

SEPTEMBER 2024 | ISSUE NO.35

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!

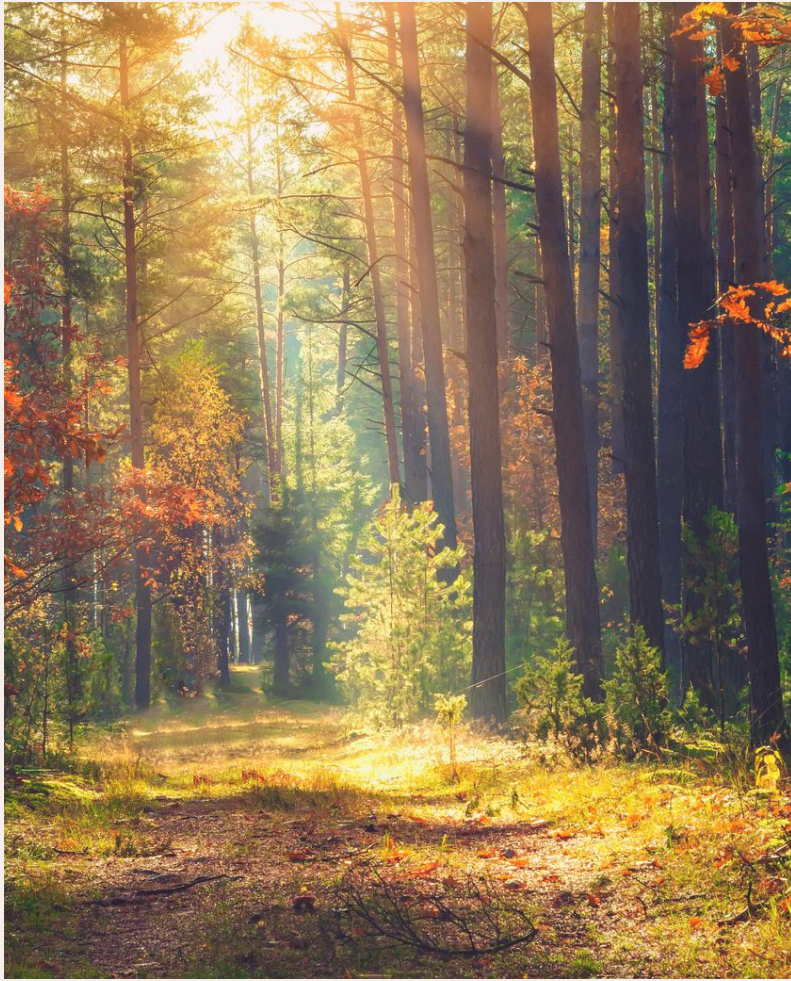
This is a monthly e-newsletter dedicated to keeping you up to date on current events within FCNC.

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

“

"WHAT SOME SEE TO BE NO-FAULT IN ONE, THEY WILL HAVE CRIMINAL IN ANOTHER. HOW UGLY DO OUR OWN FAILINGS LOOK TO US IN THE PERSONS OF OTHERS, WHICH YET WE SEE NOT IN OURSELVES."
-WILLIAM PENN

”

A Word of Devotion: A PRAYER FOR AUTUMN DAYS

By: Joyce Rupp

*"God of geese going south
for another season, your wisdom enables us
to know what needs to be left behind..."*

God of the seasons,
there is a time for everything;
there is a time for dying and a time for rising.
We need courage to enter into
the transformation process.

God of autumn,
the trees are saying goodbye to their green,
letting go of what has been.
We, too, have our moments of surrender,
with all their insecurity and risk.
Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves
lying in colored patterns on the ground,
our lives have their own patterns.
As we see the patterns of our own growth,
may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights,
there is always the dimension of mystery
and wonder in our lives.
We always need to recognize your power-filled presence.
May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain,
many gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender.
We must wait for harvest in faith and hope.
Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south
for another season, your wisdom enables us
to know what needs to be left behind
and what needs to be carried into the future.
We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers
touched with frost and windows wearing white designs,
may your love keep our hearts
from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life,
you believe in us, you enrich us,
you entrust us with the freedom to choose life.
For all this, we are grateful.



