

# ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER

## NOVEMBER 2020

LIFE AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING  
DURING COVID-19

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Out of an abundance of caution and a deep and prayerful concern for the health of our entire community, Sunday meeting for worship at the meetinghouse continues to be suspended and the meetinghouse mostly closed. Our main worship continues to be via Zoom on Sundays at 10:00 am. See below for details for this meeting for worship and other meeting activities via Zoom as well as other resources, including ways to connect to the meeting if you need help or if you can help others.

For those who prefer to worship in person, we are holding small, in-person worship groups at the meetinghouse on Mondays at 7 pm and Thursdays at 2 pm. Please stay tuned each week for more details or contact the office.

The newsletter and the announcement sheet will continue to be posted on the meeting's website. If you would like to be notified when the newsletter is posted online or to receive the announcement sheet via email, please see the final page of the newsletter for instructions. To join the meeting's Facebook page, search for Atlanta Friends Meeting and click the **+ Join Group** button.

If you are used to bringing your contribution to the meetinghouse, you can instead mail a check (see address on last page) or pay securely with Paypal or credit / debit card on our website. Visit <http://www.atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm> and scroll down to the DONATE button.

The Office Coordinator continues to work from home and checks email / voicemail each weekday.

### QUAKER RESOURCES MOSTLY FROM FRIENDS JOURNAL

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Friends Journal home page: [www.friendsjournal.org](http://www.friendsjournal.org)

worshipping together in different places: <https://www.friendsjournal.org/separated-worship/>

meeting for worship with attention to business: <https://www.friendsjournal.org/2009098/>

archived issues back to the first issue in 1955: <https://www.friendsjournal.org/issue-archive/>

for issue on Nurturing Younger Friends, go to issue for July 2007

about holding someone in the light:

<http://philipgulley.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Quaker-Sayings-9-SECURE.pdf>

*(If you have additional suggestions for Quaker resources or questions about Quakerism you would like answered, or if you would like to share your responses to what's in these resources, please email the editor [at atlquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atlquakerltr@gmail.com).)*



Virtual Meeting for Worship  
Each First Day (Sunday)  
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

### QUERY FOR NOVEMBER

What spiritual practice helps me to be steadfast in the work I am called to do?

How do I keep from giving up?

What does it mean for me to not give up as a servant of God?

-- Southeastern Yearly Meeting

## A POEM FOR WOODY WOODALL

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Love to Woody Woodall, 4 April 2020

by *Althea Natalga Sumpter*

How to say goodbye when I love thee.

The last time I saw thee, at the memorial celebration of an elder Friend,\*  
I held thy hands. The feeling of love and warmth, and peace;  
my thoughts of what a terrific Quaker man.

I told thee my feelings on the phone when I got the message of your hospice,  
and I called to say goodbye. Your concern was that I would be all right,  
that I am doing well.

I am doing well. My life is good and I am finally doing the work that I want to do . . .  
the writing, the reading.

I want to make certain there is no pain. You tell me that is what you told the nurse,  
that you would be fine, as long as there is no pain. The tube in your abdomen hurts  
sometimes, but there is comfort with family around, with care and love.

I love thee, Woody. Follow the journey to where the Old People\*\* connect to who  
we still are, as we continue this journey, and we will be there with thee on the other side...  
whatever that may be, one day, some day.

Journey on, my friend, I say. Become one with the Old People  
on the other side, those who we hold dear.

We could not hang up the phone. Woody says, on three we hang up.  
We say together, "One, two, three."  
I hang up. My heart tightens. I bawl.

I write this as my tears are drying.

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\*Memorial Service for Nan Pendergrast (19 January 2019)

\*\*Old People: ancestors in the Other Realm

Woody made his transition on 1 June 2020. Love and peace, my F(f)riend.

## TIME CHANGE – Sunday, November 1

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On Sunday morning at 2:00 am, Daylight Savings Time will end, and clocks will turn back to 1:00 am (for some clocks, you will have to make the change yourself). We'll get an extra hour sleep or have time for an extra leisurely breakfast before meeting for worship or First Day School.

## NOVEMBER THEME FOR CHILDREN'S FIRST DAY SCHOOL

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is *Becoming Community*. First Day School will be from 9:30 to 9:55 am each Sunday on Zoom. See below for Zoom details.

## SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS AND ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL – Sunday, November 1

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Each first Sunday of the month in adult First Day School, we listen to how a Friend in our meeting answers questions of God's leadings as well as questions about what brings them to this meeting, what led them to become a member or not, and what they believe now. We call these stories of spiritual journeys, stories where Friends describe their understanding of God and religion in their life. On October 4, Beth-Ann Buitekant will share her spiritual journey. All are welcome. See below for Zoom details.

On third Sundays, Adult First Day School will have worship sharing, usually on that month's query, and on other Sundays, will be discussing Parker Palmer's *On the Brink of Everything*. We will meet via Zoom and close the class in time to be in meeting for worship in the separate zoom link.

To hear the spiritual journey of Charlottes Flores from October 4, visit <https://tinyurl.com/yy4fsbfu>.

## READING BOOKS BY AND ABOUT PEOPLE OF COLOR – Thursday, November 5

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The book group reading works by and about people of color continues to meet at 1:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month via Zoom. On November 5, the book for discussion is *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng, and for December 3, *The Good Lord Bird* by James McBride. For questions or the Zoom link, contact Susan Cole (cole2544@bellsouth.net).

## FRIENDS SCHOOL OF ATLANTA VIRTUAL BENEFIT AUCTION – Saturday, November 7

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The 30th Anniversary Auction for The Friends School of Atlanta (FSA) will be virtual. Tune in at 7:00 to 8:00pm on Saturday, November 7, for the live stream event. In celebration of 30 years, the Indigo Girls will perform, and there will be pre-event zoom rooms organized by the FSA decades to meet up with old friends. Silent auction items will be open for bidding November 2 and Premier items open on November 5, with the exception of five Super Premier items which will be open for bidding on November 6. You do not need to be present at the evening program to participate in the auction, but FSA would love everyone to join them for a special evening of community and celebration of FSA's 30 years. To pre-register or preview auction items, visit the [the auction website](#).

## SAYMA REPRESENTATIVE MEETING – Saturday, November 14

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Since our yearly meeting, Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association (SAYMA), did not have yearly meeting sessions in June, including four business sessions, we did not finish our agenda at Representative Meeting 145 on September 26. Accordingly, SAYMA Representative Meeting 145b will be convened via Zoom on Saturday, November 14. The agenda is not yet set, and the meeting is tentatively anticipated to be a morning session, lunch break, and early afternoon session. Registration will be required. Check later announcement sheets or [www.sayma.org](http://www.sayma.org) for registration details.

## MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS – Sunday, November 15

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Meeting for business will be online again this month. Simply stay in the Zoom Meeting for Worship after worship ends. Zoom details below. Minutes from October, including items to be considered in November, are below.

## UNTOLD AFRICAN AMERICAN STORIES – Sunday, November 15

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F/friend Adelaide Solomon-Jordan, former Atlanta Friends Meeting attender now living in Maine, will be giving a virtual lecture on November 15 at 6:00 pm on "Untold African American Stories". The lecture draws on her own family history in addition to her research. She will focus on three sisters in her own ancestral line: Cara, Nina Louise, and Mary Elizabeth Saunders. Through these women's captivating life stories, she will highlight how our country was populated not only by people of African descent who came to America enslaved, but also by those who freely immigrated. The Saunders sisters emigrated from Bermuda to the US at the turn of the 20th century, and each woman married into a historically significant family. Connections to the American Revolution, abolitionism, business, education, and culture are part of their unique narratives. To purchase tickets: [https://hamiltonhall.networkforgood.com/events/24196-hamilton-hall-americana-lecture-2020?utm\\_campaign=dms\\_email\\_blast\\_801713](https://hamiltonhall.networkforgood.com/events/24196-hamilton-hall-americana-lecture-2020?utm_campaign=dms_email_blast_801713). Proceeds support the programming and preservation of Hamilton Hall. This year, 20% of ticket sales will be donated to the Hoose House Museum in Dalton, MA. This 1846 wood frame house is located in an area of Dalton settled by freed or escaped African Americans in the early 19th century.

