

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Newsletter: Twelfth Month, 2023



Monthly Query: *How do we look at the world around us and find the Light and find the Joy?*

Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee: *Turn attention inward and listen in the silence for what the Spirit may reveal.*

Contents

Upcoming Zoom Fora	1
Upcoming Events	2
Spring Retreat, Invitation to Prepare, Sat. Dec 2, 2pm	2
Work Morning ~ Building Community ~ Dec 9th, 9am	2
Fellowship and Light Maintenance at Historic Eno Friends Burying Ground, Sat. Dec 9, 10 am	2
Adult Young Friends Gathering, Sat, Dec 9, 5pm	3
Quaker Study Tour to Bolivia, July 11-24, 2024	3
Announcements	4
Gratitude for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Minute	4
Video on Quaker Indigenous Boarding Schools	5
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund Seeks Independent Contractor	6
December Update from Quaker House	6
FCNL Annual Meeting	7
AFSC Action Hour – Ceasefire Now	8
Alternative Gift Mart 2023	8
InterFath Council Committee Is Seeking Volunteers	8
Zoom Tech Hosts Wanted	9
The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items	9
Visiting the Meetinghouse During Covid	9
Newsletter & eNews Reminder	9
Recurring Events	10

Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm	10
Pendle Hill Worship via Zoom, Daily, 8:30-9:10am	10
Pray for Peace - From Friends House Moscow	11
Personals	12
Seeking Room to Rent	12
Business Meeting Minutes	13



Upcoming Zoom Fora

<https://www.chapelhillfriends.org/forums.html>

December 3: Government Money for Green Energy.

Sally Robertson, formerly of NC Warn and now full time Inflation Reduction Act explainer, will bring us up to speed on what help the IRA has to offer us individually and corporately to fight climate change and turn North Carolina green!

December 10: Embodiment Worship sharing: As you have progressed in your life journey, with a body that changes with age, how has your spirituality changed? Facilitated by Rebecca Estes and Campo Larrick.

December 17: MFWB

December 24: "What does Christmas mean to me?" Worship-sharing. Facilitator: Kate Fitch

December 31: Queries for the New Year. In the New Year how are we trusting Meeting as a window?



Upcoming Events

Spring Retreat, Invitation to Prepare, Sat. Dec 2, 2pm

Jennifer Leeman shares with Friends:

We invite you to attend a presentation by Margaret Burnham, the author of “By Hands Now Known – Jim Crow’s Executioners,” at Flyleaf Books on December 2nd at 2:00.* This is the first in a series of events in response to the “Woolman Hill Anti-Racism Remonstrance”** that Campo Larrick introduced us to this fall. This will be followed by a January 28th forum where Lloyd Kramer will lead further discussion on Burnham’s book and a half-day spiritual retreat with gospel singer Mary D. Williams on February 17th. This series of events is being planned by Friends from Adult Religious Education, Ministry and Worship, and the Racial Equity Subcommittee.

* <https://www.flyleafbooks.com/communityread-dec2023>

**[Woolmanhill Anti-Racism Remonstrance.pdf - Google Drive](#)

Work Morning ~ Building Community ~ Dec 9th, 9am

Come and join the fun! Help us spruce up the grounds at the CHFM Meetinghouse on Saturday, December 9th 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. We can use everyone's help. Please bring your rakes, loppers, shovels, gloves, garden tools, etc.

Fellowship and Light Maintenance at Historic Eno Friends Burying Ground, Sat. Dec 9, 10 am

John Bell shares with Friends:

Please join us for an hour or more of fellowship and light maintenance at the historic Eno Friends burying ground, Saturday December 9th 10:00 -1:00.

Please bring gloves, loppers, hand saws and garden shears for the removal of small seedlings and vines.

Access and parking are on private property, approximately 100 yards north of 1700 NC Highway 57 in Hillsborough. Directional signs will be posted the morning of the 9th.

For additional information contact johnbellinc@gmail.com, 919-619-6490

Adult Young Friends Gathering, Sat, Dec 9, 5pm

Adult Young Friends from throughout the Piedmont are invited to participate in this autumn gathering, including a facilitator to lead a spirit-led musical encounter and an opportunity to camp for the night at Benzai Bloomstead, 2001 East Greensboro Chapel Hill Road, Graham NC.

Dec 9, 2023

Gather at 5pm

Dinner at 6pm

Singing and music after

To learn more, contact Will Rogers at willyrogers@gmail.com

A little about the event's facilitator: Gareth is a Waldorf teacher in the Triangle with a knack for bringing a group of people of varying musical skills to expand their sense of self through singing, harmonizing, improvising, and drawing out the authentic sharings of individual voices in heartfelt songs.

From Gareth: "I am very much aligned with the practice of finding the spirit in deepening silence. I've led longform improvisation sessions in this way: beginning and ending songs in silence. I'd look forward to the opportunity to engage with well seasoned Quakers in facilitating an event that married spiritual and musical impulses in an intentional way!"

[RSVP](#) if you'd like to be there, as space is limited. Also let us know if you'd like to stay on the land overnight, if you'd like to help with food, if you have dietary restrictions, or anything else.

Quaker Study Tour to Bolivia, July 11-24, 2024

Pam Schwingl shares with Friends:

Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (BQEF) is sponsoring a two-week tour of Bolivia and its rich culture and astounding natural beauty, July 11-24, 2024. This trip will include an added emphasis on studying climate change and its impact.

Come to learn about Bolivia's history and culture, from pre-Incan traditions to the emergence of modern Bolivia. Travelers will visit Quaker communities in the Altiplano region to witness environmental adaptations in the high plains. Participants will fly into Sucre, a UNESCO World Heritage site and former capital. The itinerary will include La Paz, Lake Poopó (site of the

award-winning Bolivian film *Utama*), Quaker communities in the Altiplano, the pre-Incan ruins of Tiwanaku, and Lake Titicaca, ending in the capital city of La Paz.

