

# New Garden Friend

Newsletter of New Garden Friends Meeting

March 13, 2024

## BANISH THE MONSTER

Friends, meet The Monster.

The Monster resides in a back corner of the Worship Room. This large black cabinet is a Pandora's Box of wires, switches, and electronics. Some components are at least 20 years old, obsolete and no longer in use. Only a sound engineer dare touch the innards and disconnect *anything*.

In the case of the wireless microphone system, Federal Communications Commission regulations governing radio frequencies and their use have changed. Our equipment is *technically illegal*, as the frequencies in use are now reserved for law enforcement and emergency services. *Ooops*.

This Monster is vital, but convoluted equipment: it amplifies the voices of the pastoral minister and others at the lectern so that all present may hear.

The Monster takes audio from the handheld microphones, used in the unprogrammed portion of Meeting for Worship, and amplifies it through the overhead speakers for all to hear.

A separate unit takes audio from The Monster and sends it to the Hearing Loop, enabling those with hearing aids (or using the headphones provided by ushers) to better hear.

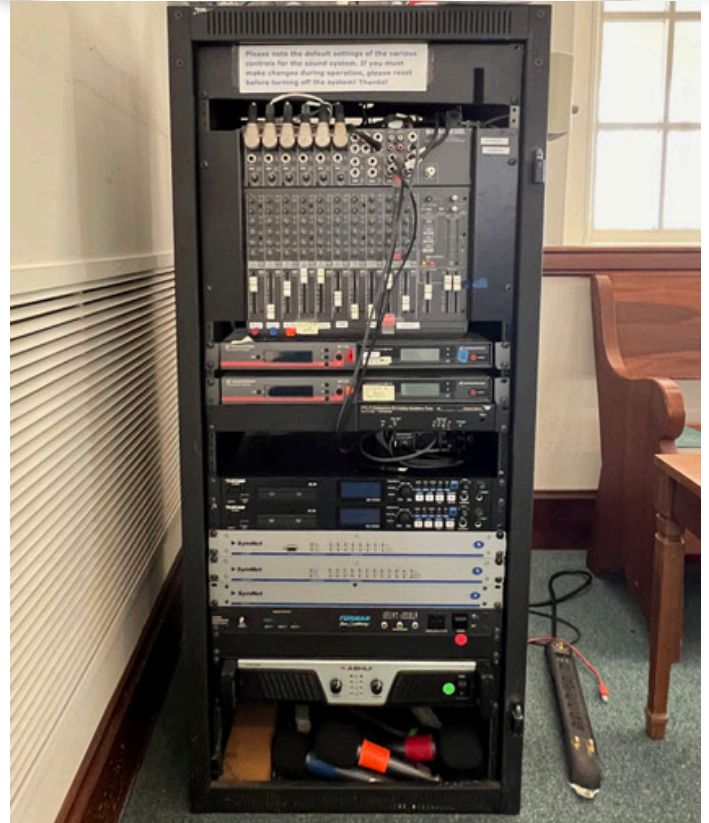
The Monster also is a critical part of hybrid worship. Without it, members and attenders who join online would not be able to hear anything in the Worship Room. No spoken words, no voices in song, no music. Nor would those of us in the Worship Room be able to hear messages shared by those at home.

If you have been present for semi-programmed worship over the last decade, you know The Monster is *not well*.

The Monster is capricious. It is prone to making groans, hums, pops and crackles without provocation. Volume can be unpredictable. At times, the glitches are ear-splitting.

**Try as we might, sound team volunteers are not able to deliver the worship experience our congregation deserves.**

The sound team and tech crew want to banish The Monster. They want to make audio experience at New Garden the best it can be.



Monthly Meeting for Business has approved new audio equipment purchases for the Meeting Room, as well as a laser projector (to be permanently mounted in the Meeting Room for a much improved viewing experience).

Please consider making a donation and help send The Monster on its way. Can we get donations to cover at least 50 percent (\$22,000) of the cost? Please send checks to Charlene Cufu, office manager, and write Audio on the note line.

