

BEARING FRUIT

The Official Newsletter of Friends Church North Carolina

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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



"The Light Within, which is the central Quaker idea, is no abstract phrase. It is an experience. It is a type of religion that insists upon a real and vital experience of God revealed to persons, to their own souls, in their own personal lives"

-Rufus Jones 1863-1948



A Word of Devotion:

SPRING IN Your spirit

By: Erin Marshall

Sing to God a brand-new song, sing his praises all over the world! Let the sea and its fish give a round of applause, with all the far-flung islands joining in. Let the desert and its camps raise a tune, calling the Kedar nomads to join in. Let the villagers in Sela round up a choir and perform from the tops of the mountains. Make God's glory resound; echo his praises from coast to coast.'

-An adaptation of Isaiah 42:10 taken from the MSG

SPRING, SPRING! Can you smell the fresh breeze through my open window? Ahhh!

I love the freshness of spring each year. I walk taller, feel healthier, enjoy more color in my face and a boost in my energy. Everything about spring breathes of life and newness. I love seeing green fields with baby calves reaching up for a drink from Mama. At home, I can't get enough of my own children running coatless around our yard, exploring each square foot as if it were brand-new. I can't help but lift my face to thank Jesus for the smile He gave me through His wonderful creation of springtime.

I guess that's why I love Isaiah 42:10, which draws a picture of a world reveling in the joy of praising God. I can almost hear it. It's amazing how God—the Ancient of Days, the Omega, the One Who Was and Is and Is to Come—is Lord not only of our past, but also of our future. He is Lord of all that will be new as he makes it beautiful in his time.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

"He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end."

Imagine the newness experienced by people whose lives spanned the time before Jesus' birth until after His death. The handful of His people who believed in Him back then felt not only the longing for the Messiah but also the new joy that He arrived at last! If springlike praise has faded in your heart, ask Jesus to plant in you fresh seeds of joy.





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!

Upcoming Events:

MARCH 9TH 2025
MEET THE AUTHOR
ARCHDALE FRIENDS
(SEE MORE INFO BELOW)

MARCH 14TH 2025 HOME DEDICATION FOR SONDRA & MARVIN HICKS 1905 EF THOMPKINS LN NEW BERN, NC @ 3:00 PM

MARCH 29TH 2025
MID YEAR GATHERING
THERE WILL BE A FCNC
MINISTRY & COUNSEL MEETING
BEGINNING AT 9AM
(SEE FLYER BELOW)

MARCH 29TH 2025 CONCORD FRIENDS MEETING BLOOD DRIVE 9:30AM- 2:00PM

APRIL 6-11, 2025 FDS TRIP TO NEW BERN CONSIDER JOINING USI (MORE INFO BELOW)

APRIL 12TH 2025
CONCORD FRIENDS MEETING
EASTER EGG HUNT
@SUMNER CIVITAN CLUB
(SEE MORE INFO BELOW)

APRIL 26TH 2025
NCYM INC ANNUAL MEETING
AT QUAKER LAKE CAMP
BEGINNING AT 10:00 AM

MAY 3RD 2025
USFW SPRING CONFERENCE
AT QLC BEGINNING AT 9:00 AM

If you have any announcements

ATTENTION PLEASE

Let us know at

jenny@friendschurchnc.org



Announcements:



REMINDER

Directory still available!



Log in HERE

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

paul@friendschurchnc.org

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 Leade UPDATE Position Opening



Concord Friends Meeting has an opening for a part time youth leader. TAP HERE to see more information on this position

POSITION FILLED!





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 o 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



POSITION FILLED!!

Science Hill Friends Meeting

ALVIN BATTLE HAS ACCEPTED THE CALL TO SERVE AS INTERIM PASTOR UNTIL ANDY GARNER IS TO BECOME OUR FULL TIME PASTOR IN AUGUST!



