rise of meeting Sunday, October 24. A light lunch will be served. Everyone, new, old, or in between, is invited.

## **Volunteer to Provide Meals**

The hospitality committee would like to find volunteers willing to provide an occasional meal for an individual or family within our Meeting who might be in need of one. If you are interested in being put on a list of volunteers that we can contact when in need of meals, please respond to Gwynne Pomeroy at [pomeroyg@mindspring.com](mailto:pomeroyg@mindspring.com) . Thank you!

## **ECC Film Series**

**October 23, 6PM, Schoolhouse**

The next film in the Environmental Concerns Committee's series will be "Food, Inc.," and will be held on Saturday, October 23, at 6:00pm in the Schoolhouse. The story line of this film reads: "The current method of raw food production is largely a response to the growth of the fast food industry since the 1950s. The production of food overall has more drastically changed since that time than the several thousand years prior. Controlled primarily by a handful of multinational corporations, the global food production business - with an emphasis on the business - has as its unwritten goals production of large quantities of food at low direct inputs (most often subsidized) resulting in enormous profits, which in turn results in greater control of the global supply of food sources within these few companies. Health and safety (of the food itself, of the animals produced themselves, of the workers on the assembly lines, and of the consumers actually eating the food) are often overlooked by the companies, and are often overlooked by government in an effort to provide cheap food regardless of these negative consequences." Writer and director Robert Kenner won an award for Best Documentary for this film.

There will be no meal with this film; this will just be a great opportunity for Meeting folks to come out and see this extremely important film. Popcorn and beverages will be served.

## **Meeting House Work Morning**

**October 23, 8:30am-12noon**

Come to a work morning! Look for more details as the date nears.

# A Brief Overview of Buddhism

By Emily Buehler

(The following is a summary of Chapter 3 of the book “What the Great Religions Believe” by Joseph Gaer, from the Meeting library. I’ve used masculine pronouns since that’s what the author used.)

Buddhism began about 2500 years ago in India at a time when many were disillusioned with Hinduism. Instead of finding solace in the idea of reincarnation, they dreaded the thousands of cycles they would have to undergo before release. A prince named Siddhartha Gautama was born in northern India; he grew up, studied the Hindu scriptures, married, and lived shielded from the outside world. One day he saw a sick man in pain, an old man, and a funeral--new concepts to him. Then he saw a tranquil monk begging for food, and he decided to leave his palace, wife, and son to live as a beggar-monk, meditating without distraction upon the human condition.

For seven years, the prince wandered, searching for wisdom. Finally, his ideas coalesced. After he preached his first sermon, followers asked, “Are you a god?” He replied, “I am awake,” so his followers called him *Buddha*, which means *The Awakened*.

Buddhism spread and many sects arose, but there are two major branches: Followers of *Mahayana* (the Greater Vehicle of Salvation) believe that no man lives alone and therefore his salvation must be involved with the salvation of others. Followers of *Hinanyana* (the Lesser Vehicle of Salvation) believe that each individual must seek and find his own salvation. Mahayana teaches that the principle guide of man is the heart, or compassion, while Hinanyana teaches

that it is the head, or wisdom. Mahayana believes in a complex ritual and personal prayers. Hinanyana avoids ritual and prayer.

The basic beliefs of Buddhism begin with the Four Noble Truths.

- 1.) Many things are suffering including old age, illness, death.
- 2.) Suffering comes from desire (for being, pleasure, and power).
- 3.) Suffering can be dissolved with the annihilation of desire.
- 4.) To end desire, follow the Eightfold Path.

The Eightfold Path includes practices like Right Speech and Right Behavior. There are also Ten Commandments and Ten Perfections which guide one on the path to perfect peace; the commandments include everything from “do not destroy life” to “do not watch dancing, nor listen to singing or plays.” The perfections include giving, doing one’s duty, and having insight.

When a Buddhist gains perfect wisdom, he has gained salvation and is ready to enter Nirvana. Nirvana is the release from the cycle of reincarnation and the end of individual existence. All suffering ceases and the soul joins the World-Soul. The goal of life is not pleasure or happiness but the end of individual existence.

Buddhism retains many facets of Hinduism, like “from good must come good, and from evil must come evil.” But it renounces prayers and sacrifices to gods, and therefore renounces the Vedas as sacred books. It also renounces the caste system, stating there are only two kinds of people: good ones and evil ones. There are books of Buddha’s teachings, some containing easy-to-understand stories. There are also many proverbs such as “Hatred is not diminished by hatred... Hatred is diminished by love...,” or, “As rain breaks through an ill-thatched roof, so lust breaks through an ill-trained mind.”

