

BEARING FRUIT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS CHURCH NC

WELCOME!

Welcome to your FCNC Newsletter!
This is a monthly e-newsletter dedicated to keeping you up to date on current events within FCNC. We strive to highlight topics of interest such as announcements, who/what we support, recent activities, upcoming events, etc. Let us know if you have information that falls into these categories. Email information, pictures, or ideas to our Administrative Communications Coordinator, Monica Williams at: admincomms@friendschurchnc.org

WELCOME & DEVOTION- 1
UPCOMING EVENTS- 2
GARDEN OF PRAYER-2
ANNOUNCEMENTS-3
"ROOTED & CONNECTED"-4
"GLEANINGS"- 5
"GATHERED & GROWING"-6
MEET OUR MISSIONS-7
SEPTEMBER RECAP-8

A DEVOTION FOR OCTOBER

"Look for yourself
and you will find
loneliness and
despair. But look for
Christ and you will
find Him and
everything else"

C.S.Lewis

October 2026				1 Joy in Persecution Matthew 5:11-12	2 Trust Over Fear Proverbs 29:25	3 Living Hope In Christ 1 Peter 1:3
4 Don't Presume Tomorrow Proverbs 27:1	5 Seek GOD Now Isaiah 55:6	6 Everlasting Strength Isaiah 26:4	7 Thirst for GOD Psalm 63:1	8 Only GOD Saves Isaiah 43:11-12	9 Follow HIM Faithfully Deuteronomy 13:4	10 GOD's Plan Prevails Proverbs 19:20-21
11 Rest in GOD Psalm 62:1	12 Value Wise Counsel Proverbs 1:8-9	13 Hope & Future Jeremiah 29:11	14 Renewed Mind Romans 12:2	15 GOD's Greatness 2 Samuel 7:22	16 Words Pleasing to GOD (I) Psalm 19:14	17 Words Pleasing to GOD (II) Psalm 25:14-15
18 Wait on The Lord Psalm 27:14	19 Joy in GOD Psalm 37:4	20 Restored Joy Psalm 51:12	21 Delighting in GOD's Will Psalm 40:8	22 Timely Words Bring Joy Proverbs 15:23	23 Carry One Another Galatians 6:2	24 Wisdom Begins With GOD Proverbs 9:10
25 Sing & Give Thanks Ephesians 5:19-20	26 Scripture Equips Us 2 Timothy 3:16-17	27 GOD's Word Is Alive Hebrews 4:12	28 GOD's Word Endure 1 Peter 1:24-25	29 Living Sacrifice Romans 12:1	30 Saved by Grace Ephesians 2:8-9	31 Stand Firm Against Evil 1 Peter 5:8-9

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER



4th
World Quaker Day!
 Cane Creek Friends Homecoming
 & 275th Anniversary
 10am-Noon

10th
 Centre Friends Fall Festival
 4-6pm

11 - 16th
 Friends Diaster Western NC Relief

17th
 Bethel Friends Pig Pickin'
 Drive thru take out only-\$12/plate
 11am-3pm

17th
 OLC Pumpkin Festival
 2-6:30pm



24th
 FCNC Ministry & Counsel
 10am at Centre Friends

31st
 Concord Friends Chicken Stew,
 Hotdogs, & Hayrides
 5:30pm

March
6th
 QLC Ladies Retreat

May
1st
 USFW Spring Conference
 QLC Golf Tournament

3rd
 Quaker Men Spring Fling
 at Cedar Square Friends

TRUNK or TREATS

10th
 Centre Friends 4-6pm

24th
 Cedar Square Friends 4-6pm
 Marlboro Friends 5-8pm
 Science Hill Friends 6:30pm
 Deep Creek Friends 5:30-8:30pm

25th
 Bethel Friends 5-8pm

30th
 Forbush Friends 6-8pm

31st
 White Plains Friends 5pm

NOVEMBER
1st
 Randleman Friends Homecoming
 Worship at 10:30am with catered meal
 to follow. Please RSVP to
randlemanfriendsmeeting@gmail.com



6th & 7th
 FCNC 9th Annual Sessions

21st
 Back Creek Friends Fall Bazaar

2027 "Save the Date!"

July
21st - 24th
 FUM, QMI, USFWI Triennial

Garden of Prayer

"Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and He said
 to His disciples, "Sit here while I go over there to pray."

Matthew 26:36

How can we pray for you?

Prayer
Wisdom & discernment
 Guide my decisions, inspire my
 actions, and grant me the wisdom
 to discern right from wrong.



