

# Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

## Newsletter

### Eleventh Month, 2018

#### Monthly Query:

*Am I guided by a reverence for all living creatures and a sense of the splendor of the Spirit's continuing creation?*



#### Monthly Worship Tip from the M&W Committee:

Come to Meeting with neither a resolve to speak, nor a determination not to speak, but rather with an attitude of expectant waiting and openness.

#### Upcoming Forum Schedule

*Forums are offered every Sunday from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. (except the third Sunday of each month which is the 9:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business). Features include a wide variety of topics related to Quaker faith and practice, social issues, personal sharing, Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Committees, outside speakers, etc. These forums are offered through the Adult Religious Education Committee to enhance and deepen our spiritual lives.*

Nov 4: "**A View of Iran from A Persona non Grata.**" Dr. Kadivar, Professor of Religious studies, and exiled Reformist academic leader from Iran, will provide his analysis of conditions in Iran in light of the US pull-out from the nuclear deal and subsequent sanctions on trade, currency, and oil. Introduced by Nancy Milio.

Nov 11: "**Sanctuary.**" Join CHFM members Lori Fernald Khamala and Karen Porter in a Peace & Justice Committee-sponsored-forum on the growing Sanctuary movement and how our meeting can get involved in this important way of resisting oppressive immigration policies. Lori, the national coordinator of the Sanctuary Everywhere Initiative and the director of the NC Immigrant Rights Program Director for the AFSC (Greensboro), will provide a brief overview of Sanctuary efforts locally and nationally. Karen will share her experiences as a local Sanctuary volunteer and then they will lead a discussion on how other Meeting members might participate in this area's only Sanctuary host, the Church of Reconciliation in Chapel Hill, and its guest, Rosa.

*Nov 18: Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business - 9:00 a.m*

Nov 25: **Thankfulness and Gratitude.** The children and youth of the CHFM First Day School program will discuss things for which they are thankful and how they plan to "give back" through this year's Alternative Gift Market.

Dec 2: "**Meeting for Worship: How Do I Know I am Led to Speak?**" Quaker Meeting for Worship calls on each of us to Prepare, Wait, Listen, and Speak as the Spirit leads us. This forum allows us to explore these Quaker traditions as well as our own processes that guide us in this deeply meaningful Quaker practice. Presenter: Madelyn Ashley, Ministry and Worship Committee.

Dec 9 . **Personal sharing** by Tom McQuiston.

**Yemen – Follow the news at [The Yemen Peace Project.org](http://The Yemen Peace Project.org)**

<https://www.yemenpeaceproject.org/blog-x/2017/11/2/joint-statement-on-house-leaderships-decision-to-de-privilege-hconres81>

### **In the Light: Asta Crowe and family**

Asta Crowe is recovering well from a bad fall, but will have an extended period of healing from both fractures and internal injuries. Asta is in good spirits and making plans for rehabilitation. She her son is visiting from Hungary so is providing attentive care. Asta is very appreciative of Friends' thoughts and best wishes. However, because of her needing significant time to rest and recover, she requests email contact ONLY - no visits, phone calls or cards.

*A Note From Asta: "I am deeply grateful and profoundly touched by the many messages of love and support since my fall just over a week ago. Once settled back home, I'm sure I will take up on the many offers of support as I think it's going to be a slow transition. Meanwhile, on Thursday afternoon I move to Hillcrest Rehab in Durham and look forward to starting PT/OT (no beds at Carol Woods, alas). I will need a few days to settle, my son is still here, so would prefer not to have visits until after next Tuesday (when he leaves) and I know more the lay of the land and how functional (or non-functional) I am. I will be there for at least three weeks, don't know much else at this time."*

### **CLIMATE CHANGE - ACT NOW:**

Audubon's Birds and Climate Change Report found that 1 in 5 of our birds in the continental US and Canada are at risk of suffering severe declines by 2050 without immediate action to reverse climate change. Nearly 200 species of birds found in North Carolina are at risk because of the damaging effects of climate change. If we don't take action now many of those birds might be gone forever. In North Carolina, Audubon works to protect habitats and birds, to drive public policy and to engage citizens. For information on what you can do: <http://nc.audubon.org/climate-threatened-birds-need-your-help-act-now>

### **PECANS-BRUNSWICK STEW**

All orders must be in to RICHARD MILLER no later than Sunday noon, November 4. PECANS will be available at Meeting house on Sunday, November 11 by the end of forum. BRUNSWICK STEW will be available Sunday, November 18 before late meeting.

PLEASE get your payment to Richard before he picks up the Pecans on Nov. 10.

PLEASE NOTE: Asta promised to deliver a couple of orders to homes. THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN because Asta had an accident and will not be driving. If you can't pick up your stew as noted above, please contact Richard Miller.