# **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

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

### **September 9, 2010**

The meeting began with worship. Ann Shy was welcomed as a first time attender to business meeting.

To begin the discussion of benevolences, the clerk reminded the meeting of decisions made so far:

- A budget of \$68,730 was approved in June, with \$33,370 of that for benevolences. Of the \$33,370 for benevolences, \$2,100 had been recommended by Ministry and Worship Committee, \$150 by Adult Religious Education Committee, and \$31,120 by Peace & Social Concerns Committee.
- Since that time, Ministry and Worship has lowered its recommendation to \$1,850, and Peace and Social Concerns has raised its recommendation to \$32,700.

To accommodate the changes in recommendations for benevolences, the meeting would need to increase the budget to \$70,060 (with \$34,700 for benevolences).

Before discussing the details of the recommended benevolences, the meeting took some time to silently review the Finance Committee's overview of fundraising for the 2010-11 fiscal year. (ATTACHED).

The clerk then asked the meeting to consider the recommendations from each of the committees regarding organizations for the meeting to give to corporately.

**The meeting approved the ARE recommendation to give \$150 to the Friends Center at Guilford College.**

**The Meeting approved the recommendation from Ministry & Worship to support the following benevolences: School of the Spirit (\$250), Friends General Conference (\$700), Piedmont Friends Fellowship (\$550), Friends Journal (\$200), Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns (\$150)**

Members of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee then presented their revised list of recommended organizations and amounts.. The changes they recommended from the list as presented in May included increasing the donation to Carolina Friends School from \$6,000 to \$7,000; increasing the donation to Friends Committee on National Legislation

from \$2,500 to \$3,500, and increasing the donation to the American Friends Service Committee from \$1,500 to \$2,500.

P&SC members explained that these changes were arrived at after listening to the discussion at the May business meeting and after considerable research into the financial condition and capacity of these organizations to meet their missions. AFSC and FCNL, in particular, have been hard hit during the recession and have had to cut staff and programs. AFSC has reduced staff from 410 in 2008 to 236 in 2010, and closed offices in five countries and six U.S. cities. FCNL has cut programs and reduced staff from 43 in 2007 to 27.5 in 2010. Quaker House and Carolina Friends School, on the other hand, have not had to cut staff or services. Friends were reminded that while our meeting helped initiate both Quaker House and CFS, both organizations have matured into strong, stable institutions.

The meeting discussed PS&C's use of looking at organization's financial strength as part of their decision-making process around recommending benevolences. Friends were not in unity as to whether looking at the financial condition and capacity of an organization should be considered a guideline for choosing benevolences. **The meeting asked P&SC to consider the discussion and return to the meeting with a revised set of guidelines for meeting approval.**

**Friends approved the proposal to increase the budget to \$70,060 to accommodate the increased giving to benevolences, specifically giving more to CFS, FCNL, and AFSC. [Complete list of benevolences attached.]**

Friends were reminded that it is the meetings practice to pay 50% of benevolences are paid in January and the remaining amount paid at the close of the fiscal year if the money is available.

The meeting closed with announcements and worship.

Attendees: Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Tom Munk, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Marilyn A. Dyer, Robin Harper, Pat Mann, Bettie Flash, Dottie Heninger, Asta Crowe, Nancy Milio, Ken Grogan, Miriam Thompson, Ruth Hamilton, Lloyd Kramer, Ann Shy, Ruth Zalph, Marsha Green (recording clerk), Carolyn White (clerk)

**FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT TO MEETING FOR WORSHIP FOR BUSINESS, 9/ 9/10  
AN OVERVIEW OF FUNDRAISING POSSIBILITIES FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Looking at the last July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 fiscal year, income from contributions did not reach the budget total on which the Meeting united. However, 128 families contributed, a record number for us.

The range of gifts was as follows (“families” defined as one or more individuals):

\$5 to \$99	= 20 families
\$100 to \$299	= 41 families
\$300 to \$499	= 15 families
\$500 to \$999	= 33 families
\$1,000 to \$1,499	= 11 families
\$1,500 to a little over \$2,500	= 8 families

2009-2010 Budget total           \$68,730.00

2009-2010 Contributions total   \$67,266.94

\$1,463.06 contributions less than the budget total

The picture is brighter if we look at contributions vs. actual expenditures.

