Chapel Hill

Friends Meeting Newsletter

March, 2016



Monthly Query:

Do I maintain as part of my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth, with disciplined worship, inward retirement, and communion with the divine spirit?

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

If you feel moved to speak in meeting for worship, take a moment to test your message. Is it from the Inward Light? Is it meant only for me, or for the entire Meeting?

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"Jesus Christ is risen' means Jesus lives in the lives and actions of those who once followed him, and still do." —Harvey Cox (Marilyn Dyer shares with Friends this quote from *When Jesus Came to Harvard* by Harvey Cox, a Harvard professor in the Department of Religious Studies.)

Upcoming Forum Schedule

March 6 – "Renovations to the Ground Floor of the Meetinghouse" An update from the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Don Hopper, Clerk; Moderator: Perry Martin March 13 – "Reflections on the Roles that Money and Investing Play in our Lives" Do our money-related activities support our goals for a better world? Speaker: Mark Hulbert (Mark writes *The Hulbert Financial Digest*, tracking the advice of over 180 stock and mutual fund investment newsletters.) Moderator: Max Drake

March 27 – "Easter" Here in the time of resurrection, how can you invite more joy into your life? A small group sharing led by Dirk Kelder and Wendy Michener; Moderator: Carolyn White

April 3 – "Alcohol Use on the Meeting's Property" Small group discussion exploring the query: "How would you like to have the Meeting's policy on alcohol use on our property read, and does your own experience play a part in your views?" Lead by Tom Munk, Kitty Bergel, and Tom Ludlow for Care and Counsel Committee; Moderator: Matt Drake

Welcome Spring with CROP Walk!

CROP Hunger Walk 2016 is here! The walk takes place in Carrboro and Chapel Hill the afternoon of Sunday, April 10.

Before that day we in the Meeting have a job to do to raise funds. Please commit to making the WALK, SPONSORING yourself and other walkers, GETTING MORE SPONSORS and CONTRIBUTORS, BUYING T-SHIRTS, and MOTIVATING other people to join in. This small effort by you helps the really hungry people in other countries and in our local community.

Asta Crowe has created a link for you to register and donate by credit card in the name of the Meeting. It is labeled "Chapel Hill Friends Meeting" on the website for the "CHAPEL HILL/CARRBORO CROP HUNGER WALK" (www.crophungerwalk.org/chapelhillnc). It is easy and fun to use!

Please use the option to post a notice to your Facebook account about your effort so your Facebook community can sponsor you. Ask all your friends and family to give. (For those who choose not to donate online, checks should be made out to CWS/CROP.)

T-shirts will be available for sale at the Meeting House during the weeks leading up to the walk. (Checks related to t-shirts alone should be made out to IFC.)

For more information about the event, go to www.ifcweb.org/events and look for CROP Walk. If you have any questions about the Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk website, feel free to ask Asta (astacrowe@gmail.com). If you would like to aid in the general effort to involve CHFM, call Ann Drake at (919) 928-0537 or email Max Drake (maxdrake@bellsouth.net).

Service in the Meeting

The Nominations Committee has begun our work in discerning Friends to serve on meeting committees and boards. Please hold us in the Light as we communicate with committee and board clerks and work together to consider Friends' gifts and meeting needs. We invite you to talk with any member of Nominations if you feel led to serve on a particular committee or board. Nominations committee members will bring your name before the committee. Descriptions of committees and boards can be found in the directory and the website.

The following Friends are serving on the nominations committee: Ed Bowen, Sean Chen, Ken Grogan, Dottie Heninger, Jennifer Leeman, Joyce Munk, Carolyn Stuart (clerk), and Elizabeth Taylor.

Registration is Open! PFF Annual Retreat

The Piedmont Friends Fellowship Will Hold Its Annual Retreat, March 11-13 at the Carolina Friends School.

The weekend features Friday evening potluck and fellowship, and Saturday programs for adults led by Max Carter and for pre-school through high school. The Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting will hold sessions on Saturday and Sunday as well. Saturday evening includes a concert by Peter Blood and Annie Patterson.

Registration forms, schedule and opportunities to provide hospitality for Friends from far away are on http://piedmontfriendsfellowship.org. For more information email pff@chapelhillfriends.org.

Better Mental Health Care for Incarcerated Veterans and Service Members Petition

Curt Torell, Quaker House board member, shares with Friends,

Please consider signing the following online petition. It was begun by Quaker House directors Steve and Lynn Newsom in response to the plight of Josh Eisenhauer, and many other service members like him, who suffers from PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder), was not provided adequate mental health care, and experienced an episode that landed him in jail (see the attached link). The petition demands adequate and compassionate mental health care in NC for incarcerated military and veterans. Josh Eisenhauer is the focus, but, he is by no means the only one needing help in NC or elsewhere. Please consider signing and sharing this online petition.

http://www.standunited.org/petition/adequate-and-compassionate-mental-health-care-for-incarcerated-service-members-and-veterans-in-north-carolina

QuakerSpeak: "Why Quakers Value Process Over Outcome"

A new QuakerSpeak video has been posted at http://quakerspeak.com/why-quakers-value-process-over-outcome/.

Jolene Jacqueline Hart-Stanley is here!

She was born on Saturday, January 30th. Lauren and Will and baby Jolene are doing well. Congratulations, Lauren and Will!

Friends Committee on National Legislation: Youth Opportunities

Nancy Milio shares with Friends:

Finding promising and sustainable opportunities, let alone paid opportunities, in PEACE and JUSTICE work can be tough. By offering summer internships, paid year-long fellowships, paid grassroots organizing positions, and expanded training opportunities in Washington, the Friends Committee on National Legislation is working to change that.

