



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Third Month, March 2021

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
604 Hopewell Road, Clear Brook, VA 22624
Telephone: 540-667-9114 <http://hopecentre.quaker.org>

Dick Bell, Clerk of the Meeting, 304-268-8510
Donna Knight, Assistant Clerk of the Meeting, 540-771-8118
John Guiser, Clerk of Pastoral Care, 540-662-1436
Michele Christopher, Newsletter, Michele.christopher@hotmail.com, 540-908-8414
**If possible, The Monthly Silence will be published on or soon after the 20th of each month.
Please send items you want included in the newsletter by the 17th of the month.*

Please send donations to:
Hopewell Centre Friends
c/o Jim Riley
1321 Vanceright Circle
Winchester, VA 22601

Pastoral Care

We continue to Hold in the Healing Light of Love:

Kary Haun and husband Frank, children Margaret at UVA and Joe in Woodstock. She has started medication for a chronic leukemia that is very treatable.

Ellie Haun is doing well after Covid and is now living with son Frank and family. Her new address is below.

Julia Storburg-Walker is exploring treatment for reinjured shoulder.

Margaret Trueblood and husband John. Margaret is in rehab in Woodstock.

Janet Harrison and husband Andy Mossholder

Francine Guiser and husband John

Jose Camacho. The Harris family, Kelsey Harris Camacho and husband Alex continue to be concerned that Jose recover his health for needed surgery.

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, February 21, 2021
Collectively but Separately from our Homes and Hopewell
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: The Clerk referred to a list of characteristics of white supremacy culture that are generally accepted as norms from BYM's publication of "Dismantling Racism: A Workbook for Social Change Groups." Today's category was "Defensiveness." Dick read the characteristics and then asked for volunteers to read some of the antidotes to these characteristics. Comments included: An excellent set of antidotes; We have always been told to "question authority," so take note: if you are in authority, don't be too defensive; We can sometimes be too nice in trying not to hurt someone's feelings. Try to balance confrontation with niceness in order to be effective; If you start to feel defensive, hit the pause button. Clerk Bell commented that today's document on defensiveness was utilized at the recent conference on Religion and Psychology. It is attached to the original minutes.

Thanksgivings and Concerns: Margie Riley expressed a concern for the health and well-being of Margaret Trueblood and husband John. She is currently in failing health. Margie Riley gave thanks for today's sunshine (there hasn't been much lately). Julia Storberg-Walker gave thanks for the Meeting's support in her difficult dealings with a badly injured shoulder. Dick Bell gave thanks to the Meeting for their support of last week's Washington Friends Conference on Religion and Psychology (we had 5 participants from the Meeting). Judy McCarthy added her thanks for being able to attend the conference, noting how much it had broadened her perspectives.

Treasurer: Jim Riley presented the treasurer's report for January. Major items included: Contributions:

Individual and Family: \$4,674 (Jim noted that \$2500 of this amount was a carryover from the month of December)

Use of Centre: 310

Expenses: only the regular monthly bills

Checking account balance: \$12,883

The full report is attached to the original minutes.

Ministry and Counsel: Richard Cooper presented the following report:

We met on February 1, 2021 via Zoom:

- I. We welcomed Ellie Haun to our committee, specifically to act in the role of Elder. We have charged her with providing wise counsel.
- II. We reviewed the hybrid meetings via Zoom and in person at Hopewell. All things seem to be going smoothly, except that winter weather has caused the cancellation of

the last three live meetings at Hopewell. We commend Donna Knight for her initiative in promoting safe worship, providing an effective use of technology, and making coffee for the attenders.

- III. The Spiritual State of the Meeting has been reviewed by the committee and the Meeting. The revised document, authored and edited by Margie Riley, will be before the meeting today for approval. The committee acknowledges the effort, discernment, and craft Margie has employed in the meeting's behalf.
- IV. We reviewed and planned REs through March 28.

We acknowledge that a highly successful RE, *Speaking Across the Divide*, moderated by Julia Storberg Walker, occurred last First Day, the 14th.

(March RE Calendar)

February 28 – Let Your Light Shine (inspired by Ellie Haun) – How we speak up, bring our values into our living, develop a healing vision, and reconnect while we step out, moderated by Dick Bell.

March 7- A presentation by Meg Kinghorn and Casey Wilson

March 21 – A presentation by Martha Hanley (TBA—See below.)

March 28 - An exploratory session to determine if the meeting wishes to acquire a sister meeting and whether that meeting might be a programmed meeting, an unprogrammed meeting, or, even, another form of worship community.

- V. Other RE topics were offered for future consideration.
- VI. Margie Riley shared with us the deliberations of the Advancement and Outreach committee, deliberations which she will expand on in reporting to the meeting.
- VII. Margie Riley also offered to lead a discussion group via Zoom on the PBS series “The Black Church” which aired beginning February 16th.
- VIII. The committee has begun a correspondence concerning REs and how we do them with Karie Firoozmand of Stony Run.

