

I HAVE  
called you  
FRIENDS

*John 15:15*

***First Friends Meeting***  
***May 20, 2018***

## *Gather and Center*

**Prelude**                      *Cujus Animam (from "Stabat Mater")*                      Rossini

**Welcome and Announcements**                      Sheila Hoyer

**Joys and Concerns**

**Silence for Centering Prayer**

## *Listen and Respond*

**Hymn 87**                      *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

**Young Friends Message**                      Mary Nelle Smith

**Offertory Invitation and Prayer**                      Bill Davis

**Offertory**                      *Largo*                      Handel

**Scripture**                      John 15:9-17                      Bill Davis

**Hymn 601**                      *Dear Christ, Uplifted from the Earth*  
(Tune: Amazing Grace)

**Message**    "Who ARE These Peculiar People Called Friends?"  
Max Carter

## **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**                      Max Carter

**Sung Response**                      *The Bond of Love*                      Hymn 395

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

Our thanks to Bob Winsor for today's music.

**Max Carter** will deliver today's message. Max L. Carter retired in 2015 as the William R. Rogers Director of Friends Center and Quaker Studies at Guilford College. He and his wife Jane live in Greensboro and are active members of New Garden Friends Meeting.

**Joining Max on the Facing Bench is Bill Davis.** Bill became convinced to the ways of Friends through the combined efforts of the Holy Spirit and his darling wife, Dawn Davis. He joined First Friends in 2001, and now serves as Clerk of the Monthly Meeting. Bill currently serves as a District Court Judge, after 18 years as a criminal defense attorney with the Public Defender's Office. On the rare occasion that he has any free time, he enjoys cooking and performing with local community theatre.

**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.

## **John 15:9-17**

As the Creator has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept God's commandments and abide in the Creator's love.

I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from God.

You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that our Creator will give you whatever you ask in my name.

I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

## JOYS AND THANKSGIVINGS

**Anna Gilbert**, daughter of David Gilbert and Margaret Rowlett, just finished her sophomore year at Davidson College and leaves on Friday, May 18, for a 7-week trip to Ghana with Davidson's Anthropology Department. She'll be taking classes in Ghanaian music, dance and culture as well as interning in a hospital lab. Please hold her in the Light during her travels.

**Our 2018 Graduates**, their supportive families and educators.

## IN THE LIGHT

**Ann Burnett**, Chris Burnett's mom, had a bad fall on a stone floor. Along with a compound wrist fracture and stitches in her chin they learned she has one broken rib and six ribs with contusions. She had surgery on Thursday and is recovering.

Please continue to hold **Andrew Straughn** in the light while recovering from Bell's Palsy.

**Don Durham's mother, Ruth Durham** as she continues chemotherapy.

**Brad McHargue**. We hold Brad in our prayers as he continues his chemotherapy treatments.

## PRAYERS FOR ONGOING HEALTH CONCERNS

Fred and Jean Small. Jim Wilkinson. Ray Hurley. Norman Rider. Dawn Davis' mother. Heidi McLaughlin's son Christopher. Mary Elizabeth Barwick and Patrick Tillman's mother, Marian. Helen's Hoffman's mother, Laurel Hayes. Akil Ramsey. Janis Hammett's cousin Alan Cochran. Jay McCracken and Diane Burn's granddaughter, Ruby. Steve Hoffman. Norm Klos. Ryan Barwick's friend, Dennis Schumann.

## CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Join us today, May 20, 2018

8:45am Christian Education Meeting Room 203

9:00am **Unprogrammed Worship**

No Choir Rehearsal

10:00am **Small Group Gatherings:**

Children ages 4 to 10 years will have **Godly Play** in Room 205.

**The Youth Group** ages 11 and up will gather in Room 203. We will begin a Youth Council that will be working to plan Youth Group and other events.

**The Adult Gathering's**, special guest speaker will be Max Carter, who will share with us where the new NC Fellowship of Friends fits in the wider world of yearly meetings and their parent organizations and how it can connect us to other Quakers.

11:00am **Meeting for Worship:** Max Carter will bring the message, "Who ARE These Peculiar People Called Friends?"

12:00pm **Monthly Meeting for Business and Transition Conversation,** Fellowship Hall. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

5:30pm **Youth Group Meeting** in Room 203.

