

# ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER



## FEBRUARY 2021

LIFE AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING  
DURING COVID-19

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Instead of holding Sunday morning meeting for worship at the meetinghouse, we are currently meeting via Zoom at 10 a.m. Sundays at <https://zoom.us/j/908004190>

**(Meeting ID: 908 004 190 and Passcode: 842962).**

See below for more details on this and other online worship and First Day School opportunities 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.

**A few other small groups are returning to the meetinghouse. If you are interested in this, please contact the Office Coordinator at [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com).**

You can still mail a check (see address on last page) or pay securely with Paypal or credit / debit card on our website at <http://www.atlantaquakers.org/contact.htm> and scroll down to the DONATE button. You can set up monthly / recurring contributions when you use Paypal or your debit/credit card on the website. You can also set up payments through your bank's ACH bill payment system. (Please contact your bank for more details on their ACH bill payment system.)

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

### SURVEY FROM SAYMA ABOUT JUNIOR YEARLY MEETING

*From the JYM committee of SAYMA (Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting and Association):*

“Hello families of SAYMA! We hope this finds you doing well, in tumultuous times. The Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM) committee missed seeing all the children last summer at JYM and Playcare during SAYMA's yearly gathering at Warren Wilson College. We have been planning for how to connect virtually. Our purpose is three fold: We want the children to have the time and space to build relationships with each other. We want to build community with our children. We want to have a chance for children of all ages to connect with other Quakers, and for families to have connections to each other. Regardless of the decision that is made about the format of SAYMA in the summer of 2021, we would like to offer some opportunities this spring for our children to connect online. These sessions will be offered monthly in March, April, and May. Answering the questions in the survey below will give us a better idea of the ages and needs of the children who might be attending. (If you already answered these questions as part of the SAYMA survey about a month ago, we already have your information!) To fill out this five minute survey, visit <https://tinyurl.com/sayma-jym-survey>.

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

### QUERY FOR FEBRUARY

"How do you stand firmly against inequality? How do you peacefully challenge discriminatory social institutional practices?"

– Southern Appalachian  
Young Friends, “Queries  
for Young Friends”

QUAKERS AND THE BIBLE – A LETTER FROM COURTNEY SICELOFF

*From the Editor: Written by Courtney Siceloff (a member of the meeting from 1974 until his death in 2014) in response to a 1993 forum on the Bible and First Day School and found when sorting old Religious Education materials. His questions / queries about the Bible and about how we season leadings seem useful to Quakers of any age. (Note: there was a light spot in the original and so part of a sentence was missing from the original and from this scan.)*

934 Waverly Way  
Atlanta GA 30307  
February 28, 1993

Dear Duanne,

I have had a couple of other thoughts following the forum on Bible for First Day School:

Asking young people how they think God speaks to persons today, in Meeting for worship, throughout the week.

Asking them if it is different from ages ago, when persons wrote down the books which now comprise the Bible.

Asking young people: was everything written included in the Bible? Were some books included, then dropped? If so, why? Were they all "tested", and then narrowed down to what is now our Bible? How does that relate to those statements that "every word in the Bible has to be believed, is THE WORD OF GOD?"

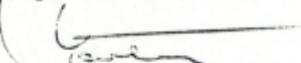
Can, do persons write today articles, books which are as authentic as the Bible. How are they different? Are they, or could they be, just as "sacred" as the Bible? What is the significance that the Bible has remained intact for centuries? That all Christian denominations, in spite of their theological differences, hold the Bible as their primary source and reference.

Then, I think it gets pretty tricky: How does one test what one perceives as a message of God. Rely solely on what one perceives as the Truth? In Quaker Meeting, what process does one go through if one has a "concern" that one should undertake a particular mission--say, to leave one's job and work full time with the homeless, or with persons suffering with AIDs, etc--? Is such a concern perceived as a message from God? How does the Meeting assist, support, question such an individual who feels strongly that she/he is being led by God into this particular mission?

If indeed all books of the Bible were written by fallible, yet God-centered persons, why is it that Jesus--the only non-fallible person/God who lived on the earth--did not write any of the books that are in the New Testament, that were not written until decades after his death, that the four Gospels differ from one another about his life and sayings?

That's pretty heady stuff for First Day School. But the concept is important that today we have the opportunity, the ability to hear, speak, write the word of God as those who wrote down the books of the Old and New Testament. What then is our responsibility as First Day students, teachers, participants in Meeting?

