



**The Monthly Silence**  
**The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting**  
**of the Religious Society of Friends**  
**Sixth Month, June 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](mailto:Michele.christopher@hotmail.com), 540-908-8414

*\*If possible, The Monthly Silence will be published on or soon after the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.  
Please send items you want included in the newsletter by the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month.*

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

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### Pastoral Care

#### **Join us in Holding in the Light**

Linda Wilk's husband George was just released from the hospital after having colon cancer surgery. The good news is they were able to remove all the cancer and he needs no further treatment.

Becky Ebert was hospitalized for a week with Diverticulitis. She is home recuperating for another week. She is very grateful for all the support, and sweetheart Brett is a mainstay. She asked that we hold Zachary Harner in the light as he recuperates from a serious car accident in Winchester last week.

Laura Nell Obaugh's daughter Lou Ann was in the hospital in SC with a health challenge after a routine procedure. Laura Nell is working with Margie Riley on her memoirs.

Jim Riley, and his wife Mary, asked that we hold daughter Danielle in the light.

Kary Haun, Frank and children . Kary is responding well to treatment despite its side effects.

Maggie Stetler has a knee issue related to falls. And her husband Peter is getting treatment for two serious vision issues.

Francine Guiser and her husband John Guiser

Janet Harrison and Andy Mossholder

Jose Camacho, Kelsey Harris' young brother in law, is recovering from surgery.

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**Meeting for Worship for Business  
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, May 16, 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 “Power Hoarding.” It dealt primarily with the need for power sharing in an organization. Dick read the characteristics and then asked for volunteers to read some of the antidotes to these characteristics. Comments included: Our Ministry and Counsel committee is a good example of power sharing since the membership is frequently changed; power sharing is important for diversity; there is that of God in everyone and all need to be heard; and we need to recognize that others are trying to grow and move forward as are we. The characteristics and antidotes are attached to the original minutes.

**Thanksgivings and Concerns:** Donna Knight gave thanks that she recently graduated from college with a B.S. degree in Business Administration majoring in accounting (insert applause). She also expressed a concern and a need for prayer for the Palestinians and Israelis involved in a terrible war. Betty McCormick gave thanks that we are slowly getting closer to a full in-person Meeting for Worship. Ellie Haun gave thanks to a doctor in Charlottesville who is currently treating her daughter-in-law Kari for cancer.

**Treasurer:** Jim Riley gave the treasurer’s report for April. Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$1,450
Use of Centre:	864

Expenses:

Utilities	\$ 638
Termite treatment	193 (for the caretaker's house)
Checking account balance:	\$14,052

The Roger's Fund balance is approximately \$30,000 (designated for property improvements). Approximately \$1,600 has been donated for the shed project.

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

**Ministry and Counsel:** Donna Knight presented the following report:

We met on May 3, 2021 via Zoom: Our principal role was discussing how our current policy on meeting during the pandemic should be amended to handle the changing, positive reality of the growing number of vaccinated. All three meeting physicians were in attendance, one as a guest. The group generated several understandings before discussion began: Masks work in preventing infection, full vaccination occurs two weeks after receiving a second shot (or after the shot if a one dose), what we are doing now is quite effective. We were not able to generate a clear policy to recommend to the meeting. The clerk of the meeting sent a summary of our discussions to the meeting.

We reviewed our REs and planned for new ones:

May 23 – A focused discussion on establishing goals for the meeting facilitated by meeting committee clerks.

May 30 – Learning about Indigenous Peoples, Their Lands, and Quakers – Julia Storberg-Walker

We are working on developing REs for June. We discussed an application for membership. We learned from A&O about development of our meeting website.

**Building and Grounds:** Jim Riley reported that work on the caretaker house driveway has been completed. The driveway was restored and regraded.

**Advancement and Outreach:** Margie Riley reported that Michele Sunderlin, an IT consultant, agreed to work with us to build a new website for Hopewell Centre Meeting. We currently have a web page that we have very little control over. With a website, we can easily post pictures, newsletter information, etc. She recommended we use GoDaddy to build the site. It would cost \$125 per year. It would be very secure and anyone doing a Google search with their computer or phone could easily find it. Other expenses would be to purchase a domain name (very minimal) and to pay Michele for her time in building the site. After the site is built, she will teach us how to maintain it. The Meeting approved proceeding with this much needed improvement.

