

When Prayer is Hard

Thomas Merton, a popular Catholic writer, once penned these words; *"Prayer and love are learned in the hour when prayer becomes impossible and your heart has turned to stone."* While those words seem a bit cold and extreme, they are hauntingly true. Have you ever felt a time when prayer seemed impossible? When you felt you could do anything except pray? It could be that those times were actually opportunities to experience the most meaningful and powerful prayer times of all. This could partly be because the act of prayer in the midst of spiritual fatigue is purely an act of faith. Prayer that issues out of a revival wave can be accomplished from "feeling" by itself if nothing else. But when emotions betray us and we are left with a throbbing sense of emptiness and spiritual dryness, nothing will bring us to the chamber of prayer except the deep conviction that there is a God and that He is within hearing distance, even if that conviction is as faint as a whisper.

In Romans 1:17 Paul quotes Habakkuk when he writes, *"The righteous will live by faith."* Some have translated this line in Romans from the Greek text as *"By faith the righteous shall live."* I like both translations, not from a spirit of compromise, but because both translations are theologically sound. *"The righteous will live by faith."* implies they will make faith their code of conduct. Faith will be lived out day by day in the lives of the righteous. They will integrate their faith in every aspect of their lives. But the other translation captivates my heart. *"By faith the righteous shall live."* This has an air of excitement and joy. When the righteous exercise faith, life expands...it bursts forth. When we exert faith we really live! This is what happens when we pray through the dry times instead of skipping prayer because it has become too hard. In time, the fountain will once again begin to flow as we exercise our faith, and our faith will ultimately be rewarded by the experience of God's presence.

Evelyn Underhill aptly wrote, "You can offer your prayers, obedience, and endurance of dryness to Our Lord, for the good of other souls, and then you have practiced intercession. Never mind if it all seems for the time very second-hand. The less you get out of it, the nearer it approaches to being something worth offering; and the humiliation of not being able to feel as devout as we want to be is excellent for most of us."

What a striking phrase, "the less you get out of it, the nearer it approaches to being something worth offering." The humility that comes when we don't feel especially spiritual makes our prayer offerings more acceptable to God who knows our hearts (note Luke 18:9-14). Pride and self-righteousness are seldom problems for the soul laboring in prayer during arid, dry, and dusty spiritual seasons. It is during those dry times we can remember that prayer is not about proper posture and precise language. We can then experience deep prayer as being able, as the British poet Stuart Henderson so eloquently wrote, "to bury my face in the mane of the Lion of Judah." Randy

WEARING YOUR MASK IS OPTIONAL FOR ALL EVENTS. USE YOUR BEST JUDGEMENT!

Each Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM Options :

Inside Worship; Drive-In Worship - Tune in to: FM 88.9; Facebook Live

Special Music:

August 1 – Ginger Holt August 8 – To Be Announced August 15 – Debbie Hutchens August 22 – Donna & Bill Terrell August 29 – Millie & Morgan Salmons

Tuesday, August 3 – from 9:00 to 11:00 AM Camp Creek

August 8 – Sunday School Move Up Day

Children who are now old enough to attend the next class up will move up today.

August 8 – Worship time will include:

Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Teachers will be recognized. Mission Sunday – Mission Team and Quaker Lake Team will be sharing their experiences. Quaker Lake Offering – Mark your checks and envelopes.

August 8 – Monthly Meeting after Worship Please NOTE: Reminder from the Clerk

*Each committee, please appoint someone to report at the Monthly Meeting.

Friday and Saturday, August 13 & 14 FCNC (Friends Church of NC) Annual Sessions @ Quaker Lake See pg. 4

Sunday, August 15 at 5:00 PM

Back to School Bash at Lake Hampton Bring a dish to share and Home-Made Ice Cream

Sunday, August 22 - 3:00 PM Choir Practice begins

Choir members will be spread out in the congregation, not the choir loft. We hope to be able to sing sometime in September. All are welcome to join. All voice parts needed.



Tuesday, August 24 at 7:00 PM

Ministry and Counsel will meet - Fellowship Hall.

SPECIAL NOTE: IT'S FOR EVERYONE!

