

ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER



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

January 2018

State of the Meeting Report Draft

Atlanta Friends Meeting 2017

Draft for approval at January meeting for business

Opportunities, joys, and challenges were seen throughout 2017 as we met the many and varied needs of our large meeting and pursued our leadings and commitments in the wider community. We gave gifts to others, addressed issues around racism and incidents of sexual harassment and welcomed newcomers. We committed to our community, both with Quaker-affiliated organizations and community partners.

Gifts of Spirit given to others come in many forms. This spring the Meeting hosted two large national Quaker groups: The Friends General Conference Long-Range Planning Committee and the Steering Committee for the Quaker Earthcare Witness Annual Meeting. Both required in-home hospitality, transportation, food, and coordination of matching guests-to-hosts. Ministry and Worship continued to provide multiple anchoring committees (a group of 3-5 different Friends who meet regularly with each individual) to give spiritual support and ongoing clearness opportunity to seven individuals who feel called to a personal ministry.

We provided almost \$4000 in scholarships to attend FGC and SAYMA, supported a teacher to attend the Quaker Religious Education Collaborative Conference in Richmond, Indiana, and sponsored six Friends to attend an Undoing Racism workshop. In-kind gifts were given to the Stone Mountain Evangelical Friends Church after deep considerations in Meeting for Business; the gift of use of the meetinghouse space was provided to the Church of Mary Magdalene. The Ferguson Cabin was used by more than one hundred different people, including Quaker Women, Quaker Men, Spiritual Nurture, Quaker Voluntary Service, viewers of a solar eclipse, and several extended family get-togethers. Through the work of Green Friends Committee, we made two sizable donations to support pipeline protesters at Standing Rock Sioux reservation as well as making many gifts of education and support around climate change issues.

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

QUERY

How do we balance time devoted to our community's organizational needs and to our spirit-led work?

How are we nurturing members' gifts and imagining committee service?

How/when do we lay down a past-leading with care? Where is simplicity and Spirit in our structure?

These queries were shared in December's Meeting for Business. Monthly queries for 2018 will be developed by the Ministry and Worship committee.

The Meeting continues its strong Religious Education Program, both for adults and children throughout the year. For the first time, children's teachers formed a committee that worked to develop monthly themes from Old Testament lessons, and to inform these additional lessons with Faith and Play and other storybooks that RE bought to build our library. Religious Education has been especially focused on offering stories that connect children across differences in culture, race, family structure, and class.

Around racism, we feel called to act on our testimony of equality at the personal, institutional, and societal levels. Key themes in our racial equity work have included education on white privilege, education around white people's harm to Native Americans, restoring relationships and making amends, and expanding witness on racism in the local community and in the wider Quaker community. Work included support of and funding toward FGC's Institutional Assessment to Uncover Racism Project, SAYMA's plenaries on experiences of racism, and an AFM Friends of Color group. We grappled deeply and resolved to have a "Black Lives Matter" sign on the meetinghouse's front lawn. Meeting members also joined Decatur neighbors to work with local government leaders around removing Civil War monuments.

Responding to concerns regarding sexual harassment, Care and Counsel appointed committees to work with three different individuals whose words and actions adversely affected Meeting attendees. We came together with feelings of confusion, aloneness, support, and hope for further growth of awareness and sensitivity to make the Meeting a safe place for everyone.

We welcomed newcomers --- which number 8-10 or more each First Day --- through invitations to monthly Welcome Dinners and a newly-amended brochure. A forum on Welcoming Newcomers, co-sponsored by Ministry & Worship and Care & Counsel, brought forward a list of ideas and concerns. Work continues from those discussions, including how to be best welcoming to Friends of color and Friends in the LGBTQ community.

