



The Encourager

Deep Creek Friends Meeting

January, 2023

Creationships

It was a classic moment. Years ago, in my previous pastorate, one of our young adults was making a presentation during a vision casting service. In her reporting she shared about the need for deeper relationships in the church when, all of a sudden, she slipped and said, “creationships” instead of “relationships”. What was a hilarious little hiccup, became a new word in my vocabulary. Though it may not be in Webster’s Dictionary, “creationships” could be the most important word in Deep Creek’s future.

To me, the word “creationship” describes what emerges when a small group of Jesus-followers come together in His name, and open to His Spirit. It is a biblical fact that when Christians meet in sincere worship, study, focused prayer, and intimate fellowship, that God is present. God, who spoke the universe into existence, creates a new thing in the heart and soul of such believers when they come together in faith.

One thing that is often detected in these creationships is the satisfying hunger of Jesus. You feel it when you experience this kind of fellowship, and it leaves you with hope and a spiritual energy that you would not have by yourself. Sometimes this awareness of Christ’s work is subtle and fleeting, other times we leave such a gathering and know we have experienced transformation. In creationships, Christ magnifies a spiritual desire that is at once insatiable and at the same time totally fulfilling.

If I am not in spiritual fellowship with other believers I cannot fully give or receive grace, I cannot use my spiritual gifts to their intended capacity, I cannot hear what the Holy Spirit wants to say to and through the Body of Christ, and I cannot be fully immersed into the mystery of the gospel. God’s creative power did not stop after Genesis 3. God’s creative power is unleashed every time His children come together in the name of His Son.

Have you ever been in a Bible study, or had a conversation with another believer, or attended a worship service and felt that a persistent question in your life was being answered? Or have you ever felt God speak to a private matter through the unsuspecting words of a fellow Christian? We often say, “Hey, a light just went off in my head”, or “Aha! I have it!” That prompting is the Holy Spirit illuminating God’s will and truth through the Body of Christ...through creationships.

This experience is not just the human energy and ideas shared when people come together and brainstorm their common interests. That is called *synergy*, and it is a powerful evidence of man being created in the image of God. All people have the God-given capacity to think, reason, and dream together and be creative. But when *creationships* are formed between believers, there is a divine energy at work that goes beyond human synergy. In creationships all roads lead to Christ. We experience His presence in the midst together. These experiences do not always feel supernatural. They are often simple in the way they touch our spirits. Whether in profound or modest ways, God shares His vision for our lives, individually and collectively.

My earnest dream for Deep Creek is that it will become a collection of small groups that meet between Sunday mornings, who share in this journey as disciples of Jesus. Groups who thirst for God more than anything else in this world, and who become greenhouses of learning, inspiration, fellowship and outreach. Such groups will become the fertile pockets where God will create something glorious.

NOTE: WEARING MASKS IS OPTIONAL. USE YOUR GOOD JUDGEMENT.



Each Sunday: Sunday School at 9:30 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM Options: **Inside**; Tune in to: **FM 88.9**; **Facebook Live**

Submitted By Ginger Holt:

Special Music:



January 1 – Angie Brendle

January 8 – The Choir

January 15 – Kaci Barber

January 22 – The Choir

January 29 – Generation X

Choir Practice: Check with Ginger.

Nursery Volunteers during Worship:

January:

See Jay Brendle, Clerk of Ministry & Counsel

A new list is being made.

Greeters for the month of January:

Jean Hutchins and Michael Ray

Submitted by Jay Brendle:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



January 1 – All New Committee Members Begin.

Committees please remember, if you have not already done so, now is a time to meet briefly and be sure you have a chairperson and recording secretary for the new year. Please let Shelby know who the chair is for the bulletin back and please report at monthly meeting so chair people are made known for contact this new year.

