

2017 ANNUAL SESSIONS
PIEDMONT FRIENDS YEARLY MEETING
Piedmont Friends Fellowship Annual Spring Retreat
Carolina Friends School, Durham, North Carolina
Eleventh day of Third month 2017

The 2017 Annual Sessions of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting convened Saturday afternoon, March 11, 2017 at 1:30 pm in the gymnasium at Carolina Friends School, Durham, North Carolina.

Those present and their Monthly Meeting/Worship Group affiliation: Chandlee White (New Garden), Dorothy Mason (New Garden), Joyce Mers (New Garden), Robert Mers (New Garden), Lori Fernald Khamala (Chapel Hill), Linda Hunter (Durham), John Hunter (Durham), Vernie Davis (Raleigh), Susan Davis (Raleigh), Bob Passmore (Durham), Gary Hornsby (Salem Creek), Naveed Moeed (Chapel Hill), Sam Dempsey (Salem Creek), Dick Connell (Salem Creek), Doris Wilson (Upstate), Mike Johnson (Upstate), Jeff Brown (Chapel Hill), Katherine Metzger (Charlotte), Dylan Buffum (Durham), Virginia Driscoll (New Garden), Debbie Parvin (Fancy Gap), Martin W. King (Raleigh), Gail Austin Curry (Durham), John A. Shuford (Raleigh), Deborah L. Bromiley (Raleigh), Jan Schmidt (Raleigh), John Schmidt (Raleigh), David F. Curtin (Chapel Hill), Alice Carlton (Chapel Hill), Lynn Drake (Chapel Hill), Matt Drake (Chapel Hill), Christina Connell (Salem Creek), Larry Barker (Eno), Sarah E. Barker (Eno), Sarah Jones (Eno), Emilie Condon (Chapel Hill), Martin Hubbe (Raleigh), Lyle Adley-Warrick (Raleigh), Susan Adley-Warrick (Raleigh), Lynn Newsom (Fayetteville), Stephen Newson (Fayetteville), Judy Haughee-Bartlett (New Garden), Martin W. Doherty, Jr. (Charlotte), Julie Stafford (Charlotte), Marian Beane (Charlotte), Nancy Riemer (Raleigh), Jane Carter (New Garden), Jyotsna O'Mahony (Durham), Dorothy Cole (Charlotte), Susan Ikenberry (New Garden), Julia Cleaver (Chapel Hill), Lena Glickman (FGC), Helene Hilger (Charlotte), Lee Pickett (Reading PA), Janet Inmon (New Garden), John Cardarelli (Salem Creek), David O'Mahony (Durham), Laura Lipps Buffum (Durham), Deborah Wallace (Durham/Eno), Sally Freeman (Eno), Paul Klever (Eno), Marcia Murray (Abingdon), Mary Zukowski (Abingdon), Carolyn White (Chapel Hill), Maria Lamberto (Raleigh), Karen Peterson McKinnon (Eno), Sam Weir (Eno), Sharon Stucker Weir (Eno), Bill Moore (Raleigh), Kitty Berger (Chapel Hill), Dottie Heninger (Chapel Hill), Kathy Walker (Abingdon), Terry Walker (Abingdon), Karen Stewart (Durham), Pam Schwingl (Chapel Hill), and Pat Mann (Chapel Hill).

Clerk Marian Beane invited gathered Friends to settle into worship, welcoming all to participate. Out of the silence the PFYM Vision Statement was read by Emilie Condon (Chapel Hill): *As a Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, we seek to foster a loving community of affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups by increasing and strengthening connections among members, attenders, and seekers and with other Friends' organizations. Our primary goals are to nurture monthly meetings and worship groups by supporting spiritual growth and to witness to our collective truth in the wider world.*

Introductions

After a period of silent worship, the clerk welcomed Friends to the second annual sessions of Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting, asking that we hold this vision in our hearts throughout these sessions. She then asked for a roll call, with Friends rising by monthly meeting or worship groups and introducing themselves individually.