We welcomed new members, and said goodbye to others. New members included Mark Watson, Penny Summers, and Sara Patenaude. Bill Hooson transferred into the meeting, and Sharon MacDonnell transferred membership out. Bill Herrington laid down membership. Diana White sojourns from Farmington Friends Meeting. Memorial services were held for several: Harry Lefever, Maria Ladd, Lyle McCormick, Mike Mykel, Doug Unfug, and Jada Tidwell. We mourn all these Friends, and will especially miss those who had been active in our meeting for more than 35 years .

We committed to work in the wider community, including with Quaker-affiliated organizations, community partners, and others. Our commitments to the wider community were both as appointed AFM representatives to SAYMA and other organizations and as individuals pursuing leadings. Meeting members and attendees are also being led to serve with roles of support in Quaker Voluntary Service and the Friends School of Atlanta, among others. AFM members and others formed an FCNL Advocacy Team to advance peace and justice legislation. Our meetinghouse is rented to like-minded groups, is often in use, and Administration Committee led a re-visioning of what handling the large job of maintaining the building will look like in the future. To continue to sagely distribute the generous bequest of Frank Cummings, AFM contracted with a nonprofit to supervise the work of a youth organization and other youth development work in the Suchitoto, El Salvador area.

Our many obligations include those through Nominating Committee, who filled almost fifty positions of appointed members and committee clerks. The Nominating Committee also helped establish an Ad Hoc Archives Committee to address issues in the AFM Archives and the years of missing a consistent archivist.

Atlanta Friends Meeting met opportunities, joys and challenges in 2017 with prayerful deliberating at Meeting for Business, centering in gathered Worship, working diligently in strong, committed standing Committees, and forming Ad Hoc committees when necessary. We move forward to the upcoming year with hope and gratitude.

Preserving Gullah Geechee Heritage

Submitted by Althea Sumpter

Beginning in January, I will concentrate my time on writing the stories of the Gullah Geechee elders, through whose eyes I see the world, and the key to how I experience my faith. Over ten years ago, these elders allowed me into their homes so that I could document their lives and hear stories of growing up during a time when Jim Crow laws were real and lynching was always a possibility. This is the time for me to focus on writing these stories, not only for the elders' families, but also for others to learn why the preservation of Gullah Geechee cultural heritage is critical. You can learn more about my work at altheasumpter.com. Follow my progress by joining the Althea Sumpter Research Facebook page.

Poet Sherry Williams – January 6th

Quakers for Racial Equality is pleased to host poet, Sherry Williams, on Saturday, January 6, 2018, 4 pm, for a poetry reading, especially for F(f)riends, in the AFM Library. Sherry, child of God, daughter, sister, mother, friend, and artistic spirit, is an attorney, fierce advocate of inclusion and diversity and champion of Beloved Community Development. She will share her recent work, "The Divine Me", an exploration of the spirituality of the African woman. Journey with her across time and continents, as she struggles to maintain her spiritual connections to the Divine and positive self-identity. This is a new work and Sherry is simply asking for our feedback as fellow travelers on this journey. Come, enjoy a cultural gift in spoken word, light refreshments, and fun. We hope you can make it.

Book Group Meeting – January 9th

The book group organized to read writings by and about people of color will meet again on Tuesday January 9, 2018 at the meeting house at 7:15 PM. We will continue our discussion of Colson Whitehead's *The Underground Railroad*, including the last six chapters. We will also decide what we will read and when we will meet next. All are welcome.

The Friends School of Atlanta Open House – January 13th

The Friends School of Atlanta (FSA) will be holding Open House on Saturday, January 13th, February 3rd and April 14th, always from 10:00 am to noon. All families of children who will be age three through eighth grade next school year are invited to drop in and meet with other FSA families, chat with teachers in their classrooms and tour the campus. No reservation necessary. To attend a two-hour parent-only tour for a more in-depth introduction to FSA during the school day, please go to FSA's website at friendsschoolatlanta.org for available tour dates. For more information, contact Nancy Bent, Director of Advancement and Admissions, at nancy.bent@friendsschoolatlanta.org or [404-373-8746 x8135](tel:404-373-8746).