### **SUBMIT A COMMENT TO WITHDRAW NEW IMMIGRATION RULE ON "PUBLIC CHARGES"**

The new rule would prevent legal immigrants from obtaining citizenship or even be deported if they or any in their extended family had, are, or would use public safety net programs, including food stamps, housing vouchers, Medicaid, or Medicare D, et al.

*Use your own words* to say why this rule should be withdrawn, e.g., how your faith compels you to support the vulnerable; to provide for children's needs; to maintain the integrity and security of families.

How has the openness of America helped make your family or friends what they are today? Do you know families whose lives would be upended by the expansion of this rule?

Send your comment at the website:

<https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org>

## Many Thanks for Support

*"A year ago this week our grandson Emerson James arrived - very early, and minuscule in size. Last Sunday he invited 59 people to his first birthday party, a true monster mash!*

*The year has been a marathon, but Em continues to power through all his development stages, and has the best parents ever to guide him.*

*Thank you for all your support last year, it meant so much to be able to share, and feel the caring."*

*Allie and Ian Scales*

## Chapel Hill Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes

**October 21, 2018—Matt Drake, Clerk, Alice Carlton, Recording Clerk**

Present: Alice Carlton, Matt Drake, Max Drake, Dave Curtin, Richard Miller, David Schneider, Tom Munk, Jennifer Leeman, James Warren, Kitty Bergel, Dottie Henninger, Chris Stanley, Faye Stanley, Lois Ann Hobbs, Buzz Borchardt, Geoff Medcalf, Jan Hutton, Ken Grogan, John Hite, Tom Ludlow, Emilie Condon, Carolyn Stuart, Richard Shepherd, Maura Murphy, Wendy Michener, Paul Munk, Thomas E. Wahrheit, Ronnie Harris, Thomas McQuiston, Raymond Robert, Maria Darlington, Annette Broadwell, Emilia Posada Samper (formerly Mila Sechinger), Hank Elkins, Lynn Drake, Catherine Alguire, Jeff Brown, Ann Miller, Deborah Gibbs.

### Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes - October 21, 2018

1. Opening worship and query: "What opportunities have I taken to know people from different backgrounds, and to work with them on common concerns?"
2. Welcome, Buzz Borchardt first time attendee.
3. Minutes of the July 15, 2018 MWAB were approved as written.
4. Jennifer Leeman, co-clerk of C&C, reported on the Memorial Service for Bill Schweke held on Sept. 8, 2018. The room was full and many memories of his full and rich life were shared by people from many parts of his life. A number of his friends and colleagues spoke afterwards about how much they appreciated our manner of Memorial Service. A Memorial Minute (attached) was approved with gratitude for the authors.
5. The Adult Education Committee Annual Report, was presented by Catherine Alguire, Secretary. The report was accepted with appreciation.
6. Maura Murphy, Treasurer, presented the report for fiscal year 2017-2018. We did well. We did not raise quite as much through contributions, but we did not spend as much as we budgeted. The downstairs renovations were paid for from contributions to the Renovation Fund. The 2017-2018 balance sheet is attached. We accepted this report with gratitude.
7. Ric Shepherd, co-clerk of Finance Committee, presented their annual report (attached). We accepted this report with gratitude.
8. Maura Murphy, Treasurer, Presented a report for the first quarter of this fiscal year: July – September, 2018 (attached). We are in great shape in terms of our fund raising and spending. Contributions are the largest source of funding and for this quarter are up from this same time last year. Expenses are less than income. We now can accept credit card payments through our web site, either one time or recurring. Check the donate button on the green strip at the top of the home page at

www.chapelhillfriends.org. We accepted the report for the first quarter of the current fiscal year with appreciation.

9. A. Dottie Henninger, Co-clerk, Nominations Committee, reported that the committee recommends Geoff Medcalf to join the Finance Committee. We approved this nomination with thanks.

B. Dottie also presented a request from Nominations Committee for the Clerk to appoint a Naming Committee to propose two new members for the Nominations Committee. The Clerk agreed to find members for a Naming Committee. We approved the Meeting Clerk's establishment of such a committee.

10. Matt Drake, Clerk, shared a letter he received from Karen Hurka-Richardson requesting to be removed as a Member of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting because she does not feel she has as much time as she'd like to commit to the Meeting. Both Care & Counsel and M&W are reflecting on membership in response. We approved her request to be removed from membership with regret.

