

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter

Fourth Month, 2018

Monthly Query:

~ How do I welcome those new to Friends and integrate them into our community?



Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee

Not all vocal ministry will be equally meaningful to all present. Remember, ministry that does not speak to your condition may nevertheless be valuable to others. Be patient. Take care to separate the message from the minister.

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Upcoming Forum Schedule –

April 8: **To Join or Not to Join?** Come share in a conversation on the steps toward membership in the Religious Society of Friends from discernment, clearness, through approval, commitment and celebration. We will hear from a few of those who have gone through this process and reflect on queries about membership. Presented by the Ministry and Worship Committee.

April 15: Meeting for Business

April 22: Earth Day: **Replacing Fossil Fuels Quickly and Economically Across North Carolina.**

Jim Warren, executive director of NC WARN, will describe a path to essentially eliminate fossil fuels in North Carolina's electricity mix by 2030, and get halfway there by 2025. The strategy, as spelled out in NC WARN's *NC Clean Path 2025* report by engineer Bill Powers, employs local solar combined with battery storage and ramped-up energy efficiency and "demand response" programs. It is cheaper, better for the climate and creates more jobs than Duke Energy's plan, which relies on natural gas far into the future.

April 29: **Passing on our Stories: Meeting elders talk about the "Sixties and Seventies".**

Meeting elders have been invited to offer different, personal perspectives on how they experienced the turbulent years of the Civil Rights movement during the 1960s - 70s. Listen as memories are shared and history is passed on to younger generations of Quakers!

Update on Emerson James

Friends, we feel confident enough now to say that miracle babe, Emerson James, is home. He had his first outing this weekend to visit with his age mate cousin, Arden Amelia.

Truly huge thanks to all who followed his progress with us, and surrounded him in Light. ~ allie

First Day School Upcoming Events

Kathleen McNeil, the First Day School Coordinator shares with Friends some events happening in First Day School:

April 1st: Easter Sunday, Annual eye dying and hunt

April 20th: Friday Evening Field Trip to Jude's Reform Congregation for our Multi-cultural Field Trip

May 19th: Family Potluck

June 3rd: Forum with attention to Graduation

Farm Tour 2018

Richard Miller shares with Friends,

Please put in the newsletter: Farm Tour 2018 April 28&29. 23rd. Annual Piedmont Farm Tour (oldest in the country). This year 45 farms. Sponsored by Carolina Farm Stewardship Association and Weaver Street Market. Our annual window into the rich variety of sustainable and humane agriculture in our area. Map and farm guide available soon at <https://cfsa.org>

Wedding of Sean Chen and Lori Khamala

Sean Chen and Lori Khamala will be married under the care of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting **April 7, 4 pm**, at the [Durham Friends Meetinghouse](#).

If you are planning to attend, please RSVP on the sign-up poster in the CHFM meetinghouse foyer **by Sunday, March 25**.

Also, Lori and Sean would appreciate any gifts of service (set-up, clean-up, bringing a cake) at the event.

Please indicate if you are available for help on the same sheet, and you will be contacted by a member of the wedding oversight committee shortly. *Leslie Rountree* lesroutree@fastmail.com

Spreading of Dirk's Ashes

Perry Martin wants Friends and Attenders to know about the scattering of Dirk Spruyt's ashes on 4/22 after the rise of late meeting, on the hillside.

Save the Date First Day School Fieldtrips

April 20th: Friday Evening Field Trip to Jude's Reform Congregation for our Multi-cultural Fieldtrip (details and directions forthcoming)

May 19th: Family Potluck Weurth-Struemper household late afternoon

June 3rd: Forum with attention to Graduation

Justice United Action Meeting, Apr. 10 7pm

7:00-9:00 pm Thursday April 10,

Sign up today to support Justice United leaders taking action on Housing, Immigration, and Jobs.

Over the last six months teams of JU leaders have developed practical solutions to address the top concerns raised during grassroots listening sessions this summer. At our action on April 10, leaders will meet publicly with candidates for the Orange County Board of Education and other key decision makers to ask them to support our solutions.

Lattisgrove Missionary Baptist Church
1701 Jimmy Ed Road
Hurdle Mills, NC 27541
More information here: <http://www.ocjusticeunited.org/issues>

Buses are available on demand and will be leaving from two locations in Chapel Hill. Buses will depart at 6:15 pm. Please follow the links below to save your seat.

Confirm seat on bus department from St. Thomas More Catholic Church (940 Carmichael St. Chapel Hill). Confirm here.

Confirm seat on bus departing from United Church of Chapel Hill (1321 Martin Luther King Jr Drive, Chapel Hill). Confirm here:
http://www.ocjusticeunited.org/bus_ride_to_action_ucch?utm_campaign=assembly_2e&utm_medium=email&utm_source=ocjusticeunited

Paperhand Puppet intern - looking for a summer room

My name is Miranda Elliott Rader and I am a member of Charlottesville Monthly Meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia. This coming June and July I plan to work as a studio intern at the Paperhand Puppet Intervention in Saxapahaw.

I write because I wonder if I might ask for your help in finding somewhere to stay in the area for those two months. Paperhand can pay me a stipend that's just about enough for food and car insurance, but not much else. Since the internship is 4 days a week, I could do some amount of work trade (I'm a good gardener and cook) and/or find folks who need house-sitting or pet-sitting. I will be bringing a car, so the Chapel Hill/Carrboro area would be within a reasonable commute. Even a spot to pitch a tent would work, if I can get access to a kitchen! I would greatly appreciate Friends' suggestions.

Miranda Elliott Rader, miranda.elliott.rader@gmail.com

Kody Hersh to speak April 3 at 7pm (New Garden Friends Meeting)

as J.M. Ward Distinguished Quaker Visitor - NGFM

Friends Center at Guilford College shares with Friends:

"Tea-Time in the Apocalypse: Spiritual Grounding in a World of Chaos" - A Presentation by Kody Hersh

Friends Center at Guilford College invites you to come to a public presentation by Kody Gabriel Hersh, a queer, trans Quaker youth worker who writes, agitates, and geeks out about sexuality, religion, and radical peace and justice work. He is a member of Christian Peacemaker Teams, and lives in Philadelphia on occupied Lenape land.

Please join us for his presentation at New Garden Friends Meeting.