January Welcome Dinner – Thursday January 18th 6:30 PM

Bert & Karen Skellie invite all new to the Meeting and all who would like to meet newcomers to come to our house at 6:30 PM on Thursday, January 18. Newcomers are invited to be our guests, and others

encouraged to bring a potluck dish. Contact us at berts kellie@gmail.com or 404-378-5883 for directions. (East Lake Commons, about 3 miles south of Meetinghouse)

Administrative Assistant for SAYMA – Applications due February 15th

I am writing to you on the part of the Personnel Committee to ask for your help in advertising a job opportunity in SAYMA. Our yearly meeting is seeking an administrative assistant as our current AA, Liz Dykes, is retiring from the position as of July 2018. The job is part-time, 53 hours per month. It does not carry health benefits, but does include a payment in addition to the hourly wage to use toward the purchase of health care insurance as well as a short-term illness bank of leave days. The administrative assistant attends our representative meetings (2) and the yearly meeting gathering in early summer. The person hired can work out of his/her home and can flex hours as work load ebbs and flows.

A job description and an application form for that position can be found at sayma.org. We are accepting applications now through February 15, 2018. If you have questions please contact Barbara Esther, Assistant Clerk of SAYMA and clerk of the Personnel Committee at (828) 683-4839 or cell/text (828) 301-4845, or barbaraannesther@gmail.com.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business – December 17th, 2017

Recorded pending approval

Attendance: Michael Allison, Steve Collins, Mary Ann Downey, Julia Ewen, Sally Ferguson, Carol Gray, Nina Gooch, Clive Gordon, Alberta Guise, Claire Hannapel, Bill Holland, Jack Honderd, Bill Hooson, Teri Key-Hooson, Kathy Johnson, Elizabeth Lamb, Lynn Leuszler, Georgia Lord, Becky Lough, Paul Mangelsdorf, Carolyn Manley, Alison Mawle,, Karen terHorst Morris, Ronald Nuse, Bert Skellie, Karen Skellie, Rebecca Sullivan, Jim Tolmach, Myrna Trapp, Sarah Walton, Austin Wattles, Pat Williams, Brent Wolff, Betsy Eggers (Clerk), Bethany Morrison (Recording Clerk) (35 Friends).

Query: Sally Ferguson shared the query for Twelfth Month: "Do you practice simplicity in speech, dress, and manner of living, avoiding ostentation? Do you bear in mind that your standard of living is a material reflection of your spiritual convictions? Do you exercise stewardship of your possessions, sharing them with others? Are you careful in your choice of ways to use money, time, and energy?"

Discernments

Naming Committee: On behalf of the Naming Committee, Mary Ann Downey brought forward the following names for approval:

- **Minute 12-17-2017-01:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Cathy Amanti as a member of Nominating Committee beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-02:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Clive Gordon as a member of Nominating Committee beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-03:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Nanseera Wolff as a member of Nominating Committee beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-04:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Myrna Trapp as a member of Nominating Committee beginning in January 2018.*

Finance Committee: In November Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, Finance Committee shared a report with a proposed minute to SAYMA that provided input about revising the assessment system that informs SAYMA's requests for financial contributions from monthly meetings. The Committee

made two minor revisions to the proposed minute, clarifying that 1. AFM suggests exploring an assessment approach based on a meeting's *regular donations* and 2. AFM suggests annual direct mailing *appeals* for contributions.

On behalf of Finance Committee, Paul Mangelsdorf brought forward the minute, which Atlanta Friends Meeting approved:

- **Minute 12-17-2017-05:** Atlanta Meeting has considered the SAYMA proposed guidelines for a Revised Assessment System. We are in unity with principles 1, 4 and 5. However, we do not think that a sized based assessment (as reflected in principles 2 and 3) is practical for a meeting of our size to implement. Further, we believe that a size based assessment system does not necessarily reflect each meeting's financial resources and ability to pay the assessment. Accordingly, we propose the following:
 1. We ask that SAYMA explore modifying the manner of determining Monthly Meeting assessments to one that bases Meetings' assessments upon a percentage of the regular donations (excluding bequests, contributions to capital campaigns and contributions for other specific campaigns or funds) that were received by each Monthly Meeting during the prior calendar year.
 2. To determine the potential impact of such a proposed change in policy, and to set an appropriate percentage for assessments, we recommend that SAYMA collect information from each of its member Monthly Meetings regarding the total amount of regular donations received by each Meeting during the prior two years.