Nominating Committee, Chair

January 8

Building Fund Offering at Worship

Mark your check or envelope

Monthly Meeting After Worship

Committees, report at the meeting

Sunday, January 15 @ 8:15 AM

Christian Education Committee

will meet

Angie Brendle, Chair

Ministry & Counsel will meet @ regular time

THOUGHT for January

Identity is defined as “the fact of being who or what a person or thing is”. What do you identify as? If someone asked you to describe yourself, what would you tell them? What would you say first? At one time, I would have said that my name is Ginger Ellen Blackburn. Two marriages and three children later, my legal name is Ginger Collins Holt. From 1988-2019 I would have said that I was a music teacher, but that was 3 years ago, and now I am an office manager. During my life, at one point or the other, I have described myself as single, married, divorced, a daughter, a mother, a grandmother, student, teacher, director, retired, and office manager. That sounds like I do not know what my identity is, doesn't it? Things of this world never stay the same, they change. It is best that we not hold on too tight to them. If our identity lies within the things of this world we are in for disappointment. The only thing in your life (and mine) that will not change is being a “Child of God”. Through all my “identity” changes, being a Christian, being a Child of God, is the only constant. Perhaps I would be better off to start with that when describing myself. You think?

Galatians 2:20

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Ginger Holt, Clerk of the Meeting

Sunday, January 15 – Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting

At Kernersville Friends Meeting

3:00 PM – Ministry and Counsel

4:00 PM – Business Session

Rules to Live By: The Queries from the Faith and Practice of Friends Church of NC

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Do you endeavor to recognize and develop your special talents and abilities for service in the meeting, and do you pray for divine guidance in their use?

A Faith That Works

Faith without works is dead. James 2:20

No one can be saved by doing good works. On the other hand the apostle James taught that faith without works is useless. To illustrate he pointed out that faith alone won't feed a hungry person. Only faith that takes action will. *From Our Daily Bread*

From Randy: Join Us – Bible Study continues: Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM – Meal included
 Everyone is welcome. Join the group for study, prayer and fellowship.

“3 in 23”

Another Year-long Focus on Outreach

In January 2023, Deep Creek Friends will begin another year-long emphasis in evangelism and outreach church-wide. With the help of the Holy Spirit, every aspect of our fellowship and ministry will continue to be focused on the need to reach the lost and unchurched for Christ. We have seen and heard testimonies of how the Lord has used folks from Deep Creek to point others to Jesus in 2022. This year, along with sermon series, prayer meetings, learning times, community service, and a spring revival meeting, we will also have a Friend Day service each quarter. Whether it is a family member, a loved one, a neighbor, or someone you have yet to meet, we hope you will be open to God using you to reach others for Christ in 2023.

One of the Core Values of Deep Creek Friends Meeting:

MISSION

By ministering to the whole person’s immediate needs, we strive to help people find Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord, both here and abroad.

Pray Daily for Ministries, Other Friends Meetings and Leadership:

FCNC Prayer Calendar		JANUARY 2023			<i>“To Know God And Make Him Known”</i>	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Happy New Year FCNC Revival 2023	2 Bethel Church Marcus Wall FEMAP	3 Branon Friends Gloria Simmons Ricky Lovelace	4 Cane Creek Friends Cheryl Benson	5 Cedar Square Friends Michael Fulp Jr Sterling Brown	6 Centre Friends No Pastor No Youth Pastor FCM	7 Concord Friends Greg Creed
8 Connection Church Mike Wall	9 Deep Creek Friends Randy Quate Jared Warden Sydney Matthews	10 Forbush Friends Mitchell See Kyle Widlicka	11 Goldsboro Friends George Strickland QUAKER MEN	12 Harmony Grove Friends No Pastor East Africa Yrly Mtg	13 Hood Swamp Friends Lee Lane	14 Hunting Creek Friends No Pastor
15 Kernersville Friends Jeff Barnes	16 Liberty Friends James Moore QUAKER LAKE	17 Marlboro Friends Ray Luther Terry Linthicum	18 Mar Mac Friends Howard Seymour USFW	19 Mountain View Friends Jeff Stowers	20 Odre Nuevo (New Wineskins) Misael Morales Jamaica Yrly Mtg	Pilot Mountain Friends Jeremiah Thomas
22 Randleman Friends Wade Craven	23 Rocky River Friends David Hobson FDS	24 Science Hill Friends John Porter Superintendent Mike Wall	25 South Plainfield Friends Hugh Spaulding	26 Thomasville Friends Eric Morrison	27 White Plains Friends No Pastor	28 Winthrop Friends Harold Salmons
29 Archdale Friends Rodney Kirby Social Media Co Jenny Gullion	30 Asheboro Friends David Millikan	31 Back Creek Friends No Pastor	<p><i>Prayer is crucial in evangelism: Only God can change the heart of someone in rebellion against Him. No matter how logical our arguments or how fervent our appeals, our words will accomplish nothing unless God’s Spirit prepares the way.</i> –Billy Graham</p>			

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 25:4



Start now collecting soup for Souper Bowl of Caring next month.
Sunday, February 12
Bring cans of soup to church.



