



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

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
604 Hopewell Road, Clear Brook, VA 22624

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Dick Bell, Clerk of the Meeting, 304-268-8510

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*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

Join us in Holding in the Light~

Judy McCarthy has moved in with her mom as her health is declining and she needs full time care. Judy's siblings are assisting with her care. Let's pray for her.

Michele Christopher is having both knees replaced on July 28. Please hold her in the Light.

Jim Riley asked that we hold Josh in the Light.

Hold Hilde Matheson in the Light as she is still dealing with the wound on her leg and a heart issue which may require surgery.

Becky Ebert is continuing to improve after her surgery but still needs additional recuperative time. Please continue to keep her in the Light.

Lisa Mortenson and Karen Nelson visited Francine Guiser. John was very appreciative of this. Please continue to hold Francine and John in the Light.

The Pastoral Care and Advancement Outreach are continuing with the Center Community Prayer group throughout the summer. Dick Bell will send out notice for the dates.

Karen Nelson, July 11, 2021

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, July 11, 2021
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: The Clerk read two quotes, one from Isaac Pennington and one from George Fox. Both referred to the relationship between us and the holy spirit. Comments included: “very lovely, very spiritual,” “beautifully simple, but difficult to practice in reality,” “I particularly liked ‘don’t let thoughts fly into the air,’ ” “I can’t, God can, I think I’ll let him,” “what would my life be like without this.” The quotes are attached to the minutes.

Thanksgivings and Concerns: John Guiser gave thanks (via Pam Hambach) for the donation of an air conditioner to Centre Meeting House by Steve Berkenkemper. Lisa Mortensen gave thanks for the Quake and Bake Cookbook (available for purchase). She has enjoyed several recipes from the book. Karen Nelson mentioned that her daughter Kristen has to have her pet dog (age 20) put down. We hold her in the light. Betty McCormick gave thanks for our first in-person business meeting since the onslaught of Covid. It’s nice to be back.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer’s report for June.

Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$1,205
Use of Centre:	63 (gas bill paid by AA)
Distrib. from the Roger’s Fund	9,641

Expenses:

Donation to BYM Camping	\$ 500
Mowing	595
Removal of 4 trees at the Hollingsworth Graveyard	2,735 (from the Roger’s Fund)

Checking account balance:	\$12,879
Roger’s Fund	34,000 (saving a part for the shelter)

Sarah Zane Fund balance: \$3,271

The Treasurer's report is attached to the original minutes.

Ministry and Counsel: Richard Cooper presented the following report: The Committee met via Zoom on July 5, 2021.

We opened by discussing the effectiveness of our current protocols. They seem to be working well. The committee formed a guideline recommending that all returnees from vacation wear a mask for two weeks during meeting for worship to alleviate the possibility of passing any variant on to our community.

We then scheduled second hours:

July 11 – Business meeting

July 18 – Margie Riley, who will present information on the Mosaic Center for Diversity (Shenandoah U) in honor of Juneteenth. (Shelter committee rescheduled for August 15)

July 25 – We shall be at Centre for potluck.

August 1 – Paul Britner on *Silencing the Past*.

August 8 – Business meeting

August 15 – Shelter committee presentation.

August 22 – Homecoming. Please consider forwarding personal thoughts on what you think would be nice to do to Advancement and Outreach.

August 29 – currently open

We discussed the excitement generated by our community prayer group which is meeting twice a month at Centre. Dick said that he will write a letter to the pastor of the AME church this week outlining our group and inviting members to participate.

We discussed having volunteers visit members who have trouble accessing Otter closed-captioning services during meetings for worship.

Respectfully submitted, Ministry and Counsel

Building and Grounds: Pam Hambach reported that we are considering improving the welcome sign at Hopewell, including the wording, the size and shape, and the location. Please submit ideas to any committee member. David Logan examined the chimneys with a camera drone and discovered that there are no caps. We plan to have chimney caps installed to prevent further plaster damage from the possibility of water seeping through the chimneys. Steve Berkenkemper donated a portable air conditioner to Centre. It has been tested and seems to be working well. Many thanks to him for the donation.

Advancement and Outreach: Margie Riley reported (through Dan Riley) that the committee is continuing to work on the new website for the Meeting. She and Julia Storberg-Walker met recently to coordinate the details for the drop-down menus. Michele Sunderland is continuing to give good technical support. The committee is also working with Pastoral Care to support

the development of the Community Prayer Group. Margie created and duplicated flyers to promote the prayer group which were distributed to everyone at the business meeting. The flyers include the group mission statement; many are available at Hopewell. A copy will also be emailed to everyone. Dick Bell further explained what to expect when attending one of the prayer meetings. Donna Knight suggested placing our outdoor sign into the yard at Centre with information about the twice a month gatherings. It was also suggested that we include information in our once-a-month Winchester Star ad.

