

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Newsletter

December, 2012

## Monthly Query:

*Does our Meeting's ministry of outreach lead Friends to share their spiritual experiences with others?*



## Contents:

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Upcoming Forum Schedule.....  | 1        |
| Monthly Envirotip From the ECC .....  | 1        |
| Christmas Eve Service.....  | 2        |
| IFC News: Holiday Meals and Matching Donations.....   | 2        |
| Intergenerational Games Night .....   | 2        |
| A Message from Annie Dilorenzo.....   | 3        |
| Book Review: The Transition Companion.....  | 3        |
| Safe Passage Documentary Film Screening .....   | 3        |
| First Day School Events.....  | 4        |
| Please join us for a book group on Radical Simplicity .....   | 4        |
| Hurricane Sandy Relief.....   | 5        |
| Prison Ministry Followup .....  | 5        |
| Holiday Light Recycling.....  | 5        |
| A Message from Finance (reprinted from November).....   | 5        |
| <b>Minutes from Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business .....</b>  | <b>6</b> |
| (appreciation of 75th anniversary events, sojourning membership for Naveed Moeed,<br>Care and Counsel annual report, P&R seeks guidance on issues of privacy) |          |
| Calendar.....   | 10       |

## Upcoming Forum Schedule

**Dec. 2** - "Iranian Theocracy: Stories of a Leading Exiled Family" - Zahra [Nikoo] Roodi and her husband Dr. Mohsen Kadivar

**Dec. 9** - 75th Anniversary Wrap-Up - Ministry and Worship

**Dec. 23** - Quaker Carols and other music - Faye Stanley, Barbara Williamson, and all

**Dec. 30** - Winter Solstice celebration

## Monthly EnviroTip from the ECC

Do you use multiple paper towels to dry your hands in public restrooms? I know I did. This TED talk taught me how to dry just as well with one towel:

[http://www.ted.com/talks/joe\\_smith\\_how\\_to\\_use\\_a\\_paper\\_towel.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/joe_smith_how_to_use_a_paper_towel.html).

## **Christmas Eve Service**

**Saturday, December 24, 5:30 pm, Meetinghouse**

The Christmas Eve service will take place on Saturday, December 24 at 5:30 pm. We will begin with silent worship with one candle on the table in the center and lights off. As it becomes darker outside, and as the spirit moves us, each of us will light our own candle from the central candle and add our lighted candle to the table in silence and/or give whatever message we may feel led to share, slowly bringing light to the darkness. After about 45 minutes, we will close with singing "Silent Night" and other carols as the spirit moves us. Children are welcome to worship with us. Bring a candle with a holder. Extra candles will be provided for those who forget to bring their own. Coordinated by the Ministry and Worship Committee.

## **IFC News: IFC Food Pantry Needs Holiday Meals**

Please remember that the IFC provides holiday meals for some of those in our community who cannot afford to provide such a celebration for their families. Last year the IFC provided meals to 956 households, feeding 2,781 people. You can support a meal for one family by sending \$25/dinner to John Dorward, Inter-Faith Council for Social Service, 110 W. Main St., Carrboro, NC 27510. Credit card donations can also be made.

See <http://www.ifcweb.org/holidaymeals.html> for more detail.

## **IFC News: Donations Matched Through Dec. 31**

The Steward's Fund has issued a challenge. If the IFC raises \$100,000 in donations from new donors or increased donations from current or lapsed donors, the Fund will match the \$100,000 dollar for dollar. The deadline is December 31.

Send a check with "steward's challenge" in the memo area to Inter-Faith Council for Social Service, 110 W. Main Street D, Carrboro, NC 27510. Or pay by credit card. Call 929-6380, ext. 14 for John or ext. 12 for Frances. Thank you!

## **Intergenerational Games Night**

**December 31, 7pm; in the Schoolhouse**

With many Young Friends returning home for the Holidays, December is a good time for intergenerational games. We hope all ages will join us for games in the multipurpose room at 7:00 pm on New Years' Eve. The New Years' Eve games will last, of course, until midnight -- and will include a White Elephant gift exchange. Feel free to bring snacks, if you like. In addition, First-Day time (11:15 to 12:00) will be game time for the high school group (and recent graduates of the group) on December 30th. On the 30th, the whole First-Day School will join the fun.