Message to Meeting Community from Claire Bates

Dear CHFM Community,

Thank you so much for your support during my time in North Carolina from Aug 2015 to Mar 2018- during the first two-and-a-half years as a social work and international conflict graduate student, and, in the recent few months, as I have begun the next stages of my path professionally. I'll be taking off this weekend: moving out-of-state to help an ailing family member in Michigan for awhile. As some of you may know, I have been planning on moving to CA to begin work on a dialogue project engaging military veterans, refugees, peace activists, and concerned community members regarding the U.S.'s role in international military violence. I am delaying this move; however, I will be working on this project from Michigan, and hope to move to CA eventually. During this time and on, CHFM retains a place in my heart. I look forward to seeing you all again when I visit the area, and hope to write back and forth with some of you, too.

I will remember CHFM as a community full of warmth and light, with ingenuity and conviction in its ways of including people who have been incarcerated; seeking to connect with and support refugee and immigrant community members; and offering strong mentorship and welcome to grad students such as me.

You will be in my heart.

Love and care to you,

Claire Bates clairebates87@gmail.com 248.910.2406

Bolivia, Quakers and Us

Pam Schwingl, March 5, 2018

Transforming lives: Have you ever wanted to know, really know, that you have helped transform someone's life for the better, in that your contribution that has enabled a young person to transform him- or her-self? This is what we do when we participate in the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund. By our travel, hosting a Bolivian visitor, or making financial contributions to BQEF, we are enabling young Bolivians to get the education they seek and become powerful contributors to their country.

Some history: In the 1930s, a number of Friends from the Pacific Northwest felt called to bring the messages of Quakerism to the Aymara Bolivians in the Altiplano (high mountain plains). Today, there are over 30,000 Bolivian Quakers, almost all indigenous Aymara people who have lived for centuries in grinding poverty in the mountainous regions of one of the poorest countries in Latin America.

Why Aymara and Quakers? Aymara values and Quaker values dovetail - they are almost identical. Aymara core values include Simplicity, Equality, Integrity, Reconciliation, and Stewardship of the earth. When North American Friends brought the Gospel in Quaker form to the Altiplano, the Bolivians were ready to join the Society that seeks a better, more peaceful and just world. Does it matter that most Bolivian Friends are "evangelical" Quakers and most of us who contribute are "unprogrammed"? Having visited and met with our Bolivian Friends, long term members of BQEF believe the differences in outlook is far less than the difference between U.S. unprogrammed Friends and our U.S. evangelist Friends. In Bolivia, we are simply brothers and sisters trying to lift our children out of poverty and live with integrity in a difficult world.

Where do our contributions go? BQEF supports two educational programs: one for secondary students to live in a boarding house during the week so they can attend the local high school; and the second a scholarship program to individual students of high ideals.

In Sorata, five hours away from La Paz, the Internado (boarding house) is home to 12 boys and 12 girls who must walk several hours each way from their villages to attend school. BQEF staffs and oversees a couple who serve as house parents, and a tutor to strengthen the children's skills when they return from school

each day. Some arrive inordinately shy but graduate with good grades and confidence, often pursuing a university education as well.

The program for university students - becarios (scholarship students) - helps them with a stipend and tuition at university in LaPaz. These Aymara students often begin their studies timidly. As part of their responsibility, they must write to their individual sponsors (like you and me) twice a year in Spanish - usually their second language. They know we are part of their lives and we get to see how they are doing.

Some examples of how BQEF helps young indigenous Bolivians succeed. Some of our BQEF graduates have already made a huge difference with their vision and commitment. Benito helped found the Internado. Coming from Sorata, he saw the need to help children from the outlying villages. Alicia, an early BQEF graduate administered the Student Residence in Sorata, building a strong, smoothly functioning institution with wide recognition. She's now supervising the scholarship program in La Paz and teaches at a university. Juana is from a small agricultural community five hours walk from Sorata. Staying at the student residence helped her with her grades and she was able to obtain direct access to university, and now is in her fourth year in a 5-year nursing program. Ruben, from a small town near Lake Titikaka received a BQEF scholarship, allowing him to earn a degree in linguistics. He is used those skills to establish "Jaqi Aru" a virtual community of Aymara speakers with a website promoting the Aymara language. Magaly, exposed to training in Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) through BQEF, has run AVP programs and obtained a government grant to continue them in prisons throughout Bolivia. Emma, with a linguistics degree supported by a BQEF scholarship, earned a Master's in Divinity at Earlham School of Religion and returned to La Paz to found the Friends International Bilingual Center. The center promotes peace and understanding through AVP projects, language classes, and environmental education. Emma also just published a book Quakers in Bolivia, and helped edit the FGC publication: Spirit Rising: Young Quaker Voices.

Costs and administration of BQEF. Despite Bolivia-mandated salary increases, we who participate in BQEF (both Bolivians and their U.S.-U.K. counterparts) keep costs efficiently manageable. Nonetheless, direct costs for each student is about \$850 per year which provides them a stipend for living expenses while they attend university (which is free in Bolivia). The number of impoverished students seeking to educate themselves, however, far outstrips our current ability to offer help.

Our inspiration. Margaret Fell once asked George Fox how to sort out all the voices of ministers in her quest for the truth. George challenged Margaret: "What dost thou say?" Today George might ask you or me, "What does thou do?" Here's how: Friends can support Friends, and we "haves" can support the "have a lot less" Aymara Quakers in Bolivia. Join the Bolivian Quaker Education Fund. Life-long learning is critical. We make it happen by our ongoing support. Please consider contributing to BQEF.

For more information, contact Pam Schwingl at pschwingl82@gmail.com, Nancy Marshall at nanmar4009@gmail.com or Vickey Kaiser at BQEF: office@bqef.org). Thanks!

Crop Walk is April 22

There are many ways to support Crop Walk, a fundraising event to end world hunger, organized by Church World Service and the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services. Seventy-five percent of funds raised goes to global hunger relief agencies and 25% remains with IFC to feed our local neighbors. All money from t-shirt sales is used locally. Learn more at <http://www.ifcweb.org/events/crop-walk>

1. Pick up a walker's packet at Crop Walk table in meetinghouse foyer from March 25 through April 22.
2. Support a walker. You find out who the meeting's walkers are at the Crop Walk table (March 25 through April 22).
3. Donate on-line. It's easy. Follow instructions on the link <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/chapelhillnc/CHFM>, and your donation will be included with the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's team.
4. Buy a colorful blue t-shirt. The cost per t-shirt is \$10.00 and all t-shirt money stays with local hunger relief efforts of the IFC. Place an order for a t-shirt at the Crop Walk table. T-shirts may be picked up on either April 15 or 22.

