



JUNE 2023 | ISSUE NO.20

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!

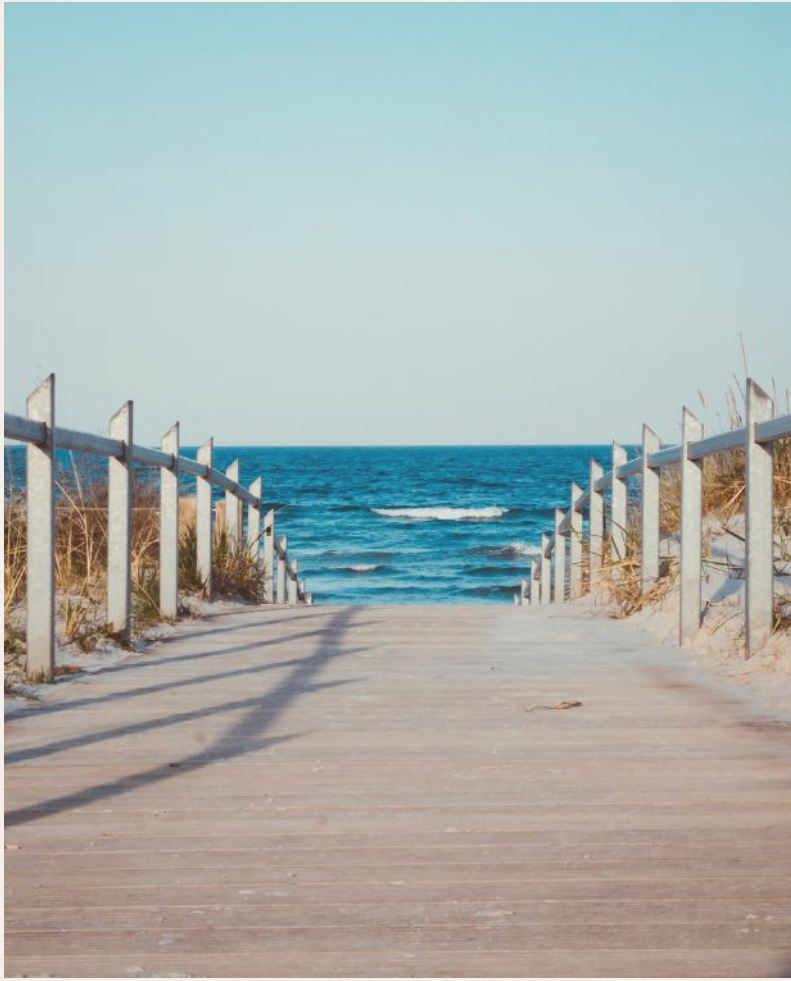
This is a monthly e-newsletter dedicated to keeping you up to date on current events within FCNC.

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

“

"NOW I FIND THAT IN A STATE OF PURE OBEDIENCE THE MIND LEARNS CONTENTMENT IN APPEARING WEAK AND FOOLISH TO THAT WISDOM WHICH IS OF THE WORLD; AND IN THESE LOWLY LABORS, THEY WHO STAND IN A LOW PLACE AND ARE RIGHTLY EXERCISED UNDER THE CROSS WILL FIND NOURISHMENT."

JOHN WOOLMAN, 1720-1772

”

A Word of Devotion:

“FORGIVENESS”

By Nydia DiCarali

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, ‘ Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?’ Jesus answered, ‘ I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times’ (Matthew 18:21-22)

Forgiveness. If we're honest, we aren't very openhanded with it and tend to withhold it until we feel ready, or the offender shows some indication of their remorse. Some of us have been known to say; "I'm praying and asking God to help me to forgive." That sounds correct, but it isn't biblical.

The fact is, forgiving someone is an act of obedience, not a feeling. Jesus wasn't suggesting we forgive one another, He was commanding us to.

Peter thought himself charitable when he suggested that number. But Jesus wanted to show him that true forgiveness, like love, has no limit. In this account of the unmerciful servant, Jesus demonstrated how we should forgive (Matt. 18:21-35).

I have read the narrative hundreds of times and never understood why God would want us to become doormats. After all, if someone repeatedly wrongs you, how long before you decide you've had enough? It never made much sense to me. But, when you're earnestly seeking God and asking Him to show you the error of your ways, He will.

Several years ago, someone hurt me. The individual was calculating and callous. It would be some time before they sought my forgiveness. As a Christian, I knew what I had to do, even though I didn't feel like doing it. I told them I forgave them, and that it was good we put the matter behind us. However, it would be some time before I followed through with actions that proved my words.