Spring Lobby Weekend (March 12-15, 2016) will draw some 350 young adults to Washington to be trained and then lobby on mass incarceration. For those who need it, financial assistance is available. Contact Andrew@fcnl.org.

Summer Internship Program (June and July 2016) is designed for college sophomores and juniors. This opportunity provides two months of experience working with our Quaker lobby in Washington, DC. Applications are due by March 1, 2016.

Advocacy Corps (paid, part-time, August 2016 to May 2017) includes a 10-day training in Washington, DC followed by nine months of part-time, paid consulting work (25-35 hours per month) organizing locally to support legislation on comprehensive immigration reform. The deadline for the application is April 11, 2016. Contact Katie@fcnl.org or call her at 570-690-0275 with questions about the application.

Young Fellows Program (paid, full-time, September 2016 to July 2017) brings recent college grads to work full-time in our Washington, DC office learning how to change the world. Nearly 200 young adults have come through this program over the last 40 years, and they've gained a keen appreciation for the power of effective, principled advocacy whether they go on to a career in law and policy change or in another field. Apply by February 15, 2016 or call us for more information.

More information and applications for all programs can be found at http://futureadvocate.org/.

Calls for Spirited Action

Join AFSC each month through May as they engage in conversation about the work of AFSC and how Quakers can be involved in evolving movements for social change. These monthly calls are an opportunity to learn from AFSC staff and others about specific focus issues and campaigns and to hear ideas of how to get involved. Each one is also an opportunity to speak with other Quakers from the around the country about strategies for how to engage in collective social change work.

Each call will be held 8:30–9:30 p.m. EST. You can join by dialing (866) 740-1260 and entering access code 2419995#.

Upcoming calls include...

March 17th

Working for just and lasting peace in Israel and Palestine: Hear from Quaker Palestinian Steve Tamari and AFSC staff on working to end the occupation of Palestinian territory through economic activism.

April 21st

Humanize, not Militarize: Responses and resistance to militarism--learn how you can bring the traveling exhibit to your community and host events to challenge the narrative of militarism in the US and around the world, with Mary Zerkel.

May 19th

Love knows no borders: Accompanying the movement for migrant justice and transformation with Jenn Piper and Pedro Rios.

Register online at http://afsc.org/calls-spirited-action.

Talk About Early Carolina History and the Role of Quakers

There is a talk about early Carolina history and the role of Quakers on Sunday, March 6, at 1:30 p.m. at the Orange County Main Library, 137 West Margaret Lane, Hillsborough, NC. Early Quaker settlers had a significant impact on local North Carolina history—an impact that is still felt today. Noted local historian Tom Magnuson will give a presentation on "Quaker Migrations In and Out of Carolina: 1750's to 1820's." His talk will pay particular attention to motives for movement, likely routes taken, and some lasting impacts of Friends (Quakers) on our land. The presentation is sponsored by the Hillsborough Friends (Quaker) Worship Group. Admission is free.

Book Review: Tomatoland

Emily Buehler shares with Friends,

I expected *Tomatoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit* by Barry Estabrook (Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2012) to be about plant breeding and evolution. This information was covered: Tomatoes, especially the ones grown in winter and sold fresh in stores, have been bred to have thick skins that aren't damaged during picking and transportation. Flavor and nutritional value has been sacrificed. Even worse, the Florida Tomato Committee has the authority to decree the size, color, and shape of tomatoes that leave the state, and has stopped farmers who grow better-tasting tomatoes from exporting them based on their looks. The book also describes the climate and soil in Florida (where most fresh winter tomatoes are grown in the United States); it's totally unsuited for tomato growing, which results in heavy fertilizer and pesticide use.

The book also covers the plight of tomato pickers over the past several decades. Regulations (such as not spraying when workers are in the fields and waiting before they are allowed back) are routinely ignored by bosses. Modern day slavery has been uncovered, and the laws that prohibit it have been re-written to protect the company owners: only the perpetrators (crew bosses) can be held accountable, not people who knew it was going on and didn't report it.

Just when you think you'll never eat another winter tomato, however, the book takes a hopeful turn. The grassroots Coalition of Immokalee Workers has been at work since 1993, fighting slavery and helping farmworkers. They led a Campaign for Fair Food that resulted in fast food companies agreeing to pay a penny more per case of tomatoes, to go directly to the pickers. After much delay, the Florida Tomato Growers Exchange finally agreed to pass on the additional money, which had been held in escrow, and agreed to implement a code of conduct on most of the state's tomato farms. The author also visits an organic farm where tomatoes are being produced in a positive system.

Tomatoland is easy to read. The Chapel Hill Library has a copy, and the county library can probably get it through an interlibrary loan.

BYO Plate

We celebrate the often large attendance at potluck and we thank the meeting for continued help with potluck cleanup. However, large attendance does create a lot of dishes to wash. Therefore, we request that Friends bring their own plates, cutlery, and glasses to potluck and take them home to wash. We know of other groups that use this practice successfully and we propose it as another way to be environmentally friendly. We recognize not everyone will remember to do so. Those who do will be allowed to be first in line for potluck. Thank you.

Reminder: Hillsborough Worship Group

The Hillsborough Worship Group meets on Sundays at 11am at the Hillsborough Yoga Downtown studio at 121 West Margaret Lane. There is parking next door at the library. This group is under the care of the Durham Meeting and has a minute of support from our meeting.