Let's make this a community-building event, support our own and each other's good health, and raise money to end hunger. Questions? Contact Carolyn Stuart at 919 929 2287 or stuartc@elon.edu.

Enjoyed Dirk's Forum on Cognitive Diversity?

Interested in how complexity research, cognitive science, and contemplative practices might lead to a 21st Century Quaker Activism Revival that can help us "hospice outworn ways of living that no longer serve us and the Earth?" Take a look at Pamela Boyce Simms' 2017 FGC Plenary presentation [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTRo-G2JlxQ>] Or read about her Quaker Pathways Forward: [<https://buddhistquaker.wordpress.com/2017/03/16/quaker-pathways-forward/comment-page-1/>]

Carolina Friends School and Gun Violence

Karen Cumberbatch shared this with the CFS community:

Dear Families,

In the three weeks since the shooting at Marjorie Stoneman High School in Parkland Florida, I have been greatly heartened and energized by the movement of young people nationwide to engage in and lead dialogues on how to make schools safer, the rights of children, and gun ownership. Having experienced the trauma of seeing those 17 lives lost, young people throughout the country are engaging in a variety of activities to push for positive change.

At CFS, we have taken a multi-layered approach to engaging with students based on what is most age-appropriate. We are well aware that this is a very sensitive topic and that our children have varying levels of awareness of what happened, as well as varying capacity to consider the issues raised. In all cases, we have taken the lead from our students to guide our steps. That said, many of our students, particularly in the Upper and Middle Schools, have also been moved to action. This has taken the form of discussions in classes in age-appropriate ways and proposals from students to participate in upcoming local and national exhibits of solidarity and protest. DES students have been discussing the rights of children and identified a list of items to which all children are entitled, including love, care, and safety. The children asked to ride the bus and take this document to Mayor Schewel's office on Wednesday, March 14. Lower School students will reflect on the rights of children in classroom-based meetings for worship. For older students, there are several upcoming national and regional activities in which CFS will participate. On Wednesday, March 14, interested Upper and Middle School students and staff will show their support for the students of Marjorie Stoneman High School by participating in a 17 minute walkout and period of silence. On Saturday, March 24, Upper School students are organizing to participate in the March for Our Lives: Student Led Gun Safety March in Raleigh. On April 20th, Upper School students plan to walk out in commemoration of the 19th anniversary of Columbine. Head teachers will provide more specific information about the ways their units are supporting student initiatives in their upcoming communications.

In a show of solidarity, fifty-three Friends school Heads signed on to a statement of support for student activism and an end to gun violence. This letter, spearheaded by the Friends Council on Education, highlights our schools' commitment to non-violence, safety, equality, and respect for all as a prerequisite for learning, and calls for public officials to take action to ensure that all students can be protected from the fear of and potential for gun violence. This statement will be published soon on the Friends Council website and shared widely.

I am proud of the deliberate and thoughtful way that our children are seizing the opportunity to voice their opinions and advocate for change in this important moment in our nation. Empowered, educated, and well-equipped young people are powerful and transformative catalysts. At CFS, we will continue to support our students' leadership and direction-setting and pray that in doing so we will move closer to a

society where our children do not have to worry about their safety from gun violence in school or anywhere else. *In Peace, Karen*

Book Review: “Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?”

By Frans de Waal

From Robin Harper, on behalf of the Animal Welfare Subcommittee

You may have seen Frans de Waal’s TED talk which featured the video-gone-viral of two Capuchin monkeys being given bites of cucumbers after performing a small task (search for “Two Monkeys Paid Unequally” on YouTube if not). When one monkey starts to receive grapes for the same task, while the other continues to receive cucumber, nothing short of pandemonium breaks loose. De Waal is the author of this amazing book, “Are We Smart Enough to Know How Smart Animals Are?” and he writes with the same easy language and charm that he used in his TED talk. (The short answer, by the way, is “No.”)

One of my favorite things about this book is how de Waal systematically tears down one trait or skill after another, each one long thought by scientists to distinguish humans from animals. Once it was tools—no longer. Many animals from primates to mollusks have been shown to use tools. Once it was self-awareness—not anymore. Dolphins are just one of the species that has demonstrated their understanding of themselves as individuals distinct from other dolphins. Empathy, foreseeing future events, remembering past events, and many more supposedly human abilities all have been exhibited in various species of animals. He acknowledges right from the beginning that he uses the terms “animal” and “human” for the convenience of the reader, but makes clear that there is no real distinction. He even goes so far as to predict that chimpanzees may be entering their own Stone Age.

I highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys “science for the layman.” But I’d like to share my feeling that, even though it was exciting and enlightening to read about animal intelligence, at the end of the day intelligence is not really that important from the viewpoint of love. Humans are able to feel pain, love, loss, loneliness, and fear, regardless of their level of intelligence. I don’t think we should use intelligence as a measure of an animal’s ability to experience those states, either.

From the book’s description:

“From world-renowned biologist and primatologist Frans de Waal comes this groundbreaking work on animal intelligence destined to become a classic. What separates your mind from an animal’s? Maybe you think it’s your ability to design tools, your sense of self, or your grasp of past and future—all traits that have helped us define ourselves as the planet’s preeminent species. But in recent decades, these claims have been eroded—or even disproved outright—by a revolution in the study of animal cognition. Take the way octopuses use coconut shells as tools; elephants that classify humans by age, gender, and language; or Ayumu, the young male chimpanzee at Kyoto University whose flash memory puts that of humans to shame. Based on research involving crows, dolphins, parrots, sheep, wasps, bats, whales, and of course chimpanzees and bonobos, Frans de Waal explores both the scope and the depth of animal intelligence. He offers a firsthand account of how science has stood traditional behaviorism on its head by revealing how smart animals really are—and how we’ve underestimated their abilities for too long. People often assume a cognitive ladder, from lower to higher forms, with our own intelligence at the top. But what if it is more like a bush, with cognition taking different, often incomparable, forms? Would you presume yourself dumber than a squirrel because you’re less adept at recalling the locations of hundreds of buried acorns? Or would you judge your perception of your surroundings as more sophisticated than that of an echolocating bat? De Waal reviews the rise and fall of the mechanistic view of animals and opens our minds to the idea that animal minds are far more intricate and complex than we have assumed. De Waal’s landmark work will convince you to rethink everything you thought you knew about animal—and human—intelligence.”

Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals

Sunday, May 6, 9:45am (during Forum time)

Jesus said, "Whatsoever you have done unto the least of these my brethren, you have done unto me."

All Friends are invited to attend Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's annual Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals. The Animal Welfare Subcommittee is happy to again be able to offer this time to celebrate together! This will be a time for Friends to gather to give thanks for the ways animals support us and enrich our lives – as part of nature, as pets, as helpers, as research subjects, as food. It will also be a time to acknowledge the welfare of animals – so many are victims of neglect, abuse, and endangerment. All well-mannered animals and their humans are invited to this special worship sharing meeting. Feel free to bring photos if bringing your animal companion is not practical.

This is not only a time to celebrate pets--in fact, we hope that EVERYONE will come, whether or not you have pets, because EVERYONE benefits from animals in some way. We hope Friends will give thought to the kinds of creatures that affect their lives. We especially hope children will attend and share their messages. We will be seated on chairs in the playground, and will begin with silent worship. Friends, as they are moved, will speak to the blessings of the animals in their lives, and to the ways we might bless them. We will have treats and water available, as well as baggies for animal "business."

Some guidelines:

- Please do not bring aggressive animals.
- Please be considerate of other people and their animals by curbing your animal with a leash, harness, or appropriate carrier.
- Please ask before allowing your pet to interact with someone else's pet.
- Make sure your animal is up-to-date on all appropriate vaccines.
- Be prepared to clean up after your animal.
- Remember to ask before petting or giving food to any animals unknown to you.
- Remember that animals must FEEL safe, not just BE safe, in order to be comfortable.

Pet-sitting will be available after the worship sharing for those who would like to participate but would also like to attend meeting for worship afterward. To take advantage of this service, please let Robin Harper know ahead of time, if possible. If you have any questions about this event, please contact Robin.

SAYF

Greetings, helpful Friends. The Southern Appalachian Young Friends (SAYF) retreat hosted by Durham and Chapel Hill Meetings is coming up on April 12-14. There are going to be a couple of separate emails sent out but I thought I'd send one for each distinct need. This email is geared toward getting volunteers to be a friendly adult presence during the overnight hours, for a two-hour shift, should a teen need adult assistance and to ensure adherence to the SAYF sleeping guidelines. Your help is essential in letting the daytime volunteers get adequate sleep to supervise our teens and drive the long distances involved in getting the teens to and from the retreat. (We have groups coming from Kentucky, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina, and western North Carolina.) We only need a little of your time and would be ever so grateful for your assistance. Besides, what other time in your life might you play solitaire at 3 in the morning? Please visit the attached Doodle poll to sign up for a shift. Feel free to sign up with a friend to keep you company. Let me know if you have any questions. For those who sign up, I'll send around the guidelines in advance for your review and the opportunity to ask any question.

<https://doodle.com/poll/ued9kzgdbrmvksa5>

Please note the dates are listed as April 13th (Friday night into Saturday morning) and April 14th (Saturday night into Sunday morning)

Quaker Leadership Grant Awarded

Claire Bates has recently been awarded a grant from the Clarence and Lilly Pickett Endowment for Quaker Leadership (<http://quaker.org/legacy/pickettendowment/>) to support the research, development, and piloting of a peace-focused project during 2018. She will develop a method for connecting war-impacted people (refugees, military veterans and families, concerned community members, and peace activists) to learn from one another's experiences and to work toward a more informed and engaged activism addressing U.S. militarism. Claire was nominated for this award by Jan Hutton, and January's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business approved a minute putting her project under the care of CHFM. Additional thanks to the Finance Committee and particularly Tom Ludlow who will coordinate the grant's administration. Claire will be assisted by a Support Committee including Jan, Curt Torrell, Alice Carlton, Tom Ludlow, and her sister Liz Bates (a Quaker in Sarasota, FL). Please hold Claire in the Light as she begins developing this project and also caregives for an ill family member in Michigan currently. Claire appreciates this Meeting having encouraged her to pursue this grant!

Claire Bates clairebates87@gmail.com 248.910.2406

Training for Volunteers including participation in Yoke Fellows

Wednesday April 11, 2018

6:00-9:00 p.m.

Peace Center at Orange Correctional Center

2110 Clarence Walters Road, Hillsborough, NC 27278

The training will consist of orientation and guidelines for all volunteer activity including Yoke Fellows and sponsorship of prisoners.

Contact: Hank Elkins (919) 219-3405 cell

“Ancient Music, Contemporary Cause” SONAM Chorus (Singers of New and Ancient Music)

Will perform at Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church at **3:00 pm on Saturday, April 28**. The concert, under the direction of Alan Friedman, takes the theme of refugees: their exile, escape and home. Works are drawn from Biblical and contemporary texts and range from the Renaissance to the modern era.

Admission is free with donations requested to help the Refugee Support Center (RSC), a local non-profit in Carrboro. RSC was established in 2012 to facilitate the transition of Orange County refugees by providing services and developing their self-sufficiency. There are approximately 1200 refugees in our community, primarily from Burma, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Syria. Please visit refugeesupportcenter.org

Chapel in the Pines Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone with buildings that are fully ADA accessible. It is located [314 Great Ridge Parkway, Chapel Hill](#), off Mann's Chapel Road in the Briar Chapel area. You can find SONAM Chorus on Facebook.

Presiding Clerk's Report to 2018 Annual Sessions of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting (PFYM)

Greetings, Dear Friends,

This report includes a summary of our experience at the 2017 PFYM Annual Sessions and a review of the work of Interim Meeting (IM) in the past year. (Interim Meeting is the representative body tasked with carrying forward the work of the yearly meeting between annual sessions.)

At the 2017 Annual Sessions, our second as a yearly meeting, we joyfully welcomed Eno Friends of Hillsborough and Abingdon Friends (Virginia) into affiliation, acknowledging that we had already been enriched by their presence among us.