## **A Message from Annie DiLorenzo**

This is Annie DiLorenzo, here. I'm taking a gap year to work on organic farms in the area. Next year I will attend Guilford College. I was working and living at Wood Crest Farm, in Hillsborough. Living with them was not a good fit for me, so I now live with Terri. I need to re-evaluate my goals! My hope is to be able to work on farms a few days a week and have a paid job. These are the skills I can offer for paid work: Garden care/lawn work, Child care, Animal care, Holiday shopping and basic office work. Please contact me by phone at 919 933 4431 or by email at [adilorenzo@stu.cfsnc.org](mailto:adilorenzo@stu.cfsnc.org) if you have suggestions or possibilities.

This is a link to my blog, with updates on my gap year. Hope you check it out!

<http://catsngoats.tumblr.com/>

## **Book Review: The Transition Companion**

**Making Your Community More Resilient in Uncertain Times, by Rob Hopkins**

**Submitted by Ruth Hamilton**

Rob Hopkins, founder of the Transition Movement, offers tools for building a grassroots community program. A transition town is a grassroots network of communities that are working to build resilience in response to peak oil, climate destruction, and economic instability. The TT movement is only five years old, starting from the founding of Transition Towns in the UK in 2006. Since then nearly 400 official Transition Initiates have been formed in 34 countries and 103 of them are in the US.

The Transition Companion is 300 pages of superbly illustrated text. "Paper from Responsible Sources" is just one of the subjects covered. The book uses "pattern language." That means the book offers short parts that are carefully crafted to unfold in the form of a "pattern." In this manner, the pattern is easier to put into action, rather than a theory.

You will find this book in the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Library. It is placed there by the Environmental Concerns Committee.

## **Safe Passage Documentary Film Screening**

**December 6, 7-9pm, at the Schoolhouse**

Come learn about Safe Passage ([www.safepassage.org](http://www.safepassage.org)), an NGO working with the community around the Garbage Dump in Guatemala City. We will be showing "Manos de Madres", a film that follows a Safe Passage mother's life around the dump, and a recent documentary by a Guatemalan TV station. After the films, long time Safe Passage Board Member Arnie Katz and recently returned volunteer Tristan Green will lead a discussion about the project, about local support activities in NC, and about an upcoming service trip by UNC's Ultimate Frisbee teams.

## Upcoming First Day School Events

**NOTE: as of this printing, these events were still tentative**

### December 2

Potluck Sunday! Tentative activities: bake gingerbread for the potluck, and learning/rehearsing carols. Teens open the Gift Mart, which runs until the Holiday party on the 16th.

### December 9

It's our annual Ornament-palooza! We will string popcorn and cranberries, make beeswax and origami ornaments, paper chains, glittered pinecones, peace doves, beaded "snowflakes," clove apples, and more! Adult volunteers are welcome to join in the fun.

### December 16

We rehearse our Nativity play, presented later that evening. We have roles of all kinds and for all ages: angels, stars, Jesus' family, innkeepers, the shepherds, the wise men and every critter imaginable. It's creative chaos at its best!

### December 16, 5pm

Join us for our annual CHFM holiday party! It's a festive evening of finger foods, caroling, and fellowship, not to mention our fabulous play. Please bring canned goods to build a "Christmas tree" for the Interfaith Council.

Do you have a special talent or just time to share? We will also encourage folks to create a gift "coupon" to hang on the tree, that others may choose to take. It may be as simple as loaning a pickup truck, babysitting...the possibilities are limited only by your creativity.

### December 23

Our annual caroling trip to Carol Woods. Dress warmly!

### December 30

Bring a board game and relax. It's an intergenerational board game morning.

## Please join us for a book group on Radical Simplicity

Jennifer Leeman is starting a four session book group in January to read Jim Merkel's book *Radical Simplicity: Small Footprints on a Finite Earth* together with short readings from Ginnie Ratcliffe's Pendle Hill pamphlet *Integrity, Ecology, and Community: The Motion of Love*. Jennifer and Tom picked up Merkel's book at Friends General Conference and were impressed with the practical approach it takes to simplifying our lives and reducing our environmental impact. Our hope is that we will join together to explore opportunities to joyfully reduce our footprints within the context of our Quaker faith and practice. The book group will meet four times (every other week) at Jennifer and Tom's house. The book group is under the care of the Environmental Concerns and Adult Religious Education Committees. Contact Jennifer if you are interested in joining and she will coordinate scheduling a meeting time that works for all. Jennifer's email is [jleeman@email.unc.edu](mailto:jleeman@email.unc.edu).

