

The New Garden Friend

Newsletter of New Garden Friends Meeting

September 20, 2017

Upcoming Programming

Intergenerational First Day School classes meet each First Day from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in Friendship Hall.

This is an opportunity for Friends of all ages and abilities to explore Quaker history and values and Bible stories.

We're building relationships across ages and perspectives through discussion, play, arts and crafts, stories, and service projects.

In addition to Intergenerational First Day School, we will continue to offer Adult Forum, Brotherhood Classes (led by John Kepchar) and Spiritual Disciplines.

Join the Fall Forum Series: "What to Say When"

We're walking through the publication, "Speak Up," which helps us learn how to address bias and bigotry in everyday settings. Cathie Holcombe, Jennifer Schaal, and Cari Reeves are facilitating these discussions. The text is provided by the Southern Poverty Law Center.

These are the topics to be addressed:

September 24 - bias and bigotry with friends and Neighbors

October 1 - bias and bigotry at Work and Implicit Bias

October 8 - bias and bigotry at school and Implicit Bias

October 15 - bias and bigotry in Public

October 22 - Six Steps and Closing

Text is provided for each discussion or can be download a full

Young Friends Begins!

Come one, Come all! NGFM is getting the gang back together and calling all Young Friends (sixth through twelfth grade) to come experience what we are all about and to partake in a gathering of young friends like no other; an all inclusive group deciding what path they want to follow.

The month of October has been planned as follows:

- 1 *Welcome to Young Friends Festivities*
- 8 *What is a Query and why do we even need them?*
- 15 *Capture The Flag*
- 22 *What are SPICES - how can we season our life with them?*
- 29 *Group-selected games*

The group will compile a further schedule as time goes on, and hopefully have a fall semester schedule before October 22. All youth (Quaker or not) are invited to partake in these festivities!

More details to follow. Questions? Feel free to email Patrick Westervelt at (westervelt.patrick@gmail.com).

First Young Friends meeting - October 1 at 5 p.m.

Meetings and Events

Wednesday September 20

11 a.m. Healing Prayer / Friends Homes

7 p.m. Mindfulness Meditation / Meeting Room

Monday September 25

7:00 p.m. Quaker Relations / Room 109

7:45 p.m. New Garden Mindfulness Group / Parlor

Tuesday September 26

4 p.m. Ukestra Practice / Room 109

7 p.m. Finance & Stewardship / Parlor

Birthdays

September 20	September 22	September 24
Molly Haile	Jane Kirkman-Smith	Jonathan Cox
Patti Hughes	Linda Whisnant	September 26
Elwood Parker	September 23	David Bills
September 21	Ellen Kepchar	Claire Webb
Ivy Rutledge		



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Deadlines

To be considered for publication in the next newsletter, items **must be received by noon Monday**. Please include your name, phone number and email address.

Items for the New Garden Sunday bulletin must be received by noon on Thursday.

Question? Call Sharon Burton, 336-292-5487.

PFF/PFYM Fall Retreat

The PFF/PFYM Fall Retreat is Saturday, September 23, at Seven Springs Lodge and Retreat, 118 Alder Lane, Mocksville, NC. Friends can come for the day Saturday or extend their stay from Friday afternoon through Sunday morning. Camping is available at the site. Another option: stay at one of two nearby motels--Hampton Inn Bermuda Run or Comfort Inn. Meals: Potluck at 6:00 p.m. Friday; Lunch and supper provided by PFF Saturday; Breakfast provided Sunday morning. The emphasis will be on fellowship and free time activities such as hiking, swimming, and fishing. There will be worship sharing from 1:30-3 p.m. Saturday. There is no cost. The PFF clerks prefer that you register by computer. Go to the following website: tinyurl.com/pff-retreat. There will be flyers and other information about the retreat on a table in the lobby.

Contacts: Bob and Joyce Mers, PFF Reps. (336) 288-4921, (mersrc@earthlink.net); (mersj@earthlink.net).

NC Quaker Men - Fall Banquet

North Carolina Quaker Men - Fall Banquet will be at Quaker Lake on Monday, September 25, at 5:55 p.m.

This is an opportunity to eat and meet with Quaker men from all parts of the old Yearly Meeting including from some meetings which left NCYM. Ask Bill Eagles for details.

FCNL House Party this Saturday

Friends Committee on National Legislature will hold multiple House Parties around the country on Saturday, September 23. Come to NGFM's Brotherhood Room around 3:45 p.m. to hear FCNL's Diane Randal's streamed presentation (which begins at 4 p.m.).

Anyone interested in practical work toward a more peaceful world is welcome, as well as anyone curious about the FCNL advocacy process. Members of the local NC Triad advocacy team will be available to answer questions.

Bring Your Flea Market items

Clean, gently-used items are welcomed for the Fall Flea Market. Take items downstairs to Norvell Hall.

October 21 *main flea market*

October 28 *half-price flea market*

Contact: Erin Allred (allred.erin@gmail.com)

Please note: Donations are pouring in and we need help sorting things! We will work on the Flea Market Sunday afternoons from 3 - 5 p.m. Please join us if you can!

