

DECEMBER 2024 | ISSUE NO.38

BEARING FRUIT

The Official Newsletter of Friends Church North Carolina

ARTICLES TO HELP
YOU THROUGH:

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WELCOME!

Welcome to your Friends Church North Carolina 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.

How can you help?

Let us know if you have information that falls into these categories
at an FCNC level. Email information, pictures or ideas to our Social
Media Coordinator,

Jenny Gullion at: jenny@friendschurchnc.org



Quotes by Quakers

“

“TRUE GODLINESS DOESN'T TURN MEN OUT OF THE WORLD, BUT ENABLES THEM TO LIVE BETTER IN IT, AND EXCITES THEIR ENDEAVOURS TO MEND IT... CHRISTIANS SHOULD KEEP THE HELM AND GUIDE THE VESSEL TO ITS PORT; NOT MEANLY STEAL OUT AT THE STERN OF THE WORLD AND LEAVE THOSE THAT ARE IN IT WITHOUT A PILOT TO BE DRIVEN BY THE FURY OF EVIL TIMES UPON THE ROCK OR SAND OF RUIN.”

-WILLIAM PENN 1682

”

A Word of Devotion:

WATER

By: Vicki Winslow
Clerk, Liberty Friends Meeting



“ And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.”

Mark 4:37-39

Water is a wonderful, life-giving element with a magnetic pull. People first built homes close to water sources for practical reasons, to have it on hand for drinking. Towns grew near rivers or lakes for easier travel and transport of goods. Today transportation's generally available, and municipal water towers or backyard wells supply our drinking water, but the most desirable homes are still often near water because a water view is an asset. Until it isn't.

When a storm blows, the water can quickly become a problem. We've seen how unleashed floodwaters can destroy municipal water towers, and ravage transportation routes. As necessary and beautiful as water is, it's also no joke—especially if you're on a small fishing boat feeling every slap of the waves, knowing the water that's been keeping you afloat can also sink you very quickly. There's a reason why the first level of warning for mariners is the Small Craft Advisory. The smaller the craft, the more perilous the waters when life's storms blow.

Thank goodness Jesus is in the boat with us. All we have to do is remember to ask, and he'll prove to us again and again that there are no powers on earth that can overwhelm us. James Laurence, pastor of the First Lutheran Church in Albemarle, North Carolina, wrote in a sermon last January:

Isn't that the gift and blessing of being part of a church community? In the church, like in that boat in the storm, there is always somebody who thinks to wake up Jesus. That's why we need each other.... Because when we're caught in the middle of life's storms, we can forget to wake up Jesus. But there is always someone in the church to do it for us. Our faith is made stronger by the presence of other disciples.

Friends, no matter how large or small the meeting, Jesus is on board with us. All we have to do is remember he's there, and call on him for help.



Upcoming Events:

**DECEMBER 8TH, 2024
SAXAPHONE QUARTET
RANDLEMAN FRIENDS
@ 10:30 AM**

**DECEMBER 8TH, 2024
CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE
QUAKER LAKE CAMP
@ 5PM**

**DECEMBER 14TH & 15TH 2024
WHITE PLAINS FRIENDS
DRIVE THRU NATIVITY
5:00-6:30 PM**

**DECEMBER 20TH, 2024
DEADLINE TO ORDER PORK
CONCORD FRIENDS
BY 5PM**

**DECEMBER 22ND 2024
WHITE PLAINS FRIENDS
YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
@ 6PM**

**DECEMBER 2024
ROCKY RIVER
REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR
(SEE FLYER BELOW)**

CHECK OUT THE NEXT
FEW PAGES FOR MORE
INFORMATION ABOUT
THESE EVENTS

THE BOOK ROOM ONLINE

[CLICK HERE](#) to check out the
online bookstore on the
FCNC website. A great
resource for many friends
books!



