

ATLANTA FRIENDS MEETING NEWSLETTER



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

July 2017

Appreciation of the Gift Offered to SMEFC *Offered by Dieudonne Ntibayazi, Pastor*

I am writing this letter on behalf of Stone Mountain Evangelical Friends Church. I really must express our gratitude for the gift you voluntarily gave us.

We are also thankful for the advice and suggestion that AFM gave us in the whole process of Evangelical Friends Church locating in the Stone Mountain area. As the shepherds followed the star to the place where Jesus Christ was born, you led us to the destination. We hope that we can maintain a good relationship with AFM, despite our different form of worship.

May the Lord bless all of his designs in the Atlanta Friends Meeting.

Lives and Callings: the Spiritual Journey – July 2nd

If you are new to our meeting, considering membership or a long time attender or member who enjoys hearing a story, you are invited to come to the meeting library at 9 am, on the first Sunday in each month to hear these stories. Building on NPR's Story Corps and This I Believe, the Atlanta Meeting began our own version of these programs in 2007. At AFM, we listen to how one 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 why not, and what they believe now.

On July 2nd, our friend Henry Slack will share his spiritual journey. Caroline Morris will share on August 6th. You are also invited to tell your story and can call Mary Ann Downey at 678-938-8030 to volunteer or to get more information.

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

QUERY

COMMUNITY

How are decisions regarding meeting location, comfort, accessibility, esthetics, financial practices and meeting tasks fundamental to creating and supporting community? Where do I find love and joy in my meeting community?

- **Testimony of Community, Northern Yearly Meeting**
<http://www.northernyearlymeeting.org/article/testimony-of-community>
- **Seeing Beyond Our Differences: Meeting as "Covenant Community"**
<http://lancasterpaquakers.org/SITEdocs/CovenantRetreat.pdf>

Women's Weekend at the Ferguson Cabins – August 10th-13th

Consider joining the group overnight or just for the day at Lake Burton in the north Georgia mountains August 10-13. We will be swimming, canoe/kayaking, playing games, hiking, reading, eating and talking in the rustic setting gifted to the Meeting by Dwight and Irene Ferguson years ago. For more information, email or call Karen Skellie: kskellie@gmail.com or [404-378-5883](tel:404-378-5883).

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business – June 18th, 2017 **Recorded pending approval**

Attendance: Juan Allende, Paul Baker, Steve Collins, Sally Ferguson, Clive Gordon, Bill Hooson, Patti Lee, Lynn Leuszler, Sue May, Ronald Nuse, Brittney Thornburley, Rebecca Thornburley, Myrna Trapp, Betsy Eggers (Clerk), Bethany Morrison (Recording) (15 Friends).

Query: Sally Ferguson presented the query for Sixth Month: Do you respect that of God in everyone though it may be expressed in unfamiliar ways or be difficult to discern? Each of us has a particular experience of God and each must find the way to be true to it?

Discernment:

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

- **Minute 06-18-2017-01:** *Atlanta Friends Meeting approves Rebecca Thornburley as Clerk of the Library Committee for a three-year term to begin January 2018.*

Reports:

Nominating Committee: On behalf of Nominating Committee, Ronald Nuse brought forward Jennifer Dickie and Mary Jahntz for the positions of co-clerks of the Religious Education Committee for one year (June 2017-May 2018).

In addition, he brought forward the following names for religious education teachers from July 2017-June 2018: Meredith Reynolds, Lisa Kruse, and Patricia Williams (Preschool); Elizabeth Valera, Liz Nicholson, and Elizabeth Tolmach (Lower Elementary); Kacy Brubaker, Julia Ewen, and Terri O'Neil (Upper Elementary); Beth Ensign (Middle School); Maggie Hasbrouck and Brittney Thornburley (High School).

Nominating Committee also brought forward Jeff Evans for the position of appointed member, Administration Committee, which would be a one-year extension of the three-year position to begin January 2018.

The names above will be brought forth next month for approval.

Ministry & Worship: On behalf of Ministry and Worship, Sally Ferguson reported on scholarships and other financial support for members and attenders. Ministry & Worship gave scholarships to five people to attend FGC this year and eight scholarships for the SAYMA conference. These scholarships totaled \$3389.

In addition, Ministry & Worship provided \$360 to the Church of Mary Magdalene for childcare and \$225 to a Friend studying Quaker spirituality.

