

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

March, 2017



## 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?

## Contents:

Upcoming Forum Schedule .....	2
Service in the Meeting <sup>2</sup>	
Chuck Fager Speaks on Lucretia Mott, March 5 .....	2
Wearing Your Quaker Values Follow-up .....	3
Meeting Work Day .....	3
QuakerSpeak Video on Immigrant Justice .....	3
Friends House Moscow .....	3
Annual Retreat.....	4
Attend PFF/PFYM Annual Retreat for Free .....	4
Financial Grants for the 2017 White Privilege Conference.....	4
Quaker Focusing Training .....	5
Moral Injury Program at New Garden Friends .....	6
Support Undocumented Immigrants in Orange and Chatham.....	6
Wake Up! Social Awareness Series .....	7
Sign up for FCNL Alerts .....	7
Make the Magic Gala.....	7
<b>Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business .....</b>	<b>8</b>
(Gary Evans transfer, CYRE report, CO letter Grace Schneider, letter of support for Casey Webber, Nominations, B&G, renovations update)	
Calendar .....	15

## Upcoming Forum Schedule

**March 5:** Working with Refugee Children in Berlin. Milena Struemper will present on her experience with international refugees at a school in Germany during her "gap year."  
Moderator: Andrea Wuerth

**March 12:** FORUM TO BE HELD IN THE SCHOOL BUILDING! Linking "Focusing Partnership" and "Quaker Process," led by Robert Lee. This is an introduction to Quaker Focusing toward strengthening 1:1 connecting, mental health, and community at our Meeting. Moderator: Max Drake

**March 26:** Justice United. Devin Ross, director of Orange County Justice United, will share with Friends efforts to address targeted policing of undocumented Latinos in Orange County, particularly in regard to setting up drivers' license checkpoints near residential areas where many Latinos live. OCJU is sponsoring an Assembly to Reduce Fines and Fees on March 28, 7:00 pm at St. Thomas More. District Attorney James Woodall will be on the panel. Moderator: Perry Martin

## 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 (clerk), Sean Chen, Dottie Heninger, Joyce Munk, Pat Mann, Michael Jokinen, Gwynne Pomeroy, and Elizabeth Taylor.

## Chuck Fager Speaks on Lucretia Mott, March 5

The Hillsborough Friends are sponsoring a talk by noted Quaker writer Chuck Fager on Lucretia Mott. His talk is titled "Lucretia Mott: What Would She Say If She Were Here Today? HINT: She'd tell us we're in deep trouble and should get up and get busy. (She'd say it very nicely, but urgently.)" It will be held Sunday, March 5 at the Orange County Main Library in Hillsborough.

Lucretia Mott, considered to be the "greatest American woman of the nineteenth century" by many of her contemporaries, was a Quaker abolitionist, women's rights activist and social reformer. Her messages and actions are pertinent today – and laid the foundation for the current women's movement.

Chuck's talk will focus on Lucretia's wide range of activism on many concerns, her pioneering & unforgettable voice for women, and radical views on numerous public matters. He will also discuss how she maintained a staunch devotion to family and to Quakerism, even as she helped shake her faith community to its foundations, and push it toward a future many Friends wanted to avoid.

The talk is open to the general public, and welcomes members and attenders of Chapel Hill Friends. If you have any questions, please contact Mary Knox (919-732-8529, [mknox@esinc.net](mailto:mknox@esinc.net)).

## **Wearing Your Quaker Values Follow-up**

If you are interested in the "We're glad you're our neighbor" lawn sign described in the February newsletter, you can order it here: <https://squareup.com/store/twwnc/item/we-re-glad-you-re-our-neighbor-lawn-sign>

## **Meeting Work Day**

Join the members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee for our next work morning on Saturday, March 25th, from 9:00 until noon, or for however long you can stay. Refreshments will be served and good fellowship is guaranteed. We will be trimming, raking, sweeping, and doing general outside clean-up. Also we may begin clearing out areas of the basement in preparation for the renovation. This is a productive way to demonstrate your stewardship of our spiritual home while exercising your body. We look forward to working with you!

