

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

June, 2016



Monthly Query:

Do I examine myself for aspects of prejudice that may be buried, including beliefs that seem to justify biases based on race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, class, and feelings of inferiority or superiority?

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

Be sure to allow adequate time between spoken messages in meeting for worship, so that they may settle in the silence and be truly absorbed. In general, Friends counsel against speaking more than once in a meeting.

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Upcoming Forum Schedule

June 5: "Graduating from High School" Graduating seniors Milena Wuerth, Mark Beisner, Keegan Durovich, and Vivian Scimone share experiences in our Meeting, their time in First Day School, and their thoughts about the future. Moderator: Carolyn White

June 12: "Growing in the Light: Quaker Pedagogy at Carolina Friends School"

Renee Prillaman, Interim Head of School, will share about the service and activism work of students, current work at CFS in the arena of diversity and inclusion, and CFS philosophy in action. Moderator: Matt Drake

June 26: "Quakers, the Underground Railroad, and Snow Camp Outdoor

Theatre" James Shields, director, and actors from the local company will discuss the role of NC Quakers in the Underground Railroad, perform music from the show, and explore their experience in it. Moderator: Catherine Alguire

Potluck and IFC: What They Have in Common

While you're planning what to bring Potluck this First Sunday of the month, think about adding a non-perishable food item to bring for our IFC basket in the Meeting House foyer. It's a great way to share our blessings!

In common: sharing food with our community--at Meeting and in our larger community.

If you forget, your checks made out to the IFC are always welcome in the envelope in the foyer. Thank you, Your IFC Committee

Dominican Republic Community Center Fundraiser

From John "the Quaker" Hite ,

We were very successful last spring with raising a bit over \$22,000 within two months for the Water Project in the Dominican Republic. This year we are starting an exchange program with Dominican students and CHS students to further connect us. On alternating years, we will go there (such as this June 2016) and then they will come here the following year. One of our efforts is to raise funds for a Community Center in the town of Tenares. Thus far we have raised just over \$1,650 of the goal of \$5,000.

How can you help?

- Donate online via <http://supportofdevelopmentoftenares.mydagsite.com/home>
- Write a check to CHS with Dominican Republic Community Center in the memo line.
- We will be collecting out in front of the school in the morning some weeks.
- (There was a silent auction which ended on May 12.)

Thank you very much!

Karen Refugee Students FundRaiser

From John "the Quaker" Hite,

I am organizing a trip to Thailand/Burma for some Karen refugee students who have graduated or who will have graduated from Carrboro High School. All of them have been a part of my Unity Club at CHS and have beautiful souls. One major focus is for them to be able to visit family and friends whom are still in refugee camps in Thailand. If you want to donate directly, you can visit this site: <https://www.gofundme.com/ghx4mp3w>. I would love to be able to make this a reality. In peace, John

Refugee Family Support

The CHFM Refugee Family Support group would like to find out what people may be available to help, even if it is only one hour (or one trip) per month. We do not yet have a date when the family will be arriving, and may only get two weeks notice. Currently, we are expecting to get a family from Aleppo, Syria, who have been staying in Istanbul, Turkey, for the last two years. They have three daughters, ages 7, 4, and 2. There is no guarantee that this will be the family that comes here.

We have coordinators for the various tasks that may need to be done. Please use the Meeting directory for phone numbers if you have trouble contacting coordinators, or email Ann Shy. Please contact them if you can help or want to find out more:

Furniture or other donations: Alice Carlton (amberalice@mindspring.com) and Monteze Snyder (monteze.snyder@yahoo.com)
Fundraising: Tom and Bonnie Ludlow (tomludlow@juno.com, bonnieludlow@gmail.com)
Translation: Ann Shy (annshy44@gmail.com)
Transportation: Ann Shy (annshy44@gmail.com)
Education/ESL: Jenn Soliman (jennifer.kiefer.soliman@gmail.com)
Healthcare: Monica Severino (severino.monica@gmail.com)
Employment: Jack Wolf (jackhwolf@yahoo.com)

We have been in contact with a UNC professor in contact with the Turkish community, Zeynep Tufekci, who will be coordinating translation assistance if they need Turkish translation. Her email is zeynep@technosociology.org

We have a list of needed items posted at www.signupgenius.com. The name of our group is Chapel Hill Friends Newcomers Furnishings. On this site you can see if a needed item has already been donated and if not indicate the item you have available.

If you have trouble contacting the coordinator or have other questions, please contact Ann Shy (annshy44@gmail.com). Thank you for any help you can give.

It Rained... but.....

Robin Harper shares with Friends,

This year's Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals took place on May 29, which turned out to be a rainy morning. We met in the Schoolhouse, without animals. (Well, there was one charming young lady there—you can ask Emily Ashley about her!) We were disappointed to not have them with us, but there was wonderful sharing among all that were present. We shared about the blessings of our pets, but also about the pain of working in animal shelters, the joy of providing retirement for lab animals, the frustration of "uninvited" animals, the quandary of animal pests that are nonetheless part of our ecosystems, the bond that animals can create between the humans that love them, and the challenge of all there is to care for in the world.

Thanks to everyone who attended and made the event successful and meaningful, in spite of the weather!

Quaker House Publishes Book on Moral Injury

Quaker House recently published a book of healing strategies for moral injury, *Moral Injury: Strategies and Interventions*. Cecilia Yocum, PhD, volunteered to write this after attending one of our presentations in Tampa, FL. It is available through Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com/Help-Moral-Injury-Strategies-Interventions/dp/1533064881/>) or by contacting us at qpr@quaker.org or 910-323-3912. We hope it will be a help to our service members and veterans!