2009-2010 Contributions total   \$67,266.94

2009-2010 Expenditures       \$63,913.51

\$3,353.43 amount contributions were over  
actual expenditures

Observations about a 2010–2011 budget total of \$70,060:

1. The total is \$2,793.06 more than last year’s contribution total.

2. Last year's contribution total included \$1,095 in gifts from friends and families of deceased Friends and approximately \$750 from Friends who died or moved away. No repeat giving is expected from these sources.
3. We cannot count on committees under-spending in 2010–11. Some reduced their budget amounts from last year. All are frugal in their spending. One committee, B&G, has already overspent one line item for 2010–2011.
4. Realistically, to reach the \$70,060 budget total, total giving will need to increase by about \$4,800.
5. If last year's contributors will increase their giving this year, if possible, and if others not-yet-giving will become contributors, we will raise the budget total.

### Benevolence Budget Recommended by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee August 29, 2010

In light of discussion at the May Meeting for Business and new information about the financial resources of organizations, the Peace and Social Concerns recommends increasing by \$1,000 each the amounts recommended in May for the Carolina Friends School, The Friends Committee on National Legislation, and the American Friends Service Committee. From a staff of 410 in 2008, AFSC reduced staff in 2010 to only 236 persons. AFSC also consolidated or closed offices in Afghanistan, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Jordan, South Africa, and in six U.S. offices. FCNL has cut programs and reduced staff from 43 in 2007 to only 27.5 in 2010.

<b>Benevolences Recommended by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee</b>	<b>Y2007-8</b>	<b>Y2008-9</b>	<b>Y2009-10</b>	<b>Y2010-11</b>
Carolina Friends School*	** 7,880	8,370	*** 7,000	***7,000
Interfaith Council	7,000	7,000	8,000	8,000
Quaker House	7,000	8,000	6,000	5,000
Friends Committee on National Legislation	1,400	1,500	2,000	<b>3,500</b>

American Friends Service Committee	1,200	1,200	1,500	<b>2,500</b>
Quaker Earthcare Witness	800	1,000	2,000	2,000
NC Warn	100	300	300	2,000
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund	0	600	1,000	1,000
NC Council of Churches (Power & Light)	100	400	400	500
Alamance/Orange Prison Ministry	400	400	400	400
People of Faith Against the Death Penalty	300	300	300	200
Right Sharing of World Resources	300	300	300	200
Orange County Justice United inCommunity Effort (Orange JUICE)	0	0	0	100
Schoolhouse of Wonder	300	0	50	50
Planned Parenthood of Central NC	0	100	50	50
Rural Southern Voice for Peace	100	100	50	50
Orange County Peace Coalition	0	0	50	50
Transition Towns Carrboro – Chapel Hill	0	0	0	50
Triangle Land Conservancy	0	0	0	50
<b>Total Recommended by PS&amp;C Concerns Committee</b>	<b>\$27,380</b>	<b>\$29,670</b>	<b>\$29,400</b>	<b>\$32,700</b>
<b>Adjustment by the Meeting</b>	<b>\$3,620</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,370</b>	
<b>Total Approved by the Meeting</b>	<b>\$31,000</b>	<b>\$29,670</b>	<b>\$30,770</b>	

\*The Meeting contributes to CFS the use of the Education Building Monday - Friday. The value of that real estate contribution is conservatively estimated to be \$1,000 per month or \$12,000 per year. CFS maintains the Education Building, the playground and half the cost of the parking lot.

\*\*CFS 2007 amount increased by \$3,620 to \$11,500 by Meeting

\*\*\* CFS 2009 amount increased by \$1,370 to \$8,370 by Meeting

# **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

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

### **September 19, 2010**

The meeting began with the query: How does the Meeting support families of all kinds to improve communication, family life, and the rearing of children in a context of love?

We welcomed three first-time attenders: Bonnie Van Manen, Kitty Bergel, and Barbara Williamson.

#### **Approval July Minutes**

The minutes from the July Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business were approved as published in the newsletter.

#### **Nominations**

Jeff Brown, from Nominations Committee, brought forward a recommendation to add Richard Miller to the Building and Grounds Committee, and to add Jennifer Leeman and Tom Munk to the Environmental Concerns Committee. **The meeting approved these nominations.**

Friends were reminded that Building and Grounds, Publications and Records, Finance and the Environmental Concerns Committee are still looking for additional members.

