



First Friends Meeting
Fifth Month, Twenty Fourth 2015

Gather and Center

Prelude The Lord is My Light and My Salvation Rutter

Welcome and Announcements Dawn Davis

Stewardship Update Robert Kirkman

Joys and Concerns

Silence for Centering Prayer

Listen and Respond

Hymn 327 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song *blue hymnal*

Stewardship Skit written by Dawn Davis

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Prelude in C Minor Chopin

Scripture Romans 8: 22—27 and John 15: 26—27; 16: 4b—15

Hymn 461 Breath on Me, Breath of God *blue hymnal*

Message “Being Coal Bearers of the Fire of God’s Love” Alexis Smith

Waiting Worship After the Manner of Friends *If led to speak, please stand and wait for a host to bring a microphone. Please allow for a few minutes of silence between messages.*

Go Forth in Spirit

Spoken Benediction

**Congregational
Benediction Hymn 717** Go Now in Peace-verse 1 *blue hymnal*

Please close Meeting for Worship by shaking hands with your neighbors.

Our morning message is offered to us by Alexis Smith, Lead Chaplain at the Cone Regional Cancer Center. Alexis recently finished her Ph.D. in Applied Theology from Chester University, Chester, England. She is married with five fostered cats who all live together in a 1910 farmhouse.

Joining Alexis on the Facing Bench today is Dawn Davis. Dawn is a long time friend and has been a member of First Friends for over ten years and enjoys singing in the choir with her husband Bill Davis. Dawn is an English teacher at Southwest Guilford High School and this will be her 19th year in the classroom. Therefore, she has lots of experience in speaking and attempting to be funny when she is the only one laughing. Hopefully you will find some humor in today's Stewardship Skit.

*Flowers are given by Beth, Ian, and Ellie Joyce
in honor of Tom Pointer whose favorite color was red.*

First Friends warmly welcomes visitors.

Please complete a yellow card and place it in the offering plate.

We invite you to contact pastoral staff with any questions.

Please help yourself to Quaker literature in the foyer.

If interested in doing a monthly bank draft or to make a contribution via debit or credit card please see our Lead Morning Host, Jean Christy in the back foyer.

Gentle Reminders:

Please silence all electronic devices.

Activity packets are available for children as well as a fully staffed nursery. Please ask a morning host for assistance.

IN THE LIGHT

This weekend, **Monica Citty Hix, Sheila Hoyer, and our intern Ashley Wilcox** represented First Friends Meeting at the Friends United Meeting leadership retreat, Stoking the Fire. Monica is also co-leading a Taize worship service.

Don Farlow, YM Interim Superintendent, has called all meetings to intentional prayer for the yearly meeting before the Representative Body meeting on June 6. **Please let Sara Beth Terrell know if you might be available to come together in prayer some time in the next two weeks.**

Martha Rierson's grandson, Zahn Jekigh, who lives in China. He continues to need our prayers as some further health issues have arisen.

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH CONCERNS IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY

Brittany Atkinson asks for prayers for the family of Carol Phillips She passed away Saturday night after a brief battle with cancer.

Gail Phillips appreciates the prayers for her niece Teri Ariansen, she had surgery May 19 and will be in recovery for the next few days.

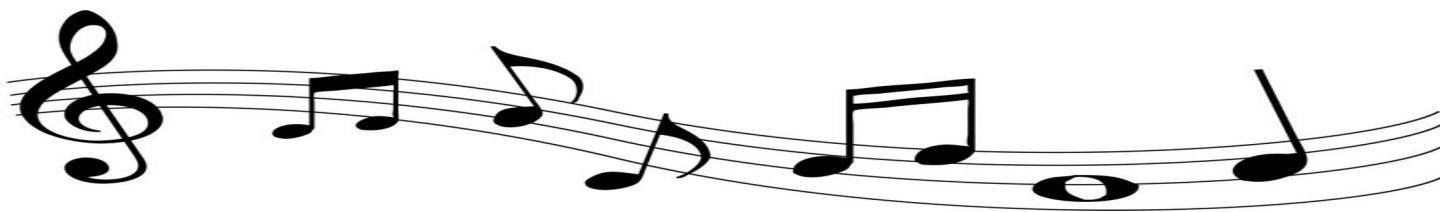
Lisa Moran, Associate Pastor at Centre Friends, **Helen Parrish's friend's daughter,** Heidi McLaughlin's son, **Christopher,** Gail Phillips neighbor **Jim Delancey,** Rose Corbett's mother, **Betsy Wray.**

Do you have prayer concerns you would like to share? Please consider submitting them to Kristina by Thursday at 9:00 am so they can be printed in the bulletin and lifted up during Sunday's meeting for worship.

THANKSGIVINGS

Mary and Natalee Stewart for working with our youth to create prayer flags for Nepal. We collected \$32.43 to send to help rebuild a school there. See our creation hanging on the playground fence.

Bob Winsor as he offers his musical talents this morning.



The Music Committee and Personnel and Long Range Planning are working together as we consider our music ministry and how it reflects on our Music/Choir Director position. **Bill Davis will be holding a time of discussion and discernment next Sunday, May 31** at the Rise of Worship and all are welcome.

The discussions will focus on the questions listed below. This is not a survey – you are not expected to write up answers to these questions. Rather, we thought that having the questions in advance would give you an opportunity to think about them, in anticipation of participating in group discussion(s).

1. What is the purpose and role of music in our worship community? How does the choir or instrumental music relate to that purpose and role?
2. Share any experience of music in a worship setting here or elsewhere in which music was the medium through which you connected with God.
3. Are there ways in which you think music is misused or detracts from a worship setting? How might we encourage members to use their talents instrumentally and vocally? What additional instruments would you love to hear?
4. What styles of music are most meaningful to you? How do we allow for a variety of musical styles?
5. What makes music meaningful for you at Meeting?

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8: 22—27

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

John 15: 26—27; 16: 4b—15

²⁶ ‘When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷ You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. ⁴ But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them.

⁴ I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. ⁵ But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, “Where are you going?” ⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate* will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸ And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about* sin and righteousness and judgement: ⁹ about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰ about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹ about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹² ‘I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

FIRST FRIENDS MEETING
336-299-8869
www.friendlymeeting.org
office@firstfriendsmeeting.org

Summer office hours :

Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Thursday: 12:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Ministers: Everyone

Deborah Suess, Pastor of Congregational Ministries
Sheila Hoyer, Pastor of Education and Outreach
Monica Hix, Interim Minister of Music
Kristina Pisano, Office Manager
Pam Reese, Treasurer
Celeste Currie, Nursery Care
Ryan Gordy, Nursery Care
Bill Davis, Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk
Beth Joyce, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel
Jim Kimel, Clerk of Personnel & Long Range Planning
Jean Christy, Head Morning Host

To email a Clerk or Staff: (first name)@firstfriendsmeeting.org

Sunday Gatherings

Unprogrammed at 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Room
Choir at 9:45 a.m. in the choir loft
Small Group Gatherings at 10:00 a.m.
Semi-programmed at 11:00 a.m. in the Meetingroom