## MACON QUAKERS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING – Tuesday, November 17

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We are fortunate to have religious diversity in Middle Georgia! Join Macon Quakers and Hina Banit as she describes her spiritual journey incorporating many key elements of Hinduism. Hina says, "The beauty of Hinduism is in its diversity and flexibility. It has allowed me to find my own unique path to the Divine. Its practices, like meditative yoga, had helped me raise my inner 'vibration,' the source of all movement in the universe. Join me as I share my spiritual journey and how I found my way within Hinduism." Tuesday, November 17 at 8:00 P.M. on Zoom. Free and open to all.

*The Macon Worship Group is under the care of our meeting, and we are invited to join them on:*

2nd Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M. for Meeting for Worship, followed by discussion

3rd Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M. for Educational offering (details just above)

4th Tuesdays, 8:00 P.M. for Meeting for Worship, followed by business

*Everything is via Zoom right now:*

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84095899009?pwd=SFhhOGNnWHZFbDdKRUhIVnFqdFk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9589 9009

Passcode: 542278

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – Tuesday, November 20

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Please send articles, announcements, information about December events, and other submissions to [atlquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atlquakerltr@gmail.com) by November 20. Word or other text format please.

## INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP IN FIRST DAY SCHOOL – Sunday, November 22

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Each fourth Sunday of the month, families as well as all members and attenders are invited to join First Day School at 9:30 to 9:55 am for intergenerational worship through a lesson. There will be time to join Meeting for Worship via Zoom, and families and children are invited, as always, to join at least the first 15 minutes of Meeting for Worship. Zoom details below.

## LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE – Wednesday, November 18

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This online, drop-in forum has become monthly, with the next meeting on November 18 at 7:30 pm. Sample topics include: "What is my Racial Identity?" and "How can I have meaningful conversations about race with others who do not look like me?" For more info or to suggest discussion topics, please email Alberta Guise (*see directory or contact office*). The next meeting will be December 16 and then meetings will return to the fourth Wednesday of the month.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83032368656?pwd=M2J5Y3EyYWJlWjVlSzlXZHo4YlYydz09>

Meeting ID: 830 3236 8656

Passcode: 019469

## FROM GRIEF TO HEALING: LESSONS AND RESOURCES – Sunday, November 29

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You are invited to a forum at 11:45 on Sunday, 11/29 offered by members of Ministry and Worship and Care and Counsel. Bill Hooson, Gordon Shippey and Mary Ann Downey will facilitate a safe space to reflect on the challenges of 2020: a time to name our grief and loss, share the lessons we've discovered that help us, and identify resources within meeting and our community. This is a time for us to give and receive help for our journey. Zoom details in later announcement sheets.

## MEETING VIRTUALLY: WORSHIP AND FIRST DAY SCHOOL

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*An excellent overview of meeting for worship over Zoom is "Can You Gather With God Over Zoom?" is at <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/22/arts/quaker-meeting-zoom.html>*

*See the most recent announcement sheet in your email inbox or on our website at [http://www.atlantaquakers.org/\\_announcements/Announcement\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.atlantaquakers.org/_announcements/Announcement_Sheet.pdf) for the most up to date information and for more detailed instructions for connecting using Zoom. To call in using your phone, dial 1-253-215-8782 or 1-301-715-8592 and enter the meeting ID and password, if needed, when prompted. This may be a toll call from your landline.*

### **Sundays:**

ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL will meet at 9:00 am to 9:50 am

Meeting ID: 862 3546 3217

Password: Quaker

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86235463217>

On the first Sunday of each month, we will listen to the Spiritual Journey of one of our members or attenders. (November 1 will be Beth-Ann Buitekant.) On the third Sunday of each month, we will have worship sharing, usually on that month's query, and on other Sundays, we will discuss Parker Palmer's *On the Brink of Everything*. We will close class in time to be in meeting for worship.

### FIRST DAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

Sundays 9:30 am to 9:55 am

First Day Class for Families and Friends

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7279961727>

Meeting ID: 727 996 1727

Passcode: 679898

October's theme: Becoming Community

Families are invited / will have time to join meeting for worship after this ends.

Fourth Sunday is intergenerational/family worship and all members and attenders are invited to join.

## FIRST DAY MEETING FOR WORSHIP

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/908004190>

Meeting ID: 908 004 190

Passcode: 842962.

The meeting link will remain open until about 11:45 for those who would like to chat. On the third Sunday of each month we will have meeting for business via Zoom after worship and a short break.