Tom Lassiter

Clerk, Communications Committee

An anonymous donation covered the cost of the projector (\$10,000). The new audio system and related gear will cost about \$43,000.

As of March 12, members and attenders have donated approximately \$4,000, or roughly 10 percent of the cost, toward the audio system. The more we donate, the less we have to pull from the Meeting's resources. Our facility is aging, and its needs are many.

## First Day at New Garden

March 17th, 2024

Unprogrammed Meeting for Worship / 9:00 a.m.

Semi-Programmed Meeting for Worship / 11:00 a.m.\*

Worshipful Music	Andy Mock
Welcome	Ashley Wilcox
Announcements	Susan Dorn
Congregational Hymn	No. 255, Valiant for the Truth
Reading	Psalm 23

Memorial Service **\*SEE PAGE 10 of Newsletter\***

Intention: Judy Haughee-Barlett

Naming of Names: Alan Spiewak

Lighting Candles: Kat Rice & Clint Corcoran

Responsive Reading: "We Remember Them," Marc Alley

Silent Worship

Holding in the Light



The New Garden Friend

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### Deadlines

- Weekly newsletter deadline is noon on Tuesday.
- Please email all articles and attach original photos to [news@ngfm.org](mailto:news@ngfm.org)
- Please include start date/end date, start time/end time and location of the event.
- Articles should be 375 words or less and newscopy ready.



## Upcoming Birthdays

March 14

Nate Lambeth

15

Riley Cox  
Alan Dietrick  
Alex Edgerton Dean  
Bill Stevens

17

Jay Knul  
Richard Potthoff  
Alan Spiewak  
Schulyer Weisel

18

Roger Charles  
Nadine Quattrone Howes  
Hazel Landers

19

Brian Heller  
Caitlyn Hollowell  
Martha Hughes-James  
Ronald Leonard  
Sean Semmler  
Mary Kate Talbert

20

Elizabeth Riggs  
David Sykes

## Please hold these Friends In The Light

Family of Bruce Davis, Son of  
John and Linda Danner  
Sandi Coble  
Paul Dau  
Ann Deagon  
Virginia Driscoll

Karen Hartsoe  
Chuck Kazimir  
Barton & Evelyn Parks  
Rosemary Stadler  
Mary Stolberg  
Pat & Edward Tweedy

## Virginia Driscoll

Virginia Driscoll continues her healing journey.  
Mail for her should be sent to:

c/o Carol Cothorn  
220 Valecian Way  
Greensboro, NC 27410

Virginia's caring bridge link will prompt you to state  
how you know her before allowing you to continue:

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/virginiadriscoll>

## An Update from the Clerk

Friends,

Richard Wilcox, Clerk of NCFF, reported that at Saturday's meeting NCFF adopted the Virginia Beach minute concerning the War in Israel and Palestine with one minor alteration.

Richard wrote the following, "This minute is a 99% borrowing from a Minute adopted by Virginia Beach Friends Meeting in January.

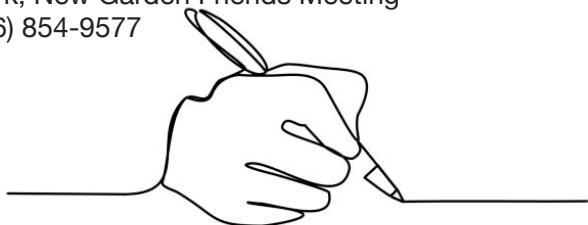
In our NCFF meeting, we added one sentence.

In consulting our Friends at Virginia Beach, they were heartened by our dialogue and concern, and offered their blessing to edit their Minute however we wished, as, in their words, "the leading of the Spirit has no copy-right."

I also communicated with the Clerk of Virginia Beach's Meeting asking permission to adopt the minute by adding our name to it. This permission was granted by the Clerk, David French.

In Friendship,

Clint Corcoran  
Clerk, New Garden Friends Meeting  
(336) 854-9577



The Virginia Beach Friends' minute on the War in Israel-Palestine can be found & reviewed on page 12 of this newsletter.