Ann Bacon has been in touch with the pastor of the local AME church and Clerk Bell has sent an invitation to the church to attend the meetings and to exchange prayer requests with us.

Let Margie know of any ideas you may have for our upcoming Homecoming gathering.

Pastoral Care: [Please see above. MC]

Shelter Project: We met on July 8, Martha, Charlie, Jim, Dan and contractor Mike Horst in attendance. We reviewed the estimate by Mike Horst of Integral Construction for picnic shelter/storage building on concrete pad, under one roof, for approximately \$66,655.00. The committee agreed to go with a standard metal roof rather than standing seam. This will save a considerable amount of money.

We also approved using Charlie's 4x8 doors to be placed on the east side of the storage area, to place a door from storage into the shelter, and to install one window on the south side of storage.

The bid will be adjusted to include electrical, excavation, grading, and permit fees. The committee is comfortable going with Horst but we are looking at two other possible contractors: One based in Christiansburg, Virginia, for \$125-135,000 for a timber frame structure not including a concrete pad. And another from This n' That Amish Outlet for a rough estimate of \$50,000 without specific plans at this time.

Charlie suggested we include in the grading a patio area on west side of shelter which may be finished with gravel where a fire circle would be located. It would be approximately 20' x 20' or 20' x 36'.

Committee has requested a second hour in August to present more complete plans to the Meeting. This time would also cover costs and fundraising in more detail. We are in touch with people who expressed interest in helping with fundraising.

Scott Lynch has agreed to take down the old shed in exchange for materials. Wood from shed will be saved for projects such as bookends. Scott Lynch has also agreed to finish 3 longer benches for use in the shelter.

Maureen O'Mara agreed to store these benches and will provide for pick up by end of July. Paul Britner suggested we get a bid for the project from a minority-owned business. We also agreed to check with the AME church.

Graveyard: Jim Riley reported that 4 trees were removed from the Hollingsworth graveyard. There are several trees that need to be removed from the Hopewell graveyard. Julia Storberg-Walker suggested we consider replanting after trees are removed.

Hospitality: Judy Enterline reminded us that we need guests to include their address when signing the guest book for follow-up correspondence.

Landscaping: We called "We Do Trees" for some "tree" work. Fortunately, they had a branch office nearby, but they were too busy, so we went out on a limb to try and discover the root of the problem ourselves. When we saw that we had left our tools locked in our trunk, one frustrated member barked out, "I'm leaving," so we gave up and leaved.

Announcements: Homecoming is at Hopewell on August 22. OATS meets on July 17.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Dan Riley, Donna Knight, Anne Bacon, Martha Hanley, Judy McCarthy, Maureen O'Mara, Ellie Haun, Betty McCormick, Julia Storberg-Walker, Buddy Walker, Hilde Matheson, John Trueblood, Michele Christopher, Jim Riley, Lisa Mortensen, Charlie Mortensen, Kristin Zimet, Marie Tyler-McGraw, Richard Cooper, Karen Nelson, Paul Britner, Mike Hambach, Pam Hambach, Judy Enterline, and Ginger Peloquin.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ETC

Homecoming

Our annual Homecoming will take place on Sunday, August 22, at Hopewell Meetinghouse. Please bring a dish to share with others as we picnic on the lawn. Iced tea and water will be provided, but please bring your own plate, utensils, and lawn chair, if possible. Jim Riley

Dick Bell's Letter to the Pastor of St. Paul AME in Winchester

Please return to the email that carried this newsletter to you and open the attachment that is Dick Bell's letter to Pastor Kevin Wilson. Also see Dick's latest From the Clerk article.

1921 Winchester Star newspaper article

The Winchester Star regularly runs stories from years gone by in its “Out of the Past” column. Jim Riley found this article about a “community playground” Centre Meeting ran annually.

From June 24, 1921

“The community playground will open for its third season Saturday at Friends’ Meeting House Grounds, Washington and Piccadilly streets. All children between five and fourteen are invited. It is free.

Two members of the graduating class of the high school, Katherine Barnett and Marian Barr, will be in charge under the direct supervision of Miss Stowers; members of the Friends’ Recreation Committee and volunteers from the various churches and Camp Fire Girls will assist.

There will be lots of fun on the slides, in the sand piles, and some excellent stories told under the trees.”



1921 article reprinted by The Winchester Star

Happy Birthday to Our Friends



July 16 Maggie Stetler

July 17 Robyn Harris

July 18 Martha Hanley

August 8 Linda Wilk

AUGUST CALENDAR

August 1 – Paul Britner on *Silencing the Past*.

August 8 – Business meeting

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August 29 – TBA

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