

# In the Footsteps of

Ten CFS staff members. Nineteen members of the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting (CHFM) and the Durham Friends Meeting (DFM)—many of whom are CFS alumni parents, current or former trustees, or otherwise connected to the School. Together, they spent a week last August retracing the 1652 travels of George Fox, founder of Quakerism, in the Lake District of northern England.

The trip organizers and leaders—staff members Cesanne Berry (DES), Charlie Layman (LS), and Natasha Shannon (LS)—were veterans of similar pilgrimages facilitated by the Friends Council on Education (FCE) and the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM). They had the help of two alumni parents, former CFS Board clerk Lynn Drake (CHFM) and current CFS trustee Nikki Vangsnes (DFM).

The Planning Committee envisioned this journey to historical Quaker sites and meeting houses in England as a spiritually nurturing experience for each person and an opportunity to deepen the relationships among the School and our local Meetings (members of

whom helped found CFS some 50 years ago).

Deborra Sines Pancoe, FCE staff member and co-leader of the PYM pilgrimage, highlighted for us some of the reasons for such a pilgrimage, including: the renewal and energy that comes from seeking a deeper understanding of 17th century Friends and the experience of following in the footsteps of George Fox. Also, connecting, in person, with British Quakers provides a sense of the wider world of the Society of Friends. Visiting historic meetinghouses, Swarthmoor Hall (the home of Margaret Fell), and Lancaster Castle/Prison as well as climbing Pendle Hill provides a tangible sense of the commitment and perseverance of the “harmless and innocent people of God - called Quakers.”

The itinerary included stops at sites well-known in Friends history, including the Sawley, Brigflatts, Kendal, Lancaster, and Colthouse Meetinghouses; Pendle Hill; Firkbank Fell and Fox’s Pulpit; Lancaster Castle/Prison; Swarthmoor Hall; and the Kendal Quaker tapestry.



...many teas and biscuits (were) offered to each pilgrimage participant. ... to be served and take delight in the receiving was a constant experience throughout the pilgrimage. To help these volunteers distribute the tea and sweet treats, a few pilgrims found this a privilege as well. In their daily lives the people on this pilgrimage give so much of themselves through service to the world. It is also a special opportunity to let others give to you... knowing the pleasantness of both kinds of tender exchanges.

*-from a pilgrim's journal*





# George Fox

In addition to the three trip leaders, these staff members made the journey:

Anthony L. Clay  
Barbara Conger (also CHFM)  
Matt Drake (retired; also CHFM)  
Jamie Hysjulien (also DFM)  
Lisa Joyner  
Kathy Krahenbuhl  
Connie Toverud (retired)  
Randall Williams

From the Chapel Hill Friends Meeting:

Catherine Alguire  
Emile Condon  
Jimmy Condon  
Peter Condon  
Lynn Drake  
Jennifer Leeman  
Pat Mann  
Tom Munk  
Wendy Richesin  
Pam Schwingl

From the Durham Friends Meeting:

Ann Allen  
Timothy Allen  
Mary Cleary  
John March  
Margaret March  
Bob Passmore  
Carol Passmore  
Nikki Vangsnes



When our lives become full of busy-ness, even of the Quaker kind, it can be hard to remember we have the capability to be open, vulnerable and centered on the Divine, as you all were last week. But it's important to retain the memory that we have been thus, and therefore know that we can be again—and then bring that into every situation we can turn into one of worship. When we do that, we turn the world upside down every bit as much as early Friends did. Thank you for giving me the depth of your worship and care, and your tenderness with me. William Penn wrote that Friends who cross the sea 'live in one another still'—and so it is, and will be, of you all, with me.

In loving friendship,  
Roy

*(Roy Stephenson is the British Quaker who served as the pilgrimage tour guide)*



**Planning is underway for another Quaker pilgrimage to England, July 19-26, 2015, with registration beginning in a few months. If you'd like information as it becomes available, please email [aclay@cfsnc.org](mailto:aclay@cfsnc.org).**