Upcoming Events:

September 13th 2024

Concord Friends Golf Tournament

DEADLINE for registration

September 5th, 2024

[CLICK HERE](#) to register.

September 14th 2024

NC USFW Fall Gathering

DEADLINE for registration

September 1st, 2024

September 15th 2024

Singing For Shepherds
(more info below)

September 15th-20th 2024

FDS trip to New Bern

September 21st 2024

Concord Friends Meeting Blood Drive
from 9:30AM -2:00PM

Date TBD

Online Young Adult Bible Study
(college age to under 40)

For a brief description [CLICK HERE](#):

To register [CLICK HERE](#)
(see flyer below)

September 20-23, 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

Kaleo Youth Workers Retreat
(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! Online checkout is not
available yet, but hopefully
will be soon!!



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

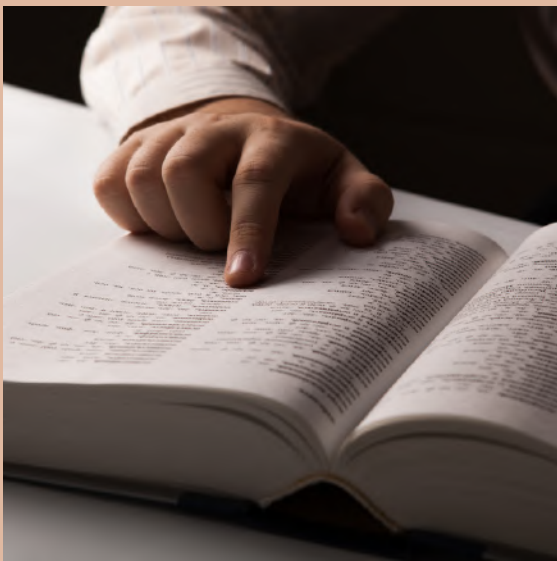
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Announcements:



REMINDER

Directory *still available!*

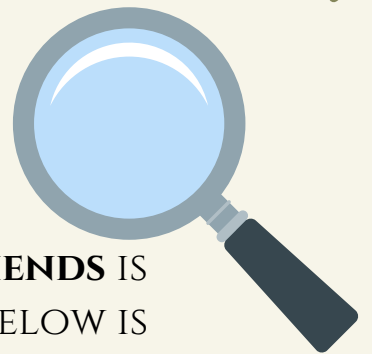


There was recently a possible data breach in our directory. Therefore the password has been changed. Please reach out to Paul Routh to learn how to regain access.

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

julie@asheborolawyer.com

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.



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 Sept 15th – 20th, 2024

New Bern, North Carolina

During this year, we have been helping many families in the New Bern area that have been made homeless by terrible natural disasters. There are still many families that have no financial ability to repair their homes damaged by these storms. There is still a tremendous need for volunteers in this area of North Carolina. With the generous help of volunteers these families will be able to move back into their homes and return to a normal life. Our goal during this September rebuilding trip will be to repair as many damaged houses as possible and get homeless families back into their homes. All volunteers of any skill level will be welcomed.

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

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 Sept 15th 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

Youth Workers Retreat

This fall Kaleo Academy, the Youth Ministry Department at Barclay College, and MidAmerica Yearly Meeting are partnering together to host the first-ever National Friends Youth Workers Retreat. This will be an opportunity for those who work with youth within the evangelically minded Friends Church to gather together for some training, encouragement, and rest. We will be gathering at the beautiful Quaker Ridge Camp in Colorado on Sept. 20-23, 2024 and we invite any youth workers in FCNC to join us!
The cost is \$250 plus travel expenses.
More information coming soon!

