

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## Newsletter

First Month, 2022

- **Monthly Query:** *How do we help each other face conflicts with patience, forbearance and openness to healing?*
- **Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee:** *Waiting in silent expectation and prayer for guidance from the Light Within is the basis for our Meeting for Worship.*



## Upcoming Zoom Fora -

**January 2: New Years' Forum:** Reflections on the 23rd Psalm at the start of a new year Moderators: Jennifer Leeman and Mark Toles

**January 9: Quaker Practice Series:** Meeting for Business and Quaker Decision-Making. Moderator: Tom Munk

**January 16: Meeting for Business**

**January 23: Guilford College update** - Wes Daniels will update us on goings-on at Guilford College. John Bell, moderator

**January 30: Anti-Racism** - An interactive experience with the Anti-Racism Committee. Astra Titus, clerk. Mark Toles, moderator.

**February 6: Quakers and personal financial concerns** - Mark Hulbert will present on Quakers and questions of personal finance. John Bell, moderator.

**February 13: NC Warn** - We'll hear the latest from NC Warn. Hank Elkins is organizing. Tom Munk will moderate.

**February 20: Meeting for Business**

## Small Group Worship at the Meetinghouse

After listening carefully to our community and giving thoughtful consideration to ways to meet the needs of our community, the Ministry & Worship Committee received permission from the Meeting to begin offering responsible opportunities for small group worship in a variety of settings. We invite the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting community to try and help us evaluate options for small group worship over the coming weeks.

In this unprecedented time, the committee is not pursuing the perfect answer to how to worship together, and we do not know the lowest risk way to proceed.

**Note:** To promote safety and reduce the possibility of Covid 19 transmission and infection, the completion of **vaccination protocol** and the **wearing of masks** around others on meeting property is lovingly expected.

A risk assessment tool is available as well (<https://www.microcovid.org/paper/5-activity-risk>).

The options do not yet include “hybrid” meetings, using the Zoom platform blended with in-person attendance for worship and religious education. The committee will request time for a discussion about hybrid meetings at a future Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

To keep the trial simple, there will be no refreshments available (bring your own water), indoor participants will be urged to go outside at the rise of meeting to limit time in the building, and the building will be closed between early and late meetings. Friends are asked to not go downstairs (except for the nursery), for simplicity in preparation and maintenance of safe spaces.

**Children older than 3** are encouraged to attend the first 15 minutes of worship and will be led down to the playground for First Day School, which is on the playground during Covid. However, there will be at least one adult on the playground starting at 11:00 for those who are nervous about indoors. For children under 3, the nursery open downstairs if needed.

## Upcoming Events

### Friends General Conference Gathering, July 3 - 9

The Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering 2022 is being hosted by Piedmont Friends and will be held in-person nearby – at Radford University, Radford, Virginia.

The Gathering is a week of Quaker worship, workshops, and community for all ages. Friends come together from across the US and Canada (and sometimes further) to deepen our connection to one another and the Spirit.

The dates are July 3 through July 9. The theme for 2022 is “...and follow me.”

Given the proximity, the hosting by our yearly meeting, and the first in-person sessions since 2019, this is a rare opportunity to participate.

The week of the Gathering is packed with programs and events, from small group workshops to evening plenaries, and programs for children, teens, and young adults. You can register to attend the full event, or just the parts that fit with your schedule.

Registration will be open early in 2022. A reminder—if you need financial assistance to attend the Gathering, Chapel Hill Friends through the Shotts Leadership Development Fund and Piedmont Friends can contribute for part of the cost.

We have opportunities to participate in planning the event. Piedmont Friends have a Hosting Committee. The FGC Gathering Committee has subcommittees for the following aspects of the event: Adult Young Friends (18-35), Local Arrangements, High School, Junior Gathering, Evening Programs, Workshops, Worship, and Communication.

For more information, visit the FGC website (<https://www.fgcquaker.org/connect/gathering>) and see a 6-minute video about the Gathering. Or contact our Piedmont Friends representatives: Ann Miller and Leslie Rountree (PFYM) and Jasmine McKewen and Brad Schultz (PFF).