## **QuakerSpeak Video on Immigrant Justice**

Jan Hutton shares with Friends,

This 2015 QuakerSpeak video is on immigrant justice. Made in conjunction with AFSC, Lori Fernald Khamala, a CHFAM attender, is a featured speaker: <http://quakerspeak.com/quakers-and-migrant-justice/>

## **Friends House Moscow**

Friends House Moscow in the Russian Federation ([www.friendshousemoscow.org](http://www.friendshousemoscow.org)) welcomes applicants with basic Russian language skills for 3-month internships. "Friends House Moscow funds projects for peace and civil society ... in a variety of areas including human rights, education, restorative justice, and non-violent communication [furthering] social goals such as grass-roots collaboration, equality and non-violence." Interested prospective applicants can contact FHM Board Member Karen Porter (in Carrboro) at [karenporteresq@gmail.com](mailto:karenporteresq@gmail.com) for further information.

## **Annual Retreat**

The Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Yearly Meeting Annual Retreat will be March 10-12 at the Carolina Friends School campus.

The weekend features Friday evening potluck and fellowship, a Saturday program for adults on environmental concerns led by Mary Jo Klingel—a representative of Quaker Earthcare Witness—and youth programs for pre-school through high school.

The Yearly Meeting will hold sessions on Saturday. Saturday evening includes fellowship activities.

Registration forms, schedules, and opportunities to provide hospitality for Friends from far away are available at <https://piedmontfriendsfellowship.org/pff-retreat-forms-and-registrations/>.

For more information, contact Jeff Brown , [pff@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:pff@chapelhillfriends.org)

## **Attend PFF/PFYM Annual Retreat for Free**

The Shotts Memorial/Leadership Development Committee would like to support our Meeting community in attending this annual retreat, which will occur at Carolina Friends School this year. The weekend cost is \$40, which our committee will pay in full. Even if you wish to go for only a day, our committee would like to support your attendance. The PFF registration link, and description of event, are in the second paragraph. Please submit your grant request, by Saturday, March 4, to the Shotts/LDC Committee, at this link, OMITTING how much you will pay: <http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/ShottsLeadershipFunds.html>

Please see the previous article for information about the conference.

## **Financial Grants for the 2017 White Privilege Conference**

The 2017 annual White Privilege Conference, this year in Kansas City, MO, serves as an opportunity to examine and explore difficult issues related to white privilege, white supremacy, and oppression. WPC provides a forum for critical discussions about diversity, multicultural education and leadership, social justice, race/racism, sexual orientation, gender relations, religion, and other systems of privilege/oppression.

Since 2011, FGC has sponsored a group discount for the White Privilege Conference. The FGC discount is 20% off the non-profit registration fee, and a little less than 50% of the individual cost. The individual cost for the conference is \$400, and with the FGC discount, folks will pay \$208. The institutes are also 20% off the non-profit fee and around 35% off the individual fee. The individual cost for an institute is \$175, and with the FGC discount, it's \$115: <http://www.fgcquaker.org/news/vital-friends-reflections-white-privilege-conference>

The Shotts/Leadership Development Committee offers non-need based grants to support our members' and attenders' growth as Quakers and as leaders. We do ask that those requesting funds take some responsibility for the cost. Please see our request instructions here: <http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/ShottsLeadershipFunds.html>

If enough of you attend, it might provide a carpooling opportunity to Kansas City, Missouri.

## **Quaker Focusing Training**

Quaker Focusing Training on March 26 and April 23, 12:30–5 PM (begins with potluck, in the Schoolhouse multi-purpose room) led by international focusing teacher, Robert L. Lee.

Good news! Many of you were active in important political work and had to miss the first focusing training. We had a group of 20, and I don't want to lose you! You can still join.

#1: The philosophy behind focusing is about people and society becoming responsive and creative about needs rather than stopping process by being "culturally slotted"

#2: Focusing is political. To have so many good people vote so unwisely for their interests in the recent election, what does that imply about the mental health of our society?