Thank You to all of our faithful supporters who look for “L” dollars to donate to students in need. We were able to donate \$361 to Starmount High School. This allowed the guidance department to help two seniors who were in need purchase their caps and gowns. Left over funds will be used throughout the year to support student needs. Continue to make those donations so we can continue to support our local students.
One of the students became emotional when they found out that we anonymously donated and wanted to be sure their donors knew they were very grateful.

Rhonda Moran

Rhonda works at Starmount as the Instructional Tech Facilitator/Media Coordinator and as Head Women's Wrestling Coach. She understands the needs of students daily. The Quaker Women have helped students at both schools in the past.

For those not familiar with the “L” Dollar Project to help high school students, the following information shared several years ago remains the same:



Have you ever really looked at a dollar bill?

To the left of George Washington is the Federal Reserve District Seal (A-L). The Circle of Quaker Women will be collecting bills with the “L” seal. In reality, it stands for the Federal Reserve Bank in San Francisco. For us, it stands for **LOVE**. All bills collected will help meet student needs within our school system. Help us make this local Mission project a success by bringing your “L”ove dollars.

Save your “L” dollars:

Donations can be placed in the “Love” envelope found on Sydney's Children Sunday School classroom door facing or give to one of the Quaker Women. *They would probably accept other dollars contributions too; mark you envelope or check.*



Thank You for your participation in the Christmas Card Mailbox.
Quaker Women thank you for your support of this project of raising money for Missions.
We also hope it was a joy for you and our congregation as we all participated in this Christmas experience.

FEMAP (Friends Emergency Material Assistance Program) is requesting items especially needed for Emergency Kits they prepare for people who have experienced destruction by storms, etc. and sometimes workers who are helping. **Some Specific Items Now Needed for the Kits:** *(You can give to Quaker Women.)*

Both 1 gallon and 2 gallon Zip-Lock Plastic Bags, Combs, 12 inch Rulers, Ivory (bar) Soap, Infant Hooded Towels.

**As We, at Deep Creek, Focus on Evangelism in Our Community,
as Member of Friends United Meeting
We Are Also Making a Difference Around the World**

As we come to the close of 2022, we rejoice at the ways God has blessed and grown the ministry of Friends United Meeting this year. In keeping with our theme, *Cultivating Seeds of New Life*, we see lives being changed and communities flourishing in the places we serve.

The Friends Church in Belize City has completed its first membership class, welcoming ten new members. These members are among the first Belizean Friends.

In Tanzania, Friends churches are being planted, and people are discovering new life in Christ. This is especially true in Dar es Salaam, where Muslim leaders have invited Friends to plant a church in their community.

At Friends Theological College, a new cohort of graduates has been prepared for ministry to serve Friends churches throughout Africa.

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In North America, FUM's new Billy Britt Fund supports fresh learning and spiritual growth initiatives to help Meetings and churches flourish.

In Kenya, the Friends Church Peace Team worked in conflicted communities to teach nonviolent action in preparation for national elections. We continue to pray for a peaceful transition in the country.

Following the July 2022 fire at the Lindi School in Nairobi, Friends across the globe are responding to ensure that a new school will be built to serve children living in the Kibera slums.

As we thank God for these and other signs of new life—**we also thank you!** Without faithful and generous partners like you, the ministries of FUM cannot continue, let alone thrive.

I invite you to give generously to the General Fund of Friends United Meeting. Your gift of **\$10, \$100, \$1000, or \$10,000 is a vital part of this harvest, which includes funding staff salaries, ministry travel, communication ministries, and field support. We appreciate all you have done in the past and rely on you as we grow into the future.**

Please send a check to FUM at 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond, IN 47374. Gifts can also be made online at <https://www.friendsunitedmeeting.org/global-ministries/2022-appeal>. If you are interested in making a gift of stock, commodities, or IRA distributions, or want information about a bequest gift, don't hesitate to contact Colin Saxton (colinsa@fum.org or 503-550-1599).