Description:

In the United States we have been late to recognize and provide supportive services to victims of post-traumatic stress disorder, and are only beginning to recognize a need to address moral injury—debilitating guilt, shame, and self-condemnation secondary to inflicting violence, state-sanctioned or otherwise, on others. Both exist. Both haunt our society. The strategies and interventions provided in this booklet set forth a means of addressing the injuries to an individual's moral codes. The conflict or tension with one's personal codes and that of armed conflict and the aftermath may create conditions which can make it difficult to return to "normal" life. The strategies and interventions provided here are opportunities for individuals to identify, address, and manage those conflicts or tensions through a structured process and, above all, in a safe supportive environment. The emphasis is on recognizing that agents of injury also suffer, identifying the nature of their emotional and spiritual injuries, and providing a safe environment to facilitate healing. These activities will help those with moral injury develop some tools to work toward the goals listed above along with other goals of understanding moral injury, self-care, and developing personal and spiritual resources. These exercises/activities are designed to be used by counselors/pastoral counselors, psychologists or other mental health workers.

Quaker House Succession Planning for New Director(s)

The Quaker House Board seeks input from our member meetings before beginning our search for a new Executive Director(s). Steve and Lynn Newsom will retire the summer after next (summer 2017). Please take a few moments to share your thoughts. Responses can be sent to Curt Torell electronically at curtnpatty@aol.com or US mail 103 Orchard Lane, Carrboro, NC 27510. Thank you.

1. In what ways has Quaker House helped your Meeting either with its testimony of peace or in other ways?
2. In what other ways could Quaker House better help your Meeting?
3. What goals should Quaker House set now and for the future?
4. In what other ways, if any, would you like to see Quaker House change in the future?
5. In what ways, if any, should Quaker House adapt to, or even address, the changing demographic, political, and economic conditions in this country?
6. As the "military industrial complex" continues to grow and become more secretive, how can we augment the Quaker House program and staff resources to maintain our witness better and communicate its value?
7. What are the values and personal characteristics necessary for the Director position?

Crop Walk Results

Ann Drake shares with Friends,

For the CROP Hunger Walk on April 10 and earlier T-shirt sales at the Meeting House, CHFM raised \$1870. Of that total, \$1465 went CWS/IFC (75% v. 25%) and \$405 to IFC directly. Congratulations to our donors and to the folks who solicited donations! The online contribution totals for local congregations can be found on the walk website. The highest amount showing is \$4210.

The walkers had fun socializing while walking. Plan to join in next year.

Keep this thought in mind: The website www.crophungerwalk.org stays active year round and contributions are accepted at all times. You can mark contributions either to CWS or through CWS to other agencies in the InterAction.org association.

Top Five Regrets of the Dying

The forum held on May 8, "The Top Five Regrets of the Dying," was based on the following article from Bronnie Ware, <http://bronnieware.com/regrets-of-the-dying/>.

"Regrets of the Dying"

For many years I worked in palliative care. My patients were those who had gone home to die. Some incredibly special times were shared. I was with them for the last three to twelve weeks of their lives.

People grow a lot when they are faced with their own mortality. I learnt never to underestimate someone's capacity for growth. Some changes were phenomenal. Each experienced a variety of emotions, as expected, denial, fear, anger, remorse, more denial and eventually acceptance. Every single patient found their peace before they departed though, every one of them.

When questioned about any regrets they had or anything they would do differently, common themes surfaced again and again. Here are the most common five:

1. I wish I'd had the courage to live a life true to myself, not the life others expected of me.

This was the most common regret of all. When people realise that their life is almost over and look back clearly on it, it is easy to see how many dreams have gone unfulfilled. Most people had not honoured even a half of their dreams and had to die knowing that it was due to choices they had made, or not made.

It is very important to try and honour at least some of your dreams along the way. From the moment that you lose your health, it is too late. Health brings a freedom very few realise, until they no longer have it.

2. I wish I didn't work so hard.

This came from every male patient that I nursed. They missed their children's youth and their partner's companionship. Women also spoke of this regret. But as most were from an older generation, many of the female patients had not been breadwinners. All of the men I nursed deeply regretted spending so much of their lives on the treadmill of a work existence.

By simplifying your lifestyle and making conscious choices along the way, it is possible to not need the income that you think you do. And by creating more space in your life, you become happier and more open to new opportunities, ones more suited to your new lifestyle.

3. I wish I'd had the courage to express my feelings.

Many people suppressed their feelings in order to keep peace with others. As a result, they settled for a mediocre existence and never became who they were truly capable of

becoming. Many developed illnesses relating to the bitterness and resentment they carried as a result.

We cannot control the reactions of others. However, although people may initially react when you change the way you are by speaking honestly, in the end it raises the relationship to a whole new and healthier level. Either that or it releases the unhealthy relationship from your life. Either way, you win.

4. I wish I had stayed in touch with my friends.

Often they would not truly realise the full benefits of old friends until their dying weeks and it was not always possible to track them down. Many had become so caught up in their own lives that they had let golden friendships slip by over the years. There were many deep regrets about not giving friendships the time and effort that they deserved. Everyone misses their friends when they are dying.

It is common for anyone in a busy lifestyle to let friendships slip. But when you are faced with your approaching death, the physical details of life fall away. People do want to get their financial affairs in order if possible. But it is not money or status that holds the true importance for them. They want to get things in order more for the benefit of those they love. Usually though, they are too ill and weary to ever manage this task. It is all comes down to love and relationships in the end. That is all that remains in the final weeks, love and relationships.

5. I wish that I had let myself be happier.

This is a surprisingly common one. Many did not realize until the end that happiness is a choice. They had stayed stuck in old patterns and habits. The so-called “comfort” of familiarity overflowed into their emotions, as well as their physical lives. Fear of change had them pretending to others, and to their selves, that they were content. When deep within, they longed to laugh properly and have silliness in their life again.

