

The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting of
the Religious Society of Friends
The Second Month, February 2025



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

R. Dixon Bell

Francine and John Guiser

Janet Harrison (awaiting kidney transplant)

Eloise Haun who is coping with declining health

Hilde Matheson.

Betty McCormick, her daughter Susie

Laura Nell Obaugh (from Jim Riley's recent visit "All has been well", thank you for your prayers)

Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, January 12, 2025
Meeting on Zoom due to inclement weather
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education)

The produce of the earth is a gift from our gracious creator to the inhabitants, and to impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age.--- John Woolman (1772)

Comments included: He nailed it - for then and for now. There is a current movement toward more homestead farming which could give us some hope for the future.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Betty McCormick expressed concern for her grandson Michael who lives in Los Angeles near the current out-of-control fires and is thankfully still ok as of now. Dick Bell expressed gratitude for his remarkable recovery process. And we the Meeting likewise expressed our gratitude for your continuing recovery. Margie Riley asked us to hold our country in the light as we approach the transition from one presidential administration to another.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Riley gave the treasurer's report for December:

Major items included:

Contributions :		Total for 2024
Individual and Family	\$ 4,972	\$ 30,000
Use of Centre	570	5,500 (AA & Met. Church)
Graveyard Fund	145	
Rogers Fund distribution	11,000	22,000

Expenses:

Newspaper Ad	\$ 2,411 (election related)
Mowing	240
New carpet for Centre	650 (\$1150 total)

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 23,649
Rogers Fund	52,000
Hopewell Building Fund	2,700
Centre Building Fund	11,000
Hollingsworth Graveyard Fund	1,115
Hopewell Graveyard Fund	28,000
Youth Fund	2,659
Sarah Zane Fund	3,347

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

Jim also updated us on the status of the estate of Anne Janney. Her bequest was for the proceeds of the sale of her condo in Phoenix, AZ to go to Hopewell Centre. The condo is about to be sold, so hopefully a resolve will be forthcoming.

Ministry and Counsel: Becky Ebert gave the following report:

Ministry and Council Meeting, January 6, 2025, by Zoom
Dick Bell, Becky Ebert, Eloise Hahn, Donna Knight, Christian Molitor,

We discussed the current state of communications and have asked Dan and the Building and Grounds Committee to investigate our internet connection. We have been using hookup through Donna Knight's business but this will not be an option after March 2025. Becky encouraged the use of microphones so the zoom attendees can hear better. She suggested we have microphones automatically set up and not wait for someone to request them.

We have begun the queries for our Spiritual State of the Meeting. Donna has notes from our discussions. We do need someone to write up our report.

RE's:

Jan. 19- discussion of query #3, Spiritual State of the Meeting: **How do we maintain the spirit of openness and humility as we proclaim our testimonies and live them?**

Jan. 26 – Potluck at Centre

Feb. 2 – Discussion of query #4, Spiritual State of the Meeting: **As we work for peace, are we nourished by peace and justice within and among ourselves?**

Feb. 9 – Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Feb. 16- Care of the Earth Section from Faith and Practice

Feb. 23- Potluck at Centre

Mar. 2- Christian will present, "Elias Hicks and His Stand against Slavery "
(He spoke at Hopewell)

****There was discussion at RE on Jan. 5 about starting up Quaker 8's. I forgot to bring this up to Ministry and Council. We could ask for some people to set this up if still an interest, maybe starting in the spring.

Social Concerns and Outreach: Margie Riley reported that a committee meeting will be held in the near future. Martha Hanley reported for the working group that is updating various materials geared to provide information to newcomers to the Meeting. Of note is a trifold brochure that has important contact information as well as "What Happens in Meeting", "What Quakers Believe", and "A Little History". A draft copy is attached to these minutes and has been given to those interested in reviewing it and providing suggestions for additions or edits. Also, the bulletin boards at Hopewell and Centre will be given an area for postings helpful to newcomers.

