

Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, December 12, 2021
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: The Clerk read the following quote by Caroline Stephen, 1834 - 1909:
“No clear impressions, either from above or from without, can be received by a mind turbid with excitement and agitated by a crowd of distractions. The stillness needed for the clear shining of light within is incompatible with hurry.” Amens from all.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Donna Knight was thankful for just being present at Hopewell this morning after having to do a few zooms whilst recovering from a sinus infection.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer’s report for November.
Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$1,555
Use of Centre:	150 (from the Metropolitan Church)
Shelter Donations	3,550

Expenses:

Mowing	450
Meeting contributions	2,000 (10 organizations @ \$200 each)
WATTS contribution	273
BYM apportionment	1,717
Quarterly insurance	1,080
Checking account balance:	\$ 9,408
Income from Roger’s Fund	32,603
Sarah Zane Fund	3,009

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

Jim also presented the annual budget for 2022. It was sent to the Meeting and is attached to the original minutes. It compares income and expenses for 2021 with the proposed budget for 2022. Jim noted that the biggest change is the reduction in the BYM apportionment amount.

Ministry and Counsel: Donna Knight presented the following report:

The Committee met via Zoom on December 6, 2021.

First we discussed our protocols versus CoVid and found them to be thus far successful. We reiterated how important it was to practice social distancing (at least three feet) and to remain masked. A doctor we consulted urged us all to get the booster as preliminary research shows that those who have it generate as much as three times the num-

ber of antibodies as those who have a standard full dose when infected by the omicron variant.

We planned RE's for the next two months:

December 19 – Christmas Sharing

January 2 – Spiritual Resolutions

January 16 – War Is Not the Answer, Donna Knight

January 30 – Generating Lectio Divina using the works of Krista Tippet

We discussed the state of leadership among members of the meeting and determined that leadership there was active.

We talked about three program areas occurring in our meeting: the Building of the Shelter, the Meeting of Community Prayer, and Outreach to Shenandoah. All three areas are prospering.

We discussed the state of membership of a candidate applying for it.

Our business finished we ended with worship.

Respectfully submitted,

Ministry and Counsel, 12/10/21

Advancement and Outreach: Margie Riley presented the following report:

The committee has been communicating through email. Margie Riley visited with Tamiya Earley at Shenandoah University who is the Administrative Assistant in the Office of Spiritual Life about Hopewell Centre Outreach opportunities. There are three ideas that A &O would like the Meeting to approve. These ideas would be a starting point in establishing a relationship with Shenandoah University. As our involvement with them develops, we would suggest holding silent worship at the University and extending our Community Prayer Group to them by sharing our flyer for our Thursday meetings and perhaps holding a prayer group on campus. The University has a peace maker sculpture on campus (near the entrance by the Conservatory) and a small labyrinth that are possible spots for events. And, the Office of Spiritual Life may have other ideas, too.

1. On Jan. 17, 2022, Martin Luther King day, Shenandoah University will be holding a food packaging event from 1p.m. - 3p.m. in the Wilkins Athletics and Events Center with the non-profit Rise Against Hunger. Last year 12,000 packages were put together and sent to Haiti. This is an interfaith event with volunteers and donations from the community and S.U. students, staff, and faculty.

We would like to help with the packaging event and also contribute a donation. The Meeting approved providing volunteers and sending a contribution of \$100.

2. The University has a Women's Outreach group and is considering sponsoring a speaking forum of "Female Voices". We have women in our Meeting who have overcome different kinds of adversity, deepening their spirituality. We would be involved with the University event by having female members volunteer to tell their experiences and be recognized as representatives of Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

Does the Meeting approve that interested volunteers could be identified as Hopewell Centre representatives? The Meeting approved.

3. The need for mental health support has increased dramatically in the past year at Shenandoah University. Martha Hanley's introduction of Soul Collage with our Meeting is recognized by workshop participants as a strong tool for developing personal understanding and strength. Martha, along with Kristin Zimit and Margie Riley, have briefly discussed sharing the idea of using collage for personal spiritual growth in some format with the Shenandoah community. The Office of Spirituality thought collage would be a good workshop activity.

Does the Meeting approve that representatives from Hopewell Centre present some form of using collage for spiritual growth at Shenandoah University? The Meeting approved.

Advancement and Outreach will keep the Meeting updated on approved activities as details develop. Check our website for any new information.

Jim Riley announced that our new website address has been updated in our Meeting ad that we place in the Winchester Star.

Pastoral Care: The Clerk gave the following report submitted by Karen Nelson: Becky is doing well but is still at home recuperating after her surgery. I saw her a few days ago.

Hilde asked that we keep her friend Nathaniel in our prayers. He is going through a difficult time.

Michele is doing well after her surgery. She will be moving to Virginia Beach in early January.

Please hold in the light Karen's son Bobby.
Please hold in the light Josh Riley.

Shelter Project: Jim Riley reported that the contract between our contractor Mike Horst and Hopewell Center for the construction of the new shelter has been signed by Mike, Jim, and Dick, and the initial deposit of \$5,000 has been submitted. The construction will commence in February weather permitting. Jim also reported that he has received contributions of \$16,000 and more is on the way.

Graveyard: Jim Riley announced that any member or attender who would like to reserve a space in the graveyard may do so. See Jim for details.

New Business: The Metropolitan Church has requested the use of the worship section of Centre for their Christmas Eve program. The Meeting approved.

The Clerk has received the Queries for our response in formulating our Spiritual State of the Meeting for 2021. We typically consider the queries during two or three REs in February and March. Please see Clerk Bell if you are interested in leading these REs.

A workshop from BYM on “Intro to Conflict Resolution” is available to individual Meetings. The two hour workshop could be held as an RE or at another time and could be an in-person presentation or perhaps be presented on Zoom. Peace and Social Concerns Committee will follow-up on gathering more details and whether our Meeting would like to consider having the workshop.

Betty McCormick announced that the Winchester refugee resettlement program is in need of bed sheets, blankets, and pillows for a newly settled family. She will send out an email with more specific information about how to donate.

Announcement: A reminder that our RE for December 19 will be our annual Christmas sharing.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Dan Riley, Martha Hanley, Judy McCarthy, Ellie Haun, John Trueblood, Jim Riley, Margie Riley, Scott Lynch, Betty McCormick, Julia Storberg-Walker, Anne Bacon, Richard Cooper, Peter Ford, and Donna Knight.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk