

**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

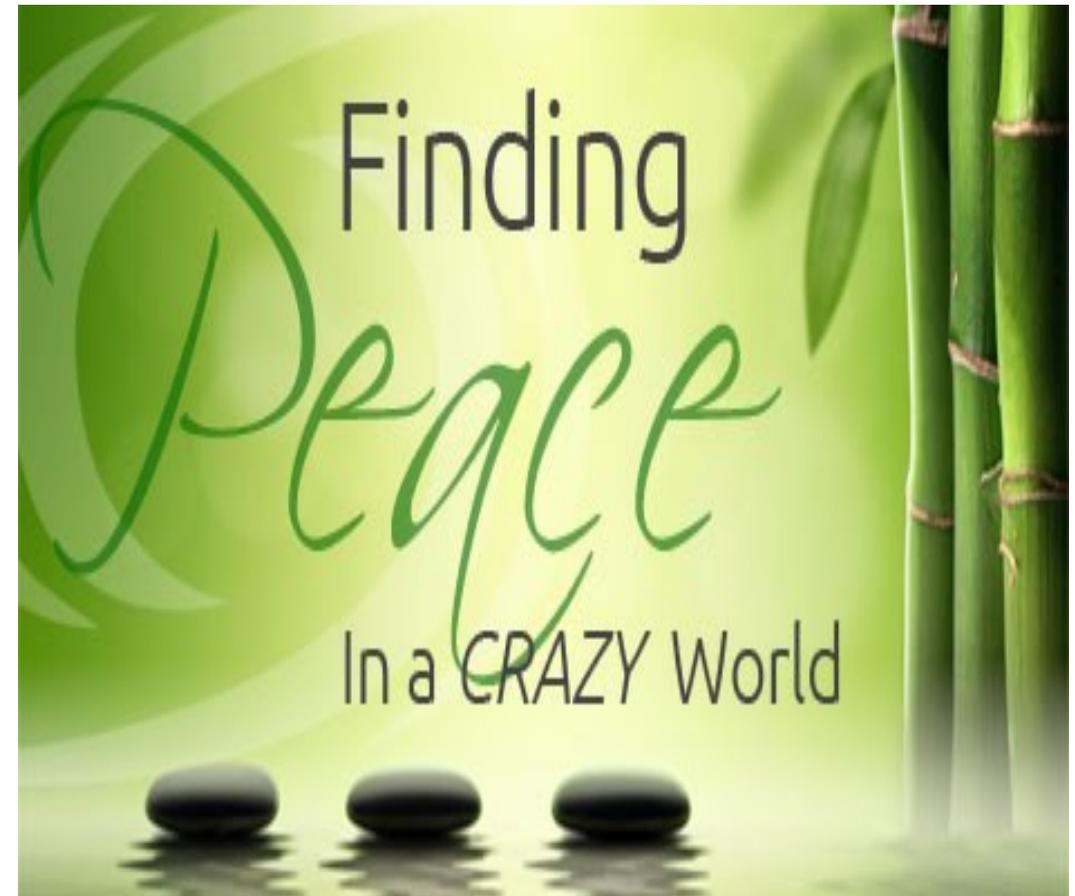
**Don Durham, Intentional Interim Pastor
Sheila Hoyer, Pastor of Education and Outreach
Monica Citty Hix, Minister of Music
Ellen Ramsey, Office Manager
Pam Reese, Treasurer
Ana Huckins, Outreach and Education Intern
Cidney Michael Holliday, Nursery Care
Bill Davis, Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk
Beth 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)*



***First Friends Meeting
January 20, 2019***

Gather and Center

Prelude *Morning Has Broken* arr. Shackley

Welcome and Announcements Sheila Hoyer

Joys and Concerns

Silence for Centering Prayer

Listen and Respond

Hymn 424 *How Can I Keep from Singing*
(please stand as you are able)

Young Friends Message Sheila Hoyer

Musical Meditation *The Peace of the Earth* arr. Bell

Offertory Invitation and Prayer Roberta Rudder

Offertory *I've Got Peace Like a River* arr. Johnston

Reading *The Peace of Wild Things* Roberta Rudder

Hymn 477 *Come and Find the Quiet Center*
(please remain seated)

Message "Practicing Peace in a Fleeting World." 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 *Shalom, My Friends* Hymn 714

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

COLORING PAGE



PEACE

REFLECTIONS AND NOTES

Joining Don on the facing bench is Roberta Rudder.

Roberta has been at First Friends Meeting since January 2015 after relocating to North Carolina in July 2014. She has been a Quaker for years and values the opportunity to serve people. She presently serves on First Friends Enablement Committee, Stewardship Committee, and is active in Prison Ministries. Her mission is to meet people wherever they are in life and provide support and encouragement for them.

*Flowers today are given in memory of
Norman Rider
from the family.*

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.