#3: Creating a just society is a Deep Job! It can't be just behavioral. It can't be just positive policies. It can't be just good religion.

#4: The shame of our society's non-parity for mental illness is horrible! It is deep and ongoing. It must change.

To indicate interest in a 2 hour make-up (no date yet) and to register for the second and third Quaker Focusing trainings, write Robert Lee ([robert@focusingnow.com](mailto:robert@focusingnow.com))

No One Gets Left Behind!

### **Purpose of 12-Hour Training**

This 12 hours of training is to give you minimal but sufficient Quaker Focusing partnership skill such that we could have a 2-hour group including exchange as a regular occurrence (monthly or every other week).

**Structure of Ongoing Meetings** (after the 3 trainings): 2 hour meetings monthly.

### **The Quaker Focusing Project is intended to**

- \*strengthen wellness and creativity and grace in meeting the dilemmas of life
- \*strengthen mental health
- \*develop empathic listening skill
- \*strengthen community within and between Quaker institutions

This training is sponsored by the Mental Health Concerns Committee. It has also been endorsed by the Care and Counsel committee and Ministry and Worship committee of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting.

## **Moral Injury Program at New Garden Friends**

New Garden Friends Meeting will be hosting a program and discussion about Moral Injury led by Lynn and Steve Newsom, directors of Quaker House (QuakerHouse.org) on Tuesday March 7 at 7:00pm at New Garden Friends Meeting, 801 New Garden Rd. Greensboro.

Moral Injury is described as "A violation of conscience regarding what a person did, or sometimes what the person did not do, in a morally ambiguous situation under authority in a military system." CDR David Thompson, CHC, USNR (Ret) The Military Chaplain.

Moral Injury is not officially recognized by the Defense Department and is not accepted as a psychiatric diagnosis. But it is moral injury, not PTSD, that is increasingly acknowledged as the signature wound of this generation of veterans: a bruise on the soul, akin to grief or sorrow, with lasting impact on the individuals and their families.

Lynn Newsom, through extensive research, has gained a solid understanding of moral injury and what communities can do to help with recovery. She understands the complexity of ways moral injury can emerge, as well as how it differs from post-traumatic stress. Because of the distinction, the role of religious leaders and communities is crucial for helping with recovery.

Please share the attached flyer with your members and plan to join us March 7 at 7:00 pm at New Garden Friends Meeting, 801 New Garden Rd in Greensboro. If you have questions, call Sara White at 336-253-1319. If you plan to come, please RSVP.

## **Support Undocumented Immigrants in Orange and Chatham**

Action Alert! Justice United Assembly Tuesday, March 28, 7:00–9:00 at St. Thomas Moore Church (940 Carmichael St., Chapel Hill).

Join Justice United to increase public safety and reduce \$1.7 million in fees and fines for unlicensed, yet otherwise safe drivers in Orange and Chatham Counties. Between 2008 and 2015 Latino drivers have paid 77% of this cost after a change in state policy in 2006 made them ineligible to apply or renew their licenses without a Social Security number. In September, District Attorney James Woodall publicly pledged to work with JU to develop a solution to increase public safety by educating drivers and reducing fees and fines for safe drivers.

Devin Ross, JU Organizer, will present more background information at CHFM forum on Sunday, March 26th. Additional information is available on the Peace and Justice bulletin board at CHFM and at the Justice United website: [www.ocjusticeunited.org](http://www.ocjusticeunited.org).

Plan to attend this important Assembly to show support for undocumented immigrants in our community. JU is counting on hundreds of people showing up to underscore support for a change in this unjust practice. Meeting representatives to JU have pledged that our Meeting members and attenders will be there to endorse Woodall's response. Mark your calendars now and sign up on the door in the Meeting foyer!

Justice United is one of CHFM's annual benevolences. Dottie Heninger, Jim Palmer, and Carolyn Stuart, Justice United Representatives

## **Wake Up! Social Awareness Series**

The final event of Emma Hulbert's senior project (see February newsletter) is this month.

