



# Friends at the Spring 3rd Month 2021

**Meeting for Worship** at 11:00 a.m.

*We continue to offer the opportunity to meet for worship as a small group on the grounds of the meeting house while simultaneously meeting via video conferencing for those who need or choose to stay at home. Meetings on the grounds at Spring Friends take place outside, weather permitting. Masks are worn and social distancing is maintained. Those who choose to attend are asked to bring their own chairs and dress for the weather.*

**Worship Leaders and Hosts:**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Worship Leader(s)</b>	<b>Online Zoom Host(s)</b>	<b>Onsite Safety and Technology Host(s)</b>
	March 7	Jen and Bruce Walker	Steve Phillips	Ron and Elizabeth Osborne
	March 14	Jen and Bruce Walker	Judith Bush	Ron and Elizabeth Osborne
	March 21	Jen and Bruce Walker	Need volunteer	Chris and Katie Nelson
	March 28	Jen and Bruce Walker	Need volunteer	Kara VanHooser

*Reminder: Daylight Savings Time takes effect on March 14th!*

**Meeting with attention to business** will take place via Zoom on March 21st at 9:30 a.m.

## Announcements:

The North Carolina Friends Disaster Service will be traveling to Eastern North Carolina March 28 - April 2 for reconstruction work on homes damaged by hurricanes. The number of volunteers will be limited to allow for social distancing during the trip. Contact co-coordinator Gary Dodson at 336-495-6790 for more information.

Spring Friends needs volunteers for the following roles:

- Coordinator (to coordinate volunteer roles for the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2021)
- Worship leaders for the months of June, July, August, and September
- Onsite technology/safety hosts (rotating weekly)
- Online (Zoom) technology hosts (rotating weekly)

Both members and attenders are welcome to fill any of these roles. Friends with experience in each role are available to provide support to anyone who would like to contribute to the life of the meeting in one of these ways. We have a laptop for use onsite during Sunday meetings and can provide training for anyone willing to volunteer as a technology host.

The operational expenses of Friends at Spring are thankfully modest but the need to support both our local and global community remains. The following contribution methods are available:

- Contributions via the meeting's [PayPal Account](#)
- Contributions by check made out to "Spring Friends Meeting" and mailed to treasurer Ron Osborne at: 2585 Nealwood Avenue, Graham, NC 27253
- For contributions by direct deposit, contact [friendsatthespring@gmail.com](mailto:friendsatthespring@gmail.com)

We wish a **Happy Anniversary** to Jen and Bruce Walker on March 16th!

We wish **Happy Birthday** to Friends who are celebrating in March!



2nd Judith Bush

7th Page Smith

10th Griffin Hobbs

21st Elizabeth Osborne

23rd Jackie Adams

24th Ellen Osborne

25th Dillon Walker

26th Dottie Hobbs

27th Sarah McCombie

28th Guy Smith

30th John Nelson

We are thankful to count Kevin and Leah Muhanji as Friends. The letter that Kevin shared during meeting for worship on February 21st is copied here, with photos:

*Jambo Marafiki! (Greetings Friends!)*

*It's been five years since that horrifying head on collision with a tractor trailer hauling sugar cane on MALAVA-KAKAMEGA highway in western Kenya. Since the accident happened in the evening at around 7 pm on a Sunday, there wasn't the normal amount of pedestrians walking by to help me.*

*I don't know how long I stayed in the ditch but I remember being rushed to the hospital by a kind Samaritan who saw the truck leaning on its left side with its parking lights on and the right side wheels hanging in the air. He and his wife rushed me to the nearest public hospital where they booked me into the hospital and made sure that I was rushed to the theater and X-ray taken. I sustained minor head injuries from my head hitting the windscreen until it cracked. I spent three days in the hospital.*

*Since then, I have been working on having it repaired but since it was my only means of transportation, it became hard to secure jobs and contracts. Most clients didn't want to hear about paying for my transportation to their site as most people would be paid money for their transportation to the site and they never show up.*

*Hiring a pickup truck or any other vehicle for the purposes of transporting my equipment has been very costly to the extent that trying to share the costs with a client hasn't been an easy thing. At times the vehicles hired come when they have either mechanical problems and would often breakdown or they would have road worthiness issues that would make them be stopped by traffic police at every traffic checking point.*

*Anytime we would be stopped at a traffic police checking point, the hired driver would have to bribe the traffic police to be allowed to continue with the journey. It always seems like a cheaper option for them rather than just fix their cars. But as we all know, paying \$1(100 KES) per traffic checking point would sum up to a lot of money if one was making trips on a daily basis, being that the average annual income in Kenya is \$1,750 USD. These costs are taken care of by those of us who hire their vehicles and use the highways. That's why hiring a car for transportation of equipment is quite costly.*

*I have been working on the panel beating of the truck and what I couldn't save like the front side fenders, the hood (bonnet), and most of the front grill brackets, I would save funds and buy them one item at a time. Through the help, kindness and generosity of some very*

*very close friends and family of mine, I was able to purchase another engine. In the head-on collision, the previous engine suffered great damage to its internal components, including a crack in the block.*