#### **Finance Committee**

Matt Drake reported for the Finance Committee. We can celebrate the generosity of last fiscal year (which ended June 30) during which we had 130 contributors (30 more than in the past) and raised \$67,267. The budget approved for this fiscal year is \$70,060, so continued generosity will be needed. Finance committee is experimenting with using email rather than US Postal Service for sending requests to consider gifts and/or to submit a plan for giving.

#### **Ad hoc committee on incorporation - update**

Matt Drake provided an update on the ad hoc committee investigating incorporation. Last year the Meeting charged this committee with gathering information to help us decide whether we want to consider incorporation. In the spring, the Meeting approved having this committee work with students from the UNC Community Law Clinic. Matt has now met with the two 3rd year law students who will work with CHFM as a case

study all year to help us understand what incorporation might mean, and also with liability questions and how well our current insurance and processes protect us. They will share their findings with the meeting near the end of the year. Pat Mann and Emily Buehler also serve on ad hoc committee.

### **Ministry and Worship Annual Report**

Jan Hutton, for Ministry and Worship, presented the annual report (attached).

### **Adult Religious Education Annual Report**

Dan Darnell, for Adult Religious Education, presented the annual report (attached).

### **Transfer of Membership**

The meeting has received a request to transfer the membership of Barbara Williamson from Evanston, IL monthly meeting to our meeting. Meeting **approved** the transfer of membership. Jennifer Leeman and Dottie Henninger will organize a welcoming event.

### **Letter to Chapel Hill Town Council Regarding IFC Location**

Tom Munk, for Peace & Social Concerns Committee, read and recommended sending the following letter to the Chapel Hill Town Council regarding the location of the IFC shelter.

Dear Town Council Members,

We are writing to support the Interfaith Council (IFC)'s move to the identified location on Martin Luther King, Blvd. close to the United Church of Christ and to the social services network close by. This seems a long-sought solution to the needs of the Inter-Faith Council and its proposed updated concept for housing and supporting the homeless of our community.

As Quakers, we affirm the equality of all people and the belief that we are our neighbors' keepers. Further, as Friends we understand that community includes us all. Members of our Meeting were instrumental in forming the IFC originally, and we now feel it our responsibility to raise our voices in continuing our support for the ongoing and evolving mission of the IFC. Mildred Ringwalt and Gerry Gourley remain strong forces in our Meeting even years after their passing, and we continue to work to keep their commitments alive.

We fully support the move of the IFC to their proposed new site. Please count our voices as final decisions are made about this important addition to our larger community.

Yours in peace and reconciliation,

CHFM

The Meeting **approved** sending this letter.

## **Building and Grounds Update**

Matt Drake reported that there has been much recent work done on our buildings and grounds, including clearing out 8 feet back from the fences to prevent snakes from coming onto the playground, cleaning up after a large tree that fell in the front, which required some electrical repair where lines were pulled out, and powerwashing and repainting the woodwork on the front, which resulted in the discovery of some termite damage. Tree trimmers and exterminators will be coming in soon. Building and Grounds, as is their custom, is looking closely at the safety of termite treatment. The next work morning is Saturday, Oct. 23.

## **Announcements**

- Linda and Annie DiLorenzo have requested a clearness committee for membership. Ministry and Worship has set up the committee.
- As part of our meeting's exploration of yearly meetings, Judy Purvis attended North Carolina Conservative Yearly Meeting. We sent Judy with a letter of introduction, which was returned with a note of thanks for Judy's attendance. Judy has made a report of her visit to Ministry & Worship, which is coordinating the exploration of yearly meetings.
- There will be a clerk's retreat on Nov. 6. All committees are requested to send their clerk or a representative.
- The deadline for directory updates is November 1.
- On 9/11 Carolyn White, clerk, was asked to read something from Faith & Practice at the interfaith worship service at the Post Office. Carolyn will let the meeting know when the readings from the service are posted on the Community Church's website.
- Alice Carlton reported that the Coalition of Clergy is starting up again, but that she will be unable to attend the next meeting on Thursday. Judy Purvis volunteered to attend.
- Matt Drake provided a short update on Ian Scales and how his family has surrounded him with love as he recovers from his stroke.

The meeting ended with worship.