FILM SCREENING OF "TIES THAT BIND", A DOCUMENTARY  
Thursday, March 16th at 7:00pm at the Emerson Waldorf High School

This film was created by Diana Newton about her southern family coming to terms with her transgender sister. The film's editor is EWS alumna Emily Jean Frachtling! Come watch the film and engage Diana and her sister, Christine, for a discussion about transgender issues and the film after watching "Ties that Bind".

## **Sign up for FCNL Alerts**

The Friends Committee on National Legislation lobbies on our behalf in Washington, DC. The P&J Committee encourages Friends to sign up for and respond to Friends Committee on National Legislation Action Alerts at <http://act.fcni.org/signup/signup-action-alerts>.

## **Make the Magic Gala**

The following message was shared with us:

My name is Sarah Cline, but my friends at Camp Kesem call me Gum. Camp Kesem is the only national organization that supports a child through and beyond a parent's cancer. Kesem is unique in that its 70+ chapters nationwide are student-led and run. We take pride in self-funding, meaning a week at camp will put no monetary strain on the camper's family. This is very important to us since Kesem families already have huge financial burdens from medical treatment and we would not want any child to miss a week of fun and year-after-year support because of financial difficulties.

Our largest fundraising event, Make the Magic, is a black tie gala complete with a sit-down dinner and live entertainment. We expect to have 150 people at this year's event. Though every counselor is responsible for raising \$500 individually, Make the Magic pulls in the majority of funding we need to make camp possible. This year, we are having the event at none other than Reeves Auditorium at the NC Botanical Garden on April 21, 2017. Tickets can be found at <https://goo.gl/pEHZWh>—we would love to see you there!

**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**9:00 AM, February 19, 2017**  
**Matt Drake, Clerk, and Jennifer Leeman, Recording Clerk**

Max Drake, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Perry Martin, Deborah Gibbs, Carolyn White, James Harper, Robin Harper, Curt Torell, Emilie Condon, Catherine Alguire, Pam Schwingl, Pat Mann, Gwynne Pomeroy, Leslie Rountree, Henry Schneider, David Schneider, Grace Schneider, Richard Miller, Anne Kissel, Jerry Elliott, Michael Barbee, Ken Grogan, Anne Miller, Karen Porter, John Hite, Dottie Heninger, Lois Ann Hobbs, Carolyn Stuart, Jeff Brown, Centellas Poteat, Jan Hutton, Buffie Webber, Tom Munk, Christie Webb, Todd Warner, Lynn Drake, Julia Cleaver, Tom Ludlow, Tom McQuiston, Ben Ray, Wendy Michener, Don Hopper, Kathleen McNeil, Joyce Munk, Paul Munk, Bettie Flash, Matt Drake, Jennifer Leeman

We sat with the query, “Do I regularly attend meeting for worship with attention to business and in a spirit of love and unity?” Friends spoke to the need to also look to the Inner Light and speak your truth even if it differs from others so that we will have a fuller sense of the Truth. Friends appreciated that this is not only a meeting for business but a meeting for worship with attention to business and the difference between our business and other faith communities where there is a designated hierarchy to make decisions. We have the joy and responsibility of joining together in worship to discern our decisions.

1. We welcomed first time attenders Christie Webb and Todd Warner.
2. Minutes of the January 15, 2017, Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. **The minutes were approved as written.**
3. Letter transferring Gary Evans’ Chapel Hill Meeting membership to Durham Friends Meeting. **The letter was approved with request that the salutation be changed to include the recipient’s last name, with thanks to correspondence clerk, Emilie Condon, for writing the letter.**
4. Children and Youth Religious Education Committee Annual Report. Carolyn Stuart and John Hite (Co-clerks) read the report. Friends reported appreciation for youth involvement in meeting for worship and other activities, adult involvement in the First Day School program, and the breadth of the report. Although the report noted concern for the small number of young children, new families have recently been coming. Appreciation was expressed for the committee’s, and particularly John’s, continuing focus on conscientious objection. A Friend observed that teacher training in Godly Play and Parenting Classes were activities that grew the program in the past. The suggestion was also made to reach out to unaffiliated teens. **The report was accepted with the addition of a First Day School session with attention to animals that included all children and was led by Robin Harper. The Meeting expressed its appreciation for the work of the committee.**