**Peace and Social Concerns:** Betty McCormick reported that First Presbyterian Church in Winchester is opening a satellite office of World Church Services for the support of refugee resettlement. The church is requesting letters of support from local churches and meetings for their mission of bringing immigrants into the Winchester area. The Meeting agreed that we should support this mission. Clerk Bell volunteered to send a letter on behalf of the Meeting.

**Pastoral Care:** John Guiser reported that the committee met virtually and discussed the requests from individuals seeking the care of the Meeting. He also expressed a concern about how black people are currently being treated in this country. He said that now is the time to act to help rectify this problem, that we should invoke the power of prayer with our actions, and that we should make sure that what we do is spirit led. One suggestion was to reach out to a black church in the area. This could be done with visits, Zooming, conferences, etc. Our approach would emphasize how much we need each other, how much we care for each other, and how much we can learn from each other.

Someone suggested that we involve Ministry and Counsel, Peace and Social Concerns, and Advancement and Outreach committees in answering the question of how we should reach out. Other suggestions were: utilize the many resources currently available such as the Working Group on Racism; remember that we can also act as individuals in reaching out; we could start a prayer vigil that meets each week. And several of our members and attenders have personal contacts with members of the church community. The Meeting fully supported this initiative and committees and individuals will proceed to follow up on this important concern.

**Shed Project:** Martha Hanley reported that the committee met and is making some good progress on the project. She thanked all of the committee members for their input and ideas. Scott Lynch has agreed to join the committee. Thank you, Scott. Martha has been in contact with our local district supervisor and a member of the planning commission for the county. The good news is that we do not need a site plan if we build the new structure on the same footprint as the current shed. The Meeting approved using the same footprint. It was suggested that we could incorporate cleaning out the shed as part of our work day at Hopewell on May 29. Maureen O'Mara offered to store the benches that are in the shed until the new structure is finished. We will then decide which ones we want to put in the new shelter and where to donate the rest. The Meeting approved the kind offer from Maureen.

**Punctuation:** The committee: discussed the importance; of using correct punctuation? when. Submitting a committee, report:

**New Business:** The new CDC guidelines approve of individuals not having to wear a mask in a group gathering if everyone is fully vaccinated. Accordingly, Clerk Bell will amend the sign on the meetinghouse door to state that anyone entering must please wear a mask if not fully vaccinated.

**In Attendance:** Clerk Dick Bell, Dan Riley, Donna Knight, Margie Riley, Anne Bacon, Martha Hanley, Judy McCarthy, Maureen O'Mara, Ellie Haun, Betty McCormick, Karen Nelson, Julia Storberg-Walker, John Guiser, Hilde Matheson, Paul Britner, John Trueblood, Michele Christopher, Jim Riley, Lisa Mortensen, Charlie Mortensen, Peter Ford, Chris Cox, and Carol Marujo.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk

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## **Announcement**

*From Dick Bell:* Zoom Host Volunteers Needed – We're all volunteers. We do what we do because we love our meeting and love our F/friends. And because certain tasks just need being done. Since the pandemic, six Friends have joined me in hosting Zoom meetings. Trust me, it is a lovely experience. I believe I hold the inside track in the race for who is least comfortable in doing the hosting, but I have found through practice it's something I'm adequate in doing. For various and good reasons, three Friends have had to rotate off the hosting schedule. Because one replaced another, we have a need for two new Zoom hosts. Please consider it.

Hosting consists of starting the meeting, admitting folks as they enter the waiting room, greeting newcomers when they become active (audio and visual on), making sure folks are muted when worship begins, warning folks when we have a few moments remaining, and calling for announcements. You may have to activate screen sharing if someone has a document or video to share. Everyone will help you become comfortable. We'd love to have you.

RE Volunteers Needed – The same case may be made about presenting during our second hour for religious education. We'd love to hear your story; we'd love to share your lesson.

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## **June Birthdays**

**Nobody born in June has let us know about it ☹️.**

## **June Calendar**

May 23 – A focused discussion on establishing goals for the meeting facilitated by meeting committee clerks.

May 29 – Cleanup day at Hopewell. 9 AM on. Come help clean up our grounds and in the graveyard. Bring gloves, rakes, clippers, etc. It's fun.

May 30 – Learning about Indigenous Peoples, Their Lands, and Quakers – Julia Storberg-Walker

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