

The Meeting

“And so I find it well to come
For deeper rest to this still room,
For here the habit of the soul
Feels less the outer world’s control;
The strength of mutual purpose pleads
More earnestly our common needs;
And from the silence multiplied
By these still forms on either side,
The world that time and sense have known
Falls off and leaves us God alone.

– John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)

***"The substance of true religion
is to harmonize practice with principle."***

– John Woolman

Coming events:

- Oct 4 – World Quaker Day sponsored by FWCC – ***“What Does It Mean To Be a Quaker Today? - "Living Into A Faithful Life In A Changing World"”***
Oct 6, 6-9 pm – Liberty, NC National Night Out Celebration, N Fayetteville St near Liberty School
Oct 7 – 6:45 pm - Ministry and Counsel, Quaker Room or Fellowship Hall
7:30 pm - Monthly Meeting, Fellowship Hall
Oct 11 – 16 – NC Friends Disaster Service building trip to Trenton, NC
Oct 24, 10 am – FCNC Representative Body, **moved to Archdale Friends**
Nov 3 – US Election Day – Exercise your freedom & responsibility – VOTE!

10 / 4 / 2020 Bulletin – Drive-In Worship, 10 am

Rocky River Friends Meeting

Affiliated with: Liberty Association of Churches; Western Quarterly Meeting;
Friends Church of North Carolina (FCNC); Friends United Meeting (FUM)

Dallas V. Brooks

Clerk-Ministry & Counsel

David K. Hobson

Pastor

Mary C. Arrington

Clerk-Monthly Meeting

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Rocky River Friends Meeting

[THE PEOPLE CALLED QUAKERS]

A Gathering Place for Quakers since 1753

***You are my Friends if you do
what I command you.*** -John 15:14



**Welcome to our meetinghouse and our fellowship!
Be thoughtful, reverent and expectant as you worship with us.**

Come to Worship God and Depart to Serve!

World Quaker Day 2020

**What does it mean to YOU to be a Quaker today?
Living a Faithful Life in a Changing World**

*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord
require of you? To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly (or prudently) with your God.* – Micah 6:8

You are my Friends if you do what I command you. – John 15:14

VISION/MISSION STATEMENT

Rocky River Friends Meeting

(approved and adopted by Monthly Meeting on 8/6/96)

- ***To tell the story of Jesus based on his teachings***
- ***To further the work of Christ in the world***
- ***To promote personal encounters with God***
- ***To encourage and treat all human beings with love, dignity, and respect through humanitarian service and social justice***
- ***To promote peace in the world***

***I no longer listen to what people say,
I just watch what they do. Behavior never lies.***

– Winston Churchill

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) invites every Quaker meeting and church from around the world to celebrate **WORLD QUAKER DAY (WQD)** on October 4, 2020. As the sun rises in each area of the world we want to *remember that Quakers are worshipping through every time zone, celebrating our deep connections across cultures and Quaker traditions*. We are united in love and can accompany each other on this special day that draws us together. As we worship, let us hold each other in prayer and thanksgiving, and let our hymns of praise resound across the world. The theme, What does it mean to be a Quaker today? Living into a Faithful Life in a Changing World' draws us to *reflect upon our shared and differing experiences of being a Quaker around to world*. It is a chance to celebrate our wonderful diversity of expression, whilst at the same time offering an important opportunity to learn about Friends' experiences of climate breakdown in other parts of the world.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have all been affected in a variety of ways. Part of the role of FWCC is to share stories from Friends across the branches and around the world to cross our cultures and connect our lives, through our shared Quaker faith.

This year the FWCC Africa Section will be planting more than five thousand tree seedlings at the **Farmers Training Centre** located in **Lugari Yearly Meeting, Kenya!**

Imagine the sun rising, starting in the Pacific and proceeding hour by hour through every time zone, shining on Friends coming together in worship, connecting us across the expanse of a day. Imagine our family of Friends, in the unity of God's loving spirit, bringing each other into our collective awareness. Imagine this loving presence hugging the world, healing the world, loving the world — through our collective spirit-filled lives.

“The word **TESTIMONY** is used by Quakers to describe a witness to the living truth within the human heart as it is acted out in everyday live. Not a form of words, but a mode of life, based on the realization that there is that of God in Everybody, that all human beings are equal, that all life is interconnected....” I think this is a good place to start, right?

– Harvey Gillman, *past Outreach Secretary for Britain Yearly Meeting*

Prayer concerns:

Odell Grumble, Krystal Butler Turner, Reva Gale Cranford, Gale Paire (*now at home*), Bill Gooding, Karen Pike, Debby Pike, Wayne McPherson's sister's son – Glen Riddle – cancer, Gerry Pike (*at UNC Hospital after a stroke*), Joan Daniel, Joe and JoAnn Glass (*pneumonia*), the family of Ramon Gonzales Longoria- *Quaker pastor and past clerk of Cuba Yearly Meeting*, Hannah and Andy Wyrick plus baby Addy
. . . Check the September newsletter for the longer list!

DEMISE OF THE QUAKER SUGAR LUMP

“There is no future for the Quaker sect. It is a dead force. Like a lump of sugar, it has melted and sweetened the community, but its work is done and it has begun to fade out of existence. It has probably little to teach us now. The Quakers were ever a modest, truthful and straightforward people, absolutely essential to the life of the seventeenth century, but their work is forever ended.”

Thus said Rev. Dr. Owen James, a Baptist minister of Johnstown, Pa., speaking to the Baptist Ministers' Association in Philadelphia on First month 30th.

It is, of course, something to have been a "*sugar lump*" and to have sweetened the world! It is. However, rather trying to be told that our next act is to fade gracefully out of existence, that our work is forever ended. The Rev. Dr. Owen James is not the first to predict the final dissolution of the Quaker sugar lump. Such prophecies are common and frequent.

There have been some fine cases recorded in the medical journals where the doctor's declaration of sure death has been just the stimulus the patient needed. It may work that way with us. At any rate, we are of the opinion that this reverend doctor will not live to see the Quaker sugar lump all dissolved in the social tea.

– originally published in the **American Friend**, 2nd Mo. 1906, later posted on the Association of Bad Friends Facebook page, 6/3/2019

God equips and empowers the church for the mission to which we are called. Let us, therefore, live as forgiven and forgiving disciples of Jesus Christ, knowing that God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — goes with us and will be with us, now and always. Amen.