## Upcoming First Day Forum

March 17th, join us for a presentation of "The Philosophic Origins of Critical Race Theory" by Clint Corcoran.

The talk will trace the evolution of the concept of facticity in J.P. Sartre's philosophy.

Clint will concentrate on the notion of the practico-inert in Sartre's late thought and the relationship to Simone De Beauvoir's theories.

## Fox at 400:

### The Life, Times, & Legacies of George Fox

A joint conference brought to you by:



There will be a hybrid conference in England this summer (June 20-23) about George Fox on his 400th birthday.

Event Agenda: <https://library.guilford.edu/cqha>

Event Details: <https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk/courses/crqs-qsra-cqha-quaker-studies-conference-fox-at-400/>

## NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS NEEDED

There's a new collection box in the connector that consolidates donations for three non-profits that New Garden supports:

□ Quaker Cupboard – located on Guilford's campus and serving students and staff members who may be experiencing food insecurity. Quinn and Jack Finnegan serve as our liaisons. Items needed are non-perishable food items and hygiene products.

□ Mustard Seed – providing for some of Greensboro's most underserved residents, the food pantry is a crucial part of a larger ministry. Needed are non-perishable food items.

□ Higher Ground – serving those impacted by HIV. Request is for snack items and bottled water to be served at group meetings.

Of course, New Garden continues to support Greensboro Urban Ministries through quarterly monetary donations, in-person serving of a home-cooked meal once a month, and serving at their semi-annual food drives.

Thanks for donating!  
Peace and Social Concerns Committee





## Pastoral Minister Search UPDATE

The Selection Committee has decided to extend the application deadline for the Pastor position to **April 15**. This is due to the later than expected publication of Quaker Life magazine that will come out with our ad later in March.

In the meantime we are reviewing applications we have received.

Please continue to share information with your friends and colleagues who may be interested in the position or know someone who may be interested.

Jean Burns Pudlo  
Greensboro, NC

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*As the Pastoral Minister search continues, please feel free to share this job description and posting:*

New Garden Friends Meeting, steeped in Quaker tradition since its founding in 1754, is a progressive, open and affirming faith community in Greensboro, North Carolina. Our meeting emphasizes peace, social justice, and the belief that there is that of God in everyone.

We are seeking a full-time pastoral minister to provide leadership through inspired preaching, compassionate pastoral care, strong support of our community service and social justice efforts, enablement for our members and attenders as partners in ministry, and support and guidance for staff.

Our community values the Quaker belief in continuing revelation and welcomes light from many sources and spiritual traditions, including, but not limited to, Christianity and the Bible. Warmth and humor are appreciated in our faith family.

A parsonage or a housing allowance is available. Salary, if it includes a housing allowance, will range between \$70,000 and \$90,000 and will be based on a candidate's qualifications and experience. Additional compensation in the form of a benefits package, and relocation expenses will also be provided.

Membership in the Religious Society of Friends is preferred, but not required.

If you are an experienced Quaker or Quaker-friendly pastoral minister and are interested in becoming an integral part of our community, please send a resume/profile, a one-page statement of faith, and a cover letter to [NGFMSearch@gmail.com](mailto:NGFMSearch@gmail.com).

## Piedmont Friends Spring Gathering to occur April 6



Charlotte Hawkins Brown

Your family is invited for fellowship with Piedmont Friends from 11 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on April 6.

Bring your own picnic to the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, located between Greensboro and Burlington.

All ages are welcome and the site includes hiking trails, historic building and outdoor areas.