Calling for Book Reviews

Have you read an inspiring book from the Meeting library lately? Or have you read a book we don't have in the library that you feel would be worthwhile to have in the collection? The Library committee would like to invite members and attenders to consider writing brief book reviews for the newsletter. Share the insight or inspiration you received from your readings. Please send a copy of your review to the library committee as well at library@chapelhillfriends.org. We are always looking for suggestions for new books to add to our library. Thank you. The Library Committee

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business February 21, 2016

Minutes Tom Munk, Clerk; Robin Harper, Recording Clerk

Worship and query: Do we recognize that we speak through our inaction as well as our action?

- **1.** Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda—Clerk There were no first-time attenders.
- 2. Approval of January minutes—Clerk *Approved.*

3. Report from the Carolina Friends School Board—Bill Jenkins, Buffie Webber, Matt Drake, Pat Mann (ATTACHED)

Pat and Matt each read from their own portion of the report. The report was accepted with thanks for their service in this great enterprise.

4. Nomination of Matt Drake for Meeting Clerk—Jennifer Leeman

Jennifer reminded us that the name of Matt Drake for Meeting Clerk was brought before MWAB in January, with approval to be carried over to this month. *Gratefully approved.*

5. Plan for Building Renovations - Presentation and Questions—Don Hopper and Wendy Michener

Don began by describing Buildings & Grounds' requirements for flooring options for the downstairs. There were four: a smooth surface, made of allergy free materials, with a low carbon footprint, and easy to maintain. The materials that met these requirements were marmolium for the common areas and bamboo for the residential area, at a cost of around \$17,000.

In order to meet ADA guidelines, 20% of the cost of the project must go to improving accessibility. Don asked Friends to continue to think of ways that we can make areas more accessible.

Don and Wendy used a computer projection to show us and walk us through the proposed downstairs renovation and remodeling. Friends asked questions regarding the resident's shower, the kitchenette in the common area, and the area for utility access. The resident's shower is partially ADA compliant, in that there is room for a wheelchair to roll into and out of the shower, but there is not the full 5' radius required.

Friends were encouraged to contact B&G members directly if they have other questions. There will be a forum on March 6 with more opportunities for Q&A.

Buildings and Grounds was thanked for their work.

6. Annual Report Children and Youth Religious Education Committee—Kathleen McNeil (ATTACHED)

Kathleen read the report, highlighting that a focus on how we relate to other Christian organizations is being considered for the curriculum. This will be presented at an April forum.

Tom urged any Friends who have questions about any C/YRE issues to contact members of the committee.

Accepted with thanks.

7. Minute of Support for Inter-Faith Council—Dottie Heninger

Dottie read the proposed minute:

"Chapel Hill Friends Meeting urges approval by the Town of Carrboro of an ordinance text amendment to permit facilities providing social services to include dining services in certain zones. Approval would allow the Inter-Faith Council to apply to renovate its facility at 110 West Main to combine its Community Kitchen and Food Pantry into a single operations center, called FoodFirst, which in turn would allow IFC to more effectively address issues of hunger and food insecurity experienced by individuals and families in our community."

If this is approved, it will go to the Corresponding Clerk, who will then send it to the Carrboro Aldermen on behalf of the Meeting. Opposition to the amendment has mainly come from area businesses who don't want a lot of people loitering in the area. In response to this concern, the Council has begun a program called "Meet Me For Lunch," whereby local businesspeople are invited to come and learn about the work of the Council and the people they serve.

A Friend spoke in support of the proposal, noting that there is a precedent established by a similar organization in Carrboro.

Approved.

8. What has been most on the hearts of the Chapel Hill Meeting this year? - A report to the Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting—Clerk and Recording Clerk (ATTACHED)

Having been available on the website for over a week, the revised report was not read at Business Meeting. Appreciation was expressed to the Clerk and the Recording Clerk for all the work they did on this report.

Approved.

9. Treasurer's Report—Maura Murphy (ATTACHED)

Maura described the financial health of the Meeting as generally very good. She noted that the reason for the negative number in the income column is because we now include in this figure our income from investments at Friends Fiduciary. So when the markets go down, it is reflected here. In general, revenue is ahead of expenses, but she did remind Friends to submit their receipts.

The bad news is that contributions are down. This is not a big problem in that we meet all of our obligations before we pay out Benevolences. But if we want to fulfill our Benevolences, donations do need to come in. In response to a question about our former practice of spreading out the payment of our Benevolences over the course of the year, she remarked that we stopped doing that because there really didn't seem to be a need to do so. Looking at previous years' contributions, we have always exceeded our budget, so she expects that people will remember to keep up their giving. In response to questions about disseminating this need, Maura said that a report and appeal will be going out to the Meeting as a whole. Another Friend suggested others consider using automatic bill pay.

Maura reminded committees to be thinking about their budgets for next year.

Tom urged any Friends who have questions about any of this to contact members of the Finance Committee.

The report was accepted with thanks.

10. Report from Membership Clearness Committee for Buffie Webber—Susan Inglis

The committee, consisting of Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Gwynne Pomeroy, and Susan Inglis, recommends membership for Buffie Webber.

Approved.

Susan, Emilie Condon, Jennifer Leeman, and Tom Munk volunteered to serve on the welcoming party planning committee, which Susan will convene.