Attending: Alice Carlton, Mike Green, Jan Hutton, Judy Purvis, Robin Harper, Lloyd Kramer, Dan Darnell, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Anne Kessemeir, Jennifer Leeman, Emilie Condon, Francis Coyle, Ken Grogan, Dirk Kelder, Micheal Jokinen, Ruth A. Hamilton, Bettie L. Flash, Barbara Williamson, Bonnie Van Manen, Jeff Brown, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Marilyn A. Dyer, Ruth Zalph, Anne Smith, Deborah Gibbs, Tom Munk, Wren Hendrickson, Marsha Green (recording clerk), Carolyn White (clerk).

## Ministry and Worship, Annual Report, 2009-2010

The Ministry and Worship Committee is charged with supporting and nurturing the spiritual life of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. Our ongoing intent is to listen deeply to members and attenders to maintain the aliveness of our meeting spiritually.

Ministry and Worship is in discernment about whether a “visioning (long-term planning) committee” would be helpful. Such a committee could allow us to use the information that we gather from the State of the Meeting retreats to help our Meeting remain healthy, grow, and better meet the needs of the various members and attenders.

An annual responsibility for M&W is to facilitate the Spiritual State of the Meeting. Since our last annual report in December, 2008, we have held two Spiritual State of the Meeting gatherings, March 2009, and March 2010, attended each time by 25-30 people. At this rich gathering in March, 2009 many Friends voiced a desire for increased participation in more small groups at Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. Dottie Heninger and Alice Carlton led a forum, “Building our Community Through Small Groups” to generate suggestions for groups, and a group sign-up period followed over the course of several weeks. At the March 2010 Spiritual State of the Meeting we raised the possibility of celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. There is meeting-wide interest in having such a celebration and it may well be a portion of the “visioning process.”

Ministry and Worship sponsored several additional forums in 2009 and 2010: “Vocal Ministry” and “What is the Experience of being Part of a Yearly Meeting.” We are continuing to explore the possibility of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting affiliating with a Yearly Meeting and will continue to report to business meeting as our discernment progresses.

Several years ago the Meeting created the ad hoc Spiritual Enrichment Committee, under the care of Ministry and Worship and Adult Religious Education, and allocated some bequest funding for its work. Members of that committee met for months to listen deeply to our community (via forums and requested written feedback) and to discern appropriate presenters for weekend workshops. In February, 2010, Sue Regen offered her Forgiveness workshop, with 25 Friends attending. Since now only one Friend remains on the ad hoc committee, both ARE and Ministry and Worship have suggested laying down this committee and using the remaining funds for other purposes, including a 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

An ongoing concern over the last several years has been the transition from early Meeting to forums to worship in late Meeting, i.e., maintaining sacred space. Both ARE and M&W have worked independently and together to improve this transition, including encouraging Friends waiting in the foyer to be quieter. Several members of M&W have also met with Building and Grounds to discuss options for decreasing noise from the foyer. Increasing insulation or building changes are not economically feasible, but we have added new signs and clocks in the foyer.

We have introduced new personal and corporate queries for use at meeting for worship with attention to business and in newsletters. We continue to explore the best use of queries, both corporately and personally.

M&W helped organize the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Graduation in 2009 and 2010. in conjunction with the Hospitality committee. We provide a cake and give a copy of Parker Palmer's book *Let Your Life Speak* to each graduate. Robin Harper inscribes each book on behalf of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

We convened four committees for clearness for membership during 2009: Jason Foureman, Mary Bastin, Micheal Jokinen, and Wren Hendrickson. All four have been received into membership. We are also considering developing better advices for membership clearness committee clerks.

We have received concern from several Friends about asking speakers to speak more loudly during vocal ministry. After much discussion, M&W composed a written piece, read by those who close both early and late meeting, explaining the problem and asking Friends to speak up as they are able, and reminding Friends of the hearing-support kits on the foyer table.

Austin Stanion, a young adult Friend and sophomore at UNC, requested financial support from M&W for his Quaker student group. This group has been holding worship on campus and then sharing food together once a month. We invited Austin to speak at a Meeting for Worship with attention to Business, and were clear to support this group. M&W allotted up to \$150 for food and asked Austin to report to us at our M&W meeting in Feb., 2010.

Our committee re-examined the meaning of being "under the care of Ministry and Worship" to ensure that those requesting this feel our active support. In 2010, the program "This I Believe – Quaker Style" was placed under the care of M&W.

