



THE FRIENDLY LIGHT

November 2024

The Day After

November 5th is an important day in our country. It's the day that we, as a people, are invited to exercise our right to vote. For many, their votes have already been cast, and Tuesday, November 5th will simply mark the end of the voting period. As I've reflected on this process, my sense is that the next day (November 6th) will end up being the most important day because it's the day we begin the hard work of working for the common good, respecting one another, loving our neighbor, and advocating for a world in which all have the possibility to flourish.

In our system of governance and business, Quakers don't vote, and for good reasons. Voting sets up a minority and a majority, winners and losers. Quakers strive to come to a "sense of the meeting" in discerning God's will and intentions for our life together as we seek unity in the Spirit. Unfortunately, we can't organize a national voting process in that way. Our process ends up with someone winning and the other person losing. That is the reality we will face on November 6th (or sometime thereafter). *The questions will be – how will I show up and how can I offer my presence in a way that continues to offer respect, goodness, love for neighbor, peacebuilding, and a commitment to work for the common good?*

Birthdays

11/12

Linda Everhart

11/14

Gene Murr

11/17

Judie Austin

11/20

Lauren Maples

Vickie Sheets

11/21

Terry Venable



An often-quoted Quaker during election seasons is Edward Burrough. He was one of the early preachers and writers during Quakerism's early years (mid-1600's) as he advocated for tolerance toward other religious minorities, nonviolence, equality, and a personal experience of God. His personal experience of the Living Christ propelled him into a world of political unrest and chaos and amidst it he offered these words:


"We are not for names nor men, not titles of Government, nor are we for this party nor against the other...but we are for justice and mercy and truth and peace and true freedom that these may be exalted in our nation, and that goodness, righteousness, meekness, temperance, peace and unity with God, and with one another, that these things may abound." (1659)

Rather than be against someone or something, Edward Burrough chose to be for something, and that "something" entailed the kinds of qualities that can keep open the possibility of a flourishing society, qualities like tolerance, nonviolence, equality, goodness, meekness, justice, mercy, and freedom for all. Edward Burrough only lived to be about 29 years old, dying on February 14, 1663, in prison where he was imprisoned for his convictions and witness. To the end, he lived with the courage of his convictions.

November 5th will come and go, but you and I will still be here when November 6th shows itself on our calendar. The question is, *how will I show myself on that day and every day to follow?* As a Quaker faith community, we are committed to the qualities of simplicity, peace, integrity, community, equality, and stewardship, and our intention will be to continue to live those out with courage and conviction. We are also committed to being a community and place where all are welcome and all are accepted as we, together, seek a deeper experience of the Living Christ as well as a world in which all may flourish. This will take work, courage, and conviction, but I'm willing to work hard at it. I invite you to join me.

Scott

Quaker Corner



**Sing praises with
understanding; sing
in the spirit and
make melody in your
heart unto the Lord.
—George Fox**

Quaker Query/Advice of the 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. When words are strange or disturbing to you, try to sense where they come from and what has nourished the lives of others. Listen patiently and seek the truth which other people's opinions may contain for you. Avoid hurtful criticism and provocative language. Do not allow the strength of your convictions to betray you into making statements or allegations that are unfair or untrue. Think it possible that you may be mistaken.



Schedule an admissions tour today!



*Small Class Sizes ~ Individualized Instruction ~ Before & After Care
Financial Aid Available ~ Accepting NC Opportunity Scholarship*

FOR OVER 60 YEARS... PRE-SCHOOL (AGE 2.5) THROUGH 8TH GRADE

Guided by the Quaker values, we nurture curiosity, compassion, service and leadership through small class sizes, personalized learning and a caring community.

 www.hpfs.org  Rob Kelley, Head of School
rkelley@hpfs.org  800A Quaker Lane,
High Point, NC  336-886-5516

Creating Scholars ~ Cultivating Community ~ Developing Servant Leaders

Exciting Opportunity: Spaces for 2.5 Year-Olds Now Available!

High Point Friends School is pleased to announce that we have spaces available for 2.5 year-olds to join our caring community this school year!

Inquire Today!

 [Rob Kelley
rkelley@hpfs.org](mailto:Rob.Kelley@hpfs.org)

 336-886-5516

 <https://www.hpfs.org/>



Upcoming Events



Thanksgiving Carry-In Meal



We will be having a High Point Friends Meeting Thanksgiving Carry-In Meal on Sunday, November 24th, following our 10AM meeting for worship (we'll start about 11:15AM). This is simply a time for us to gather as a faith community and church family and share a meal together, slow down and reconnect, and offer our gratitude. Please join us!