### *Calling All Families:*

*We would like to issue a special invitation to all families with children to attend the first 15 minutes of worship, as usual. If your mike is muted, your children will not be distracting to others (even if we see them wiggle). And we really miss seeing you!*

### *Suggestions for Meeting for Worship on Zoom:*

*“Worship is our response to an awareness of God. We can worship alone, but when we join with others in expectant waiting we may discover a deeper sense of God’s presence. We seek a gathered stillness in our meetings for worship so that all may feel the power of God’s love drawing us together and leading us.” (From Advices and Queries, Britain Yearly Meeting.)* Some things to keep in mind as we adjust to “the new normal” of worshiping via Zoom: Even though it is different and may feel strange, remember that this is a worship service. To help create the kind of shared space that allows all of us to listen for the Divine within us, please keep your mic muted unless speaking to us. If you’re eating or having a lengthy conversation with another member of your household, please also turn off your video temporarily or step away from the camera, to avoid distracting others. If your children are joining us for meeting for worship, please do not feel the need to turn off your video. We welcome their presence in meeting for worship.

YOUNG FRIENDS/HIGH SCHOOL GROUP usually at meets at noon

For current high schoolers and students in upper middle school as well as recent grads.

Contact Emily Weyrauch at [emily.weyrauch@gmail.com](mailto:emily.weyrauch@gmail.com) for more information and Zoom details

## **Wednesdays:**

WEDNESDAY MORNING MIDWEEK MEETING FOR WORSHIP 9:30 am on Wednesday mornings

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84423208855?pwd=SFB2cHNUQXo1QIBmZjNlaS9BY3pxQT09>

Meeting ID: 920 3886 2952

Password: 153417

Contact Bert Skellie at 404-680-4799 for more info.

## INVITATION TO JOIN LIMERICK MEETING FOR WORSHIP VIA ZOOM

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*From Meg Harper, former member of AFM:*

Rick [Stoops] and I have loved attending AFM again by Zoom, and it occurred to us that some Friends there might want to join our Meeting for Worship here in Limerick, Ireland. Friends will need to be early risers, given that we are five hours ahead of Eastern Time, but anyone who would like to come will be welcome. Time: 6 am Eastern Time, 11 am Limerick time.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83890916914?pwd=c01qR3A5Wk1yTFp6K01sZFJZbHBvUT09>

Meeting ID: 838 9091 6914

Passcode: 692619

## QUAKER QUOTE

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*“Come regularly to meeting for worship even when you are angry, depressed, tired or spiritually cold. In the silence ask for and accept the prayerful support of others joined with you in worship. Try to find a spiritual wholeness which encompasses suffering as well as thankfulness and joy. Prayer, springing from a deep place in the heart, may bring healing and unity as nothing else can. Let meeting for worship nourish your whole life.”*

– Advices and Queries, number 10, from Britain Yearly Meeting's Faith and Practice  
<https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/>

## DO YOU LOVE TREES?

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*A note from Quaker Voluntary Service Fellow Reva Kreeger:* My fellow QVS housemate, Anna, and I are looking for anyone who can help us learn to identify and know more about the trees in this area! We thought there might be some expertise in the Quaker community and wanted to see if anyone would like to go on a walk/hike with us to talk more about trees.

*You can contact Reva at [reva.kreeger@gmail.com](mailto:reva.kreeger@gmail.com).*

## NEW MEMBERS NEEDED FOR FCNL ATLANTA ADVOCACY TEAM

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This is an open invitation to join the Atlanta Advocacy Team for Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). Several of our members have had to take a leave from our Atlanta Advocacy Team due to the impact of the COVID crisis. They have had to focus on other responsibilities during the pandemic, so we are rebuilding our team and invite you to join us. We are currently focused on building relationships with incumbents and candidates for Congress regardless of their party so we can follow up with those who are elected. After the election we will work with FCNL to lobby for the national priorities. Please contact Sue May or Don Bender if you are interested in finding out more. *(If you need a directory, contact the office.)*

## GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR THE STUDY AND PRACTICE OF CHRISTIAN MYSTICISM

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The Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund for the Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism is accepting proposals for grants up to \$1000. Recently funded projects have included grants for scholars doing original research work on Therese of Lisieux and Douglas Steere; a grant toward software and other startup costs for an online educational series on Christian mysticism; grants towards conferences; and a retreat for a diverse group of inner city women on Women Mystics of the Christian Traditions. For more details, see the digital version of the letter and brochure AFM received at <https://tinyurl.com/bogertfund>. Application deadline is March 1, 2021. This fund is administered by Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas

## APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR FCNL'S YOUNG FELLOWS PROGRAM IN DC

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Applications are now open for Friends Committee on National Legislation's [Young Fellows Program](#), an 11-month post-graduation fellowship! Young Fellows work in Washington, DC as program assistants with FCNL's legislative and grassroots teams. They receive a salary, health insurance, and paid vacation and sick time. Information and application at <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/young-fellows-program-32>. Application deadline is February 15, 2021.