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

julie@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



The Quaker organizations Right Sharing of World Resources is hiring a <u>Director of Community Development</u>. We are looking for a trainer or facilitator with cross-cultural and management experience who is called to partner with women in improving their lives. Remote, full-time. Open until filled.

The Quaker organization Right Sharing of World Resources is hiring an <u>Executive Assistant</u>. We are looking for a detail-oriented person who likes to improve administrative systems; who enjoys working independently and as part of a team; who wants to contribute to global equity. Remote, 28 hours/week.







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

Mid-Year Gathering

March 29th

Business: 10AM

Cane Creek Friends

719 W Greensboro Chapel Hill Rd Snow Camp, NC 27349

Individual Committees:

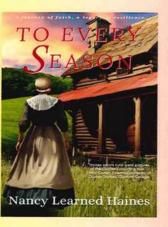
Please refer to your Committee Clerks as to whether or not you will be meeting.

Committee Clerks: PLEASE let
Cheryl Benson know if your
committee plans on meeting. This
allows the Meeting House the
opportunity to accommodate a
space for you.

Meet the Author Sunday, March 9 2pm



Archdale Friends Meeting



Join us for a special afternoon with author Nancy Haines as she shares the inspiration behind her latest novel, To Every Season. This compelling story follows a young woman who moves her family to the North Carolina wilderness and must rely on her faith to become the leader her Quaker community needs...

Don't miss the chance to take home a copy of Nancy Haines' inspiring novels! Copies of To Every Season—along with her other works—will be available for purchase and signing at the event.

Meet the author, get your book signed, and dive into stories that bring history, faith, and resilience to life.

The new Beneficial Ownership Information Report (BOIR) requirement and are you exempt?



501(c)(3)



IF you are getting the emails to any church email that you might have on your website, then let me tell you about this new requirement. All of our churches that have a 501(c)(3) are safe and <u>DO NOT</u> have to do this report.

Info@friendschurchnc.org and my own email <u>paul@friendschurchnc.org</u> have been bombarded with compliance emails of needing to report. The company that wants to "help" us will do so for a charge. However, don't believe the "helper" emails, you can file for free! They give you the scare tactic that it

will cost \$593 a day if we do not file by March 21, 2025. That is all correct, if we weren't a 501(c)(3). Also, if you are reading this and have a small business you will be held to those fines if you do not file. When you look up any information on this, they list the deadline as January 1, 2024 but due to a lawsuit that didn't complete until recent it was delayed until March 21, 2025. Do you think you might have filed already? You can go to the website below and check by

trying to file again. They will let you know you have already filed and send a confirmation email. The government website https://boiefiling.fincen.gov/ will let you check or file. If you need some standard information it can be found on this document: https://boiefiling.fincen.gov/resources/BOIR E-

File_PDF_Quick_Reference_Guide.pdf or more detailed information on this document: https://boiefiling.fincen.gov/resources/BOIR_Filing_Instructions.pdf

What is the BOIR and why is this important? I wanted to pass along a quick bit of Information about the ROIR-

The Beneficial Ownership Information Report (BOIR) is a crucial requirement introduced under the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) for businesses in the United States, The BOIR ensures transparency in ownership structures and plays a significant role in combating financial crimes, such as money laundering. Quick Details and Key Points About the BOIR: it is mandated by: Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), applies to: Most U.S. businesses, has a filing deadline: March 21, 2025 and penalties are steep up to \$593 per day for failure to file.

To sum up this all if you have a small business and have a website you need to file. Any church that has a website and is a SOI(c)(3) you are safe. If you need to file you can for free. Hope this helps those of you with businesses and keeps all our churches safe from any running "helper" emails that will try to phish you into using their service.