The tour will be co-led by BQEF Scholarships Program Coordinator and professor Alicia Lucasi, Dr. Stanley Blanco, M.D., the founder of a non-profit to improve Bolivian children's health who is also a tour leader and international aid manager, and Gustavo Cordoba, Ph.D., a BQEF board member and volcanologist who has studied climate risk. Former graduates of our scholarship program will be among those presenting and assisting with the tour.

The tour is inspired by the work of Jennie M. Ratcliffe, Ph.D, an environmental research scientist, activist, and Quaker who makes connections between peace, justice, and ecological sustainability in her book, *Nothing Lowly in the Universe: An Integral Approach to the Ecological Crisis*.

Trip price is \$2200. Registration and first deposit of \$700 are due by February 1, 2024, 2 nd payment of \$750 is due by March 15, 2024, final payment of \$750 is due by May 1, 2024. Payments are non-refundable unless we can fill your spot from the waitlist, or if the trip is cancelled by BQEF. For more information email gst.bolivia@gmail.com.



Announcements

Gratitude for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Minute

Ann Miller shares with Friends:

I received this email from American Friends Service Committee:

From: Brian Blackmore <BBlackmore@afsc.org>
Subject: Gratitude for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Minute
Date: November 29, 2023 at 3:00:34 PM EST
To: "ae.mill@mac.com" <ae.mill@mac.com>

Dear Ann,

I wanted to reach out to express our deepest gratitude at AFSC for the work of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting in promoting peace and the cessation of violence in Palestine and Israel during this incredibly painful time. Joyce Ajlouny shared with me the minute written by Chapel Hill Friends urging the U.S. government to call for an immediate cease-fire, immediate distribution of adequate humanitarian aid, and negotiations for a long-term peace. Friends have historically led

many of the great peace movements of the 20th and 21st centuries. It's actions like these from Chapel Hill Friends that continue our legacy as Friends and amplify our contributions to the world as peacemakers.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance in helping Chapel Hill Friends get more involved in AFSC's efforts to promote peace and challenge injustice in Palestine and Israel. We have an [emergency humanitarian relief fund](#), our staff are hosting an "[Action Hour](#)" every Friday at 12:00pm ET where Friends can receive guidance and mentorship on how to contact and dialogue with elected officials, and every other Friday we have [Meeting for Worship with attention to Peace in Israel and Palestine](#) at 11:00pm ET, immediately preceding the Action Hour. Our next Meeting for Worship will be on Dec. 8th.

There are other opportunities for Friends to join AFSC in seeking to end Apartheid in Palestine and Israel, work we have been doing long before Oct. 7th. You may want to encourage the meeting to consider becoming an [Apartheid-Free Community](#). And yet, what you have already done as a community is so courageous and important. Thank you again for sharing the minute with us.

With deep appreciation,
Brian
Brian Blackmore (he/him/his)
Director of Quaker Engagement

Video on Quaker Indigenous Boarding Schools

Betsy Brinson and Dottie Heninger share with Friends:

"Most Quakers still don't know our history as participants in this enterprise of forced assimilation of Native people," Paula Palmer says. "So the first thing that we have to do is learn the truth."

In this video, Paula discusses Friends' role in the traumas inflicted on the Indigenous peoples of North America since the arrival of European colonists—particularly in the administration of boarding schools where Native children were forced to abandon their heritage and embrace the ways of White Christian culture, where they would never be truly accepted as equals.

[WATCH NOW](#)

Although it's easy to "shake our fingers" at previous generations, Paula warns us that retroactive judgment isn't enough—Quakers today need to hold themselves accountable as well. "As we think about work that we do today as Friends," she says, "we need to examine our own attitudes and make sure that ways that we are trying to do good in the world are not also coming out of a sense of superiority."

Bolivian Quaker Education Fund Seeks Independent Contractor

Pam Schwingl shares with Friends:

Bolivian Quaker Education Fund seeks an independent contractor to be the U.S. Coordinator. The Bolivian Quaker Education Fund is seeking an independent contractor for work performed remotely by December 15. The consultant will serve as the U.S. Coordinator for the Bolivia Quaker Education Fund (BQEF), a 20-year-old organization with operations in the United States and Bolivia that makes a meaningful impact in the lives of Bolivian students and their families and the wider Quaker community. The U.S. Coordinator plays a key role in nurturing educational opportunities and rich cross-cultural connections. Please go to <http://www.bqef.org/?q=node/778> for further information and information on how to apply. Please share widely with your contacts.

December Update from Quaker House

Executive Director Wayne Finegar continues a full traveling schedule to monthly and yearly meetings to nurture relationships, promote the mission of Quaker House, and listen to their concerns, especially about the Peace Testimony. The Quaker House Toolbox, a set of peace related materials for meetings and other peace-minded folks, is in early stages and being tested in meetings. Wayne started a bi-weekly electronic message service, Holding the Line, focusing on the challenges facing military participants. He is also expanding social media outreach, linking with local colleges, and supporting and strengthening the GI Rights national network.

The GI Rights Hotline caseload remains high, over 200 different callers a month. More calls are coming from service members in extreme distress or crisis, so the counselors spend additional time keeping in contact with them, sometimes daily. Other recent cases include a service member whose son required significant physical care, beyond what his wife alone was able to provide. Initially, his command was not helpful, but with the counselor's help, he felt empowered, developed his case, and eventually received an honorable discharge as a hardship claim. A current case is a member of the Air Force seeking CO (conscientious objection) discharge, an arduous and uphill task.

The QH counselor caseload also remains full. She reported a recent increase of sexual assault incidents in the area that reflected a common theme. The attacker posts his face on a social media app but not with his real name. When the two first meet, they recognize each other, but after an attack is made, and police become involved later, critical information is missing. The counselor is working on some safe-step materials that are helpful and affirming, not shaming or accusatory.

As long as war continues, Quaker House will be needed. It is only through the support of donors that this work can happen. For recent newsletters or other materials, go to QuakerHouse.org or contact meeting representatives Rufus King, Tom McQuiston, or Curt Torell.

FCNL Annual Meeting

Wendy Michener shares with Friends:

Hello Friends! I was led to attend the Annual Meeting of Friends Committee on National Legislation this last weekend. I loved it. Lots of policy issues to settle. There were songs, speeches and panels about peace, finding hope, changing the world in your corner of it and the hell in the Middle East. They had a two-day lobbying intensive immediately before and discussed lobbying techniques as part of the next three days. They are also being serious about AJEDI (Anti-racism/bias, Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) and brought that care and attention to how they supported everyone who came for the Annual Meeting.

FCNL is changing their structure. They have grown and the former way is now too clunky to work. They have been three separate entities - lobbying, education and housing/public space - with 3 boards and officers. They still are legally, but they now meet as one governance board (separating when legally required) and have one common Treasurer so finance work will be easier to manage and pass audits. The General Conference approved the changes. (This work is not shown on the website).

They took their new abortion policy statement through the Quaker decision process in THREE days. Granted they had help - it has been on the front pages for more than two years. Still, watching them bring General Conference to unity on a new abortion policy - very impressive work. Here is the approved version

<https://www.fcnl.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/approved-policy-on-reproductive-health-and-abortion-nov-2023.v.2.pdf> (fcnl.org)

And for all the public details - here is the page

[Annual Meeting 2023: Justice Calls Us. Love Unites Us. | Friends Committee On National Legislation \(fcnl.org\)](#)

If all you do is read the first page - please do!

AFSC Action Hour – Ceasefire Now

Betsy Brinson shares with Friends:

Every Friday at 12 p.m. ET/ 9 a.m. PT

Join American Friends Service Committee staff every Friday at 12 p.m. ET / 9 a.m. PT to hear updates from Gaza. Then, take action with us as we contact our elected officials and call for an immediate cease-fire and humanitarian access to Gaza. Our elected officials need to keep hearing from us.

[Click here to register](#)

Alternative Gift Mart 2023



For the upcoming holiday, visit our website for the [Alternative Gift Mart 2023](#). If you are making donations electronically, please fill in [this Google doc form](#) so the Youth will know how much they have raised on behalf of each charity. If you would prefer, you may write out checks to each charity and send them all together to the meetinghouse address (see bottom of page) and the Youth will take care of forwarding them to the organizations. Lastly, if you would like any handmade cards that we've provided in year's past, please email AltGiftMart@chfm.org with your request.

InterFath Council Committee Is Seeking Volunteers

We invite anyone interested in becoming, or knowing more about being an IFC Committee Member to please contact Carolyn White.

We welcome volunteers to help with food preparation and service at ICF every second Thursday for lunch: 10a - 1p, and/or every second Friday for dinner 4p-6:30p. Volunteers are welcome for part of the shift, or the full shift.

Zoom Tech Hosts Wanted

Support Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's Zoom worship and forums by becoming a tech host. The role is much more simple than you would imagine. Trust us! We need your help and will train you. Please contact the Zoom Subcommittee if interested, or have questions:

zoom@chapelhillfriends.org.

The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Carolyn Stuart shares with Friends:

The Inter-Faith Council pantry continues to need donations of food items. Please think of the IFC as you do your grocery shopping! The basket in the meetinghouse foyer is available to receive your contributions on First Days. We are no longer offering last-Wednesday food donation pickups, as Friends tend now to either support the IFC through financial contributions or bring food items to the foyer on First Days.

Thank you.

Visiting the Meetinghouse During Covid

Building and Grounds shares with Friends:

As you know we've curtailed use of the meeting house during the pandemic. Occasionally, people have, and needed to, gone into the meeting house to support the few essential tasks of the meeting. We appreciate that those visits have been brief and infrequent. We do ask though that anyone that needs to go into the meeting house to please notify John Hite, by phone or text, prior to going. Thank you.

Newsletter & eNews Reminder

Please send items for the weekly eNews email and the monthly print Newsletter to news@chapelhillfriends.org.

- The deadline for weekly eNews is Wednesday. Please put **"for eNews"** in the subject line.
- The deadline for the monthly print Newsletter is on the *last Sunday of the month*. Please put **"for Newsletter"** in the subject line.

To unsubscribe, email to news@chapelhillfriends.org with the subject line, Unsubscribe.

Note: If you think that you haven't received your weekly enews or monthly newsletter, it helps to add news@chapelhillfriends.org to your contacts. Otherwise it might go to your Spam folder (and likewise for other chapelhillfriends.org mailing lists such as pfym@chapelhillfriends.org).



Recurring Events

Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7-8:30 pm

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN Virtual Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Join us when you can for as long as you wish - from your own home.

Do you have a name or a group of people to add to - or remove from - the list of those we will hold in our hearts and prayers? If so, please send to: prayers@chapelhillfriends.org. The list of names to be held in the Light will be renewed each month. Names must be resubmitted each month to be maintained on the list. We'll send an updated list on Wednesday afternoons. Thank you for joining us!

This virtual prayer service continues under the care of the Care and Counsel Committee and each week, a committee member will collect and post the names that are submitted and will read them aloud during the time of the service.

Pendle Hill Worship via Zoom, Daily, 8:30-9:10am

Pendle Hill Quaker Study, Retreat, and Conference Center is now opening their daily morning worship to everyone, by way of Zoom or phone. A lovely opportunity for gathered worship every morning. "A handful of Pendle Hill residents continue to gather daily in the Barn – from 8:30am to 9:10am Eastern Time – expanding the 90-year-long tradition of daily worship here on campus. Beginning the week of March 16, 2020, we started an experiment of opening the circle of worship to YOU in your home. You can join us here via Zoom."

<https://pendlehill.org/explore/worship/join-us-online-for-worship-in-the-barn/?bblinkid=210290749&bbemailid=19903873&bbejrid=1408822779>

Note: The above link takes you *not* to the meeting but to a page of general instructions. Look for the sentence "You can join us via Zoom **here**, or by clicking on the image below."

Pray for Peace - From Friends House Moscow

Link to the Daily Meeting for Worship for Peace sponsored by FHM/FHMSA: (Friends House Moscow)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4165005614?pwd=NUtieEtqbDBYbjBrcGdMMzBKQ3drQT09>

Meeting ID: 416 500 5614

Passcode: 182805

The room opens at 8:45am Pacific time (10:45 EST); worship begins on the hour and ends an hour later. After worship there will be time to share brief thoughts that did not rise to the level of ministry. You may also want to rename yourself indicating your geographic location. There will be no audible indicator when one enters or leaves, and everyone will be muted on entry. Please leave yourself muted unless giving ministry.