## COVID-19 UPDATES AND OTHER USEFUL AND FUN LINKS

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For collected links for kids and adults ranging from the latest information about COVID-19 and how to prevent it to voting information for links to museums, digital performances and Quakerism, visit <https://tinyurl.com/afm-ftoti>. New links added weekly. Email Nina at [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com) to share problems with any of the links or to suggest additional links.

## ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

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The anti-racism resources shared in newsletters, in announcement sheets and on AFM's discussion email list have been compiled at <https://tinyurl.com/afm-arr>. To share problems with any of the links or resources or to suggest additional resources, email [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com).

## FINANCIAL HELP THROUGH THE AFM ASSISTANCE FUND

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This is a time to reach out and care for each other. Do you have a need for temporary financial assistance? Care & Counsel Committee maintains an Assistance Fund for Members and Attenders for providing temporary assistance with financial emergencies. If you have a financial need, don't hesitate to ask. The information about the process and an application form are on the AFM website: [Assistance Fund Description & Request Process](#) and [Assistance Fund Application Form](#). Instead of filling out the paper form, you can email the information to the Clerk of Care & Counsel, Karen Skellie, [kskellie@gmail.com](mailto:kskellie@gmail.com). Care & Counsel is meeting regularly online & by e-mail.

Would you like to help others through the AFM Assistance Fund?

**By mail** to the meetinghouse address to the attention of the treasurer. Make out the check to Atlanta Friends Meeting, and on the "for" line of the check, write "For Assistance Fund".

**Through AFM website by PayPal or Credit Card**, go to <http://www.atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm> and scroll down to the DONATE button.

To designate an online donation for the Assistance Fund, please also send an email addressed to both the treasurer and the bookkeeper:

[afmtreasurer1@gmail.com](mailto:afmtreasurer1@gmail.com) and [afmbookkeeper1@gmail.com](mailto:afmbookkeeper1@gmail.com)

## CARING CONNECTIONS AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

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If you need help during this time, or if you can help, Care and Counsel Committee has set up an online way to connect people, using something Gordon Shippey set up earlier in the year to create a general list of those willing to deliver meals, drive people to appointments, run errands, or visit people at home or in hospital. In response to social distancing, we've also added an option to connect people via email or phone. To request help or to volunteer, go to:

<http://www.atlantaquakers.org/members.htm#CARINGCONNECT> (under Members and Attenders) or contact Karen Skellie at 404-680-4524 or [kskellie@gmail.com](mailto:kskellie@gmail.com).

## COMMITTEE CORNER

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Committee is a new feature of Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business and thus of the minutes for meeting for business. This is meant as an informal way for committees to share what they have been up to that might be of interest to the meeting. There are many things that committees do that do not get brought to business meeting for approval but would be good for the community to know about. This month's committee is CUR-AFM, the Committee on Undoing Racism in the Atlanta Friends Meeting. See minutes below.

## TENTH MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

October 18, 2020

Minutes Recorded Pending Approval

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Attendance: Steve Collins, Bill Hooson, Teri Key-Hooson, Mary Ann Downey, Bill Holland, Julia Ewen, Alberta Guise, Alison Mawle, Anton Flores, Becky Lough, Bert Skellie, Karen Skellie, Caroline Morris, Mike Aland, Clive Gordon, Coryn Murphy, David Small, Diane Rowley, Erin Daniel, Georgia Lord, Jennifer Thompson, Judith Greenler, Judy Lumb, Karen Morris, Lynn Leauszler, Myrna Trapp, Paul Mangelsdorf, Terri O'Neil, Nina Gooch, Carolyn Coburn Allen, Lissa Place (Clerk), and Rebecca Cole Sullivan (Recording Clerk)

Friends gathered near the appointed hour with opening worship. A member of Ministry and Worship shared the Tenth Month Query out of worship: "How does fear restrict my heart and spirit? What has worked for me to move through this?" Friends shared out of worship.