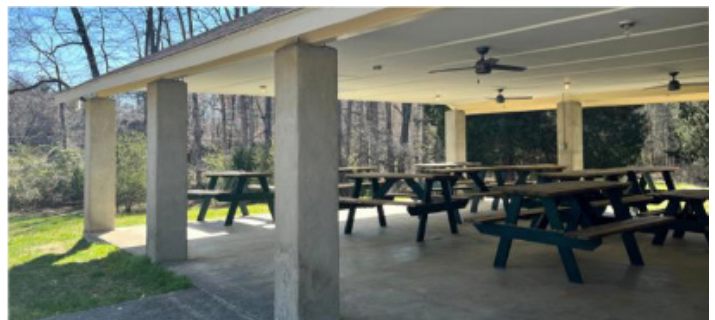
Following the picnic fellowship there will be a guided tour to learn the history of the site, Charlotte Hawkins Brown, and the Palmer Memorial Institute.

Founded in 1902 by Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Palmer Memorial Institute transformed the lives of more than two thousand African American students. Today, the campus provides a setting where visitors can explore this unique environment where boys and girls lived and learned during the greater part of the twentieth century.

Piedmont Friends will be paying the fee for the picnic shelter rental and the guided tour. Friends may choose to make a donation with their registration.

North Carolina Historic Site  
Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum  
6136 Burlington Rd.  
Gibsonville, NC 27249

To register: <http://tinyurl.com/2s3zukrf>



Picnic shelter at Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum



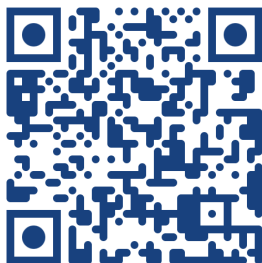
**Karin Heller's office hours:**  
**Wednesdays 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**  
**Downstairs in Room 003**

Friends are reminded that Karin is off on the third Sunday of each month.

## Forum Procedures:

The First Day Forum Working Group has launched a new way to suggest/recommend future First Day Forum programming.

If you have an idea for forum, please complete this form: <https://forms.gle/mqZRbzEfB5YwQb1n8>



After a batch of requests are received, the working group will prioritize the suggestions and work with you to schedule your forum.

If you have questions about our approval and scheduling process, please email the working group at [FDFWG@googlegroups.com](mailto:FDFWG@googlegroups.com)

The updated PDF calendar is accessible here: <http://tinyurl.com/bdzhsx49>

## VILLAGE AGE Cooperative



The homeschool cooperative playgroup families joined Friends at Friends Homes West this past Tuesday for the program "The Spirit of Harriet Tubman" by Dianne Faisson.



Friends are invited to join Village Cooperative playgroup families this Thursday, March 14th from 12-1 p.m. downstairs in room 003.

We'll be in discussion with Rhiannon Kelly, program coordinator and outreach specialist for Every Campus a Refuge.

Rhiannon will share about the program, as well as some ways that our families can help.

Contact Karin Heller with questions: [karin@ngfm.org](mailto:karin@ngfm.org)



# VILLAGE AGE Cooperative



## NOMCOM SEASON

### *Usher Committee*

Ushers are an important part of making Friends and visitors feel welcomed when they arrive for Meeting for Worship.

Most of the time we only see them as they greet us with a program as we come into the Meeting House.

However, they arrive early for worship making sure all is ready for a worshipful experience for all.

#### **Their duties encompass:**

Monitoring the dehumidifier

Ensuring headsets/hearing aid receivers work

Opening the doors that open us to beauty and light before worship and locking after worship

Collecting and securing the donations received

Counting our attendance

*Ushers work on a rotating schedule.*

To join the ushers, contact Clerk John Martinez:

[jp\\_martinez56@peoplepc.com](mailto:jp_martinez56@peoplepc.com)

Students from New Garden Friends School joined the homeschool cooperative playgroup for circle time, gardening activities, and a shared story.

If you didn't know, the cooperative has been planning and preparing for a learning garden this Spring and Summer.

Students are learning about the scientific process and experimenting with seeds to see what successfully germinates.

They hope to have some vegetables to share with the community.





## A reflection from Wayne Leupold for Peace & Social Concerns Urban Ministry volunteerism

Making a small difference for those who have nothing---  
An opportunity for helping others survive when they are “down and out”!