When you are on your deathbed, what others think of you is a long way from your mind. How wonderful to be able to let go and smile again, long before you are dying.

Life is a choice. It is YOUR life. Choose consciously, choose wisely, choose honestly. Choose happiness.

Based on this article, Bronnie has now released a full length book titled The Top Five Regrets of the Dying: A Life Transformed by the Dearly Departing. It is a memoir of her own life and how it was transformed through the regrets of the dying people she cared for. This inspiring book is available internationally through Hay House.

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

May 15, 2016

Tom Munk, Clerk; Robin Harper, Recording Clerk

Worship and query: *How do we show our concern for the improvement of public education in our community and in the world?*

All of us are affected by our public schools—our teachers, our students, and we live in world where the majority of our citizens are shaped by public schools. My concern is for teachers—I want to do what I can for them. They need to feel respected and valued for the important and challenging work that they do. The only way that they convey that to the children is if they, too, are respected.

1. **Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda—Clerk**

We welcomed first-time attenders Annalee Harkins, Keith Beisner, Mark Beisner, and Lily Wuerth.

2. **Approval of April minutes—Clerk**

Approved.

3. **Conscientious Objector Letter—Milena Wuerth (ATTACHED)**

Conscientious Objector Letter—Mark Beisner (ATTACHED)

Friends shared movingly after the reading of these two letters:

General Joe Stillwell, WWII, mused on the imprisonment of William Penn, as a Quaker. Penn said, “Force may subdue, but love gains. Let us then see what Love can do.” Many people don’t know the first sentence of this quote. Let this then light your journey.

Thank you, I express my gratitude for your statement and your bravery. If you are ever challenged, we are here for you, and we will always “have your back.” You have the love and support of all of us.

You humble me.

My son wrote his CO letter many years ago, and I am gratified to see that this process is still going strong after all these years.

When you have to defend your beliefs in college, we will support you there too. However, you will not always be a voice in the wilderness—there are others like you out there.

I’d like to encourage you both to consider joining the Meeting before you go off to school!

The easy part of what you are doing is the declaration. The hard part will be having to live with it in difficult times, when you are the odd person out, and your views will not be respected.

John Hite, who leads the teen First Day School group, expressed joy in the chance for the Meeting to experience what he experiences every Sunday with the teens. Noted that these teens have grown up in a time of constant war, and how that is all they have known.

Accepted.

Trustees Emilie Condon and Bettie Flash signed the letters at the end of meeting. The letters were placed in the Meeting lockbox.

4. **Nominations Committee Report - Presented for acceptance next month—Carolyn Stuart (ATTACHED)**

Carolyn recognized the members of the committee, in addition to herself: Jennifer Leeman, Ken Grogan, Ed Bowen, Joyce Munk, and Sean Chen.

This has been a very difficult year for members of the committee to find Friends to serve on committees. Carolyn noted that many Friends who said “no” needed to because of their other commitments. Many people are doing a lot of good things; at the same time committee work is what keeps our community strong. We need to take care to not spread ourselves too thin.

Two committees that still need more members are ARE and Hospitality. Andrea Wuerth offered to serve on ARE.

Great thanks were expressed for the tremendous work of this committee.

5. Updated Peace & Justice Benevolences—Naveed Moeed and Hank Elkins

The \$40 discrepancy in the presented budget belonged under NCWarn, and that has been corrected.

One question that arose was around the relatively small amount designated for our prison work, but both P&J and the members of the relevant committees feel that there is enough money in place to amply support this work. P&J received a great deal of constructive criticism on their benevolence proposal, which they have welcomed and which has made the need for greater examination clear. The ad hoc committee that was proposed to make this examination has been formed, although others are still welcome to join it. The committee will meet for six sessions.

Approved.

6. Updated Adult Religious Ed Benevolence—Carolyn White

ARE requests that we allocate \$150 to continue our support for the Friends Center at Guilford College, as we have done for several years.

Approved.

7. Updated Ministry & Worship Benevolences—Lynn Drake

The correct figures proposed by M&W are:

- Friends Journal - \$200
- Piedmont Friends Fellowship - \$300
- Friends General Conference - \$600
- School of the Spirit - \$200
- FLGBTQC - \$100
- Total - \$1,400

Approved.

8. Buildings and Grounds Report—Don Hopper

Don met with Trinity Design Build after last month's MWAB and received a quote of \$249,000, later reduced to \$230,000, from them for the entire project. \$65,000 of that is for management fees. The renovation subcommittee has met since then, and feels that there is too much to do before mid-June. They also are finding that the larger the general contractor, the larger the overhead. Trinity adds 20% to every invoice they pay, along with site supervision fees, to what they charge the customer. A larger GC gives more flexibility on project timelines, but also comes with greater cost.

The subcommittee recommends going forward by doing some of the work ourselves, such as demolition and cleaning out the downstairs. That will give them time to get permits in order, and to be ready to begin the real work next summer. Lynn Drake, Richard Miller, John Hite, and Wendy Michener, along with Don, made themselves available to Friends with questions after meeting.

Accepted.

9. Budget for 2016-2017—Kitty Bergel, Ann Miller, Maura Murphy (ATTACHED)

The Finance Committee has been very optimistic in setting a goal of \$68k for our contributions. As we know, contributions are down, but they hope that this number is not too high to reach for.

A new line has been added for refugee funds, based on conversations and anticipation with other committees. In committee budgets, Finance requested an additional \$300 to pay for a software license, and Transition & Support requested an additional \$200 for a birthday party and to increase the number of Yokefellows events. Three annual funds were given very little, as they have money they can carry over.