Information from: *Colin Saxton, FUM General Secretary*

Deep Creek Members Were Participants in Yadkin County Chorus and Orchestra in a Sunday Afternoon Presentation of Music from *Handel's Messiah* At Yadkinville Methodist Church



Among the Choir Members:
Cathy Shore, Alto
Walter Shore, Tenor
Roger Holt, Bass
Tommy Shore, Bass



Among the Soloist:
Walter Shore
and
Ginger Holt
Ginger was also
Director

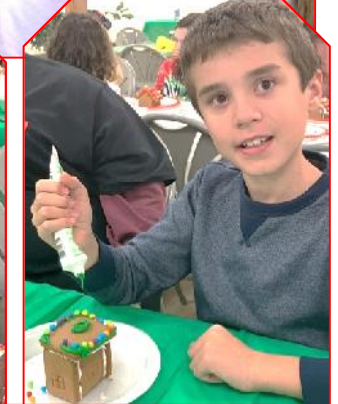
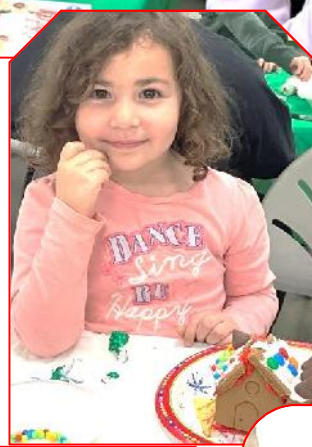


Some of the audience joined the choir for the Hallelujah Encore
Among the Instrumentalists: Jacob Brendle, Flute
and Angel Collins, Trumpet

The Deep Creek Handbell Choir Plays for Worship



Friends of Jesus and
DOGS Christmas Party



Fun Making Gingerbread House



Invite your Friends
and Family

CHILDREN

From Sydney

Friends of Jesus & DOGS Christmas Play

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- January 1 – Children’s Church
- January 8 – Children’s Church
- January 15 – Friends Of Jesus
- January 22 – Children’s Church
- January 29 – Friends Of Jesus

Sydney Matthews:
(336) 469-3476 or
syd.matthews22@gmail.com



Narrator



YOUTH & JR. YOUTH

From Jared

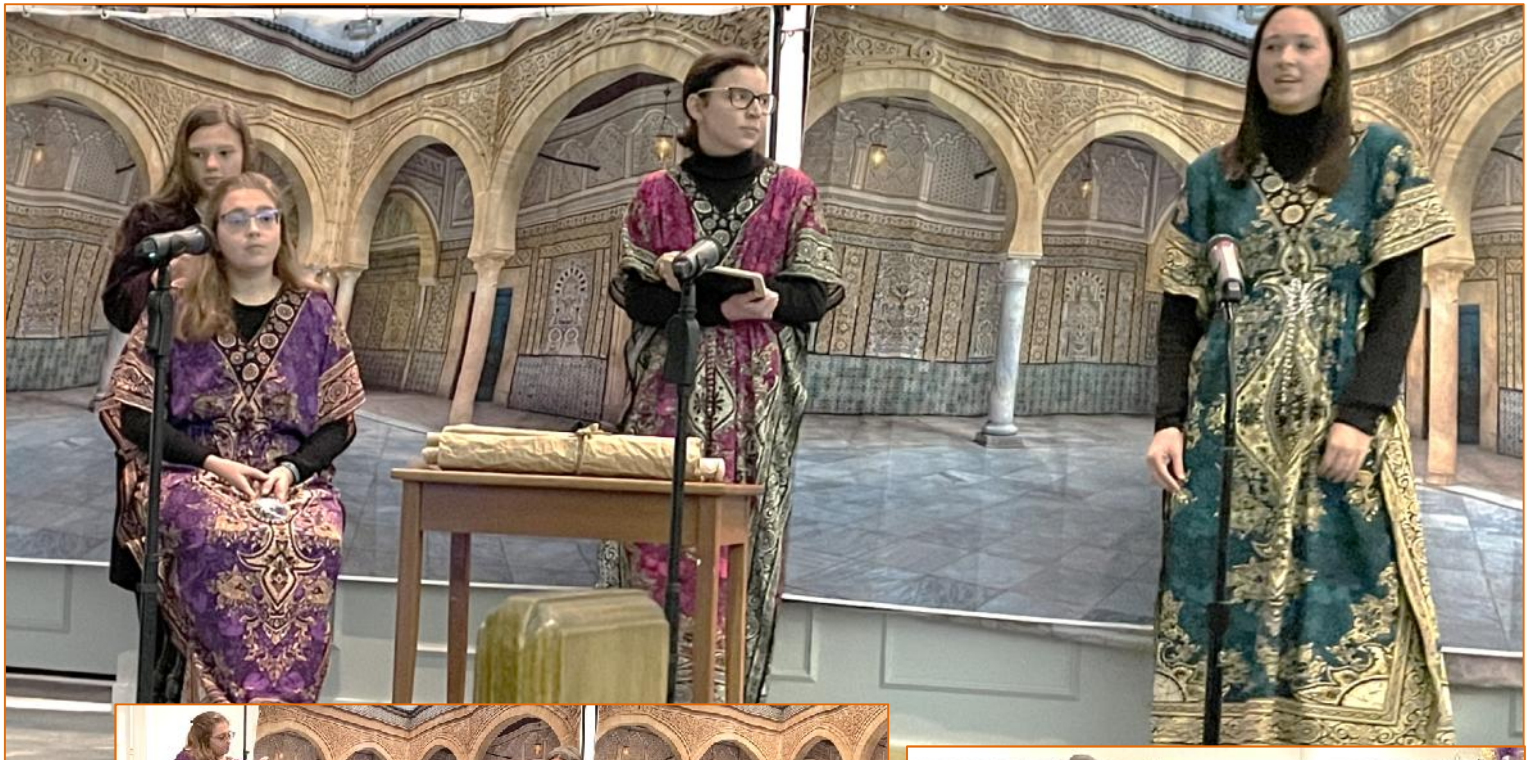
“When you search for me,
you will find me; if you seek
me with all your heart...”

