



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre
Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
The Fourth Month, April 2024

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

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Karen Nelson and Martha Hanley, Pastoral Care. Contact Karen at 301-351-5538 or knel23@yahoo.com

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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:
See additional information in the Pastoral Care Report below

Chris Cox (Pastoral Care to reach out to Chris)

Jennifer Dyer

Francine and John Guiser and his sister, Chrissy

Pam Hambach

Janet Harrison

Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health.

Donna Knight and her family

Hilde Matheson

Betty McCormick, her daughter Susie, and granddaughter Meghan

Zakee McGill

Margie Riley's Sister-In-Law, Barbara Weiss

Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business 10 March 2024

The meeting opened with a moment of silence, Clerk, Dick Bell, presiding.

CQE – (Continuing Quaker Education): Friends shared their reflections on the CQE quote Dick shared.

“Come let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, that we may walk the paths of the Most High. And we shall beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. And none shall be afraid, for the mouth of the Lord of Hosts has spoken.”

- A Jewish Prayer for Peace.

Thanksgivings and Concerns: A friend shared gratitude for the recent concert in which Kristin Zimet was an enthusiastic participant. We continue to hold Betty McCormick’s daughter and granddaughter Susie and Meghan in the Light. Friends visited with Hilde Matheson last week; it was a good visit. We continue to hold Peter’s niece Stacy in the Light as the community of Perry, Iowa continues to recover from the recent shooting. We are continuing to hold Donna Knight and family in the Light after the recent death of her nephew, Dustin.

Treasurer’s Report (Includes news and reports from Finance): Jim Riley shared the treasurer’s report for February:

Contributions totaled \$1,070. Jim noted that the amount was actually higher but because of a delayed bank deposit, due to Jim and Mary’s recent move, the full amount will be noted next month. Contributions included \$100 to the Sarah Zane Fund and \$100 in memorial/honorial bricks.

Expenditures included \$1,670 paid to BYM in quarterly apportionment, \$2,125 for our quarterly insurance bill, \$1,398 in contributions to other organizations (a large percentage of which paid for supplies for our “Return to Work” kits for Church World Service), and \$1,000 for the accessibility ramp at Centre.

At the end of the month, we have \$19,203 in our checking account, \$33,852 in the Rogers property fund, and \$3,020 in the Sarah Zane Fund.

Ministry and Counsel: Peter Ford reported that Ministry & Counsel met this past Monday, 4 March 2024 via Zoom and at the home of Dick Bell. The new laptop at Centre is still locked out. M&C and Donna are sorting out the problem.

Second hour religious education was planned through the end of April:

- March 10: Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- March 17: FCNL’s priority-setting process - Dick
- March 24: Potluck at Centre
- March 31: Easter
- April 7: Poems and Poets (in observance of national poetry month) - members are encouraged to bring poems to share - our own or others.’
- April 14: Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- April 21: Friends Journal article sharing - tentative and could be preempted if necessary.

Dates to Remember:

- Saturday, March 23 @ 11:00 a.m. - AME Prayer Breakfast
- Thursday, March 28 @ 7:00 p.m. - BYM Spring Meeting for Listening for mid-Virginia and West Virginia via Zoom. Dick shared this with all via email. Dick is planning to attend.
- Saturday, April 13 - Eco-spirituality workshop - remember to register if you plan to attend.
- Date TBA - Interfaith gathering.

Social Concerns and Outreach: Becky Ebert reporting for the committee, noted that six members participated in executing the Watts dinner to great acclaim, especially the gravies. Six members participated in the Watts walk, which was one of the largest in the country. An Iftar dinner, in observance of the end of Ramadan, is coming up at Shenandoah University on March 20th. Two members are planning to attend. Becky anticipates that we will serve another Kitchen of Hope dinner in May but no date has yet been set.

Buildings and Grounds: In the absence of a formal report, or anyone else to give it, Jim Riley reported on the spot that Mike Horst is supposed to start work on the pavilion patio this coming Wednesday, March 13th. Dan Riley picked up the most recent order of bricks and delivered them to Hopewell; they are all laid out on a table in the pavilion awaiting en-patiement. The ramp for Centre has been purchased and is being stored outside by the shed. Smaller ramps up to the porch slab and up to the threshold of the porch entrance have been installed. Charles Harbaugh from Access Independence worked with Dan Riley to arrange these improvements.

We affirmed our desire to correct the latch on the door from the kitchen/fellowship area to the meeting room so that it will stay shut more consistently. Scott volunteered to follow up. Jonathan also indicated his willingness to help.

Interiors (under care of B&G) - no report

Graveyard (under care of B&G) - no report

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson, reporting. We continue to hold in the Light:
Donna Knight and her family, following her nephew Dustin's recent passing at the age of 38.
John Guiser's sister, Chrissy, who has endometrial cancer.
Pam Hambach who is recovering from her cancer surgery and recent round of chemotherapy.
Barbara Weiss, Margie Riley's sister-in-law, who has a recurrence of breast cancer.
Chris Cox - Pastoral Care will reach out to check in with Chris.
Jennifer Dyer
Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson
Zakeen McGill
Janet Harrison who continues with dialysis and is hoping to find a kidney donor.
Betty McCormick's daughter Susie and granddaughter Meghan.
Eloise Haun

Hospitality: No report.