If you have any announcements

Let us know at

jenny@friendschurchnc.org

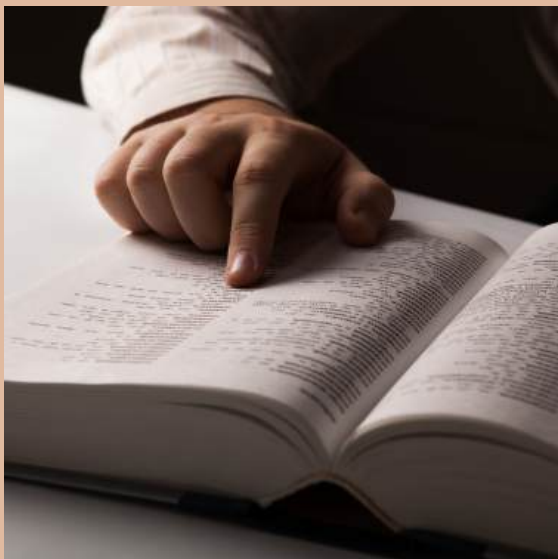
****Attention Committee Members****

Announcements:



REMINDER

Directory *still available!*

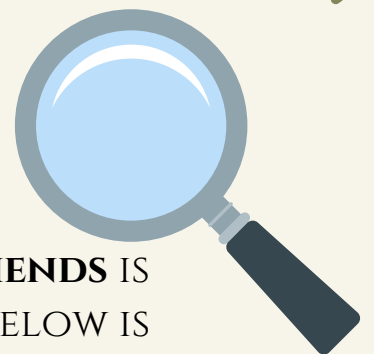


There was recently a possible data breach in our directory. Therefore the password has been changed. Please reach out to Paul Routh to learn how to regain access.

paul@friendschurchnc.org

[Log in HERE](#)

In Search of a Pastor & Youth Pastor for Centre Friends



WE RECEIVED AN E-MAIL ANNOUNCING THAT **CENTRE FRIENDS** IS LOOKING FOR A FULL TIME PASTOR AND YOUTH PASTOR. BELOW IS A LINK TO THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS THAT WILL GIVE INTERESTED APPLICANTS A GOOD IDEA OF WHAT CENTRE IS LOOKING FOR. PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER THIS AND REACH OUT TO THOSE THAT MAY QUALIFY, IF THE LORD SHOULD SO LEAD.

CLICK [HERE](#) TO VISIT FCNC WEBSITE TO READ THE FULL JOB DESCRIPTION.

Youth Leader Position Opening



Concord Friends Meeting has an opening
for a part time youth leader. [TAP HERE](#) to
see more information on this position
and to apply



IN SEARCH

of a full time Pastor
Science Hill Friends Meeting

2421 Lassiter Mill Road
Asheboro, NC 27205

In rural Randolph County, right off of New Highway 49
If you are interested in applying or visiting please contact
Tammy Garner @ 336-460-4421 or garnerseed@rtmc.net

Mailing address:
Science Hill Friends
c/o Tammy Garner
PO Box 1386
Asheboro, NC 27204



IN SEARCH

of a Pastor
Bethel Friends Meeting

2519 Bethel Church Road
Asheboro, NC. 27203

We are a small, but active meeting. Our average attendance for morning worship is between 35 and 40. Our USFW attendance is around 14 ladies for each of our monthly breakfast meetings. The USFW is very involved in community and mission projects. Our Quaker Men meet once a month for breakfast, fellowship and devotions.

Our meeting serves 1000+ people at our Pig Picking fundraisers in April and October each year. We also have various other activities that reach out into our community.
We want our pastor to participate in our meeting activities.

We want our pastor to lead us in studying God's word, reaching others for Christ and helping us to grow in our own walk with Christ. We want a pastor who will care for our meeting as we will care for them, with love, compassion and concern.

We want them to be a close part of our Bethel family.

For more information contact Sarah Cox Clerk of Ministry and Council
336-963-2710



IN SEARCH

of a full time Pastor
Centre Friends Meeting

325 HWY 62 E
Greensboro, NC

Centre Friends Meeting is searching for a full time Pastor. Check out the Pastor job description on their website.

<https://www.centrefriends.org>

Send resume to:
Centre Friends Meeting Ministry and Counsel
Attn: Julie Hatchel, Clerk
PO Box 632

Randleman, NC 27317
julle@asheborolawyer.com



**Job Posting
Part-Time Pastor**

**Mar Mac Friends Meeting
1954 Old Grantham Road
Goldsboro, NC 27530**

Mar Mac Friends Meeting is seeking to fill the position of a Part-Time Pastor. We are an evangelical, conservative Quaker Meeting in rural Wayne County, North Carolina. We are a member of Contentnea Quarterly Meeting, Friends Church of North Carolina and Friends United Meeting.