## **Hurricane Sandy Relief**

**Submitted by Pam Schwingl**

Occupy Sandy has created a "gift" registry on Amazon for stuff that's really needed! Diapers, hand warmers, long underwear, blankets, etc. Go to Amazon.com, and just search on "occupy sandy registry". What a neat idea!!!!

## **Prison Ministry Follow-Up**

Thanks to all who purchased pecans and Brunswick stew to benefit the Alamance-Orange Prison Ministry. The proceeds are used to pay part of the chaplain's salary, and this year the NET proceeds of the sale to benefit the ministry came to over \$12,000. Ours was a small but vital contribution.

## **Holiday Light Recycling**

**Submitted by Emily Buehler**

Do you have old Christmas lights that no longer work? You can recycle them! Strings of lights can be recycled in "electronics recycling" at Orange County's Solid Waste Convenience Centers, but you have to remove all the little bulbs. Hours and locations of the Convenience Centers are here: <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/recycling/centers.asp>

An easier alternative is to mail your lights to the Holiday LED's Christmas Light Recycling Program. The different parts will be separated and ground into useful materials. And, you can fill out a form to receive a 25% discount coupon for buying new, LED lights from the website. (The form makes it seem like you are signing up for a mailing list, but I have not been bombarded by emails from the company, yet...) The deadline to mail in lights is January 31. The instructions are here:

[http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom\\_christmas\\_light\\_recycling\\_program](http://www.holidayleds.com/holidayledscom_christmas_light_recycling_program)

## **A Message from Finance (reprinted from November)**

YOUR FINANCIAL GIFT WILL BE APPRECIATED! Please consider a financial contribution to the Meeting. Help our worship community thrive. Your gift will help provide:

- \* the meeting room and meetinghouse with heat/AC/lights/water/insurance/etc.,
- \* the children and all of us with religious education/insight into spiritual journeys/updates on Quaker and community concerns and programs,
- \* opportunities to enjoy one another's company at potlucks, gatherings of parents and children, retreats for Young Friends, game nights, the Christmas and Christmas Eve programs, the celebration of graduations . . .
- \* support for this newsletter, the website, [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org), "In the Light" emails, the listserv . . .
- \* support for the Quaker House, Carolina Friends School, and other Quaker organizations
- \* support for the IFC and other local and state-wide organizations
- \* plus, giving your financial gift to the Meeting will just make you feel good.

**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**  
**Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**  
**Carolyn White, Clerk; Robin Harper, Recording Clerk**  
**November 18, 2012**

**Worship and query:** *What are we doing as a Meeting to communicate our presence and our principles to the community around us?* One Friend spoke about her excitement about being a Quaker and looking for opportunities to explain her faith to her colleagues and friends. Another Friend spoke about the 75th celebration and looking forward to the next 75 years, how we use the website for outreach as well as being represented on the IFC and CFS boards. Another Friend spoke to feeling sustained by our Meeting for Worship and able to talk to others about being a Quaker. Another Friend suggested that our Meeting be listed in the newspaper, especially the campus newspaper.

**1. Welcome, recognition of first time attenders, review of agenda**

There were no first-time attenders.

Update on Dirk Spruyt: We took some time to hold Dirk and Perry in the Light following a car accident earlier this week. He is currently at UNC Hospital.

**2. Review of Minutes for October Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business**

Approved.

**3. Minute of Appreciation**

Carolyn wrote and read a minute of appreciation for the work of the people who planned our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations:

During the year 2012, Chapel Hill Friends Meeting's 75<sup>th</sup> year, the spiritual, intellectual and social lives of our members were deeply enriched by the many opportunities offered on the theme: "Spiritual nurture and community: making a place for deeper things to happen." We express our sincere appreciation to everyone who planned, implemented and participated in the programs throughout the year, from classes, forums, guest speakers and field trips to ice cream socials, tapestry making, video taping interviews, and more. We especially acknowledge and thank the planning committee made up of Dottie Heninger, Lloyd Kramer, Andy Nelson, Judy Purvis, and Bonnie Raphael whose work made the year rich in personal and community growth and gave us a vision for building our Quaker community for the next 75 years.

Approved.

