

FIRST FRIENDS MEETING

July 16, 2017



so shall my
WORD
accomplish
that which I purpose

"SOWER, SEED, SOIL"



Gather and Center

Prelude

Hymn of Promise
Amazing Grace
David and Anna Gilbert

arr. Sleeth
American Spiritual

Welcome and Announcements

Sheila Hoyer

Joys and Concerns

Silence for Centering Prayer

Listen and Respond

Hymn 23

All Creatures of Our God and King

Anthem

Appalachian Lord's Prayer

Sowash

Offertory Invitation and Prayer

Offertory

Panis Angelicus
Anna Gilbert, violin; David Gilbert, cello

by Franck, arr. Kelley

Scripture Reading

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Hymn 722

Praise and Thanksgiving

Message

"Extravagant Sowing "

Don Durham

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

Benediction

Don Durham

Sung Response

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Hymn 712
(stanza 1)

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

Joining Don Durham on the facing bench is Elizabeth Vance.

Elizabeth has been attending First Friends for three years and is happy to now be a member. She is a paralegal Monday through Friday; on weekends she enjoys spoiling her three nieces, filling them with sugar and caffeine, and returning them to her grateful sisters.

IN THE LIGHT

Beth Joyce will have surgery on July 18th. She is fairly sure it is not cancer and is mostly aggravated that she has to have surgery again. Recovery should take a couple of weeks or so.

Dolores Parker's husband Doug's memorial service will be held at Friends Homes on July 22, 2:00pm. Prayers and cards are appreciated.

Maron Middleton is resting at home after a hospital stay. She experienced complications from a procedure. Prayers and cards are appreciated.

Bill and Este Rayle as they continue with Bill in hospice care. Also please hold them in the light over the passing of Bill's sister, Mary Rayle Osborne, whose memorial service was held this past week.

Brad McHargue his recovering at home from surgery. He is exploring his next options. No visitors at this time but cards and emails are appreciated.

Jennifer Brigman as she continues to recuperate from pulmonary lung issues. She has also been invited back to Guilford College for a second interview after applying for a Counselor position.

First Friends warmly welcomes visitors.

Please complete the visitor 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.

Activity packets are available for children as well as a fully staffed nursery.

Hearing devices are also available.

Please see a morning host for assistance.

Gentle Reminder: Please silence all electronic devices.

Scripture—Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as the sower sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!”

“Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

Anthem—Appalachian Lord’s Prayer

Sowash

(Note from the composer: “Kin-dom” instead of “Kingdom” is closer to Jesus’ teachings about being “kin” with God, that is, being in the family of God as “kinfolk,” a term and a concept which Appalachian persons cherish.)

Beloved God, beyond the mountains, hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kindom come, Thy will be done on earth—as it is in heav’n.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts
—as we forgive our debtors—and lead us not into temptation,
Deliver us, we pray, from evil, for thine is the kindom,
the pow’r of morning, the sunset glory, now and forever,
now and forever, now and forever more. Amen

PRAYERS FOR ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Laura Mason Altizer's mother, Dot Mason, Fred Small, Jim Wilkinson, Ray Hurley, Norman Rider, Helen Hoffman's mother, mother-in-law and husband. Dawn Davis and her mother, Heidi McLaughlin's son Christopher, Rose Corbett's mother Betsy Wray. Janis Hammett's cousin, Alan Cochran, Beth Joyce's mother Hattie, Edith Shepherd's friend Jan, Mary Elizabeth Barwick and Patrick Tillman's mother Marian and nephew, Harrison Tillman, Traci Cossman's Aunt Polly and Uncle Bob and Helen Parish's friend.

JOYS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Dear First Friends - Thank you!!! It's been a wonderful gift. (St. Simon's Memories) Love, Tim and Deborah

Thank you Sio and Ryan for setting up the Lemonade on the Lawn last Sunday. Thank you Greg and Jennifer for contributing Margaret Rae's decadent chocolate cake which was enjoyed by all who tasted.

The Refugee Working Group for all their work to keep the children busy in camps and programs this summer. Zafarullah attended Quaker Lake Camp and was in the same cabin as Ben Plummer. They became friends and Zafarullah will be joining the Youth Group on their next trip.

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Monthly Meeting for Business, 12:00pm Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday, July 18, House and Grounds, 7:00pm, Library

Keys to the Outside Doors. We are in the process of changing the locks and keys to the outside doors. If you currently possess a key and need a new one, please email office@firstfriendsmeeting.org or call the office [336-299-8869](tel:336-299-8869) so we can place your name on the list. Thank you.