### **Discernment:**

**Ministry and Worship:** Bill Holland reported on behalf of Ministry and Worship Committee. Atlanta Friends Meeting has received a letter from Patricia Williams requesting the transfer of her membership to Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting (SAYMA). Bill read her letter asking for transfer. Ministry and Worship recommends Atlanta Friends Meeting approve this request and commend her care to Swannanona Valley. With the Meetings approval, the clerk will send a letter of transfer to Swannanona Valley Friends Meeting.

**Minute 10-18-2020-01:** On the recommendation of the Ministry and Worship Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting requests Swannanona Valley Friends Meeting to accept the transfer of membership of Patricia Williams to your care.

### **Reports:**

**Ministry and Worship:** Bill Holland reported on behalf of Ministry and Worship Committee. Atlanta Friends Meeting has taken the ministries of several Friends under our care. These Friends are supported by anchoring committees and the meeting receives annual reports of the work of these Friends and the fruits of the ministry. One of these Friends is Julie Hliboki who we have recognized having a leading to practice an interfaith Quaker Ministry. She has been serving as a chaplain to two elder care housing communities. She is now moving to Santa Fe, New Mexico to continue her ministry as a hospice chaplain. She will continue meeting with her anchoring committee via zoom and joining us for worship.

**Finance:** Paul Mangelsdorf, Clerk of Finance, reported on behalf of the committee. Paul started with reviewing the third quarter financial statement. At current we are running a \$31,551 deficit, which is the \$15,870 worse than what we budgeted for our third quarter deficit. Revenue is \$57,274 lower

than the prior year primarily driven by a \$33,453 lower rental income and by \$20,172 less in contributions. If we are unable to rent for the remainder of the year the rental shortfall will be approximately \$43,000. Expenses are running \$4,660 higher than the prior year primarily driven by employee expenses but do recall that in the early part of 2019 we had multiple vacancies or temporary workers that lowered employee expenses. Compared to budget, expenses are \$15,681 less than budgeted year to date. This favorable variance is largely the result of the employee expense and many committees spending less than budgeted. We can expect that certain categories of expenses may be lower during the rest of the year. In total, we expect expenses to run about \$20,500 less than budget. This will only offset about half of the expected shortfall in rental income of \$43,000. We are on track to have positive investment returns, but absent a substantial increase in contributions we can expect to run approximately a \$20,000 deficit for the full year.

Paul also brought forward a proposal for supporting Macon Worship Group in collecting and spending money the worship group collects. Finance committee brought forward a proposal for Atlanta Friends Meeting to open a new fund called Macon Worship Group. Then Macon Worship Group could both collect funds, deposit funds into the Ameris AFM bank account, and ask for payment of funds from the AFM bookkeeper and treasurer. After reviewing the procedures, Friends agreed that we could approve the process this month instead of waiting a month.

**Minute 10-18-2020-02:** Friends approved the creation of new AFM fund for Macon Worship Group that will allow Macon Worship Group a way to collect and spend their own money.

**Nominating:** Clive Gordon, clerk of nominating, reported on behalf of the committee. Nominating brings forward the name of Coryn Murphy to be Recording Clerk. Nominating will bring this name back in November for approval. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to get to know Coryn.

Nominating also brings forward Bill Hooson to be the clerk of Ministry and Worship committee. Nominating will bring this name back in November for approval. In the meantime, we encourage everyone to get to know Bill.

**Working Group on the Use of the Meeting House:** Alison Mawle, reported quickly on some updates from the Working Group on the Use of the Meeting House.

- Atlanta Friends Meeting is holding 2 in-person meetings per week.
- On October 10, the meeting held a hybrid (in person/virtual) Meeting for Memorial for Steve (Woody) Woodall, with many people attending via Zoom.
- The Meeting has had 2 requests to rent space, which the committee is considering.
- The committee is also reviewing the air handling in the meeting house in the light of current information on how COVID-19 spreads.

**Naming Committee:** Clerk Lissa Place reported that Cheryl Cowherd, Julia Ewen and Jillian Eller agreed to serve on this year's naming committee. That committee may have additional people join later but for now they can start their work. A convener is yet to be named.