NATIONAL FRIENDS YOUTH WORKERS RETREAT

SEPT. 20-23, 2024
QUAKER RIDGE CAMP IN COLORADO
\$250 PER PERSON



Singing for Shepherds

Sunday, September 15, 2024
9am-6pm Eastern
6am-3pm Pacific

You're invited to a joyful, hopeful drop-in Zoom event. Participate as a whole meeting, as a Sunday school group, as a family, or as an individual Friend. You can come anytime and leave anytime. Appropriate for all ages!

During this day-long gathering, we'll focus on two missions among pastoralist people in Kenya: Samburu Friends Mission and Turkana Friends Mission. We'll hear stories about these missions, watch videos, and look at photographs. We'll sing hymns together, pray for the missions and the people, and have a little fun with trivia. We'll also set a goal for \$1000/month in new contributions to these missions.

Why monthly commitments rather than one-time donations? Because these two missions bear remarkable fruits. They create church communities, run schools, provide health care, give scholarships, and deliver emergency feeding interventions, and yet it's perpetually difficult to raise the necessary monthly funds to keep them going. We pray for the opportunity to change that as a global community. Every commitment will help, no matter how small.

All are welcome to participate in the event, and the hope is to have a Spirit-filled, brimming-with-love celebration of stories of faithfulness. If your meeting or church has Zoom capability, you can join all together during your social hour or religious education time or even for a half-hour period as part of your business meeting agenda. Or join in as an individual, couple, or family. Please come.



Register here to receive a Zoom link (which will also be resent immediately before the event): [CLICK HERE](#)

YOUNG ADULT AND FAMILY GATHERING

Richmond IN Sept 20-22

A Time for fun and fellowship: Worship, food, games, and hanging out. Different places to stay available

1840 SW E Street, Richmond, IN,
47374

5pm Friday to 2pm Sunday
Free to attend!

Hosted By:
Western Yearly Meeting
Wilmington Yearly Meeting
New Association of Friends

For more Info
989-307-9847

tom.s@westernyearlymeeting.org

Register Here!



Annual Golf Tournament
Friday - September 13, 2024

Oak Hollow Golf Course
3400 N. Centennial Street
High Point, NC 27265

Registration 8 am Announcements @ 8:45 Shotgun Start at 9 am Lunch follows round

Single Entry Fee \$65 includes Green Fee, Cart Fee, Practice Range, Lunch, One Mulligan.
Four person team \$250 includes above at a reduced price

Golf Hole Sponsors - Includes signage on the golf course the day of the event advertising the sponsorship.
\$500 Ministry Partner Sponsor - includes prominent listing and signage at course
\$150 Business Sponsor - includes listing and signage on course
\$100 Personal Sponsor - In memory/honor, individual/family sponsors - includes signage on course

Sponsor Registration
Sponsor level (check one) Ministry \$500 ____ Business \$150 ____ Personal \$100 ____
Company: _____
Name: _____
Street: _____
City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____
Telephone # _____ **Email** _____

Golfer Registration
1. Name: _____
2. Name: _____
3. Name: _____
4. Name: _____

Call or text Greg Creed at 336-803-0385 or email at pastor@concordfriends.com

Prizes - Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive - First, Second, and Third place teams

Entry Deadline is September 5, 2024

Make check payable to: Concord Friends – Golf Tournament
Mail to: Concord Friends Meeting
5000 Old Randleman Road
Greensboro, North Carolina 27406
Online registration and payment at <https://concordfriends.com/golf-tournament/>

Friends Church of North Carolina Annual Sessions, 8/9-10/2024 Quaker Lake Camp and Conference Center, Guilford County, Climax, NC *Epistle to Friends Everywhere*

To Friends Everywhere,

Friends Church of North Carolina met August 9-10, 2024, at Quaker Lake Camp, with 22 meetings represented. Our seventh annual sessions, this was the third where joyful pockets of reunion and fellowship could be heard in at least three languages.