On the first Tuesday of every month that is what we volunteers do who are a part of the small group, supervised by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, that provides the Urban Ministry's evening meal. Some New Gardeners make the food: (1) a meat and cheese sandwich, (2) a very healthy “cowboy stew” containing meat and multiple vegetables, (3) some lettuce with either a large slice of a tomato or a very large (and very popular!) dill pickle, and (4) a dessert of a piece of homemade cake, a homemade brownie, or homemade cookies. Other volunteers pick up the food at the meetinghouse kitchen, take it to the Urban Ministry, arrange it all and serve it. The guests, ranging each month between 30 and 60, are temporary overnight residents in the Urban Ministry's dormitory. They have nowhere else to go and lay down their head and nowhere else to get a homemade meal, prepared and served with understanding and compassion.

At the end of the meal, some come up to the kitchen and thank us. But that is not necessary, because we have the pleasure and joy of knowing that “tonight” they will go to sleep with a stomach full of a wholesome homemade meal garnished with love.

The volunteers are a small group, who need more reinforcements, particularly to help make the food and occasionally to assist in the serving. Would you consider helping us—to give a little of your time, particularly in food preparation or possibly in serving? The addition of a little of your love to the menu would certainly make the meal bouquet even finer and more satisfying.

Wayne Leupold for the Peace and Social Concerns Committee



## GRATITUDE & GIVING

New Garden Friends Meeting is blessed with a facility that serves those in our Meeting and beyond. Impact from what happens at our Meeting reaches to hundreds of people at a guess. Rooms that once served one function are repurposed to another. New groups such as the recently formed playgroup for young children are one example, as is the use of the parsonage for refugees. The grounds add beauty to our community. Our investment in technology increases access to our Worship and meetings for business. Your donations allow all of these things to happen.

How to support NGFM Financially:

- Mail a check to: New Garden Friends Meeting 801 New Garden Road Greensboro, NC 27410, or put it in the collection box outside the worship room.
- Set up a regular monthly or weekly donation through your bank.

Don't miss this opportunity to support the things you love.

*This QR Code directs you to the New Garden Friends Meeting's online giving platform.*



JOIN US EASTER SUNDAY AT THE RISE OF MEETING  
FOR WORSHIP (12P.M.) FOR OUR

# Annual Easter Egg Hunt!

NEW GARDEN FRIENDS MEETING  
801 NEW GARDEN RD.



## IFTAR DINNER

### DIVAN CENTER

3015 E BESSEMER AVE,  
GREENSBORO, NC 27405

**MARCH 24TH**

**TIME TBD**

THE DIVAN CENTER HAS REQUESTED A HEADCOUNT FOR THE  
UPCOMING RAMADAN MEAL.

LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL ATTEND OR NEED A RIDE.

# *hold* the Date

Contact Heather: [heather.brook@gmail.com](mailto:heather.brook@gmail.com) or Clint: [ccorcora@highpoint.edu](mailto:ccorcora@highpoint.edu)



## New Garden Classifieds

### CUSTODIAN NEEDED FOR NGFM

On Saturday, March 9, several House Committee members pitched in to dust, mop and vacuum the building, and sanitize the bathrooms.

*Thanks to Lois Baldwin, Jeff Edwards, James Ellis and Roger Seel!*

The House Committee has been in search of a new custodian.

Please spread the word, and offer any suggestions to Roger, our House Clerk: [fisherdog@gmail.com](mailto:fisherdog@gmail.com) or 336-681-6499.

## Upcoming Guilford College Programs

### Conceptualizing Peace Forum

Conceptualizing Peace is a one-day forum at Guilford College in Greensboro, N.C., for members of the education, faith and business communities regionally to explore long-term education and activity on matters of peace.

In the wake of increased conflict in the Middle East and in Europe and increased violence in communities across the United States, attendees on Friday, April 12, will discuss strategies for investing in and sustaining peace.

Registration: <https://www.guilford.edu/peaceforum>

### The Guilford Dialogues

The Guilford Dialogues invites leaders from a cross-section of fields, generations, viewpoints, and regions to Guilford College to consider relevant social problems and strategize on values-based solutions.