Primary Functions

- Prepare and lead Sunday Morning worship service
- Provide pastoral leadership to the meeting

Qualifications

- Must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, having accepted Him as Savior and Lord and have an understanding and agreement with Friend Church of NC Faith and Practice
- Previous training and/or experience as a pastor
- Recorded as a Quaker minister is desired.

A more detailed job description is available if requested.

If interested please contact:

Connie Seymour, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel
116 Perkins Drive
Goldsboro, NC 27530

919-922-0441 email: connieseymour@msn.com

Rocky River Friends Meeting

1795 Staley Snow Camp Rd.
Siler City, NC 27344

Job Description for Pastor of Rocky River Friends Meeting

Rocky River Friends Meeting Vision/Mission Statement:

- To tell the story of Jesus based on his teachings
- To further the work of Christ in the world
- To encourage and treat all human beings with love, dignity, and respect through humanitarian service and social justice
- To promote peace in the world

Pastor Job Description:

- The pastor's primary concern should be the spiritual well-being and growth of the Meeting's members and prospective members

Desired Qualifications:

- Knowledge and understanding of Quaker history
- A belief in Jesus Christ, having accepted him as Savior and Lord
- An understanding and agreement with FCNC(Friends Church of North Carolina)
- Training and/or experience as a pastor

Responsibilities:

- Leading people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ
- Responsible for all Sunday morning services bringing Biblical and practical messages to the congregation each week
- Attend and participate in the Meeting's activities other than the Sunday morning service
- Available to perform special services, including weddings and funerals
- Provide support for members as needed and visitation of shut-ins, people in the hospital and in nursing home facilities as well as those in crisis situations
- Participate and support activities of Western Quarterly Meeting and FCNC

*Compensation package will be commiserate with education and experience.

*Persons interested in this position should send resume in PDF to:

dallasavestal@yahoo.com

Dallas Brooks, Clerk of Ministry and Counsel
Rocky River Friends Meeting

New

ADDRESSES

FCNC
P.O. Box 4240,
Archdale, NC 27263

It is also the new mailing
address for NCYM INC.
as well as to Judith Cranford

Treasurer NC USFW:
Alicia Sharp
908 Scottish Rite Dr.
Apt 219
Greensboro, NC 27407

Please send correspondence
and NC USFW project
donations here.



**CENTER STREET
SAXOPHONE QUARTET**

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
10:30 AM**

**Randleman Friends Meeting
523 High Point St.
Randleman**



Concord Friends Meeting is taking orders now for pork butts and shoulders just in time for Christmas. The cost is \$40 for the butts and \$60 for the shoulders. Call Scott at 336-314-3027 to order yours now! They will be available for pick up on Friday, December 20 at 5:00.



Job Description for Pastor of Randleman Friends Meeting

Randleman Friends Meeting is a traditional programmed Quaker meeting that also incorporates elements of un-programmed worship.

The pastor's primary focus is the spiritual well-being and growth of the Meeting's members and prospective members.

The pastor reports to Ministry and Council and the Monthly Meeting and adheres to guidelines presented in FCNC (Friends Church of North Carolina) Faith and Practice.

Desired Qualities:

- Energetic and motivational
- Knowledge and understanding of Quaker history
- Applies Quaker practice, testimonies, and doctrine in messages and in life – specifically peace, equality, and continuing revelation
- Interest in growth of the meeting
- Interest in Missions
- Provides thought provoking, challenging messages
- Incorporates logic and reason in decision making
- Positive and cooperative leadership

Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership and spoken messages for Sunday morning worship services
- Oversee special services, including weddings and funerals, as needed
- Attend and participate in the Meeting's activities
- Support Monthly Meeting committees
- Provide contact and visitation with members and prospective members
- Provide support for members as needed
- Participate and support activities of Southern Quarterly Meeting and FCNC

Persons interested in this position should send resume to randlemanfriendsmeeting@gmail.com

www.randlemanfriendsmeeting.com
523 High Point Street | Randleman, NC 27317
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 00
Acceptance, Recognition, Caring, Friendship

2024 Reverse Advent Calendar

Each day add a Friends Emergency Material Assistance Program (FEMAP) Emergency Kit item to the calendar!*

