



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Eleventh Month November 2023

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of
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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
P.O. Box 165
Winchester, VA 22604

Please Hold in the Light

Karen Nelson is asking us to hold the following in the light:

Sally Seabright
John Guiser's Sister, Chrissy
Francine and John Guiser
Pam Hambach
Hilde Matheson
Janet Harrison
Betty McCormick's daughter, Susie
Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health.
Chris Cox

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, October 8, 2023
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education) This is to me the hour of greatest joy I ever had in this world. No ear can hear, no tongue can utter, and no heart can understand the sweet incomes and the refreshings of the spirit of the Lord, which I now feel. I was plain and would have all things done plainly; for I did not seek any outward advantage to myself. Mary Dyer

Comments included: A very selfless approach. Inexplicable moments of great joy. Simplicity can bring joy and freedom. She is very much in touch with the spirit.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Betty McCormick expressed a concern for the recently started war by Hamas attacking Gaza. Anne Bacon has a visit to Israel scheduled but we think it will be canceled. Karen Nelson reminded us that we need to remember to make sure that new attenders always feel welcome. Becky Ebert asked us to hold Pam Hambach, Sally Seabright, and Chris Cox in the light.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer's reports for September:
Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$ 1,207
Use of Centre:	320
Sarah Zane Fund:	170
Yard Sale	551

Expenses:

Mowing	\$ 290
Screens at Hopewell	900 (repair and replacement)
Utilities	306

Checking account balance:	\$ 16,937
Rogers Fund balance:	32,000 (funds available for use)
Sarah Zane Fund balance:	1,548

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

Ministry and Counsel: Becky Ebert gave the following report compiled by Clerk Bell: The committee met on October 2, 2023, via Zoom.

Communications: We encourage members and attenders to submit articles and book reviews. We are figuring out where to place the WiFi receptor so that the sun does not overheat it. We also talked about the fact that some messages are not meant to be heard,

meaning the person giving the message may talk softly and that's how the message is delivered.

RE's: planned through the end of November:

October 1st – Graveyard Committee gave a wonderful presentation on choosing your plot, followed by a brief tour of the graveyard.

October 15th – Paul Britner's "Meeting for Healing"

October 29th – Donna Knight "Bible verses in a basket"

November 5th – Church World Services: Anne Bacon and Betty McCormick lead us in the assembling of school and work kits for local refugee families.

November 19th – Friends Journal: Everyone read an article from our cache and then share comments about it with the meeting.

We agreed that while our reports must always be transparent, they do not need to include everything.

Becky brought us up to speed about where we are with Winchester in burying the remains of those unclaimed by family because there is no one to contact.

Respectfully submitted.

Ministry and Counsel, October 4, 2023

Social Concerns and Outreach:

The committee met on **Oct. 3, 2023**, at Anne Bacon's house. In attendance: Anne Bacon, Dick Bell, Betty McCormick, Becky Ebert, Margie Riley

Details for the **Kitchen of Hope outreach dinner**, Oct. 26, Market Street Church:

Plan to feed 50 - 60 people, from 5:30 - 6:30. Becky attended a Zoom meeting a week ago with information for all churches participating. She plans to stop by the church this week to see the set up.

A sign-up list has begun for helpers. Paul Britner will help with greeting people at the door. Walk ins are welcome, there is no criteria for who may come in, but the door keeper ensures that people come in appropriately. Market Street has a representative, Fran, who will be on-site and can help anyone needing handicapped access. Other helpers will be needed for cooking, set-up, serving, and clean up.

The menu will be Martin's chicken, fresh salad with salad bar fixings choices, sweet potato fries, rolls/butter/jam, cookies. Left overs will be taken to the CCAP free fridges.

People may ask for dinners "to go" at 6:30.

We've been asked to sign up quarterly. The Meeting decided to see how the first dinner goes and then will make a decision on this request.

Karen Nelson is handling the **WATTS dinner outreach**, Monday, Nov. 13, at Market Street. Same pattern as before. Details being developed.