## 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](mailto: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 Ministry and Worship Committee and each week, a volunteer will collect and post the names that are submitted and will read them aloud during the time of the service. You can be one of these volunteers! Please contact the Ministry and Worship Committee ([mw@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:mw@chapelhillfriends.org)) or Chris Stanley ([clerkofmeeting@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:clerkofmeeting@chapelhillfriends.org)) to join the volunteers supporting this ongoing ministry.

### 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."

### Sloth Radio Is On the Air, Tues, Thursdays, 8pm

Kathleen McNeil shares with Friends:

Hi Friends/friends,

The First Day School Middle POD (the Sloths) will be sharing our Sloth Radio Hour every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 8PM. You don't need to be in the middle pod to join us. All are welcome. We are reading the first book of the Harry Potter series. We will read for 30-60 minutes depending on interest level. The program will continue to be on zoom at the same address.

Zoom: <https://unc.zoom.us/j/9194488892>

Please spread the word if you have any friends that you think would like to join us!

## Announcements

Reading Material from the Anti-Racism Committee

In preparation for the forum of January 30, "Proracism vs. Antiracism", the Antiracism Education Subcommittee (ArcEd Subcommittee) suggests Friends read the following article:

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/q-and-a/robin-diangelo-wants-white-progressives-to-look-inward>

For additional preparation and background material, The ArcEd Subcommittee also **highly** recommends reading the books *Nice Racism* by Robin Diangelo and *Woke Racism* by John McWhortor.

**The committee has created background information and a handful of conversation starters on systemic racism to be used in this Forum. To receive this material, please email**

**[antiracismeducation@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:antiracismeducation@chapelhillfriends.org).**

## Quaker House Is Seeking New Director

Betsy Brinson shares with Friends:

Quaker House is seeking a committed leader to continue to support the Quaker House mission in Fayetteville, and in North Carolina. We seek a leader who is passionate and creative about building and maintaining a peace witness within the context of a military city. The leader will work with an excellent team and a fully engaged Board of Directors. For more information about this position, go to

<https://quakerhouse.org/search-new-executive-director/> or contact [clerk@quakerhouse.org](mailto:clerk@quakerhouse.org).

For over 50 years Quaker House has operated in Fayetteville, NC, home of Ft. Bragg to manifest the Friends' Peace Testimony in a military city. Quaker House provides counseling and support to service members who are questioning their role in the military; educates them, their families, and the public about military issues; and advocates for a more peaceful world.

## The IFC Pantry Needs Food Items

Dottie Henniger 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. For attenders who worship on Zoom, plastic bins will be put on the front porch on the last Wednesday of each month for your donations. Please also remember that financial gifts are always welcome. You can make your contributions online at the IFC website, [ifcweb.org](http://ifcweb.org). Thank you!

Dottie

## Help Support Planning the 2022 FGC Gathering

Ann Miller shares with Friends:

Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting is excited to be hosting the 2022 FGC Gathering in Southwestern Virginia at Radford University. We are reaching out to Monthly Meetings in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Kentucky, West Virginia and Tennessee to ask them to help us find members to support the Planning of the FGC Gathering.

We are hoping you may be willing to help us with two things:

- Recommendations to people who might serve on these committee's who we could send individual invites to.
- Share the link committee volunteer interest form with your members and attenders.  
([www.tinyurl.com/PlanGathering2022](http://www.tinyurl.com/PlanGathering2022))

Interested Friends could also ask Leslie Rountree or Ann Miller about getting involved in planning and we will be happy to connect you with the planning process.

## Newsletter & eNews Reminder

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

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Please send items for the weekly eNews email and the monthly print Newsletter to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). **Note:** The eNews is formatted using Google Docs, so submissions in that format are most welcome!

- The deadline for weekly eNews is *midnight on 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](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org) with the subject line, Unsubscribe.

## 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.

## **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

### **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

#### **Minutes**

**9 am Sunday December 19, 2021**

#### **Online via Zoom**

**Chris Stanley, Clerk, and Susan Inglis, Recording Clerk**

In attendance:

Carolyn Stuart, Richard Miller, Carolyn White, Allie Scales, Tim Fogarty, Bob Durovich, Lois Ann Hobbs, Nancy Milio, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Ellen O'Brien, Joe Groves, John Pilgrim, Emile Condon, Buzz Borchardt, Betsy Brinson, Kuldip Kuwahara, Jasmine McKewen, Jan Hutton, Ben Ray, Wendy Mitchener, Deborah Gibbs, Alice Carlton, Dave Curtin, Tom Ludlow, Bonnie Ludlow, Hank Elkins, Nancy Fisher, Lloyd Kramer, Julia Cleaver, Ann Miller, Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, Dottie Henninger, Madelyn Ashley, Ken Grogan, Paul Munk, Pam Schwingl, Jeff Brown, John Hite, Susan Inglis, Chris Stanley

1 - Opening worship and query – Chris Stanley, Meeting Clerk, opened the Meeting with worship centered on the Query: How does our meeting nurture members in all stages of life?

Friends spoke out of the silence.

2 - Chris welcomed the meeting. There were no first-time attenders.

3 - Minutes of the November Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB) had been sent in advance. They were considered and approved.

4 - Carolyn White, Co-clerk of the Nominations Committee, recommended Rob Jones as an addition to the Children Youth Religious Education Committee and Kate Vinita Fitch as an addition to Adult Religious Education Committee. The recommendations were accepted with gratitude.

5 - Carolyn Stuart, Clerk of the Care and Counsel Committee, presented their annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 1. The report was approved with gratitude.

6 - Jeff Brown, Clerk of The Ministry and Worship Committee, presented their annual report. It is attached here as Appendix 2. The report was approved with gratitude.

7 - Tom Munk, Co-clerk of the Peace and Justice Committee, presented the committee's benevolence recommendation for this fiscal year. In March of 2020, it was decided that 80% of our benevolences budget should go to five "legacy organizations" and the Peace & Justice Committee would recommend organizations and amounts for the remaining 20%. Last year, as usual, the ad hoc benevolences sub-committee was formed. This year the Peace and Justice Committee recommends an equal distribution to the same three beneficiary organizations from last year: Alamance Regional Prison Committee, Friends Committee on NC Legislation, and NC WARN. The committee expects to return to a more robust process next year. In addition, the committee plans to present a forum about Re-Entry House in 2022, with the goal of raising \$1000 for it. Re-Entry house is an extension of the work we do with OCC.

8 - Nancy Fisher, Co-clerk of The Transition and Support Committee, presented a proposed revised committee description in November but unity was not reached. The meeting heard thoughts of those in our community about what the mission of the committee is and what the Meeting is willing to support.

The current mission of the committee is, "This committee's mission is to serve and support men at Orange Correctional Center and other prisons as they transition back into the community."

The proposed mission of the committee is, "To serve and support those who are currently incarcerated, preparing for release, or integrating with the community, as well as to promote de-incarceration, to eliminate the causes of mass incarceration, and to make incarceration more humane."

Friends shared their thoughts:

A Friend who is a member of the committee spoke to the importance of including policy for work on more humane conditions and for dealing with staff policy at the state level, as current policies are harmful to staff as well as to prisoners.

Nancy noted that most committees are described in the directory with activities, whereas the Transition and Support Committee is described only by mission, and responded to a question about typical activities of the committee, which include helping men buy clothes, get their id's, counsel on identifying personal goals, problem solving, listening and accompanying the men to achieve their goals, and bringing them to meeting for worship.

A Friend noted the committee is asking for this new description, for Meeting support for and uplift of what the committee members have always been doing in policy advocacy and dealing with staff. She told a story of a prison guard damaged by his work, by its inhumanity, noting that working for more humane conditions is working for staff as well as for prisoners.

A Friend noted we are in unity on the need. Her Quaker faith calls her to act in the world. Where she sees the question is in whether this committee is the right the place to put this action. She honors how hard it is for Nominations Committee to fill committees and notes we already have a committee for action, the Peace & Justice Committee.