During this season of conflict, God was teaching me that the temptation to relive the pain and anger would resurface often, and I had to choose to forgive every single time. I know this is not a new revelation, but I don't think this truth can be stressed enough. Months passed before I ran into that person again, and instantly my entire body tensed. My wounds were deep and justified, I thought. I was holding on to the offense like a comfortable robe. Only I didn't know it was dirty. As I considered this portion of Scripture again, I realized I was behaving like a child, who had been caught treating his younger sibling poorly. I knew my Father expected me to say I was sorry, but I hadn't forgiven from my heart (vs. 35). And that is how God wants us to forgive.

I have since surrendered the offense and offered forgiveness that looks a lot more like God's supernatural love.

God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve, nor does He expect us to keep a record of how others have wounded us. His forgiveness of our sin should compel us to be more charitable with kindness, mercy, and love.

After all, isn't that how we were won over?

Extend forgiveness today. When you do, you will walk unencumbered by the sin that so easily entangles.





Upcoming Events:

June 9-10, 2023

VBS at White Plains Friends

[Tap here](#)

June 11-15, 2023

VBS at Concord Friends

June 11-16, 2023

Next FDS trip

June 24th, 2023

Blood Drive at Concord Friends

June 25- July 1, 2023

Theology Camp at
Barclay College



July 24- August 4, 2023

Jamaica VBS
(Please see flyer below to
see how you can help)

August 19th, 2023

USFW Fall Annual Meeting
at Cedar Square
(registration below)

August 30th, 2023

USFW Art contest drawing
deadline
(see flyer below)

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

“At Kaleo Academy our mission is to train emerging student leaders for the Friends Movement, but one of our core values is to connect students to Friends churches and Friends organizations to give them opportunities to serve. Simply stated, Kaleo Academy is following the model of Ephesians 4:11-12, “So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.” Theology Camp begins June 25-July 1, 2023, on the campus of Barclay College.

For more information, contact the director

Katy Moran at:

katy.moran@barclaycollege.edu



If you have any announcements

Let us know at

jenny@friendschurchnc.org



****Attention Committee Members****

Don't forget to let us know if there is any upcoming dates we should add to our newsletter by the 20th of each month

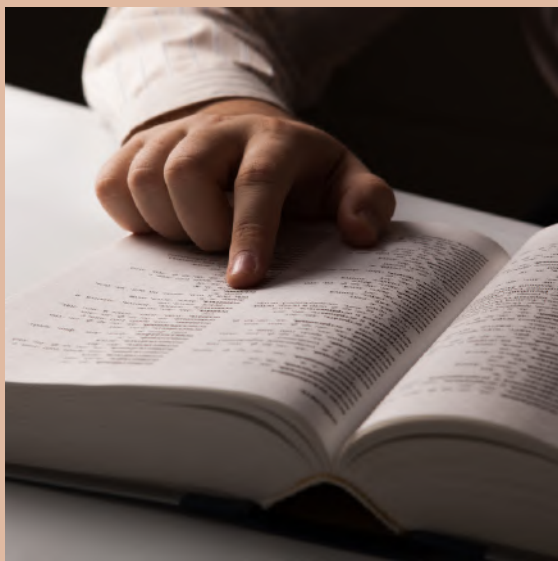
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Announcements:



REMINDER

2022 Directory *still available!*



Your updated version of the directory is now available on the FCNC website!

Access to the directory will require a password.

Click the link provided to head over to the website and enter the password to view, download or print.

Password: **Directory2021!**

[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**



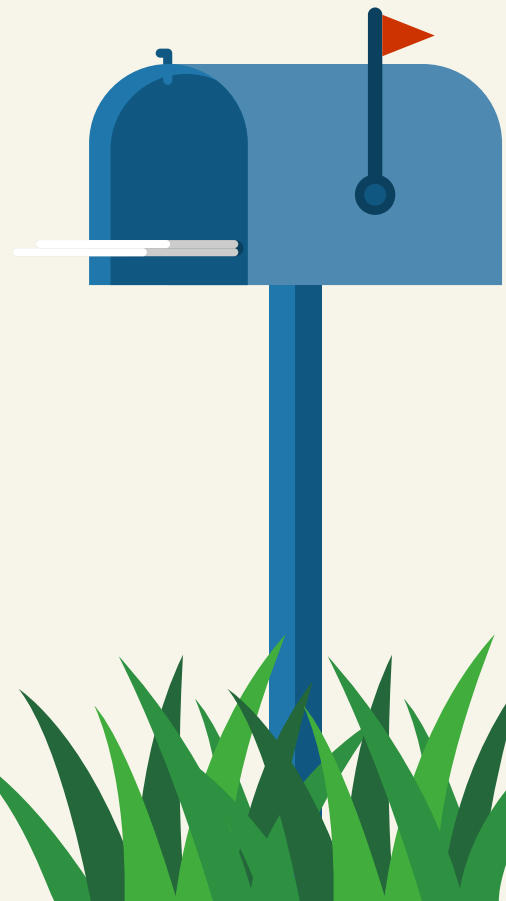
New
ADDRESS



FCNC has a new mailing address!