Friends asked about the decline in contributions and what should be done about it. Maura clarified that Servant Keeper has allowed us to keep better track of our contributions and spending. Contributions have not really changed, but we are doing more. We may be maxing out in what we can do. In addition, committees are more likely to spend their budgets, which is a good thing because it means that our budgets are more accurate. Knowing we have the proposed refugee fund, and the renovation, are we prepared to take on the chunk proposed for Benevolences? Should we consider a fundraiser or capital campaign? That would be a big undertaking.

Ann reported that Maura has done a really stellar job of learning and managing our budget, but we are about at the limit of what a volunteer Treasurer can be expected to do. We may need to consider hiring a professional.

The Clerk encouraged Friends to take further questions directly to the Finance Committee.

10. Peace & Justice Proposal to support a Syrian refugee family—Ann Shy, Hank Elkins, Jack Wolf (ATTACHED)

Over 4000 Syrians died last month; it is estimated that there are around 4 million Syrian refugees trying to find safety. Around 140 of them are members of this project in the Triangle. Peace & Justice proposes that we join this project and co-sponsor a refugee family from Syria, under the care of P&J. We would be co-sponsoring with Lutheran Services Carolina. The goal is to first raise money outside the Meeting, then come back to CHFM to ask for money, but only if we do not take money away from the commitments we have already. Any unspent money would go to Lutheran Services to help other refugee families.

The UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) vets refugee families heading to the U.S. with the State Department and the Department of Homeland Security, and then looks for organizations to help them. Only a very small percent of the 4 million refugees are resettled. Lutheran Services Carolina (LSC) is one organization that sponsors vetted refugees coming to the U.S. Core services provided by LSC include finding housing, and providing the first 3 months' rent and a small amount of spending money. In addition, the family qualifies for Medicaid for 8 months and food stamps for 3 months. LSC is located in Raleigh which is too far for the case managers to assist refugees in Chapel Hill; therefore, CHFM would co-sponsor a family and provide hands-on support of the core services. The design of the project is to organize a 3-6 month set up, which would focus on enrolling kids in school; finding employment; enrolling in English as a Second Language (ESL) classes; providing home furnishing and stocking the refrigerator; providing financial and cultural education; lining up transportation and interpreters for appointments; raising funds to supplement the family's initial needs; and helping with health and human services needs. The final goal of the project is to help the family become independent in the community.

There is currently a core group of nine in the Meeting, and Jack and Ann would be co-coordinators of this core group. Twenty people in the Meeting have already volunteered, and a couple outside of the Meeting. Volunteers for the inner and outer circles are already garnered, so there will be no new work for the Nominations Committee, although they recognize that this project will be a competing effort. Finance Committee is prepared to help with the financial challenge, and has met several times to plan with the core group.

Some Friends asked, do we need to educate ourselves more about what is already going on for refugees? Is God calling us to take this on as a faith community?

After some discussion, this proposal was approved.

11. AFSC use of the Meetinghouse library two days/week—Lynn Drake

Lori Fernald Khamala, of American Friends Service Committee, has located to this area and requested of us the use of the Meetinghouse library as an office space two days a week. She has consulted with Sue Donaldson (for use of the Chapel Hill Early School parking lot) and James Harper (Library Committee clerk) and received approval from these people. Her schedule will be posted for Friends who may want to use the Meetinghouse during the day. No money is involved in this usage, although Buildings & Grounds and

the Treasurer will keep an eye on utilities usage. She has her own printer, computer, etc., and will work with James on arranging their use in the Library space.

Approved.

12. Announcements from the listserv—Clerk

- Intergenerational Game Night, Saturday, May 21, at the Leeman-Munk home, 5:00-10:00pm
- Mental Health Group will meet next Sunday for a potluck and a program on Mental Health First Aid
- Orange County's Living Wage Celebration, May 26, at Vimala's Café, 6:30pm

- Worship Sharing with Attention to Animal on May 29, 9:45am
- Recommended reading: Quaker House's recently published "Moral Injury: Strategies and Interventions"
- Karen refugee students' fundraiser for return to Thailand; John Hite has details

Other announcements

- Forum next week is on Quaker House
- Volunteers needed for summer First Day School teaching
- Orange County Living Wage Plaque was presented to Tom Munk

Worship and closing circle

Attending: Max Drake, Perry Martin, Dirk Spruyt, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Andrea Wuerth, Lily Wuerth, Milena Wuerth, Herbert Struemper, Carolyn White, John Hite, Ann Miller, Carolyn Stuart, Leslie Rountree, Grace Schneider, Jennifer Leeman, Kitty Bergel, Madelyn Ashley, Jan Hutton, Nicole Nettleton, Ben Ray, Bettie Flash, Dottie Heninger, Mark Hulbert, Ken Grogan, Nancy Milio, Wendy Michener, Adam Peoples, Richard Miller, Emilie Condon, Maura Murphy, Keith Beisner, Mark Beisner, Kate Beisner, Tom Ludlow, Nancy Elkins, Naveed Moeed, Hank Elkins, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Julia Cleaver, Annette Broadwell, Annalee Harkins, Keegan Durovich, Karen Durovich, Curt Torell

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION LETTERS

Dear Friends,

Currently, I am not required to register for the draft because I am female. However, if society continues to progress in the direction of true gender equality, as I hope it will, I will be required at some point to register as well. Therefore, I am writing this letter to reflect upon my beliefs and express my objection to serving in the military if I was ever called upon to do so.

Growing up in a Quaker school and in the Quaker meeting, I experienced daily the power of consensus and peaceful decision making to resolve conflict and was taught that violence and retaliation are never appropriate responses to hostility. Over the years, these lessons have continued to shape my conscience and interactions. I believe war is a cornerstone in the endless cycle of brutality and conflict which has plagued the world since the invention of weapons. I cannot morally participate in and facilitate this cycle by being part of the military.