A Friend who is a member of the committee spoke further to the question of the committee's activities, noting that they have become much more ad hoc in the era of Covid, as some activities are not currently possible.

A Friend commented that it is a lengthy description, and directory descriptions are best when they are succinct.

The Clerk pointed out that the distinction is between individual leadings and the mission statement for this standing committee of the meeting. The statement must be clear about what the Meeting is asking of the standing committee. We are trying to decide what the committee does without being too open-ended. "Promote de-incarceration" could mean a lot of things. He requested that Friends' comments encapsulate what the meeting is asking the committee to do.

A Friend who is a member of the committee commented that the committee is a community resource committee. He described the 16-session re-entry course for men that brings in wives/significant others for understanding in re-entry, and recalled the creation of the first parents' day at the OCC.

A Friend commented that Friends have always recognized that collective action is more powerful than individual action. So how does this happen? When individuals bring leadings to the Meeting as a whole. This committee has done tremendous work for years. Now this committee, with all the knowledge gained, all the understanding gleaned, is coming with a new leading. He wants to honor the work of this group, not to say they have to fix the problem, but that we give them our blessing to move forward.

A Friend commented on the wording, acknowledging that the committee members are being pulled to advocate. This leading pulls them into the bigger picture. So if we could say "... advocating for incarcerated people and released prisoners, and also joining together with other committees of our Meeting to advocate..." it might be better.

A Friend suggested other wording, "...in collaboration, as appropriate, with other committees of the Meeting..."

A Friend reiterated affirmation of the great value of what the committee is doing, and wondered what they mean by "de-incarceration".

A Friend commented that the pandemic has pushed us into a process of evolution.

A Friend commented that it makes sense to him that the committee formulates and recommends actions for the Meeting as a whole.

A Friend commented that she is concerned that there are already committees in our Meeting that are advocating for policy on criminal justice reform. (AFSC, FCNL, NCSL, IFC, P&J). We need committee members to support our community and the care of our Meeting. Nominations has trouble finding people for sustaining and nourishing our Meeting. She appreciates all that Transition and Support has done and encourages them to continue with their current mission, finding ways to support individual prisoners in the time of Covid.

A Friend agreed and emphasized that the current work of the committee is critical and needs to continue. We need to keep in mind that our community has many unmet committee needs. There are other committees that are advocating for policies for criminal justice reform.

The Transition and Support Committee will work on the description and bring it back to a future Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

9 - Hank Elkins, Treasurer of the Peace and Justice Committee, presented the annual report for NC WARN, a benevolence that is under the care of the committee. It is attached here as Appendix 3. Friends accepted the report.

10 - Jeff Brown, for the Ministry and Worship Committee, provided an update on the experiment with returning to face-to-face worship. It is attached here as Appendix 4.

11 - Joe Groves, a member of the Peace and Justice Committee, provided initial information about coming opportunities for individuals within our Meeting to assist Afghan refugees who are expected to arrive in Chapel Hill soon. In the next 2-3 months we expect 600-700 people to arrive, so we will have opportunities for helping with resettlement. Issues are housing and jobs, so now is the time to begin setting up infrastructure to deal with circumstances. The Meeting will get updates. Betsy noted that she is looking for help for a family recently arrived in Pittsboro. The mother is a nurse and needs help learning English so that she can become a CNA. Emilie recommended getting her to Orange Literacy.

12 - Chris announced that our next Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business is planned for 9:00 AM on January 16th, 2022. Other announcements included:

1. To send items for the weekly eNews email [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Put "for eNews" in the subject line. Deadline is each Wednesday at midnight. For the monthly print newsletter, email
2. [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Put "for Newsletter" in the subject line. Deadline is the last Sunday of the month.
3. Christmas Eve Meeting for Worship – Ministry and Worship will provide details of plans. Jeff invites all to participate via zoom.
4. The Quaker House Executive Director search continues. Wendy commented that some people believe that it is important that the Director be a Quaker because being steeped in Quaker values matters.
5. The Alternative Gift Mart is ongoing.

13. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business closed with worship and a virtual circle.



