



The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends
Ninth Month September ,2023

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
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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
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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:

Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson
Maggie and Peter Stetler
Janet Harrison
Betty McCormick's daughter Susie
Becky Ebert, who is recovering from a broken wrist
Richard Cooper, who is recovering from a recent surgery
John Trueblood, who will be moving to Chambersburg, PA in the near future to be with family. You will be greatly missed and no, this sentiment has nothing to do with donuts.
Ellie Haun, who asked for "extra light", as she is coping with declining health

**Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, August 13, 2023
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding**

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education) My Quaker faith rests on four cornerstones: I am expected to always tell the truth; I am a constant advocate for peace; I have no intercessor between the Divine and me, and I recognize that all people are blessed with the same “that of God” I have. (Clerk Bell, 2023)

Comments included: This sums up the Quaker faith nicely. It was also noted that there is a Quaker Speak video that is about Quaker beliefs.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Paul Britner gave thanks for an honor he recently received. He was asked to be a consulting minister for the Unitarian Church of Cumberland. Congrats Paul. Martha Hanley expressed a concern that having Zoom made it more difficult to settle into Meeting for Worship. Christian Mollitor gave thanks for both the support and experience he received while attending Earlham College for two weeks recently. He also gave thanks for the approval by BYM to move Opequon Quaker Camp from its current location near Clearbrook to Rolling Ridge Conservancy beginning in summer 2024. Anne Bacon asked us to keep the residents of Lahaina, Hawaii in the light after a devastating fire destroyed the town and to donate if you can.

Treasurer: Jim Riley gave the treasurer’s reports for July:
Major items included:

Contributions:

Individual and Family:	\$ 1,450
Hollingsworth Graveyard donation	1,000

Jim has set up a separate fund for this graveyard.

Expenses:

from the Sarah Zane fund:	\$ 246
Mowing:	290
Moving pianos	766

New pianos have been installed at Hopewell & Centre.

Checking account balance: \$ 17,209

Rogers Fund balance: \$ 30,000 (funds available for use)

Sarah Zane Fund balance: 628

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

Ministry and Counsel: Donna Knight gave the following report compiled by Clerk Bell: The committee met on August 7, 2023 via Zoom.

We opened by discussing communications – specifically Zoom. We talked about keeping the current email address on the account (Donna Knight’s) because she receives rescue codes on her phone where the clerk

does not. We also brought up the idea of a sign-up sheet for those who may want to run the computer 'show' during worship.

We planned RE's through the end of September:

August 20 - Chris Cox - sharing special cases he oversaw in his legal career

September 3 - "Honoring those who work for others", a round robin discussion

September 17 - Donna Knight - Bible verses in a basket

Donna and Dick need members to volunteer to be interviewed for the Homecoming program, August 27. The subject will be How Centre and Hopewell came to be merged.

We discussed replacing the irreplaceable Judy McCarthy on M&C.

We talked at length about making small adjustments to make the worship experience better at Hopewell. We recommend putting a window unit air conditioner in the Hopewell kitchen area for a rescue space during heat events and putting some sort of sound system in there. We also recommend that the meeting look into enlarging access into our bathrooms – particularly for those in wheelchairs.

We discussed offering the NAACP of Winchester the use of Centre for meeting monthly. We have offered them the only two open evenings: Monday and Wednesday.

Respectfully submitted,
Ministry and Counsel

Peter Ford reminded us of the visit of Thelma Boeder on September 17. Her ancestry includes the Ballenger family associated with Hopewell. He asked that our RE on that day include a presentation of some of the history of Hopewell from various members, a walking tour of the graveyard where the first Ballenger was buried, and perhaps a pot luck as well. More on this later.

Building and Grounds: Jim Riley reported the following:

Travis Streit and Mike Horst have both submitted proposals regarding the installation of our patio and the utilization of our commemorative bricks in a patio wall. We will have a discussion on this soon. The new cabinets have been installed in the kitchen area with the beautiful counter tops donated by Donna Knight. A lovely sight to see. The new welcoming signs for Hopewell and Centre will be installed soon. The screen doors at Hopewell will be replaced and/or repaired as needed. The yard at Centre has one tree that needs to be removed and another that needs trimming. Take a look in the pavilion to see what Mike Hambach has done with some of the boards that we kept from the old shed. Nice.