Building and Grounds: Jim Riley reported that the new carpet has been installed on the worship side of Centre Meetinghouse. The temperature in the building is being kept at a higher setting until the carpet settles.

Dan Riley reported that we are looking into procuring hotspots for internet reception in both Meetinghouses.

Graveyard Committee: Jim Riley reported that the Hopewell graveyard wall is in need of repair.

Becky Ebert reported that the committee is currently meeting with someone to help organize the records associated with burials.

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson sent the following report: Please hold the following Friends in the light:

Dick Bell as he recovers from his automobile accident

Laura Nell Obaugh who will be 95 this month. Birthday cards appreciated

Francine and John Guiser

Hilde Matheson

Janet Harrison

Betty McCormick's daughter Susie who has health issues related to long Covid.

Eloise Haun

The Meeting added the following:

Rolf Menzel who is in the hospital

Betty McCormick's grandson Michael and Kristin Zimet's daughter Debra, both who live dangerously close to the fires currently out of control in Los Angeles

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

Old Business: Becky Ebert reported that the directory draft is finished and will be sent out to everyone for a final review.

New Business: A concern was raised regarding the best way for individuals to share information on current events with the Meeting. Some discussion followed. The Social Concerns and Outreach Committee will follow up on this. Included will be establishing guidelines for forwarding emails and considering the suggestion of utilizing a virtual bulletin board for posting information.

Announcements:

The Winchester MLK walk will be held on January 20. A meeting place will be designated for Hopewell Centre people interested in participating.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Jim Riley, Betty McCormick, Dan Riley, Margie Riley, Ellie Haun, Donna Knight, Anne Bacon, Martha Hanley, Judy McCarthy, Becky Ebert, and Kristin Zimet.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk

We do not have "From the Clerk" this month.

Dick is recovering from an accident and subsequent surgery.

Please continue to keep Dick in the Light and in your Prayers.