"It's more blessed to give than to receive." - Acts 20:35

December 1	Toothpaste
December 2	Toothbrush
December 3	Shampoo
December 4	Antibacterial Soap
December 5	Wide Toothed Comb
December 6	Wash Cloth
December 7	Hand Towel
December 8	Deodorant
December 9	Toothpaste
December 10	Toothbrush
December 11	Shampoo
December 12	Antibacterial Soap
December 13	Wide Toothed Comb
December 14	Wash Cloth
December 15	Hand Towel
December 16	Deodorant
December 17	Toothpaste
December 18	Toothbrush
December 19	Shampoo
December 20	Antibacterial Soap
December 21	Wide Toothed Comb
December 22	Wash Cloth
December 23	Hand Towel
December 24	Deodorant

*Items may be brought to Rocky River Friends any Sunday.

Rocky River Friends Meeting
1795 Staley Snow Camp Road
Siler City, NC 27344

Email: RockyRiverFriends@yahoo.com
Website: RockyRiverFriendsMeeting.org
Phone: (336) 622-3466
Kit items will be shared with Western North Carolina and local schools.



To: White Plains Friends
From: Celo Friends

"We are so thankful for your assistance, we have been able to help 6 families get through the winter - all with children.

To: FCNC
From: Southern Appalachian
Yearly Meeting

So far we have been able to help 64 families with severe flood damage or loss of home or livelihood."

*FCNC gave \$10,000 to relief efforts and this was the results of your giving!

Thank you!

Friends Campus Ministry Update:

Friends Campus Ministry (FCM) is alive and growing! The Board would like to share the following update on your investment in this important ministry whose purpose is threefold:

- To develop ministries in colleges and universities across North Carolina that keep young adults connected to their Quaker roots while away from home as well as help them in their spiritual life and develop them as potential leaders.
- To introduce other students outside the Friends denomination to who Friends are and the Christian values, distinctives, and practices that make Friends unique among other protestant denominations.
- And most importantly, to introduce students to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ through sharing and demonstrating the gospel of Jesus Christ to others.

The model for this ministry is to have a student pastor on various campuses who organizes a weekly Bible study offering students Christian fellowship, worship and of course, food. A part-time Coordinator mentors, supports, and encourages the pastors, having regular monthly check-ins and planning sessions. This person also keeps the FCM Board updated and makes recommendations as needed. Pastors and the coordinator are salaried positions. The restructuring of our Yearly Meeting and the pandemic were very disruptive for this ministry, but it is getting back on track. For the Fall semester, we currently have active groups meeting in Boone, Raleigh and Wilmington.

At Appalachian State University the pastor is Emory Langley. Emory is in her third year. Last year her group was not as strong as the first year, averaging 3 to 4 per meeting. However, they had ten participating last week. They meet at 6:45 each Wednesday and are currently exploring the topic of God's love. She is looking forward to growing the group.

The Raleigh group is mainly focused on NC State but has had students from surrounding colleges of Meredith, Peace and Wake Tech Community College. The pastor for this group is Caden Funk who is in his second year. Last year the group averaged 6. However, this year Caden has already identified 12 students, and they had 10 students at their last meeting. They meet from 6:30-7:30 on Thursdays at the DH Hill Library Study Room. Typically, they eat, pray and have Bible study. Afterwards they play basketball and sometimes gather at the Student Union.

The Wilmington group includes UNC-Wilmington and the Cape Fear Community College and is led by Jackson Beane who is in his third year. Our newest campus ministry, they averaged around 4 last year and had 6 at their most recent meeting. They meet at 7pm on Wednesdays at Jackson's or Paige Needham's apartment. They are currently following a study based on the book, "Life Lessons from a Bad Quaker: A Humble Stumble Toward Simplicity and Grace."