Praise
His Protection
 Thank God for carrying you
 through the past months and
 for the gift of a new season.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



FCNC Annual Sessions Registration

****PLEASE register by 10/26****

Adult & Jr YM info:

<https://www.friendschurchnc.org/fcnc-annual-sessions>

YFAC info:

<https://www.friendschurchnc.org/young-friends>

FCNC Ministry & Counsel

October 24th

Centre Friends

10am



Annual Sessions Silent Auction

The Missions Committee is hosting a Silent Auction again at Annual Sessions this year. As you are “Fall Cleaning” this month, please consider donating items to this cause. Donations will be accepted on Friday 11/6

2026 FCM is kicking off!

If anyone in your Meeting has started college at or near any of our FCM Universities (ie NC State, UNCW, App State, or UNC) please reach out to Allie Hylton for information on how they can get connected & involved.
hyltonallie@gmail.com



Job Descriptions

Mar Mac Friends Meeting

Part-Time Pastor

Job Description [HERE](#)

Deep Creek Friends Meeting

Full-Time Pastor

Job Description [HERE](#)

Director of Student Ministries

Job Description [HERE](#)

Rooted & Connected



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES at 10:00-10:45am

WORSHIP BEGINS at 11AM (Livestream on YouTube, Facebook & Vimeo at 10:55am)

The following excerpt has been taken from Carolina Quakers- Tercentenary 1672-1972

Archdale had its beginnings with the migration of Samuel & William Tomlinson and John & William English from Bush River and Charleston, South Carolina. Other Quaker names in the community were Blair, Carter, Hayworth, and Hunt. The community was first called Bush Hill, but through a petition to the Legislature in 1887, the name was changed to Archdale, in honor of the early Quaker Governor, John Archdale.

The first meetings for worship were held in a room over Winthrop Frazier's harness shop, when visiting Friends came by. Local Friends attended Sunday School and meeting for worship regularly at Springfield.

In 1876 a school house was built on land donated by J.M. Tomlinson. Later, in 1881, a larger building was constructed. Susan Vail Tomlinson started a Bible School on the second floor for children and young people who could not go to Springfield.

In 1924, a group of 74 members of Springfield Meeting who lived in the Archdale community requested that action be taken to establish a Meeting at Archdale. Deep River Quarterly Meeting granted the request, and a committee was appointed to set up the Archdale Meeting: Lewis W McFarland, Walter White, H. Clay Briggs, Alta Burton, Emma Blair, Tom A. Sykes, Dora Horney, J. Elwood Cox, and Ethel Newton. Mary Wilson Wall was the first clerk; Myrtle F. Tomlinson, assistant; Herbert Tomlinson, treasurer; Horace S. Ragan, building fund treasurer; Clara I. Cox, continuing minister.

A new meeting house located on land secured from Lena F. Ragan was built, ready for occupancy in which Reuben J. Payne served as pastor. Major additions to the meeting house have been constructed as the membership has grown. A new parsonage on Lake Drive was built in 1969.

Meet Their Pastor

Pastor Rodney and his wife Shelley are natives of the Trinity Area and attended local primary schools and both graduated from Trinity High School. Rodney received an honorable discharge from the United States Marine Corps after 4 years of service and Shelley graduated from Appalachian State University. After being called into the ministry, Rodney attended Seminary in Winston Salem, NC. Rodney and Shelley were married in October of 1995 and they have 2 children, Luke and Rachel. Rodney works at Trinity High School in the distance learning lab and also coaches the volleyball and golf teams. Shelley is a social worker for Hospice of the Piedmont.



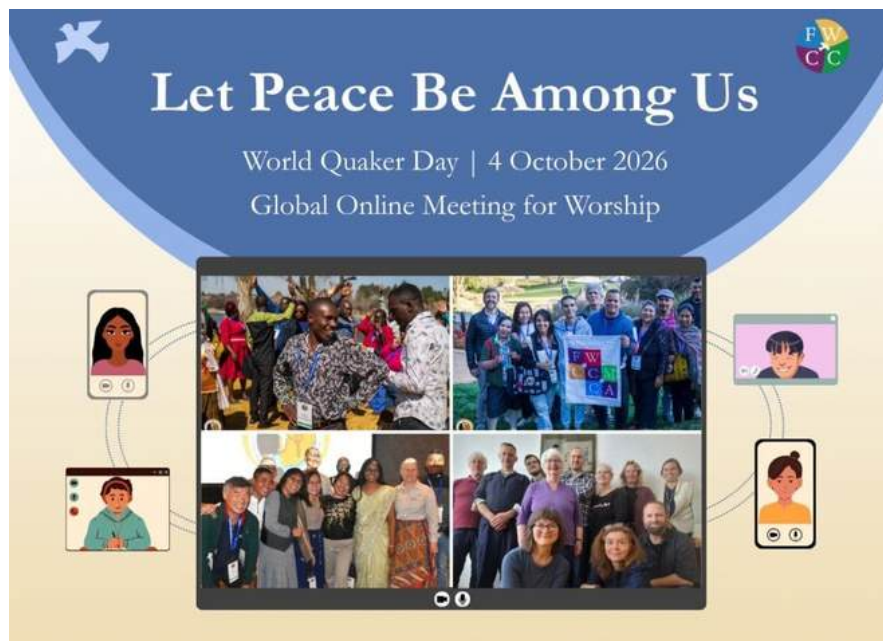
GLEANNINGS

The following excerpt was taken from the October 3rd 2021 Rocky River Friends Bulletin:

"As I had forsaken the priests, so I left the separate preachers also, and those esteemed the most experienced people; for I saw there was none among them all that could speak to my condition. And when all my hopes in them and in all men were gone, so that I had nothing outwardly to help me, nor could tell what to do, then, oh, then, I heard a voice which said, "There is one, even Christ Jesus, that can speak to thy condition"; and when I heard it my heart did leap for joy. Then the Lord let me see why there was none upon the earth that could speak to my condition, namely, that I might give Him all the glory; for all are concluded under sin, and shut up in unbelief as I had been, that Jesus Christ might have the pre-eminence who enlightens, and gives grace, and faith, and power. Thus when God doth work, who shall let (i.e. prevent) it? And this I knew experimentally."