Musical Meditation - The Peace of the Earth

The peace of the earth be with you,
the peace of the heavens too;
the peace of the rivers be with you,
the peace of the oceans too.
Deep peace falling over you;
God's peace growing in you.

- Traditional Guatemalan Blessing

Reading - The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief.

I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light.

For a time I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Wendell Berry

Collected Poems 1957-1982, North Point Press, Philadelphia, p. 69.

"A Modest Proposal: A Conversation about the Revitalization of the Quaker Message in America with J. Brent Bill"

Religious life in America is growing – new congregations are starting, old ones are in the midst of renewal, and thousands of new people are coming to worship. And there is a huge uptick of interest in Quakers, as evidenced by such things as the sale of books about Friends and interest generated internet sites such as Beliefnet.com's "Belief-O-Matic." Thirty thousand people a day try Belief-O-Matic. An issue of Newsweek magazine reported that a "disproportionate number" of respondents to the quiz identified themselves as 'Quaker.'" The article notes that the page on the BeliefNet web site devoted to Quakers has become one of Beliefnet's top fifty links! So why aren't our Meetinghouses bursting with newcomers?

English Quaker Edgar Dunstan once asked -- "What ... have we [Friends] to declare to this generation that is of sufficient importance to justify our separate existence as part of the Christian fellowship? If you care about the answer to that question, please join us for this workshop/conversation, which will use a combination of worship, social research about religious and congregational life in the U.S., and interactive discussions and activities. This is a continuation of the series we had with C. Wess Daniels. Even if you were not able to participate in that series please come join us as we consider the revitalization of Quakers with the author of the material Wess drew from. **Brent will lead an event on Saturday, February 9, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, Sunday morning, February 10, Small Group Gathering at 10:00am and bring the message on Sunday, February 10, at 11:00am.**

Underground Railroad, Saturday, February 9, 1:30 p.m., New Garden Friends Meeting, 801 New Garden Road, Greensboro, NC. 2019 is the 200th anniversary of the first known activity in North Carolina on what came to be known as the Underground Railroad. On Saturday, February 9, 1:30 pm at New Garden Friends Meeting, two Guilford College historians, Adrienne Israel and James Shields, will share about that history. Following their presentation on the significance of the UGRR for both the African-American and Quaker communities, there will be guided tours of the UGRR woods on the Guilford College campus and the Friends burial ground where some of the activists on the UGRR are buried. The event is sponsored by the North Carolina Fellowship of Friends.

Wednesday, February 13, Peace and Social Concerns, 7pm, Gathering Room

Food and Household Supply Drive:

With the government shutdown we are wondering if you are affected by it and need some help with food and household supplies. If so, your faith community wants to help support you! Please let Don or Sheila know if we can be collecting things that will help out during this time.

With the change in food stamps we know that our pantry friends are going to have greater needs. We also are planning on the possibility that there will be more people coming for help. You can help! Please consider contributing funds to the food pantry and/or collecting canned proteins (salmon, chicken, beef, SPAM), frozen meat and fish, boxes or bags of cereal, large containers of juice and canned fruit. Some folks are a "mini" food drive with the help of their family and friends. If you want more ideas or information please talk to Sheila.

United Society of Friends Woman (USFW) still has a few \$20 gift cards from Auto Bell.

Pecans are still available! United Society of Friends Women (USFW) have pecans available. If you wish to purchase, see any USFW member.

Financial Peace University - Please attend our next offering of Financial Peace University to learn how to set and live on a budget and prepare for all of life's challenges - big and small. The cost of membership is \$99 per household and includes the class itself and numerous online resources. Classes will be held on Monday nights from **January 28 - March 25; 6:30 - 8:30 pm in the Gathering Room**. Childcare can be arranged with advance notice. Contact the office for additional information. 336-299-8869.

Annual Feedback Process for Staff

The Personnel Committee needs your assistance as it implements the Annual Feedback policy approved by Monthly Meeting in October. In the coming months, we will be meeting with staff members individually to review how we can give them the support they need to be successful in their positions and have positive working relationships. At the beginning of February, we will be meeting with Sheila Hoyer, Pastor of Education and Outreach. We invite you to provide any information or comments you feel would be of assistance to the committee in our meeting with Sheila by contacting Margaret Rowlett, Clerk of the committee, or Bill Davis, Monthly Meeting Presiding Clerk, by January 31, 2019.

Earthcare notes. In the spirit of preservation and love of Earth, the Peace and Social Concerns Committee would like to share periodic updates/information about caring for our planet.

From the City of Greensboro/RecycleRight Program:

"**Follow us** on [Nextdoor](#), [Facebook](#), or [Twitter](#). We post a weekly blog, "Ever Wonder Wednesday" about all the common, confusing, and strange questions we get about recycling and waste reduction. We'll also answer any questions you have that you cannot find in our [GSO Collects](#) tool".

