

# ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER



Atlanta Meeting of the Religious  
Society of Friends (Quakers)  
All are welcome

## June 2016

### **Reflections on the Annual Meeting for Worship with Attention to Youth**

*Submitted by Clive Gordon*

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For the Annual Meeting for Worship with Attention to Youth on May 22nd, the weather was beautiful and the parking lot was full. All but a few seats in the meeting room were occupied.

After a period of silence Jennifer Dickie opened the programmed portion of Meeting. Children and teachers of each level of First Day School were invited into the center of the room one class at a time. They introduced themselves or, in the case of the nursery, were introduced. Some teachers shared their joy of being able to interact with these remarkable young people over the past year. Books were presented to students moving up a class and to those graduating some received Bibles.

There were thirteen students graduating from the High School class. Those present received books specially chosen for them by Jonah, their teacher for the past four years.

The Meeting was asked to hold the children and young people in the Light. Also, to hold in the Light those couples who were considering marriage and those who were already married.

Someone shared his memory of worshipping at the old meeting house and the challenges they had of finding suitable space for First Day School. He expressed his joy that the present meeting house was able to accommodate such a large group of children.

Quoted with permission from Tom Kenworthy: "In the eighty one years I have been attending Quaker meetings this was one of the most memorable."

### **Meeting with Attention to Youth**

*Welcoming Remarks from the RE Clerk 2016, Jennifer Dickie*

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Here we are again—how the time flies. It seems to me like just a few months ago we were gathered in this room for this very purpose . . . But that was a year ago—It seems short to those of us with many years under our belt, but for those of you who have just waded through a half or quarter of your lifetime, this is a very long time. So long that the last time we were here probably isn't even a memory! For others of you

Meeting for Worship  
Each First Day (Sunday)  
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.  
701 W. Howard Ave.  
Decatur, GA 30030

How does our Meeting help to create and maintain a society whose institutions recognize and do away with the inequities rooted in patterns of prejudice and economic convenience? What steps are we taking to assure that our Meeting reflects our respect for all and are free from practices rooted in prejudice?

— *Philadelphia Yearly Meeting*

this past year represents a 6<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> of your life. For you, last year's Meeting for worship with Attention to Youth may not seem so far away. And yet so much has happened in this time. Today our Meeting Family is gathered in one place. We join the Friends who usually worship in this room with the Friends who usually worship in the rooms at the back of the Meeting House. We gather as one community of Faith who through being together seek to find the light within ourselves and each other, that we might better know God.

Our theme this year: Nurturing the light within, so that we might discover the scriptures anew, finds its way into the lives of the classrooms in many ways. We have had up to 17 babies in Meeting on some mornings who are wrapped in love and consistent care by Camille Jackson and a host of volunteers each First Day. Our 25 Young Friends from age 3 to 13 have explored the New Testament and the teachings of Jesus through Godly Play, singing, creating, and service. And Our 8<sup>th</sup> grade through High School Friends have nurtured that inward light through weekly queries that allow them to share wisdom of the spirit as they collectively grapple with some of life's challenges and how Quaker values fit into their lives.

Our teachers and doorkeepers are blessed to be in the presence of the wisdom of our youth every week, and they are a blessing to our Meeting in their willingness to share in the time and challenges of nurturing that light within for our young Friends. I am so grateful to each and every one.

We will get a chance to see and meet the teachers and children from each class today. Please hold each of these lives in the light of love as they stand with us.

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### **Lives and Callings: The Spiritual Journey – June 5th**

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If you are new to our meeting, considering membership or a long-time member who enjoys hearing a story, you are invited to the meeting library at 9 AM on June 5th to hear Bob Lough. Save the date for Bob John Adams on July 3rd. You are also invited to tell your story and can call Mary Ann Downey at 678-938-8030 to volunteer or to get more information.

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### **Acoustic Concert – June 25<sup>th</sup>**

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WE'RE BACK! Acoustic Concert at the Meeting House on June 25<sup>th</sup>. Singer-songwriters Deidre McCalla (Meeting attendee), Dianne Davidson, and Jamie Anderson return to Atlanta with a round robin evening of music and mirth that will run the gamut from gut-wrenching blues to heartbreakingly tender ballads with bits of humor and grace thrown in for good measure. Showtime is 8:00pm. Tickets (\$25 advance/\$30 door) available at Charis Books or [www.weareback.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.weareback.brownpapertickets.com).

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### **Sharing on "Unraveling Racism" theme from SAYMA – June 26<sup>th</sup>**

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Join us in the Meeting Room on June 26 at 11:45 a.m. for a sharing session from workshops on the theme of "Unraveling Racism" that Friends attended at the SAYMA gathering June 9-12. This year there are so many meaningful workshops offered by Friends around the region, that it has been difficult to choose between them. Each workshop offers a different approach, focus, or style despite the common theme related to racism. We welcome Friends who attended SAYMA to exchange experiences and insights from "Unraveling Racism" workshops, worship sharing, or youth activities you participated in with Friends who were unable to attend the same activities at SAYMA or needed to stay in Atlanta. Both adults and teens are welcome. Childcare will be provided. Quakers for Racial Equality will facilitate the forum. For more information, contact Susan Firestone, [susanfires@gmail.com](mailto:susanfires@gmail.com).