We approved our first PFYM Handbook as guidance for the yearly meeting and affiliating meetings, and we received our first meeting status and demographics report. (Copies of the Handbook were subsequently sent to all meetings and the individual meeting status reports will be archived at Guilford College Friends Historical Collection, the repository for all PFYM records.)

We approved a minute of concern forwarded from Raleigh Meeting in support of the *Every Campus a Refuge* initiative at Guilford College, and referred a minute of concern from Charlotte Friends on the NC Commission of Inquiry on Torture to Interim Meeting for further seasoning.

We were moved by the messages prepared by meetings in response to the query: "What has been most on the hearts of your meeting this year?" (These responses are appended to the minutes of 2017 Annual Sessions.) The Peace & Social Concerns working group spoke of efforts to strengthen the yearly meeting's collective social witness, and we received reports from our representatives to Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) and American Friends Service Committee (AFSC).

The Naming and Nominating Committees reported on Friends who had agreed to step into service for the yearly meeting and where Friends' service was still needed.

In our closing time together, we reflected on the joy of our experience when we come together and the warmth and care that we feel from Friends when we worship, fellowship and break bread with one another.

We asked Interim Meeting to work with the epistle committee in preparing the message of our experience for distribution to "Friends Everywhere."

In this third year as a yearly meeting we have continued our efforts to be faithful to our vision of *fostering a loving community, supporting spiritual growth and witnessing to our collective truth in the wider world*. Interim Meeting continued the practice of meeting quarterly for worship and fellowship and giving attention to matters referred to it by Annual Sessions. (Following each meeting, the presiding clerk prepared a summary of highlights and concerns for meeting clerks and communicated with meeting clerks on yearly meeting matters throughout the year.)

At its quarterly meetings IM approved the *2017 PFYM Epistle to "Friends Everywhere,"* reviewed the first Yearly Meeting Leadership Directory and Yearly Meeting Annual Calendar for use among affiliated meetings, laid down the *PFYM Handbook* working group with the understanding that guidance for future changes is included in the Handbook, and approved a minute on Torture.

IM provided guidance to the Peace & Social Witness working group on its preparation of the survey for distribution to PFF/YM meetings toward the formation of google groups around common social witness concerns.

Out of a concern brought Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting by FCNL Representative Jan Schmidt, IM approved the formation of a working group to explore interest and feasibility for a state-based advocacy effort for strengthening Friends collective voice on legislation impacting North Carolinians. Friends serving on the working group are: Dorothy Mason (New Garden), Vernie Davis (Raleigh), Dylan Buffum (Durham), Helene Hilger (Charlotte), and Jan Schmidt, clerk.

In reaching out to other Friends IM sent messages of love and concern to Barcelona Friends, Charlottesville Friends and the Charlottesville mosque; and the Presiding Clerk carried greetings to the RSWR (Right Sharing of World Resources) field representatives in India.

Interim Committee continues to hold the concerns that were lifted in the meetings' 2016 status reports, including a desire for more youth programming in conjunction with PFF, opportunities to connect with other Friends on common concerns, and guidance for meetings on use of the PFYM Handbook with possible inclusion of advices on marriage, membership and clearness committees.

Interim Meeting is also holding a concern for integrating some of its activity, particularly around record keeping and data collection. At its February meeting IM began a conversation on how the yearly meeting might extend fellowship to other Friends in North Carolina who have been separated from their yearly meeting.

The work and witness of PFYM continues to be enriched through its relationship with Piedmont Friends Fellowship (PFF), the wider body of FGC meetings in the greater piedmont that includes North and South Carolina and Virginia.

We continue to be grateful to the PFF Representative Body that provided spiritual grounding during the birthing of PFYM and for its ongoing financial support and programming activity.

Interim Meeting and PFF Representative Body met in August for worship, for sharing of goals and directions, and considering common concerns.

The PFF/YM bodies appointed a joint working group to explore the Friends General Conference (FGC) Quaker Cloud as a platform for the PFF/YM website. In February, following receipt of the working group's report, Interim Meeting minuted its support for moving to the Quaker Cloud platform as we are able, for the benefits and advantages to PFF/PFYM, and to support FGC. IM recommends that the PFF budget be adjusted to meet the related financial cost.

Separately both bodies agreed to invite Five Rivers Monthly Meeting, located in the Conway-Myrtle Beach area of South Carolina, to appoint an observer to PFF/PFYM representative meetings.

In concluding this report, I want to speak to the joy and blessing of serving as Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting's presiding clerk in its nascent and now blooming years. As we have sought to be faithful to spirit's guidance on this journey I am encouraged by Friends' individual and collective spirit of enthusiastic commitment to the Yearly Meeting and the openness to serve and lead. I look forward to serving as Assisting Clerk this next year and supporting Gary Hornsby as he steps into service as PFYM presiding clerk at the rise of these 2018 Annual Sessions.

Faithfully yours, Marian Beane, clerk

Peace and Justice Committee (P&J) Annual Report 2018

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

March 18, 2018

Since our last report, in May 2017, the Peace and Justice Committee has been busy.

Benevolences: Using the process developed last year and approved by the Meeting for Worship, we have recommended funding for selected benevolences in a separate report. We give special thanks to Asta Crowe and Lloyd Kramer for their participation on this year's Ad Hoc Committee on Benevolences and ask Friends to consider whether they may be led to participate next year.

Torture: In September, we brought and the Meeting approved a minute supporting the North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture.

Yemen: In October, we sent the following message to Rep. David Price and encouraged the Meeting to join us. *We, the Peace and Justice Committee of the CHFM, encourage Rep. David Price to co-sign H. Con. Res. 81 directing the President to remove U.S. Armed Forces from unauthorized hostilities in the Republic of Yemen.*

Justice United: The Meeting continues to be actively engaged in the work of Orange Justice United's efforts for 2018. To determine priorities, members and attenders conducted listening sessions at Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, Hillsborough Meeting and Orange Correctional Center. In September, representatives of the constituent organizations selected immigration, jobs, and accessible housing as priorities for 2018. Jim Palmer is representing the Peace and Justice Committee on Justice United.