## Appendix 1

### Care and Counsel, Annual Report, 2020-2021

The Care and Counsel committee consists of members of the Religious Society of Friends. It is responsible for the oversight of pastoral care of each Meeting member and attender and is concerned with each one's well-being. In its work, the committee is mindful of the need for privacy and confidentiality.

Bonnie Raphael completed two three-year terms on the committee, and we expressed our appreciation for her service. Two other Friends, Pat Mann and Jim Palmer, requested to leave the committee. We wished them well and expressed gratitude for their service. Two new members joined the committee: Bonnie Ludlow and Gwynne Pomeroy. Along with Bonnie and Gwynne, the committee is composed of Julia Cleaver, Lynn Drake, Jasmine McKewen, Ann Miller (co-clerk), Leslie Rountree, and Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk). Chris Stanley, clerk of Meeting, attends in an ex-officio status, for which we are appreciative. There is one vacancy on the committee. We regret the lack of gender and ethnic diversity on our committee.

The committee has met the challenges of caring for the community during the continuing pandemic as best we can. We maintain regular contact with numerous Friends experiencing the pain of bereavement, illness and changes in life circumstances. We have attended to interpersonal hurts of Friends related to doing the work of the Meeting in committees. We have responded to requests for several clearness and support committees, three of which are ongoing. For clearness and support committees that have been laid down, we've let Friends know that we are there for them if they would like to reconvene the committee or speak individually with committee members. We've participated in the clearness committee for membership for Karen Jessee and are prepared to participate in the committee for Alicia Abrams.

We assisted Greg Neal in the interment service for his wife, Robin Neal, who passed away during the height of the pandemic on August 1, 2020. Robin was interred in the Memorial Garden on July 18, 2021 with approximately twelve family members and friends in attendance. A memorial minute was read in meeting for worship with attention to business and entered into the Memorial Book. Robin's name was added to the Memorial Plaque and location of the burial site added to the Memorial Garden map.

The committee is involved in the production of a new Meeting directory. Along with Publications and Communications and Ministry and Worship, we presented a proposal to the October 17 MWAB to allocate funds to publish paper booklet copies, which was approved. We are in the final stages of proofing information to be sent to A Better Image, who will publish the directory. We feel that an updated paper directory is particularly needed during this time of separation due to the pandemic. We're grateful for the support of the Meeting and Friends who have joined us in this effort.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Stuart (co-clerk), Julia Cleaver, Lynn Drake, Bonnie Ludlow, Jasmine McKewen, Ann Miller (co-clerk), Gwynne Pomeroy and Leslie Rountree

Appendix 2  
Ministry and Worship Annual Report 2021

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. The COVID-19 Pandemic continued to challenge M&W and the Meeting this year. After consultation with Buildings & Grounds, Hospitality, and Children and Youth Education committees, comments at Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), and lengthy discernment, M&W proposed and received approval from the Meeting to offer options for worship and religious education on First Days. Beginning on July 4, 2021 on a trial basis, the small group opportunities were early meeting for worship in the meeting room at 8:15, Forum via Zoom at 9:30, late meeting for worship in the meeting room at 11:00, worship outside under the Magnolia tree at 11:00, worship online via Zoom, worship at Carol Woods at 11:00, and First Day School outside of the school building, including remote participation via Zoom. Buildings & Grounds invested in window fans to improve the air exchange in the meeting room and air purifiers to improve air flow in other parts of the meeting house. Masks were lovingly requested on Meeting property and social distancing has been practiced. Friends attended the offerings with which they were comfortable, with health, safety and well-being in mind.

M&W monitored attendance for each option and reported monthly to MWAB. The trial continues to date as the Delta Variant of COVID-19 persists in North Carolina. 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 has also carefully researched equipment that would enable a blending of in-person and online participants, should the Meeting be led to offer a blended approach to worship. One trial run of a blended meeting for worship was completed in December and another is scheduled for January, with a listening session to be scheduled for sharing experiences.