**Clerk's Item - Committee Corner:** Clerk Lissa Place introduced the idea of committee corner. This is an informal way for committees to share what they have been up to that might be of interest to the meeting. There are many things that committees do that do not get brought to business meeting for approval but would be good for the community to know about. This allows people not on the committee to be more aware of what is happening at our meeting. This is also an opportunity for committees to have their important work in the minutes as a more permanent record of what is happening at the Meeting. The hope is that committees will decide to share without being prompted, but we will see how it goes. Please write your report and say it is for the committee corner section of the agenda.

## **Committee for Undoing Racism in Atlanta Friends Meeting Committee Corner Report:**

Committee for Undoing Racism in AFM has been busy in the 3 years since it was rekindled after the Meeting approved the Black Lives Matter sign in 2017. As most of you know, we have led 3 forums for the meeting, continued the listening ear for concerns about racism, and had several potlucks where we provided conversation starters on the table to encourage conversations about race.

Since the death of George Floyd and the nationwide attention on this issue has increased, our work has become even more active. We participated in writing the joint minute on racism which was approved by Business Meeting in August of 2020, as well as change to the content of our website to include a statement about our views on the Black Lives Matter movement. We are now looking inward at our Meeting and working with committee clerks to address negative racial attitudes that we may be supporting in our Meeting without knowing it. By using the institutional assessment that was put together by Quakers for Racial Equality, we are trying to uproot systemic racism in our Meeting. We have also started having conversations via Zoom called "Let's Talk About Race." They are currently occurring once a month on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and are open to all.

### **Announcements:**

The State of the Meeting report is coming due soon. Please start considering the work your committee has done this year and start submitting them to the Clerk so the report can be compiled in this last quarter of the year.

Ministry and Worship is holding a forum on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of November on Grief and Loss.

### **Events in the Life of the Meeting**

On October 10, the meeting held a hybrid (in person/virtual) Meeting for Memorial for Steve (Woody) Woodall, with many people attending via Zoom

Priscilla Padron died September 26, 2020.

**Closing:** Friends closed with a moment of silence.

### ***HOLDING IN THE LIGHT:***

Freer Jarvis  
Daniel Gold-Hopton  
Mike Chapman  
Mark Bryans

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

### **Atlanta Friends Meeting Contacts**

Clerk of the Meeting: Lissa Place, afmclerk1@gmail.com  
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#### ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

Office Coordinator working from home while meeting house closed

voicemail/phone: 404-377-2474 – web and email: [atlantaquakers.org](http://atlantaquakers.org), [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)  
Clerk: Lissa Place, [afmclerk1@gmail.com](mailto:afmclerk1@gmail.com) Treasurer: Judith Greenberg, [afmtreasurer1@gmail.com](mailto:afmtreasurer1@gmail.com)

#### **Are you a newcomer to the Atlanta Friends community and would like a nametag?**

We would be happy to make you a permanent nametag. You can leave a request in one of the baskets on the front table. When Carol Gray has made one for you, it will be placed in the black file box on the greeting table.

#### **Atlanta Friends Meeting has three email lists:**

*To receive the announcement sheets and other announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting, send a blank email to*

[afmannouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:afmannouncements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

*To receive announcements AND posts about a broader range of topics relating to being a Quaker, send a blank email to*

[afmdiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:afmdiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

*To receive the newsletter by email, send a blank email to* [afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahoo.groups.com](mailto:afmnewsletter-subscribe@yahoo.groups.com). When asked to confirm, select the option to confirm by email.

#### **Would you like to appear in future AFM Directories?**

Send your name and contact information to Brent Wolff at [afmdirectory@gmail.com](mailto:afmdirectory@gmail.com).

#### **What does investing in your spiritual community look like for you and your family?**

Atlanta Friends Meeting accepts contributions of your time, resources, and money! You can place a financial contribution in the slot marked “Contributions” in the greeting area of the Meetinghouse or mail to the Treasurer at our mailing address.

To donate online with a credit card or paypal, visit [atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm](http://atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm). Thank you!

#### **Want to submit an announcement, letter, article, and anything else of interest to Friends for the newsletter?**

Send items to [atlquakerltr@gmail.com](mailto:atlquakerltr@gmail.com). Submissions may be edited for length and format. THE DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS IS THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF EACH PRECEDING MONTH.

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