



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Tenth Month October 2023

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of
Friends 604 Hopewell Road, Clear Brook, VA 22624
Telephone: 540-667-9114 Website: www.winchesterquakers.org

Dick Bell, Clerk of the Meeting, 304-268-8510
Donna Knight, Assistant Clerk of the Meeting, 540-771-8118
Karen Nelson and Martha Hanley, Pastoral Care. Contact Karen at 301-351-5538 or
knel23@yahoo.com
Donna Knight, Newsletter, Donnaknight@allpointscountertop.com , 540-771-8118

*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:

Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson
Janet Harrison
Betty McCormick's daughter, Susie
Becky Ebert who is recovering from a broken wrist
John Trueblood who has recently moved to Chambersburg, PA to be with family
Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health.
Chris Cox

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, September 10, 2023
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education) All are God's beloved children, despite the way each may be measured by human society. Early Quakers were Suffragists and Abolitionists. Quakers today are committed to ending oppression against all people. Amesbury Friends Testimonies

Comments included: Amen. Nice and succinct. The first sentence is particularly powerful.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Margie Riley thanked Martha Hanley and Josh Riley for the very successful yard sale (app. \$550) held yesterday. Betty McCormick asked us to keep her daughter Susie in the light as she is dealing with long covid. Dick Bell expressed a remembrance for Jacky Lachenmeyer and his wife. Jacky was a childhood friend who died tragically recently along with his wife. Pam Hambach expressed a remembrance for her manicurist and good friend Tony who died of a stroke recently. Christian Mollitor gave thanks that the BYM camping program has started the physical moving of Opequon Camp to Rolling Ridge. September 16 will be a service day at Rolling Ridge for anyone who would like to volunteer.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer's reports for August:

Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$ 2,915
Use of Centre:	425
Sarah Zane Fund:	750

Expenses:

BYM quarterly apportionment:	\$ 1,561
Quarterly insurance payment:	2,125
Mowing:	430
Cabinets and signs: signs at Hopewell and Centre)	3,305 (New cabinets at Hopewell and new
Plumbing repair and screen door:	669 (Caretaker's house)
Utilities for Hopewell and Centre:	445

Checking account balance:	\$ 15,682
Rogers Fund balance:	\$ 32,000 (funds available for use)
Sarah Zane Fund balance:	1,378

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

Ministry and Counsel: Peter Ford gave the following report compiled by Clerk Bell: The committee met on September 7, 2023, via Zoom.

We talked about communications issues, addressing the Wifi transponder overheating in the sun, use of microphones, and supporting community while settling for worship. We agreed to endorse the use of microphones for sharing so that all may hear. We also realize that persons in the moment of sharing may be totally focused on their message. The new passcode is *HopewellCentre1794*. We agreed to close the door at 9:55 and put a message on it saying, "We are beginning to settle for worship," to alert others to enter quietly.

We scheduled second hours through October:

September 17: Dick Bell, Peter Ford, and Jim Riley will present Hopewell history and a walk in the graveyard in honor of Thelma Boeder's visit to the Meeting.

October 1: Pam and Mike share hot dogs with us in the pavilion.

October 15: Paul Britner will present "Meeting for Healing".

October 29: Donna Knight will bring Bible verses in a basket.

We sketched out the first part of the year: Kitchen of Hope, Market Street Methodist, October 26 (Karen Nelson - chief coordinator. Up to 60 people being served), WATTS dinner sometime in November. We talked about supporting the Highland Avenue Food Pantry with either money or specific items drives, such as paper products (towels and toilet paper) or stocking Freedge in the Winchester area with fresh produce and eggs.

We discussed generally some updating ideas. We look forward to sharing our discussion with Building and Grounds. We realize that all these issues are under the purview of Building and Grounds and accede to their gentle discernment.

We call for Friends to consider candidates for a permanent editor for the newsletter.

We have offered the NAACP Centre for their monthly meeting on either Monday or Wednesday nights.

We closed by discussing our internal committee organization.

Respectively submitted,
Counsel

Ministry and

Social Concerns and Outreach: Margie Riley reported that the committee met last week at Betty McCormick's house. Margie and Becky Ebert will be the Co Clerks.

Anne Bacon reported that Church World Services, the organization responsible for relocating Afghan and other refugees, is supplying kits to be filled for the refugees. With Meeting approval, the committee is recommending we fill school kits and work kits. The Meeting approved. A list of items needed will be forthcoming.

Margie Riley reported that she recently attended the most recent Baha'i picnic. They will be having a potluck on October 15 to honor their founders. She also announced that the next Unity picnic will be held on October 28, location to be determined. More information will be forthcoming for the planning of the event.

Karen Nelson reported that we will be serving the meal for WATTS on a day in November. The Meeting approved the date of November 13 with a backup date of Nov. 14.