Peace & Social Concerns will be taking a July sabbatical and going out to dinner on July 19. Their next meeting will be on August 2.

The Nursery will soon be losing two child care workers. If you are interested or know of anyone who might be a good fit caring for our little ones please let Sheila Hoyer know. They can send a resume and three references to sheila@firstfriendsmeeting.org.

School supplies are already on sale! Please remember to pick up extra items for the school kits that USFW provides to children in need. School kits include: (2) 70 sheets wide rule spiral notebooks, (1) ruler, (4) #2 pencils, (1) pencil sharpener and (1) block eraser. A collection basket will be in the foyer.

First Friends Night at Snow Camp Outdoor Theater! Join us on Friday, July 21 to see Pathway to Freedom. We will meet at Snow Camp and purchase tickets individually. "Pathway to Freedom" begins its 23rd year at Snow Camp. This is the exciting saga of the **Underground Railroad**, when courageous black men and women risked life itself to escape slavery, aided by NC Quakers and other daring whites. These original plays have thrilled thousands of visitors from all over America and beyond. These shows will alternate until August 19th. 'Sword of Peace' photo album & information: <http://wp.me/p5FGlu-2nz>. For more information contact Greg Woods gregwoodsquaker@gmail.com.

Open House Shower honoring: KRISTINA & ANDREW PISANO, Saturday, July 22, 2017 from 2:00-4:00pm, First Friends Meeting. You are welcome to pop-in and pop-out or stay the whole time. The fun will start at 2:00pm. Gifts will be opened at 3:00pm. Kristina and Andrew Pisano would love for you to help build Baby Pisano's library by bringing a book in lieu of a card. A bookplate will be available at the shower for you to sign and affix. *Kristina and Andrew are registered at Babies-R-Us and Amazon.com.*

We need two vehicles for our refugee families-can you help? Friends... **The refugee families** we have been sponsoring have made impressive strides in the year they have been with us, including their recent efforts to learn to drive. One of the families now has a car and is enjoying the independence that brings. The other family is in need of two cars—One large enough to accommodate all seven of its members and a much smaller car to enable Tasneem to get to her new job. If you have a vehicle you would like to donate or can help locate suitable vehicles please let us know. Although both Tariq & Tasneem have been saving for cars, funds are still quite limited. Contact MacGregor Frank ([336/324-3139](tel:3363243139)) or Vicki McCready ([336/324-3134](tel:3363243134)).

The next Food Pantry date is Thursday, July 27. Sheila will be on a trip with the youth group. If you can volunteer, please let her know ASAP so she can assign jobs. She is grateful for you all.

The Youth Group will be going on two more trips this summer. The dates are July 27-28 to Raleigh and August 16-17 to Charlotte. Please contact Sheila today to confirm your youth's participation.

Sunday, July 30, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall, Friendly Visitors will have a meeting. Lunch will be provided. If you have any questions please contact Edith Shepherd at editaholguin@gmail.com or call [336-314-2018](tel:3363142018).

Monday, August 7, 7:00pm Finance Committee, Library

COLORING PAGE



The Parable of the Sower

**First Friends is a Quaker Meeting
building healthy relationships
with God, one another, and all creation.**

**336-299-8869
www.friendlymeeting.org
office@firstfriendsmeeting.org**

**Office Hours:
Monday: Closed
Tuesday-Friday: 10:00am-2:00pm**

Ministers: Everyone

**Don Durham, Intentional Interim Pastor
Sheila Hoyer, Pastor of Education and Outreach
Monica Citty Hix, Minister of Music
Ellen Ramsey, Office Manager
Pam Reese, Treasurer
Ryan Gordy, Nursery Care
Sio Rynas, Nursery Care
Bill Davis, Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk
Beth Joyce, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel
Jim Kimel, Clerk of Personnel Committee**

To email a Clerk or Staff: (first name)@firstfriendsmeeting.org
Don, Sheila, Bill, Beth, Monica, Jean, Ellen or Pam

Sunday Gatherings
Unprogrammed at 9:00 a.m. in the Gathering Room
Choir Practice at 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Gathering at 10:00 a.m.
Semi-programmed at 11:00 a.m. in the Meetingroom

*Childcare available in the Nursery
(Six years of age and younger)*