

Campus Ministry

Friends Center at Guilford College is a collaborative endeavor of the College and the Religious Society of Friends to strengthen Friends and their institutions. Friends Center began Guilford's first Office of Campus Ministry in 1990. Since then weekday morning worship, midweek meeting for worship, and Sunday worship have been instituted. Each year Friends Center sponsors numerous fall, spring, and summer break work trips. Destinations have included disaster relief in Florida, Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, and North Carolina; inner city work in Atlanta, Greensboro, Washington, D.C., and Baltimore; & international projects in Belize, Cuba, Kenya, and Palestine. A close association is kept with North Carolina Friends Disaster Service.

Campus Ministry Opportunities

Religious life at Guilford College is varied, rich and deep. Most Christian denominations, Jews, Muslims, Bahai's, pagans, Unitarian-Universalists and many other religious communities are represented on the Guilford campus. Matters of the spirit are talked about freely and openly in an atmosphere of support and acceptance. In this regard, the college's Quaker commitment is felt profoundly, for Friends trust the natural process of God's guidance, irrespective of how one names the experience of that guidance. Students often talk of faith journeys begun at Guilford as a result of the safety they feel to give expression to their inner spiritual prompting, to ask questions, articulate doubts and find answers!

Much of this process of spiritual nurturing and formation occurs through casual conversations on campus, classroom discussions and moments of solitude. There is a more formal support system, though, for those who want more intentionally to explore religious issues. The Campus Ministry Office, located in the Hut, provides a variety of opportunities for worship, study and consultation. Worship after the manner of Friends is held in the Hut each weekday morning from 8:05-8:20 am and each Thursday afternoon from 12:01-12:30 pm. Weekly College Meeting for Worship is held each Sunday of the academic year at 1 pm in the Moon Room. Other opportunities include Vespers, Taize, community prayer, Shabbat candle-lighting, and Bible Study. Contact the Campus Ministry Office for time and place.

A number of small group "Seekers Sessions" are offered each semester. Topics for these short-term sessions have included Bible study, non-western spirituality, prayer and exploration of Greensboro's religious diversity. "Am I the Only One?" is a program that connects community members with others making healthy lifestyle choices in college. Contact the Campus Ministry Office for information.* Campus Ministry also sponsors frequent teas and forums, & a variety of speakers & retreats.

Many religious organizations flourish on campus: the Guilford Christian Fellowship, Guilford Catholic Community, Hillel, The Quaker Leadership Scholars Program, Episcopalian Student Fellowship, the Guilford Muslim Fellowship, Buddhist meditation, Pagan Mysticism, and the Guilford Council of Religious Organizations (GCRO). GCRO, a representative body of the different campus religious groups, meets weekly to plan general religious programming and explore matters of mutual spiritual interest. A highlight of the year is Religious Emphasis Week, generally held the last week in January, when the campus religious organizations have an opportunity to share their faith traditions with the campus community.

The GCRO CAW is the tri-weekly newsletter of the group containing articles, news and a calendar of events. Greensboro, with more than 400 places of worship, also is rich in its diversity of religious expression.

*Friday brown bag lunch discussions are held weekly at 12:30 pm in The Hut, with topics and discussion leaders changing weekly.

Campus Ministry Office Contact

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For additional information about Campus Ministry at Guilford College visit
www.guilford.edu/campusministry