If anyone would like to share their gifts & talents of music by sharing a solo, duet, instrumental, etc. during Worship, contact Vickie Warden to schedule a Sunday on the music calendar.

Nursery Volunteers during Worship:

August 1 – Cathy Shore August 8 – Sarah Ray August 15 – Maggie Ray August 22 – Priscilla Shore August 29 – Janet Robbins

from Ginger Holt, Clerk of the Meeting

August Thought: Making a difference

Over the past few weeks, as I watched my sweet Mother-in-Law prepare for her heavenly journey, I thought about what a difference she had made in my life, and in the lives of others through her simple acts of kindness. It got me thinking of all the people in my life who had made the biggest difference, and what those acts included. It came down to the simplest of things. My Mama took the time to make book covers for my textbooks out of scraps of material from Chatham. My grandmothers took time to help me learn how to make biscuits and de-feather a chicken. My Granddad let me follow him through the fields as he plowed with "Old Bob", our mule. My Dad took me fishing, and even tried to take me hunting one time. My Aunt Rita took the time to talk with me as though I was one of her adult friends: we would sit at her kitchen table and talk for hours. Geraldine Branon sent notes of encouragement throughout my college years. Gaynelle Smith brought toys and candy to church for three rowdy boys so that I could sing in the choir and lead the congregational hymn. Susan Steelman sang beside me in the choir and would often tell me that "she loved singing beside me". (I have never seen anyone sing with such joy). Geneva Reece helped me with laundry when I became a new mother. Nancy often gave me notes of encouragement. The list could go on and on of women and men in my family of believers who have always been there for me, whether it be a willingness to help with something at church, or just a text or call of encouragement. Saint Francis of Assisi once said "preach the gospel at all times, use words when necessary." (I gave credit to Mother Teresa, who quoted him once. Sorry St. Francis). I believe that it is the small acts of kindness that makes the biggest difference in most cases. We are what the world sees of Jesus. We are to follow His ways, and show love to all, and let Him do the cleaning and changing. In education, it was always said that "kids do not care what we know until they know that we care". I think that is true for all parts of life. People will be changed by us by the small acts of love we show them in the name of Jesus. We have the power to change the world, one small act at a time.

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From Randy Summer Bible Study: Cults in our Midst

Exposing the Real Teachings of the Cults around Us

Coming Wednesdays in August

On Wednesday nights in Bible study, we have been learning about the early church in the Book of Acts. One of the challenges in that period of history was the false teachers and deceptive leaders that would eventually infiltrate those fellowships. That same challenge still exists today. With that in mind, we are going to temporarily suspend our study in Acts during the month of August to explore the cults that exist today and are even in our own communities. Often these groups seem like just another Christian denomination, but they are not.

Our goal will be to understand the history and basic teaching of these groups, which is often veiled behind language that sounds a lot like what we believe, and to know how to defend the Gospel without demonizing another person.

A starting date and a more detailed description of this study will be forthcoming, so stay tuned!

One of the Core Values of Deep Creek Friends Meeting: DISCIPLESHIP

Together we become Christ-like servants by continuing to develop our personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, and by knowledge of scripture.

Pray Daily for Ministries, Other Friends Meetings and Leadership:

FCNC Prayer Calendar

AUGUST 2021

"To Know God And Make Him Known"

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
l Jamaica Yearly Mtg	2 Hunting Creek Friends No Pastor	3 Kernersville Friends Jeff Barnes	4 Liberty Friends James Moore	5 Marlboro Friends Ray Luther Terry Linthicum	6 Mar Mac Friends Howard Seymour	7 Quaker Lake
8 Quaker Men	9 Mountain View Friends Jeff Stowers	10 Pilot Mountain Friends Jeremiah Thomas	11 Randleman Friends Wade Craven	12 Rocky River Friends David Hobson	13 Science Hill Friends Pastoral Search	14 Social Media Coordinator Jenny Gullion
15 Superintendent Mike Wall	16 South Plainfield Friends Hugh Spaulding	17 Thomasville Friends Jerry Gibbons	18 White Plains Friends Brian Gullion	19 Winthrop Friends Harold Salmons	20 Archdale Friends Pastoral Search	21 FDS
22 Campus Ministries Carrie Ritter	23 Asheboro Friends David Millikan	24 Back Creek Friends Brandon Dockery	25 Bethel Friends Pastoral Search	26 Branon Friends Gloria Simmons Trevor Collins	27 Cane Creek Friends Cheryl Benson John Teague	28 USFW
29 гемар	30 Cedar Square Friends Mike Fulp Jr Sterling Brown	31 Centre Friends Tommy Sluder Beulah Gullion	and the second	nity without d hristianity with ~Dletrich Boi	hout Christ"	lways