In addition, we think that SAYMA should seek to reduce its reliance on assessments as the primary source of funding. Specifically, we recommend that SAYMA conduct annual direct mail appeals.

In addition to the SAYMA minute, Paul Mangelsdorf brought forward the proposed 2018 budget for approval by the Meeting. Finance Committee had made one revision to the 2018 budget reported on in November, budgeting \$20,000 for the permanent improvement fund rather the \$15,000.

- **Minute 12-17-2017-06:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the budget for 2018 as presented.*

Nominating Committee: On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Ronald Nuse brought forward the following names for approval:

- **Minute 12-17-2017-07:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves John Adams as an appointed member of Ministry & Worship Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-08:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Mark Watson as an appointed member of Ministry & Worship Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-09:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Richard Allen as an appointed member of Ministry & Worship Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-10:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Karen Morris as an appointed member of Ministry & Worship Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-11:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Sara Patenaude as an appointed member of Ministry & Worship Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*
- **Minute 12-17-2017-12:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Clive Gordon as a member of the Ministry & Nurture Committee of the Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association*

- **Minute 12-17-2017-13:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Bert Skellie as the Clerk of the Social Concerns Committee for a three-year term beginning in January 2018.*

Reports

Nominating Committee: On behalf of Nominating Committee, Ronald Nuse brought forward Elizabeth Lamb for the position of Clerk of Ministry & Worship Committee, which is a 3-year term beginning January 2018. Her name will be brought forth next month for discernment and approval.

Care & Counsel Committee: On behalf of Care and Counsel, Bill Hooson shared the following report:

Care and Counsel has been threshing how Meeting is dealing with sexual harassment and inappropriate behavior. The committee feels strongly that the issue of how Meeting deals with complaints be revisited.

Jonah McDonald would like to provide leadership to a forum for men on male behavior and what and how male behavior can be seen or perceived as inappropriate or harassment.

The Welcome Brochure has been creatively redesigned through the talent of Claire Hannapel and reviewed by both Care and Counsel, and Ministry and Worship. It will be printed, folded and ready for distribution by the new year.

Administration Committee: On behalf of Administration Committee, Steve Collins shared the following report on the subject of updating our bathrooms to be more trans-inclusive:

At the November Meeting for Business, the Administration Committee initially reported on plans to implement gender-neutral restrooms in the Meetinghouse with new temporary signage on the restroom doors. However, to gather more input from the Meeting, the signage changes were postponed. Steve Collins, Clerk of Administration, has received at least a dozen comments from members & attenders, including several suggestions for new restroom sign designs and wording.

Representatives from the Religious Education committee; Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Concerns (FLGBTQC); Administration; and the rentals coordinator (Jonah McDonald) have discussed the issue. Administration Commission is clear that we are not ready to do undertake a major construction project to reconfigure the restrooms. However, as we do long-term visioning for expansion of our building, we will ensure any construction plans include adding restroom inclusivity.

Nina Gooch of FLGBTQC has offered to provide information and education about gender identity (e.g., binary & non-binary terminology) in the coming weeks. She can also share proposed wording for the restroom doors and, along with Steve and Jonah, continue to field comments, questions, and suggestions. As members and attenders discuss this issue, Administration hopes that the Meeting will be ready to consider approval of new restroom signs in January.

This topic will be on the agenda for the next Administration committee meeting, on Tuesday, January 9, 7:00 p.m.

In addition, Steve provided an update on some meeting signage: The new Black Lives Matter sign and the new peace post have both arrived and need to be installed.

Friends for Lesbian, Gay, Bi and Trans Concerns: On behalf of FLGBTQC, Nina Gooch shared a report in conjunction with Administration's report on gender neutral restrooms. The report mainly provided the Meeting with some terminology surrounding gender identity, in order to better understand the decisions surrounding updating the bathrooms to be more trans-inclusive. In addition, the Committee suggested some specific ways for the Meeting to be more welcoming of people who identify as trans.

LGBTQ organizations and other organizations have not always been good about truly including trans and genderqueer/non-binary people, so FLGBTQC feels it's important to be clear that we specifically welcome trans and genderqueer/non-binary people.

Some basic definitions: A trans or transgendered person is someone whose gender identity, their concept of themselves as male or female or somewhere in between, differs from the biological sex they were assigned at birth. A trans man is someone who was assigned female at birth but now identifies as male. A trans woman is someone who was assigned male at birth but now identifies as female. A cisgendered person, on the other hand, is someone whose gender identity matches the biological sex they were assigned at birth. Non-binary and genderqueer aren't quite the same, but both refer to people who identify as neither male or female or both or somewhere in between and who may believe that gender can't be divided neatly into male and female. For more details, see <https://tinyurl.com/transdefinitions>.

Therefore, we'd like to provide:

- A visual way to let first time visitors know we welcome trans and genderqueer/non-binary people. We have trans flag stickers that can also be added to name tags as the rainbow flags currently are.
- An easy way for people to indicate which pronouns they use. We'll make small stickers to be added to name tags that say "my pronouns are" that people can fill out.
- Assurance that trans and genderqueer/non-binary people can safely use our restrooms. True gender neutral restrooms would take time to reach consensus on and to implement, but in the meantime we propose bathroom signage in addition to the current signs that says: "Atlanta Friends Meeting welcomes everyone to use the restroom that most closely reflects their gender identity."

Nina Gooch and Sara Patenaude from FLGBTQC are available for questions and comments.

Friends continued to discuss the subject of modifying the restrooms to be more trans-inclusive. Friends pointed out that the proposed changes will not result in *gender-neutral* restrooms, which would be more appropriate for people who identify as genderqueer or non-binary. A truly gender-neutral restroom is a long-term project that will require building renovations. Other Friends raised concerns for victims of sexual harassment and religious education, particularly if the meeting does eventually build gender-neutral restrooms.

State of the Meeting Report: Betsy Eggers shared a first draft of the 2017 State of the Meeting Report, which was then read aloud to the Meeting.

Minutes of November 2017:

- **Minute 12-17-2017-14:** *The Minutes of the Eleventh Month 2017 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business were approved with no corrections.*

Announcements

Claire Hannapel shared the following announcement titled "A Labor of Love:

At November's Meeting for Business, Betsy brought forward a question about the amount of time folks contribute to our community. In the past month she and I have begun some conversations about the balance between our community's organizational needs and our spirit-led work with a few members of our Meeting. We've compiled a list of queries that have surfaced in these conversations, as well as a list of all the volunteer hours members and attenders put into the AFM community.

This feels like a leading that I've only begun to season. So I wanted to share back briefly and invite any folks who feel led into deeper conversation with me in the coming months. My hope is to come back to Meeting for Business once I gain clarity in this leading.

Identified queries that have surfaced:

- How does our life as volunteers build community among us?
- How are we nurturing members' gifts and imagining committee service?
- How/when do we lay down a past-leading with care?
- How do we allow individuals to follow their leading without over-tapping the community?
- Where is simplicity and Spirit in our structure?

Following the announcement a Friend suggested that these queries become incorporated into the 12 queries that will be developed by Ministry and Worship for 2018.

Please reach out to Claire Hannapel or the recording clerk for the list of volunteer hours in the AFM community.

Lynn Leuszler announced that the annual Corporation meeting will be held at rise of meeting of the January Meeting for Business.