Upcoming Programming - October

October 1

Bill Eagles

Carry-in Meal/Monthly Meeting for Business

October 29

Un-programmed Worship

From Finance and Stewardship

New Garden Friends Meeting has an annual budget of about \$360,000. Of that amount, \$230,000, or almost two thirds is derived from member contributions. At the end of August we would have expected to receive about \$150,000 and have received only \$108,000, or over \$40,000 below budgeted contributions year to date.

As clerk of Finance and Stewardship, I am asking all who can to increase their giving this fall. If we fall short, we will have to reduce next year's budgeted expenses. We will begin the budgeting process in early October, and will set our budgetary goals in part based on the response to this plea.

Charlie White

AFSC Centennial Celebration

Featured events

* Waging Peace: 100 Years of Action, AFSC Centennial Exhibit Through November 5, 2017

Guilford College Art Gallery, 5800 W. Friendly Ave.
exhibit.afsc.org

* Civil Rights City Tour

Sunday, October 1, 2-5 p.m.

Meet at Beloved Community Center

417 Arlington St, 27406

Civil Rights Bus Tour of Greensboro followed by snacks and stories of AFSC's desegregation work in NC.

Info: raleighbailey@gmail.com or ssumerford@triad.rr.com

RSVP required for bus tour: jcmirand90@gmail.com

Additional events

* Nonviolent Direct Action Training

Saturday, October 7

New Garden Friends Meeting, Greensboro,

Led by Ready the Ground

Info: jcmirand90@gmail.com

* Graveyard Tour at New Garden Friends Meeting Cemetery

Tuesday, October 31, 8 p.m.

Focus AFSC connections

Info: mcarter@guilford.edu

AFSC Office - 801 New Garden Road, Greensboro, NC 27410

T: 336-854-0633; LKhamala@afsc.org; Website: afsc.org

Invitation to Special Called Meeting - Sunday, September 24, 2017

A special called meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24, 2017, following the rise of meeting for worship to consider a proposed Minute on Upholding Quaker Values and Human Rights in Times of Peril. Many New Garden Friends have offered views and suggested language in the course of drafting this Minute over the past six months. An earlier version of the Minute was circulated to Meeting members in July after discussion at several open forums. The draft for consideration on September 24 now reads as follows:

Minute on Upholding Quaker Values & Human Rights in Times of Peril

New Garden Friends Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, a Quaker faith community, has been concerned about the recent erosion of values and freedoms in our country.

We hold our government leaders in the Light, pray for them, as they continuously consider those enduring values asserted in our country's founding documents – justice for all, equality, freedom to speak, freedom of the press, and, especially, freedom of religion.

As Quakers, our convictions, based in the belief that there is that of God in every person, lead us to confront hatred, bigotry, and cynicism. We accept every individual and welcome them into our community openly and free of labels. We believe that we have a special responsibility to protect people of color, people born in other countries, people who practice religions other than Christianity, people fleeing violence and terrorism, and people most vulnerable to acts of intolerance because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. In the spirit of Matthew 25:35-40, we are judged by how we respond to those least powerful, privileged, and secure.

As Quakers, we find it difficult to respect laws and orders that do not respect justice and the civil rights of everyone, and strive to change them through advocacy and other legal means. Quakers have always been invited to search their own consciences in response to injustice. We urge all Quakers and all citizens to exercise their right to vote and to hold those suffering most from the impact of these issues in the Light as they consider how they may best respond individually.

Like our forebears who quietly sheltered enslaved people in our community as they fled on the dangerous road to freedom, we hold in the Light individuals who actively oppose laws and policies that seek to strip the humanity from any persons or groups in our community.

We welcome Quakers and all in our community to join with us and others across the region and beyond in work to strengthen our democracy, promote respect for the dignity and humanity of each and every person, and keep us mindful of our vision of a society that is just and serves all its people equitably.

Why Environmental Justice Matters

- A public forum for people of faith - October 8, 2017, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Temple Emanuel, 1129 Jefferson Road, 27401

Why does Environmental Justice (EJ) matter to faith communities and people who care about both economic and racial inequality and climate? On Sunday, October 8, 2017, Environmental Stewardship Greensboro and Temple Emanuel will hold a forum about what faith-based people and congregations can do together on environmental, climate and justice issues.

Nakisa Glover, a community organizer working with N.C. Interfaith Power and Light, will lead a discussion that explores what Environmental Justice means for us as individuals, for our local Greensboro community and the wider world.

Climate change will impact some people more than others, especially those in vulnerable neighborhoods and communities where some people live exposed to toxic air, unsafe water, rising utility costs, unhealthy housing, flooding, and drought. This disproportionate impact is fundamentally unjust.

As religious communities, ESG congregations can create and learn new 'stories' to motivate action, and offer practical guidelines for daily living that enhance, rather than diminish the environment, and seek justice joyfully with our partners in faith.

Contacts: Terri Flam Goldberg at (tjflam@aol.com) or Bill McNeil at (919) 622-3303 or (mcneilplanning@gmail.com).