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

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



Concord Friends Meeting

IBS 2023



Sign up at:
CONCORTINDS.COM

Dinner
provided

JUNE 11-15
AGES 3-5TH GRADE

6:00PM-
8:30PM

PIC • COLLAGE

Also...

Don't forget the Blood Drive at
Concord Friends Meeting on
June 24th from 10:00-2:30 PM

Donors can sign up on the Church's website if they
would like an appointment. Walk-ins are also
welcome!



NC USFW Annual Gathering Registration

Saturday, August 19, 2023

**Cedar Square Friends
7546 Harlow Road
Archdale, NC 27263**



Thank you to Cedar Square for hosting our Fall Annual Gathering. This year our program will focus on the Triennial in Kenya. Our speakers will be Brenda McKinney and Rita Mintmier along with a few others who will be attending the Triennial July 2-8, 2023. At this meeting we will also install our new officers and recognize our Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship members.

The new theme for the United Society of Friends Women International is "Rooted in Love. Philippians 4:6-7." This year's theme goes along with the Triennial theme of "Come, Abide and Go". These three words hold a lot of meaning. As a family of believers we come together to support one another because we are rooted in Love. As we come together and abide, we receive the peace of God to help us not to be anxious or worry. This peace will allow us to go and share the message of Jesus in many different ways to many different people.

Please remember to bring your Love and Hope dollars to our Fall Gathering so that we may help with the food crisis that is still facing our world.

**9:00 – 10:00 am Registration and Bookstore with light refreshments
10:00 am – 12 noon Welcome, Music, Business and Program
12:00 noon Luncheon – catered lunch @\$12.00 each**

If you have questions please contact :

DeLois Russell at Deerussell@northstate.net or

Donnivee Perry at donniveeperry@gmail.com Phone (336)-689-0040

**NC USFW Annual Gathering at Cedar Square Friends
Please clip and send by August 9, 2023**

Name(s) _____

Meeting _____

Number of Lunches at \$12.00 each _____ **Total \$** _____

Please clip / mail with check written to: Cedar Square Friends USFW :

**Donnivee Perry
1396 Riverwood Road
Randleman, NC 27317**



North Carolina Friends Disaster Service

AN OUTREACH MINISTRY OF N.C. FRIENDS

Gary Dodson, Co-Coordinator
2476 Beckerite Rd
Sophia n.c. 27350
Phone 336-495-6790

Walter Shore, Co-Coordinator
2324 Shore Rd.
Yadkinville, N.C. 27055
Phone 336-244-0527

Allen Gibson, Co-Coordinator
8225 Charlbert Ct.
Apex N.C. 27539
Phone 919-656-9030

Eastern N.C. Disaster Relief June 11 - 16, 2023

New Bern, North Carolina

We will be returning to New Bern in June to continue repairing hurricane damaged houses. During our trip to New Bern in March, we constructed a large wheelchair ramp and hung sheetrock in two houses. During this June trip, we will be doing miscellaneous repairs to multiple houses. There is still a large number of people with no insurance or funds to repair their homes damaged by multiple hurricanes. Volunteers are the only way these homes will be repaired.

We will be working with the Baptists On Missions Disaster Group. The Baptist on Missions group will be providing us with all our meals and we will be staying at their New Bern Rebuild Center. The accommodations will be dormitory style with women in one area and men in the other. If you would like to participate, please contact one of the Co-Coordination listed above as soon as possible.

Lodging : Baptists on Missions – New Bern Rebuild Center
2108 Old Cherry Point Rd.
New Bern N.C. 252-571-6347

Meals will be provided by the Baptist on Missions group.
(Prepared by our wonderful cooks !!!!!)

Plan on meeting Sunday afternoon, June 11th at 5:00 PM at Moore's BBQ 3621 MLK Blvd New Bern NC for a group meal.

Please share this information with everyone at your meeting/church.

