

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

Anne Bacon's Cousin, Marion Stump

Judy Enterline

Francine and John Guiser

Janet Harrison

Donna Knight

Robert Lynch

Hilde Matheson.

Betty McCormick, her daughter Susie

Jeff and Julia Walker

Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, August 10, 2025
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education)

"If I could live another century! I do so want to see the fruition of the work for women in the past century. There is so much yet to be done, I see so many things I would like to do and say, but I must leave it for the younger generation. We old fighters have prepared the way, and it is easier than it was fifty years ago when I first got into the harness. The young blood, fresh with enthusiasm and with all the enlightenment of the twentieth century, must carry on the work." Susan B. Anthony

Comments included: Would she be disappointed today? She was alive during the time of the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920 and died at the beginning of the 20th Century in 1906. Thanks to progress that now recognizes gay marriage. We must celebrate what we can. It doesn't help our progress if we dwell on the negative.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Pam Hambach expressed a concern that our regular contributions are down \$3,000 as compared to this date a year ago. Donna Knight expressed a concern for the Dick family. Patricia lost her husband to liver cancer recently and we hold the family in the light. Martha Hanley gave thanks for the miracle of Janet Harrison's recent kidney transplant. Jim Riley gave thanks to the crew that amazingly moved the seven-ton stone marker from the Route 11 roadside to the Hopewell property (more in the B & G report). Betty McCormick gave thanks to everyone who has sent cards to Judy Enterline during her recovery from recent surgery.

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

Major items included:

Contributions :

Individual and Family	\$ 1,445
Use of Centre	660
Sarah Zane Fund	200

Expenses:

Zoom invoice	\$ 169
--------------	--------

Checking Account Balance:	\$ 14,612
---------------------------	-----------

Fund totals:

Rogers	\$ 58,000
Sarah Zane	2,180

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

A very productive discussion occurred around an inquiry by Sunday Cote concerning our Quakerly low key approach to seeking monetary contributions. Katherine Chatard mentioned that Deer Creek

Meeting has a “suggested” monthly contribution amount. Jim agreed to bring more information to our next business meeting such as our current average individual or family contribution amount. Also, we are currently unable to accept electronic contributions. Diane Popik and Sunday have had experience with this and agreed to help with the possibility of setting up a way to donate from our web page.

Ministry and Counsel: Donna Knight gave the following report:

Ministry and Council Meeting, August 4, 2025, by Zoom

We met and decided that communications were good right now. We noted that the date for the inter-meeting potluck, October 18th and 19th will probably be moved.

We planned RE's through October 19th:

August 3rd – Queries from *A Tender Time* – Dick Bell

August 10th – Business Meeting

August 17th – Quaker 101 Friends' testimonies: Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Sustainability

August 24th – Homecoming

August 31st – Kevin Slick and his music

September 7th – Nine Core Quaker Beliefs (as offered by Arthur Larrabee) 1. There is a living, dynamic, spiritual presence at work in the world which is both within us and outside us. 2. There is that of God in everyone. 3. Each person is capable of the direct and unmediated experience of God.

September 14th – Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

September 21st – Nine Core Quaker Beliefs (as offered by Arthur Larrabee) 4. Our understanding and experience of God is nurtured and enlarged in community. 5. The Bible is an important spiritual resource, and the life and teachings of Jesus are relevant for us today. 6. The revelation of God's truth is continuing and ongoing.

September 28th – Potluck at Centre

October 5th - Nine Core Quaker Beliefs (as offered by Arthur Larrabee) 7. We welcome truth from whatever source it may come. 8. Our inward experience of God transforms us and leads us into outward expressions of faithful living, witness, and action. 9. Modeling God's presence in our lives is more important than espousing beliefs.

October 12th – Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

October 19th – Choosing a personal estate agent (tentative)

We updated our review of the current manning of committees.

We touched on Homecoming

We formed an Ad Hoc committee to honor the 250th anniversary of the founding of Centre Meeting. Anne Bacon, Ellie Haun, and Betty McCormick tentatively have agreed to serve on that committee.