11. Proposed changes to the description of the Nominations Committee—Carolyn Stuart

Carolyn read the proposed description (new sections underlined):

"The Nominations Committee seeks to identify and call forth the gifts and talents of attenders and members of our Meeting for service within the Meeting and in the larger community. Over the course of the year, the committee works with other Meeting committees to identify the capacities their members need to possess so that the committees can achieve their missions. The committee brings its nominations for other Meeting committees and representatives to the Meeting for Business in June of each year. The committee also works to find appropriate people to fill committee and other position vacancies as they occur. In particular, Nominations reviews the Recording Clerk, the Treasurer, the Recorder, and the Correspondence Clerk positions annually. The committee also organizes a discernment process for a new Meeting Clerk every three years. The Committee initiates the search for nominees but also draws on the help of other committees and members of the Meeting community to identify likely candidates. Replacement Nominations Committee members are nominated each Fall by an ad hoc Naming Committee selected by the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business."

The addition of Trustees to the list of positions to be filled was suggested. *Approved, with this suggestion.*

12. Living Wage Endorsement—Kitty Bergel, for Finance Committee

The Coalition for a Living Wage, a local group made up of more than fifty organizations (including churches), has developed a set of living wage guidelines. These organizations have committed to following these guidelines in their employment practices. The Finance Committee has been working to make sure our own employment practices are in line with these guidelines, and would like to apply to be certified by the Coalition. Therefore, the committee recommends raising the rate of pay for the two paid positions of the Meeting (FDS Coordinator and Childcare Provider) to the Coalition's recommended wage of \$12.75/hour.

Approved.

Other agenda items were postponed.

13. Announcements from the listserv—Clerk

- Nominations Committee is in process of discerning committee rolls for the coming year—speak to this committee if you have leadings or questions
- Ministry & Worship requests feedback on the "Sharing of Joys and Concerns" during Meeting for Worship—please respond by March 4
- Friends Committee on National Legislation offers youth opportunities
- Tea to Honor Judy Purvis and John Schoonover 3:00pm today
- Setting FCNL Priorities, Feb. 22, 7:00pm in the CHFM Library
- FCNL Local Action Team on Sentencing Reform & Corrections Improvement, Feb. 29
- Talk About Early Carolina History and the Role of Quakers, Mar. 6
- Annual White Privilege Conference
- Rent a Room to a Recently Arrived Washington State Quaker

Details are available on the listsery

Other announcements:

- Thanks from Ric Shepherd, for attending his welcoming party, and to those who planned it
- Save the Date! Piedmont Friends Fellowship Annual Retreat March 11-13 at Carolina Friends School

We closed with worship.

Attending: Deborah Gibbs, Marilyn A. Dyer, Ruth Zalph, Eloise Grathwohl, Julia Cleaver, James Harper, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Tom Ludlow, Lloyd Kramer, Monteze Snyder, Faye Stanley, Ben Ray, Emilie Condon, Richard Miller, Dawn Adams, Ken Grogan, Carolyn Stuart, Ann Miller, Jan Hutton, Jeff Brown, Dave Schneider, Madelyn Ashley, Donald Hopper, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Maura Murphy, Jennifer Leeman, Nancy Elkins, Hank Elkins, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Wendy Michener, Susan Inglis

REPORT FROM THE CAROLINA FRIENDS SCHOOL BOARD

This year has been a very busy year at Carolina Friends School and for the board of Trustees. Presently we have on going searches for a new Headmaster, Director of Admissions and are in the process of selecting of a new clerk of the Board of Trustees. We have overseen renovations of our middle school, lower school, creation of tennis courts, relocation of the baseball field. Along with any renovation or building projects comes the need to raise money, capital funds campaign. As we build, renovate we also must be aware of this impacts our tuition and the economic diversity of the school. We also need to be mindful stewards of our financial resources so we can compensate or faculty and staff in a fair and ethical manner. We have been grappling with how can we increase the economic, ethnic, cultural diversity of our school, faculty, staff and board while maintaining our Quaker foundation.

Each year the board of trustees at Carolina Friends School has a retreat to reflect on our charges and how we are carrying them out. This year we chose to explore and name the Quaker nature of what we do and who we are as a school. We choose this approach in part to be able to more fully define what was this Quaker nature to prospective candidates as move forward in finding a new headmaster. We invited the consulting group who are assisting us in this search; they have experience working with Quaker/Friends schools and other private schools. We looked at the following areas: facilities (physical assets), advancement, employees (human resources), tuition aid, diversity, student/staff experiences.

We used the following queries:

How do we (the board/the school) express our Quaker values/identity in this area? What policies/practices/commitments does school/board have that help or hinder our Quaker identity?

What do I/does the board need to know more about in this area?

We concluded the school is a work in process; it is ever changing and ever developing. We have made some significant progress in some areas, we have fallen short in some and we are constantly learning from our short falls. It was very affirming to hear from the consultants that although we are not perfect, they had felt and seen the Quaker nature during their visit to Carolina Friends School it was alive and present. Personally the most striking and rewarding aspect was hearing fellow board members who are not Quakers or had previous experience in Quaker process openly express that while they had to work to understand and trust this process the value they have found in this process and the impact the school has had on their children and families was worth the work. My children have a combined total of approximately 26 years of Quaker education at Carolina Friends School and George School in Pennsylvania so I have had an opportunity to experience the process and results of Quaker education. I must say I never in my life would have thought I would send me children to a private school never mind Quaker school but like the families new to this process of education I gradually began to understand and value the experience that was being given to my children. I never regret the vacations we did not go on or not buying new cars so we could pay the tuition (it was not cheap) But every day I spend with my grown children I am reminded of the gift I was able to give them, and it is my wish we can give this gift more and more of our children.