Jeremiah 29:13

Upcoming Events:

- December 31 – Youth Lock-in at 7:00 at Deep Creek
- January 7 – Annual Ski Trip - see Jared for details
- January 8 – Youth at 6:00 at Union Cross
- January 15 – Youth at 6:00 at Deep Creek
- January 22 – Youth at 6:00 at Union Cross
- January 29 – Youth at 6:00 (location to be announced)

Youth Christmas Play: *The Wise Women*



CONGRATULATIONS

BROCK MORAN IS WRESTLING



Brock Moran is now on the Wrestling Team at Starmount Middle School. His parents were excited when he made a pin at one of his December events. His mom, Rhonda is coaching the first female team ever at Starmount High School. A group of her women placed 1st and 2nd at the CH Necessary Tournament at West Wilks High School.

USE WHAT YOU HAVE

Use what you have, if you'd have more
Of life's rich and abundant store.
Do not your present lack deplore –
Use what you have.

The talent buried in the earth,
To you, or others, has no worth.
Spent, it may end a seeming dearth –
Use what you have.

But you have nothing? Nay, not so!
No man has nothing, well you know,
While life within his veins doth flow –
Use what you have.

Take stock of your assets anew,
Your handicaps with courage view.
Resolve this day to dare and do
With what you have.



KAYLEE SHORE EXCELS AT APPALACHIAN

Kaylee Shore made the Chancellor's List for the fall session at Appalachian State University. Her family is proud of the hard work she has done to earn this recognition.

The Open Door . . .

If I can open a door of hope and encouragement to some tired, weary soul, then I shall feel that God has used me in His service as He did the good Samaritan of long ago.

Observed by GEO. W. OLINGER
Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.



REMEMBER TO **PRAY** – 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

Quaker Women Do Christmas Lunch for Seniors

including some family members who were transporters and the pastor



Food and Fellowship enjoyed by all



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Deep Creek Friends Meeting



- **Do you have a friend or relative that would enjoy *The Encourager*?** Send address (PO or e-mail).
- Send suggestions, news, information, announcements or materials that you would like included in *The Encourager*.
- 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.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this issue.

Next issue – February, 2023

Deadline for news – January 29

Send Information and Materials to:

e-mail: wshore@yadtel.net

Mailing address: 2324 Shore Rd, Yadkinville, NC 27055

Phone: 336 679 8466

Shelby Shore

Published at Shore House, Ink

Go, eat your food with gladness for God has already approved what you do.
Ecclesiastes 9:7

Church Address: 1140 Deep Creek Church Rd. Yadkinville, NC 27055 **Phone:** 336 961 4404
deepcreekfriends@gmail.com **Pastor:** Randy Quate **Clerk:** Ginger Holt
Director of Youth and Jr. Youth Ministries: Jared Warden **Director of Children’s Ministries:** Sydney Matthews