5. Letter of Conscientious Objection (CO) from Grace Schneider. Grace read her letter. Friends spoke of their pride and joy in Grace, her letter, and her gifts. Friends thanked Grace and thanked

Curt Torell and John Hite for their support for teens writing CO letters. One Friend spoke of his experience with a friend who died of a gunshot and the hope Grace gave him for the future. Appreciation was expressed for Grace's focus on privilege and recognition that others have less privilege and live in fear. Appreciation was also expressed for the gentleness and heart in the letter. Bettie Flash noted, "Amazing Grace she brings the peace down in my heart and gives me joy and courage." **We accepted Grace's letter, affirming her claim as a conscientious objector.** Emilie Condon and Bettie Flash, as Trustees, signed the letter.

6. Letter of support for Casey Webber, son of Buffie Webber. Tom Munk, Co-clerk, Peace and Justice Committee, presented a letter on behalf of the Meeting expressing support for Casey Webber, who has been charged with felony inciting to riot for being present as a medic among protesters against the inauguration of Donald Trump. Tom read Casey's Conscientious Objector (CO) letter from 2006, which the Meeting approved, noting his long standing opposition to violence. Tom also read a letter from the National Lawyers Guild petition requesting that charges against the more than 200 individuals arrested be dropped. Tom then read the proposed Meeting letter of support for Casey. Concern was expressed that the section on simplicity be revised to be less judgmental, and a revision was offered and approved. In response to a Friend's concern, Tom made clear that even though the main issue is the illegality of the arrest, our role as a Meeting is to make the added case that Casey is a man of peace. Buffie reported that Casey is fine and well supported. He was in court Thursday and she expects the case to continue for a long time. She also noted that Casey has been through two genocides during his childhood when his family lived in East Africa. His desire to prevent similar events is his life and his passion. Friends spoke to the importance of continuing to support our youth who sign CO letters. Friends also spoke to the larger implications of this case in relation to suppressing protests, in other words, to suppressing our ability to speak out for what we believe in. **The Meeting approved the letter of support for Casey with minor revisions.** Matt Drake, clerk, will sign the letter and send it to the US Attorney's Office.

7. Update from Nominations Committee. Gwynne Pomeroy, committee member, reported that Nominations is beginning its discernment process for recommending ~~new~~ members to the Meeting's committees and asked that Friends consider their gifts and how they may feel led to serve the Meeting in the coming year.

8. Update from Buildings & Grounds on preparing the lower level for renovation. Don Hopper, Committee Clerk, reported that we have received amended drawings back from the engineers. On preliminary inspection they look good. Committee members will meet with the architect and will then take plans to the Chapel Hill permitting office. Demolition is planned to begin June 12<sup>th</sup>. Prior to that, cleaning out the downstairs will take place. Items that may be useful to others will be posted to the listserv. Friends should let B&G know now if there is something downstairs that they would like.

9. Update from Meetinghouse Renovations Fundraising Subcommittee. Tom Ludlow, committee member, reported that the amount we have in the bank and what has been pledged totals to \$223,614. The bid for downstairs was \$230,000 and therefore we need to raise an additional \$6,400. One Friend noted that, because of the type of bid, the actual costs may be more or less than estimated.

10. The clerk encouraged Friends to read the announcements listed at the end of the agenda. We closed with worship followed by a circle of hands.

### **Gary Evans Transfer Letter**

CHAPEL HILL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS  
531 Raleigh Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

20th day Second month 2017

Toby Berla, Clerk  
Durham Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
404 Alexander Avenue  
Durham, NC 27705

Dear Toby Berla,

We ask of Durham Friends Meeting to accept the transfer of membership of Gary Evans from your close Friends, Chapel Hill Meeting. Nearly 20 years ago, Gary asked to transfer to our meeting from yours. He was married under the care of our meeting.