> Respectfully, Pat Mann Board of Trustees Carolina Friends School

CFS TRUSTEE REPORT TO CHFM MEETING FOR BUSINESS FEBRUARY 16, 2016 – MATT DRAKE & BILL JENKINS

Some facts about CFS and its students:

- 502 students, ages 3 to 18
 - 67 ~ Early School (for three to six-year-olds)
 - 118 ~ Lower School (equivalent to grades 1-4)
 - 149 ~ Middle School (equivalent to grades 5-8)
 - 168 ~ Upper School (grades 9-12)
- Students come from Durham, Chapel Hill, Carrboro, Pittsboro, Hillsborough, Mebane, Cary, Raleigh, and throughout the Triangle.
- Student/Staff Ratio: 9:1
- Class of 2015 (41 students)
- In any year, roughly 95% of CFS graduates go on to colleges and universities of their choice--public and private, across the country--with significant offers of merit scholarships and grants.
- between 4% and 5% of our families are affiliated with CHFM or DFM
- around 24% of our students are students of color
- about 5% of our families have parents who identify as what our Middle Schoolers refer to as GLOW (gay, lesbian, or whatever)
- probably 26-27% of our students this year are receiving some portion of the more than one million dollars allocated in tuition aid.

Why do families want their children to attend CFS? Here are responses from Kathleen Davidson, Director of Admissions:

- Many families are drawn by our philosophy, the focus on the whole child, the ability to honor students as individuals, meeting them where they are and guiding them forward. Plenty of academic challenge that is meaningful, and often has real-world applications, along with encouragement and support to take advantage of that. Focus on values. Emphasis on community service. Plenty of time outdoors, on this beautiful wooded campus. A lot of Lower School and Campus Early School applicants' parents are drawn by the opportunity for kids to play in the creek.
- Some families are motivated by experience in public schools that troubles them. Too much emphasis on standardized tests, too much bullying, too boring. Children's lights shining less brightly.
- Occasionally a family will say that they like our college list and have heard great things about our college counseling process from friends and/or colleagues.
- Some families are drawn because they hope we'll be the place for their children who deal with attention issues, or learning differences, or perhaps a diagnosis of high-functioning autism. We are a good place for some of these students and not

for all of them, and we compose classes carefully, with the help of our learning specialists.

Kathleen added her great appreciation for the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's annual contribution to tuition aid at CFS.

Omid Safi is Director of Duke University's Islamic Studies Center. He is the past Chair for the Study of Islam and the current Chair for Islamic Mysticism Group at the American Academy of Religion. Here is the first portion of an article he wrote for the website, "On Being."

"My children attend a Quaker school. We didn't go looking for a Quaker school. To be honest, we sort of stumbled into it. It happened to be close to my workplace. A few weeks into the experience, I realized that it was not a school or a daycare, but a love nursery for young souls.

"They use this slogan that didn't make much sense to me at the beginning: 'We teach the whole child.' This simple insistence that our children's academic growth is but one facet of their overall well-being. That their personal, interpersonal, and spiritual growth matters just as much as their narrowly academic prowess. Years ago one of my kids struggled in life. Big time. All of a sudden the choice of which college he would go to didn't seem as important as whether he had a smile on his face. So I started to think about this 'whole child' well-being, and recognize the wisdom of this approach.

"There is something extraordinary that happens when we devote ourselves to the whole of us. When we open our hearts to all of us, it becomes possible to open our hearts to each of us. All of a sudden 'over here' and 'over there' reveal themselves as already connected. All of a sudden the conversation about seeing the 'light of God' inside every one lends itself quietly, and confidently, to a steadfast commitment to social justice."

Bill Jenkins wrote the following:

"As with so many Quaker Schools, maintaining a balance between the needs of private schools while maintaining traditional Quaker values is a continuing struggle. Whether traditional beliefs about borrowing or continuing commitments to equality, the reality of current financial and other constraints influence our ability to maintain Quaker traditions. Thus the continuing involvement of Meetings is vital to maintaining Quaker values in our schools and in the next generation of Friends."

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT COVERING JANUARY 2015-JANUARY 2016

The Children's and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Committee provides guidance for the First Day School (FDS) program for children from pre-kindergarten through the fifth grade, the middle and high school teens, as well as the care for infants and toddlers in the nursery. With our teachers and FDS coordinator, Leslie Rountree, the committee develops the curriculum, selects materials and monitors the overall health and progress of our First Day School. Our aims are threefold: to build a vibrant spiritual community within the First Day School for families with children and teens, to strengthen links between our youth of all ages through coordinated curriculum and activities, and to nurture the First Day School's integration into the meeting at large. Throughout this report we will discuss the many efforts we have made to move towards such integration. We continue to encourage families with children to attend the first 15 minutes of meeting for worship. Friends seem to enjoy the muffled stomping that takes place as we exit in great numbers, a small noise indicating a youthful spirit among us.

Committee Membership

Kathleen McNeil remains the clerk of the committee. Leslie Rountree also has continued in her duties as the FDS coordinator. We have been enjoying the gifts offered this year by our new members Jasmine McKewen, Buonnie Ludlow, and Laura Young to our committee. Carolyn Stuart, Sean Chen, Lauren Hart, John Hite, and Kathleen McNeil continue on the committee, with Leslie serving in an ex officio capacity.

New Sexual Safety Policies, Procedures, and Best Practices

CYRE and the FDS have been working together continue developing best practices for sexual safety. We would like to thank Tom and Bonnie Ludlow for their input on this. We are committed to making sure that during First Day School two adults are present at all times with our children. We are working now to come up with a more reliable volunteer process for serving as a second in the nursery on those days on which infants and toddlers are present.