Additionally, Allie Scales has requested that M&W take under our care her leading to begin a Meeting-wide project to create an embroidered wall-hanging based on the international Quaker Tapestry. We brought Allie's request for a 'minute of support' to Business meeting for approval.

M&W helped clerk Jennifer Leeman conduct a retreat for all CHFM committee clerks in January, 2010.

Finally, as is our custom, M&W coordinated the annual Christmas Eve candlelight service. The Meetingroom was filled, and children, in particular, made the evening come alive.

Respectfully submitted: Max Drake, Dottie Heninger, Jan Hutton (clerk), Lloyd Kramer, Pat Mann, Terry Mehlman, Judy Purvis, Bonnie Raphael, Larry Tabor, Wren Hendrickson, Carolyn White, ex-officio

## **Adult Religious Education Committee (ARE) Annual Report for 2009-2010**

ARE's has attempted to contribute to and enrich the spiritual life of the meeting largely by organizing and facilitating forums but also by promoting other venues for spiritual enrichment and by giving deep reflection on how forums and our awareness of Quaker traditions foster the vitality of the meeting. Forums have generally been very well attended ranging usually from a minimum of 20 to 35 (sometimes more) participants. We did not facilitate summer forums this year due to lower attendance rates.

ARE has wrestled with the impact of forums occurring in the meeting room and whether or not they enhance Meeting for Worship given the time and location of forums.

Our discussions have led us to consider how forums are an extension of worship, a more vocal ministry, especially when conducted as a spiritual endeavor and not simply as an educational, consciousness raising event. Holding forums in the meeting room facilitates this sense of worship and deep reflection that the committee considers inherent to the forums. The committee has also resolved to be more disciplined about closing forums at

the proper time and encouraging participants to continue conversations in the foyer at the close of forums. This too we believe helps maintain a continuity of worship sharing between the early and late meetings.

There have been several important themes or initiatives ARE has consciously pursued:

- **Sharing and discussion on what it means to be a Quaker.** This includes what has moved long standing members and more recent members and attenders to become involved in the meeting. Forums on members' experiences with FCG yearly conference and on what it would mean to be part of a yearly meeting were held. Lloyd Kramer organized a series of discussions titled "Exploring Quakerism" outside of the usual forum time. About 60 individuals initially signed up for this series held late fall and early spring. The forum on graduation included our youth group in sharing what being in a Quaker community has meant to them. A week night series of small group sharing around what might best be described as "this I believe, Quaker style" has had a trial run. This fall 2010 ARE expects to pursue a theme of "how and why am I a Quaker?" by looking at how our faith and practice are expressed in different real world contexts.
- **Building spiritual community within our meeting.** ARE has wanted to create more opportunities for deep reflection and sharing within small groups using the forum times to discuss questions of faith, share meaningful sources in literature and the arts of spiritual inspiration, and of course through personal sharings which continue to be very well attended and deeply appreciated. In the previous year ARE had promoted the formation of spiritual book clubs coming out of a forum presentation (one group in particular continued to meet for at least six months). There has been very positive feedback to the committee encouraging ARE to plan for continuing opportunities for small group sharings on spiritual concerns and our faith and practice. More recently Allie Scales has introduced to the meeting in a forum presentation the Quaker Tapestry as a way to build community and capture the character now and historically of the meeting.
- **Building spiritual community and enhancing social action with the community at large outside of our meeting.** This is an area where collaboration with the Peace and Social Concerns and the Environmental Concerns Committees has been fruitful. Inviting members of the Muslim community to present at forums, learning about the Afghan Sister School Project that Carolina Friends School has been involved with, Chris Moran's presentation on the mission and work of the IFC, and several forums on environmental concerns both locally and internationally are examples. The youth in our meeting

have also shared about their volunteer service in other countries. Additionally Nancy Milio has kept the meeting abreast of FCNL initiatives in different forums throughout the year.

- **On a more practical note, recording and preserving forums and workshop presentations through the purchase of audio-visual equipment.** A digital audio recorder and powerpoint projector were purchased using funds allocated by the meeting that ARE had requested. This equipment has been useful to the meeting as a whole and is being made use of by different committees and individuals. Forum presentations have been transcribed to audio CDs and ARE intends to convert past cassette recordings of forums to audio CDs. ARE wishes to collaborate with the Library committee to create a protocol for cataloguing, storing, and checking out the equipment and recording. Some consideration has been given to how some of these materials might be made accessible via the CHFM website if privacy and confidentiality concerns can be adequately addressed.