Sanctuary: In September, the Meeting approved the creation of an ad hoc group to meet over the coming weeks to thresh what Sanctuary might mean to our Meeting. Naveed Moeed is leading the group, which includes John Hite and Tom Ludlow. Lori Khamala is leading the American Friends Service Committee's efforts on the topic. Lori led a forum in March on the topic, with support from the Peace and Justice and Hospitality Committees.

Yearly Meeting's Peace and Social Concerns Survey. The Peace and Social Concerns Working Group of the Yearly Meeting has encouraged members and attenders to complete a survey identifying their interests in peace and social concerns issues. The purpose of the survey is to help Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting better utilize their numbers and resources to impact social justice issues. Naveed Moeed has facilitated this effort for the Meeting.

Casey Webber and Freedom of Speech. Almost a year after our Meeting's letter to the Washington D.C. Attorney General asking that charges against Casey be dropped, the charges have not been dropped and we find that Casey's conscientious objector letter is being considered as evidence against him. Casey is a graduate of our first-day school program whose principled efforts to address the injustices that we Quakers deplore have resulted in an unfair felony charge of riot. We have encouraged Friends to continue writing throughout the year and charges against more than a hundred protesters have been dropped, but Casey remains at risk. Casey presented a very powerful Forum to the Meeting this year on the topic of "Quakerism, Anarchism, and Pacifism."

Non-Violent Communication Workshops. The Peace and Justice Committee is beginning its implementation of the AFSC's Quaker Social Justice Ministries program. As part of this we supported Claire Bates as she presented a workshop series on Basics of Non-Violent Communication. The workshops provided instruction and practice in Marshall Rosenberg's Nonviolent Communication method for productive engagement with conflict to about 20 attendees.

Animal Welfare Committee. The Animal Welfare Subcommittee has led the Meeting in a very successful "Year of the Animal." They will present a full report in April.

Max Drake, Hank Elkins, Nancy Elkins, Wendy Michener, Naveed Moeed (co-clerk), Tom Munk (co-clerk), Jim Palmer, Karen Porter

Quakers and Business

The 5th Quakers and Business Pre-FGC Gathering retreat will take place on June 29-July 1. Quakers and Business is a group of Friends who seek to bring business skills to the Quaker world and Quaker values to the business world. We seek to support each other in living fully integrated lives, spiritually and in our work. This year our discussions will focus on capital – human, spiritual, social and financial - and how we build and invest these resources.

Join us by registering through the FGC Gathering website: [FGCgathering .org](http://FGCgathering.org). Attendance at the FGC Gathering is not required to participate in the Quakers and Business retreat. For more information, contact Chiyo Moriuchi (ncmoriuchi@yahoo.com or 267-566-7287)

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

Minutes for March 18, 2018, Matt Drake, Clerk, and Jennifer Leeman, Recording Clerk

Present: Tom Munk, Carolyn White, Deborah Gibbs, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Kurt Hein, Gwyn Hein, Emilie Condon, Ben Ray, Jan Hutton, Ken Grogan, Karen Porter, Hank Elkins, Ruth Zalph, Joanna Selim, Lois Ann Hobbs, Lynn Drake, Joyce Johnson, Edward Harris, Joseph Hanna, Wendy Michener, John Hite, Richard Miller, Naveed Moeed, Carolyn Stuart, Joyce Munk, Paul Munk, Matt Drake, Jennifer Leeman

1. We opened with worship and the query: "How do I incorporate into my personal and family life those daily practices that focus on continued spiritual growth?"

2. We approved the minutes of the February 18, 2018 MWAB.

3. Matt Drake, Clerk, reported that the membership transfer forms for Bob and Winnie Simmons were sent to Honolulu Monthly Meeting and for Gwyn and Kurt Hein to Patuxent Monthly Meeting. Both couples will be welcomed to the CHFM on March 18th, 3-5:00 p.m., at the Drakes. Friends were invited to stop by and join in the welcome.

4. Dave Curtin, Naming Committee member, reported that the committee recommends Annette Broadwell and Tim Fogarty for membership on the Nominations Committee. The addition of these two Friends will complete the committee. **Friends approved the recommendation of Annette Broadwell and**

Tim Fogarty to the Nominations Committee, thanked Dave Curtin and Bonnie Raphael for serving as this year's naming committee, and laid down the committee.

5. Carolyn White, Nominations Committee member, brought forward the following recommendation for Trustees: The committee recommends that Trustees serve three-year terms, that the terms be staggered to provide continuity, and that each term may be renewed twice for a total of nine (9) years. **Friends approved the recommendation.**

Nominations recommended the following terms for the existing three trustees: All three will continue serving with Asta Crowe's term ending in 2020, Emilie Condon's term ending in 2019, and Bettie Flash's term will end in June 2018. **Friends approved the recommendation.**

6. Alice Carlton, member of Ministry and Worship Committee, recommended that Sean Chen be approved as a member of our Meeting and that Matilda Chen be approved as a familial member. **Friends approved the recommendation.** Alice Carlton and Tom Munk agreed to serve as the welcoming committee.

7. Matt Drake, Clerk, read a letter from Ainsley Morse requesting a transfer of her CHFM membership to the Inland Valley Friends Meeting, Riverside, CA (enclosed). Ministry and Worship considered the request and recommends her transfer. Several Friends shared their memories and affection for Ainsley and her family. **Friends approved Ainsley Morse's transfer of membership.** Matt Drake read the transfer of membership that was drafted by Correspondence Clerk, Emilie Condon, to Sue Scott, Clerk, Inland Valley Friends Meeting. **Friends approved the letter of transfer.**

8. Matt Drake reported that Paul Haskell, a Meeting attender and supporter since about 2010/2011, died March 7, 2018. Paul was a retired distinguished professor of law at UNC. Matt spoke to Paul's valuable support for the Meeting in clarifying a legal issue. At Paul's request, his family has scheduled a Celebration of Life at the Meeting House at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 24, with a reception following in the schoolhouse. Friends were invited to attend and to assist.

