

Piedmont Friends - Yearly Meeting & Fellowship

Western NC Hurricane Relief Opportunities

Western NC Friends Meetings - Asheville, Swannanoa, and Celo Meetings

Asheville Friends Meeting

Our website (<https://AshevilleFriends.org>) has a "donate" link which can be earmarked for Helene or other options. Click on "Add a Message of Support" to indicate your earmark. Thanks for any help you can give. We continue to meet on Sundays but don't currently have water at the Meeting House so bathrooms are sparingly used with limited gray water. If we have internet access, we will have our usual hybrid meeting. The Zoom link for hybrid meeting is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83120252281?pwd=amJKZzhHKzZOa3BDQWUvSHhsYzRmQT09>

Meeting ID: 831 2025 2281

Passcode: 887186

Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting - Contact Robyn Joseph, forrestwife@yahoo.com

The meetinghouse is still standing but probably cannot be salvaged. While SVFM is meeting in person for First Day Meeting for Worship at a local church, the area is not ready to receive visitors who do not live in the area.

The meeting has a weekly Wednesday zoom worship (7pm Eastern) and welcomes others to participate (the Zoom link is always the same) -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82966089366?pwd=rpGMI2q8v9UwmaNIaWqIURvO8IEJHA.1>

Robyn recommends the following for Swannanoa focused donations -

<https://www.unitedwayabc.org/>

<https://onrealm.org/BlackMountainPr/-/form/give/HeleneReliefFund>

Celo Friends Meeting

Celo community members are asking that Celo-focused donations go to South Toe Fire and Rescue and the Celo Health Center (the larger organizations are focusing on cities and all help in Celo is coming from local resources):

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/donate-to-south-toe-fire-depts-hurricane-efforts>

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FTAVP55ME897A

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Activities and Recommendations from Individual Piedmont Friends Meetings

Chapel Hill Friends Meeting - contact Betsy Brinson, betsybrinson422@gmail.com

We are working with local organizers, including staff of CJJ, who can tell us what their community needs are on the ground. Below you will find a recommended list of mutual aid items as well as drop-off locations. Supplies will be delivered to Western NC on a rolling basis. We will continue to send email updates as opportunities arise.

Monetary Donations = Direct Aid

Please consider making donations to the following mutual aid and support efforts or on-ground organizations, and please share widely:

[Day One Relief](#) is mobilizing and a trusted source sending direct aid via plane to hard hit spaces. *Monetary and Direct Item Give* [Donate to Day One Relief](#)

[Operation Airdrop](#)

[Mutual Aid Disaster Relief](#)

[Triangle Mutual Aid](#) (coordinating with Asheville Mutual Aid)

[BeLoved Asheville](#) - needs funds and is coordinating volunteers with trucks who can drive supplies to people, out of 32 Old Charlotte Hwy Asheville, NC

[Organizing Resilience](#) (benefits Down Home NC, and other rural organizers doing the deep, year-round work, and partaking in community assessment surveys right now)

Items Needed

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| Water Life Straws Chainsaws Heavy-duty storage totes Heavy-duty tarps (the blue ones are less good) Generators Roofing nails Baby formula Non-perishable food Manual can openers | Coolers Gatorade Wire brushes Trash bags (the heavy ones are sometimes called "contractor bags") Brooms Mops Laundry detergent Washboards Batteries, power banks | Mosquito spray Toilet paper Dehumidifiers Box fans Solar charging items Diapers, baby wipes 5 gal buckets Respirators and N-95 cartridges 2x4s Bleach |
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Drop-Off Locations

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|---|---|
| <i>Carrboro, NC:</i> Back Alley Bikes 100 Boyd St, Carrboro, NC 27510 Open Tues - Sat. 11am to 6pm | <i>Durham, NC:</i> The Scrap Exchange 2050 Chapel Hill Rd, Durham, NC 27707 10:30am - 6pm Tue-Sun. |
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Charlotte Friends Meeting - Contact Charlotte Friends Clerking Committee

clerk.cfm@gmail.com

For the immediate Charlotte Friends has encouraged individual Friends to volunteer or donate to general help in the afflicted areas. We've noted that the need for help and support will continue for some considerable time and that we should be prepared for that. We also should take whatever time is necessary to discern the best and most meaningful way for us to contribute, both individually and as a Meeting.

Individual Friends are encouraged to join Swannanoa Friends in their Wednesday night worship at the 7:00 hour as we continue to listen for how we can be helpful.

At the November meeting for business CFM agreed to set aside proceeds from our annual Christmas Craft Market for Western NC Friends to be used as we learn of particular needs.

Durham Friends Meeting - Contact Terry Graedon, terry.graedon@gmail.com

Durham Friends Meeting expects to form an ad hoc committee to discern how to apply our resources to help. Individual Friends have been circulating lists of aid organizations for immediate response.

Fayetteville Friends - Contact Michelle Downey, fayncfriendsclerk@gmail.com

We have been exploring where to donate our funds; one of our members brought food donations from our meeting and is serving on the ground in W. NC. He has been sending us email journals of his work (feel free to contact me if you would like to read those submissions).

New Garden Friends - contact Jean Pudlo, jbpudlo@gmail.com

We decided at our Monthly Meeting last Sunday to send half the proceeds of our annual rummage sale this month to the NC Disaster Relief Fund run by United Way of NC. An anonymous donor has offered a match of \$10,000. We are hoping to meet that either through sale proceeds or additional donations.

We talked briefly at the Meeting about a longer term commitment to rebuilding. There is interest in supporting the Asheville, Swannanoa and Celo Meetings and communities surrounding them, and also a reminder to reach people who are often marginalized in our communities. We will discern this further through our Peace and Social Concerns Committee and Meeting for Ministry and Counsel and next month's MM.

Raleigh Friends Meeting - contact Nancy Riemer, nriemer@gmail.com

In addition to directing support to some of the organizations listed above, individual members have personal connections and can recommend the following:

[David Grimsley](#) - David is a 2000 graduate of Guilford College who is coordinating support for small and remote communities in WNC, including Celo and Ashe County. The link goes to his Facebook where he posts reports on the work and the community needs. Recommended by Nancy Riemer and Vernie Davis

[Cajun Navy 2016](#)

Recommended by Deborah Bromiley who worked with them in New Orleans.

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Salem Creek Meeting - contact John Cardarelli, jfardarelli@gmail.com

Has donated water, non-perishable snacks, a portable water filter, and insect repellent to a distribution center in Boone, NC. One couple in our meeting who own a home in Black Mountain and who helped start Swannanoa Valley Friends Meeting have donated a generator and food to a family in the Asheville area. We are exploring ways to help the Swannanoa Valley meetinghouse which was flooded. We are also exploring ways to donate to the Asheville area.

Winston-Salem Friends - contact Mary Simmons.51@icloud.com

Called a Monthly Meeting on Sunday, October 13 to discuss how we can contribute to western NC. One of our members plans to worship with Swannanoa this Sunday.