JOYS AND THANKSGIVINGS

Thank you First Friends! We had no idea how much had been collected for the Interactive Resource Center! With great joy we dropped off coats, socks, blankets and snacks last Saturday. With the ice storm that was in the forecast it felt pretty great to offer something to help people get through the cold.

IN THE LIGHT

We continue to hold the family of Norman Rider in the light. Norman passed away early Tuesday morning, January 15. Visitation was on Wednesday, and the memorial service was at First Friends Meeting on Thursday.

Dawn and Danny Marsh's granddaughter, Kate Smythe, daughter of Jen and Will Smythe. Kate is having surgery on Friday, January 18 at Duke for Chiari Malformation I.

We continue to hold **Mandi Odom, Kaz, and little Kai** in our prayers as they seek out treatment for Kai.

We hold **Brad McHargue** in our prayers as he continues cancer 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. Helen Hoffman's friend Christina. Katie Lebrato's friend Shelley. Akil Ramsey. Jay McCracken and Diane Burn's granddaughter, Ruby. Steve Hoffman. Norm Klos. Ann Burnett.

CALENDAR AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us today for:

9:00am First Friends Labyrinth Walk will continue in Fellowship Hall from 9-11am.

Walk with soft Gregorian chants - 9:00 to 10:00am;

Walk in silence - 10:00 to 11:00am.

9:45am Choir Rehearsal

10:00am Small Group Gatherings

Adults: Labyrinth Walk

Faith Seekers: Youth ages 12 years and older gather in Room 203.

Leaders: Ana Huckins and Sheila Hoyer.

Godly Play: Children ages 4-8 (Room 207) and 9-11 (Room 205) will participate in Godly Play. Leaders: Emily Daniels, Allyson English, Kary Gray, Jennie Hunt, Emily Riley, Julie & Patrick Tillman and Kristina Wright.

Nursery Care: Newborn through age 3. Cidney Michael Holliday is part of our fun and loving childcare team in the nursery.

11:00am Meeting for Worship

12:00pm Monthly Meeting for Business, Fellowship Hall

Mon. Jan. 21: First Friends Finance Committee Meeting, 7pm, Library

Tues. Jan. 22: Night Shelter, 6:30pm, Urban Ministry Potter's House

First Friends Office will be closed on Tuesday, January 22 in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday.

Thur. Jan. 24: First Friends Food Pantry, 12:30pm

Sun. Jan. 27: Lunch and Learn on the Impact of Race, 12pm, Fellowship Hall. You are invited to join the Working Group to Undo Racism for a Lunch and Learn sponsored by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee. Box lunches will be provided, and we will discuss the impact of race in our lives. Members of the Working Group will share insights they have gained from their work together. No reservation is needed, so we hope you will be there.

Mon. Jan. 28: House and Grounds, 7pm, Library

Hi friends! We are having a series called "Why Worship?" for children ages 5-12. Once a month we will gather to talk about various forms of worship and why we practice certain elements each week. Our hope is to give our youth a better understanding about why worship is important to us in hopes that it too will be important to them! This will occur one Sunday a month during the 11 o'clock hour. Themes will include:

Silence

Meeting

Joys and Concerns

Centering Prayer

Meeting for Business

Stay tuned for more information about dates!

Working Groups Invite

Are you interested in volunteer opportunities through First Friends? We have several working groups that assist members, attenders, and people in the community who need care and assistance. You'll find descriptions below; contact the person(s) listed if you would like to help or just to learn more.

Caring Friends is a group of people who use their gifts, talents, energies and resources to "reach out" to nourish and help meet the needs of others. In the spirit of caring, our purpose is to be sensitive and minister in tangible ways to individual members and friends of our community. Caring Friends work in conjunction with the pastor to discern needs and to follow-up as appropriate. Being a "Caring Friend" may include: preparing food, visiting, sending cards, and other opportunities that may arise. Contacts are Este Rayle, 336-674-1674, esterayle@yahoo.com and Nancy Dixon, 336-643-3394, rnak1215@bellsouth.net.

A "Friendly Visitor" program is coordinated by Edith Shepherd. This involves a once-per-month commitment to visit a member from Meeting who is no longer able to easily attend Meeting functions. Contact Edith Shepherd, 336-314-2018, editaholquin@gmail.com.

First Friends "Our Friends Food Pantry" is open the fourth Thursday of every month (November and December dates are the exception). Typically we open the doors about 12:30pm. Each person is given a number for their turn to shop. We offer our friends a chance to shop the pantry for their personalized needs. There are several ways you can help out on pantry day. We are often in need of hospitality, shopping guide, folks to carry out bags of food and more. We also are in constant need of more food and would love to talk to you about organizing your friends and family to collect food monthly for the pantry. If you would like to participate please contact Sheila Hoyer sheila@firstfriendsmeeting.org for more information.