Nov. 5 is our Religious Education day for hearing from Anne Bacon about Winchester **Church World Services**. We will also be assembling **work and school kits** for them that day. Josh Riley is preparing a list of needed materials. People can purchase donations and leave them in labeled bins at Hopewell Meeting House. Dictionaries are part of what's needed, Anne Bacon will find out which languages are needed and order from Amazon. It was suggested to add a "Welcome to Winchester" card to the kits with our members/attenders signing the card. Anne Bacon will deliver the kits to CWS.

Baha'i News...Margie Riley is coordinating with the Winchester Frederick County Baha'i group for the next Unity Picnic, scheduled for Oct. 28. Details being developed. It was suggested that we participate in three Unity picnics, fall - spring - summer. Margie will talk with the Baha'is about that. The AME church recommends April for a spring Unity picnic. Planning for that will involve Baha'i, Quaker, and AME representatives.

The Baha'is have sent a flyer about their founder's birthday celebration on Sunday, Oct. 15. All are invited.

Margie will get the Hopewell Centre email list and start to forward the Baha'i weekly devotion Zoom email for anyone interested in joining them on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m.

The next major activity will be a **peace workshop in the spring**. Anyone with ideas or interest should talk with Christian Mollitor. The committee will meet in January to start the planning for this event.

The committee will get in touch with Maggie Stetler about writing for the **Interchange**.

Building and Grounds: Dan Riley announced that there is still time to purchase a commemorative brick for the patio. The deadline for 2023 is October 15. The patio is scheduled to be installed in November.

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson reported as follows:

Please hold the following Friends in the light:

Sally Seabright who recently had a hard fall and broke several ribs.

Gerry Harris who was diagnosed with malignant melanoma and is waiting for a surgery date.

John Guiser's sister Chrissy who has been diagnosed with endometrial cancer.

Pam Hambach as she continues deal with a mass on her ovaries. She is going to UVA on Monday for a surgical evaluation.

Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson
Janet Harrison
Betty McCormick's daughter, Susie
Eloise Haun
Chris Cox

If anyone has any concerns or health issues to report, please let Karen know so she can reach out to them.

The Committee on Redundancy Committee: The committee met twice as a committee. The committee decided that they would continue to meet as a committee that makes decisions.

New Business: Margie Riley announced that the Prayer Group that met this past year on Zoom will be regrouping for the near future. The group will meet once a month at Hopewell and will be accessible by Zoom. The first meeting will be Thursday, October 12. Betty McCormick announced that the monthly Women's Lunch Group Meeting will be laid down until next spring. Wayne Finegar from BYM will be in our area on November 19 - 22. He will be available to give a talk on the "Quaker House" in North Carolina. We will ask him if he could do this on the evening of November 20. Margie Riley agreed to look into the availability of Quaker Motto calendars. Jim Riley announced that the annual "Men on a Mission" dinner will be held on November 4. More information will be forthcoming in this month's newsletter.

Announcements: Dates to remember:

October 15: Baha'i potluck honoring their founders

October 26: Kitchen of Hope, Market Street Methodist Church

October 28: A Walk in the Woods at Rolling Ridge from 10 - 2, lunch included

October 29: Unity gathering at 3:00 p.m. at Centre

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Jim Riley, Betty McCormick, Josh Riley, Judy McCarthy, Dan Riley, Christian Mollitor, Judy Enterline, Karen Nelson, Ellie Haun, Margie Riley, and Becky Ebert.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk



From the clerk

Two days a week I'm helping Director Natalie Greenhalgh at Powhatan as she is getting this year's eighth grade ready to perform *Romeo and Juliet*. The play is a tragedy about 'star-crossed' lovers from opposing families in Renaissance Verona, Italy, Romeo Montague and Juliet Capulet, who despite their families' entrenched hatred of each other have met and fallen in love. In Act II, scene 2, Juliet sums up the irrational dynamic by sighing on her balcony, "What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other word would smell as sweet." Romeo from beneath her garden wall has heard her and knows that Juliet deeply loves him too. He has risked death by being in her garden as well as the unmitigated censure of his own family. These two storied teenagers for centuries have shown the world that *amor omnia vincit* (love conquers all).