Friends answered the roll call from all PFYM constituent meetings and worship groups: Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Fancy Gap, New Garden, Raleigh, and Salem Creek Monthly Meetings and Upstate Friends Worship Group. Friends from Abingdon Friends and Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough, both meetings seeking yearly meeting affiliation, were also present, as were PFF Friends from Durham and Fayetteville Meetings. Lee Pickett, from Reading PA MM, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, introduced herself as a new resident of the area. Representatives of wider Friends introducing themselves were Lynn and Steve Newsom, co-directors of Quaker House, Lori Fernald Khamala of AFSC, and Lena Glickman of FGC.

Review of order of our work and approval of agenda

Friends had opportunity to review documents posted in advance of these sessions, and numerous Friends indicated they had accessed the advance documents from the PFF/YM website. Printed copies of advance documents were also available at sessions. **Friends approved the agenda for this meeting as presented.**

Minutes

It is planned that the sense of minutes in these sessions will be read and revised if needed during these sessions. Then a draft of the full minutes will be prepared, reviewed and approved by Interim Meeting at their next meeting. The approved minutes will be posted on the PFF/YM website. Friends approved this process.

Appointment of the Epistle Committee and Approval of the Epistle

The clerk explained that The Epistle Committee consists of several Friends who listen to the sense, spirit and life of the meeting during the retreat and annual sessions and then craft an epistle which will be sent “to all Friends Everywhere.” The clerk brought names of Friends to serve on the epistle committee and asked for acceptance of their service. Friends who have agreed to serve are: Gary Hornsby (Salem Creek Friends), who will clerk the committee in his capacity of Assisting Clerk, Julie Stafford, (Recording Clerk, Charlotte) Julia Cleaver (Chapel Hill), Kathy Walker (Abingdon Friends) and Deborah Bromiley (Raleigh). **Friends approved with gratitude those Friends serving on the Epistle Committee.**

Given the limited time to prepare the Epistle for approval during the retreat and annual sessions, Friends agreed to continue the practice of asking Interim Meeting to season and approve the Epistle before it is distributed and posted.

Presiding Clerk’s Message

The clerk presented her report to Annual Sessions (attached to these minutes and posted on the PFF/YM website) on the year’s work, with gratitude for the many yearly meeting Friends, including those serving as representatives to Interim Meeting, whose faithfulness has helped carry forward the work of the yearly meeting. During this second year of living into its vision and core values the yearly meeting focus

has been on strengthening our organizational grounding and interrelationship to PFF, building relationships within the yearly meeting and with other Friends organizations, welcoming new meetings seeking to affiliate with PFF/YM and extending our witness to those who are near and the wider body of Friends. She noted that the “excitement” that was so palpable at the initial annual sessions in 2015 is still evident today. In closing, she expressed gratitude to PFF for their constant programmatic, financial and Friendly support of the yearly meeting, specifically acknowledging the very fruitful joint PFYM Interim Meeting and PFF Representative Body meeting held last summer. **Friends received the clerk’s report with thanks.**

Welcoming into Affiliation

Since our last annual sessions, Abingdon Friends Meeting (Virginia), formerly of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and Eno Friends of Hillsborough, previously a worship group under the care of Durham Friends, have been led to seek affiliation with PFYM and PFF. In each case, a joint PFF/YM clearness committee was named who met with the meeting and returned to Interim Meeting with a recommendation that we receive these meetings into affiliation with the yearly meeting. (The PFF process has been separate and concurrent.) Each meeting has submitted a minute of intention to affiliate and prepared a brief introduction of their meeting.

Abingdon Friends Meeting

Minute of Intention

2017 – 1: It was the sense of the meeting that we will affiliate with Piedmont Friends Fellowship/ Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting and withdraw from Baltimore Yearly Meeting. The purpose for doing this will be to have closer (in travel distance) access to activities within the yearly meeting. As it is now, the travel distance to activities within BYM has proven to be difficult for us to attend and be a part of the yearly meeting. All attenders and members present are in unity to make this change. BYM made us a monthly meeting for which we will always be grateful. Our attendance in Blue Ridge Gathering has been inconsistent. The times we have participated have been enriching and filled with kind fellowship. It is our desire to be faithful in participation with PFYM.