Our superintendent, **Mike Wall**, presented some sobering statistics about dwindling membership, trends that indicate some monthly meetings will not exist as soon as 2035. We have the same Savior we've always had, but the church model is changing, whether it be through technology or building congregations in more populated areas. When George Fox saw a great people to be gathered, none of them were Quakers — Quakers hadn't been invented, yet. Mike challenged us to find God's vision for each local meeting, as well as for our greater group.

We were encouraged by the ministry and missions reports, given by enthusiastic servants of Christ. Missions that we support are growing and need more space, from East Africa to Belize. Members of FCNC-affiliated and preparatory meetings, **Odre Nuevo** in Yadkin County (Spanish-speaking) and **Baltimore Friends** (Kenyan immigrants), infuse fresh vitality into our group. Quaker Lake had more campers than last year. Two of our young people attended Kaleo Academy for young leaders at Barclay College. Several pastors are under care of the Recording Committee.

Our guest speaker, **Samuel Vasquez** of *Iglesia Evangelica Amigos de Mexico* (North Mexico Yearly Meeting), shared the story of his call to be a pastor in a small, rural town. Every place, job, and situation had its lessons to prepare him for his life's work. His children have grown and now serve the Lord in other cities far away, but God has sent new people to serve in the church. Samuel said, "*When you're doing what the Lord wants you to do, the Lord provides everything.*"

At the memorial service, **Georgianne Hartline** shared that the stones that were on the tables remind us how past members have had a ripple effect like pebbles thrown into a pond, and how we need to make our ripple effects on others around us. Workshop speakers continued the challenge, from reaching young fathers with activities outside of "church" to examining our traditions through the lens of our mission.

Music lifted our spirits. One of the lyrics was, "*I can't ... but I know a Man who can.*"

As some congregations are shrinking, it can be tempting to shrink our view, grasping for whatever is "ours." But we have an awesome Lord and we need to share Him with the world. It is in looking outward, beyond ourselves, that our vision grows and God replenishes us from His endless vision and uncountable blessings.

Prepared by Elizabeth Saunders, Southern Quarter.

Read and Approved 8/10/2024, at FCNC Annual Sessions, Climax, NC, Roger Holt, Clerk

Friends Church of North Carolina (FCNC) "Friends Obedient to Christ and United to Serve"
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 4240, ARCHDALE, NC 27263
Email: clerk@friendschurchnc.org Website: <https://www.friendschurchnc.org>
Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsChurchNC>

NC USFW Fall Annual Registration

Saturday, September 14, 2024

Archdale Friends Meeting



Dr. Lydia Grapine, is a retired principal and university lecturer. She has served on a number of Jamaica Yearly Meeting committees, including the position of Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting and Clerk of the Jamaica USFW. Presently she is the Presiding Clerk of the Yearly Meeting Ministry and Council Meeting, and also the Presiding Clerk and Pastor of Cascade Friends Church. Widowed, a mother of four, grandmother of five and great grandmother of one.

Please join us to hear Lydia's story about Quakers in Jamaica and the work being done with the Jamaican Vacation Bible School summer program.

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

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

NC USFW Fall Conference at ARCHDALE FRIENDS MEETING,

114 Trindale Road, Archdale

Please complete and mail by September 1, 2024

Name(s) _____

Meeting _____

Number of lunches at \$15.00 each _____ **Total \$** _____

**Please attach this form with check written to USFW and mail to: Becky Coltrane
303 Weston Woods Circle
Trinity NC 27370**



Since 1887, Friends in the Allen's Neck Quaker Meeting of South Dartmouth, Massachusetts, have hosted a community clambake in August. This year over 500 people attended and enjoyed a feast which included 25 bushels of clams, 180 pounds of fish, 230 pounds of sausage, 75 dozen ears of corn, four bushels of sweet potatoes, 150 pounds of onions, 50 pounds of butter, some 90 pies, brown breads, and 24 watermelons. Friends appreciate the yearly opportunity to connect with community members and break bread together.