It's Time for Friends Church of North Carolina Annual Sessions Please register Quickly if you haven't already (Required for meals)

*Visit FCNC website : <u>https://www.friendschurchnc.org/</u> for more info & Registration Forms	FCNC 4th Annual Sessions
Tentative Schedule	August 13 § 14, 2021
Friday 1:30 PM* Registration (foyer of multipurpose building)	at Quaker Lake Camp
 2:00 Ministry & Council 3:00 Business 5:30 Supper 7:00 Special Music 	Guest Speaker, Ron Bryan, FUM Clerk
Worship (Speaker: Ron Bryan, FUM Clerk) Saturday (Breakfast on your own) 8:00 AM* Registration (foyer of multipurpose building) 8:30 Morning Praise on the Porch (Leader: Tommy Sluder) 9:00 Start of Business	"My Hope is in the Lord" Colossians 1:5
12:00 PM* Lunch 1:00 Memorial Service 1:30 Recording/Retiring of Pastors (Reception to follow) 2:30* Free time/Camp Activities (Pool, climbing	Camp Activities, Adult Workshops, Shaded Rocking Chairs & Cookout hosted by FCNC Quaker Men!
tower) & optional Adult Workshops 3PM- Workshop #1 4PM- Workshop #2 5:30 Supper	Book Room open & Silent Auction (bidding closes at 5:30 PM on Saturday. Funds go to We have something planned for Friends of ALL ages Nursery & Children's Program during Saturday
Cookout Hosted by FCNC Quaker Men's Group (Weather permitting, bring your own lawn chair!) 6:30 Vespers Music 7:30 Worship (Speaker: Ron Bryan, FUM Clerk)	PORT-A-PIT BAR-B-QUE CHICKEN

Want a quick meal and make a donation at the same time. Get a ticket and help:

Mountain Valley Hospice &

PALLIATIVE CARE

 \mathbb{R} eliable friends who do what they say are like cool drinks in sweltering heat – refreshing! Proverbs 25:13 4



Yadkinville United Methodist Church 204 West Main Street - Yadkinville, NC

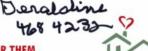
> AUGUST 6, 2021 11:00 am - 6:00 pm Pick up only

\$10.00 PER PLATE

Includes: 1/2 Chicken, Baked Beans, Slaw, Roll, & Dessert

All proceeds support Mountain Valley Hospice & Palliative Care programs and services for those facing serious illness and their families.

PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY ONLINE! Visit our website: mtnvalleyhospice.org/chicken Purchase your tickets now through July 27th



Mountain Valley Hospice & PALLIATIVE CARD

1.888.789.2922

Food for the Hungry

I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for Me.

Matthew 25:40

Deep Creek has an important role in the next big fundraiser for Yadkin Christian Ministries. It's time to begin planning, advertising and Fundraising

Mark your Calendars.

Contact Janet Robbins for more information or ways to help.

We still have many people in our county who need help feeding their family!

YADKIN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

WALK FOR HUNGER 2021 In Memory of Susan Steelman

Sunday, October 3rd, 3:00-4:30 PM Yadkinville Community Park

(If you choose, You can walk at your Home Church)

All Proceeds Benefit YADKIN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Registration: 2:30-3:00 PM Parking at Yadkin Farmers Market

Music provided by Sweet Hollow Homemade ice cream will be served

2021 Awards Include

Most walkers from a church or organization Largest Dollar Amount raised by a church or organization Random drawing for (2) \$25 gift cards



Sponsored by: Deep Creek Friends and the Susan Steelman family

Yadkin Christian Ministries is supported by the people, churches, and organizations of Yadkin County to assist families in crisis times with food, medication, heat and water. The ministry seeks to do its mission in the spirit of Christ, with a nonjudgmental attitude. We request your prayers and goodwill.