We agree to write a minute of introduction for Paul Britner and Karen Nelson when they move to Lancaster, PA.

We discussed candidates for replacing Karen Nelson on Pastoral Care and adding more folks to that committee.

The clerk will be away visiting family September 27th – October 4th. Donna Knight will be clerk in his absence.

Respectfully submitted,

Ministry and Counsel

It was noted that the Nine Core Quaker Beliefs were taken from a Quaker Speak by Arthur Larrabee. You can find the video online or from a DVD that is housed at Hopewell. Also, the Clerk will send out a list of the nine beliefs via email.

Social Concerns and Outreach: Margie Riley reported the following:

The committee met on Aug. 4, 2025.

Attending: Anne Bacon, Betty McCormick, Kristin Zimet, Sunday Cote, Martha Hanley, Margie Riley

We discussed **Homecoming - Aug. 24, 2025.**

Anne B. will give a Welcome, followed by a Memorial time where we invite everyone attending to rise and honor a past member/attender by “speaking their name”. No particular details needed, let’s simply hold each name in a moment of silence and loving care.

Margie will talk with Dick to coordinate having Zakee McGill’s granddaughters be our main program, sharing their camping experience.

We plan to include music, and the prep work and potluck are being coordinated by Building and Grounds and Hospitality. Bring your own drink, ice will be provided. *Important reminder - please bring your own plate and cutlery - let’s think GREEN and avoid paper products.*

Jim Riley has asked to share details about the panoramic picture taken 1980, on display in the library. We’ll try to arrange getting one taken this year!

Spread the news and invitation for Homecoming! We hope to see many Friends/friends!

We discussed email and notifications...Sunday Cote brought up the use of **Mail Chimp, a free online email listing service that allows you to have different lists and protect user privacy.** We’ll share this with Ministry and Counsel and the Meeting to see what everyone thinks about it.

WATTS...Becky will keep us updated. If anyone who hasn’t served this on this before is interested, please let us know. The Market Street Methodist church kitchen is limited in space, so this is a small group project, but we’d like it to be available for new people to be involved.

We discussed the schedule at **Centre Meeting** because this is such a valuable resource - to have a building available in a great location in town. AA uses the building extensively, providing a rich

resource for Winchester. The Metropolitan Church also is a valuable group that uses the building on Sunday evenings. **Mon., Thurs., and Saturday evenings** are open for any outreach/programming we might like to implement.

An outreach idea that is forming involves Contemplative Worship and Action for people who are looking to ground their spirit in these current contentious social times. We are interested in reaching out to those who may describe themselves as “spiritual, not necessarily religious.” We propose hosting a focus group to help us develop the “what” this type of outreach might provide, which could be a mix of things like guided meditation, silent Quaker worship, centering prayer, chanting, body prayer, etc. We have some specific people that we can ask that have been involved in our Saturday Spirituality retreats and get feedback about what appeals to those seeking this kind of activity. Kristin recommended contacting Ron Lapitan, who is a Baha’i interested in building community. 703-582-6303. Martha referenced a related yearly meeting workshop that spoke of “surviving, thriving, resisting”, and we all agreed we want to be affirming and inclusive of the LGBTQ community. We welcome everyone’s input and thinking as this idea forms. **Does the Meeting approve having a focus group and then bringing ideas/process back to the Meeting? YES**

A few ending notes... Let’s review our **website - what message does it send? How easy is it to navigate?** Suggestion: put contact info in RED. Maggie Stetler has already spent some time looking at it, anyone interested in joining her? We reviewed our monthly ad in the **Winchester Star** and we recommend taking out the phone # and putting the words “welcoming, inclusive, affirming.” The website is included, and we agreed that in today’s world people will go to the website before using a phone. **Does the Meeting approve this edit? YES**

We briefly discussed what’s happening with pastoral care and the need for “in reach”. We’ll pass that prompt on to Ministry and Counsel.