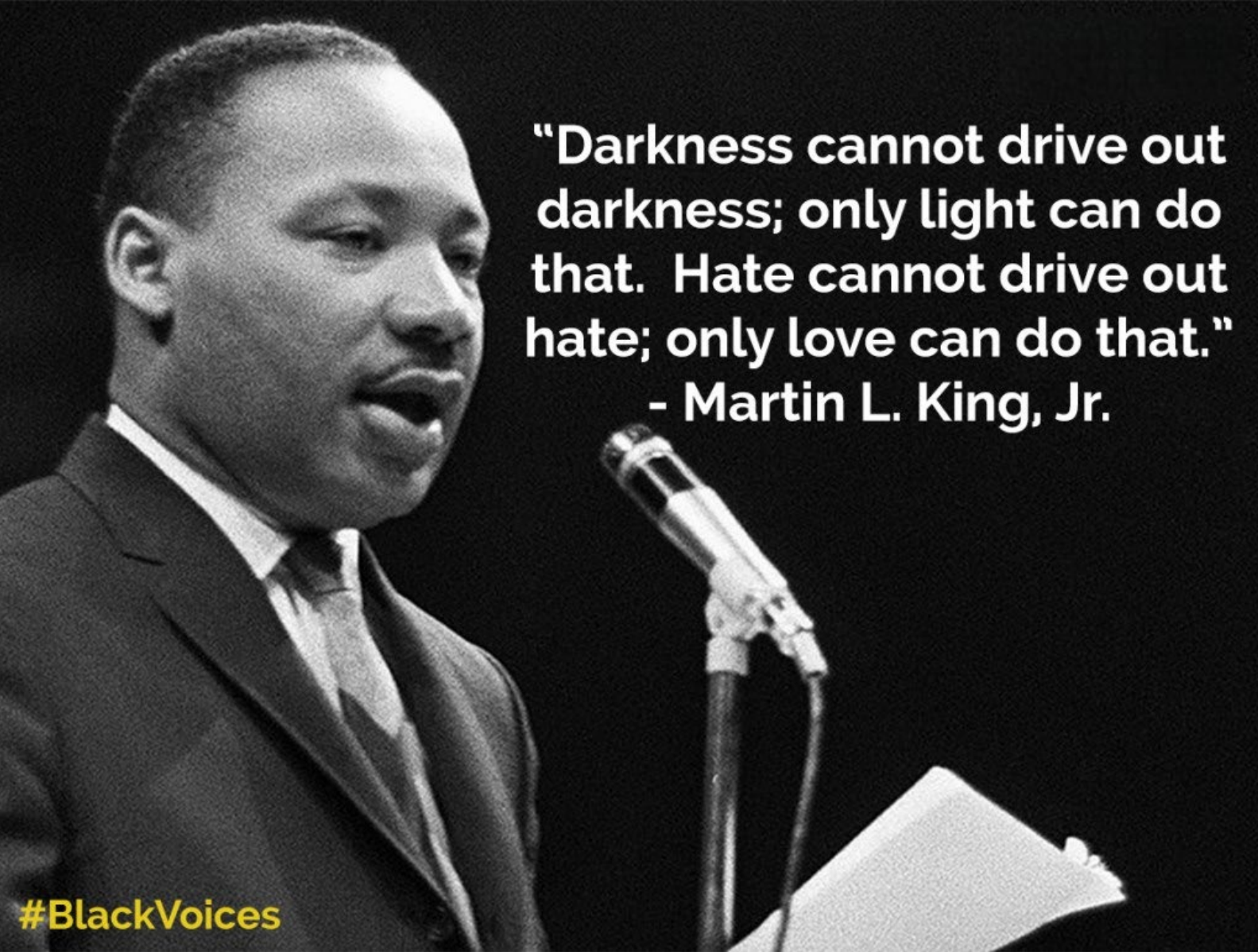
CALENDAR

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| February 2nd | --- Discussing the 4th Query on the Spiritual State of the Meeting |
| February 9th | --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business |
| February 16th | --- Care of the Earth Section from Faith and Practice |
| February 23rd | --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House |
| March 2nd | --- "Elias Hicks and Stand Against Slavery"
(Presented by Christian Mollitor) |



Blogs and Items of Interest

FROM THE MEMBERS OF
HOPEWELL CENTRE MEETING

A black and white photograph of Martin Luther King Jr. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking slightly to his right and speaking into a vintage microphone. His mouth is open as if in the middle of a sentence. The background is dark and out of focus.

**"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."
- Martin L. King, Jr.**

#BlackVoices

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 **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

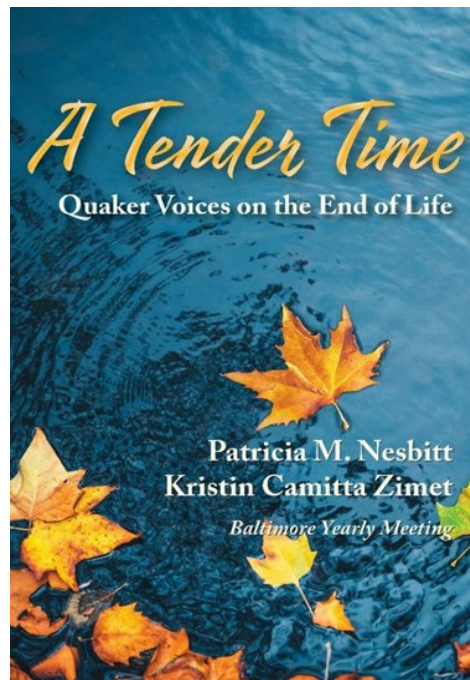
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

- 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.



A wise blend of practical advice and spiritual grounding. This book is optimistic and upbeat. It can be referred to again and again."

*Terence McCormally, MD, Clinical Professor, Geriatric Medicine,
Virginia Commonwealth University*

"A delightful read! Not just for Quakers:

it is spiritually wise, clinically sound, and exceedingly pragmatic."