(This report has been augmented with information which has occurred since the meeting.)

Respectfully submitted, Ministry and Counsel

Martha Hanley corrected the March 21 RE. It is currently TBA.

Pastoral Care: John Guiser reported that the committee has maintained contact with attenders and members throughout the month and information is being forwarded to the newsletter for those that need to be held in the light. John has initiated a monthly newsletter from Pastoral Care called “Light Line.” It will contain subjects on fostering care and wellness on many levels. A recent email gave further clarification to the intent of the newsletter. As John said, it's a work in progress. This month, the Light Line is asking us to send items to the committee about how our pets lift our spirits. Martha Hanley suggested that some of the responses may be read as part of our pre-Meeting chat on Sundays.

Advancement and Outreach: Margie Riley reported that she, Becky Ebert, and Anne Bacon met via Zoom on Jan. 19 and Jan. 26.

- WATTS dinner – First United Methodist. Karen Nelson has graciously agreed to coordinate this for us as Becky cannot help at this time. We are scheduled for Tuesday, March 2. We will use the same menu and plan as last time - crockpot meal, reduced number of people serving due to Covid.
- We decided to discontinue our use of the Quaker Cloud website. It hasn't been accessed much and doesn't really seem to be a fit for us. Becky Ebert will be consulting with an IT friend who can hopefully help us with a) how to work with an older website that had been managed by David McCormick, and b) what we might do regarding a website that is most effective for us.
- We would like to post another yard sign outside Centre Meeting House to support our country with healing. Options are being discussed. We will reach out to Peace and Social Concerns to work together.
- We discussed how to support community events that are focused on healing the divide our country is experiencing. One note of interest: Google has started identifying "black owned business" on their map search. While it's a limited list presently, it will probably grow over time. We encourage people who want to support local black owned businesses to see what's on the map.
- We discussed writing Letters to the Editor as a Meeting project. This needs continued discussion.

Peace and Social Concerns: Dick Bell reported that the committee continues to meet monthly for discussing current social issues. One of the results of this month's discussion is a suggestion to send correspondence to local newspapers in areas of Virginia that did not accept the presidential election results.

Committee of the Whole: No report. Only part of the committee logged in.

Shed: Dan Riley reported for the committee: The Shed Replacement Committee met at Hopewell on Feb. 9, 2021. Our guest was Ken Livingston, an architect from Berryville, Va. We talked about the scope of our project and listened to his suggestions. We agreed to have him give us a proposal and are going to pay him to submit some preliminary sketches. He is also checking with the county zoning administrator regarding site planning. A question was raised regarding fundraising, and Dan mentioned that the Fundraising Committee for the project will be revived as progress continues.

Recorder: Dan Riley reported that the annual summary of Community Statistics has been sent to BYM for the year 2020. We had 4 new members join and 4 attenders were dropped. We have 68 members, of whom approximately 27 attend fairly regularly, and we have 21 attenders of whom approximately 15 attend regularly.

Old Business: The final draft of the Spiritual State of the Meeting was sent to everyone for final approval. There were no further suggestions for any changes, the Meeting approved the document, and it will be sent to BYM. Clerk Bell, along with the Meeting, commended Margie Riley for her spirit led report. It is attached to the original minutes.

New Business: Margie Riley proposed a possible Zoom group meeting to discuss the recently aired (and still streaming) four-part series “The Black Church” on PBS. An email will be forthcoming soliciting any interest in proceeding with a group discussion.

Jim Riley announced that BYM is currently proposing that in-person summer camping go forward this coming summer. For more information, contact Brian Massey, our new camping program clerk.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Dan Riley, Donna Knight, Margie Riley, Jim Riley, Anne Bacon, Richard Cooper, Martha Hanley, Judy McCarthy, Maureen O’Mara, Ellie Haun, Betty McCormick, Becky Ebert, Karen Nelson, Michele Christopher, Julia Storberg-Walker, John Guiser, Hilde Matheson, Marie Tyler McGraw, Paul Britner, and Judia Gallinger.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk

Announcement: Ellie Haun is back at her son’s home. Her address is
Ellie Haun.
402 N. Main St.
Woodstock, VA 22664
phone: 540-325-3341



March Calendar

March 2 WATTS dinner – First United Methodist, Tuesday, March 2. Cooking for 35 clients and 5 staff. Karen Nelson has graciously agreed to coordinate this time. Same schedule as previous dinners.

March 7 RE---A presentation by Meg Kinghorn and Casey Wilson

March 21 RE---TBA. See minutes above.

March 28 RE---An exploratory session to determine if the meeting wishes to acquire a sister meeting and whether that meeting might be a programmed meeting, an unprogrammed meeting, or, even, another form of worship community.

Link to BYM's Third Month Interim Meeting Virtual Session:

<https://www.bym-rsf.org/events/interim/third21.html>

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