Martha shared that there’s an **Israeli Palestinian AFSC presentation and other film resources** available for possible RE/outreach events that she will share with Ministry and Counsel.

Building and Grounds: Pam Hambach gave the following report:

The stone marker was moved from its current position on route 11 to the Hopewell property on August 8. It is now near the welcoming sign at the entrance off of Hopewell Road. The Meeting is so very grateful to the following people who donated their time and equipment to the project:

Carmeuse Lime & Stone (quarry) – Owner of the lot at Clear Brook where the stone marker was originally placed in 1934 – coordinated the move and donated stone for our driveway
Logan Thompson, Area Operations Manager
Dillon Clark, Site Operations Manager

Pine Knoll Construction – Heavy equipment and labor
Jeff Jenkins, owner

Keller Construction – site prep
Clark Keller, Owner

Pam also reported that estimates for the graveyard wall repair are ongoing. And the library table is now repaired and back in the library. Note: Be careful as to how much weight is placed on the table. We want our antique to last a little longer.

Pastoral Care: Paul Britner gave the following report for Karen Nelson:

Please hold these Friends in the Light:

New concerns:

After a brief hospitalization, Laura Nell Obaugh is home and receiving hospice care.

Janet Harrison had successful kidney surgery and continues to recover at home.

Ryan Lynch was treated for a heat-related illness at Warrenton Hospital and was transferred to a hospital in Williamsburg, VA. We are waiting for further clarification.

Jeff Walker was hospitalized and in ICU for surgery to relieve blood clots in his brain. He is home now and recovering well.

Judia Gallinger announced (on Facebook) a celebration of life for Rolf on August 17, and she invited readers to submit messages to be read at the service.

Hilde Matheson has moved in with her daughter Deborah in Yellow Springs.

Donna asked that her friend Patricia Dick be held in the light. Patricia's husband recently died of cancer.

Judy Enterline continues to recover from hip surgery and would like calls and visits.

Ongoing Concerns:

Ann Bacon's cousin Marion Stump, who has metastatic cancer.

John and Francine Guiser, who continue to struggle with various health issues.

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

If anyone has any concerns or health issues to report, please let me know so I can reach out to them. Thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Nelson

Karen and Paul will be moving to Lancaster, PA in the first week of December. Karen has graciously agreed to continue with the sending of cards to those needing pastoral care. We will need a replacement for her on the Pastoral Care Committee. If you are interested, please see Karen or Paul or the Clerk for more details.

Hospitality: The cheese is the need, and the need is the cheese if you please. Thank you.

New Business: A thank you to the workers mentioned in the Building and Grounds report who moved the stone marker will be published in the Winchester Star.
The Meeting approved the use of Centre Meeting House on August 12 for a meeting on immigrant rights sponsored by the group Winchester Worth Fighting For.

A time for the gathering together of Hopewell Centre, Goose Creek, and Shepherdstown Meetings is in the works.

Announcements:

Homecoming will be held on August 24 at Hopewell. Come one, come all. (No potluck at Centre - yes potluck at Hopewell)

The next Spiritual Retreat will be held at a date TBD.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Scott Lynch, Jim Riley, Margie Riley, Sunday Cote, Dan Riley, Richard Cooper, Peter Ford, Donna Knight, Judy McCarthy, Diane Popik, Katherine Chatard, Mike Hambach, Pam Hambach, Anne Bacon, Betty McCormick, Charlie Mortensen, Paul Britner, Becky Ebert, and Martha Hanley.