9. Tom Munk, Co-clerk of Peace and Justice Committee, presented the committee's recommendation that we approve the Charlotte Monthly Meeting statement on climate change (attached) for consideration as a corporate concern for Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting. Tom read the statement. **Friends approved the recommendation.**

10. Joanna Selim, Co-clerk, Hospitality Committee, read the committee's annual report (attached). **Friends accepted the report with gratitude for the work of the committee.**

11. Naveed Moeed, Co-clerk, Peace and Justice Committee, read the committee's annual report (attached). Hank Elkins reported on Justice United's presentation of proposal on master leasing to the county's housing taskforce, which approved it and will now take it to the Orange County Board of Commissioners. In response to a request from Friends, Tom Munk provided an update on Casey Webber. His Conscientious Objector letter may be used against him as evidence of a history of opposition to the government. Karen Porter reported on the play on conscientious objection at Guilford College this past Friday and its coverage of past challenges experienced by WWI conscientious objectors. Casey is still on trial and Friends may be asked to testify on his peaceful nature at his trial. Friends were asked to hold Casey in the Light. **Friends accepted the report with appreciation for the work of the committee.**

12. Hank Elkins, member, Peace and Justice Committee, presented the committee's recommendation that we approve the following minute on our country's support of the war in Yemen and distribution of the minute to our US Senators and to newspapers:
We are complicit in the humanitarian crisis in Yemen. It is our money paying to refuel the Saudi Arabian bombers, it is our intelligence identifying targets for bombing, and it is our ally Saudi Arabia blockading the arrival of food and medicine. But Congress never authorized our cooperation in this war. For three years without our permission we have been partners in death. It is time to say "Enough!" Stop our participation in the killing. We the members of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting, call upon Senator Richard Burr and Senator Thom Tillis to support the bi-partisan Senate Joint Resolution 54 sponsored by Bernie Sanders (VT), Chris Murphy (CT), and Mike Lee (UT) to end the unauthorized U.S. military involvement in the Saudi-led war in

Yemen. We urge all citizens of North Carolina to contact Senators Burr and Tillis through www.FCNL.org. On the FCNL website, select ACT Online and scroll down to the Action Alter "End U.S. Support for Starvation in Yemen."

Friends approved the statement from Peace and Justice Committee and that the correspondence clerk send it to the News & Observer. Friends were encouraged to call and write their senators and to act through the FCNL website.

13. Karen Porter, member of Peace and Justice Committee, presented the committee's recommendation that we approve a minute on the new United Nations Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and distribute the minute to local newspapers. (See attached.) A Friend raised concerns about whether there is any hope of our government signing onto this treaty. A second Friend noted the work of John Woolman and the importance of acting with faith. Emilie Condon suggested several minor edits, which Karen will consider for incorporation into the minute. **Friends approved the minute with the understanding the some of the language may be edited. They also approved the correspondence clerk distributing the minute to local newspapers.**

14. Announcements: Friends provided updates on upcoming Meeting and other events.

15. We closed with worship.

Attachments:

Hospitality Committee Annual Report March 2018

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

The mission of the Hospitality Committee is to create a welcoming and supportive atmosphere within our meeting. We manage the potluck lunch the first Sunday of each month, schedule greeters each Sunday before the 11 am Meeting for worship, welcome visitors and newcomers to our Meeting, assist with special occasions such as holiday parties, weddings and memorial services and work with Care and Council as well as the wider meeting membership to provide meals for members in need.

We have set up CHFM LOTSA HELPING HANDS GROUP and are compiling the names of friends who we can contact when we get a request to provide meals. Being on that list does not commit you to providing assistance, but rather gives us permission to ask you if you can help. To be added to this list, please contact the Hospitality Committee via email to Annalee Harkins annaleeharkins@gmail.com

Potlucks: Committee members oversee potlucks. We are grateful for help with set-up and cleanup tasks. We have been inviting friends to bring their own plates and cutlery. We keep track of and purchase supplies such as drink mix, nametags, napkins and extra snacks. We have a list of cleanup responsibilities from the CFS Early School posted to follow. There have been some concerns about cleaning the cups and dishes ect. that we are currently addressing.

Greeters: The Hospitality Committee supplies and coordinates greeters for the 11am meeting, giving attention to visitors who are invited to sign into the guest book and given a nametag. We also inform visiting parents with children to the options for childcare and first day school. We ring the bell at 11:00 to signal the beginning of worship, and guide latecomers to the library to wait until the children leave at 11:15am.

We have asked that a tradition that had been discontinued be reinstated that other committees might step in and provide greeters. The response has been very positive and we are working up a guest greeter information guide.

Visitors and Newcomers: We host fellowship after meeting in the library to foster community and give visitors and newcomers an easy way to meet more of us. The scheduled greeter brings a snack. This year we have been encouraging greeters to also bring something savory and/or healthy. We store extra supplies under the counter. Visitors who leave their mailing address also receive a hand written note of welcome and a special invitation to potluck. Email addresses are sent to publications to be added to the list serve. Annalee has re-done our notecards. Thank you Annalee. All members are encouraged to wear their nametags.

Special Events: We assist with the children's December party. We post and announce in the newsletter information for Thanksgiving for those who would welcome someone at their table and for those who are looking for a Thanksgiving Dinner home. This has not been as popular an event as in the past, but we would not suggest discontinuing it. We assist with meeting functions to the best of our ability when asked.

Foyer: We are working to make the foyer a less cluttered and more welcoming place. The committee is investigating options for nametag organization and storage.

Welcome Card: Inside "Walk Cheerfully over the world answering to that of God in everyone"
George Fox, 1656

Dear-----, Greetings from the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting! We are so glad you joined us recently for meeting for worship, I've enclosed some information about the meeting and our practice to give you more of an idea of what we're about. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or would like to talk! I also want to let you know that we have a great potluck for all on the first Sunday of each month at the rise of meeting (~12:00pm) and we'd love to see you there! It's a fun way to get to know people, and for us to get to know you. Hope to see you again soon. Annalee (contact info)

Respectfully submitted: Hong Ahn, Buzz Borchardt, Annette Broadwell, Ronald Carnes, Nancy Fisher, Annalee Harkins, Lori Khamala, Joanna Selim(co clerk), Elizabeth Taylor(co clerk).

Charlotte Friends Meeting, Charlotte, North Carolina - Minute on Climate Change

Read in and approved at meeting for business 4th day of second month, 2018

We, the members and attenders of Charlotte Friends Meeting, offer the following minute on climate change: We acknowledge the grave and worsening crisis of all the interacting variables included in the phrase "climate change." We are inspired by this statement by Charlotte Friend Robert Oberg, "Climate change is the most critical issue facing us, apart from the consciousness that created it." We recognize the urgency of a response from our Friends' community.