Ministry may also be shared in the chat, but it is not the place for private conversations. If you are new to Quaker unprogrammed worship and wish to talk with someone about it, send a message to the host and someone can join you in a breakout room.



Personals

Seeking Room to Rent

Art Mines of Eno Friends shares with Friends:

Our nephew, Daniel, is seeking a room to rent in Orange or Durham County starting around January.

For more details call or text Daniel at 703-887-2799. His email is

Daniel.oconnor996@gmail.com

Daniel is one of our treasured, loved family members and is totally trustworthy. He's always there to help when needed.

As a bonus Daniel has experience as a farmer and gardener - he's happy to help with this or any chores.



Business Meeting Minutes

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes

9 am Sunday November 19, 2023

Online via Zoom

Ann Miller, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk

In attendance: Jeff Brown, Carolyn White, Lynn Drake, Matt Drake, Dottie Henninger, Hart Pillow, David Waterman, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Susan Newcomer, Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Tom Ludlow, Kate Vinita Fitch, Quaker Harmon, Tori Toles, Carolyn Stuart, Richard Miller, Buzz Borchardt, Jan Hutton John Hite, Campo Larrick, Rob Jones, Allie Scales, Naveed Moeed, Gwynne Pomeroy, Lloyd Kramer, Colleen Fey, Ken Grogan, Emilie Condon, Rebecca Estes, Susan Peterson, Paul Munk, Joyce Munk, Astra Titus, Julia Cleaver, Richard Shepherd, Peter Malone, Frank Richards, Hank Elkins, Nancy Milio, Betsy Brinson, Ann Miller, Susan Inglis

1. The Clerk opened the meeting with worship and shared the query: How do we use the world's resources with care and consideration for future generations and with respect for all life?
2. The Clerk welcomed Friends and recognized first-time attender Gillian Thomas, visiting from Flagstaff Meeting. She then reviewed the agenda.
3. Susan had prepared the Minutes of the October Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB). They were considered and approved.
4. Jeff Brown presented the Ministry and Worship committee annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 1. Friends expressed gratitude for the work of the committee and accepted the report.
5. Carolyn White for Ministry and Worship brought a recommendation for membership for Richard Miller, long an attender at our Meeting. Carolyn told us a bit about Richard, sharing that he grew up in Nashville, TN, has lived in NC most of his adult life, and married Carolyn Stuart under the care of our Meeting in 2008. Committee members enjoyed meeting with him for clearness and are honored to recommend him for membership. Friends expressed their enthusiasm, noting he has been a member of our heart for a long time. Friends also noted many beloved aspects of his participation in our community, including his work with Orange Correctional Center, where he has been a great help and a true friend to the incarcerated; his annually playing Silent Night on his music box at our Christmas Eve Meeting, and all he has

coordinated for us for so long. One Friend noted that Richard's request for membership reminds us that everything has its own time, which prompted the question, "Why did it take so long?" Richard said he wanted to check us out first, that he once had reservations about pacifism, but they have been resolved. He also said he is a procrastinator, but now he wants to join our Care and Counsel committee so is prodded to get around to formally joining us. Richard also noted that becoming a member represents a strengthening of his marriage as well as his relationship to the community. Richard embodies the Quaker ethos, possessing great spirit and wit, and internalizing the testimony of peace, and in so many other ways, unto work on our HVAC system, he is foundational for the meeting. Friends approved his membership and set a welcoming committee composed of Alice Carlton, Carolyn White, John Hite, Naveed Moeed, Lynn Drake. The welcoming will be at the rise of Meeting on December 3.

6. Monteze Snyder presented the Treasurer's first quarter financial reports for FY 2023-24, by recorded PowerPoint. The reports are attached here as Appendix 2. David added emphasis that we need more income to meet operating expenses. In response to Friends' questions, committee members clarified that we do not have a separate fundraising committee. The Finance Committee members do not have particular expertise in development grants, so anyone having that skill set is invited to share what they can. The Finance Committee is likely to come to us with separate campaigns for different needs and Friends are urged to respond as generously as possible. Asked why it is that contributions are so low, the committee does not know. At year end sometime contributions increase, so we hope for that this year. Friends accepted the report.

7. Carolyn White for Ministry and Worship committee presented recommendations for blended meeting frequency and masking policy in Meeting for worship, following on surveys and discussion. The Ministry & Worship committee reached unity on this following proposal: The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting will begin to schedule two blended Meetings for Worship per month. The blended Meeting for Worship will take place the 1st and 3rd first days of each month and will begin in 2024 when staffing is set. Funding for a Zoom operator at blended Meeting for Worship is budgeted in our current budget. The line item is in Obligations: \$2400. Ministry & Worship has asked the Zoom committee to help recruit and train the tech host(s). There was discussion:

- One Friend said that hearing the recommendation made her felt cared for. It is a widening of her lifeline.
- Long overdue in another friend's opinion.
- Another is breathing a deep sigh of relief for one deeply immune compromised.
- Another noted it is appropriate since ALL are welcome at our meeting.

Friends approved the proposal to move to twice monthly meeting. and expressed deep appreciation for Quaker Harmon for making it all possible. She noted we will be starting with volunteers from within the Meeting, as we have enough at the moment.

In addition, with much discernment over many months, the Ministry & Worship committee is in unity in recommending that masks become optional at future meetings for worship, beginning either in the last week of November or first week of December as determined by this Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Masks would be optional in both the Meeting room and the school house. We acknowledge that risk may be higher in the foyer and library until the

ventilation project is completed. Friends are reminded to stay home if they are not feeling well and join worship via Zoom.