11. Tom Munk, Co-clerk, Peace & Justice Committee, reported on contacts with staff members of Senators Burr and Tillis, and Representative Price regarding US support of and involvement in fighting in Yemen. Yemen is experiencing an enormous humanitarian crisis due to the war. Due to Hurricane Florence, the meeting with Jerry Artega, Burr staff member, was accomplished by phone. Tom was joined on the call by Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) staff member Kate Gould. The phone consultation was disappointing. Tom also talked by phone with Bo Prosch, a staffer in Tillis's office, again with FCNL Kate Gould. This call was much more fruitful. The staffer said he would reach out to Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Tom is continuing to attempt to schedule a meeting with David Price. We accepted this report with appreciation. For a more detailed report of Tom's activities see the attached report.

12. Hank Elkins, Clerk, Benevolences Sub-Committee of the Peace & Justice Committee invites Friends to submit proposals for inclusion in or removal of benevolences for the 2018-2019 fiscal year by Nov. 15, 2018. Karen Porter, Lynn Drake, John Hite, and Hank Elkins make up this sub-committee. For a benevolence to appear on the sub-committee's list of proposed recipients, proposals must be resubmitted. Proposal forms are on the table in the foyer. Publications and Communications have been asked to put these forms on the web site. Richard Miller has created a notebook with information about our benevolences which is in the library.

13. Faye Stanley, Co-clerk, M&W, reported on the Sept. 8, 2018 Clerks Retreat (attached). We accepted this report with gratitude.

14. Jennifer Leeman, Clerk, presented the Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (RECFAC) Annual Report. "Returning citizens" refers to newly released inmates from the Orange County Correctional Center. We accepted the report with gratitude.

15. Announcements:

\*The next MWAB is schedule for Sunday, November 18 at 9:00 AM.

\*Carolyn White, Adult Religious Education Committee (ARE), Forums: Oct. 28: **"How can we help the Interfaith Council (IFC) feed vulnerable families in our community?"** Come learn about the Food First Project. Jackie Jenks, Executive Director of IFC, will update the Meeting on progress toward meeting Food First goals, and other initiatives of the IFC. Moderator: Dirk Kelder. Nov. 4: **"A View of Iran from A Persona non Grata."** Dr. Kadivar, Professor of Religious Studies and exiled Reformist academic leader from Iran, will provide his analysis of conditions in Iran in light of the US pull-out from the nuclear deal and subsequent sanctions on trade, currency, and oil. Introduced by Nancy Milio. Moderator: Carolyn White. Nov. 11: **"Sanctuary."** Join Lori Fernald Khamala and Karen Porter in a Peace & Justice Committee sponsored forum on the growing Sanctuary movement and how our meeting can get involved in this important way of resisting oppressive immigration policies.

Lori, the National Coordinator of the Sanctuary Everywhere Initiative and the NC Immigrant Rights Program Director for the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC Greensboro), will provide a brief overview of Sanctuary efforts locally and nationally. Karen will share her experiences as a local Sanctuary volunteer and then they will lead a discussion on how other Meeting members might participate in this area's only Sanctuary host, the Church of Reconciliation in Chapel Hill, and its guest, Rosa. Moderator: Deborah Gibbs.

16. Closing worship, circle, prepare for 11:00 AM meeting for worship.

## Report #1

### **MEMORIAL MINUTE: FENTON WILLIAM (BILL) SCHWEKE II**

Born December 10, 1950, died July 3, 2018

Bill Schweke was a long-time attender of Chapel Hill Friends Meeting as well as a member of the Bethesda, Maryland Friends Meeting. His son Nate remains a Familial Member and is a graduate of Carolina Friends School, and his wife Lucy Gorham attended Meeting for Worship and was active in our community for many years.

Bill's contributions to CHFM – whether leading a forum or rising to speak in Meeting for Worship -- were distinctive and always moved our Meeting to greater understanding of how Faith works among us. His fine intellect, extensive reading, and knowledge of history informed his messages.

In his professional life, Bill was recognized as “an important voice for economic justice and shared prosperity.” “He played a singular role in defining and implementing a progressive vision of economic development that is his legacy today” (The Progressive Pulse, summer 2018). His work advocated for new policies to build state economies. These many accomplishments reflect his commitment to inclusion, community and integrity, all basic Quaker tenets. He lived his values. Bill played the guitar and had an extensive library of American music. His good friends valued his wit and depth of understanding of our complex world.

For 18 years, Bill struggled with the effects of early onset Parkinson's Disease. As his health declined, his Friends brought him to Meeting for Worship when his health permitted. He also continued to receive support from a committee under Care and Counsel, for which he and his family were extremely grateful. He was always a welcome presence in our midst, even as he endured the diminishment of PD.

Our Meeting was blessed to have Bill Schweke among us. We cherish his memory.