Now, circumstances have changed, Gary lives in Franklin County, and three years ago he began to reestablish his early connection with Durham Monthly Meeting. He now feels Durham Meeting to be his spiritual home.

With gratitude to Durham for being our Friend Gary's Lighthouse, Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends asks that Durham Friends warmly welcome Gary as a returning member.

In the Light,

Matthias C. Drake, Clerk  
Approved at the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, February 19, 2017

### **Children's and Youth Religious Education Committee Annual Report January 2016-January 2017**

The Children's and Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Committee is responsible for the First Day School (FDS) program, childcare in the nursery, and events and activities fostering relationships among families. The committee seeks to integrate families and young Friends into the larger meeting community, as well as Quaker communities outside Chapel Hill Friends Meeting. The committee recruits teachers, selects materials, and clarifies goals and objectives for FDS. CYRE oversees a budget, provides oversight for two paid staff positions (First Day School Coordinator and Childcare Provider in the nursery) and communicates with the Ministry and Worship Committee. In summary, CYRE

Committee seeks to nurture the spiritual development of children and teens, and their families.

In July 2016, John Hite and Carolyn Stuart became co-clerks of CYRE. We bade farewell to Leslie Rountree as FDS Coordinator and expressed our gratitude for her many years of creative and faithful service. We welcomed Kathleen McNeil as the new FDS Coordinator, and she has stepped into this role with enthusiasm and skill. Lauren Hart stepped down from the committee. We are grateful for her service. We welcomed two new members—Julia Cleaver and Stacey Sewall. Continuing members on the committee, in addition to John Hite and Carolyn Stuart, are Sean Chen, Jasmine McKewen, and Laura Young. Kathleen McNeil, as FDS Coordinator, is an ex-officio member. Stacey Sewall continues her excellent work as Childcare Provider.

### *First Day School (FDS) program*

Infants and toddlers up to three years of age are cared for in the nursery. We are pleased to currently have a year-old toddler in the nursery. For children and teens older than three, there are four groups—Pre-K and Kindergarten to second grade pod, a third to fifth grade pod, a middle school pod and a high school pod. Pre-K and K-2 pod teachers since August 2016 are Jasmine McKewen, Allie Scales, Carolyn Stuart, and Laura Young. Stacey Sewall joins this pod if there are no young ones in the nursery. Margot Stern taught in this pod January through June, and we appreciate her service. There are four to six children in this group. The teachers in the third to fifth grade pod are Mark Hulbert, Kathleen McNeil, and Andrea Wuerth. There are three to four children in this group. Middle School teachers are Tom Munk, Leslie Rountree, and Herbert Struemper. We wish to thank Jennifer Leeman who taught in the middle school pod January through June. Four to six middle schoolers attend. Sean Chen, Julia Cleaver, and John Hite teach the high school group, which has five to teens.

From January through mid April, 2016, the FDS curriculum focused on Old Testament Bible study. Developmentally appropriate lessons were designed and taught to the various age groups. Teachers of the younger children used dramatic play, art activities and *Godly Play* to enable children to experience the lasting truths of these stories. The older children and teens discussed in greater depth the moral dilemmas faced by those in the Old Testament. The unit culminated in Old Testament Field Day organized by Leslie Rountree. The multi-cultural unit was taught from mid-April through the first Sunday in June. In the pre-K to second grade group, teachers presented lessons based on their own multi-cultural experiences, which included creating and walking a labyrinth, learning about the processions during Santa Semana (Holy Week) in Guatemala, and reading and discussing Hindu Gods and Goddesses. A multi-age group enjoyed a seder during Jewish passover. Older children explored Judaism, Islam, and Christians as “people of the Book.”

Robin Harper led FDS in a multi-age lesson related to our care for animals. We explored our relationships to those animals that are sometimes considered to be less desirable, such as snakes, tics, mosquitoes, and others. Children and teens were able to identify ways in which these animals contributed to our lives. Children and teens were encouraged

to attend the forum in which Friends considered our commitment to sharing the Earth with animals.