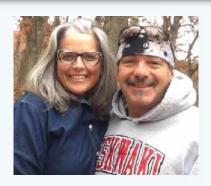
Rules to Live By: The Queries from the Faith and Practice of Friends Church of North Carolina MISSIONARY OUTREACH

Do you use your spiritual gifts in serving humanity as God grants you light to see such service?

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Saturday, September 11, 2021

Forbush Friends 4460 Forbush Road, East Bend, NC



Berny McDonald and Pastor Mac are Co-Directors of Mesquakie Friends Church in Iowa. Mac and Berny grew up in the Iowa Yearly Meeting. Mac is the middle son of Lloyd and Martha McDonald (High Point Friends and South Fork Friends). He traveled with his pastoral parents, but Honey Creek New Providence in Iowa was really his home. Berny grew up in LeGrand Friends in LeGrand, Iowa.

The couple accepted the calling to Mesquakie Friends and began their ministry in August of 2015. Mac and Berny hit the ground running in active ministry with the usual pastoral duties (and then some), getting to know the community and education through networking with others in Native American ministries. They have sought out education and attended numerous seminars, workshops and symposiums. Berny grew up just 5 miles from the Mesquakie Settlement. This is her ancestral homeland. The couple thought they were aware of the burdens of the Mesquakie. This was only an iceberg awareness. It has not been an easy path, but Jesus has met them on the Road. "Praise be to God!" Mac and Berny consider it a blessing to live amongst the Mesquakie and to serve Jesus.

Please come hear how they flourished during the pandemic, how the Holy Egg Ministry helped feed kids and adults and how "Build it they will come" became a reality for the Healing Lodge.

9:00 – 10:00 am Registration and Bookstore with light refreshments 10:00 am – 12 noon Welcome, Music, Business and Program 12:00 noon Luncheon – catered lunch @ \$12.00 each

If you have questions please contact Shelia Vogler <u>sheilavogler@yadtel.net</u> or Janet Robbins 336-971-1212

> NC USFW Annual Gathering at Forbush Friends Please clip and send by <u>Sept 4. 2021</u>

Name(s) _____

Meeting _____

Number of Lunches at \$12.00 each _____ Total \$ _____

Please clip / mail with check written to: Forbush Friends USFW :

Sheila Vogler 3519 Mt Bethel Church Rd East Bend, NC 27018





Invite a Friend

August 3rd 9am-12pm

<u> Yerrific Tuesday</u> <u>at Camp Creek</u>I

CHILDREN

B(

From Sydney

August Dates: August 1- Friends of Jesus at 3pm August 8 - Children's Church during worship August 15 - Friends of Jesus at 3pm August 22 - Children's Church August 29 - Friends of Jesus at 3pm!

During July we have been focusing on the royalty in the Bible. We have also been having a super fun time at Camp Creek! There have been 18 different kids that have attended and we had 17 on Tuesday July 27th.



If you have any questions please feel free to text or to contact Sydney Matthews at (336)469-4376



YOUTH & JR.YOUTH

From Jared



THE MISSION TRIP

<u>Upcoming Events</u>

August 1st - Youth Pool Party at Parker residence at 5:30

August 8th - Youth at Deep Creek at 5:00 August 14th - Young Friends Annual Session August 15th - Back to School Bash at Lake Hampton 5:00 -7:00

August 22nd - Youth at Union Cross at 5:00August 29th - No youth meetingSeptember 2-6th Beach Retreat at Nags Head









CONGRATULATIONS

ASHLYN STEELMAN



Ashlyn Steelman and Joshua Parrish were married on July 10, 2021 at Winter Wood Farm in Sparta, North Carolina. They had a beautiful outdoor wedding with the Blue Ridge Mountains as a backdrop. We are very thankful for the beautiful day that God provided. Both Ashlyn and Josh's ministers, Randy Quate and Steve Braswell performed the ceremony. After a honeymoon trip to Philadelphia, they are living in Durham, NC. Ashlyn will be working at Pittsboro Elementary School as a Guidance Counselor and Josh works at the VA in Durham. We wish them much happiness as they begin their life together.