## Report #2

### **Adult Religious Education Committee Annual Report October 2018**

The Adult Religious Education Committee works to enhance the spiritual life of the Meeting community and to nurture the spiritual and intellectual growth of Meeting members. One of our main functions is to provide weekly forums on different topics connecting us to our Quaker faith and practice and to our role in the greater world. We ask committee clerks to suggest ideas for forum topics and also consider suggestions from members and attenders. We attempt to provide a rich range of topics and spend a part of each committee meeting analyzing them. This year, we had fewer forums due to weather and holidays (Dec 24). Some forums fall into several categories. Over the past year, forums fell into these categories: personal sharing (4), Quaker

Faith and practice (16), small group sharing (1), timely topics (7), outside speakers (5), social focus (8), wider community focus(8), CHFM committee (9), and community nurturing (8). Forum attendance ranges from 20 to 50 people with an average of 28 attending on a given Sunday. The committee works with Publications Committee and Ministry and Worship Committee to ensure that forums are announced in a timely fashion. Forums are listed in the newsletter, on the Meeting's website and announced at the rise of both Meetings for Worship. Upcoming forums are also listed above the donation box in the foyer. In the past, the committee taped each forum and burned some of them to CD's, making them available for checkout from the library. The committee decided to phase out this practice, instead only taping personal sharings or other ones that might have historical significance. Reasons included: little check out of CD's in the library and to free the moderator to focus on the sound system, the projector and moderating the forum. We have a backlog of recorded forums that have not been burned to CD which we will preserve on a flash drive.

The committee welcomes suggestions for forum topics as well as suggestions for improvement. We thank the committee clerks and Meeting members for their forum suggestions as well as their willingness to prepare and lead. We invite Friends to attend the forums as a handy and valuable way to enrich their spiritual lives. Child care is available during forum time.

ARE members(2017/18): Catherine Alguire, Max Drake, Dirk Kelder, Perry Martin, Chris Stanley, Carolyn White (clerk), Andrea Wuertth

Aug 27: "**Meeting House Renovation.**" Don Hopper

Sept 3: "**Meeting Benevolences.**" Led by Tom Munk and Naveed Moeed, Peace and Justice committee

Sept 10: "**Friends House Moscow.**" Karen Porter, board member and past clerk for Friends House Moscow

Sept 24: "**Quakerism, Anarchism and Pacifism.**" Casey Webber

Oct 1: "**American Friends Service Committee - current events.**" Lori Khamala will discuss her work at AFSC involving immigrants.

Oct 8: "**Entering and Centering: Preparing for Meeting for Worship.**" Led by Ministry and Worship Committee.

Oct 22: "**Quakers Face the Challenge of the Trump Agenda.**" Nancy Milio

Oct. 29: "**A gift for the animals.**" The Ad Hoc Animal Welfare Committee will present their ideas for a new CHFM Benevolence recipient.

Nov 5: "**What's new with the Interfaith Council?**" Jackie Jenks, IFC director

Nov 12: **A Personal Sharing** - by Leslie Rountree.

Nov 26: "**Sharing Blessings and Gratitude for Thanksgiving**", led by participants in the First Day School program.

Dec 3: "**Carolina Friends School: new head, Karen Cumberbatch.**"

Dec 10: "**Kindra Bradley, the new Quaker House director.**"

Dec 24: No forum

Dec 31: "**Endings and Beginnings: the Solstice and the turning of the year.**" Led by Perry Martin, Peter White and Carolyn White.

Jan 7, 2018: "**The Quaker Way of Reaching Decisions in the Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.**" - the essentials, challenges and rewards. Led by Matt Drake

Jan 14: "**Making Our Voices Heard Through Letters to the Editor.**" Led by Curt Torrell.

Jan 28: **2017-18 Benevolences Proposal. A Listening.** Led by Tom Munk and members of the Peace and Justice

Feb 4: **Seeking Carolina Quakerism "Outside the Bubble"**. Chuck Fager

Feb 11: **CHFM Building renovations update:** Led by Don Hopper and Building and Grounds Committee members.

Feb 25: **Personal Sharing: Perry Martin.**

Mar 4: "**Cognitive Diversity**": a tool for understanding ourselves and others and the world. Led by Dirk Kelder.

Mar 11: **Who Comes First? Trump Priorities and Quaker Responses.** Nancy Milio

Mar 25: **Let's talk about the Birds & the Bees.... and the Plants!** Barbara Driscoll, from the New Hope Audubon Society

April 1: Easter & PFF weekend. **What Does Being a Quaker Mean to Me? What Does Easter Mean to Me as a Quaker?** QuakerSpeak videos. Led by Carolyn White.

April 8: **To Join or Not to Join?** Presented by the Ministry and Worship Committee.