Thanks for raising the issues as to how we impart concepts to our young people, as well as how much all of us need to transform the concepts into experiential lives.

  
Courtney Siceloff

PANEL ON IMMIGRATION POLICY AND IMMIGRANTS CIVIL RIGHTS “A Heart of Advocacy for Immigrants: What's on the Horizon in 2021?” – Tuesday, February 2

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On February 2nd, 3:15-4:45 pm, Friends School of Atlanta Faculty/Staff and Families as well as the Atlanta Friends Meeting community are cordially invited to attend a zoom panel and Q&A discussion. The panel will include updates on local actions for immigrant's human rights as relates to immigration policy. Join us for a passionate conversation between Atlanta Friends Meeting Friend-in-Residence Anton Flores, Minister/Advocate for radical hospitality with immigrants, and Hannah MacNorlin, Immigration Attorney and FSA parent/board member. Sponsored by Friends Racial Justice Action committee of the Friends School of Atlanta. For information, contact Laura MacNorlin at [lmacnorlin@friendsschoolatlanta.org](mailto:lmacnorlin@friendsschoolatlanta.org)  
Link: <https://friendsschoolatlanta.zoom.us/j/5752858430>  
Meeting ID: 575 285 8430  
Update from announcement sheet: **NO PASSWORD NEEDED**

READING BOOKS BY AND ABOUT PEOPLE OF COLOR – Thursday, February 4

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The book group reading works by and about people of color meets via Zoom at 1:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month. On March 4, the group is discussing *She Would Be King* by Wayetu Moore. For questions or the Zoom link, contact Susan Cole ([cole2544@bellsouth.net](mailto:cole2544@bellsouth.net)).

SPIRITUAL JOURNEYS AND ADULT FIRST DAY SCHOOL  
Sunday, February 7

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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 February 7, Karen Gold will share her spiritual journey. Karen says, “Karen was raised by wolves in Montana, before being kidnapped by pirates at the age of 9. After a 37 year career as a pirate, she came ashore for good and now devotes herself to her cat, Jethro.” She has also been a member of AFM for 39 years. See below for Zoom details.

To listen to Jennifer Thompson's Spiritual Journey, shared January 3 in Adult First Day School, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y2m4gbuf>.

On third Sundays, Adult First Day School will have worship sharing, usually on that month's query. On other Sundays, we will be discussing *A Living Faith, An Historical Study of Quaker Beliefs* by Wilmer A. Cooper, as part of our annual Quakerism 101.

QUAKER UNITED NATIONS SUMMER SCHOOL – application deadline Monday, February 15

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Due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the 2021 Quaker United Nations Summer School will take place in a virtual format from July 5 to 26 and will be free of charge. We invite applications from young people aged between 20 and 26 years old who are interested in learning more about the United Nations and Quaker work at the international level, focusing on issues of peace, economic justice, human rights and climate change. For more information: <https://quno.org/quaker-United-nations-summer-school>. Application deadline is February 15, 2021.

## LOBBYING FOR FUN AND PROFIT – Thursday, February 18

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Join Macon Quakers via Zoom for this short introduction to lobbying, Quaker style, with Sue May. Why fun and profit? Sue, who has 20 years of lobbying experience, says, "Because it's deeply enjoyable to find words to express your heartfelt concern about an issue (or your leading, as we Quakers put it), and both we and the officials we approach profit from our exchange. We all listen and we all learn, whatever the outcome." In this short time together, Sue will outline the basics of asking a local or national official to support a cause. She will also introduce you to the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL), our Quaker voice on the Hill. In preparation, you may want to review the issues they support: [www.fcnl.org/issues](http://www.fcnl.org/issues). All are welcome! ONLINE Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84095899009?pwd=SFhhOGNnWHZFbDdKRUhVnFqdFk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9589 9009

Passcode: 542278

## SAYMA MEETING FOR REMEMBRANCE – Friday, February 19

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Southern Yearly Meeting and Association's Ministry and Nurture Committee invites Friends to gather Friday, February 19, 7:30 to 9 pm Eastern time, via Zoom in Meeting for Remembrance of those who have died since we were last together at Yearly Meeting in June 2019. All are welcome to share memorial minutes, reflections and prayers. If you would like to share something but can not attend, please email Robyn Josephs ([forrestwife@yahoo.com](mailto:forrestwife@yahoo.com)) or the SAYMA Office ([saymaoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saymaoffice@gmail.com)) **by February 17**. See later announcement sheets for Zoom details.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH – Saturday, February 20

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

## MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS – Sunday, February 21

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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 January are below.