-Abingdon Friends Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Minutes, 8 January 2017

Introducing Abingdon Friends Meeting - Abingdon, Virginia

- Abingdon is located in the southwest part of Virginia, 14 miles from Bristol, TN
- AFM was formed in Elder Spirit Community as a Quaker meeting in December 2007 by three people, of whom one is a “weighty” Quaker of some 30+ years. First meeting was held in January 2008 in a private home. Committees were formed and outreach began with an ad in the local paper, a child care committee was formed, mission and oversight committee along with finance and stewardship, then the study of Quakerism began with Quakerism 101 in April of 2008

- Investigation into several yearly meetings began after a few months of meeting in Quaker fashion, and ultimately AFM became part of Baltimore Yearly Meeting and the once yearly Blue Ridge Gathering in Blacksburg, VA
- Dyer Moss was the first to join us as a convinced Quaker and a member of The Religious Society of Friends, followed by 5 more convincements and 4 transfers from other meetings in 2011
- Our outreach is to a local college to begin a worship group, there are several in our community involved in Peace and Social Justice issues, the local food pantry and backpack program, and Earth care is a part of our daily lives
- We average 9-12 in attendance each week during the entire year.

After hearing this minute of intention and introduction to their meeting, Friends welcomed Abingdon Friends Meeting into affiliation with the yearly meeting with great joy.

Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough

Minute of Intention

Friends of Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough are in unity with intention to affiliate as a monthly meeting with Piedmont Friends Fellowship and Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting.

As part of this continuing discernment, a PFF/PFYM clearness committee met with Friends in Hillsborough worship group in January 2017. In February 2017, Durham Friends Meeting released Hillsborough Friends Worship Group from its care, recognizing its growth into a monthly meeting.

Acknowledging the history of Friends in Hillsborough over 200 years ago, the meeting adopted the name of historic Friends—Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough—and acts to anchor the spirit of Friends and the Light of Spirit again in Hillsborough.

-Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, 19 February 2017

Introducing Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough

Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough began meeting weekly as Hillsborough Friends Worship Group in September 2013, under the care of Durham Friends Meeting. With continuing growth of attendance and deepening of the spiritual community, Hillsborough Friends began meeting monthly for potluck fellowship and meeting for worship with attention to business two years later. Attendance has reached an average of 12 for weekly worship and monthly meeting for business.

The meeting's deepening of understanding of Quakers has included a series of discussions on Thomas Kelly's *Testament of Devotion*, John Woolman's *Journal* and on early Quaker women. The meeting has interest in the history of Friends in the area and the historic Eno Friends Cemetery.

The meeting's role in the local community is growing to include participation in the area churches' social outreach organization, food pantry collection and hosting public lectures on the history of Quakers in the area and on Lucretia Mott. Discernment about the meeting's participation within the Religious

Society of Friends has led Hillsborough Friends Worship Group to move to becoming a monthly meeting with intention to affiliate with PFF/PFYM.

After hearing this minute of intention and introduction of Eno Friends of Hillsborough, Friends welcomed Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough into affiliation with the YM with great joy.

Friends expressed joyous feelings at this growth of two additional meetings, noting delight that both PFF and PFYM are growing in strength and vitality.

Interim Meeting Recommendation on the PFYM Handbook (Christina Connell, clerk of the working group on PFYM Policies and Procedures)

As approved by Interim Meeting on 11 February 2017 and prepared from the PFYM Interim Meeting Minutes from that date:

Recommendation regarding the PFYM Policies and Procedures Handbook

Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting, having lived with the PFYM Policies and Procedures Handbook as a working document for one year, and having distributed it to constituent monthly meetings and worship groups for further discernment, recommends the document as a whole to annual sessions, seeking approval of this as PFYM's Handbook to be used for guidance by the yearly meeting and affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups. The Procedure to Establish and Approve Changes to the Handbook on page 17 therein provides guidance on future changes to the Handbook.

Christina noted that monthly meetings have been helpful in seasoning the Handbook for the past two years. She referenced the following changes to the working document following last year's Annual Sessions: corrected wording around the laying down meetings; procedures for welcoming new monthly meetings into affiliation; length of terms for all appointed positions, a glossary and a list of recommended resources; and editing to assure that all language in the document is gender-neutral.

Friends approved the recommendation from Interim Meeting that the document presented and distributed today and posted in the Advance Documents to Annual Sessions, be approved as Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting Handbook to be used for guidance by the yearly meeting and affiliated monthly meetings and worship groups. (The PFYM Handbook is attached to these minutes.)