The next conference will be held June 6-7, 2024, building upon the previous Guilford Dialogues, which focused on the themes of economic and educational inclusion.

Registration:

<https://www.guilford.edu/GuilfordDialogues>



*The Masonic Library and Museum of Philadelphia's Speaker Series*

## Freemasonry and the Underground Railroad

Moises Gomez will construe the evolution of the Abolitionist movement in America and its relationship with Freemasonry. He will also speak about the role Prince Hall Freemasons played in their struggle to achieve justice, freedom and equality for all.

**Saturday, March 16, 2024**  
**3:30 - 4:30 p.m.**

**Join Us Online**



**OUR PRESENTER**



**Moises Gomez**

Brother R.W. Moises I. Gomez is a member of Atlas Pythagoras Lodge No. 10, Westfield, N.J. He has served as Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey for several years, has presided over eight different Masonic bodies and is a member of over 40 Masonic organizations, research groups and societies and honorary memberships.

To find out more about our upcoming events, please contact us at [templeevents@pagrandlodge.org](mailto:templeevents@pagrandlodge.org).

 **The Masonic Library and Museum of Pennsylvania**  
THE MASONIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

Join Online: <https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ek8gxs22c3686e0&oseq=&c=&ch=>

# Special Semi-Programmed Service

*In Memory of our Loved Ones*

The Meeting on Ministry and Counsel has been thoughtfully considering ways to minister to our hearts that are heavy with the remembrance of those dear members and attenders who departed during the challenging years of the pandemic, from January 2020 to December 2023.

These were times of immense difficulty, marked by restrictions that kept us apart as a community. Many of our loved ones passed without the opportunity for us to gather in person, to mourn together, and to celebrate their lives.

In recognition of their significance in our lives and in our Meeting, we will come together on March 17 at our semi-programmed Meeting to honor their memory.

## Those who will be remembered:



John Robert "Bob" Benbow	Elizabeth Wolff "Betsy" Moser	William R. "Bill" Rogers
Reba Lowdermilk Benbow	Garnett Lewis Hughes	Helen Fields Sheaffer
Thelma Staley Burritt	Violet Sampson Keener	William Joseph "Bill" Snider
June Carol Pugh Carey	Jo Alice Lowrey Leeds	William Penn Haney "Bill" Stevens Jr.
Alfred David "Al" Carwile Jr.	Joseph Patrick "Joe" Maguire Jr.	Carol Stoneburner
Sharyn Marie Holder Carwile	Marcia Alice "Marcy" Maury	Mary Eppes "Eppie" Turner
Janet Fyne Cochran	Ruth Thorp Harvey Mavronikolas	Hugh Arnold Vickers
Kathryn May Crownfield	Patricia Ray "Pat" McNeil	Betty Jane "B.J." Weatherby
Laura Lindley Crutchfield	Jonathan Leslie Mooneyham	Hugh Dixon "Dick" White Jr
Judith "Judy" Dodson	Douglas Christopher "Doug" Moore	John Campbell White
Wanda Hawk Callahan Frye		Helen Donavant Wolff
Betty Grantham Holjes		
	Gerburg Kanus Mowry	
	James Clarkson "Jim" Newlin	
	Lisa Maureen Petty	
	Margaret Lillian Hudson	
	Williard Pipkin	
	Hayes Osteen Ratledge	
	Nancy Lee McGuire Ratledge	
	Janice Hege Yow Reddick	
	Susie Latham Reynolds	
	Elizabeth Riggs	

*Following the service, our Memorials Committee and dedicated volunteers will host a light reception, providing an opportunity for further fellowship and sharing among Friends.*

If you would like to volunteer to bring refreshments, please contact Marie Brown- [marierbrown@triad.rr.com](mailto:marierbrown@triad.rr.com).