## LET'S TALK ABOUT RACE – Wednesday, February 24

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Monthly online, drop-in forum with meetings on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm. Our conversations about reparations, begun in January, will continue, along with other developing issues on racism. All are welcome to any monthly forum, whether you have attended previously or not. Suggestions for future topics are also welcome. Contact Alberta Guise for more information. Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84678045805?pwd=cFdhcEd4UmdLWWNldDFpMm1mOEVTQT09>  
Meeting ID: 846 7804 5805  
Passcode: LTAR

## FORUM ON REPARATIONS AND RIGHT RELATIONS – Sundays, February 28 and May 23

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On Sunday, February 28 at 1:00 pm, you are invited to attend the first of two Zoom forums on Reparations and Right Relations, developed through an Ad Hoc group started by the Ministry and Worship committee that includes members from Quakers for Racial Equality, the Committee on Undoing Racism in Atlanta Friends Meeting, and Atlanta Friends of Color. These forums are in direct response to the claims for reparations that were first made by African Americans during the Revolutionary War. The February forum will provide an historical foundation and specifically address Reparations, Manumission, and Reconciliation. The May forum will address policy development around right relations and leverage the lessons learned concerning reconciliation that were developed in South Africa after the end of apartheid. Panelists for the forums will include AFM member Althea Sumpter. Herb Edwards, also a member of AFM, will serve as the moderator.

Below is a list of three articles that will provide helpful background for February 28.

- **“It’s Time for U.S. Business Leaders to Talk About Reparations”**, by Michael Gee, Harvard Business Review, July 24, 2020: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/14QjiktEldb8vgeTkZ7Knk1pBTqJgnsH/view?usp=sharing>
- **“What is Owed”** by Nikole Hannah Jones *New York Times Magazine*, June. 2020: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/15mMq8AYVZuGWciSyAkPR6bAvrKs-zMT2/view?usp=sharing>
- **“Quakers and Reparations for Slavery and Jim Crow”** by Jeff Hitchcock, *Friends Journal*, June, 2008: <https://www.friendsjournal.org/quakers-and-reparations-slavery-and-jim-crow>

## FCNL'S SPRING LOBBY WEEKEND – online Saturday to Monday, March 20 to 22

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Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)'s Spring Lobby Weekend, for those under 30, is online this year. This year's Spring Lobby Weekend, will include lobbying training and will focus on demilitarizing the police and ending police violence. Register at <https://www.fcnl.org/events/spring-lobby-weekend-2021>. (Also, see Lobbying for Fun and Profit on February 18 for another opportunity, open to those of all ages, to learn about lobbying and FCNL.)

## MACON WORSHIP GROUP INVITES US TO JOIN THEM FOR WORSHIP

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The Macon Worship Group, which is under the care of Atlanta Friends Meeting, invites us to join them for meeting for worship via Zoom every Thursday at 7:00 pm (except for fifth Thursdays). The third Thursday each month will be an educational program instead of worship. See above for details for this month's third Thursday. For more info: [maconquakers@gmail.com](mailto:maconquakers@gmail.com).

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84095899009?pwd=SFhhOGNnWHZFbDdKRUhVnFqdFk0dz09>

Meeting ID: 840 9589 9009

Passcode: 542278

## MEETING VIRTUALLY: WORSHIP AND FIRST DAY SCHOOL AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

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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>*

*For the most up to date information and for more detailed instructions for Zoom, see the most recent announcements at [www.atlantaquakers.org/\\_announcements/Announcement\\_Sheet.pdf](http://www.atlantaquakers.org/_announcements/Announcement_Sheet.pdf) or in your email inbox. 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. (February 7 will be Karen Gold.) 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 *A Living Faith, An Historical Study of Quaker Beliefs*. We will end in time to be in meeting for worship.

FIRST DAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN will meet at 9:30 am to 9:55 am

First Day Class for Families and Friends

Theme thru May 2021: *God is Everywhere--God works through many people, places, and times*

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

Meeting ID: 727 996 1727

Passcode: 679898

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 will begin at 10:00 am

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 worshipping 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 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 at 9:30 am

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/92038862952>

Meeting ID: 920 3886 2952

Passcode 726229

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

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## FINANCIAL HELP THROUGH THE AFM ASSISTANCE FUND

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)

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## CARING CONNECTIONS AT ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING

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).