First Day School Curriculum

Since our last official report, we have finished both a spring and a fall semester. For the past year, there have been 4 classes within the First Day School: the combined pre-K and K through 2nd grade pod, the 3rd-5th grade pod, and the middle and high school pods. We have been blessed with wonderful, dedicated teachers in each pod who provide continuity, consistency, and creative energy for our young people. Current teachers include (in rotation within pre-K and K-2): Allie Scales, Carolyn Stuart, Laura Young, Jasmine McKewen, Stacy Sewall and Margo Stern, and (for 3rd-5th grade): Mark Hulbert, Andrea Wuerth, and Kathleen McNeil. The middle schoolers are led by Leslie Rountree, Cecelia Carver-King, and Herbert Struemper. The high schoolers are led by John "the Quaker" Hite, Sean Chen, Jennifer Leeman, and Tom Munk. In addition, we are appreciative of the help of these Friends who have worked with the pre-K and K-2 pod teachers as assistants: Catherine Alguire, Claire Bates, Loretta Hopper, Wendy Michener and Anna Taylor.

The groups up through middle school continue to followed the standard curriculum format throughout the academic school year: the first twelve weeks cover Quaker testimonies and history; late November through the New Year brings community building and outreach activities revolving around the holidays; beginning in early January, twelve more weeks cover the Old or New Testament (2015 focused on the New Testament); lastly, in the remaining twelve weeks the children learn about world religions. Each pod tailors these themes with lessons and activities appropriate to the ages of their students. Many teachers continue to incorporate the Godly Play or Faith and Play stories in the Quaker or Biblical units; we have had guest speakers from other faiths (Islam, Judaism, and

Buddhism) come to talk to the students about their beliefs during the multicultural unit. The teens discuss issues, participate in service projects, and work together to raise money both for the meeting (via football home game parking fees) and for causes they believe in (through the Alternative Gift Mart). This April, we are hosting a forum to discuss the possibility of integrating Christian History and the variety of faith and belief among Christians the world over. Our hope is that by changing the curriculum to include these matters, our young people will be better equipped to understand the world around them and to move forward into adulthood with the vocabulary and understanding necessary to love their brethren and work together when possible.

Field Trips

Five years ago, we decided to initiate visits, or "field trips" to other religious communities as part of our study of world religions. In spring of 2015, we visited the Islamic Association of Raleigh. We attended a prayer service and were treated to a tour of the Mosque and school as well as an information session afterward. The choice was particularly poignant due to the recent murder of three young people from their community in Chapel Hill.

Teen Service Trip to Haiti

Also this year, our teens went on their first Group Service Trip. Throughout the previous year and through the end of June, they worked together to plan a service trip to Haiti that occurred in the first week of July 2015. Seven teens and three adults from our traveled to Haiti to run a summer camp for children who attend the Foundation of Infant Jesus School during the school year. The trip lasted 9 days and was a grand adventure, an exhausting but worthwhile challenge, and generally an experience that will impact the way our teens view the world and the issues of poverty and inequality. This experience will help them all through their lives to remember the beautiful full person behind every statistic and stay engaged in activities that make the world a more fair, just and loving place for everyone. The students attending the camp had the opportunity to play games, do crafts, participate in sports, and, perhaps most importantly, eat well during the duration of the camp. We cannot be more grateful for the generous outpouring of support from the meeting that made the trip possible. The teens held two forums, one before and one after their trip. During the latter, the shared their photos and experiences with the meeting at large. We would especially like to thank Matt and Maura for extensive help with the planning. Indeed, Maura worked tirelessly for several weeks to shepherd us through.

Holiday Activities

During the holiday season in 2015, FDS children delighted in making handmade ornaments for a Christmas tree in the multipurpose room. We also made and wrote cards to shut-ins and prison inmates, and rehearsed and presented a Nativity play for the meeting's annual holiday party. Leslie headed up a group of carolers at Carol Woods the First Day before Christmas. The middle schoolers once again sponsored the Alternative Gift Mart, bringing in contributes to Quaker House, Interfaith Council, Heifer International, and other worthy projects. In the spring we held our annual Easter egg hunt, which pairs older and younger children in both dyeing eggs and hiding them for one another.

Summer Activities

During the summer, Friends who are not FDS teachers are invited to lead classes for children of all ages. The purpose is twofold: it gives our regular FDS teachers a much-needed break, and it provides to meeting members an opportunity to share their passions and interests and to have fun with our wonderful children. Last summer, volunteer teachers offered game playing, crafts, cooking, and storytelling. Thanks to the meeting at large for volunteers to lead these classes. We are extremely grateful to all Friends who participated.

Nursery Care

Long-time Friend Stacey Sewell has continued in the nursery this year. She provides loving childcare to the youngest meeting attendees. At the moment, Joyce Munk is serving as her assistant in order to follow our "two adults present" best practices.

Additional Fellowship Activities

In both spring and fall semesters, our teens continued the tradition of going to the Ringwalt cabin at Hyco Lake. Eight youth along with three chaperones spent a fall weekend enjoying nature, quiet and fellowship together. We had a holiday teen Lock-in at the Meeting House this December. The teens enjoyed themselves and are planning more events of this type. We have a few dedicated teens who regularly attend SAYF retreats, which are teen-led and nurtured by the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting. Margot Stern, our SAYF coordinator, has done a wonderful job coordinating attendance and transportation with the Durham Friends Meeting. Thank you Margot!

In September, we organized a family picnic after the rise of late meeting for worship to kickoff the FDS year. CYRE remains dedicated to integrating the youth and families into the larger meeting community. One successful initiative that has continued this year has been having the teens close meeting the first week in each month with five first days. Game events have been going on most of the year and have been enjoyed by Friends of all ages. Thanks go to Tom Munk for organizing these events and for sharing his vast collection of board games.