April 22: Earth Day: **Replacing Fossil Fuels Quickly and Economically Across North Carolina.** Jim Warren, executive director of NC WARN

April 29: **Passing on our Stories: Meeting elders talk about the Sixties and Seventies.**

May 6: **Worship Sharing with Attention to Animals.** The Animal Welfare Subcommittee

May 13: Mother's Day and UNC Graduation - No forum

May 27: **The Protestant Reformation and Why it Matters for Quakerism.** Lloyd Kramer

June 3: **Meeting for Worship with Attention to Graduation.** Led by Finn James, High School senior, CHFM teens, and John Hite.

June 10: **Friendly Summer Perusals: Reading suggestions**

### Report #3

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

07/07/18 Balance Sheet

Cash Basis As of June 30, 2018

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Jun 30, 18

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

BB&T-2699 Community Checking 44,084.15  
BB&T-3430 Refac (Return Citz) 857.73  
BB&T-3597 Youth Service Trip 1,515.44  
BB&T-4039 Building Renovat Fund 34,976.67  
BB&T-4071 Care and Counsel 2,385.55  
BB&T-4593 Shotts Leadership 3,142.26  
BB&T-8085 Refugee Fund 1,128.11  
BB&T-9737 Money Rate Savings 18,928.10

Friends Fiduciary

Bequest Fund 1,414.79  
General Fund 21,467.14  
Physical Plant Reserve Fund 25,559.66  
Shotts Endowment 34,436.43  
Total Friends Fiduciary 82,878.02  
Total Checking/Savings 189,896.03  
Total Current Assets 189,896.03

TOTAL ASSETS 189,896.03

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Other Current Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities 381.20  
Total Other Current Liabilities 381.20  
Total Current Liabilities 381.20

Total Liabilities 381.20

Equity

Opening Balance Equity 134,376.03  
Unrestricted Net Assets 221,181.55  
Net Income -166,042.75  
Total Equity 189,514.83  
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 189,896.03

## Report #4

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT for July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018**

The Finance Committee has the responsibility for stewardship of all the Meeting's financial resources needed for the Meeting to continue its work. Specifically, the Finance Committee is responsible for:

- 1) Fundraising and collection of donations, and payment of Meeting obligations.
- 2) Working closely with the Meeting Treasurer to maintain an accounting of income and expenditures, the Meeting's bank and investment accounts, and a financial reserve for use in case of emergencies.
- 3) Preparing an annual budget for allocation of funds, according to the needs of the committees and as directed by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MWAB), for maintenance of the Meeting House as well as for funding committee activities and benevolences.
- 4) Advising committees on what funds are available and helping committees decide where to allocate funds.

Throughout last year, the Treasurer reported to the Finance Committee monthly on income and expenses, and worked with the Committee in the preparation of the 2017-18 fiscal year report, the quarterly reports to the MWAB, and the budget for the 2018-19 fiscal year. The Committee also worked closely with the clerks of the Meeting's committees, who kept us updated on their committees' financial needs and expenses, thus providing information necessary for budget preparation.

A primary function of the Finance Committee is to encourage contributions to support the budget. To do this we: (1) inform the Meeting community about the Meeting's financial goals; (2) invite Friends to contribute; (3) thank them for their support; (4) and provide them with a contribution record for income tax reporting. Committee members were actively involved in the ongoing fundraising effort throughout the year. The Committee plans to make information available to Friends on how they can make automatic contributions from their bank accounts.

The Treasurer provided monthly reports to the committee and kept on-going records to assist in our fundraising task. We continue to use Servant Keeper to track contributions. An updated version of Servant Keeper was purchased in 2017 which allows an unlimited number of users. The committee reviewed newer options for contributions (ie.—EFT or a “donate” button on the Meeting website) and decided against using these [at present](#). The current Servant Keeper system works best with contributions by cash or check. Some of the other methods charge a fee to administer.

The financial condition of the Meeting is good. As of the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2018, the Meeting received a total revenue from all sources, including contributions, of \$74,630.84. Friends contributed a total of \$67,602, which was \$2998 below the goal set for contributions. However, the total Meeting expenses (\$61,434.22) were lower than budgeted resulting in an “overage” of \$6,168. [The overage was placed in the Renovation Fund per prior decision of MWAB.](#) Friends contributed another \$35,700.00 to the Renovation Fund. By the end of the fiscal year a total of \$221,644.27 had been spent on renovation expenses, and \$34,976 remained in the Renovation Fund. MWAB approved spending \$13,491 for summer projects including repair of the parking lot, installing an ADA compliant parking space and initial improvement work in the Meeting room.