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## FIRST MONTH MEETING FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION TO BUSINESS

January 17, 2020, held via Zoom

Minutes Recorded Pending Approval

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**Attendance:** Steve Collins, Bert Skellie, Karen Skellie, Alberta Guise, Alison Mawle, Bill Hooson, Teri-Key Hooson, Caroline Morris, Mike Aland, Cathy Amanti, Anton Flores-Maisonet, Becky Lough, Cheryll Cowherd, David Small, Diane Rowley, Elizabeth Lamb, Erin Schroder, Eugene Jennings, Georgia Lord, Glenn Plyler, Henry Slack, Jay Roache, Jennifer Thompson, Judith Greenberg, Judy Lumb, Julia Ewing, Karen Morris, Margaret Geronimo, Mary Ann Downey, Michael Allison, Myrna Trapp, Paul Mangelsdorf, Ronald Nurse, Susan Firestone, Lissa Place (Clerk), and Coryn Murphy (Recording Clerk)

Friends gathered near the appointed hour with opening worship. A member of Ministry and Worship shared the First Month Query out of the worship: "How does your meeting create a welcoming environment and spiritual home for everyone and involve newcomers?"

### **Discernment Items:**

**Naming Committee:** Last month the Naming Committee reported the nomination of Diane Rowely, Ann Ritter, Jennifer Thompson, and Eugene Jennings to be on the Nominating Committee of AFM. We approved the following Minutes:

**Minute 01-17-2021-01:** On the recommendation of the Naming Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the Nomination of Diane Rowley as a member of Nominating Committee for a for a period of 3 years from January 2021 to December 2023.

**Minute 01-17-2021-02:** On the recommendation of the Naming Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the Nomination of Ann Ritter as a member of Nominating Committee for a for a period of 3 years from January 2021 to December 2023."

**Minute 01-17-2021-03:** On the recommendation of the Naming Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the Nomination of Jennifer Thompson as a member of Nominating Committee for a period of 3 years from January 2021 to December 2023."

**Minute 01-17-2021-04:** On the recommendation of the Naming Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting approves the Nomination of Eugene Jennings as a member of Nominating Committee for a for a period of 3 years from January 2021 to December 2023."

**Ministry and Worship:** Bill Hooson reported on the Ministry and Worship and Nominating Committee asking for Elizabeth Lamb, Sara Patenaude, and Richard Allen to continue in their roles for the following three years. There was a concern that many people are all starting and ending terms without the regular committee stagger. The Meeting asks that Nominating Committee support this committee in filling it and working on correcting the stagger.

**Minute 01-17-2021-05:** Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Elizabeth Lamb as an appointed member of Ministry and Worship for up to a three-year term beginning January 2021 and ending December 2023.

**Minute 01-17-2021-06:** Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Sara Patenaude as an appointed member of Ministry and Worship for up to a three-year term beginning January 2021 and ending December 2023.

**Minute 01-17-2021-07:** Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Richard Allen as an appointed member of Ministry and Worship for up to a three-year term beginning January 2021 and ending December 2023.

**Nominating Committee:** On behalf of Nominating Committee, Atlanta Friends Meeting brings forth the name of Glenn Plyler as Clerk of Social Concerns Committee, for a term of 2 years January 2021- December 2022.

**Minute 01-17-2021-08:** Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Glenn Plyler as Clerk of Social Concerns Committee, for a term of 2 years beginning January 2021 and ending December 2022.

### **Reports:**

**Administration:** Steve Collins, Clerk of Administration Committee, reported on behalf of the committee.

Meetinghouse projects: Kevin Wong, Property Coordinator, is gathering the final financial and technical details for a proposed solar panel array on portions of the Meetinghouse roof. Georgia Interfaith Power & Light (GIPL) did a solar assessment for roof panels, including an estimated payback period of ten (10) years for the solar installation. A prerequisite project, however, is the replacement of all the Meetinghouse roofing shingles, which is needed due to deterioration and water leaks in the ceiling in various places. Installing a solar panel system on our old roof is not advisable. A preliminary cost estimate for these two capital projects is in the \$70,000-\$80,000 range.

**State of the Meeting Report:** The clerk has written a draft of the State of the Meeting Report and is currently in the process of getting edits from people. If anyone is interested in helping with this, please let her know. The draft will be brought to Meeting for Business next month.