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk



CALENDAR

August 24th --- ***HOMECOMING -- See You There!!***

August 31st --- Kevin Slick and his Music

September 7th --- 9 Core Quaker Beliefs, Arthur Larabee #1-3

September 14th --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

September 21st --- 9 Core Quaker Beliefs, Arthur Larabee #4-6

September 28th --- Potluck at Centre

October 5th --- 9 Core Quaker Beliefs, Arthur Larabee #7-9

October 12th --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

October 19th --- Choosing a Personal Estate Agent (tentative)



Blogs and Items of Interest

FROM THE MEMBERS OF
HOPEWELL CENTRE MEETING



Distraction or message?

the little voice playing
drifts in to Meeting for Worship
bringing young energy
as we sit so quietly

silence punctuates with
"yay - I got it!"
a note of success
traveling the air

toys jumbling
child's chatter
surely God is smiling
as I am

Picture and Poem written and submitted by Margie Riley, Hopewell Centre Meeting

Hopewell Centre Quaker Meeting wishes to express our sincere gratitude to three local businesses who worked together to move a seven-ton granite monument from Clear Brook to the grounds of Hopewell Meeting, one mile west. And all was done as a contribution to our meeting (Quaker terminology for church).

Carmeuse Lime & Stone coordinated the move since the monument was located on their property at the corner of Route 11 and Hopewell Road. They got Pine Knoll Construction and Keller Construction to assist with heavy equipment, labor and site preparation. All was carried off without a hitch on August 8. Carmeuse also donated a load of gravel for our driveway.

The monument was originally installed in 1934 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the establishment of Hopewell Quaker Meeting in 1734. At the time, Route 11 was the main north south highway through Frederick County. The inscription reads:

HOPEWELL FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

ONE MILE WEST

MEETING ESTABLISHED 1734

SINCE WHICH TIME REGULAR RELIGIOUS

SERVICES HAVE BEEN HELD

ERECTED 1934

As roads were widened over the years, the monument sat closer to the traffic. Sometime last winter, the monument was struck by a truck and turned on its base. While the meeting was pondering what to do, we were contacted by Logan Thompson of Carmeuse who offered to move the monument at no cost to the meeting.

So thanks to Logan Thompson and Dillon Clark of Carmeuse, Jeff Jenkins of Pine Knoll Construction and Clark Keller of Keller Construction. Your contribution to our meeting was substantial and we are most grateful.

This letter is being sent to the Star in Winchester, Submitted by Jim Riley, Hopewell Centre Meeting

Moving Day











Pictures of Moving Day, Submitted by Pam Hambach, Hopewell Centre Meeting



**Pendle Hill's 95th Anniversary Gathering
On Campus and Online: Sep 26, 27, 28**

This weekend retreat for connection, renewal, and celebration will be a campus-wide bash as we kick off 95 years of Pendle Hill! Join us with beloved leaders like **Valerie Brown, Marcelle Martin, Doug Gwyn, Jackie Coren, George Lakey, John Calvi, Dwight Dunston, and many others!** Whether you were a resident student for years, or attended an online program once, all are welcome for this weekend of games, workshops, celebrations, and togetherness.



THE SPRING TERM RESIDENT STUDENT PROGRAM

**Info Session Online: Sep 10,
2025**

**Program On Campus: Mar 1 -
May 4, 2026**

Schedules and workshops are already coming together for next season's Spring Term, Pendle Hill's immersive and transformative resident student program. Enjoy courses like "Reclaiming Rest" with Valerie Brown, and "Discerning our Calls" with Marcelle Martin--two beloved Pendle Hill leaders who will also be present at the 95th Anniversary Gathering! If you're still deciding if this program is right for you, or if you know someone who could use an opportunity to pause and ground down in community next spring, join us for the free online info session on September 10th!



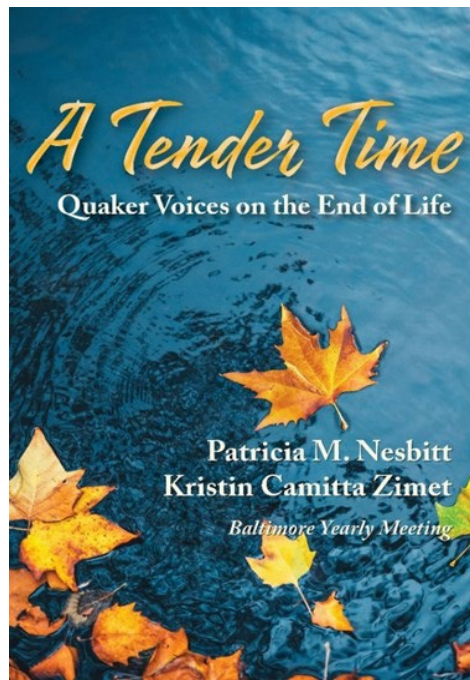
Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor (and by letters, I mean the alpha characters that comprise the words in the following sentences):

As an observer of the August 10 Hopewell Centre Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, my summary of the meeting is this: noisy.