Each word is its own world. It has a creation, an evolution, and a death. It may have a benign meaning – just enough to supply currency to speech and writing, contributing to the sentences and articles which attempt to describe and outline our world. Other words are written in fire: Hamas, Israeli, Republican, Democrat, Maga, and Liberal. Just these past few weeks words like Speaker and Party have underlined our current governmental crisis. Democracy is in peril.

What are we to do? As Friends we believe there is that of God in each human being. We believe in peace. We believe in equality. We worship in silence, having abjured the tyranny of words.

Last week in an inspired RE (Religious Education) Paul Britner led us through "A Meeting for Healing." Among other things he played the song "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Many held hands and sang along. My mind was taken by the line, "and let it begin with me."

That's what we can do for this weary, weary world. We each may be bastions of peace. We each may help the suffering and treat the infirm. We each may do the best with each day of our lives we may. We each may be a Light to all of our fellow beings.

What's in a name? There's a difference between New Market and Nahal Oz. There's a difference between Glengary and Gaza. But there's no difference if we truly believe that love conquers all.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Dixon Bell

October 17, 2023



November 2023 Calendar

- October 26** --- Kitchen of Hope, Market Street UMC
- October 28** --- A Walk in the Woods at Rolling Ridge
- October 29** --- Bible Verse Basket with Donna Knight
3:00PM Unity Gathering for at Centre
- November 4** --- Men on a Mission, 1st Presbyterian Church
- November 5** --- Church World Services: Anne Bacon and Betty McCormick kits for Refugee Families
- November 12** --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- November 19** --- Friends Journal (read an article and discuss)
- November 23** --- Thanksgiving
- November 26** --- Potluck at Centre

Please join us...for a Unity Gathering!
Sunday, Oct. 29
3:00 p.m.
Centre Meeting House, Winchester
(on the corner of Washington and Piccadilly)



*"The utterance of God is a lamp,
whole light is these words: Ye
are the fruits of one tree, and the
leaves of one branch. Deal ye
one with another in the utmost
love and harmony, with
friendliness and fellowship...So
powerful is the light of unity that
it can illuminate the whole
earth."*

Baha'u'llah

....Baha'i, Quakers, AME, Metropolitan
Community Church, Lutherans, other
denominations, Shenandoah University
folks, those without a church affiliation...

*ALL are welcome!!
ALL ages welcome!!*

Bring a "tea" item to share...cookies,
cheese/crackers, tea sandwiches, fruit, tea
bread...we will have cider and tea.

We'll enjoy conversation as **we paint Unity rocks**...palm size river rocks...
to place around Winchester with key words like...peace, love, faith, truth,
justice, equality, grace, diversity, war is not the answer...etc.

Questions? Email hopewellcentrequakers@gmail.com

Bring a friend - hope you can come!

*Be patterns, be example, in all countries, places...Then you will come
to walk cheerfully over the world, answering that of God in everyone.*

George Fox

Support the Highland Food Pantry

The main fundraiser for the Highland Food Pantry called Men on a Mission will be held at the First Presbyterian Church in Winchester on Saturday, November 4 from 5 to 7 pm. This is a yearly event where attendees can sample dishes created by volunteer chefs who are men in the community. Dishes include appetizers, soups, chili, main dishes and desserts. There will also be a live auction. Information about the food pantry will be on display as well as other surprises.

Hopewell Centre Meeting has been a faithful supporter of the Highland Food Pantry for many years. One hundred percent of the ticket sales goes to support the pantry since sponsors and the church cover other expenses. Tickets are \$30 but remember, it all goes to the pantry. Betty McCormick and Jim Riley have tickets so please support this project if you can.

If you want to learn more about the Highland Food Pantry, visit their website: highlandpantrywinc.org.



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