During meeting I often reflect on the welcoming nature of the Society of Friends and the importance of the prison outreach program to our community. From the meeting and the visitors from Orange County Correctional I have learned that there is no black and white, there is no good and evil. There are only groups of people brought together by different circumstances and from different backgrounds. This central belief is what would not allow me to see our nation's declared enemies as legitimate targets of deadly force. There is nothing within me that would allow me to believe that the people I would be asked to kill, directly or indirectly, are not deserving to live.

For some people, the ability to determine whether another person lives or dies would be empowering; to me, it is repulsive. I would not be able to separate myself from my belief that there is inherent goodness within each human. I would not be able to live with myself, no matter how heroic my actions would be deemed or what victory I would help to achieve. My thoughts would immediately go toward the families who have lost a loved one and the light that I extinguished; this would pain me forever.

In this world in which we are further and further removed from the consequences of our military actions, it is growing harder to protest against serving. We are no longer asked to look the person we are attacking in the eye. This separation from our targets makes no difference to me; whether fighting on a battlefield or ordering a drone attack, I would not be able to participate in the taking of lives.

Nor do I feel I could work to support an organization that endorses killing in warfare or otherwise, even in a non-combat position. Everything I have learned as a Quaker leads me to reject the notion that killing in the name of my country is justified and as a part of the military establishment I would be endorsing that notion.

In short, my own humanity is bound with that of others and taking the life of another would take a part of me.

Sincerely,
Milena Wuerth

Dear Friends,

My name is Mark Beisner, and I recently turned 18. Like most men my age in the United States, I registered with the Selective Service, as required by law. However, I am opposed to war in all forms, and I believe that it is never right to take the life of another human being. I believe that all wars are fundamentally caused by human greed and hatred, and I refuse to be used as a pawn of the United States government to further an immoral conquest of innocent lands and people.

In the television show M*A*S*H, Hawkeye Pierce states his beliefs on war: "War isn't Hell. War is war, and Hell is Hell. And of the two, war is a lot worse." When asked for his reasoning behind that statement, Hawkeye responds: "There are no innocent bystanders in Hell. War is chock full of them - little kids, cripples, old ladies. In fact, except for some of the brass, almost everybody involved is an innocent bystander." This quote perfectly encapsulates my beliefs about war. War is wrong because innocent people are hurt and killed, and for the most part, only innocent people are hurt and killed. The brass are safe in their command bunkers, while they send innocent young men out to kill other innocent young men, and "little kids, cripples, and old ladies" die in the process.

Wars simply perpetuate the cycle of violence and do not make things better for anyone. More people are still being added to the World War I casualty figures every year, 100 years later, because of the unexploded ordinance and toxic chemicals that still litter its battlefields. WWI led directly to World War II, which some use as an example of a "just war". However, ending the Holocaust was merely an afterthought as far as the causes of World War II are concerned. While America tries to claim the moral high ground, in 1939 we forced the SS St. Louis, a ship full of Jewish refugees, to return to Europe into the waiting arms of the Nazis. Another example of our failure is that whenever we criticized the Soviet Union on human rights abuses, they responded with "And you are lynching Negroes". The only reason we could claim the moral high ground during World War II was because our enemies committed the most brutal crimes against humanity in history.

I love and support the United States, my country, and its citizens. However, I could never serve in a combat role in any military organization. A non-combatant humanitarian role would be the only way I could serve in good conscience. Because of these beliefs, I consider myself a Conscientious Objector.

Sincerely,
Mark Beisner
April 2016

CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING
GIVERS OF TIME AND SERVICE
2016-2017

(Names in bold are new or are serving additional terms.)

RECORDING CLERK	Jennifer Leeman
TREASURER	Maura Murphy
MEETING TRUSTEES	Emilie Condon Bettie Flash Asta Crowe
RECORDER	Carolyn White
CORRESPONDENCE CLERK	Emilie Condon

MEETING REPRESENTATIVES:

Carolina Friends School Board

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Matt Drake	2017	Buffie Webber	2017
Patt Mann	2018	Bill Jenkins	2019

Quaker House Board

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Curt Torell	2018	Deborah Gibbs	2018
Richard Miller	2018	Maria Darlington	2019

Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting

Friend	Terms ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Emilie Condon	2019	Naveed Moeed	2017
Alice Carlton	2018		

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

Friend	Terms ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Jeff Brown	2017	Margot Stern	2017

Coalition of Clergy

Friend	Friend
Carolyn Stuart	Dottie Heninger

COMMITTEES:

Adult Religious Education

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Terms ends in...
Dirk Kelder	2018	Max Drake	2018
Carolyn White *	2017	Catherine Alguire	2017
Perry Martin	2018	Jamie Jacobs	2019
Andrea Wuerth	2019		

Buildings & Grounds

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
David Schneider	2018	Richard Miller	2019
Don Hopper *	2019	Tom Smith	2019
Wendy Michener	2019	Dottie Heninger	2017
Bill Cleaver	2017	Lynn Drake	2017
Meeting resident	Ex-officio		

Care & Counsel

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Deborah Gibbs *	2018	Jeff Brown	2018
Kitty Bergel	2017	Tom Ludlow	2017
Bonnie Raphael	2018	Eloise Grathwohl	2018
Jennifer Leeman	2019	Ann Miller	2019
Jasmine McKewen	2019	Clerk of Meeting	Ex-Officio

Children's & Youth Religious Education

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Sean Chen	2018	Carolyn Stuart	2019
Kathleen McNeil*	2019	Jasmine McKewen	2018
Lauren Hart	2017	Laura Young	2018
John Hite	2017	Julia Cleaver	2019
FDS Coordinator	Ex-Officio		

Finance

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends...
Tom Ludlow	2018	Michael Jokinen	2018
Loren Hintz	2019	Kitty Bergel *	2017
Ann Miller *	2017	Annette Broadwell	2019
Asta Crowe	2017	Emilie Condon	2017
Ric Shepherd	2017	Treasurer	Ex-Officio