Bethany Morrison announced that she is looking for a substitute recording clerk for AFM's Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business in February and March 2018, as she is expecting twins at that time (!!!).

Meeting closed with Silent Worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Morrison, Recording Clerk

Betsy Eggers, Clerk



Please Hold in the Light:

Carol Gray
Bob Lough's niece & family
Don and Judy Bender

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
Office Coordinator: Jonah McDonald, atlantaquakers@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lynn Leuszler, afmtreasurer1@gmail.com
Ministry & Worship: Sally Ferguson, sallyferguson@earthlink.net
Finance: Paul Mangelsdorf, 770-677-4280
Social Concerns: Chris Kohler, chriskohler@mailc.net
Administration: Steve Collins, shcollins75@gmail.com
Care & Counsel: Bill Hoosen, afm.care.counsel@gmail.com
Religious Education: Jennifer Dickie, michaeljen@bellsouth.net
Library Clerk: Cal Gough, calgough@bellsouth.net
Newsletter Editor: Kate Swett, atlquakerltr@gmail.com
Webmaster: Aaron Ruscetta, arxaaron@gmail.com
Bookkeeper: Jonah McDonald, afmbookkeeper1@gmail.com

Calendar for Twelfth Month (January) 2018

Area Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:00 a.m. – Meetinghouse (AFM), with a smaller group in the Library. 10:30 a.m. – Peachtree Friends Meeting (Christian-friendly, affirming, open to all), 3980 Florida Ave, Norcross GA, peachtree.quaker.org 1:30 p.m. - Stone Mountain Friends Church (Evangelical), at Rock of Ages Lutheran Church, 5135 Memorial Dr, Stone Mountain, GA 30083
Every Third First Day	12:30 p.m. – Carrollton Friends Worship Group. St. Andrew's UMC Youth Center, 1106 Maple St.; contact Jean Hudson, judson30116@yahoo.com or 678-378-3368; carrolltonfriends.org .
Every Second First Day	10:30 a.m. – Macon Friends Worship Group. Contact Diana Hensley, 478-227-8892; maconquakers.org
Sixth Day (Friday)	11:00 a.m. – East Lake Commons, Decatur. Contact Bert Skellie at bertskellie@gmail.com or 404-680-4799. (Mid-August through May), 9:00 a.m. – Friends School of Atlanta. Community Meeting Room, 862 Columbia Dr., Decatur, 404-373-8746.

Regular Events at the Meetinghouse

Every First Day (Sunday)	9:00 a.m. - Adult Religious Ed, Library Every second Sunday, 9:30 a. m. - Singing, Classroom A/B 10:00 a.m. - Meeting for Worship 5:00 p.m. - Atlanta Mennonite Fellowship, Meeting Room
Second Day (Monday)	Every other Monday at 6:30 p.m. - Spiritual Nurture Group, Library (contact Lewis Fuller for info on how to join)
Third Day (Tuesday)	6:00 - Alex Zinnes Yoga, Nursery Second and fourth Tuesdays at 7:00 - Deep Waters Center for Prayer & Exploration, Meeting Room
Fourth Day (Wednesday)	8:30 a.m. Morning Worship, Library First and third Wednesdays: 7:00 p.m. Worship at David & Freer Jarvis' home 7:00 - 8:30 pm: Semi-programmed worship at AFM. Contact Ashley Wilcox: ashleymwilcox@gmail.com , 206-300-5836.
Fifth Day (Thursday)	7:00 p.m. Bible Discussion, Library
Sixth Day (Friday)	Every third Friday, Meeting for Business, Meeting Room
18 th of Each Month	Newcomers Welcome Dinner, rotating location

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

Web: atlantaquakers.org, atlantaquakers@gmail.com

Clerk: Betsy Eggers, afmclerk1@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lynn Leuszler, 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 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 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 20TH DAY OF EACH PRECEDING MONTH.

To receive the Newsletter via e-mail, send a blank e-mail to 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. To receive announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting, send the same note to afmannouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.