Friends United Meeting General Secretary Kelly Kellum (right) describes this joyful arrival:

"Earlier today I arrived at the Friends World Committee World Plenary at the Riverside Sun Resort in Vanderbijlpark, South Africa. As I arrived I was met by Abel Sibonio and Christabella Himbazwa from Burundi. Abel now lives in Australia, but we were childhood friends. Christabella is the granddaughter of Teresa, one of my mother's dearest friends. The fabric of our lives is woven together in beautiful ways."

Kelly and African Ministries Director John Muhanji represented FUM at the Gathering.



Excerpts from:

SOME FRUITS OF SOLITUDE

Proverbs, Wisdom & Principles for Better Living

By: William Penn

NEW!



Quotes on "Popularity":

323- They that shew more than they are, raise an expectation they cannot answer; and so lose their credit, as soon as they are found out.

324- Avoid popularity. It has many snares, and no real benefit to thyself; and uncertainty to others.

QUAKER QUESTIONS

NEW!



Taken from "Questions Quakers are Asking"

By: Seth B. Hinshaw

Correcting Wrong Turns:

Is there general agreement that "the possibility of being mistaken is ever with us?" If so, then each of the above statements should be examined carefully. Who is the judge? Upon what basis? What further corrections and adjustments do we need to make now?

Want to read more? [CLICK HERE](#) to get your copy of "Questions Quakers are Asking" shipped to you from the FCNC website.

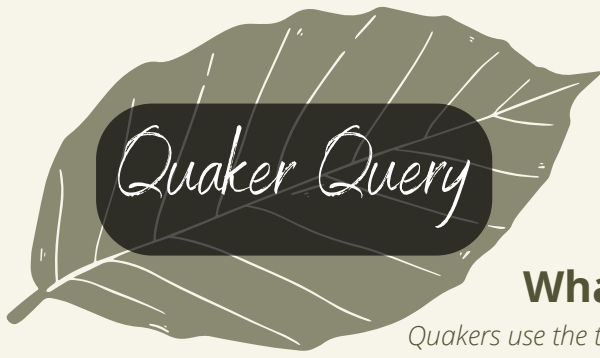
Meet our Missions

Kenya

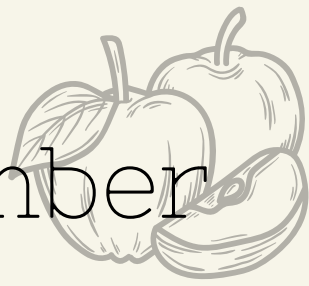


The Quaker church in Kenya started in the early twentieth century with the arrival of three young Quaker missionaries from Ohio whose work came to be supported by Five Years Meeting (now Friends United Meeting). In 1902, Arthur Chilson, Edgar Hole, and Willis Hotchkiss settled in Kenya's Western region, at Kaimosi. By 1946, East Africa Yearly Meeting was established as a self-governing body, including Meetings from Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. In 1963, the year of Kenyan independence, Friends United Meeting turned over ownership and control of all mission-originated projects to East African Friends. Since then, FUM has been a partner in ministry with the African Yearly Meetings to provide oversight and financial support for multiple ministries and partners.

To learn more about Kenya [CLICK HERE.](#)



...for September



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 faithfully attend meeting with heart and mind prepared for worship, clear of any predetermination to speak or not to speak, expecting that worship will be a source of strength and guidance?

-Does worship deepen my relationship with God, increase my faithfulness and refresh and renew my daily life, both inwardly and in my relationships with other persons and with all of creation?

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

August RECAP

FCNC Annual Sessions



Keynote Speaker: Samuel Vasquez and wife Christina.
Samuel is Superintendent of Mexico Yearly Meeting



Clerks Roger Holt and Christine Blamer





Baltimore Friends providing music



Western Quarter Revival

Western Quarter Revival was held at Concord Friends August 12 thru 15
These are photos from Superintendent, Mike Wall's, visit there.



Visit to White Plains Friends

Superintendent visit with White Plains 8-11-24

Jennifer Ball leads congregation in singing as Pastor Dusty Ball joins in

