



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre
Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
The Second Month, February 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

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:
See additional information in the Pastoral Care Report below

Chris Cox

Jennifer Dyer

Francine and John Guiser and his sister, Chrissy

Pam Hambach

Gerry Harris

Janet Harrison

Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health.

Hilde Matheson

Betty McCormick and her daughter Susie

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

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, January 14, 2024
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education) *“There can never be peace between nations until it is first known that true peace is within the souls of men.” Oglala Sioux*

Comments included “Amen” and “Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks”.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Margie Riley gave thanks for the wonderful availability of Zoom for remote attenders, both at Meeting for Worship and the monthly prayer meeting. Martha Hanley’s concern was for Betty McCormick whose brother recently died and asked us to hold her in the light.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer’s report for December:

Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$ 4,164 (for 2023: \$28,698)
Use of Centre:	300
Sarah Zane Fund	1,334
Graveyard Fund	1,330 (for Hollingsworth Graveyard)
Rogers Fund	10,993

Expenses:

Contributions	\$ 200 (to Friends Journal)
Tree work and brush clearing	1,000 for Hollingsworth Graveyard and 400 for Centre

Checking account balance: \$ 22,719

End of year Fund balances:

Hopewell Building:	\$ 10,522 (includes funds designated for patio)
Centre Building:	11,797
Hollingsworth Graveyard	1,130
Hopewell Graveyard	29,654
Rogers	35,035
Sarah Zane	3,132
Friends Fiduciary	558,443 (current balance from ten years of growth of money bequeathed by Marie Rogers; original amount was \$379,000)

Our insurance bill for 2023 was a total of \$7,500 for all our properties.

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

Jim also presented the budget and a list of unrestricted income for 2024. He reminded us that budgeted money for our committees is there to spend when needed. Both items were emailed to everyone and are attached to the minutes.

Ministry and Counsel: Donna Knight gave the following report:

The committee met on January 10, 2024 via Zoom.

Among other matters we addressed audio concerns of our Zoom listeners, and we established a new (old) password: HopewellCentre1734.

We planned RE's through the end of February:

January 14th – **Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

January 21st – Peacemakers: at work, local, in families, in the nation and the world. Ellie Haun, coordinating.

January 28th – Potluck at Centre

February 4th – Discussing queries 3 and 4 for the Spiritual State of the Meeting

February 11th – **Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business**

February 18th – Celebrating the Chinese New Year by Lisa Mortensen

February 25th – Potluck at Centre

We planned out the menu and logistics for the WATTs dinner, February 23rd, at First Baptist, Winchester. Dick will coordinate volunteers and procuring of the food.

Respectfully submitted, Ministry and Counsel 1/10/24

Social Concerns and Outreach: Margie Riley reported that she recently attended a meeting of the Valley Interfaith Council at Beth El Synagogue in Winchester. The group discussed the upcoming Virginia legislative agenda and issues of concern. Check the Virginia Interfaith Council website for details.

An Interfaith Silent Prayer Vigil was held at First Baptist Church in Winchester on December 16. Several Hopewell Centre members attended the vigil. Anne Bacon reminded us that Beth El, like many other synagogues, has great concern for their safety due to threats of violence related to the war in Gaza.

Becky Ebert announced that two local events will be held to celebrate MLK day: one at Shenandoah University, and a peace walk in downtown Winchester sponsored by the NAACP.

The January meeting of the SC & O Committee will be a planning session for a spring peace event incorporating input from Christian Mollitor related to his studies at Earlham College.

Building and Grounds: Jim Riley reported that the tree on the corner in front of Centre has been

trimmed. The patio will be installed this spring after which the committee will discuss ideas for landscaping.

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson reported as follows: Please hold the following Friends in the light:

Betty McCormick whose brother, Hobby Gibbs, passed away last week a few days after he went into Hospice. He was 88 years old. Betty and her daughters flew to Indiana on Thursday to attend his funeral. She is flying home tonight.

Gerry Harris who had surgery several months ago to remove cancerous lesions on his back. He is doing well but still has to have more lesions removed. He is on a strict 3-month schedule of getting his skin checked.