➤ Thank You for your continued support of the

North Carolina Friends Disaster Service

JAMAICA

Vacation Bible School
July 24 – Aug 4, 2023



WANTED: Volunteers & supplies!

Supplies Needed:

- Washcloths – 300
- Pens – 300
- Notepads - 300
- Small soap, shampoo – 300 each
- Toothpaste, toothbrush – 300 each



Volunteers Needed:

If you have ever thought about serving in Jamaica, this could be the year! Our Jamaican Young Friends are ready and willing to serve but need help and encouragement. We will be providing VBS at 9 meetings in 8 days. Cost: \$1,200 which covers all expenses. Please contact Brent/Brenda McKinney with any questions (336) 374-4472 or dbmckinney@surry.net

Theme:

“So, let’s strive for the things that bring peace and the things that build each other up” (Romans 14:19)

Curriculum:

“Hero Hotline: Called Together to Serve God” (Cokesbury Curriculum)

USFWI ART CONTEST

"GOD STILL SPEAKS"



Contest Rules:

- Artist must attend a Friends Meeting
- Two age groups:
5-12 & 13-18
- Artwork must be in Pencil or black ink (no color)
- 8 1/2" x 11" portrait orientation
- Only one entry per participant

★ Design the cover for the
2024-2025 Blueprints
using Philippians 4:6-7

One Grand Prize:

\$100 and artwork will be used as cover for the 2024-2025 *Blueprints*

Prizes for each age group:

- First Prize: \$75
- Second Prize: \$50
- Third Prize \$25

ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 30, 2023

Mail or hand deliver to any Executive Committee member or mail to: Rita Mintmier, 6354 Lewis Davis Road, Randleman, NC 27317. Entries will also be accepted at the Triennial



News from Friends Emergency Material Assistance Program— FEMAP

During the month of March nearly 450 kits were assembled and distributed. Donations of kit items and monetary funding for purchase of kit items is welcome and appreciated. This fall FEMAP will begin its twelfth year after American Friends Service Committee closed its emergency assistance office in High Point, NC. All kit items are needed with special attention given to sale prices on school kit items this summer. Composition notebooks and rulers along with foot/body powder are especially needed.

MANY THANKS FOR ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO FEMAP.

(Article found in Carolina Woman June- August)



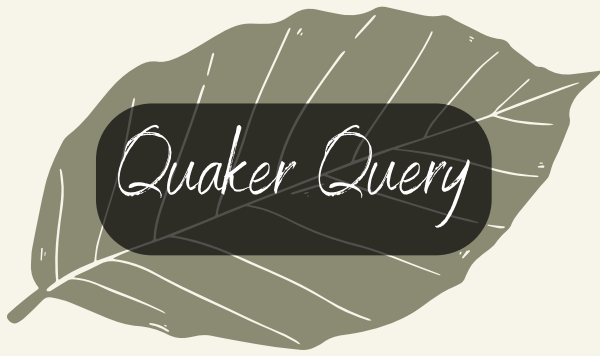
QUAKERS IN HISTORY

Lucretia Mott
1793-1880



Lucretia Mott was a 19th-century feminist activist, abolitionist, social reformer and pacifist who helped launch the women's rights movement. Raised on the Quaker tenet that all people are equals, Mott spent her entire life fighting for social and political reform on behalf of women, blacks and other marginalized groups. As an ardent abolitionist, she helped found the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society in 1833. She also co-wrote the Declaration of Sentiments in 1848 for the first Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, New York, which ignited the fight for women's suffrage. Mott also helped found co-educational Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania in 1864.

Tap [HERE](#) to read the full story!



...for June



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...

- **If the Bible commands us to bear one another's burdens within our Christian community, are there opportunities within my local community that God might be calling me to bear?**
- **How is God calling you to steward your influence to share His message with your friends/neighbors?**

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

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, the 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](#) to read more!



Prayer **CORNER**

How can we pray for you?

Prayer:

Pray for all of the children that will be passing through Quaker Lake Camp this summer.

Pray for the staff, volunteers and camp Pastors to be able to share the Gospel of Jesus and that God may be glorified and magnified.

Praise:

Praise God for His forgiveness.

Not just for our mistakes, but even our times of willful disobedience.

His love is unmeasured!

May RECAP

Sunday Worship at Back Creek



Superintendent, Mike Wall was able to visit Back Creek Friends Meeting on May 21st! What a beautiful crowd of people!





USFW Spring Conference

If you were unable to attend, [CLICK HERE](#) to watch it on YouTube! Dont forget to sign up for USFW Annual Meeting on August 19th. See you there!