Approximately 18% of the Meetings financial assets are held in a Consolidated Mutual Fund managed by Friends Fiduciary Corporation in Philadelphia, PA. The Finance Committee monitors their returns and allocates Meeting funds between investment, checking, savings, and monitors specific designated accounts (see balance sheet for details). Several Committee members met with representatives of Friends Fiduciary on December 13, 2017 to discuss the decision-making process Friends Fiduciary uses to review stocks to find those that meet Quaker values.

In November 2017, an outside accountant met with our Treasurer to review the Committee's financial

accounting processes on a volunteer basis. The reviewer found overall that our present procedures are good and suggested only a few minor improvements, which have since been implemented. Our Committee also agreed to administer an award from the Clarence and Lily Pickett Fund obtained by Claire Bates, a Friend and attender of CHFM.

We thank all who contributed for their generosity. We encourage Friends to continue to support the work of the Meeting and to consider including the Meeting as a bequest in their wills.

The 2017-18 members of the Finance Committee were: Kitty Bergel (Co-Clerk), Emilie Condon, Loren Hintz, Mike Jokinen, Tom Ludlow, Ann Miller (Co-Clerk), Ric Shepherd, Monteze Snyder, and Maura Murphy (Treasurer and ex officio member).

## Report #5

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting

10/14/18 Balance Sheet

Cash Basis As of September 30, 2018

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### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

##### Checking/Savings

BB&T-2699 Community Checking 56,399.95

BB&T-3430 Refac (Return Citz) 1,114.16

BB&T-3597 Youth Service Trip 1,515.50

BB&T-4039 Building Renovat Fund 28,075.31

BB&T-4071 Care and Counsel 2,385.64

BB&T-4593 Shotts Leadership 2,842.37

BB&T-8085 Refugee Fund 1,128.11

BB&T-9737 Money Rate Savings 18,928.65

##### Friends Fiduciary

Bequest Fund 1,414.79

General Fund 21,467.14

Physical Plant Reserve Fund 25,559.66

Shotts Endowment 34,436.43

Total Friends Fiduciary 82,878.02

Total Checking/Savings 195,267.71

Total Current Assets 195,267.71

**TOTAL ASSETS 195,267.71**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities

##### Other Current Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities 598.23  
Total Other Current Liabilities 598.23  
Total Current Liabilities 598.23  
Total Liabilities 598.23  
Equity  
Opening Balance Equity 134,376.03  
Unrestricted Net Assets 55,313.60  
Net Income 4,979.85  
Total Equity 194,669.48  
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 195,267.71

## Report #6

Tom Munk's Report on Advocacy with Congress about US Involvement in Yemen:

For decades now, I have been inspired by the work of the Friends Committee on National Legislation. I have responded to dozens of action alerts, encouraging Friends to do so. I think such action is very valuable. I have, on rarer occasions, visited with Rep, Price and staffers for my Senators. Most inspiring was a visit with Sen. Tillis' staffer on the topic of reducing the number of us that are imprisoned. Tillis had co-sponsored some positive legislation and was as anxious for its passage as we were. Jeff Sessions, then chair of the committee, successfully stood in the way.

A few months ago, I visited Catherine and Chris Elkins at their home on (Pamlico) Sound. I was inspired by Chris's knowledge and political commitment on the topic of the health of our fisheries. I thought that perhaps, in my lobbying, I could develop some degree of expertise that I could bring to bear to help my representatives in Washington to do the right thing. Question was: on what topic? There is so much that I want from Washington that we are not getting, and so much that we are getting that I find horrifying. SNAP, Yemen, the safety net, taxing carbon, global citizenship, military spending, sentencing reform, family separations, aging, and campaign finance reform are all so important to me. So I reviewed FCNL priorities and the committee assignments of Tillis, Burr, and Price. I found that largest humanitarian crisis in the world -- created by the horrifying war on Yemen led by Saudi Arabia and supporting by my government, was a topic on which all were influential. Senator Burr is chair of the Senate Intelligence Committee. Senator Tillis is chair of the Personnel subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee and co-chair of the Human Rights Caucus. Rep. Price serves on State and Foreign Operations committees.

So I started to learn what I could in my very limited time -- from the New York Times, the Guardian, the Washington Post, and most of all, from FCNL. Kate Gould is the expert par excellence on Middle East issues. Christine Ashley, FCNL staffer now sharing time here in North Carolina, encouraged me to reach out to her. For the day after a business trip in September, I set up meetings with Jerry Arteaga (Congressional Defense Fellow from the Pentagon) and Cole Lyle (legislative assistant) at Senator Burr's office and Bo Prosch ( and Joey Nelson) at Senator Tillis's office. Excitingly, Kate Gould was to join me! An appointment with Rep. Price did not materialize before I had to cancel the trip due to hurricane. Instead, I met with Jerry, Cole, Bo, and Joey by telephone, with Kate able to be with them in person. I am still working with Janssen White, Rep. Price's scheduler, to get an appointment with Rep. Price.

