

THANKSGIVING - THANKSLIVING

Dear Lord, thank Thee for willing hands
And hearts of these dear Friends
Who labored long and lovingly
Till vision was reality,
With faith that never ends.

Within these walls may our love grow
For Thee, dear Lord, we ask.
Our faith, our strength, our hopes renew,
Teach us the joy of serving too,
Grant courage for Thy task.

Within this House of stones and love
We'll never cease Thy praise.
Thy Spirit keeps our lives aglow,
Thy tender mercies overflow,
When we walk in Thy ways.

-Jean Cude
A Friend

"We are living in the most critical and exciting period in human history, and who knows but that in the will of God our greatest service and achievements lie just ahead! Now indeed is the time for us to intensify our efforts for the Kingdom of God, and to press forward courageously in faith, works, and hope. Paraphrasing well known words: 'The Lord has yet more life and power to break forth from the Society of Friends'."

"Message and Mission of Friends"

-Seth B. Hinshaw

Mt. Airy Friends is united with North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends and Friends United Meeting (our national and international office) of Friends in following the commandment of Christ..."Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel."

1898

MOUNT AIRY FRIENDS MEETING

1891

The roots of Quakerism in Surry Quarterly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) can be traced back to the year of 1772 and possibly as early as 1751 in the community of Westfield.

The roots of Mt. Airy Friends Meeting began in the White Plains Friends Meeting. In 1887, White Plains was established as a Preparative Meeting. In 1890 as a Monthly Meeting.

Surry Friends were a part of Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting until September 24, 1898. On that date Surry Quarterly Meeting was established.

From the Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting of Friends, Vol. 1, 1889-1920: "Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting of Friends held at Westfield Friends Meeting, fourth month, 16th, 1898. A request from White Plains Friends Meeting having been made to this Meeting asking for the setting up of a Monthly Meeting at Mt. Airy, N.C., the third seventh day of each month at 11:00 AM, this Meeting unites with the request and appoints the following named committee to attend the setting up of the same on the third seventh day of fifth month next."

"We the committee appointed to attend the setting up of Mt. Airy Monthly Meeting attended to the appointment, and set up the Monthly Meeting on the third seventh day of fifth month. We also set up a Preparative Meeting on Ministry and Oversight to be held at ten o'clock on the morning of Monthly Meeting preceding Quarterly Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee: Nerius M. Barker

The report was satisfactory to the Meeting, and the committee was continued to have care of the said Meeting for one year."

(Ministry and Oversight has now been changed to Ministry and Counsel)

J. Addison Griffiths, Clerk of the day and Lottie Robertson, Assistant Clerk.

Among the 'pioneering' families of Mt. Airy Friends: Caleb F. Mitchell, G. Calvin Welch, and John L. Worth. The three windows at the front of the Meeting Room honor them.

CHARTER MEMBERS

Ila B. Marshall	George F. Belton
Ella Ray	Caleb F. Norman
Anna Davis	Maude Dunnigan
Ette Welch	Susan M. Lowery
Sevell N. Owens	William T. Gant
Emma Welch	Bettie Gant
Lizzie Thornton	Alice Welch
Ethel Beasley	James Thacker
Ida Welch	James W. Carpenter
Minnie Jordan	Charles Griffith
Ida E. Harris	Chattie Griffith
Lyan Watkins	William R. Davis
Walter P. Welch	Annie Watkins
George E. Welch	John Carpenter
Elija Beasley	Bausley Beasley
Catherine Thornton	Maggie Gant
William B. Worth	W.R. Saunders
Daisy Worth	Charlie Gant
Caleb Mitchell	George Floyd
Jennie Mitchell	W.A. Holt
G.C. Welch	Minnie Marshall
Della Welch	Islo Marshall
John L. Worth	Arthur Marshall
Meline Worth	Richard K. Marshall

Before 1898 Friends had been meeting regularly for Meeting for Worship in the Methodist Church which still stands near the present Meeting House. (behind the N.C. Employment Office on S. Main St.)

Friends moved to the 'Hall', a large room on the second floor of the Welch Building in the 800 block of S. Main St. The building still stands. Worship and other activities continued there until the present Meeting House was built in 1904.

We owe a debt of gratitude to those early Friends for their commitment to establish a Friends Meeting in Mt. Airy, N.C.

Current Clerks of our Meeting

Presiding Clerk of Monthly Meeting: Paul Taylor
Assistant Clerk: Gene Bowman

Presiding Clerk of Ministry and Counsel: John Haynes

Assistant Clerk: Phil Thacker

Recording Clerk of Monthly Meeting: Sue Creed
Assistant Clerk: Sarah Johnson

Recording Clerk of Ministry and Counsel: Nancy Thacker

Assistant Clerk: Sarah Johnson

The Pastoral Ministers who have served:

Joseph Potts	Emmanuel and Perchie Key
James R. Jones	John Permar
Leverett J. Rugg	Clifton Pearson
Alder Larzalere	Seth B. Hinshaw
Samuel Pickett	Milo S. Hinckle
Franklin and Mary	Reuben J. Payne
Moon Meredith	Howard B. Yow
Miles Reece	William G. Guthrie
Leannah Hobson	James D. Reinhardt
Wesley Wooten	Fred Hill
Herbert Reynolds	Robert M. Jones
David Brannon	Charles R. Adams
Raymond Booth	Bobby L. Medford
Calvin Gregory	Hadley Robertson
Ben Millikan	James D. Reinhardt

Today, every member and friend of our Meeting is making a valid contribution to the present and the future of Mt. Airy Friends Meeting and the Religious Society of Friends. We thank God for each of you!

"You are My friends if you do what I command you."

"Love one another."

-Jesus