Friends commented:

- It is an understandable desire but Friends objects and hopes we will delay till after holiday travel, or until after the cold and flu season.
- Echoing that, another Friend noted worry about the coming surge. So maybe start in spring.
- We are all concerned to be careful. We have just had two moving memorials at the meeting house with masks optional, and people were responsible. But it was extremely welcoming that we did not require masks. No other church in our area has masks required. It is important to have mask-optional to be welcoming.
- As long as there is a sense of discomfort let's be gentle.
- Even hospitals are mask-optional for staff now.
- Some friends avoid meeting because they do not want to wear a mask. Optional masking is necessary to be inviting.
- Friends agrees that we should go to mask optional. Wearing a good quality well-fitted mask protects you significantly (if not to the last 5%) The optional policy ensures you you can protect yourself.
- It is difficult to come to unity. Ministry & Worship has sat with the concerns. We do care for each other. But is demanding masking an appropriate expression of care?
- Friend supports the proposal but is mystified, because at first we had an objection to requiring and simply said "please wear a mask". Perhaps we never did actually "require" masking.
- Friend supports the proposal, and is mindful of how we struggle to serve the needs of the wider community, and of the constant tension between personal and community needs.

The sense of the meeting became that we are ready to move forward with masks optional, even knowing that this may not be the personal preference of all, and several Friends decided to not let their worry stand in the way. Friends came to unity despite personal reservations.

8. Clerk reported that the Naming Committee, made up of Dottie Henninger and Bonnie Raphael, has identified three people to serve on the Nominations Committee: John Hite, Quaker Harmon, and Lori Khamala. Friends approved with enthusiasm.

9. The Shotts Leadership Fund committee annual report was held over to next month.

10. Matt Drake summarized the Update from the Ad Hoc Schoolhouse Committee. It is attached here as Appendix 3. A more comprehensive report will be presented next month.

9. Dottie Heninger brought a revised Land Acknowledgement statement that she had prepared with Betsy Brinson. It is attached here as Appendix 4. Friends said that they are deeply moved and appreciate Dottie's and Betsy's composition. One Friends described an Occaneechi acquaintance telling her how historically the people lived near Quakers because they were safe. Another Friend raised the question of including mention of the enslaved, which may need its own statement. Friends approved the statement and revision, with gratitude.

10. The Report on our called Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on 11/29/2023 and the approved minute was held over to next month.

13. Clerk reminded Friends that our next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on 12/17/2023.

Announcements:

- CHFM Newsletter is full of information and opportunities for Friends—be sure to read it
- IFC Committee is looking for new members to serve, also for volunteers to help prepare a meal 2 times monthly

The meeting was closed with a worshipful virtual circle.

Appendix 1

Ministry and Worship Annual Report October 2023

The Ministry and Worship Committee (M&W), made up of members of the Religious Society of Friends, supports the spiritual life of the Meeting. It also fosters understanding of Friends' principles and practices, in collaboration with other committees.

This year began what felt like an emergence from the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic. As people returned to worship in the meeting house and students attended First Day School on site, we felt a sense of gratitude for each other and our community. We welcomed many visitors and new attenders both in person and online. We took part in social gatherings after 11 AM Meeting for Worship and break-out rooms on Zoom, participated in small groups, enjoyed blended worship and took joy in a wedding. The Meeting welcomed seven new adult members and two familial members, more than in any other year in recent memory. We were happy to be together.

M&W continues to support a variety of ways to worship on First days, including: Meeting for Worship in the meeting room at 8:15 AM, Meeting for Worship in the meeting room at 11:00 AM, Meeting for Worship online via Zoom at 11:00 AM, and worship at the Carol Woods Community at 11:00 AM. In coordination with the Zoom committee, a blended Meeting for Worship, incorporating Zoom and in-person is available on the first Sunday of every month at 11:00 AM. Forum continues via Zoom at 9:30 AM, as well as Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. First Day School has resumed in person in the school building. Until the ventilation upgrade is complete, we continue to use at least 4 window fans and require mask use while in the meeting room.

In the spring, M&W sponsored a survey to gauge satisfaction with blended meetings for worship. We did not reach clarity about how often to offer blended meetings for worship but most people were interested in increasing the number to at least two per month.

Meanwhile, the Zoom subcommittee, under the care of M&W, has consistently supported meetings on First Days, committee meetings, and events on the Zoom platform. The subcommittee is continuing to research how to improve the sound in both the meeting room and online. We are also exploring the possibility of a paid position for the blended tech host.

The M&W Committee:

- Oversees the quality of Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), mindful of the living silence and vocal ministry.
- Opens and closes each Meeting for Worship and organizes announcements.
- Stimulates reflection through queries, with one read each month at MWAB and once or twice a month during Meeting for Worship. It is also printed in the newsletter.
- Arranges activities (with other committees) to enhance the spiritual life of the Meeting, including small discussion groups, worship groups, retreats, and workshops. This past year, we worked with the Care and Counsel committee to create and support small groups

which met both in person and on Zoom. We hosted an 85th anniversary of the Meeting celebration in late fall which featured cake at the rise of late Meeting for Worship. M&W planned and implemented a spring event April 2 called "We are a garden." Dottie Heninger attended the Pendle Hill workshop entitled "Connection, Rupture, Repair," and came back with many good ideas.