North Carolina Friends Disaster Service

AN OUTREACH MINISTRY OF N.C. FRIENDS

Gary Dodson, Co-Coordinator 2476 Beckerite Rd Sophia N.C. 27350 Phone 336-736-0845 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 April 6th – April 11th, 2025

New Bern, North Carolina

We are planning a spring rebuilding trip to New Bern. We have been helping families in the New Bern area for the past few years. These families have been dealing with damage from hurricanes for many years. During this spring trip we will be doing repair work on homes damaged by storms, and hopefully enabling families to return to a normal life. Because of all the devastation in western North Carolina we are making plans to start making rebuilding trips to the mountains later in the year. All volunteers of any skill level will be welcomed.

We will be working with the Baptists on Missions Disaster Group as we did in all of 2024. We will be staying at their New Bern Rebuild Center, and they will be providing us with our meals <u>prepared by our wonderful volunteers who work in the kitchen</u>.

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

Plan to meet Sunday afternoon April 6th at 5:00 PM at Moore's BBQ 3621 MLK Blvd. New Bern NC for a group meal.

Please contact one of the coordinators as soon as possible if you are planning on volunteering so we will be able to plan the meals for the group.

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

? Thank You for your continued support of the

North Carolina Friends Disaster Service

We are planning a house dedication for Sondra & Marvin Hicks at 1905 EF Thompkins Lane New Bern, NC on March 14th @ 3pm. We would love to have anyone that wishes to attend. Thank you for all you did to help make this happen. Please share with your team members.





NC USFW Spring Conference Registration Saturday, May 3, 2025 Quaker Lake Camp Climax, North Carolina



Max and Jane Carter will be our guest speakers for the 2025 NC USFW Spring Conference. Max and Jane will share about their work in Palestine and Israel through the annual "Living Letters" service - trips they lead for Friends United Meeting. Together, they have led three dozen trips since their first one in 1979. They have insights into the Quaker work at the Ramallah Friends School and the broader situation in Palestine and Israel.

Max is a retired professor of Quaker Studies at Guilford College, and Jane is a retired Associate Head of New Garden Friends School. They are members of New Garden Friends Meeting. Max's books "Palestine and Israel: A Personal Encounter", "Annice Carter's Life of Quaker Service in Palestine and Kenya," and the new "Palestine and Israel: Understanding Encounters" are selections on the USFWI Reading List.

9:00 – 10:00 am Registration and Bookstore with light refreshments 10:00 am – 12 noon Welcome, Music, Program and Business 12:00 noon Luncheon – catered lunch @ \$15.00 each

Please send memorials by April 15th to Mary Anna McCullen, deetsmaryanna@gmail.com

If you can't attend, please watch the live stream video on You Tube- search for Sam Sprinkle. https://youtube.com/@samsprinkle

If you have questions contact Sherry Hylton 336-339-8058 or sbhylton3@yahoo.com

	NC USFW Spring Conference Please clip and send		
Name(s)			
Meeting			
Number of Lunches at \$15.00 each		Total \$	
Please attach	this form with check written t	o NC USFW and mail to:	

Alicia Sharp 908 Scottish Rite Dr, Apt 219 Greensboro, NC 27407



Meet Belize Principal Antoliana Budna



Join us in an opportunity to get to know the new principal of Belize Friends School, Antoliana Budna. On Wednesday, March 19, at 7 p.m. ET, Friends United Meeting will be hosting a Zoom conversation about Belize Friends School with our Belize director, Oscar Mmbali, and school principal, Mrs. Budna. We want you to see what wonderful things are happening through FUM in Belize as you learn about the lasting impact of Belize Friends School.

CLICK HERE to join us on ZOOM!

Meet our Missions Samburu Friends



The Samburu people are nomadic pastoralists who keep cattle, sheep, goats, camels, and donkeys. Recently, huge swaths of collectively-held range land in the Samburu region have been privatized, leading to extreme disruption of grazing and migration patterns. This, in turn, has led to an increase in violent conflict with neighboring communities. Education and literacy training for the Samburu are crucial at this time, as capable leadership is needed in negotiating these conflicts, and only 6% of Samburu adults have a secondary school education.