In total, the committee has given out \$3,974.00 from their budget of \$4000. Sally reported that a small adjustment (a refund) will be made to this total amount, which the committee will work out through the Finance Committee.

Ministry & Worship would like to thank the meeting for allowing them to provide these opportunities to enrich the spiritual journeys of members and attenders.

Care & Counsel: On behalf of Care & Counsel, Bill Hooson reported on the creation of an ad hoc committee to address a recent sexual harassment concern. It has been threshed, and a resolution has been reached. The committee continues to examine its procedures on issues of sexual harassment. Bill reported that, at this time, nothing on this subject needs to be brought to Meeting for Business for discernment.

After the rise of meeting next week, Care & Counsel will present a forum and workshop on "Welcoming visitors and new attenders before and after meeting."

Teri Key-Hooson has accepted the ministry of our Care Quilt. One quilt is currently with Susan Firestone who is recovering from hip replacement and the other is with Christina Repoley who is dealing with family deaths and illnesses.

Administration Committee: On behalf of the Administration committee, Steve Collins reported on the status of projects related to care of the meetinghouse:

1. The recently installed metal "Atlanta Friends Meeting" sign will need backlighting to illuminate it at night.
2. The replacement sign for the current wood sign was installed. It will also need lighting. In addition, bushes obstructing the view of the sign will need to be removed or trimmed.
3. The committee plans to add walkway lighting from the parking lot, which will require digging a new lighting conduit.
4. The gutters near the Meetinghouse entrance are overflowing. The committee currently plans to employ the solution from a similar problem on the rear patio: cut through the concrete walkway to install an underground pipe to disburse water from the roof into the low area on the other side of the sidewalk.
5. With the help of the meeting's young friends, new mulch has been added to the playground area.

AFM Gift to SMEFC: Brittney Thornburley read a letter that the Atlanta Friends Meeting received from Pastor Dieudonné Ntibayazi on behalf of the Stone Mountain Evangelical Friends Church. *[Editor Note: the letter is published in full on the cover page of this newsletter.]*

Minutes of May 2017:

- **Minute 6-18-2017-02:** *The Minutes of the Fifth Month 2017 Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business were approved with the following correction: Christina Repoley's anchoring committee was added to the list of Ministry & Worship's seven anchoring*

committees. The names of the committee members of all anchoring committees were added to the minutes, as follows:

- Christina Repoley – Quaker Voluntary Service. Members: Laura MacNorlin, Lewis Fuller, Sadie Forsythe, Kelsey McNicholas
- Ashley Wilcox – Ministering. Members: Rebecca Sullivan, Cara Curtis
- David Foster – Art. Members: Jim Tolmach, Clive Gordon, Ann Ritter, Tara Doyle
- Richard Allen – Piano compositions. Members: Bert Skellie, Karen Morris, Susan Firestone, Ron Nuse
- Mary Ann Downey – Traveling Friend/minister. Members: Bill Holland, Dave Thurman, Nan O'Connor, Lewis Fuller
- Julie Hliboki – Chaplaincy. Members: Bill Holland, Mary Ann Downey, Jenny Foster, Laura Bowman
- Sarah Walton - Community justice. Members: Wendy Phillips, Bert Skellie (clerk), Austin Wattles, Eric Glenn, Diana White

Announcements:

Sue May announced a need for a person to maintain the bulletin boards and signage in the greeting room while she is away for the months of July and August. The addition and removal of signage in the greeting room is guided by the principles of community and simplicity.

Sue also announced the return of several photographs of importance to the meeting, which were reframed by Steve Collins and hung in the library.

Meeting closed with Silent Worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Bethany Morrison, Recording Clerk
Betsy Eggers, Clerk



Please Hold in The Light:

Christina Repoley and her family.

Josephine and Athanase Karikurubu and their family.

Josephine's mother passed away June 20th in Africa.

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
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Calendar for Seventh Month (July) 2017

Area Meetings for Worship

Every First Day (Sunday)	10:00 a.m. – Meetinghouse (AFM), with a smaller group in the Library. 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, jhudson30116@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 - Adult Religious Ed, Library 9:30 - Singing, Classroom A/B 10:00 - Meeting for Worship 5:00 - Atlanta Mennonite Fellowship, Meeting Room
Second Day (Monday)	Every other Monday at 6:30 - 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: atlanta.quaker.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.

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