Hospitality

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Nancy Fisher	2018	Monica Severino	2017
Eloise Grathwohl	2017	Sean Chen	2018
Elizabeth Taylor	2018	Buzz Borchardt	2019
Annalee Harkins	2019	Joanna Selim	2019
Buffie Webber	2017		

Inter-Faith Council

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Emilie Condon	2017	Ann Drake	2017
Dottie Heninger *	2017	Marie Hopper	2019
Asta Crowe	2019	James Bartow	2019
Max Drake	2017	Carolyn Stuart	2017

Library

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
James Harper *	2018	Dave Curtin	2018
Lloyd Kramer	2019	Allie Scales	2019

Mary & Claude Shotts/Leadership Development Fund

Friend	Term ends in...	Friend	Term ends in...
Jan Hutton *	2018	Roberto Quercia	2018
Gwynne Pomeroy	2017	Lynn Drake	2017
Mary Key	2019		

Ministry & Worship

Friend	Term ends in ...	Friend	Term ends in ...
Lynn Drake *	2018	Jan Hutton *	2017
Pam Schwingl	2018	Faye Stanley	2018
Leslie Rountree	2017	Alice Carlton	2019
Ed Bowen	2019	Madelyn Ashley	2019
Clerk of Meeting	Ex-Officio		

Peace & Justice

Friend	Term ends in ...	Friend	Term ends in...
Nancy Elkins	2018	Hank Elkins	2018
Naveed Moeed	2019	Jill Savitt	2019
Tom Munk	2019	Wendy Michener	2019
Jim Palmer	2019	Max Drake	2019

Publications & Communications

Friend	Term ends in ...	Friend	Term ends in ...
Dave Curtin	2017	Ed Bowen	2017

Friend	Term ends in ...	Friend	Term ends in ...
Emily Buehler	2019	James Harper	2019
David Schneider	2019	Sean Chen *	2019
Christobal Palmer	2019	Recording Clerk	Ex-Officio

Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee

Friend	Friend	Friend	Friend
Jennifer Leeman *	Nancy Milio	Gwynne Pomeroy	Pam Schwingl
Asta Crowe	Richard Miller		

Transition & Support Committee

Friend	Term ends in ...	Friend	Term ends in ...
Emilie Condon	2017	Maria Darlington	2017
Hank Elkins	2017	Nancy Fisher	2018
Tom McQuistion	2019	Richard Miller *	2019
Joyce Munk	2019	Paul Munk	2019
Dave Schneider	2019	Byron Stevens	2017
Ann Shy	2018	Kuldip Kuwahara	2018
Asta Crowe	2019		

REFUGEE PROJECT PROPOSAL PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE, CHAPEL HILL FRIENDS MEETING

PROPOSAL

The Peace and Justice Committee Proposes that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Co-Sponsor a Refugee Family from Syria.

INTRODUCTION

Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) reports that up to five Syrian refugee families will be available for co-sponsorship beginning as soon as June. The families are vetted by UNHCR, the US Refugee Admissions Program, and the Dept. of Homeland Security. The role of a co-sponsoring organization is to collaborate closely with the LSC case managers to help the family meet many and varied needs. The Church of the Holy Family (Episcopal) has decided to co-sponsor a family.

THE FAMILY

The second family available for co-sponsorship is the M family consisting of the mother, father and three daughters. (We have been asked not to print the names of Syrian refugee families in order to protect their identity, and protect relatives still living in Syria.)

- Mom and Dad (ages 27 and 31), 3 girls (ages 7, 4, and 2)
- They are originally from Aleppo, Syria.
- They are coming from Istanbul, Turkey.
- Projected Arrival: late May- July 8, 2016

They are Turkmen, ethnic Turks, a minority in Aleppo. Turkmen have lived in the region of Syria, Iraq and Iran since the 11th Century. They are mainly concentrated in the north, in the Turkmen Mountain area in Latakia close to the Turkish border, as well as in Aleppo, Idlib, Homs, Tartus and the Damascus region. They speak Turkish, not Arabic. We understand they are Sunni Muslim. From 2010-2013, the father worked as a farmer, baker, and shoe maker for various employers. He worked most recently as a shoe maker in Istanbul, Turkey.

OUR OPPORTUNITY FOR CO-SPONSORSHIP

The primary responsibility for helping the M family rests with Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) and their professional case workers. As co-sponsors, we would supplement the work of LSC. Here is a list, by no means an exhaustive list, of tasks we might perform:

- **Welcome Home:** Help set up an apartment for an arriving refugee individual or family.
- **Rental Assistance:** Make a financial contribution to the local agency to assist in paying for housing.
- **Furnishings and Supplies:** Collect furnishings, kitchen and household items, hygiene and cleaning items.
- **Seasonal Clothing:** Provide seasonal clothing and footwear for work, school, and everyday use and diapers for infants and toddlers.
- **Stock the Pantry:** Purchase culturally appropriate groceries for the family.
- **Arrival:** Pick up the family from the airport and welcome them to their new home and community.
- **Welcome Meal:** Prepare a culturally appropriate meal, ready for the individual or family to enjoy immediately upon arrival at their new home.
- **Health Services:** Accompany the individual or family to medical appointments and assist as an advocate for the individual or family's healthcare access.
- **Schooling:** Assist with school enrollment.
- **Conversation:** Focus on developing English skills with the individual or family.
- **Employment:** Collaborate with the LSC job development team to assess skills and interests, arrange job training, identify prospective employers, assist in job placement and subsequent support.
- **Financial Education:** Facilitate financial education for the individual or family.
- **Transportation Assistance:** In partnership with local agency staff and case managers, arrange for transportation of individual or family in situations where public transportation is not practical.
- **Public Services:** Facilitate access to public benefits and services.
- **Community Guide:** Creatively help the family to learn more about their new community.