- Along with the Care and Counsel committee we support Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light twice a month. M&W is grateful to leaders Matt and Lynn Drake, Leslie Rountree and Alice Carlton.
- Provides responses to questions about the Religious Society of Friends and arranges clearness committees as requested by individuals seeking clearness on spiritual issues.
- Receives letters requesting membership, convenes the related clearness committees and reports recommendations to MWAB. This year we recommended memberships for Susan Peterson, Susan Newcomer, Leslie Bassinger, Campo Larrick, Rob Jones and Andrea Wood and their children Emmer and Rye. All were approved by MWAB. We also approved the membership transfer to CHFM for Mansir Petrie from Yellow Springs, OH Meeting.
- Attends to the needs of visitors and new attenders.
- Participates in clearness committees organized by the Care and Counsel Committee leading to the marriage of couples under the care of the Meeting. This year we participated in the marriage of Marya Plotkin and Michael Hanson.
- Nurtures other committees as they do the Meeting's work; examples in 2023 were the Buildings and Grounds committee. Matt Drake served on the School House Ad Hoc committee.
- Plans, with other committees, celebrations of significant events in the spiritual life of the Meeting. These include our annual Christmas Eve Worship, held again via Zoom. Susan Inglis read the story, Peter White provided guitar music beforehand, and Claire Bates sang "Silent Night."
- Holds the annual Clerks' Retreat, attended in person on the school house porch by about 20 people this year. The retreat's agenda is created in collaboration with the Clerk of the Meeting with ideas from committee clerks on topics of interest. Focus is on helping old and new clerks gain skills in the process of discernment and the spiritual nature of clerking a committee.
- Organizes the annual Spiritual State of the Meeting gathering, attended virtually by 16 people in October 2022. The Spiritual State of the Meeting allows us to reflect on issues while sharing deeply with others on queries from the Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting (PFYM). The committee reports the results to MWAB and PFYM. The report to PFYM includes a count of the overall number of Friends and attenders in attendance at Meetings for Worship, Forum, and First Day School throughout one month. October 2022 we averaged 6 people inside at early Meeting, 40 inside at 11:00 AM Meeting, 25 on Zoom, and 6 in First Day School. In addition, 8 Friends worshiped at Carol Woods. We note, sadly, the absence from worship of attenders from Orange Correctional Center, though we are heartened by attendance by returned citizens.
- Consults with the Zoom subcommittee, formed in April 2020, under the care of M&W.
- Oversees some of the meeting's annual expenditures on affiliations, services, and benevolences. This year M&W recommended expenditures of \$200 to Friends Journal for

listing CHFM among monthly meetings in North America and support of QuakerSpeak video production, \$350 to the Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting and Fellowship (not including leadership development support for attendance at in-person events), and \$600 to Friends General Conference as a monthly meeting affiliation contribution. For benevolences, M&W recommended gifts to two organizations:

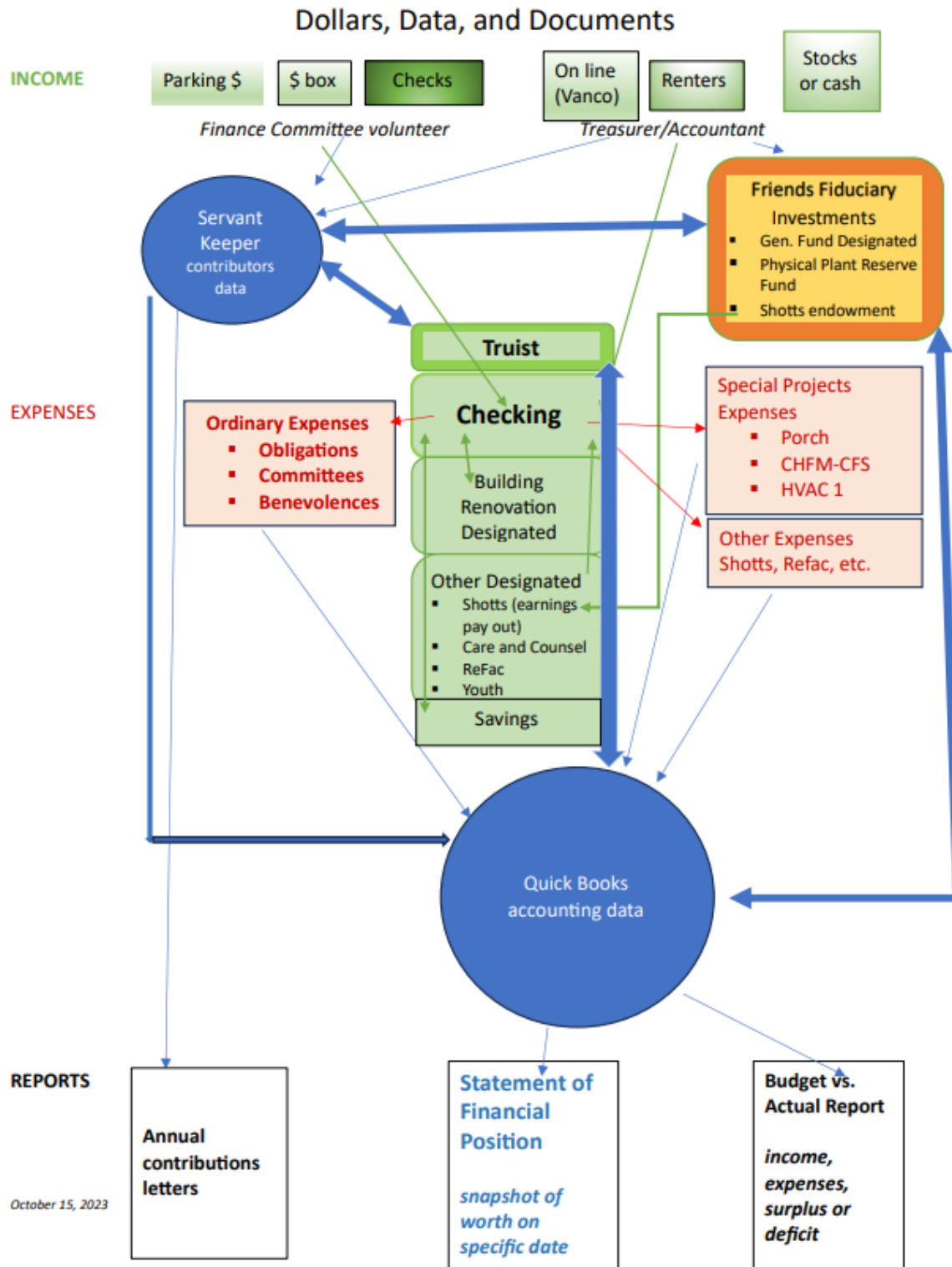
- o \$150 to the School of the Spirit. CHFM has a longstanding relationship with the School of the Spirit (schoolofthespirit.org).
- o \$100 to Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC, <https://flgbtqc.herokuapp.com/>), is a North American Quaker faith community that affirms that of God in all people. Though the contribution is small, it affirms CHFM's practice of joyfully embracing the Light within all, made visible through the participation of all people, no exceptions.

M&W expresses gratitude to the Publications and Communications Committee for the ongoing maintenance of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting website, weekly e-news, and In the Light messages.