If you have any questions about the service: Susan Dorn - [swdorn40@gmail.com](mailto:swdorn40@gmail.com) or Kevin Lawe - [kevin@thelawes.com](mailto:kevin@thelawes.com)



# **VOICES FOR CHANGE: DISMANTLING RACISM, ONE POLICY AT A TIME**

*A four-part educational series presenting a comprehensive view and impactful exploration of the historical and contemporary issues surrounding systemic racism.*

## **March 27, 2024: The Segregation of America**

Leah Rothstein, co-author of *JUST ACTION: How to Challenge Segregation Enacted Under the Color of Law*

and

Sue Schwartz, City of Greensboro Planning Director and President-Elect of the American Planning Association

*(Part of the UNCG MPA Program Spring Speaker Symposium)*



## **March 28, 2024: Environmental Justice**

Jasmine B. Washington of  
The Southern Environmental Law Center  
and

Omega and Brenda Wilson with  
The West End Revitalization Association



***Both held from 5:30-8pm at The UNCG School of Education Building  
(1300 Spring Garden Street, Room 114)***

# **LEARN ~ ENGAGE ~ ACT**



## **May 22, 2024: Expanding Democracy**

Tafeni English-Relf with The Southern Poverty Law Center  
and

Representation from The League of Women Voters of the Piedmont Triad.

## **May 23, 2024: Health Inequities**

Dr. Olu Jegede with  
Clinical Care-Health Equity for Cone Health



***Both held from 5:30-8pm at The Magnolia House  
(442 Gorrell Street, Greensboro, NC)***



**Get Tickets Here**



**For More Information**



**Thanks to  
Our Sponsors:**





**Virginia Beach Friends Meeting**  
A COMMUNITY OF QUAKERS IN HAMPTON ROADS

1537 Laskin Road  
Virginia Beach, VA. 23451  
January 31, 2024

Dear Friends,

The Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) on 1/28/2024 adopted the following Minute on the War in Israel-Palestine:

*"We, the members of the Virginia Beach (VA) Friends Meeting are heartbroken and stricken with horror and grief at the recent renewed eruption of violence in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank. We call for an immediate ceasefire by both Israel and Hamas, the prompt release by Hamas of all hostages, and the release of all uncharged prisoners by Israel. We call on the U.S. to urge Israel to expedite the flow of humanitarian aid to relieve the tremendous suffering that has been created in Gaza with the immediate provision of food, shelter, water, and medicine. We strongly urge the United States to no longer provide Israel with funding for weapons.*

*As Quakers, we believe that each life is sacred, and we know that the use of violence as a means of settling conflict is unacceptable and leads to further violence, which we already see happening around the region.*

*We strongly condemn Hamas' horrific deadly October attacks on Israeli civilians, its inhumane treatment of civilians, and its taking of hostages, most of whom are still being held and are in danger. We also condemn the ongoing unrestrained and violent response by Israel in its siege of Gaza, which has left thousands of civilians dead or wounded and caused a humanitarian crisis in Gaza. People are suffering, dying, and being displaced in Gaza as a preventable humanitarian crisis worsens. Also, Palestinians in the occupied West Bank are increasingly endangered by escalated violence by settlers and the military.*

*We hold in our hearts and in the Light all those in Israel, Gaza, the West Bank and beyond, who grieve and mourn the deaths of their family and friends. We hold in the Light those who await the return of their loved ones who are being held by Hamas or who are held in Israeli prison without charges or trial. This ongoing violence continues to rip the hearts of those who grieve and leads to fear and hatred of the "other". We condemn Antisemitism and Islamophobia and their accompanying rhetoric which dehumanize the "other".*

*We further call for Israelis and Palestinians from Gaza and the occupied West Bank to undertake a meaningful dialogue, with the support of international powers including the U.S. All must use every available resource to support a diplomatic rather than military resolution to the conflict – a resolution that prioritizes safety for all Israelis and Palestinians and which accords equal human rights to the Palestinians and respect for all."*

We ask that friends hold these concerns in the Light.

In the hope of peace,

David French  
Clerk of the Meeting  
[vbfn.clerk@gmail.com](mailto:vbfn.clerk@gmail.com)  
(757)428-9515