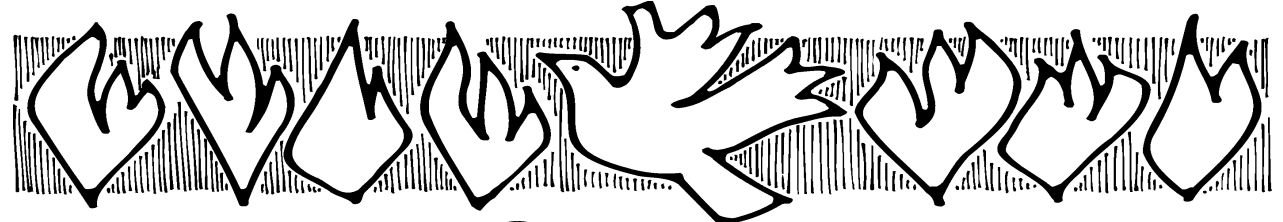




MATT. 22:9

Now go  
out to the  
street corners  
and invite  
**EVERYONE**  
you  
see.

"INVITE EVERYONE!"



SUNDAY

*First Friends Meeting*  
*October 15, 2017*

## *Gather and Center*

**Prelude** *Beautiful Savior* Townend

**Welcome and Announcements** Don Durham

**Joys and Concerns**

**Silence for Centering Prayer**

## *Listen and Respond*

**Hymn 95** *Praise Him! Praise Him!*

**Offertory Invitation and Prayer** Elizabeth Vance

**Offertory** *Meekness and Majesty* Kendrick

**Musical Meditation** *I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table* Spiritual  
Diane Burns, soloist

**Scripture Reading** Matthew 22:1-14 Elizabeth Vance

**Hymn** *As We Gather* printed in bulletin

**Message** "You're Invited!" Don Durham

**Waiting Worship After the Manner of Friends**

*If lead 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**

*Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;*

*send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife. Give us,  
Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave; may we still behold your  
image in the world you died to save.*

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

**Joining Don Durham on the facing bench is Elizabeth Vance.**

**Elizabeth** loves sweet tea, chocolate, dogs, cats, and groundhogs. She volunteers with several animal rescue and welfare organizations and hopes she is the first person you call if you are looking to add a cat or dog to your family.

**We are thankful for Jean Christy who is filling in for Monica today.**

*The flowers are given today by  
Mary Nelle Smith  
in loving memory of  
Bill and Bertie Smith*

**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.

## **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

“Then he sent some more servants and said, ‘Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.’

“But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

“Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.’ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, ‘How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?’ The man was speechless.

“Then the king told the attendants, ‘Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

“For many are invited, but few are chosen.”

## **As We Gather**

As we gather here to worship, as we listen to your word,  
help us know O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be  
stirred. Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
Teach us by the holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is  
strife. Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast where  
triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least. There  
no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy, as we join  
with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

## **JOYS AND THANKSGIVINGS**

**Congratulations to Jay McCracken** on the birth of a new  
granddaughter, Ruby Galen McCracken.

**The House and Grounds Committee** thanks the Friends who came to  
spruce up the Meetingroom last week: Jay Bumm, Karen Dunman,  
Helen Hoffman, Sheila Hoyer, Brad McHargue, Helen Parrish,  
Barbara Potts, Ellen Ramsey, Jim Reese, Alicia Sharp, and  
Gordon Shepherd. Thank you - everything was beautiful!

## **IN THE LIGHT**

**Bill and Este Rayle** as Bill continues under the care of Hospice.  
They continue to welcome emails, cards and phone calls.

**Brad McHargue.** Please continue to hold him in the Light as he  
continues therapy.

**Art Winstead** of Davenport who has been First Friends financial  
advisor died Tuesday October 10. His memorial service will be Sunday  
October 15, 3:00pm at Friendly Ave Baptist Church. Family visitation will  
be held prior to the service beginning at 2:00pm. Please hold his family  
in the light.

## PRAYERS FOR ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Laura Mason Altizer's mother, 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. Mary Elizabeth and Patrick's cousin. Traci Cossman's Aunt Polly and Uncle Bob, Maryann Phillips Eisenbrand and Dawn Carter.

## CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sunday Morning Gatherings** at 10:00am include our children who will be learning the story of Joseph in Room 205, the youth group will join the Adult Class who will continue a series of conversations about Building Our New Yearly Meeting in Room 208.

**Enablement Committee** will meet today, October 15 at 12:15pm in the Gathering Room.

**House and Grounds Committee** will meet Tuesday, October 17 at 7:00pm in the Library.

**Sheila Hoyer** will be on vacation from **October 9 through October 23**.

**United Society of Friends Women** will be selling pecans again this year. They should be arriving the first weekend in November.

**Enneagram Workshops** will meet on Thursday, October 19, at 10:00am and 6:30pm in the Gathering Room.

**FIRST FRIENDS** Come out to the ninth annual Quaker Lake Pumpkin Festival this Saturday, October 21! Enjoy hayrides, pumpkin painting, the tower swing, inflatables, canoeing, pumpkin smashing, live music, and games! Fill up on all of your favorite festival foods including hot dogs, pizza, funnel cakes, popcorn, cotton candy, and deep fried Oreos! We hope you'll join us for an afternoon of games, music, food, fellowship and fun! Admission is \$3 and includes inflatables, live music, canoeing, and games for kids of all ages (with prizes).