Finally the ARE committee has strived to attend to and enrich a Quaker process within our committee meetings, to understand and appreciate how “we are met” by each other in silence, in sharing, and in listening intently and with respect. There is a sense of spiritual community felt among the members of the ARE committee. Members have also expressed appreciation for the leadership and spirit of Marnie Clark, former co-clerk of ARE, in our meetings.

It is very important to note that the depth, the diversity, and the plentifulness of meaningful forum presentations truly reflects the spiritual depth and richness of the meeting at large. ARE is very appreciative and wishes to continue to invite input from individuals and committees within the meeting to enhance its work.

Members of the committee for 2009-2010 were Lloyd Kramer, Jan Hutton, Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Dirk Kelder, Andy Nelson, Bill Schweke, Francis Coyle, and Dan Darnell (clerk).

Lloyd Kramer will go off the committee. His leadership has been greatly appreciated and will be missed. Mary Bastin will join the committee.

ARE is finalizing the list of forums in 2009-2010.

# Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

- Sun. 10/3** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am Forum: Against the Tide  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods  
12:30pm **Potluck & IFC donations**  
Environmental Concerns Com. – Schoolhouse
- Tue. 10/5 7:30–8:30pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation – Call Hank Elkins
- Wed. 10/6 10am–12pm Quaker Women’s Gathering – Bettie Flash Home
- Fri. 10/8 4:30–5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice – E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 10/10** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am Forum: Buffie Webber Personal Sharing  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods
- Tue. 10/12 7:30–8:30pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation – Call Hank Elkins
- Wed. 10/13 10am–12pm Quaker Issues & Insights – Marilyn Dyer Home
- Fri. 10/15 4:30–5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice – E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 10/17** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am **Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business**  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods
- Tue. 10/19 7:30–8:30pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation – Call Hank Elkins
- Wed. 10/20 10am–12pm Quaker Women’s Gathering – Bettie Flash Home
- Fri. 10/22 4:30–5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice – E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sat. 10/23 8:30am–12  
6pm Meeting House Work Morning  
ECC Film “Food, Inc” – Schoolhouse
- Sun. 10/24** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am Forum: Quaker House  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods  
12noon Newcomers Lunch – Schoolhouse
- Wed. 10/27 10am–12pm Quaker Issues & Insights – Marilyn Dyer Home

Fri. 10/29 4:30–5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice – E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

**Sun. 10/31** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am Forum: Muslim Sisters  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods  
10pm **Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!**  
Tue. 11/2 7:30–8:30pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation – Call Hank Elkins  
Wed. 11/3 10am–12pm Quaker Women’s Gathering – Bettie Flash Home  
Thur. 11/4 9am–1pm CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter  
Fri. 11/5 4:30–5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice – E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

**Sun. 11/7** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:30am Forum: Judy Purvis Personal Sharing  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship – Carol Woods  
12:30pm **Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse**  
Environmental Concerns Com. – Schoolhouse

## Help Update the Directory!

The Publications and Records Committee wants your current address, phone number, and email. Contact us with changes or to verify that your information is still accurate. Changes must be received by November 1st to be included in the 2011 directory.

Here are the ways to submit information:

1. Send us an email at [directory@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:directory@chapelhillfriends.org).
2. Fill in the form (next page) and leave it in the P&R mailbox.
3. Call Emily Buehler at 919 475 5756.
4. Write changes on the large directory poster in the meetinghouse lobby (coming soon!)

Thanks for your help getting the directory out on time!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My information is correct.

My information has changed:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Other changes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(Fill out this form, detach, and place in the P&R mailbox.)

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting  
Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends**

531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514  
929.5377

Meetings for Worship at 8:30 and 11:00am  
Forum at 9:45am

Child Care from 9:30am–12:15pm

First Day School from 11:15am–12:00pm

Clerk of the Meeting: Carolyn White (967.4926)

Resident: John Hite (929.5377)

This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. The deadline for submissions is evening, last Sunday of the month. Please email submissions to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org), or call Emily Buehler at 475.5756.

To send Meeting News and In The Light announcements via email, or to get your name on our listserv, contact [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).

This and past issues of the newsletter are available online at [www.chapelhillfriends.org](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org). To get items posted on our website, send the information to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).