Be Thankful Together

Christmas Candle Light Worship

Mark you calendars now for Sunday, December 22. We will be offering our Christmas Candle Light Worship beginning at 5PM complete with vocalists, musicians, readings, and reflections. Refreshments and fellowship to follow.





Announcements

Trustees of High Point Friends Meeting will meet on Monday, November 4,
at 5:30PM in the meeting library.

Election Day

Reminder that High Point Friends Meeting is a polling place and the meetinghouse will be busy all day with voters and election workers on November 5th. The office will be open if you need to come by for any reason.



First Friends Meeting in Greensboro invites you to An Evening with John Lucas November 15th at 7PM

John Lucas is a songwriter making his home in the mountains of North Carolina with his wife and two children. Lucas has produced many albums over the last decade, which have collected nearly 50 million streams on Spotify alone. Lucas writes with intimacy and depth, ultimately seeking to see and experience the Divine within and through all. Come enjoy an evening of calm musical contemplation.



First Friends Fellowship Hall

2100 W Friendly Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27403



The office is finishing up the new Address Directories and will have them available by the start of the new year. Thank you to everyone for your help getting it updated!

Stewardship Snapshot

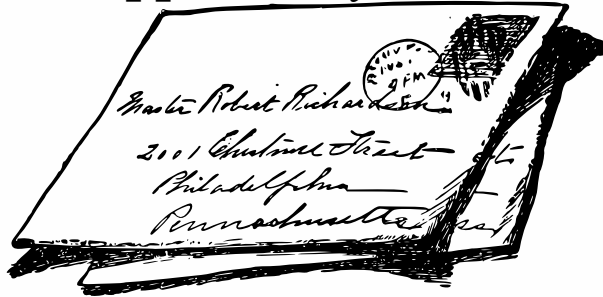
Financial Report YTD January-September 2024:

Approved Budget: \$ 221,100

Contributions: \$ 162,245

Shortfall **\$ 58,855**

Candace Heer continues to reside at Piney Grove Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. If you would like to send her a card, their address is 728 Piney Grove Road, Kernersville, NC 27284. She would welcome and appreciate your cards!



High Point Friends Choir

Our choir is preparing Christmas music for December and our annual Christmas Candlelight Worship (December 22). Our Music/Choir Director, Wanda Simmons, extends a welcome to any new singers in the meeting that would like to join us! The choir meets every Wednesday at 5:15PM for rehearsal and is always promptly done by 6:15PM. Even if you can't make all the rehearsals, we welcome your voice and presence in the choir! Let's make a joyful noise together!



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Bible Study at 10AM in Ragan Hall.

Using the Quaker study guide, Illuminate, we will continue to explore the book of Revelation. This is a very unique and often confusing book of the Bible, so we will take time to explore both it's historical context as well as it's present day application. As I (Scott) often like to say, *it's less a book about future speculation and more about present spiritual formation*. I'll also be drawing on an excellent resources, Revelation for the Rest of Us as a supplement to our study together. If you have questions, just reach out to Scott.

Join us at 10AM on Tuesdays
Everyone is Welcome
& Coffee is always on!

We will continue through November and December. We will not meet on November 5 and November 12. We will take a break for two weeks beginning the week of December 23 and resume on January 7.

Intentional Prayer Wednesdays

We are Opening The Meeting Library from 10AM-5PM for anyone that would like to avail themselves of the space to simply be present and pray

Please keep these friends in prayer

Eddie Solomon - recovering from rotator cuff surgery and will soon be having physical therapy

Jo Hayworth as she continues to recover from her recent surgery on her leg. Her physical therapy is going very well and will soon be completed.

Charles Riehs as he continues to be on the wait list for a kidney transplant.

Theron and Eloise Farlow for their daily well being, and for Carmen Farlow as he provides care for them and works with his other care providers.

Caregivers - Prayers for everyone in our meeting that is offering and providing care for others whether it be friends, family, or a neighbor. Prayers for strength for these folks.

High Point Friends School - for the faculty and staff as they go about their daily responsibilities, and for the students and their families. And for the Board as they faithfully guide the school.

If you have a prayer need or request you would like to have shared with the meeting, you can send it to office@highpointfriends.org or call the office at 336-884-1359.



HIGH
POINT

friends

MEETING

800 Quaker Lane
High Point NC 27262
Phone: 336-884-1359
www.highpointfriends.org

Monthly Meeting Clerk-- Hanna Moore

Pastor-- Scott Wagoner

Organist-- Carmen Farlow

Piano & Choir Director-- Wanda Simmons

Office Administration-- Nichole Looney

Established in 1892
132 Years of Service in the High Point Community