Report on the Status of our Meetings for 2016 (Kathy Metzko for the working group on Statistics and Status)

Last year Annual Sessions approved the collection from meetings of meeting statistics and status (spiritual condition). Members of the working group over the past two years have included Deb Parvin (clerk, Fancy Gap), Brianna Higgins (New Garden), Carol Morris (Raleigh), and Kathy Metzko (Charlotte). Kathy Metzko presented some highlights of the report from the collection of 2016 calendar year information (attached to these minutes) and some process details.

- Meeting for worship as central to the experience of spirit was a common theme reported by meeting, as was the spiritual nurturing for Friends of work done in service to others.

- All of our meetings are grappling with the query, “How do we rightly allocate our finite resources of time, energy, and funds?”
- The working group expressed appreciation for the deep discerning work done by meetings on the Spiritual Condition reports, which touched working group members as they developed the report to Annual Sessions.
- Demographic data – 36% of members and attenders among our meetings are aged 65 years and older. This is a concern in our meetings, which seek to be a more welcoming place for families with children.
- The working group reported that they will be seeking permission from meetings to release the meeting and committee clerks’ contact information among PFYM meetings. Until then the information is available from Interim Meeting.
- The working group will incorporate information from meetings that was not available by Annual Sessions before preparing the final report for posting and distribution.
- Both the individual meeting reports and the yearly meeting summary reports will be archived in the Guilford College Friends Historical Collection.

Friends received this First Yearly Meeting Status Report report with thanks. Friends are asked to study the report and bring to Interim Meeting ideas for responding to and addressing the concerns raised; and Interim Meeting is asked to review these reports, giving consideration to collective response to some common items of concern.

Minutes of Concern from Meetings

Raleigh Friends Meeting contacted the PFYM presiding clerk with a request for consideration of a Raleigh Meeting minute by PFYM Annual Sessions. The minute was presented for Raleigh Friends by Vernie Davis, who explained it arose out of a concern from the Raleigh Meeting Peace and Social Concerns Committee, brought to and approved by their monthly meeting for worship with attention to business. The *Every Campus a Refuge* initiative was sparked by Diya Abdo, a Palestinian teaching in the English Department at Guilford, who noted that the word for *university* translates in Arabic as *sanctuary*. Guilford College is now hosting its fourth refugee family, a family from Syria, and is encouraging other colleges and universities to follow suit.

Yearly Meeting in Annual Sessions considered, deliberated on and revised the Raleigh minute for approval as a Yearly Meeting minute. The PFYM minute, in its final form:

"For over 300 years Quakers have been led by principles of universal love and concern for all persons to provide relief to those suffering from violent conflict. These included prisoners of war in the Irish War of 1690, Finns who suffered from the British fleets during the Crimean War, Boer families during the Boer War in 1900, and all sides during World Wars I and II, the Spanish Civil War, and the Vietnam War. At this moment in history when millions of refugees and immigrants (documented or undocumented) face xenophobia and prejudice as they seek safe haven from violence that has displaced them from their homes and livelihoods, it is fitting that Quakers and Quaker institutions find ways to provide relief. Guilford College’s role in founding the Every Campus a Refuge initiative and in hosting refugee families is a beacon in the best spirit of Quaker witness. Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting expresses our moral support for Guilford College in this endeavor."

Friends were in unity with approving this minute.

The Recording Clerk will send the minute to the Guilford College president, Jane Fernandes, and to the faculty member who initiated this program, Diya Abdo. This minute will also be forwarded to Piedmont Friends Fellowship and will be posted on the PFF/YM website. Wider dissemination will be considered by Interim Meeting. The presiding clerk thanked Friends for this deliberation.

The first 2017 Annual Session ended with a period of silent worship to meet again at 4:30.

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The second and final of the 2017 Annual Sessions convened at 4:30 p.m. on the same day, March 11, 2017.

After a period of worship, the drafted sense of the minutes in the first session were read by Julie Stafford, recording clerk, and accepted as presented.

Silent Worship and Reading of the Query Responses

The presiding clerk invited gathered Friends to settle into worship, out of which the clerk asked Friends to hear and receive out of the silence the responses of each monthly meeting and worship group to the query offered by Interim Meeting, *What has been most on the hearts of your meeting this year?* One by one, a representative from each of these meetings rose and read their meeting’s response to the query: Upstate, Raleigh, Abingdon, Charlotte, Fancy Gap, Chapel Hill, New Garden, and Salem Creek. A compilation of these responses in writing is attached to these minutes.