From late August until late November, all pods studied Quaker history, testimonies and practices. Again, Godly Play was used as we studied the lives of Lucretia Mott, George Fox, Elizabeth Fry, William Penn, and more. We also explored Friends' experience in meeting for worship and the meaning of the testimonies. In addition to Quaker testimonies and history, the older children explored social justice issues related to mass incarceration.

From late November through the first Sunday in January, the students participated in multi-age holiday activities, which included making cards for residents of Orange Correctional Center and Carol Woods Friends who cannot regularly attend meeting, creating ornaments for the meeting Christmas tree, caroling at Carol Woods, a presentation of a nativity play at the Christmas party, and making bird feeders. This year, to the enjoyment of all, the teens presented a skit at the Christmas party. We were pleased to have increased attendance at this year's Christmas party and appreciate Alice Carlton and Dave Curtin, who led us in carols.

CYRE hosted a "meet the teacher" picnic on September 25 which was well attended. A family potluck was held in the home of Carolyn Stuart and Richard Miller on October 15, with 25 Friends of all ages in attendance.

### *Teen Activities*

In addition to three lock-ins providing opportunities for community building, the teens provided service to the meeting. The alternative gift mart raised a total of \$3600 for nine organizations. The teens collected money for parking spots in the meetinghouse lot during home football games and on Halloween, earning a total of \$5170. Teens set up tables and chairs for potlucks on First Days and periodically closed meeting for worship. Mark Beisner, Emma Hulbert, and Milena Wuerth read letters to the meeting for worship with attention to business to support their desire to be considered conscientious objectors.

Seven teens enjoyed a meaningful service trip to Fondation Enfant Jesus in Haiti during the summer of 2015: Keegan Durovich, Emma Hulbert, Finn James, Vivian Scimone, Grace Schneider, Emelia Stern, and Milena Wuerth. The committee would like to make a service trip available to teens at least once during their high school years. We are discussing possible service trips for summer 2018, when a sufficient number of teens will be ready for this opportunity.

Last May a forum and meeting for worship was held to honor our graduating seniors: Mark Beisner, Keegan Durovich, Vivian Scimone, and Milena Wuerth. Two other forums were led by teens. Tallulah Chen and Emma Hulbert presented a forum on their experience as FCNL lobbyists. Finn James, Grace Schneider, and Lily Wuerth led a forum on gratitude held during Thanksgiving weekend.

### *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. We are extremely grateful to all Friends who participated.

### *Nursery Care*

Long-time Friend Stacey Sewall continues her excellent service in the nursery. She provides loving childcare to the youngest meeting attendees. Our current practice is for meeting volunteers to serve as Stacey's assistant, and we grateful for these Friends' service.

### *Looking Forward*

CYRE always seeks to better our programs and relationships with families and to more successfully deepen the connection and sense of belonging between these young Friends, their families, and the meeting at large. We have one primary concern—the low number of children in our FDS program, especially among the younger age groups. As a committee, we are seeking ways to reach out to families who no longer attend, to be welcoming to families who attend for the first time, and to make our presence known to families seeking a spiritual home. We welcome any suggestions Friends may have. Though the low number of younger children is a concern, we find our work satisfying, challenging and nurturing of our spiritual growth. 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, Julia Cleaver, John Hite (co-clerk), Jasmine McKewen, Kathleen McNeil (First Day School Coordinator, ex-officio), Stacey Sewall, Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk), and Laura Young

## **Letter on Behalf of Casey Webber**

### **CHAPEL HILL MEETING OF THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

**531 Raleigh Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27514**

Channing D. Phillips, U.S. Attorney  
United States Attorney's Office  
555 4th Street, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Phillips, February 20, 2017

We, the Chapel Hill Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quaker), ask that you drop all charges against Casey Webber, a young Quaker raised in our Meeting, and of whom we are very proud. We know that the circumstances of Casey's arrest as a part of the J20 demonstrations were illegal. We know, too, from deep experience, that Casey would never incite violence.