– from the Journal of George Fox edited by John L. Nickalls

Prayer: May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



The theme for World Quaker Day on 4 October 2026 is Let Peace Be Among Us, with the supporting Bible passage Hebrews 12:14, "Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy."

FWCC is planning an extended online meeting for worship on World Quaker Day (4 October), bringing together Friends across borders, languages, time zones and Quaker traditions with a shared focus on peace.

Other ways to take part in World Quaker Day:

- Share a message of peace in a sermon, all-age worship or children's session exploring what the Bible says about peace.
- Organise a meeting for learning about the Quaker testimony to peace.
- Plan a 'Pause for Peace' or silent vigil in a public space.

Gathered & Growing

Biscuits & Blessings

On Grandparents day, the Youth of Forbush Friends enjoyed a time of fellowship with their Grands prior to the Sunday School hour. In total, 54 Grandparents were fed, loved on, and shown how **GRAND** they truly are.

During the Worship service, the Youth acknowledged all Grandparents present, then conducted a “friendly competition” where a winner from each of the following categories were awarded:

Most Great Grandchildren,
Oldest Grandparent present,
Newest Grandparent present,
Most Grandkids in total, &
Most Grandkids present.



CROCS of Cedar Square

Joseph found good grace with Potiphar and he was entrusted to run his whole estate. When Potiphar's wife tried to be a bad influence on Joseph, Joseph stood firm in his morals and beliefs and removed himself from the situation. She lied to her husband, and Potiphar unfortunately sent Joseph to prison, which is where God will continue to work on Joseph next week.

To apply this lesson, we played a few games of Tug-of-war to demonstrate how we need to stand firm in our own morals and beliefs when we are challenged.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. – Phil 4:6 (NIV)

How is that possible? How can you go through life without being anxious? The rest of this verse tells us how to do it. We are to do two things:

1. Pray.
2. Be thankful.

When we choose to be thankful, it changes our perspective on the situation. In many cases, being thankful can turn your anxiety around. It's hard to be anxious when you're thankful.

Today choose to put aside your anxiety and choose to practice being thankful. You'll find that as you become thankful, it's hard to be anxious.

meet our **MISSIONS**

Samaritan's Purse 2026 Operation Christmas Child

September 13th

Baked Potato and Salad Bar Fundraiser lunch at Cedar Square Friends on Sunday, September 13th raised \$4,424 that will cover the shipping costs for 400 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

Later that same evening, Marlboro Friends hosted a yummy Ice Cream Social to also raise \$1,670 for Operation Christmas Child. Friends enjoyed music by the Marlboro Messengers & Mark Wallace.

A 42lb watermelon, grown by Tommy Hayes, also made an appearance and was shared with everyone who attended.



Belize

It actually happened. Our dedicated and energetic Belize Friends School staff worked hard all summer—transformed classrooms, built playground equipment and bathrooms, completed stacks upon stacks of paperwork—and transformed Belize Friends School from a second chance school for adolescents into a pre-school for three to six-year-olds. I have been hearing about this possibility for a few months, but it is breathtaking to actually be in this new environment. To see the Legos, hear the screams of joy and anger, realize, “oh, this is the hard work by which children learn to count.” It all actually happened. It’s all been made real. —Dan K

SEPTEMBER RECAP

September 13th

On Sunday, September 13, 2026 members of Goldsboro Friends gathered for their Homecoming service. Many Friends returned for this joyous occasion and all who attended were blessed by a message from Pastor Tim Grant. Superintendent, Mike Wall, attended the service and observed much fellowship, catching up, and sharing to be had. A catered meal in the Fellowship Hall followed the Worship service.



September 18th

On Friday, September 18th Concord Friends Meeting held their golf tournament at Oak Hollow Golf Course. We would like to take a moment to thank everyone who participated in our annual golf tournament last Friday. Those who played, sponsored, and helped in any way to make it a successful day! We are thankful that the rain held off until the tournament was completed. The funds raised will go towards updates, repairs, and improvements to the meeting house.



September 28th

On Monday, September 28th the Quaker Men held their Fall Banquet at Marlboro Friends. Those who attended were blessed in song and message by Annette and Alvin Battle.

The NC FDS Coordinators honored Rebecca & Ken Spivey, plus Hugh Spaulding, as long time FDS Volunteers.

FDS Coordinators, Gary Dodson, Allen Gibson, and David Robinette, Jr. spoke to the group about the Western Carolina relief trip that will be in October. They encouraged those who have never attended in the past to join them.

Cedar Square took home the Attendance Banner with 13 members present.