Friends expressed appreciation for the work done to plan the events, and also for the experiences of growth, renewed energy, and deepened faith. Many events were planned for people to have multiple opportunities to celebrate, but in particular the Ben Pink Dandelion series was wonderful, inspired, and enriching. Maybe we do not need to wait another 75 years, but more frequently look for such opportunities for growth?

**4. Request for Sojourning Membership**

Carolyn read the letter received from the Mid-Thames Meeting, west of London, England, requesting sojourning membership to CHFM for Naveed Moeed. Carolyn will

write a letter of approval to the Mid-Thames Meeting. Copies of both letters will be given to M&W for our record.

Approved.

A welcoming committee will be headed by Kitty Bergel and Dottie Heninger.

#### **5. Annual Report from Care and Counsel—Chris Stanley (Attached)**

Appreciation was expressed for the tender and loving service this committee provides to our Meeting, and especially for the work they are doing to formalize procedures for various occasions.

Accepted with appreciation.

#### **6. Report for PFF retreat—Jeff Brown**

Jeff reported on the successful retreat on “Quakers and Politics,” held on October 27 and led by Bill Rogers, former president of Guilford College. He also asked us to save the date for the PFF Spring Retreat and Annual Meeting, March 15–17, 2013, to be held again at the Carolina Friends School. Details will be coming in the near future.

#### **7. Publication and Records seeks guidance on issues of privacy—Robin Harper**

Recently we have been made aware of some privacy “gaps” in our various methods of communication—the newsletter, the bi-weekly listserv announcements, and our website. On behalf of P&R, Robin asked for guidance on two questions:

**Issue 1: Mid-year Directory Updates:** In the past, these have always been put in the newsletter, but the newsletter gets posted online. How can we make Friends aware of these updates without exposing this information to the world?

Friend suggested occasional printed errata, two or three times a year, to be placed in the foyer with the directories and newsletters. Updates could also be sent out on the listserv.

**Issue 2: Burden of Protecting Privacy:** Regardless of what Friends ask for when they send in announcements (e.g., “Please send out on listerv”) P&R generally publishes announcements by all appropriate methods. This has seemed like a harmless assumption, and easier than expecting Friends to specifically ask for each method by name. Following this procedure, P&R included private information in a recent newsletter, because they did not realize it was not intended for wide publication. To prevent this from happening again, P&R would like an understanding among Friends that items submitted to P&R, however received, can be used in all publication methods as appropriate, and are “publication ready.” Does this seem like a reasonable assumption? Do we need more clarity on who else Friends can contact with personal issues?

Friends suggested that P&R continue to decide which method(s) of publication are best for each news item, and that the burden of protecting privacy be on the sender of the item. In other words, when Friends send in items for publication, they should be aware that the information could appear in all of our publicity methods, and that the publishing of any personal information should only be done with the permission of those individuals. It was also suggested that an automatic reply with a reminder about privacy issues be sent to all who send in announcements.

Robin thanked Friends for their listening and suggestions.

## **8. Nomination of Nancy Fisher to Hospitality Committee**

The Nominations Committee brought forth the name of Nancy Fisher to be added to the Hospitality Committee.

Approved.

## **9. Messages and Announcements:**

- a.Thank you to all the folks who came out to help during the Meeting's work day.
- b.Thanksgiving Day Worship and potluck, 12 noon.
- c.Christmas Eve Gathering in the late afternoon, details forthcoming.
- d.Alternative Gift Mart Opens Dec. 2.
- e.Annual Christmas Party to be held on Dec. 16 at 5:00pm.

## **Worship and greeting**

**Attending:** Ed Bowen, Max Drake, Francis Coyle, Marilyn A. Dyer, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Heninger, Chris Stanley, Anne Smith, Pam Schwingl, Ryan Jarrell, Matt Drake, Lynn Drake, Jeff Brown, Paul Munk, Jamaine Mitchell, Kali Haith, Tom McQuiston, Bettie Flash, Joyce Munk.

## **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**

### **Care and Counsel Committee Annual Report – 2012**

The Care and Counsel Committee serves the Meeting by overseeing the pastoral care of each member and attendee of the Meeting, and is concerned with each one's spiritual and physical welfare. In doing this work we are dependent on requests from those in need as well as other members who may know of such need. The committee is always mindful of the necessity of privacy and confidentiality.