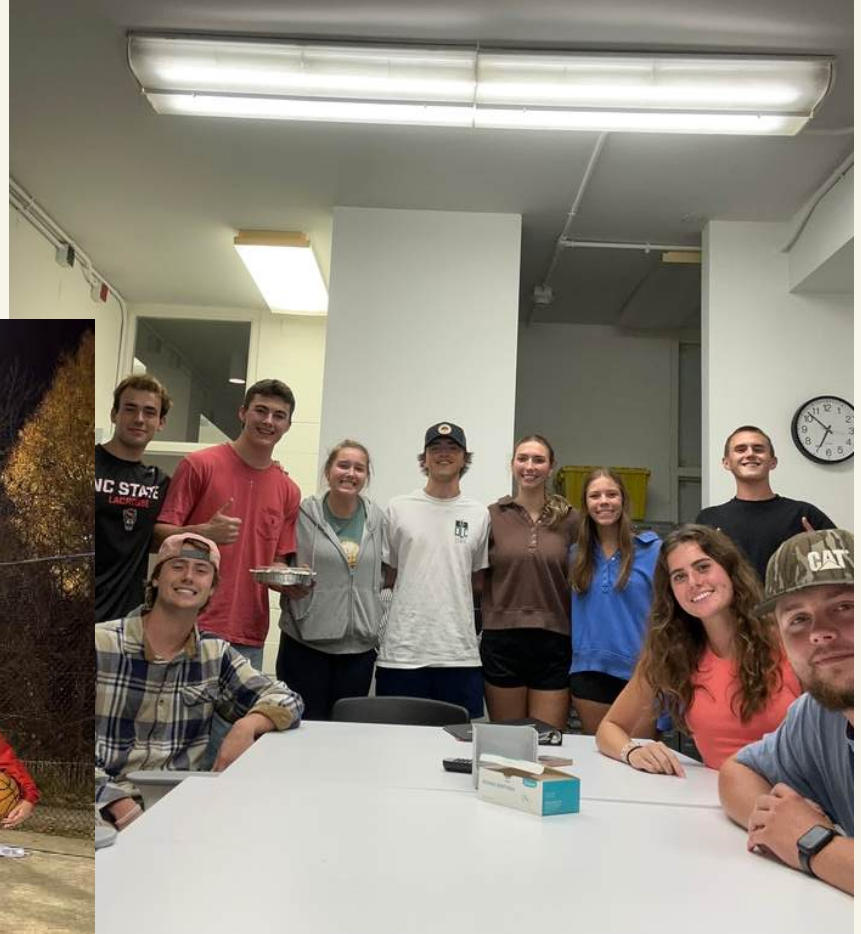
In the past one of our strongest groups has been in Greensboro, but our active members have graduated, and we currently do not have a group meeting there. We would appreciate your help identifying students in the Greensboro area, and a student who would be interested in leading a group there.

We also are currently without a coordinator and are actively and prayerfully seeking someone to fill this important role. The job descriptions for the coordinator and pastors are posted on the FCNC website. Anyone interested may also contact FCM Board chairperson, Eric Morrison at (336) 501-5301 or email at emorri4@bellsouth.net. And if you have students from your meeting that are in the Boone, Raleigh, or Wilmington areas, please forward their information so they can be contacted by one of the campus pastors.

This is a ministry that receives little funding through its participants because the participants are students. But the FCM Board recognizes that many young people leave the church once they enter college, and we want to provide a means by which we can retain our young people in our meetings. We also recognize the spiritual warfare that goes on at our campuses of higher learning and the stresses that come with being away from home while also trying to keep up with schoolwork. It is the Board's hope that Friends Campus Ministries will be a place where our college students can be strengthened spiritually, emotionally and physically by interacting with like-minded believers and through the study of God's word.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers as we grow these groups and search for a coordinator.

Friends Campus Ministry Pictures::





On November 22, 2024, the 82nd Graduation Ceremony at FTC was a resounding success. During the 2023–2024 academic year, a total of 139 students graduated across various programs: Certificate in Pastoral Ministry, Diploma in Theology, Advanced Certificate in Chaplaincy, and Bachelor of Theology. This milestone is a testament to the hard work and dedication of FTC's students and the entire FTC community, who worked tirelessly to make this event a memorable one.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the full FUM Newsletter

Meet our Missions Friends Theological College



Friends Theological College (FTC) is dedicated to the training of Friends pastors, as well as to the academic progress, personal development, and spiritual growth of the students whom God is calling to other ministries.

Founded as Friends Bible Institute in 1942, College trains both men and women to pastor and to lead.

The College's principal, Robert J. Wafula, serves at the center of this vibrant, exciting community of learners. Together, the FTC community seeks to integrate faith, scripture, and theology in training the present and future leaders of Quaker churches in East Africa; and to foster in individual hearts and lives the process of maturing in Christ.