Christian Mollitor announced that "A Walk in the Woods" will be held at Rolling Ridge on October 28. Come see where Camp Opequon will be held next year. Lunch will be served. An arrival time will be announced forthcoming. Christian also announced that a Peace Workshop is being proposed for some time in February. It will be open to the public and we will invite other groups to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

Margie Riley announced that the next AME Church Worship in the Park will be held on September 17 at 11:00 a.m. at Jim Barnett Park.

The next committee meeting will be held on October 3 at Anne Bacon's house.

Building and Grounds: Pam Hambach reported the following:

The new signs have been installed at the entrance to Hopewell and on the outside wall at Centre. The old signs have been removed. The screen doors at Hopewell have been replaced or repaired. Pam presented the proposal for our new patio from Mike Horst. It will include the commemorative bricks, regular bricks, old foot stones that were removed from the graveyard years ago and edged with gray pavers. The cost will be \$8,500. The Meeting approved. Dan Riley announced that there is still time to purchase a commemorative brick for the patio.

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

Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson
Janet Harrison
Betty McCormick's daughter, Susie
Becky Ebert who is recovering from a broken wrist
John Trueblood who has recently moved to Chambersburg, PA to be with family
Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health.
Chris Cox

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

Graveyard: Scott Lynch reminded us of the availability of the application to reserve a gravesite in the graveyard.

Words: The Words committee continued with the topic of "How to respond to someone who asks: May I have a word?" After much discussion, the consensus was that the person who has made this request should be given a word.

New Business: Margie Riley announced that the Prayer Group that met this past year on Zoom will be regrouping for the near future. She presented several books that could be used for topic discussions as part of the format for the meetings. Ideas are welcome. A meeting to discuss the new format will be announced soon.

Jim Riley recommended that the yard sale profit be donated to Rolling Ridge to be used for needed improvements to the property. The Meeting approved.

Announcements: Dates to remember:

September 17: AME worship service and picnic, 11:00 a.m. at Jim Barnett Park

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

October 28: Unity picnic with Baha'is

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Jim Riley, Betty McCormick, Josh Riley, Judy McCarthy, Dan Riley, Peter Ford, Christian Mollitor, Anne Bacon, Judy Enterline, Martha Hanley, Kristen Zimet, Karen Nelson, Ellie Haun, Mike Hambach, Pam Hambach, Margie Riley, Becky Ebert, Scott Lynch, and Richard Cooper.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk



From the clerk

The wistful days of summer draw to a close, and the chill of autumn creeps in, hinting at another season to enjoy and revel in. For me, the memories of summer are always wistful because they people my memories all year, pleasantly reminding me of the joys when outside and inside are so often one and the same. Mae Swenson wrote in “The Centaur”: “Can there be only one Summer when I was ten? It must have been a long one then– .”

Summers **are** long, filled with picnics, dinners, plays, hikes, adventures, seashore visits, and, if you’re lucky, languid, laugh-filled encounters with relatives, reminding you of evermore distant summers and memories. Everyone eats too much, complains of the heat, laments the lack of rain, and charges headfirst into another day – days so long that it is a pity seeing them end. Swathes of green and oceans of produce fuel the commerce of summer. Peals of thunder counterpoint blistering midday heat. Joyous cooing of babies, finally freed from the stricture of wintry blankets and coats, provides melody and generous commentary. And the racket of gleeful children plays like a Beethoven piano sonata on your ears.

For as long as I can remember, I have set as a goal to realize every day of summer fully, to drain each day of its essence and then process that essence nightly in my dreams. The happy visions there leave me refreshed when I awake and ready for the new day. Having settled on the topic of summer for this column earlier, I realize it’s all part of my eternal reluctance to let summer go. When I was little, going to school was the saddest day of the year. No more wild carnival rides, no more trips to the river, no more crabbing, no more picnics, no more cousins, no more cool evenings on Grandmother Ridgeway’s front porch with iced tea and a bucket of pods as you were ‘picking’ out the lima beans. The hardest I ever cried as a youngster was on the ride home after some long-ago Labor Day when I looked back, and the Blue Ridge finally disappeared somewhere between Aldie and Chantilly: I realized that summer was over. Mom and Dad in the front seat kept saying, “What’s wrong, Dickie? Is something wrong?” But it was too much for me to put into words.

Too much for me to say then – which now I can: “Why must summer ever end?”

Respectfully submitted,

R. Dixon Bell September 16, 2023



October 2023 Calendar

- September 24** --- Potluck at Centre
- October 1** --- Pam and Mike treat us to hotdogs in the pavilion.
- October 8** --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- October 15** -- Paul Britner will present "Meeting for Healing".
Baha'i potluck honoring their founders.
- October 22** -- Potluck at Centre
- 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

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.



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