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

Francine and John Guiser

Hilde Matheson

Maggie and Peter Stetler

Janet Harrison

Betty McCormick's daughter Susie

Becky Ebert, who is recovering from a broken wrist

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John Trueblood, who will be moving to Chambersburg, PA in the near future to be with family. You will be

greatly missed and no, this sentiment has nothing to do with donuts.
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If anyone has any concerns or health issues to report, please Karen know so she can reach out to you.

Social Concerns and Outreach: Martha Hanley reminded us of the upcoming yard sale to be held at Hopewell on September 9. She asked that we approach the sale not as a fundraiser, but as a part of community outreach. After Homecoming is over, bring your donations to the storage shed. She and Josh Riley will be setting up the day before. If you can volunteer to help or have questions about the sale, please contact Martha or Josh.

New Business: Pam and Mike Hambach offered to host a repeat “Hot Dog Day” in October. The Meeting approved. And thanks.
Donna Knight is looking for input for the newsletter. Send her a poem, a story, a musing, something amusing. We love our newsletter.

Announcements:

The Ebert family reunion will be held at Hopewell on Sep. 23 from 1 - 4 p.m.
Yard sale at Hopewell on Sep. 9
Homecoming at Hopewell on Aug. 27
Women’s lunch on Aug. 18 at Hopewell. RSVP to Anne Bacon.
OATS on Aug. 19 at Panera

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Jim Riley, Betty McCormick, Josh Riley, Judy McCarthy, Dan Riley, Donna Knight, Peter Ford, Christian Mollitor, Anne Bacon, Judy Enterline, Lisa Mortensen, Martha Hanley, Kristen Zimet, Paul Britner, Karen Nelson, Charlie Mortensen, and Ellie Haun.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk

From the clerk

This month I'm sharing a poem I wrote about my experience in treating my cancer. The treatment course of 28 days immediately reminded me of the moon's cycle. Phrases and images kept coming to me, but I was never able to convert them to rhymed verse. I write in New England common meter (4 iambs over 3) almost exclusively. Out west I had all my notes and was determined that I would write the poem to its finish. Once I gave up the chimera of rhyme the poem scrolled out. Here it is.

The Moon
(or Twenty-eight Days of X-ray Therapy)

A second orb our sky embolds:
The moon, a changeling vain,
Who nightly dons a pearly gown
Which waxes full then wanes.

Twenty-eight days from new to new
It dies then resurrects.
A field of stars support her role
In timeless majesty.

Like Salome before the king
Her wispy gaze beguiles.
She partners there with husband earth
Until her steps complete.

Again, again, in sacred dance
The pattern old repeats:
An ancient friend and calendar
That sings across our lives.

So when my own disease appeared,
A wicked fire in my loins,
The liquid moon became my lamp
To light the way to health.

With manmade beams to mock her own,
The magic jig began.
A month of days defined my course
To siren snare my foe.

The silent rays embraced their task
To stalk the feral cells.
Like moonlight cast upon my sea
Relentlessly they worked.

Their warrior trek triumphant won
The goal for which they marched:
They dug the demon cancer out
To gain my life anew.

Respectfully submitted, R. Dixon Bell August 17, 2023

HOPEWELL – CENTRE HOMECOMING

8. 27. 2023



August 2023 Calendar

August 27 --- Homecoming – Memories shared of Centre and Hopewell joining.

September 3 ---“Honoring those who work for others”, a round robin discussion

September 9 --- Yard Sale at Hopewell

September 10 – Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

September 17 -- Bible Verse Basket

September 24 -- Potluck at Centre

YARD SALE

Sat. Sept. 9, 8-4pm

Rain date Sept 16, 8-4

Hopewell Friends Meeting House

A chance to..... Build Community
Clean Out your closets, basement, attic
Join your Friends for Fellowship and Service

Help will be needed with

Set Up
Cash Sales
Helping Customers
Visitors to Meeting House
Clean Up

Contact Martha Hanley - hanleym1@comcast.net
Coordinating with Josh Riley

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