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 each week during Meeting for Worship as well as 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.
- Supports Prayers for Healing/Holding in the Light, beginning as a weekly event in 2020 and now held twice a month. M&W is grateful to leaders Matt and Lynn Drake and Chris Stanley.
- 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 Tim Fogarty's transfer 2 of membership to CHFM from Gainesville, Florida Monthly Meeting. We also recommended the transfer of Polly Ulin's membership to Midcoast Friends Meeting in Maine. Both were approved by MWAB.
- Attends to the needs of visitors and new attenders; an example is a new welcoming document in 2021.

- Participates in clearness committees organized by the Care and Counsel Committee leading to the marriage of couples under the care of the Meeting.
- Nurtures other committees as they do the Meeting's work; examples in 2021 were CHFM's nominees to the Carolina Friends School Board of Trustees and the subcommittee on benevolences.
- Plans (with other committees) celebrations of significant events in the spiritual life of the Meeting. These include our annual Christmas Eve Worship, online last year, Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals; Meeting for Worship with Attention to Graduating Seniors (Matilda Chen, Rufus King and Henry Schneider in 2021).
- Holds the annual Clerks' Retreat, attended virtually by 20 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 21 in 2021. 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. This October we averaged 5 inside at early meeting, 8 outside at 11:00, 23 inside at late meeting inside, 22 on Zoom, and 9 in First Day School. In addition, about a dozen Friends are worshipping 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 related to ministry, 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](https://schoolofthespirit.org)). Mike Green and Judy Purvis completed the two-year "Being a Spiritual Leader" program several years ago. Mike became a teacher and leader of the program and, eventually, served as administrator of the Board. Judy continues to serve on the School of the Spirit (SOTS) Board as Secretary. Both continue to share what they learned from their SOTS experiences with Durham Friends Meeting (Mike) and the Friendship Friends Meeting (Judy). Matt Drake participated on the SOTS Board of Directors for several years, eventually serving as Clerk of the Board. Matt and Lynn participated in several SOTS weekend retreats over the years. Matt continues in 3 the role of a Board Elder, holding the SOTS Ministry in prayer. Meeting participants in recent SOTS programs (pre-COVID) included Kitty Bergel, Allie Scales, and Pat Mann and Pam Schwingl and others. They attended SOTS weekend retreats at a Catholic Retreat Center in Durham. 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, draws sustenance from each other and from the Spirit for work and life in the world, and learns that radical inclusion and radical love bring further light to Quaker testimony and life. CHFM has supported FLGBTQC for years in the context of some Quaker meetings struggling to accept gay and lesbian Friends. The gesture of a gift became more poignant in CHFM after FLGBTQC was denied rental of the Quaker Lake retreat venue in North Carolina around 2008. 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. Participants in the FLGBTQC listserv in support of community building include Jan Hutton. M&W expresses gratitude to Publications and Communications Committee for the ongoing maintenance of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting website, weekly e-news, and In the Light messages. With great appreciation, we thank Kitty Bergel for her faithful service while she was able.

We are grateful for new member Dottie Heninger who began serving in July. Jeff Brown, clerk for the Ministry and Worship Committee, Madelyn Ashley, Alice Carlton, Dottie Heninger, Carolyn White, Matt Drake and Chris Stanley, ex-officio.

### Appendix 3

#### NC WARN

PO Box 61051, Durham, NC 27715-1051  
(919) 416-5077,  
[www.ncwarn.org](http://www.ncwarn.org)

#### DESCRIPTION

NC WARN, the foremost environmental justice organization in North Carolina, is waging an effective battle by combining scientific research, education, and practical action. Recently NC WARN published a comprehensive [North Carolina Clean Path 2025](#), a 113 page document replete with both technical and practical information. An [Executive Summary](#) of 7 pages is also available. Coupled with the publication is an [action plan](#) specifying practical steps for each of three types of localities. The North Carolina Clean Path 2025 offers a way to combat climate change by replacing greenhouse emissions with renewable solar power and enhanced batteries. The recommended distribution system would create more jobs, be less vulnerable to storms, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and cost North Carolinians far less than the expensive system of large power plants and long transmission lines proposed by Duke Energy.