Old Business: None came to mind.

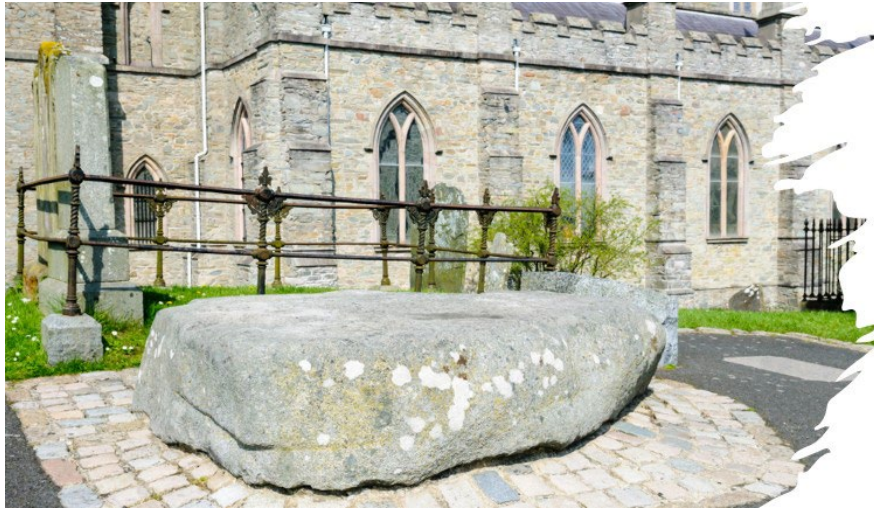
New Business: We reviewed and approved our narrative for the Spiritual State of the Meeting query 3 (with no corrections or improvements!) and our narrative for query 4 with light additions, and expressed our gratitude to Kristen Zimet, Maggie Stetler, and Dan Riley for their synthesis and editing on these queries. Thanks to all who participated in their discernment and creation.

Fixing the door latch, as noted in the Building and Grounds report.

To meet again as Way Opens on 14 April 2024.

The meeting ended with a moment of silence.

Josh Riley, recording



From the clerk

Two comments on last month's column: It really centered on the 'Twilight Zone' realm of human experience – the intersection of the real, 'factual' world with that of the non-empirical one. The column was too ambitious. Both principal stories were fascinating and full of amazing commentary, commentary which did not wear well smashed and shortened to fit a single column.

Every day brings with it lessons.

Yesterday I fully intended writing this column (due on the seventeenth of each month) but found myself by mid-afternoon fighting drowsiness and ready for bed. I heeded those wise markers. I was, in fact, exhausted.

Since the advent of the Holiday season Hopewell Centre and its members have been full steam ahead. Busy holidays followed by busy demands on the early months of '24. An onrush of prayer groups, community events, weather, documents and their review, illnesses, WATTS dinners, conferences, family tragedies, walks, and Zoom meetings has created a pace lacking time for reflection or careful discernment.

So, St. Patrick's Day gave me the time for rest and recovery I needed. Patrick drove more than the snakes from Ireland. He was a remarkable figure who secured Christianity in the Emerald Isle and who brought a cultural unity to the island. I've stood at the entrance of his tomb at (of all places) Glastonbury, England. To the left of the door grows a very hearty thorn bush which legend claims sprang from the walking stick of Joseph of Arimathea as he planted it there to mark his landing in Britain. Wherever I stepped that day I was bathed in legend: Arthur, his and Gwenevere's tomb, the dour, sacked monastery, the great Tor raised by monks, St. Patrick, and – right out of the Gospels – Joseph of Arimathea.

There is magic and mystery in the world.

It is best experienced with rest and time for reflection.

Rare coins in today's sprinting world.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Dixon Bell March 18, 2024

Inner Peace & Eco-Spirituality Workshop

Saturday, April 13, 2024
10am-3pm ~ North of Winchester, Virginia



The above photos are from the Andes Mountains of Peru and reflect the love for Mother Nature inspiring this event.



Free Earth Day Outreach Event
Space is limited- RSVP by April 6th!
Scan QR code or email for details:
HopewellCentreQuakers
@gmail.com

A simple whole food vegetarian
lunch will be provided.

Hopewell Centre Meeting House
604 Hopewell Road
Clear Brook, VA 22624

This workshop contains a variety of Earth-based spiritual practices and body, mind, soul and Spirit healing modalities that will create openings for you to have a direct experience of the Divine mystery and allow witness to the awe and wonder of Mother Nature and the Universe.