Members of the committee have participated in numerous clearness, support and membership committees this year, some of which are ongoing. A member has been a liaison with the Prison Support Committee to work on a plan for the support of released prisoners. Care and Counsel also supported a covered-dish meal for those in the Meeting dealing with mental health issues, which was well attended.

We were saddened by the death of Mary Bastin this year. Mary had joined the Meeting fairly recently before her death. Care and Counsel was not called upon to celebrate the birth of any new Meeting community members this year.

Care and Counsel worked with families who were not Meeting attenders to plan memorial services for their loved ones. The procedure for response to requests for memorial services has been formalized to help with future requests, adding committees to be contacted for specific occasions and contacts about parking for open meetings. Similar procedures have been prepared for other Care and Counsel Committee responsibilities, to assist with doing them efficiently and to provide continuity for future committee members.



An issue of concern has been how to encourage attenders and young adults who have grown up in the Meeting to apply for membership. The committee is also considering a renewed effort to have members record their end-of-life preferences for reference.

In recognition of the celebration of our 75th anniversary, Care and Counsel initiated:

- Updating the Memorial Book

- Formation of a group to share personal and spiritual questions, which is ongoing

- A proposal for plaques to honor those who are buried in the Memorial Garden

- Updating the recording procedure for getting meeting information to the recording clerk

Care and Counsel gratefully thanks Marilyn Dyer, Beth Kurtz–Costes and David Brower for their extended service on the committee. Their contributions of outreach to our community, as well as deep listening and insightful participation in committee discussions, are deeply appreciated and will be missed. The committee has been grateful to welcome new members Deborah Gibbs and Jeff Brown, who are already valuable contributors to our work. Care and Counsel Committee members for this year are Bill Schweke, Gwynne Pomeroy, Madelyn Ashley, Perry Martin, Julia Cleaver, Jeff Brown, Deborah Gibbs, Carolyn White (ex officio) and Chris Stanley, Clerk.

# Calendar

*(All events at Meetinghouse unless otherwise indicated.)*

- Sun. 12/2** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Iranian Theocracy  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
12:30pm Potluck & IFC donations  
FDS Gift Mart and activities (see page 4)
- Tue. 12/4 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Thurs. 12/6 7-9pm Safe Passage Documentary Film Screening (see page 3)
- Fri. 12/7 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 12/9** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: 75th Anniversary Wrap-Up  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods
- Tue. 12/11 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Fri. 12/14 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 12/16** 8am Meetinghouse open for worship  
8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
**9:00am Meeting for Worship w/Attention to Business**  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
noon Families and Friends Affected by Mental Illness - Schoolhouse  
5pm Holiday Party - Schoolhouse (see page 4)
- Tue. 12/18 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins
- Fri. 12/21 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 12/23** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Quaker Carols and other music  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
12:30pm Environmental Concerns Com. - Schoolhouse  
FDS Caroling Trip to Carol Woods (see page 4)
- Mon. 12/24 5:30pm Christmas Eve Service (see page 2)
- Fri. 12/28 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd
- Sun. 12/30** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: Winter Solstice celebration  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
10pm Deadline To Turn In Items For Newsletter!
- Mon. 12/31 7pm Intergenerational Games Night - Schoolhouse (see page 2)
- Tue. 1/1 7-8pm Yoke Fellows Prison Visitation - Call Hank Elkins

Thur. 1/3 9am-1pm CHFM Serves Lunch at Interfaith Shelter  
Fri. 1/4 4:30-5:30pm Vigil for Peace & Justice - E. Franklin & Elliot Rd

**Sun. 1/6** 8:30am Meeting for Worship (Early)  
9:45am Forum: tbd  
11am Meeting for Worship (Late)  
11am Meeting for Worship - Carol Woods  
12:30pm Potluck & IFC donations – Schoolhouse



**Chapel Hill Friends Meeting**  
**Chapel Hill Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**  
531 Raleigh Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 929-5377

Meetings for Worship at 8:30 and 11:00am  
Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30am-12:15pm  
First Day School from 11:15am-12:00pm  
Clerk of the Meeting: Carolyn White (919) 967-4926  
Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

- This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Records Committee. The deadline for submissions is 10pm on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org) or call Emily Buehler, (919) 475-5756.
- To send news on the Meeting Listserv or as an In The Light announcement, contact [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).
- Subscribe to our listserv at [www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html).
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- To get items posted on our website, send them to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).