We are grateful for new member Lloyd Kramer who began serving in July.

Jeff Brown, co-clerk, Matt Drake, Dottie Heninger, Susan Inglis, Lloyd Kramer, Jennnifer Leeman, Jasmine McKewen, Carolyn White, co-clerk, Ann Miller, *ex-officio*.

Appendix 2 Financial Reports for First Quarter FY 2023-24



Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

Statement of Financial Position

As of October 31, 2023

	<u>Total</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1. Unrestricted Checking 8698	34,005.47
2-Savings Truist-9737	34,647.42
3-Designated Renova Truist-4039	76,519.16
4-Designated Funds Truist-4593	2.09
Care and Counsel Support Funds	7,887.39
ReFac Support Funds	2,321.05
Shotts Leadership Support Funds	3,649.65
Youth Service Support Funds	4,116.25
Total 4-Designated Funds Truist-4593	<u>17,976.43</u>
Total Bank Accounts	<u>163,148.48</u>
Other Current Assets	
FF- General Fund Designated	39,850.96
FF- Physical Plant Resrv Fund-D	38,026.71
Total Other Current Assets	<u>77,877.67</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>241,026.15</u>
Other Assets	
FF- Shotts Endowment Rst	37,907.32
Total Other Assets	<u>37,907.32</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>278,933.47</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	553.71
Federal Taxes (941/943/944)	342.72
Total Payroll Liabilities	<u>896.43</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>896.43</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>896.43</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>896.43</u>
Equity	
FF Unrealized Gain/Loss	22,706.54
Opening Balance Equity	134,376.03
Unrestricted Net Assets	126,055.56
Net Revenue	(5,101.09)
Total Equity	<u>278,037.04</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>278,933.47</u>

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
 Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2023_2024 - FY24 P&L
 July - October, 2023

	Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget	% of Budget	Actual	Actual
	FY 2023-2024	10/30/23	10/30/23	10/30/23	9/30/23	10/31/22
Contributions	76306	9771	-66,535	13%	8,179	11,513
Parking space rental	5250	5475	225	104%	2,935	
Total Revenue	81556	15246	-66,310	19%	11,114	
Gross profit	81556	15246	-66,310	19%	11,114	
Expenditures						
A- Obligations						
Accountant	8000	2450	-5,550	31%	1,050	
Bank Fee	50		-50	0%		
FDS Coordinator/ Childcare	8000	2411	-5,589	30%	1,809	
Insurance	6110	350	-5,760	6%	350	
Software License Fee	1600	80	-1,520	5%	80	
Stormwater Fees	749	736	-13	98%	736	
UBIT (Federal tax)	387		-387	0%		
Utilities	7351	1964	-5,387	27%	1,306	
Zoom operator	2400		-2,400	0%		
Total Obligations	34647	7992	-26,655	23%	5,331	
B-Committees						
Adult Religious Ed	150		-150	0%		
Building and Grounds	11819	4399	-7,420	37%	4,324	
Care and Counsel	110		-110	0%		
Meeting for Suffering	200		-200	0%		
Total Care and Counsel	310		-310	0%	-	
Children's/Youth Religious Ed	350		-350	0%		
Communication Technology	800	300	-500	37%	300	
Finance	1400	532	-868	38%	494	

Contingency Fund	300		-300	0%		
Credit Card Fee	450	78	-372	17%	61	
Total Finance	2150	610	-1,540	28%	554	
Friends Transition & Suppt-Yoke	600		-600	0%		
Hospitality	415		-415	0%		
IFC	150		-150	0%		
Library	350		-350	0%		
Ministry and Worship	1000	137	-863	14%	137	
Nominations	40		-40	0%		
Peace and Justice	500		-500	0%		
National Quaker Service	1500		-1,500	0%		
Total Peace and Justice	2000	0	-2,000	0%	-	
Publications and Communications	750		-750	0%		
Total B- Committees	20884	5446	-15,438	26%	5,315	
D-Benevolences						
Legacy Benevolences	19454	1614	-17,840	8%		
M&W Benevolences	1400		-1,400	0%		
P&J Benevolences	5171		-5,171	0%		
Total D- Benevolences	26025	1614	-24,411	6%	0	
Total Expenditures	81556	15052	-66,504	18%	10,646	7,802
Net Operating Revenue		194			467	3,710

OTHER

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting
Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2023_2024 - FY24 P&L
July - October, 2023

	<u>Actual</u>
Other Revenue	
Misc Income	
Interest income	4.12
Total Misc Income	<u>4.12</u>
Total Other Revenue	<u>4.12</u>
Other Expenditures	
Shotts Leadership	390.00
Special Projects	
CHFM-CFS	
HVAC Stage 1	4,909.05
Total Special Projects	<u>4,909.05</u>
Total Other Expenditures	<u>5,299.05</u>
Net Other Revenue	<u>(5,294.93)</u>

Tuesday, Nov 07, 2023 11:48:01 AM GMT-8 - Cash Basis

Appendix 3
SCHOOLHOUSE AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO NOVEMBER 19, 2023 MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO
BUSINESS**

STRUCTURAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOLHOUSE

In June, the Schoolhouse Ad Hoc Committee employed a structural engineer (W. Harrison Welch, PE of Stonewall Structural Engineering, Raleigh) to study the schoolhouse. He assured us that the building is structurally sound and can safely continue to house the pre-school program. Harrison found that:

- four masonry piers under the girder under the floor of the multi-purpose room were cracked,
- that the front right corner of the schoolhouse was down approximately four inches relative to the back left corner of the schoolhouse, and
- that drainage improvements need to be made around the perimeter of the schoolhouse “to help avoid the need for extensive foundation repair/stabilization work in the future.”

Specifically, Harrison recommended:

- the replacement of four of the masonry piers under the girder under the floor of the multi-purpose room,
- the installation of “a series of 53 helical piers around the foundation wall to stabilize the perimeter of the structure,” and
- gutter and downspout improvements.
- He also stated, “A system of exterior perimeter “French” drains and/or catch basins installed at low points in the grade may be necessary to achieve adequate drainage.”