**Monday May 21, 7pm, First Friends Finance Committee** will meet in the Library.

**Tuesday May 22, 6:30pm, Night Shelter, Urban Ministry's Potter House**

**Thursday May 24, 2pm, First Friends Food Pantry**

6pm, Scholarship Committee Interviews, Gathering Room

## **Youth Events - Here is What's Coming Up:**

**The Youth Group** is excited to let you know that we will experiment with having youth group meetings twice a month on Sunday evenings, 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

### **Summer Schedule:**

Sunday, May 20 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Sunday, June 3 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Sunday, June 17 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Sunday, July 1 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Sunday, July 15-NO YOUTH GROUP Molly, Ben, Greg and Sheila will be in Ireland!

Sunday, August 5 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Sunday, August 19 from 5:30 to 7:00pm

Gatherings will include games, pizza and worship. Please send your youth with \$5 per person for dinner. Unless otherwise noted, we will gather at the Meeting House.

We are also beginning a Youth Council that will be working to plan Youth Group and other events. We will be meeting on Sunday morning at 10am starting this Sunday in Room 203. All youth age 12 and over are welcome to attend.

Friend, might you be interested in working with the youth group? If Spirit nudges, please let Sheila know.

### **Summer Service opportunities:**

#### **Food Pantry**

June 28, Noon-3:30pm; July 26, Noon-3pm; August 23, Noon-3pm

#### **Night Shelter Dinner Service**

June 26, 6:30-8:00pm; July 24, 6:30-8:00pm; August 28, 6:30-8:00pm

**A note from Elizabeth Vance:** It's Back! I'll be leading another session of Financial Peace University, beginning Sunday, June 10th, in Greensboro. Learn to make and stick to a budget, communicate with your spouse about money, save, get out of debt, and more. Summer special price: \$99 per household. Financial Peace University. Let Financial Expert Dave Ramsey show you how to dump debt, budget, build wealth and give like never before! FINANCIALPEACE.COM.

**Lawnmower needed...**Our refuge family on Richardson Street is in need of a push mower. We would love to get one donated. If you would like to provide a new mower or have a used working mower that you are willing to donate please let Sheila Hoyer know.

**Religion and Mental Health Panel Discussion.** Part of the Greensboro Bound Literary Festival, this panel discussion will feature two authors who draw on their own experiences to explore how faith communities can accompany those who struggle with mental illness, offering resources from religious traditions that can offer comfort and hope. The panel will include Tonya Farmer Armstrong, author of Blossoming Hope: The Black Christian Woman's Guide to Mental Health and Wellness, and David Finnegan-Hosey, author of Christ in the Psych Ward. The panel will be moderated by Lee Hull Moses, author of More than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess. There is no cost for the event, and all are welcome. **First Christian Church Greensboro, 1900 W Market St, Greensboro, NC 27403. Sunday, May 20, 2:15pm.**

**Blood Drive at New Garden Friends Meeting - May 22.** We are hosting a blood drive with the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas at New Garden Friends Meeting Tuesday, May 22 from 3:30-6:30 pm. To make the blood drive successful, if you are able, please donate your blood. Please pledge to help save local lives by contacting Bill McNeil by email [mcneilplanning@gmail.com](mailto:mcneilplanning@gmail.com) or by calling him at (919) 622-3303.



**Potluck and Forum May 25.** Friends are invited to a new Poor Peoples Campaign (PPC) forum on Friday, May 25, at Friendship Friends Meeting, located at 1103 New Garden Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410. A pot luck dinner at 6pm will be followed by a presentation and discussion with the Rev. Wesley Morris, new pastor of Faith Community Church. Faith Community Church is a leader in local organizing for the PPC movement. The new PPC is a national movement managed on the state level so that different states can focus on their issues and successful strategies. PPC has noted that conditions appear to have worsened since the initial campaign 50 years ago. The goal is to change the moral agenda across the nation to focus on the issues of impacted people - which include: poverty, racism, militarism, and ecological disasters. The hope is to create a new moral dialogue.

**Cemetery Tour** - Max Carter will lead a 10am tour of the New Garden cemetery on **May 28**. Highlights of the tour will include graves from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and 20th century conflicts but also graves of those whose battles were in the area of peace and justice work. Comfortable shoes, water, sunscreen, and tolerance for an old Quaker Studies professor's rambling stories are recommended. The tour is free and open to all who are interested -- or who, like the tour leader, have no social life!

## **NOTES, DOODLES AND REFLECTIONS ...**

# COLORING PAGE

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**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  
Margaret Rowlett, 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)*