GRANT GIBSON IS NOW A POLICE OFFICER



Grant E. Gibson has been employed with Pepsi Bottling for the last eight years. During this time he received his Associate Degree in Criminal Justice from Surry Community College. In January of this year, Mount Airy hired Grant and he started BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) and graduated in June. On July 21 of this year Grant and four other officers were sworn in at the Municipal Building in Mount Airy. This fulfilled Grant's dream of following in the footsteps of both parents. He is the son of Jean G. Gibson, who was excited to pin the badge on his uniform, and Gregory L. Gibson.

DONNA RAINES HAS NEW JOB

Donna Raines, as her daughter says, *has a passion for helping kids*. For several years, she has served as a substitute teacher at different schools where teachers have expressed words of compliment and appreciation. She has now accepted a teacher assistant position at Jonesville Elementary School. Jonesville School P.T.O. says to their school, *You may know Mrs. Donna Rains from being A Preschool Assistant Substitute, but we would like to congratulate her on her new position as an Instructional Assistant!* We, at Deep Creek appreciate work she has given including Christian Education and Missions Committees. We wish her success as she expands her work with children.





REMEMBER TO <u>PRAY</u> – Prayer changes things!

The following information is included by request. Be specific when you pray and send notes.

*This color indicates an addition or change from last month.

Among those requesting prayer:

Pray for special needs of members, friends and relatives and celebrate God's care.

Contact the editor for information

ROYAL RESOLUTIONS

by J. S. Engle

I will study the language of gentleness, and refuse to use words that bite and tones that crush.

I will practice patience at home, lest my testy temper break through unexpectedly and disgrace me.

I will excuse others' faults and failures as often and as fully as I expect others to be lenient with mine.

I will cure criticism with commendation, close up against gossip and build healthy lives by service.

I will love boys and girls, so that old age will not find me soured and sullen, but fresh and free.

I will gladden my nature by smiling out loud on every fair occasion, and by outlooking optimistically.

I will pray frequently, think good things, believe in men, and so do a full day's work, without fear or favor.









Pansy Shore was a relative of some in our Meeting. Although she didn't live in our community, most people knew who she was because she was such an active lady in church, community activities and organizations including outreach mission programs. I was surprised one day when someone showed up at my door with a stack of her folders of information and ideas, etc. for group programs and projects and suggested that I might use them. Some of them date back to 1929. Note that the word *men* in those days meant Human Beings, both men and women. These poems are from one of those folders and speak loudly to us in

LORD, KEEP ME GROWING

Lord, keep me growing! I give Thee thanks for the divine law of growth that I see at work in the bodies and minds of children. Save me from stagnation of spirit! Spare me, O God from lethargy of mind! In body, mind and spirit! May I forget the things that are behind! And stretch forward to all that lies before! Lord, keep me growing!

2021.



2324 Shore Rd. Yadkinville, NC 27055

Return Service Requested

Deep Creek Friends Meeting





God is not unjust; he will not forget your work Hebrews 6:10 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID YADKINVILLE, NC 27055 PERMIT No. 4

- Do you have a friend or relative that would enjoy *The Encourager*? Send address (PO or e-mail).
- Please send any change of address.
- Are you receiving *The Encourager* in error or you no longer wish to receive it? If so, let us know.
- Send suggestions, news, information, announcements or materials that you would like included in *The Encourager*.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue. Next issue – September, 2021

Deadline for news – August 29

Send Information and Materials to: e-mail: wshore@yadtel.net Mailing address: 2324 Shore Rd, Yadkinville, NC 27055 Phone: 336 679 8466

Published at Shore House, Ink

Shelby Shore

Church Address: 1140 Deep Creek Church Rd. Yadkinville, NC 27055Phone: 336 961 4404deepcreekfriends@gmail.comPastor: Randy QuateClerk: Ginger HoltDirector of Youth and Jr. Youth Ministries: Jared WardenDirector of Children's Ministries: Sydney Matthews