Friends present were clearly moved by this sharing. The Clerk offered an opportunity for messages of response. Friends noted that our coming together with tenderness and openness toward one another in our joys and sorrow truly marks us as Friends. We have a shared spirit that covers us all as we hold one another in the Light.

Clerk asked if we wish to continue the practice of hearing those messages together during Annual Sessions, and Friends answered with a resounding “Yes.”

Naming Committee Report (Gary Hornsby, Salem Creek)

The presiding clerk has appointed a naming committee of Gary Hornsby and Jane Carter (New Garden) to recommend names to fill expiring terms on the Nominating Committee. Gary reported that Dorothy Mason (New Garden) and Dee Edelman (Salem Creek) have faithfully served on the PFYM Nominating Committee for three years; Dorothy as clerk of the committee. Gary thanked Friends Dorothy and Dee for their service. Others continuing in service on the Nominating Committee are:

- Vernie Davis (Raleigh) 2015-18
- Emilie Condon (Chapel Hill) 2015-18
- Ruth Moeller (Charlotte) 2016-19

The Naming Committee presented the name of **Sally Freeman** from Eno Friends Meeting of Hillsborough to serve a 3-year term on Nominating Committee. **Friends approved this Friend for service on the Nominating Committee with gratitude.**

As Jane Carter has asked to be released from service on the Naming Committee, the clerk will find another Friend to serve as Naming seeks to fill the final member/clerk position on Nominating Committee.

A Friend rose to thank Dot and Dee for their dynamic work and Dot for her service and leadership as they complete their service terms.

Nominating Committee Report (Dot Mason, clerk)

Dot Mason (New Garden) acknowledged the members of the Nominating Committee, named in the report above.

The Nominating Committee recommends PFYM representatives to Friends' organizations for three year terms as follows. These names have been previously presented and approved by Interim Meeting so they could begin their work, and are presented here for information:

FCNL representative – Jan Schmidt, Raleigh Friends Meeting
approved at Interim Meeting 2016-06-11

AFSC representative – Bill Moore, Raleigh Friends Meeting
approved at Interim Meeting 2016-06-11

Americas Section of FWCC – Susan Ikenberry, New Garden Friends Meeting
approved by Interim Meeting 2016-12-03

For information regarding our joint PFF/PFYM Friends General Conference (FGC) Central Committee representative: Tony Lowe, whose first three-year term of service ends in 2017, is not clear to serve another three-year term. PFF and PFYM Nominating Committees will be working together to seek someone for that position.

For action, a clerkship item: As the past year progressed, it became clear to Gary Hornsby that he is not yet ready to step from service as Assisting Clerk to Presiding Clerk. Nominating Committee recommends the following, which has been agreed to by Gary and Marian.

Marian Beane, Presiding Clerk, and Gary Hornsby, Assisting Clerk, will continue in those positions for an additional year before Gary Hornsby moves into the Presiding Clerk position and Marian Beane assumes the Assisting Clerk position at the rise of the 2018 Annual Sessions. **Friends approved this plan with gratitude to both Marian and Gary for their continued service to PFYM.**

Minutes of Concern from Meetings

Charlotte Friends Meeting contacted the PFYM presiding clerk with a request for consideration of the following minute by PFYM Annual Sessions:

Supporting the Work of the NC Commission of Inquiry on Torture

“Torture is inhumane, immoral, and illegal. As Quakers, we seek a world at peace and believe that the use of torture by the United States has opened the United States to international condemnation and increased the likelihood of war. U.S. policy on torture must be consistent with our nation’s best laws and values, and any use of torture should be condemned by all our citizens and state governments.

“As Quakers, we seek a world at peace and believe that the use of torture by the United States has opened the United States to international condemnation Piedmont Friends Yearly Meeting supports the faithful work of the non-profit organization, *NC Commission of Inquiry on Torture*, in addressing the role of North Carolina in covert acts of detention and torture following the attacks on 9/11.”

There was lengthy discussion on this concern, around both our process when asked to consider a concern which has not first been well-circulated among member meetings and around the wording of the proposed minute.