In the conversation for Senator Burr with Jerry, I offended him by asking whose lives mattered more, Yemeni or American. I know this made an impression because I just called him back a month after the

call, asked if he remembered the call, and he brought up that issue. This despite the fact that Kate had skillfully deflected the conversation to more practical issues at the time. On that call, we had asked for a constituent response letter from the Senator on the topic of Yemen and our specific request to stop bomb sales to Saudi Arabia. When I asked him about that today, he suggested I go to the web site. I said I would do so. On 10/24/18, I wrote this letter there:

-----  
*Dear Senator Burr,*

*I met with your Congressional Defense Fellow, Jerry Artega, on September 12 by telephone. I spoke to the moral pain that we Quakers of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting were feeling around the complicity of our government in the intentional creation of the worst humanitarian crisis in the world. I spoke of the blockades and the intentional bombings of hospitals, power plants, water supplies, and busses full of children and resultant massive famine and disease. I asked that you oppose the sale of any more bombs to Saudi Arabia -- noting that Senator Menendez had a hold on those sales. I asked for a constituent response letter on the topic. That letter has not arrived.*

*Since that time, the Saudi government has gone a grotesque step further, with the murder of Jamal Khashoggi, a brave journalist who was told at the Saudi embassy in the U.S. that he had to go to Turkey for his marriage license. He went, and as his fiancée waited in anticipation, he was murdered and dismembered by a team of 15 men who had been sent to "confront him." His body now lies in the garden of a Saudi ambassador.*

*PLEASE. It is time to stop selling weapons to this evil government.*

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In contrast to the cool reception from Senator Burr's office, Bo Prosch was very grateful for this contact with a constituent and with an expert like Kate. I was better prepared, timeliining some facts. I mentioned our Meeting's March letter to the News and Observer, which was published a day or two too late to influence Sen. Tillis's unfortunate vote to table SJR 54, a joint resolution to direct the removal of US Armed Forces from hostilities in Yemen. I thanked him for Tillis's July vote to require the Secretary of State to certify, prior to bomb sales, that Saudi Arabia was "undertaking an urgent and good faith effort to support an end to the civil war in Yemen, working to alleviate humanitarian crises in Yemen, and demonstrating actions to reduce the risk of harm to civilians and civilian infrastructure resulting from military operations." I mentioned Secretary Pompeo's September certification to that effect and my skepticism about its validity.

Kate took over, adding much more detail than I knew. In particular, she mentioned that, during a Personnel subcommittee hearing, Senator Warren had asked General Votel, CENTCOM Commander for the Middle East, if he was tracking the refueling missions that the U.S. was undertaking for Saudi Arabia to ensure that the missions did not involve civilian targets. He said he was not. Bo asked Kate several follow up questions, including asking for documentation, and what have you heard from Sen. Corker's office. At the end of the call, I was elated that he said he would be reaching out to Senator Warren's staff to consider collaboration on this issue. He said it was "huge" to hear from us.

I ask that Friends hold me in the Light, use FCNL resources to contact Washington, and let me know if they would like to join a small group of us working on this issue. I intend to persist in the Light.

## **Chapel Hill Friends Meeting Clerks Retreat - September 8th, 2018**

The annual Clerks Retreat was held Saturday morning, September 8th, with 28 attending.

All of the committees of the Meeting were represented, as well as the Trustees, in that number.

It was particularly positive that 6 folks attended who were newer attenders, and not current clerks, to learn more about our Meeting and its processes.

Two first-time clerks were part of that number as well.

An agenda created utilizing feedback from committee clerks, and consistent with last year's retreat agenda, included two strands: cultivating and nourishing the spiritual foundations of committee work in our service as

committee clerks, and the processes and systems used by the committees of our Meeting to carry out our work grounded in that Spirit.

The morning began with food, coffee and tea, followed by a whole group sharing focusing on the rewards of committee service.

Some of the named rewards gathered in that sharing included:

- The joy of sharing our gifts; service
- The joy of getting to know others
- Learning about the thoughtful, creative, spirit-filled decision-making that occurs through Quaker process as it plays out in our work together
- The personal growth that occurs as we come to know and observe how we can work together; working to achieve personal balance, working to put aside judgment

Friends then met in small groups to read and discuss an article: *A Practical Mystic's Guide to Committee Clerking* by Deborah Haines. This article, from FGConnections, 2004, explores the spiritual context of committee clerking. The article focused on the tenet that "Everything we do in the presence of God is a kind of ministry," discerning our gifts and leadings, and the capacity of Quaker practice to support both radical individualism and a radical sense of community. It also emphasized the importance of committee process over product, and the importance of being in the present as we work to carry out the work of our committees. Upon returning to the larger group, folks shared thoughts about this:

- An appreciation of the importance of a sense of safety for committee members to fully contribute
- The difficulty of putting aside our inclination for "getting things done" to prioritize the spiritual process of discernment
- A renewed awareness of the importance for us as clerks to be attuned to the gifts and leadings of our members, and to respect the gifts that are offered (and not offered) in service.

