

---

Northampton Friends Meeting  
43 Center Street  
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

---

12<sup>th</sup> month, 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To Friends everywhere:

Northampton Friends greet you in the Light during this trying time of dividedness. We are pleased to introduce Bruce Hawkins, who is a founding member of our Meeting.

We ask you to receive him in tender kindness and treat him as kin. Friend Bruce is following a leading to seek and foster better understanding of those who seem in opposition to us, and to query Friends and others about those we might feel divided from or sometimes mistakenly think of as enemies.

Bruce is developing this ministry of bringing a loving lens to how we see those people who think differently from us. His work here with Friends has helped participants see that we are all closer than it may appear and offers a way forward. Bruce purposes to travel in the Ministry to help us consider how our experiences of love and joy can help us in understanding how to overcome “othering” and division. We urge Friends to faithfully engage in the opportunity he is offering.

Northampton Friends commend Bruce to your tender care.

In the Light,

Marcianna Caplis, clerk

Endorsed by Connecticut Valley Quarterly Meeting on February 1, 2026  
David Ahlfeld, Clerk