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

Pam Hambach is recovering from her cancer surgery and is now dealing with the effects of chemotherapy.

Barbara Weiss (Margie Riley's sister-in-law from Texas) who has a recurrence of breast cancer.

Chris Cox

Jennifer Dyer

Francine and John Guiser

Hilde Matheson

Janet Harrison as she continues her dialysis and is still seeking a kidney donor

Betty McCormick's daughter, Susie, has multiple health issues.

Eloise Haun

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

Martha Hanley reported that Jennifer Dyer, who is also staying with Martha, is getting PT in Winchester for her traumatic brain injury. It was a delight to have her in Meeting this morning via Zoom. Lisa Mortensen announced that Mary Riley fractured her wrist recently. Jim Riley announced that Sally Seabright is now home and doing well.

Announcements:

WATTS dinner on February 23, 2024, at First Baptist Church in Winchester.

Interfaith Unity event on April 20 with AME Church and Bahai's, among others.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Jim Riley, Dan Riley, Karen Nelson, Ellie Haun, Margie Riley, Becky Ebert, Martha Hanley, Richard Cooper, Anne Bacon, Donna Knight, Charlie Mortensen, Lisa Mortensen, and Peter Ford.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk



From the clerk

It was one of those salubrious calendar flukes that – in hindsight – set the stage for a miracle to occur. Christmas Eve fell on the fourth First Day of the month, making it our potluck Sunday at Centre. The dishes were gob-smackers: delicious casseroles, fish chowder, and all kinds of seasonal goodies. As I recall there were beef, venison, cheese, and vegetable dishes. There was a multitude of desserts and bread. At one point during the eating, I remember not a word uttered. Everyone was so busy savoring the food in front of them.

I thought back to the long-ago Christmas dinners at my Grandmother's where a season of garden vegetables and canning and preparation had left the table groaning under the delicious dishes she made. Even to a youngster like me it made evident that the hoeing in May, the weed-pulling in July, and the canning of August were gaining expression at that table.

The holidays are pinnacle points where we human beings express our accomplishments and planning through the year as feasts shared with family and friends and in gifts we give our loved ones. They are our personal calendar.

The outer world increasingly seeks to control every second we live. So far, we have managed to hold on to the holidays for ourselves. They still are a purely human moment of giving and joy. May your holiday celebrations successfully mark the end of the year past and herald a joyous year to come.

And who knows when we'll ever have such a magical potluck as we had this past Christmas Eve.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Dixon Bell January 17, 2024



February 2024 Calendar

- January 28** --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House
- February 4** --- Discussing queries 3 and 4 for the Spiritual State of the Meeting
- February 11** --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
- February 18** --- Celebrating the Chinese New Year by Lisa Mortensen
- February 23** --- WATT's Dinner – First Baptist, Winchester Dick Bell Will coordinate volunteers and food.
- February 25** --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House

Universal Prayer for Peace

May Peace Prevail on Earth International
encourages people around the world to pray this pray each day at noon

It also sponsors the "Peace Pole Project."
A Peace Pole was recently dedicated at John Handley High School.

**Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth.
Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.
Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.**

Submitted by: Margie Riley

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

QUAKER JOURNEY

EXPLORING THE ROOTS OF QUAKERISM IN ENGLAND'S LAKE DISTRICT

Sunday 23 June - Sunday 30 June 2024

Lynn Pickles spoke to Hopewell Meeting on February 21st about this wonderful opportunity.

If you are interested in going or just interested:

Email Lynn: lynnpickles211@gmail.com

Or follow this link:

<https://www.cfsnc.org/extended-learning/adult-enrichment/quaker-journey>



Let's Dance!

featuring Martín Palmer's *Misatango*, with orchestra

Friday, April 19, 2024

7:30pm

Front Royal Presbyterian Church

115 Lurray 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

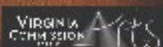
9108 John S. Mosby Hwy.

Upperville, VA



**BLUE RIDGE
SINGERS**
2009-2024

Celebrating 15 Years of Choral Excellence



Marion Park Lewis Foundation

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