ORGANIZATION

We propose following the internationally validated organization of Circles of Support and Accountability (COA) used successfully by our Transition and Support Committee. A small inner circle of 4-6 persons, with a single point person or Project Coordinator, works intensively with the family and LSC caseworkers and leverages the resources of an outer circle. Members of the inner circle will receive one-half day of training. The small inner circle is nimble, able to respond quickly to family needs and calls upon the skills and resources of the larger outer circle.

DESCRIPTIONS OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PROJECT OFFICERS

THE PROJECT COORDINATORS: ANN SHY AND JACK WOLF

- Serves as the focal point for communication and coordination with the family, other volunteers, and Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC);
- Discerns the family's needs with the assistance of other volunteers and the Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC);
- To meet the family's perceived needs, coordinates and directs the services of the inner and outer circle of volunteers;
- Develops a budget to meet the family's needs in coordination with the family, other volunteers, and Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC);
- Coordinates with the Project Treasurer to approve expenditures in accordance with the project budget and the current balance of the project bank account;
- Reports to the Peace and Justice Committee.

THE CHFMR TREASURER: MAURA MURPHY

- Disburses checks for expenditures approved by the Project Coordinator;
- Balances check book
- Communicates available balance to Project Treasurer (?? Is this necessary?);
- Confers with Project Treasurer and Project Coordinator about relevant concerns.

THE PROJECT TREASURER: ED BOWEN

- Submits to CHFMR Treasurer for payment expenses approved by the Project Coordinator;
- Ensures that each expenditure is validated with a receipt from the vendor and a signature of the purchaser of the goods or services;
- Maintains validated receipts and financial records to facilitate audit;
- Confers with the CHFMR Treasurer about relevant concerns.

THE PROJECT DONATION COORDINATOR: TO BE APPOINTED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Project Donation Coordinator reduces the amount of work for the Project Treasurer, helps ensure the accurate listing of donations and donors, facilitates timely acknowledgement of the gifts, and enhances the level of project security. Tasks of the Project Donation Coordinator:

- Receives donations in the form of checks at the Meeting House;
- Enters the donations by amount, name of donor, and address of donor into the Servant Keeper accounting program; separates Project donations from unrestricted donations to the Meeting as a whole.
- Deposits the donations in the CHFMR Refugee Project account;
- Acknowledges to the donors in a timely manner the receipt of the contributions by using the Servant Keeper software and adding a short personal note;
- Maintains donation and deposit records in an orderly manner to facilitate audit;
- Functions as a member of the CHFMR Finance Committee.

VOLUNTEERS OF THE INNER CIRCLE

Volunteers of the inner circle are intensively involved in serving the family's needs. Typically a volunteer of the inner circle will dedicate 7 to 10 hours a week to this service during the family's initial transition. Each inner circle volunteer will assume responsibility for a specific area(s) of work, for example, housing, schooling, or medical services. Since no one volunteer is expected to accomplish all the work within even one specific area, the inner circle volunteer will liaison with members of the outer circle and with specific staff of the Lutheran Services Carolinas (LSC) for example, the LSC staff member responsible for employment.

INNER CIRCLE VOLUNTEERS: Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Bonnie Ludlow, Tom Ludlow, Ann Shy, Montez Snyder, Jennifer Soliman, and Jack Wolf (Not all the above will be present at the same time.)

VOLUNTEERS OF THE OUTER CIRCLE

Outer circle volunteers are less intensively involved than inner circle volunteers but may be more specialized in terms of the service they provide and the skills they offer. Language teaching skills, hospitality, transportation, medical, legal, and employment skills are examples. Outer circle volunteers will communicate their interests and skills to the Project Coordinator. Inner circle volunteers will call on the outer circle volunteers for help.

OUTER CIRCLE VOLUNTEERS: Ed Bowen, Emilie Condon, Ann Drake, Max Drake, Karen Durovich, Hank Elkins, Dirk Kelder Lori Khamala, Naveed Moeed, Grace Schneider, and Barbara Williamson

Additional Interested persons, please send an email with "Syria" in the subject line to both Naveed Moeed naveed.moeed@physics.org and Hank Elkins hankelkins@gmail.com, Co-Clerks, Peace and Justice Committee.

PROJECT FINANCES

We anticipate that the M family will receive a U.S. government stipend of \$4,625. LSC suggests that the co-sponsor contribute additional funds. There is no fixed or required amount, but Friends have discussed raising \$3,000.

CONCERN NO. 1: WILL THE PROJECT IMPACT THE MEETING'S REGULAR BUDGET?

The raising of any money elicits a legitimate concern: The Meeting has had difficulty raising its budget this fiscal year. Would the Refugee Project detract from efforts to raise funds for the regular Meeting budget?

RESPONSES TO THE CONCERN OF IMPINGING ON THE MEETING'S REGULAR BUDGET:

- Two pledges totaling \$1,500 have been received. At least one of individual who made a pledge has promised not to reduce regular contributions to the Meeting.
- The additional money needed to be raised is therefore relatively small compared to the suggested target of \$3,000 and the number of potential donors outside and inside the Meeting.
- More than 140 persons outside the Meeting have expressed interest in refugee support by joining a Facebook page, "Refugee Resettlement Triangle. "
- Since the project plans to raise money from donors outside the Meeting, the project might decrease dependence on Meeting donors by first eliciting money from outside donors before requesting money from members of the Meeting.
- Any request for donations by CHFM members would state that contributions to the project should be over and above a potential donor's regular contribution to the meeting.
- The project would ask the Finance Committee to review any letter of request to members of the Meeting.