The Year Ahead

We will continue to make a special effort to integrate our young people into the life of the meeting as well as to integrate our adult members into the lives of our youth. We would be very grateful to see more adult members without children in FDS attend our outings and activities as well as take advantage of our volunteer opportunities.

In summary, the Children's and Youth Religious Education Committee strives to foster spiritual nourishment, friendship and fellowship among our meeting's youth and older members, and to deepen the connection and sense of belonging between these young attendees, their families, and the meeting at large. We look forward to the joy the children bring to the meeting and to the lessons they teach us.

Respectfully submitted by the CYRE committee: Sean Chen, John Hite, Bonnie Ludlow, Jasmine McKewen, Kathleen McNeil (clerk), Leslie Rountree (ex officio), Carolyn Stuart, and Laura Young.

WHAT HAS BEEN MOST ON THE HEARTS OF THE CHAPEL HILL MEETING THIS YEAR? REPORT TO PIEDMONT FRIENDS YEARLY MEETING

In 2015, the Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends experienced many occasions for celebration, thankfulness, and growth. Perhaps the largest undertaking we made this year was the exploration of and subsequent joining of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting. A review of the minutes from the year's Meetings for Worship with Attention to Business shows this to be a leading topic that has gladdened the hearts of our Meeting. This new relationship informed our Spiritual State of the Meeting gathering in March, during which we considered some organizations in the wider Quaker fellowship and their mission statements. From that report:

"In small groups, we answered the query, 'How do we envision the meaning of our personal and corporate relationships with local and national Quaker groups?' Sharings on the responses to this query in the large group revealed a resonance with many of the mission statements, an excitement about the opportunities ahead to connect more fully with fellow travelers, a recognition of the chance to help shape the formation of the new Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting, an awareness of the challenges of deepening relationships with those who are different from us, and a concern about the energy needed to make these commitments outside the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. One Friend spoke about seeing a great people gathered to influence North Carolina."

Throughout the year, Spirit was revealed to us in so many different ways. We received and recorded with immense pleasure conscientious objector letters from Keegan Durovich and John Hite, as well as a report on the fifteen years' work of attender Curt Torell in supporting young people in writing these powerful letters. With others, he has worked to extend to a wider network our work with young people considering and eventually laying a claim for conscientious objector status, and to publish this curriculum through Quaker House. Along those same lines, Friends in our Meeting have also been concerned about reducing military spending and military confrontation, and in building peace through diplomacy--in particular the Iran nuclear deal. We have also focused on the support of minorities, rejecting anti-Muslim rhetoric and combating discriminatory legislation. A special concern as we entered an election year was promoting voter registration and opposing voting restraints.

We have stepped up our efforts to welcome newcomers to our Meeting and to help them discover what it means to be a Quaker. Ministry & Worship offered its four-week Quakerism 101 class in two sections, making it possible for up to 60 members and attenders to participate. M&W offers pamphlets for distribution to newcomers at the rise of meetings for worship and has revised our welcoming

brochure. But we have discovered that welcoming newcomers is a two-way street. In particular, we have marveled at the contributions to our worship that our guests from the Orange Correctional Center have shared with us, from their messages to their music. We have seen our ministry grow and flourish among those currently and previously incarcerated at Orange Correctional Center. Many current and former residents of that facility regularly attend our meeting for worship, and the Meeting is now supporting several men returning to our community from that facility.

Our Meeting continues to provide meaningful educational opportunities for children and adolescents through engaging lessons in the First Day School Program and field trips focusing on Quaker history and multi-cultural faith experiences, as well as overnight and weekend retreats for the teens. Families are encouraged to share the joys and concerns of parenting through family potlucks and informal conversations with their children's teachers and each other.

The celebration in late 2014 of the life of the son of one our members, a son who suffered from mental illness and died from suicide, was a catalyst for the increased concern and action of our meeting. Our Mental Health Group has sought to provide mental health resources, and our ad hoc Committee for Mental Health Initiatives developed a white paper to serve as a basis for lobbying for mental health within North Carolina Prisons.

We offered several opportunities for focused worship this year, including our beloved Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship, a celebration of the Winter Solstice, a Meeting for Healing, celebrations of the lives of deceased Friends, and our first outdoor Meeting for Worship with Attention to Animals. We have been enriched by a wondrous variety of weekly Forums sponsored by our Adult Religious Education Committee, and many of us were blessed by attendance at the Annual FGC Gathering in our own home state.

We experienced the joy of supporting our teen group on a service trip to Haiti. We have welcomed Eloise Grathwohl, Joanna Selim, and Ric Shepherd into membership and celebrated the weddings of Judy Purvis to John Schoonover and Alice Carlton to Dave Curtin. We mourned the deaths of Friends Bob Cooper, Bill Flash, Susanne Gomolski, Alice Woodbury, and Betsy Hewitt. We were also blessed in coming to unity on a plan for improvements to our building, and heartened by the increased level of cooperation among committees of the Meeting.

2015 has left us with much for which we can be thankful.