### Please Hold in The Light:

Bob Repoley, father of Christina Repoley;  
 Perry Treadwell;  
 Bette Turlington  
 Bette recently moved to Arbor Terrace  
 Assisted Living Community. 230A Winn  
 Terrace, off Winn Rd, near DeKalb  
 Medical. She would welcome visits and  
 phone calls: [678-304-0257](tel:678-304-0257).

*Those wishing to have requests for Holding  
 included in this monthly newsletter may  
 give the names to a member of Care &  
 Counsel.*



### Atlanta Friends Meeting Contacts

Clerk of the Meeting: Betsy Eggers, [afmclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:afmclerk1@gmail.com)  
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### Calendar for Sixth Month (June) 2016

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#### Area Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:00 a.m. – Meetinghouse, with a smaller group in the Library.
Every Third First Day	12:30 p.m. – Carrollton Friends Worship Group. St. Andrew's UMC Youth Center, 1106 Maple St.; contact Jean Hudson, <a href="mailto:judson30116@yahoo.com">judson30116@yahoo.com</a> or 678-378-3368; <a href="http://carrolltonfriends.org">carrolltonfriends.org</a> .
Every Second First Day	10:30 a.m. – Macon Friends Worship Group. Contact Diana Day, 478-227-8892; <a href="http://maconquakers.org">maconquakers.org</a>
Every Fifth Day (Thursday)	12:10 p.m. – East Lake Commons, Decatur. Contact Bert Skellie at <a href="mailto:bertskellie@gmail.com">bertskellie@gmail.com</a> or 404-680-4799.
Sixth Day (Friday)	(Mid-August through May), 9:00 a.m. – Friends School of Atlanta. Community Meeting Room, 862 Columbia Dr., Decatur, 404-373-8746.
<i>Currently on hiatus</i>	Canton Friends Worship Group. Contact Roy Taylor at 770-720-4669 or <a href="mailto:wrlldpeas@mindspring.com">wrlldpeas@mindspring.com</a> .

#### Weekly Events at the Meetinghouse

Every First Day (Sunday)	9:00 a.m. Adult Religious Education, Library 9:30 a.m. Singing, Classroom A/B 10:00 a.m. Meeting for Worship
Every Second-Fifth Day (Monday-Thursday)	8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Smart Toddlers, Nursery, Classroom A/B and playground
Every Fourth Day (Wednesday)	8:30 a.m. Morning Worship, Library First and third Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m. Mid-Week Worship at David & Freer Jarvis' home
Every Fifth Day (Thursday)	7:00 p.m. Bible Study, Library

ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING  
701 W. Howard Ave.  
Decatur, GA 30030-2902

### ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

Office: MWF 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; 404-377-2474

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Clerk: Betsy Eggers, [afmclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:afmclerk1@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Lynn Leuszler, [afmtreasurer1@gmail.com](mailto:afmtreasurer1@gmail.com)

If you would like to have a permanent nametag made, leave a request in one of the baskets on the front table. Indicate whether you prefer one that hangs around the neck or that pins. When Carol Gray has made one for you, it will be placed in the black file box on the greeting table.

If you would like to be included in the AFM database and receive the Newsletter by mail and/or appear in future AFM Directories, please send your name and contact information to Emily Lawson at [elawson7@gmail.com](mailto:elawson7@gmail.com) or 404-200-8479. Please indicate if you want to be in the directory, receive the newsletter by mail, or both. Emily Lawson is also the contact to request mailing list removal.

Contributions to the Atlanta Friends Meeting may be placed in the slot marked "Contributions" in the greeting area of the Meetinghouse or mailed to the Treasurer at the above address. Thank you!

*This newsletter is a publication of the Atlanta Friends Meeting. Views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Meeting.*

Readers are encouraged to submit letters, articles, notices and anything else of interest to Friends. Items should be sent directly to [atlquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atlquakerltr@gmail.com) in plain text (Word, not PDF). Pictures should be in .jpg format. Submissions may be edited for length and format.

#### **THE DEADLINE FOR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF EACH PRECEDING MONTH.**

To receive the Newsletter via e-mail, send a blank e-mail to [afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) from the address where you want to receive the newsletter. You will receive a note back from Yahoo asking you to confirm your subscription; hit reply and you will be added to the list at no charge. To receive general announcements and to participate in discussion, follow the same instructions, but address the note to [afmdiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:afmdiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). To receive announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting, send the same note to [afmannouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:afmannouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).