- Renewed awareness of the availability of the Ministry and Worship committee to support the needs of committees
- Listening, deeply and respectfully, is core to our work as collaborators in service to the Meeting

Documents were provided for F(f)riends that offered information about the role of the clerk, clerking processes in our Meeting, and discerning the “sense of the committee meeting,” including a new graphic version of this document. Additionally, a summary calendar of committee life, a month-by-month table of all committee responsibilities, and multiple sample single committee month-by-month calendars were provided. Many of these documents are available on our website, under “Guidelines for Committee Clerks” at the bottom of our Home Page.

There was discussion of the resources on the website that might be useful to clerks, as well as the documents offered as handouts. Additionally, time was spent reviewing the formats and contents of committee calendars and how they might support the work of the committee, particularly the necessity of passing on commitments and processes of a committee to those who follow in the role of clerk of our many Meeting committees. Significant progress was noted in the building and use of committee calendars since last year’s Clerks Retreat. Seasoned clerks also shared helpful information about preparations for committee meetings, including developing and disseminating agendas, and the “rolling” clerking approach that can help smooth transitions of leadership in committee work.

The retreat closed with a shared song, “Love Will Guide Us.” Participants completed evaluations prior to departure.

Evaluations were positive, specifically referring to the value of shared expertise and insight that the retreat offers. Folks also provided the following feedback:

- Appreciation for the use of silence to keep the committee centered in their shared efforts.
- Appreciation of the website and handouts to support the work of clerking
- Appreciation of the clarifying of Quaker process as it applies to committee work, and the prioritization of process over product
- A shifting of attitude toward committee work, with an emphasis on committee work as a spiritual undertaking
- An appreciation for the individual and group reflective opportunities of the retreat, in addition to the informational components
- Reminded and supported our appreciation of the many gifts committee members bring to our Meeting
- Appreciation for the development of the calendar as a sustaining committee tool

- Time constraints limited the depth that could be reached in many of the undertakings.

(Clerks' Retreat continued)

- Folks were interested in future time spent on constructing agendas, and initiating new committee members.

*-Submitted by Faye Stanley, Ministry and Worship Committee, September 29th, 2018*

## Report #8

### **Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (Fiscal Year 2017-2018)**

The Returning Citizens Financial Assistance Committee (ReCFAC) was established in 2014 to create guidelines and oversee the disbursement of funds to assist men as they leave Orange Correctional Center and return to the community. This past year, we provided financial assistance to six men for a total expenditure of \$962. As in past years, most of these funds have gone to meet men's immediate needs as they transition to the community including toiletries, clothing, phones, and bicycle helmets and locks. We were fortunate to receive a \$300 grant from TarWheels to assist us in purchasing bicycle supplies.

We are carrying \$1,114 over into the new fiscal year, and the Meeting has allocated an additional \$1,000 bringing our current funds to \$2,114. This funding will help us to support two men who are returning to the community this fall and several more who we expect will be released in the near future.

Submitted by the ReCFAC: Jennifer Leeman (clerk), Asta Crowe, Nancy Milio, Gwynne Pomeroy,

Pam Schwingl, and Richard Miller

## **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 on First Days at 8:30 and 11:00 AM

Forum at 9:45am; Child Care from 9:30 AM–12:15 PM

First Day School from 11:15 AM–12:00 PM

Clerk of the Meeting: Matt Drake (919) 968-0044

Resident: John Hite (919) 929-5377

Newsletter. This newsletter is published every first Sunday under the care of the Publications and Communications Committee. Paper copies are available at the Meetinghouse and a PDF is posted on the Meeting website, [www.chapelhillfriends.org](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org). The deadline for submissions is 10 PM on the last Sunday of the month. Email submissions to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Please include "newsletter" in the subject line. -news. To send a news or "In the Light" announcement in the Meeting's e-news, contact [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org). Please include "e-news" or "in the light" in the subject line. This e-news goes to about 280 people. Do not submit personal information about someone else unless you know he/she wants to share. Subscribe to the e-news at [www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html](http://www.chapelhillfriends.org/contact.html).

Website. To get items posted on our website, send them to [news@chapelhillfriends.org](mailto:news@chapelhillfriends.org).