Duke's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP): In 2020, Duke filed an Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) a plan required every two years. Duke's plan would belatedly phase out coal plants in 2049. Although Duke's radio ads emphasize solar, Duke now gets only [5% of its electricity from renewables](#) and projects by 2035 to be at only 14%, while the current national average is [19.8%](#).

Emergency Methane Action 2021: With the NAACP and other organizations, NC WARN is championing [Emergency Methane Action](#) to stop the construction of new gas plants and the spewing of methane.

Testimony before NC Utilities Commission 2021: As part of an environmental coalition, NC WARN elicited oral and written testimony against the Duke Energy plan to delay until 2049 retirement of its expensive and polluting coal plants. A member of Chapel Hill Friends testified against Duke Energy's plan.

Stopped Atlantic Coast Pipeline 2020: NC WARN also waged a successful campaign with other environmental groups and in 2020 stopped the proposed 600 mile [Atlantic Coast Pipeline](#) from bringing fracked gas from West Virginia and Pennsylvania to eastern North Carolina.

Duke Energy proposed rate increase 2018: NC WARN, in alliance with other environmental groups, successfully turned back a request by Duke Energy to the NC Utilities Commission for a 12 percent rate increase to pay for the cancellation of Duke's half-billion dollar investment in the Lee Nuclear Plant in northern South Carolina.

The Solarize Campaigns 2013-2016: The NC WARN Solarize Campaigns helped hundreds of homeowners install solar panels. NC WARN enlisted homeowners to join in collaborative installation contracts to save thousands of dollars. With allied organizations, NC WARN waged solarize campaigns in more than a dozen locations including Asheville, Boone, Buncombe County, Cabarrus, Carrboro, Charlotte, Chatham County, Durham, Orange County, Raleigh, the Research Triangle Park, the Sandhills, and Wake County. Overall 498 solar installation contracts totaled 2.7 megawatts of power and avoided the burning of 1,453 tons of coal.

In sum, NC WARN has an outstanding record of effective environmental action in North Carolina.

<b>FINANCES</b>	<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Contributions from individuals, organizations, and foundations</b>	<b>Full-time Equivalent Employees*</b>
	2019	\$1,449,721	9*
	2020	\$1,406,875	10*

## **December 2021 Report on the Status of Worship to the December 19th Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

The Ministry & Worship Committee (M&W) recommends that Chapel Hill Friends Meeting continue to offer opportunities for small group worship in a variety of settings. Friends have been attending all six options for worship and religious education, deciding for themselves what option on a First Day best meets their needs for safety and wellbeing.

Friends are wearing masks indoors and outside for the safety and health of all, including children who are under age for vaccination. M&W continues to seek a balance among many values: the availability and depth of worship, the spiritual life of the Meeting, fellowship, connection within our community, being all together, being inclusive, health, safety, comfort, and wellbeing.

As winter approaches, the cold air brings some discomfort for those in the meeting room and those outdoors. The current practice in the meeting room is that, during the time the meeting room is not occupied (9:30-10:45), the fans are turned off and the central heat turned on. At 10:45, fans are turned on again and central heat turned off. For outdoor worship, Friends are welcome to gather under the Magnolia, but Ministry & Worship will not provide a meeting closer outside until winter weather passes.

M&W continues to consult with the Zoom subcommittee. The group provided a trial run of a “blended” meeting for worship on November 28. A second trial is scheduled for January 9. Please attend in person or via Zoom to experience the blended meeting. M&W will follow with a Meeting listening session in mid-January, open to all, to share experiences of the combination of Zoom and in-person worship. M&W would then consider a recommendation to Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

M&W is grateful for the Zoom subcommittee’s attention to detail and efforts to make a trial a satisfying experience for both in-person and online participants.

As always, the committee values and invites your comments this morning or anytime via [ministryandworship@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:ministryandworship@chapelhillfriends.org).

December 19, 2021

Ministry & Worship Committee

Jeff Brown, clerk, Madelyn Ashley, Alice Carlton, Matt Drake, Dottie Heninger, Carolyn White and Chris Stanley, ex officio

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

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Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377