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Budget v. Actuals July through December 2015

Jul - Dec 15	Budget	% of Budget
388 05	500.00	77.6%
	68.925.00	52.7%
-6,195.08	0.00	100.09
16.68	0.00	100.0%
1,721.46	0.00	100.0%
1,738.14	0.00	100.0%
6,387.00	5,100.00	125.2%
38,627.93	74,525.00	51.8%
0.00	26,170.00	0.0%
120 1-12	102022	NF201-22
		132.1%
V-457575.		27.5%
1,644.55	11,000.00	15.0%
0.00	100.00	0.0%
720.00	0.00	100.0%
27.50	2,500.00	1.1%
747.50	2,500.00	29.9%
30.70	50.00	61.4%
		67.0%
• 100		0.0%
		0.0%
		12.0%
		18.9%
	•	
		0.0%
		0.0% 43.1%
		24.3%
100		
85 47	50.00	170.9%
		50.2%
The state of the s		6.5%
	2) *	91.6%
		0.0%
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	10.00 mm. 10.000	100 Per
6,180.81	18,910.00	32.7%
0.00	500.00	0.0%
		0.0%
		70.0%
		0.0%
		56.1%
		0.0%
		0.0% 0.0%
	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	14.89
,,	5,555.55	
16.55	0.00	100.0%
1,820.50	0.00	100.0%
1,837.05	0.00	100.0%
14,227.75	74,525.00	19.1%
24,400.18	0.00	100.0%
	388.05 36,309.82 -6,195.08 16.68 1,721.46 1,738.14 6,387.00 38,627.93 0.00 264.12 55.00 1,644.55 0.00 747.50 30.70 1,004.59 0.00 0.00 48.00 189.08 0.00 0.00 754.20 4,737.74 85.47 3,009.82 350.00 329.89 0.00 2,405.63 6,180.81 0.00 0.00 1,122.15 0.00 0.00 1,472.15	388.05

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2015

	Dec 31, 15
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
BB&T-2699 Community Checking	33,540.63
BB&T-3430 Returning Citizens	1,550.58
BB&T-3597 Youth Service Trip	265.05
BB&T-4039 Building Renovat Fund	87,161.57
BB&T-4071 Care and Counsel	1,378.17
BB&T-4593 Shotts Leadership	5,880.07
BB&T-9737 Money Rate Savings	18,917.56
Friends Fiduciary	
Bequest Fund	1,120.21
General Fund	30,792.48
Physical Plant Reserve Fund	34,014.06
Shotts Endowment	29,979.42
Total Friends Fiduciary	95,906.17
Total Checking/Savings	244,599.80
Total Current Assets	244,599.80
TOTAL ASSETS	244,599.80
LIABILITIES & EQUITY Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	1,030.12
Total Other Current Liabilities	1,030.12
Total Current Liabilities	1,030.12
Total Liabilities	1,030.12
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	134,376.03
Unrestricted Net Assets	84,793.47
Net Income	24,400.18
Total Equity	243,569.68
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	244,599.80

7:32 PM 01/17/16 Cash Basis		Ü	Contribut	Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Contribution Analysis	ing is		
FY 2013-2014			2014-2	2014-2015-2016		TOTAL	
		Jul - Sep 13	Oct - Dec 13	Jan - Mar 14	Apr - Jun 14	Jul '13 - Jun 14	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense	se						
Income							
Contributions	Amount per quarter	11,893.85	28,440.40	17,999.16	15,431.12	73,764.53	63,985.00
	Cummulative amount	11,893.85	40,334.25	58,333.41	73,764.53		
	Percent of total	19%	63%	91%	115%		
FY 2014-2015						TOTAL	
		Jul - Sep 14	Oct - Dec 14	Jan - Mar 15	Apr - Jun 15	Jul '14 - Jun 15	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense	Se						
Income							
Contributions	Amount per quarter	12,993.25	32,736.64	16,170.67	14,982.76	76,883.32	64,900.00
	Cummulative amount	12,993.25	45,729.89	61,900.56	76,883.32		
	Percent of total	20%	%02	%56	118%		
FY 2015-2016						TOTAL	
		Jul - Sep 15	Oct - Dec 15	Jan - Mar 16	Apr - Jun 16	Jul '15 - Jun 16	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense	se						
Income							
Contributions	Amount per quarter	10,271.82	26,038.00	2,065.00	0.00	38,374.82	68,925.00
	Cummulative amount	10,271.82	36,309.82	%0	%0		
	refeelt of total	2/2	2/00	20	0/0		

Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

Sun. 3/6 Tue. 3/8 Fri. 3/11 Fri. 3/11—S	•	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum: Renovations at the Meetinghouse Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods Potluck—Schoolhouse Quakers and NC History Talk—OC Public Library (see page 5) Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd PFF Retreat—CFS (see page 3)
Sun. 3/13 Tue. 3/15 Thurs. 3/17	•	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS STARTS Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum: Reflections on Money and Investing Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins Call for Spirited Action—telephone event (see page 5)
Fri. 3/18	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 3/20 Tue. 3/22 Fri. 3/25	8am 8:30am 9:00am 11am 11am 7–8pm 5-6pm 7pm	Meeting for Worship (Early) Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd Intergenerational Games—Schoolhouse
Sun. 3/27 Fri. 4/1	8:30am 9:45am 11am 11am noon 10pm 5-6pm	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum: Easter Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness—Schoolhouse Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter! Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 4/3	8:30am 9:45am 11am 11am 12:30pm	Meeting for Worship (Early) Forum: Alcohol Use on the Meeting's Property Meeting for Worship (Late) Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods Potluck—Schoolhouse

Tue. 4/5	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Thur. 4/7	9am-1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 4/8	5-6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

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

531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 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: Tom Munk (919) 537-9203
Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

- Newsletter. This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Communications Committee. Paper copies are available at the Meetinghouse and a PDF is posted on the Meeting website, www.chapelhillfriends.org. The deadline for submissions is 10pm on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756. Please include "newsletter" in the subject line.
- Listserv. To send a news or "In the Light" announcement on the Meeting listserv, contact news@chapelhillfriends.org. Please include "listserv" or "in the light" in the subject line. This listserv goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the listserv at www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html.
- Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.