**URGENT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS at the Pumpkin Festival this Saturday, October 21.** With over 2,500 people in attendance the Pumpkin Festival at Quaker Lake takes a lot of dedicated volunteers. We couldn't do it without you! We need volunteers from 1pm to 7:30pm on October 21 in all areas, from food service to face painting! If you would like to volunteer please contact Heather Varner at 336-681-6252 or at [heather@quakerlakecamp.org](mailto:heather@quakerlakecamp.org). Come enjoy the festival with your family or volunteer.

## **FIRST FRIENDS ALL-MEETING RETREAT DAY at QUAKER LAKE CAMP**

Just a short 25 minute drive from Greensboro! 1503 NC-62 Climax, N.C. 27233.

**Saturday, October 28th from 10:00am through dinner.**

Join us for a day of gathering with friends, old and new. Come enjoy relaxing in a rocking chair on the porch overlooking the lake, hiking in the woods, playing board games, knitting on the porch, eating good food and simply being together.

**We will initiate "First Friends First Ever Chili Cook-Off!"** All are invited to enter into the competition of chili by bringing a crock-pot or pot of chili. Hot, sweet, savory, meaty, vegetarian, vegan...No chili will be turned away! Cost will be \$10 per meal per person. No more than \$40 for families for an entire day of fun! Questions? See Sheila. **Please see inserted flyer and sign-up sheet.**

**TRUNK or TREAT! Sunday, October 29** after Meeting. We are asking all members to join in as we open our car trunks and invite the children of our Meeting to come get some treats. Costumes and decorating of trunks would be wonderful but not mandatory! It's a first for our community and we are looking forward to celebrating with our young friends.

**The Youth Group will be going out for pizza after Trunk or Treat.** They will need \$10.00 each and we will be heading to Pieology in Friendly Center. Ages 12 and up welcome. See Sheila with questions.

**Margaret Rowlett would love to get together a group to go see the Exhibit on Race featured at NC Museum of Natural Sciences (April 22—October 22, 2017).** There is a special exhibit at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh called "**Race: Are We So Different?**" **Doodle for Raleigh Trip:** The exhibit on "Race: Are We So Different?" is every day until October 22. Mondays thru Saturdays times are 10 am until 4 pm (museum closed at 5 pm). Sundays begin at noon. Below is a link to see more about the exhibit:

<http://naturalsciences.org/exhibits/featured-exhibitions/race>.

If you want to go with others from our WGUR, check the day(s) you can go on the following link. <https://doodle.com/poll/tck6bhxr3e9axn3>.

Also don't forget about the upcoming webinars: **Building a Nonviolent Direct Action Campaign.** There will be four sessions on Monday nights starting on October 23. Learn more here:

<http://eileenflanagan.com/building-a-campaign/>

This information should be very timely for racial justice activists and all the other types of activists among us.



## **SAVE THE DATES:**

**The 5 most important conversations we will have in a decade!**

**November 5, 2017**

**January 21, 2018**

**March 11, 2018**

**May 20, 2018**

**July 15, 2018**

**These are the dates of our 5 interim conversations that will determine our future path. It is *vital* that the Transition & Search Committee hear from everyone at these events. All will take place at the rise of Meeting for Worship. Lunch and childcare will be provided. (Also please refer to the insert which you can post and keep handy for date reference.)**

**North Carolina Fellowship of Friends first Gathering, November 11, 9:00am-3:00pm** at First Friends. Watch for more information. Plan to attend and help shape our new yearly meeting.

**North Carolina Fellowship of Friends Youth Program (5th grade through HS) - "Exploring the SPICE of our lives" November 11, 2017, First Friends Meeting, Greensboro**

\$20 per youth, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Lunch and snacks included.

**Please RSVP by Nov 4: [sheila@firstfriendsmeeting.org](mailto:sheila@firstfriendsmeeting.org), 336-299-8869.**

**Wess Daniels' Book Talk at Scuppernong Books Nov.15 at 7:00 pm.**

Special opportunity to hear Friends Center Director Wess Daniels speak about his book, *A Convergent Model of Renewal: Remixing the Quaker Tradition in a Participatory Culture*. Wess will be reading from the book and leading a discussion, which will be relevant to understanding how traditions evolve and change, secular and faith-based, alike.

For more information on the ideas found in the book, you can listen to an interview with Wess on [Quaker Faith and Podcast's episode of "Convergent Friends."](#) If any of this resonates with you then you should not miss the discussion on the book. Scuppernong has multiple copies of the book for sale. Here is a colorful and informative announcement that can be shared: <https://www.smores.com/s3mg0>. Hope many of you will be able to come!

**Financial Peace University. Monthly Meeting has approved the offering of Financial Peace University.** Elizabeth Vance is planning to schedule the nine-week course to begin in mid-January. This will be open to anyone, whether or not they attend First Friends. She has some flexibility in scheduling, so if you want to take the course and have preferred days of the week, let her know. Please share with anyone outside of Meeting who might be interested. Her email address is [evance878@gmail.com](mailto:evance878@gmail.com).

# COLORING PAGE



The Parable of the  
wedding banquet.

**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-3:00pm**

**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  
Sidney Holliday, Nursery Care  
Adrian Quarles, Nursery Care  
Bill Davis, Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk  
Beth Joyce, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel  
Anita Lewis, 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 Gatherings 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)*