*After my wedding in 2018, I realized that I needed to have a means of transportation as my wife Leah was pregnant and my biggest fear was that she would go into labor at wee hours of the night and I wouldn't know how to get her to the hospital. Luckily for us, since she was due in*

*December, most of our neighbors were around for the holidays with their cars. So we rushed her to the hospital close to midnight of that important day.*

*Since then, it became very, very difficult for us to even plan for Zuri's medical checkups, and they all involved either hiring a taxi or borrowing someone's car which here is not a very common thing.*

*When Corona happened, things became even more difficult as it meant those clients that had some cash to spend on their projects didn't want to lose even a dime. So when I would submit my quotations and they would compare them to others, they would definitely pick on the others to save that little extra dime.*

*It's definitely been a tough time for me given the nature of my business and even tougher for everyone during this corona period.*

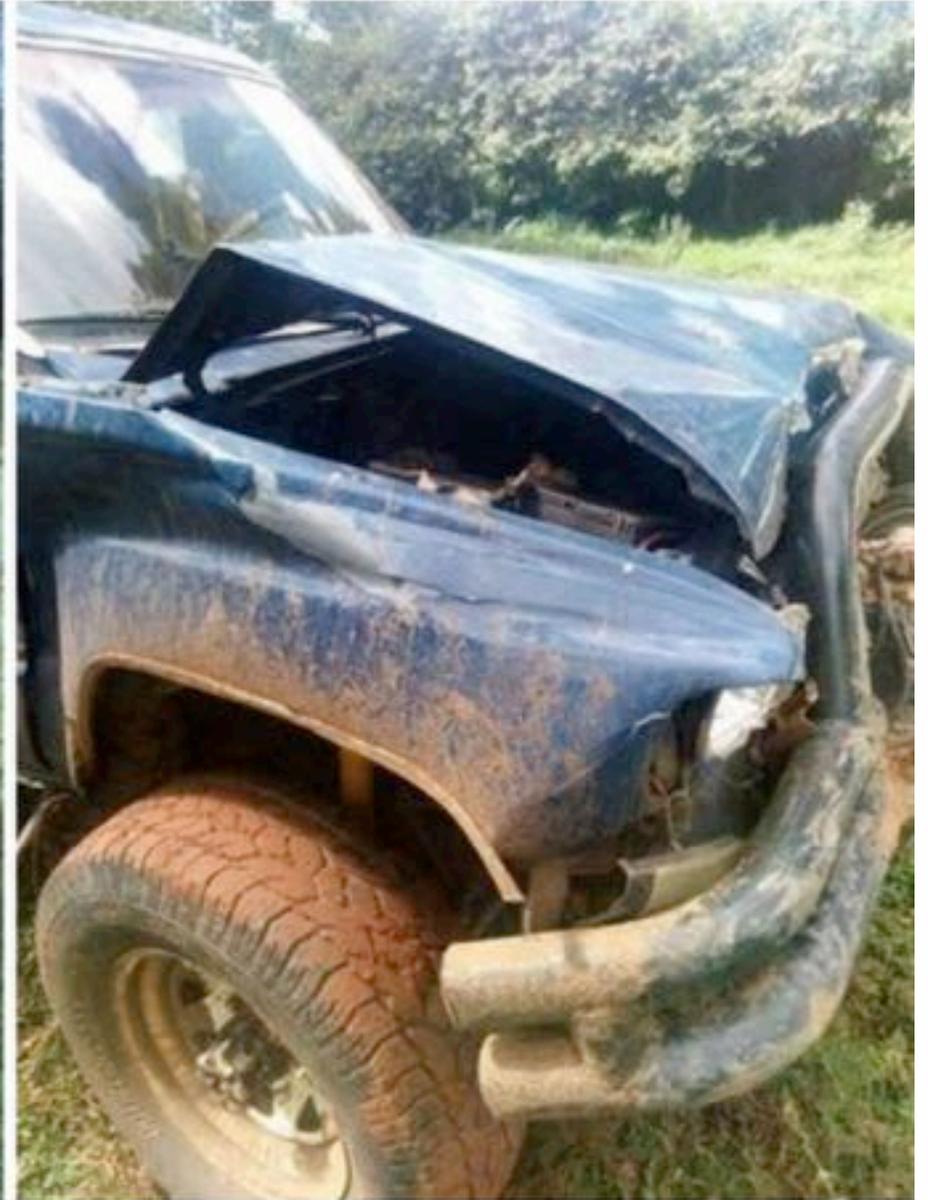
*When Ron and Elizabeth called to inform me about the willingness and sacrifice by the Meeting to help me finish up the truck, I didn't know how to react, as I was completely caught off guard. I still don't know if I'm dreaming and if I really am dreaming I really hope that I don't wake up from the dream and find out it's not real!*

*On behalf of my family and I, we just want to say ASANTENI SANA SANA!(THANK YOU VERY VERY MUCH). May God continue to bless each and everyone of you and meet you all and your loved ones at your individual points of need in your lives, just as we ourselves have been met!*

*God Bless Us All!*

*Kevin and Leah Muhanji*

*Immediately after the accident*



*The truck in storage, before funds were available to start repairs*



*Where my head struck the windscreen*



*The truck, now undergoing repair, due to your generosity!*