The illegality of the arrests is described in a petition addressed to you from the National Lawyers Guild, which we attach.

Casey and his family joined our Meeting when he was a child. He was a faithful and active attender of both First-Day school programs and Southern Appalachian Young Friends retreats through his high school years. His bachelor's degree is from the Quaker Earlham College. We train our children in the values we call SPICE: simplicity, peace, integrity, community, and equality. We are proud of the way that Casey exemplifies these values.

**Simplicity.** Casey's life choices since his graduation from Earlham make clear that he follows the Quaker principle of living a life that prioritizes seeking justice over accumulating wealth.

**Peace.** Like many of our young people, Casey is a conscientious objector to war – a CO. We recorded his CO letter soon after his 18th birthday. It can be found on our website and attached to this document. **A CO may well be an activist (as Casey is), but not a rioter (as Casey is not).** We know Casey's personality, too. He is by nature gentle, calm, and thoughtful, not tempestuous.

**Integrity.** For us, integrity speaks to a life lived with a clarity of purpose that is based upon these other Quaker values. It is just such clarity that led Casey to be among those protesting the inauguration of a man whose campaign rhetoric and promised actions represented the opposite of our Quaker values.

**Community and Equality.** Casey is a model to us in the way that his sense of community so clearly encompasses the most oppressed in our society. This is a goal toward which we Quakers strive, though we often fall short.

For his sake, our sake, and the sake of the nation, please **defend the first Amendment and drop all charges.** Do not saddle our admirable young Friend with a felony charge.

Sincerely,

Matthias C Drake, Clerk, Chapel Hill (NC) Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
Approved at the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. February 19, 2017

# Calendar

*(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)*

<b>Sun. 3/5</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Working with Refugee Children in Berlin
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
	12:30pm	Potluck—Schoolhouse
	noonish?	Lucretia Mott Event—OC Library in Hillsborough (see page 2)
Tue. 3/7	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
	7pm	Moral Injury Program—New Garden (see page 6)
Fri. 3/10	4:30-5:30pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
3/10–3/12		PFF/PFYM Annual Retreat—CFS (see page 4)
<b>Sun. 3/12</b>	<b>2:00am</b>	<b>Daylight Savings Time begins</b>
	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Focusing Partnership, Quaker Process—Schoolhouse
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
Tue. 3/14	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Thurs. 3/16	7pm	Emma Hulbert’s Project—Emerson Waldorf (see page 7)
Fri. 3/17	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
<b>Sun. 3/19</b>	8am	Meetinghouse open for worship
	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	<b>9:00am</b>	<b>Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business</b>
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
Tue. 3/21	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Fri. 3/24	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
3/25	9-noon	Meeting Work Day (see page 3)
<b>Sun. 3/26</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: Justice United
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods
	noon	Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness—Schoolhouse
	12:30–5pm	Quaker Focusing Training—Schoolhouse (see page 5)
	10pm	Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
Tue. 3/28	7–9pm	Justice United—St. Thomas Moore (see page 6)
Fri. 3/31	5–6pm	Vigil for Peace & Justice—E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
<b>Sun. 4/2</b>	8:30am	Meeting for Worship (Early)
	9:45am	Forum: tha
	11am	Meeting for Worship (Late)
	11am	Meeting for Worship—Carol Woods

	12:30pm	Potluck—Schoolhouse
Tue. 4/4	7–8pm	Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation—Call Hank Elkins
Thur. 4/6	9am–1pm	CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter
Fri. 4/7	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 11:00 AM  
Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30 AM–12:15 PM  
First Day School from 11:15 AM–12:00 PM  
Clerk of the Meeting: Matt Drake (919) 968-0044  
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](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org). The deadline for submissions is 10 PM on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org) or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756. Please include “newsletter” in the subject line.
- E-news. To send a news or "In the Light" announcement in the Meeting's e-news, contact [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Please include “e-news” or “in the light” in the subject line. This e-news goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the e-news at [www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html).
- Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).