CONCERN NO. 2: WHAT WILL THE MEETING DO IF GIFTS DESIGNATED FOR THE REFUGEE PROJECT SURPASS THE NEED? WOULD THE MEETING HAVE A POTENTIAL PROBLEM OF NOT BEING ABLE TO DISPOSE OF UNUSED DESIGNATED FUNDS?

THE RESPONSE TO THE CONCERN ABOUT UNUSED FUNDS IS STRAIGHTFORWARD

The project would state in the request for funds that the funds received would first be used for the M family the Meeting is co-sponsoring. Any contributions not used for that family would be given to Lutheran Carolina Services for work with other refugees. All donations would therefore be used for the stated purpose in the donation request, and the Meeting would not have any unused funds.

EDUCATION

With daughters ages 2, 4, and 7, the M. family will want to decide where the seven year old goes to school, perhaps where the four-year-old goes to kindergarten, and the two-year-old to nursery school. The Emerson Waldorf School (EWS), 6211 New Jericho Road in Chapel Hill has offered to consider favorably both admission and tuition scholarships for all three daughters. Karen Durovich and Merideth Tomlinson are parents and members of the EWS Board of Directors, Mark Hulbert is also a closely involved parent with the school, and Nancy Milio serves as a consultant to EWS.

CULTURAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL WELLBEING

As a community we realize that fleeing from danger is not the only problem a refugee family can face. Where you are fleeing to often has a large impact on the long-term stability of family life.

Members of the core team will be designated to oversee how well the family is adjusting and try to catch early signs of deepening and worsening depression in the adult members. To support the family's emotional and mental state, these volunteers will also look to engage culturally appropriate resources (such as the local Sunni Muslim community, Turkish speaking families, and others) in order to build up a network of resilience and support.

It is not easy to recreate "home" in America for those who have been ripped from theirs by violence. But the tenderness of our loving community reaching out to them can help them find their own sense of belonging in this bewildering environment. The Project is seeking Turkish speakers and looks forward to collaboration with Professors Aziz and Gwen Sancar and the Carolina Turk Evi at 743 East Franklin. See The Turkish Coalition of America.

SOURCES:

- Lutheran Services Carolinas Chapel Hill Office: 101 Conner Drive # 302, Tel (919) 968-2552, see <http://www.lscarolinas.net/services-for-refugees/refugee-resettlement/>
- The Carolina Turk Evi, 743 East Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, NC. The Turkish Coalition of America

CHFM Draft Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

5/15/2016

INCOME	2015-2016	2016-2017	Increase (Decrease)	% change
Contributions	68,925	68,000	(925)	-1%
Building rental	500	400	(100)	-20%
Parking space rental	5,100	5,100	-	0%
Refugee funds		3,000	3,000	
Miscellaneous (Interest income etc.)			-	
INCOME TOTAL	74,525	76,500	1,025	1%
EXPENSES	2015-2016	2016-2017	Increase (Decrease)	% change
Obligations:				
Bank Fees	50	50	-	0%
FDS Coordinator/Childcare	6,000	6,000	-	0%
Insurance	5,400	5,400	-	0%
Utilities	6,000	6,000	-	0%
Software license fee	360	360	-	0%
UBIT, Storm water Drainage Fee	1,100	1,100	-	0%
Obligations Total	18,910	18,910	-	0%
Committees:				
Adult Religious Education	200	200	-	0%
Archives	200	200	-	0%
Buildings and Grounds	11,000	11,000	-	0%
Care and Counsel	100	200	100	100%
Children/Youth Religious Education	2,500	2,500	-	0%
Finance	50	350	300	600%
Friends Transition and Support	1,500	1,700	200	13%
Hospitality	300	300	-	0%
IFC	200	200	-	0%
Library	400	400	-	0%
Ministry and Worship	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Nominations	10	10	-	0%
Peace and Justice	300	300	-	0%
Publications and Communications	1,750	1,750	-	0%
Committees Total	19,510	20,110	600	3%
Annual and Continuing Funds				
Care and Counsel- continuing	500	500	-	0%
Contingency- annual	1,000	1,000	-	0%
Leadership Development- continuing	500	50	(450)	-90%
Meeting for Suffering- annual	135	110	(25)	-19%
National Quaker Service- continuing	2,000	2,000	-	0%
Physical Plant/Meetinghouse Renovation	4,000	4,000	-	0%
Returning Citizens Financial Assistance-continuing	1,000	50	(950)	-95%
Refugee funds		3,000	3,000	
Youth Service Learning- continuing	800	800	-	0%
Other Total	9,935	11,510	1,575	16%
Benevolences:				
ARE- Guilford College Friends Center	125	150	25	20%
M&W- FGC, FJ, PFF, SotS, FLGBTQC	1,400	1,400	-	0%
P&J- IFC, CFS, QH, FCNL, AFSC, QEW, BQEF, & 7 others	24,645	24,420	(225)	-1%
Benevolences Total	26,170	25,970	(200)	-1%
EXPENSES TOTAL	74,525	76,500	1,025	1%

Calendar

(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)

Sun. 6/5	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Graduating from High School
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck—Schoolhouse
Tue. 6/7	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 6/10	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 6/12	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Growing in the Light: Quaker Pedagogy at CFS
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
Tue. 6/14	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 6/17	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 6/19	8am	Meetinghouse open for worship
	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:00am	Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
Tue. 6/21	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 6/24	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
	7pm	Intergenerational Games—Schoolhouse
Sun. 6/26	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Quakers, the Underground Railroad, and Snow Camp Outdoor Theatre
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
	noon	Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness—Schoolhouse
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Fri. 7/1	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
Sun. 7/3	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: tbd
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck—Schoolhouse
Tue. 7/5	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Thur. 7/7	9am–1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 7/8	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.