The clerk tested the sense of the meeting that we generally want to support the work of this commission and appreciate the work of Charlotte Friends in bringing this concern forward, but are not clear and want more discernment around our statement. **Friends agreed that we want to make a strong statement that expresses our values clearly, and approved releasing this minute to Interim Meeting to labor around the content of the minute. Allowing more time for deliberation will allow us to hear from those in meetings who are knowledgeable and have good ideas.**

Remembering Those Who have Passed from our Midst this Year

Friends settled into silence and meeting representatives rose in turn to speak the name and a brief statement about something that will be particularly missed of each of those who have passed from our midst this year. Those Friends who were remembered in this way were:

- From Charlotte Friends: Faith Koppers
- From Raleigh Friends: William Frazer Morris, Mary Wetherford Alden Gamble (Polly), Esther Gephart Stewart, Sharon Williams Kirmeyer, and Lee Renfrow Doak
- From Chapel Hill: Betsy Hewitt, Alice Louise Woodbury, and Dirk Spruyt
- From Abingdon Friends: Mary Carbury
- From Upstate Friends: Brendon Wilson-Johnson
- From New Garden Friends: Bernie McNamara, Fred Cothorn, and Evelyn Zopf
- From Friendship Friends: George White, Betty Austin, Darryl Waisner, Pat Loring, Celia Brown, Priscilla Zuck, Harry Nagel, and John Bowles

Report from Peace & Social Concerns Witness Working Group on survey (Naveed Moeed, Raleigh)

Naveed reported that many have now completed the PFYM P&SCW survey that has been available during the retreat weekend, and which will facilitate connections among Friends across the state who share a common concern. Besides the connections for individual Friends, connections among meeting Peace and Social Concerns committees will also be facilitated. Friends at the workshop today received this report and a sense of what this work is about, as it becomes integrated in the work of PFF-PFYM. The working group expects to distribute the survey electronically to all PFF/YM meetings with the hope and expectation of greater participation and strengthening of social witness. (The P&SCW documents, including a cover letter, the survey, and role expectations, are attached to these minutes.)

Report on FCNL (Jan Schmidt, Raleigh, PFYM Friends Conference on National Legislation Representative)

Jan reported on the highlights of her report, which is attached to these minutes. The FCNL workshop, led by Kavita Hardy, an FCNL Advocacy Fellow, was held today with 13 people attending. The idea is to move this information out into our meetings and strengthen our advocacy work.

Report on AFSC (Bill Moore, Raleigh, PFYM American Friends Service Committee Representative)

Bill has not yet attended an AFSC annual meeting as the PFYM Representative given the timing of his appointment in June, but Lori Khamala, Coordinator for the NC Immigrant Rights Program, wrote a report which is attached to these minutes. Bill will be attending AFSC annual meeting in April. He reminded us of the AFSC centennial year activities, which will be available for our participation. He asks us to remember the importance of sanctuary everywhere. On September 9 there will be an exhibit at Guilford College celebrating the Centennial, which will also be celebrated at the FGC Gathering this summer.

Reflections for inclusion in yearly meeting epistle message

The clerk invited us to appreciate the work we have engaged today, welcoming new members, sharing what is most on our hearts, and laboring with our messages of truth to the larger world. She thanked us for being present and participating in this work. She then invited Friends to speak of those experiences and feelings during this retreat and annual sessions weekend which we would like to see included in the PFYM yearly meeting epistle message. Friends spoke to lift up:

- Gratitude for Marian's willingness to continue sharing her gift of seasoned leadership for another year
- Description of the Joy of the experience when we come together
- How wonderful it is to hear what is on the hearts of our meetings
- Our seeking to organize around peace and social concerns
- We have registered 109 participants in this joint PFF/PFYM gathering
- Welcoming of two monthly meetings into affiliation
- The warmth and care we feel from Friends from other meetings when we sit down to meals together

- In these challenging times, this gathering in spirit-led community demonstrates that we are not alone
- Common concern we are all facing as individuals and meetings during trying political times: How can we hold the administration in the light?
- Thanks to Naveed Moeed for providing copies of the documents we needed for the meeting today

Settling out worship

Friends settled into a period of worship, then rose and joined together joyfully to pose for a group photograph, organized by John Shuford (Raleigh).

--Julie Stafford, recording clerk