[CLICK HERE for more information](#)

Excerpts from:

SOLITUDE

Proverbs, Wisdom & Principles for Better Living

By: William Penn



Quotes on "Patience":

400- It is cruelty indeed not to give the unhappy a hearing, whom we ought to help: but it is the top of oppression to browbeat the humble and modest miserable, when they seek relief.

401- Some, it is true, are unreasonable in their desires and hopes: but then we should inform, not rail at and reject them.

402- It is therefore as great an instance of wisdom as a man in business can give, to be patient under the impertinencies and contradictions that attend it.

QUAKER QUESTIONS

Taken from "Questions Quakers are Asking"

By: Seth B. Hinshaw

The Golden Rule

A fundamental Christian precept is to treat others as we ourselves wish to be treated. This goes beyond specific actions, and involves attitudes of heart. What essentials do we desire for ourselves?

Justice- Everyone wishes to be treated justly.

Respect- One can hardly underestimate the importance of respect. Disrespect is painfully damaging. Jesus made strong statements concerning the sin of slandering the dignity of another person. (Matthew 5:22)

Love- There are different kinds of love ranging from general good will to the most personal and intimate affection. Without the privilege of loving and being loved no one of us would want to go on living.

Do you want your very own copy of "Questions Quakers are asking?"

[CLICK HERE](#)
to order from your
FCNC bookstore!



Quaker Query

...for December



What is a "Quaker Query"?

Quakers use the term Query to refer to a question or series of questions used for reflection and in spiritual exercises. Friends have used Queries as tools for offering spiritual challenges to the community for much of their history.

Consider this...

-Do I come to Meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship?

-In both silent and vocal ministry, do I respond to the leadings of the Holy Spirit, without pre-arrangement and in simplicity and truth?

Social Media

Comm-Tech Committee Statement

Hello from your FCNC Comm-Tech Committee!

Many members within FCNC are still unaware that we have a newsletter!

The best way for Friends to stay up to date and aware of news & events is to get connected.

There are 3 great ways to do that:

- 1) subscribe to *Bearing Fruit* (click [HERE](#))
- 2) follow FCNC's Facebook Page (click [HERE](#))
- 3) join FCNC's Facebook group (click [HERE](#))

Social Media isn't for everyone, and we completely understand, so that's where "Bearing Fruit" is a great option.

But what about those in our Meetings who still haven't heard about or seen the newsletter?

That's where YOU come in!

Pastors, announce to your congregations on Sundays.

Friends, ask your friends if they've seen the newsletter.

Committee leaders, consider printing off copies to hand out to those who are less likely to use technology.

Together, we can get the word out! Thank you for your help

Click here to send me an e-mail
jenny@friendschurchnc.org



Prayer **CORNER**

How can we pray for you?

Prayer:

Pray for the continued work in Western NC.

Pray for those caught in the continued unrest in the Middle East.

Pray for those who are missing loved ones who have passed this holiday season.

Praise:

Praise God for He delivers us from distress.

"Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress."

Psalm 107:6



November

RECAP

Concord Friends Meeting

“A Community Singing was held at Concord Friends on November 17. We had talent representing 6 churches within FCNC and the Sumner Community. People shared through singing, instrumentals including piano, flute, violin and guitar. What a wonderful evening of worshipping our Savior!”



Baltimore Friends Meeting

Mike Wall and Dr. Darryl Bodie made a trip to Baltimore Friends Church on Nov. 15-16. Dr. Bodie taught 2 sessions with them.



Visit to Concord Friends Meeting

Last month Mike wall was able to make a visit to Concord Friends!



Southern Quarterly Meeting

Southern Quarterly Meeting was held November 17th at Asheboro Friends.

Exciting New Projects are coming to the Quarter!

David Milikan introduced a new project called "Sleep in Heavenly Peace" to build beds for children who sleep on floors because they don't have beds.

Reach out to Asheboro Friends if you would like to get involved!



NC Friends Disaster Service

Dear FDS friends,

Jim and Glenda Littleton were honored today as the recipients of the Tim Wilde Mission Service Award from the Board of World Mission of the Moravian Church. Thank you to so many for joining us. Your presence was a blessing. If you would like to watch the presentation, you may click on the blue link below.

I've attached a picture of the group (Sam & Elle Terranova and Joe Bradshaw had already left--sorry guys).

[CLICK HERE](#)

Michone (Littleton) Coleman