- Drumming Journey for Spirit Guide/
Council of All Beings
- Chair Yoga (easy and accessible for everyBody)
- Ecological Examen (reflecting on the Divinity in nature)
- Ancestors & Healing Haunted Histories
- Sacred Art of Eating
- Heart, Breath and Energy Silent Worship
- Sharing and Integration
- Thanksgiving Address and Prayer for
Peace and Environmental Healing



SCAN ME

Come join Christian Molliter

Let's Dance!

featuring Martin Palmer's *Milostango*, with orchestra

Friday, April 19, 2024

7:30pm

Front Royal Presbyterian Church

115 Luray Ave.

Front Royal, VA

Sunday, April 21, 2024

3:00pm

**First Baptist Church
of Winchester**

205 W. Piccadilly St.

Winchester, VA

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

7:30pm

All Saints Catholic Church

9300 Stonewall Rd.

Manassas, VA

Sunday, April 28, 2024

3:00pm

Trinity Episcopal Church

9108 John S. Mosby Hwy.

Upperville, VA



**BLUE RIDGE
SINGERS**

2009-2024

Celebrating 15 Years of Choral Excellence



Marion Park Lewis Foundation

Andrew Gertge sings with this group



April 2024 Calendar

- March 23rd** --- St. Paul's AME Church Prayer Breakfast 11:00AM
contact Jenna Warren at 540-323-8136 jennawarren1951@gmail.com
\$30 at Brandt Student Union 703 University Dr. Shenandoah Univer
- March 24th** --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House
- March 28th** --- BYM Spring Meeting for Listening by Zoom
- March 31st** --- Easter Sunday
- April 7th** --- Poems and Poets - Share Yours or Some Others
(National Poetry Month Observance)
- April 13th** --- Eco-Spirituality Workshop (please register)
- April 14th** --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- April 21st** --- Friends Journal Article Sharing
- April 28th** --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House



Robin Landes

March 9th

Carol Buck

March 13th

Hilde Matheson

March 15th

Judia Menzel

March 20th

(These weren't that long ago and I will start including monthly birthdays in the newsletter. Check the Hopewell Directory, make sure you are on it. Then, make sure we have your birthday if you don't mind sharing it. Speak to Becky Ebert rebert2@verizon.net or 540-532-1250)

Happy April

Birthday

Happy Birthday to the April star –
may your year be as brilliant and
extraordinary as you are!



Jim Riley

April 17th

Kristin Zimet

April 20th



*Lord, make me an instrument
of Your peace.*

*Where there is hatred,
let me sow love.*

Where there is injury, pardon,

Where there is doubt, faith,

Where there is despair, hope,

Where there is darkness, light,

and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that

I may not so much seek

to be consoled, as to console;

To be understood,

as to understand;

To be loved, as to love;

For it is in giving that we receive

*It is in pardoning that we are
pardoned;*

*And it is in dying that we are
born to eternal life.*

RESOURCES TO LEARN ABOUT QUAKERISM AND THE WORLD

We want to provide a list of some resources for Friends to learn about what Quakers believe, what Quakers do in the world and a little bit about how to understand what is going on in the news. This list is by no means comprehensive, and we encourage others to send in resources that have been helpful to them.

LOCAL

-the **libraries** at Hopewell and Centre; lots of books, prior issues of Friends Journal, pictures and other materials

-the **Hopewell Centre Meeting** website: www.winchesterquakers.org

-the **Baltimore Yearly Meeting** website: www.bym.rsf.org; go here to access the latest **F**

Faith and Practice which is in the process of being revised. New paper copies of Faith and Practice will be coming soon.

-the **BYM camping** website: www.bymcamps.org

-in the library at Hopewell is a **QuakerSpeak DVD** about “What Quakers Believe” Check it out.

-**Friends Wilderness Center**; www.friendswilderness.org

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

-Website: www.quaker.org; What do Quakers Believe? How do Quakers Worship? How do Quakers Live? Find Quakers

-**Friends Journal**; monthly publication, many back issues at Hopewell, website friendsjournal.org. All issues available on the website

-**Podcast; Quakers Today** sponsored by Friends Journal

-**Thee Quaker Project**: weekly podcast; www.theequaker.org

-**Quaker Speak**; bi-weekly Quaker video sponsored by Friends Journal; www.QuakerSpeak.com

- Friends General Conference bookstore; www.quakerbooks.org
- Friends General Conference website; www.fgcquaker.org
- Friends Committee on National Legislation; Quaker lobby organization; www.fcnl.org
- American Friends Service Committee; www.afsc.org
- Friends United Meeting; www.friendsunitedmeeting.org
- Pendle Hill; Quaker study and retreat center in Pennsylvania; www.pendlehill.org
- Friends World Committee for Consultation; Quakers around the world; www.fwcc.world
- Right Sharing of World Resources; www.rswr.org
- Quaker United Nations Office; www.quno.org

OTHER

-many in the meeting subscribe to a daily newsletter from Heather Cox Richardson called **Letters from an American**. She writes about current and historical events from a historical perspective. Good for putting events of the day in a broader context.
<https://heathercoxrichardson.substack.com>

What have we left out? Let us know.

Submitted by: James Riley

(PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO THIS LIST.)

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