Building the Friends Church in Samburu involves building communities, not building buildings. As early Friends knew, it is the body of Christ that matters, not the building in which Christ is housed. Worship is often shared under a tree with indigenous songs, spirited dancing, and readings from the Bible. CLICK HERE for more information

Excerpts from: Some Fruits of

SOLITUDE

Proverbs, Wisdom & Principles for Better Living By: William Penn

Quotes on

"Complete Virtue":



442- "Content not thyself that thou are virtuous in the general: For one link being wanting, the chain is defective."

443- "Perhaps they aren't rather innocent than virtuous, and Owest more to thy constitution, then thy religion."

445- "If thou hast not conquered thy self in that which is thine own particular weakness, thou hast no title to virtue, though thou art free of other men's."

448- "If thou wouldest conquer thy weakness, thou must never gratify it"

NEW $\stackrel{\blacktriangleleft}{=}$

FCNC BOOKSTORE

HIGHLIGHTS

In this portion of the newsletter we will highlight books that can be purchased through the FCNC online bookstore! A link will be provided where you may purchase your own copy and add to your library at home!

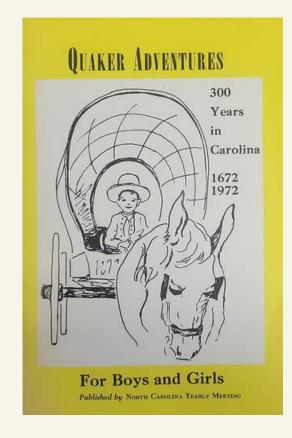
Quaker Adventures: 300 Years in the

Carolinas 1672-1972

CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE

To commemorate the 300-year anniversary of Quakers coming to the Carolina, the North Carolina Yearly Meeting created an interactive history book for children to learn more about Quakers in the Carolinas.

"On a personal level, I highly recommend this book to teach young friends their rich Quaker heritage! It can be a weekly study in Sunday school or at Wednesday night youth meetings!" -JG





...for March

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...



How would you define "The Quaker Way" or explain what "Quakers" are to non-Quakers? How has this changed or stayed the same over the past few months?

What prevents people from claiming their own time in the face of digital distraction?

How are these interruptions and distractions any different from those that plagued us before we had cell phones in our hands or pagers on our hips?

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 <u>HERE</u>)
- 2) follow FCNC's Facebook Page (click HERE)
- 3) join FCNC's Facebook group (click <u>HERE</u>)

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



Le How can we pray for you?

Prayer:

Pray for the family of Cora Gibson, as she passed from this life unto the next. She was loved and will be missed.

Pray for Ken Spivey, as he had a heart attack a few weeks ago. Pray for comfort and a full recovery!

Praise:

Praise God for His Goodness

"God who is perfect goodness, thank You for being One whose goodness encompasses Your every move. Lord, help me to notice Your goodness in my life and to offer Your goodness to those around me."



Birthday Blessings from Luke

"What do you want for your birthday? When asked this question most kids have a list of the newest and trendiest toys and electronics on the market. But not this ten year old from Concord Friends! Luke Best has requested canned foods for the last two birthdays as gifts from all who celebrate his special day. He loves to fill up the Community Cupboard at Concord. We are so proud of this unselfish young man!

Luke takes to heart the words of our Savior spoken in Matthew 25:35- "...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."

We look forward to seeing how God will continue to use this young man in the future. Well done Luke!"





Visit to South Plainfield

"Superintendent, Mike Wall, was able to visit with South Plainfield on February 23rd, 2025"





Pastors Retreat at Fort Caswell



Andy Lambert-Guest Speaker



Kernersville Pastor Jeff Barnes calls for Marshal



war ship and quest speaker



some played golf



Baptist Interns lead singing and Worship



Waiters sang Happy Birthday to Mitch See, Forbush pastor