We received a bid from Advanced Structural Repair, Raleigh, of \$80,000 to replace the four masonry piers (plus the cost of relocating HVAC ducts, if necessary) and install the 53 helical piers. Their representative noted that the work should be done in the summer when the Early School is closed, that the work could be completed in two weeks, and that much of the parking lot would be occupied with their trucks and machinery.

The next step is to work with Buildings and Grounds and with CFS to employ a drainage specialist to study the drainage needs of the Meeting property in front of the meeting house and schoolhouse. Remediation, including replacement of the concrete sidewalk, would be at a cost yet to be determined.

Since our committee report to the October 15, 2023 MWAB, Matt Drake, Rob Jones and Ann Miller:

1. Met on November 1 with Carolina Friends School (CFS) personnel: Karen Cumberbatch (Head of School), Caroline Carman (CHES Head Teacher), Emily Lunne (Director of Finance), and Mark Shanahan (Director of Facilities).
2. Learned that CFS considers the schoolhouse to be a great benefit and wants to continue their use of it for the near term (5 to 10 years).
3. Identified common goals of:
 - update the current multi-year agreement
 - agree on foundation and drainage solutions and on funding arrangements
4. Discussed a CHFM timeline for approving the new agreement:
 - Proposal to MWAB by April or May 2024
 - Final MWAB decision by June 2024
 - CFS can fit their decision process into the above
5. Set a second meeting for November 28, 2023

Schoolhouse Ad Hoc Committee: Matt Drake (clerk), John Hite, Marie Hopper, Rob Jones, Lloyd Kramer, John Pilgrim, Monteze Snyder. The Ad Hoc Committee will meet again on December 10.

Appendix 4
Land Acknowledgement for Chapel Hill Friends Meeting 2021
(revised in 2022, 2023)

The Chapel Hill Friends Meeting sits on unceded Indigenous land where Occaneechi, Sissipahaw, Shakori, and Eno peoples lived. As Quakers, we acknowledge the genocide and continued displacement of Indigenous peoples during the colonial period and beyond.

In 1672, George Fox visited Carolina and publicly preached that Indigenous community members shared the Light within as, we believe, all humans do. We affirm Fox's teaching, and we recognize that injustices done to the Indigenous population continue in the present.

Site Heritage:

Artifacts found at Morgan Farm indicate that this area was inhabited almost continuously for the past 10,000 years. A 2004 archaeological exploration in Chapel Hill revealed spear points and potsherds, evidence that hunters as well as settlers lived along Franklin Street from 500 BC to 500 AD. Archaeological digs on Finley Golf Course showed similar proof that these communities hunted, built houses, and grew crops. The earliest recorded presence in our area of Indigenous peoples dates to 1701 when explorer John Lawson wrote "by the time the first settlers arrived, there were no more Indians left in the region." (Vickers, p. 7-8). Other historians assert that a greatly reduced number of Indigenous remained. Most had migrated north towards Hillsborough and the more active trading paths.

John Lord Carteret, the first Earl of Granville, received his land charter from King Charles II. By the 1730's colonial settlers began trickling into Granville's district, including Orange County. They came down the Great Wagon Road connecting modern Petersburg, Virginia and Mobile, Alabama. Mark Morgan was one who settled on the Finley Golf Course land. In 1747, Morgan's children bought surrounding land to encompass most of Chapel Hill plus territory in present day Durham County and south across Morgan Creek. About 1790, his descendant Hardy Morgan gave 205 acres, including areas now occupied by Carmichael Auditorium, grounds to the east, the cemetery, and Gimghoul Road, to help establish the University of North Carolina. This is the land where Chapel Hill Friends Meeting is located. The University retained ownership until Chapel Hill Friends Meeting bought the land in the 1950's.

This is a living document, and we will continue to revise and strengthen it in collaboration with community members and as new research evolves.

"In 2022, the document was revised with an addition which reads: As more information about Indigenous People becomes available, we are aware that groups of Indigenous People melded,

married, and blended frequently throughout history. It becomes clear that it is difficult to identify specific groups who live on identified land at a defined period of time. Like all people, Indigenous folks changed their location and cultural practice over the years.”

The revision we feel moved to add in 2023 responds to the question of identifying specific Indigenous groups. We want to add the land acknowledgement developed by the Indigenous People themselves which identifies groups from their own research and lived experience:

Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation

Land Acknowledgement

“I would like to acknowledge that we are on the land of the Eno, Tutelo, Saponi, Occaneechi, and Shakori Native people.

We are gathered today on land that was traditionally part of the territory of the Saponi people in the Piedmont of what is now the state of North Carolina. This area is not far from the “Great Trading Path” used by both the native people of this area and non-native peoples during the early years of contact. The Saponi people, whose descendants include the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation Indian Tribe still thrive and live in this region, officially recognized by the state government of North Carolina.

We pay respect to their elders past and present. The Occaneechi People (The Ye’sah) ask that you will keep these thoughts in mind, while here on their ancestral lands and treat it with the respect, love, and care that their Ancestors did, and as the Occaneechi Saponi people do so today.”

Prepared by Betsy Brinson and Dottie Heninger

April 2021

Revised in 2022, 2023.

References consulted:

Hinshaw, Seth B., The Carolina Quaker Experience, 1984.

Lowery, Malinda Maynor, The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle, 2018.

"Carolina Indian Circle acknowledged that UNC was built on Native American Land," The Daily Tar Heel, August 22, 2019.

"See that we exist": AIC fights for more funding," The Daily Tar Heel, March 17, 2021.

Rights, Douglas L., The American Indian in North Carolina, 1957.

Davis, R. P. Stephen, "A Brief Overview of Prehistoric Lifeways in the Morgan Creek Valley," 2004.

Vickers, James, Chapel Hill an Illustrated History, 1895.

<https://www.museum.unc.edu/intro>

<http://www.ncpedia.org>

Chapel Hill and the University of North Carolina

Light on the Hill

Orange County Land Registry

Mark Chilton's article on pre-1790's UNC property

NC State Archives, call number SSLG 96-J

Obsn.org

Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377