We come to this moment grounded in the testimonies of the Religious Society of Friends. The testimonies of community, equality, stewardship and integrity call us forward in our work. We recognize that, both globally and locally, peace is increasingly linked to climate justice. With deep concern for Earth and all the life it supports, we are motivated by our love of our children, recognizing that their futures are in our hands. We affirm the Native American advice: "In all our deliberations, let us consider to the seventh generation."

We know that there is much about these times that can cause us to feel fearful, angry and helpless. We will be gentle with ourselves and take time for our feelings as we continue the work, knowing that we are a part of the rising tide of thousands around the world, who, in the words of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, "seek an earth restored."

We, the Friends of Charlotte Meeting, commit to the following:

- 1. We continue to seek the Light through worship and prayerful consideration. We shall be led by the Spirit in the face of climate change.*
- 2. We seek to understand the role we play as humans, and the dangers unfolding through climate change. We continue to educate ourselves rigorously on these matters.*
- 3. We commit to act on our responsibility, both in personal use of resources and in the management of our meetinghouse resources. We ask: How can we have greater integrity in these matters?*
- 4. We commit to learning about and engaging in collective action and advocacy at the local, state, national and global levels.*
- 5. We seek to be examples and patterns, carrying this message forward to other Friends communities and to others who carry a concern and love for Earth. We are grateful for the many in this meeting who carry our concern forward. Thank you, Friends.*

Letter in support of UN Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty

Editor: Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers, Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting) supports the new United Nations General Assembly's Nuclear Weapons Ban Treaty and urges other concerned citizens to join in this support. (A copy of that treaty is available at: <http://undocs.org/A/CONF.229/2017/8>.) Most citizens are not aware of this treaty because the major media have not reported extensively about its development or potential impact.

Although the treaty would eliminate only nuclear weapons, but not nuclear energy generally, it is the most important step world governments have taken toward the actual elimination of these weapons from a planet facing the all too real possibility of nuclear annihilation.

In line with their Peace Testimony, Quakers have strived to eliminate nuclear weapons since the United States bombing and destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan in 1945, a horror from which the world has never recovered. Sadly, today we hear leaders threatening the use of disastrous nuclear weapons almost daily. Our own government is adamantly opposed to the elimination of nuclear weapons, contributing to an extremely dangerous situation.

The door to abolition of nuclear weapons is open, and we at Chapel Hill Friends urge others who are concerned about nuclear weapons to join us in publicizing and supporting this all-important treaty.

Chapel Hill Friends Monthly Meeting

Ainsley Morse letter

February 22, 2018

Dear Matt and all,

How lovely to see your familiar names again!

I have been in Riverside three years. I moved here with my mathematician husband when he got a job teaching at UC Riverside; I was then seven months pregnant and finishing my dissertation (on Russian literature). I've since finished my degree (in 2016) and begun teaching around local universities, and our daughter Ruth is now almost three. From her first week, she has been a much-loved figure in the meeting, which is small and very warm. Many of our Sunday meetings are unbroken by messages as Friends heed the silence — until the kids come in and start jostling and make everyone smile.

My parents are very well and pillars of the Hanover Friends Meeting in New Hampshire (the meeting into which I was born). My mother served as clerk a few years ago and she and my father are very involved in the Quaker community. Alex lives with his wife and little twins (!) in Portland, ME; Rachel became a nurse practitioner like our mother and lives with her boyfriend in Longmont, CO. She was attending a meeting in Middletown, CT while studying, but out in CO I think she would have to drive to Boulder and doesn't manage to do so very often.

Much love from southern California,

Ainsley

Dear Families,

In the three weeks since the shooting at Marjorie Stoneman High School in Parkland Florida, I have been greatly heartened and energized by the movement of young people nationwide to engage in and lead dialogues on how to make schools safer, the rights of children, and gun ownership. Having experienced the trauma of seeing those 17 lives lost, young people throughout the country are engaging in a variety of activities to push for positive change.

At CFS, we have taken a multi-layered approach to engaging with students based on what is most age-appropriate. We are well aware that this is a very sensitive topic and that our children have varying levels of awareness of what happened, as well as varying capacity to consider the issues raised. In all cases, we have taken the lead from our students to guide our steps. That said, many of our students, particularly in the Upper and Middle Schools, have also been moved to action. This has taken the form of discussions in classes in age-appropriate ways and proposals from students to participate in upcoming local and national exhibits of solidarity and protest. DES students have been discussing the rights of children and identified a list of items to which all children are entitled, including love, care, and safety. The children asked to ride the bus and take this document to Mayor Schewel's office on Wednesday, March 14. Lower School students will reflect on the rights of children in classroom-based meetings for worship. For older students, there are several upcoming national and regional activities in which CFS will participate. On Wednesday, March 14, interested Upper and Middle School students and staff will show their support for the students of Marjorie Stoneman High School by participating in a 17 minute walkout and period of silence. On Saturday, March 24, Upper School students are organizing to participate in the March for Our Lives: Student Led Gun Safety March in Raleigh. On April 20th, Upper School students plan to walk out in commemoration of the 19th anniversary of Columbine. Head teachers will provide more specific information about the ways their units are supporting student initiatives in their upcoming communications.

In a show of solidarity, fifty-three Friends school Heads signed on to a statement of support for student activism and an end to gun violence. This letter, spearheaded by the Friends Council on Education, highlights our schools' commitment to non-violence, safety, equality, and respect for all as a prerequisite for learning, and calls for public officials to take action to ensure that all students can be protected from the fear of and potential for gun violence. This statement will be published soon on the Friends Council website and shared widely.

I am proud of the deliberate and thoughtful way that our children are seizing the opportunity to voice their opinions and advocate for change in this important moment in our nation. Empowered, educated, and well-equipped young people are powerful and transformative catalysts. At CFS, we will continue to support our students' leadership and direction-setting and pray that in doing so we will move closer to a society where our children do not have to worry about their safety from gun violence in school or anywhere else.

In Peace,

Karen

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 on First Days 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. The deadline for submissions is 10 PM on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to news@chapelhillfriends.org or call Peter Malone, (919) 270-4456. Please include "newsletter" in the subject line.-news. To send a news or "In the Light" announcement in the Meeting's e-news, contact 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.

Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to news@chapelhillfriends.org.