*Jim Higginbotham, Associate Dean, Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling,
Earlham School of Religion*

"A gentle conversation, like talking to a trusted friend."

*George Schaefer, former Care & Aging Coordinator,
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting*

On the End of Life Working Group of Baltimore Yearly Meeting, **A Tender Time** explores practical, emotional, and spiritual aspects of aging and dying well. A unique collection of voices, historical and contemporary, illustrates making end of life decisions.

This open-hearted primer moves through personal experiences from aging to dying and then outward in widening circles of caregiving. Intimate stories give poignant examples of aging and dying well, without fear. There are multiple ways that Love can guide us to the end.

Patricia and Kristin offer guidance on pastoral care at the end of life. The book includes resources for families, friends, and Quaker meetings, including checklists, sample forms, queries for clearness, and an annotated list of further readings.

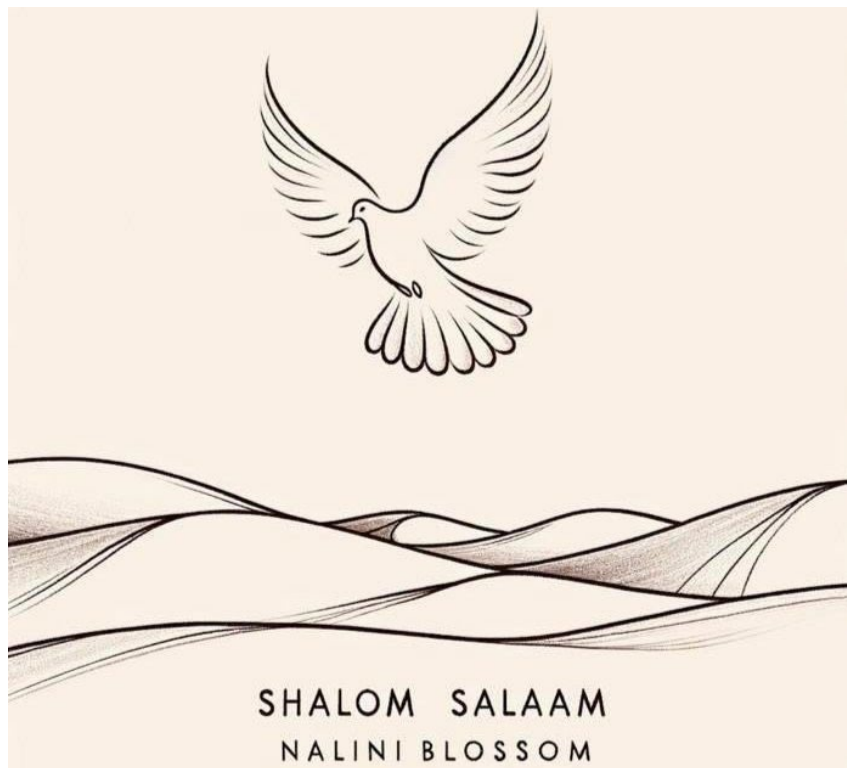
A Tender Time is for sale now from Pendle Hill Bookstore and from FGC QuakerBooks. It will be available from major commercial outlets in Fall 2024. Contact admin@bym-rsf.org for bulk sales.

COACHING PEACE



Linda Wilk, MAPC

https://open.substack.com/pub/lindawilk/p/all-is-suffering?utm_source=share&utm_medium=android&r=b37x



Perspective of Palestinian Quakers Recording Now Available

<https://youtu.be/eeJoXj8yQfE?si=7D94yLamRE-vlzf5>



Virginia Legislature 2025 Session: Jan 8 - Feb. 22

(Please send links, coming events, or interesting items you would like to share with Friends and readers to Donna Knight)



No Birthdays noted on the Directory for February

(Check the Hopewell Directory for your birthday, contact Rebecca Ebert if we need to add it)

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