We are all guilty of split second immediate responses to information being imparted by others. Maybe our replies could be just a little more measured? We can do better.

With light and love for all,
Dan



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.

*(We have Re's using queries from this book from time to time.
Get a copy, you will be glad you did)*



SEPTEMBER 5th, 2025



Exciting News!

The 2025 Fish Fry is just around the corner!

Scan our QR code now to grab your tickets and get ready for a fun-filled, flavor-packed event you won't want to miss!

For more information:

Rholland@concernhotline.org

Concern Hotline, Inc. provides round-the-clock hotline support, crisis intervention, and suicide prevention

This is one of the major fundraisers they have every year to support this.

COACHING PEACE



Linda Wilk, MAPC

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

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
- Friends Library; www.friendslibrary.com

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.

Helpful Resources for Immigrants

🔔 🔔 **THIS IS MEANT TO BE A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST, PLEASE ADD TO IT WHEN YOU SEE FIT! 🔔 🔔**

General Enforcement

- Know Your Rights Card: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/know-your-rights-card/>
- Know Your Rights: What to Do if You Are Arrested or Detained by Immigration: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/know-your-rights-what-to-do-if-arrested-detained-immigration/>
- Warrants & Subpoenas: What to Look Out for and How to Respond: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/warrants-and-subpoenas-facts/>
- Know Your Rights: Trump's Registration Requirement for Immigrants: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/know-your-rights-trumps-registration-requirement-for-immigrants/>

Locating Loved Ones

- How to Find a Loved One After a U.S. Immigration Arrest: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/how-to-find-a-loved-one-after-a-u-s-immigration-arrest/>
- Tracking the CECOT Disappearances: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/tracking-the-cecot-disappearances/>

Education

- Know Your Rights: Immigrant Students and Schools: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/protecting-our-students-and-families/>
- Education Providers and Immigration Enforcement: Know Your Rights & Your Students' Rights: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/education-providers-and-immigration-enforcement-know-your-rights-know-your-students-rights/>
- Protecting Immigrant Students & Employees: Guidelines for Higher Education Institutions: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/protecting-immigrant-students-employees-guidelines-for-higher-education-institutions/>
- Protecting Our Students: What You Need to Know About the Rights of Immigrants and the Threat of Deportation: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/know-your-rights-immigrant-students-and-schools/>

Workplace

- A Guide for Employers: What to Do if Immigration Comes to Your Workplace: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/a-guide-for-employers-what-to-do-if-immigration-comes-to-your-workplace/>

Health Care

- Know Your Rights: Health Care and Health Insurance for Immigrants: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/health-insurance-and-care-rights/>
- Health Care Providers and Immigration Enforcement: Know Your Rights, Know Your Patients' Rights: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/healthcare-provider-and-patients-rights-imm-enf/>
- Know Your Rights: Immigrants' Participation in Protests: <https://www.nilc.org/resources/immigrant-participation-in-protests-rights/>

How to be a Good Ally/Informing your Community 101

- Planning in case of an immigration emergency <https://familiesuniteddcmetro.org/>
- Filming of an ICE arrest <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s2wGxRN5YPM>
- Zine demonstrating ICE Operation Disruption <https://zinesforever.com/z/karens-guide-to-disrupting-ice>

This list was sent to us by Zakee McGill



August 24 Hopewell Centre Homecoming

September 26, 27, 28 Pendle Hill 95th Anniversary

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



September 10th Rebecca Bacon

September 11th Paul Britner

September 14th Richard Cooper

September 26th Judy Enterline

September 30th Eloise Haun

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

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