**Naming Committee:** Cheryll Cowherd from Naming Committee would like to bring forward Eugene Jennings as Clerk of Nominating Committee for a term of 3 years. If you haven't already, get to know him this month and we will bring his name forward for approval next month.

**Finance Committee:** Paul Mangelsdorf, clerk of Finance Committee, brought forward the 2020 report of the Meeting's finances. He noted that there was only a \$6,239 net deficit for the year. Finance Committee was anticipating a larger overall deficit, but contributions from members and attenders exceeded the budgeted amount and reduced the total deficit. They expressed their gratitude to everyone for their help.

**Social Concerns Committee:** Glenn Plyler reported on behalf of the Social Concerns Committee. He presented a draft of a minute in response to the riots at the Capitol on January 6, 2021. Social concerns has already gotten input from Quakers for Racial Equality and Friends of Color, but they need to come up with a unified draft before we are ready to approve it. Because of the timeliness of this matter, we agreed it was important to approve the minute at next business meeting. Glenn welcomed anyone who would like to participate in writing this minute.

**Minute 01-17-2021-09:** Atlanta Friends Meeting asks that Social Concerns, Friends of Color, Quakers for Racial Equality, and other interested Friends to create a minute based on specific concerns based on events beginning at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, and circulate that ahead of time before the next meeting for business to be approved at the next business meeting. Once approved this minute will be circulated to a wider community outside of the Atlanta Friends Meeting.

**Committee Corner:** Committee Corner is an opportunity for committees to share parts of their work that is not required to be reported to Business Meeting. It is also an opportunity to share information with the wider committee and get feedback about things the community might be interested in.

**Administration:** Steve Collins presented for the Administration Committee, formerly known as the Oversight Committee. The Administration Committee is composed primarily of representatives from other Meeting committees and the staff members of the Meeting. It serves as the overall coordinating group for functions and activities that impact the physical meetinghouse and the paid staff of the Meeting. This committee is usually composed of the Assistant Clerk of Meeting, the Friend in Residence, the Office Coordinator, the Property Coordinator, the Personnel Liaison, two at-large members appointed by Meeting, and clerks or representatives of other committees (Landscape, Religious Education, Young Friends and Finance).

The committee recommends to the Monthly Meeting for Business specific policies for the use of the Meeting's facilities by groups and individuals, sees to the needs of tenants and guests, and negotiates contracts with tenants. We interview, hire, and contract individuals to be the Friend in

Residence, Office Coordinator, Bookkeeper, and Nursery Caregiver. We also conduct annual staff performance reviews and set compensation for staff and contract workers.

Major current Administration projects include evaluating the feasibility of installing solar panels on the roof, possibly replacing the existing roofing shingles, and supporting the continuing work of the Landscape committee is to enhance the Meetinghouse grounds. In recent years, the committee has also coordinated other projects: resurfacing and restriping the parking lot, removal of dead or dying trees and tree limbs on the property, improvements to the playground area, installation of new Meetinghouse exterior signage, purchase of new Meetinghouse furniture and appliances, and heating and air conditioning system repairs and upgrades.

**Clerk's Item:**

**Minute 01-17-2021-10: Minute of Appreciation:** Atlanta Friends Meeting would like to thank those who have left their positions in 2020: Rebecca Cole-Sullivan as Recording Clerk, Elizabeth Lamb as Clerk of Ministry and Worship, Alicia McGill on CURAFM, Jeff Evans on Administration, John Adams, Karen Morris, Cynthia Berg, Mark Watson, and Penny Summers on Ministry and Worship, Clive Gordon as Clerk of Nominating Committee, Mary Ann Downey for Quaker Voluntary Service Local Support Committee, and Cathy Amanti and Myrna Trapp on Nominating Committee. We are grateful for your support and leadership in Atlanta Friends Meeting.

Please note that the clerk would like committee clerks to bring names of those unable to complete their terms to Business Meeting so that it can be properly minuted.

**Approval of Minutes for December 2020:**

**Minute 01-17-2021-11:** Friends approved the Twelfth Month Minutes.

**Events in the life of the Meeting**

Thomas Kenworthy died on December 28, 2020.

**Meeting closed with a brief period of worship.**

**Annual Corporation Meeting for Atlanta Friends Meeting was held at the rise of meeting.**

**Atlanta Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc.  
Specially Called Meeting January 17th, 2021 Minutes**

**Attendance:** Judith Greenburg, Lissa Place, Georgia Lord, Coryn Murphy, Bill Holland, Jay Roache, Steve Collins, and Judy Lumb

1. Officers of the Corporation. The current officers of the corporation were present. The following minute was approved:

**Minute 01-17-2021-01:** The Atlanta Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc will have the following officers to serve in 2021 and until successors are approved: Lissa Place (Clerk), Georgia Lord (Assistant Clerk), Judith Greenberg (Treasurer), Coryn Murphy (Recording Clerk).

2. Persons authorized to sign checks and engage in financial transactions on behalf of the Corporation. The following minute was approved:

**Minute 01-17-2021-02:** The Atlanta Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. authorizes Dee DeBra (Assistant Treasurer), Judith Greenberg (Treasurer) and Paul Mangelsdorf (Clerk, Finance Committee) to sign checks and make electronic disbursements from the accounts of the Atlanta Friends Meeting.

3. Other Business. Persons authorized to authorize transactions for the Corporation's securities and investments. The following minute was approved:

**Minute 01-17-03-2021-03:** The Atlanta Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. authorizes Judith Greenberg (Treasurer), Paul Mangelsdorf (Clerk, Finance Committee), and Lissa Place (Clerk) to authorize transactions for the Atlanta Monthly Meeting's securities and investments.

4. Next Meeting.

**Minute 01-17-2021-04:** The next corporation meeting of the Atlanta Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, Inc. will, if it is in accord with divine will, be held at the rise of the Meeting for Business, First Month, January 16, 2022.

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

Beth-Ann Buitekant  
Freer Jarvis  
Eugene Jennings  
Suzan Kenworthy and family  
Rick & Beth Martinson  
Renda & Pete McCaughan  
Gene Singletary  
Walter Degler's son Dan

*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  
Office Coordinator: Nina Gooch, atlantaquakers@gmail.com  
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### SENDING CONDOLENCES TO TOM KENWORTHY'S FAMILY

Long-time member Tom Kenworthy died on December 28, 2020 after a stroke. Condolences can be sent to his wife Suzan Kenworthy at Pebblebrook at Park Springs, 5610 Bermuda Rd., SW, Stone Mountain, GA 30087 or to the family c/o Lauren Jarrell, 1102 Lanier Blvd NE, Atlanta, GA 30306. A memorial service will be held once we can meet in person.

### SENDING GREETINGS TO RICK AND BETH MARTINSON

Rick Martinson, a long-time member of Meeting, now living in California with his wife Beth, is now in hospice care due to late-stage cancer. Please hold the family in the light. To contact Rick and Beth: 2069 Radio Ave. Apt 2, San Jose, CA 95125. Home: 408-728-7581. Email: [ermatl222@mac.co](mailto:ermatl222@mac.co)

### HOLIDAY LETTERS FROM DISTANT FRIENDS

The meeting received letters from Nicholas Butterfield and Rachel Osborn and from Renda and Pete McCaughan. Normally, they'd be posted on the bulletin board at the meetinghouse, but in this case, the Office Coordinator has scanned them. If you'd like a copy, email [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com).

### A NOTE FROM NINA GOOCH

Thank you for holding me in the light and for the cards and emails. My surgery went well, and there was no cancer found. I am recovering well – I just can't lift anything remotely heavy for a while. (Though I mostly miss being in the meetinghouse, in this case, I'm glad I was already working from home. It has made recovery easier.)

Atlanta Friends Meeting  
701 W. Howard Avenue  
Decatur, GA 30030-2902

#### 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)

#### **Atlanta Friends Meeting email lists & facebook group:**

*You may receive the announcement sheets and other announcements relating directly to the life of the meeting. This is the announcement list. (The announcement sheet is also posted online.)*

*You may receive announcements AND posts about a broader range of topics relating to being a Quaker. This is the discussion list. (You do not need to belong to both the announcement list and the discussion list.)*

*You may receive notification that the newsletter is online. This is the newsletter list.*

*To join any of these email lists, please email [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com)*

*To receive weekly emails about Zoom and in-person meetings for worship, please email the office at [atlantaquakers@gmail.com](mailto:atlantaquakers@gmail.com).*

*To join the meeting's Facebook page, search for Atlanta Friends Meeting & click the + **Join Group** button.*

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

#### **Do you need to correct your directory information?**

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.*