

**The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting of
the Religious Society of Friends
The Seventh Month, July 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
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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:
See additional information in the Pastoral Care Report below

Francine and John Guiser
Hilde Matheson. (Struggling with memory issues)
Betty McCormick, her daughter Susie
Ellie Ziegler (car accident requiring surgery)

Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, June 8, 2025
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education)

“Each of us is responsible for our own actions and our own reactions. We are not responsible for someone else’s actions and reactions. This is very important for women especially because most women have been taught that they are responsible for the happiness of everyone in their family. They are taught that all family unhappiness and discord is their fault. But responsibility rests within each individual.” Alice Wiser (1770 – 1865)

Comments included: Quaker women, stepping up to lead. We were all surprised at Alice's comments during the time she lived. She was very forward looking.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Dick Bell gave thanks for Jonathan Tolman's help. Dick said that when Jonathan sees a problem, he fixes it.

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

Major items included:

Contributions :

Individual and Family	\$ 930
Use of Centre	440
Sarah Zane Fund	200
Youth Fund	488

Expenses:

BYM Dues	\$ 1,801
Insurance	2,881
Sarah Zane Fund	746

Checking Account Balance: \$ 14,141

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

Jim reported on how much the insurance for the Meeting continues to grow. It is now up to around \$9,000 per year. Jim asked the Meeting if we would approve taking some of the insurance payments from the Roger's Fund. Insurance covers two Meeting Houses, the tenant house, and two burial grounds and the Roger's Fund is designated toward maintaining property. The Meeting agreed. Jim also commented that he will check to see if paying annually instead of monthly would give us a discount.

Ministry and Counsel: Becky Ebert gave the following report:

Ministry and Council Meeting, June 2, 2025, by Zoom

Our written and electronic communication is doing well. Social Concerns and Outreach asked us to come up with a Fall date for regional potluck (Goose Creek, Shepherdstown, and Hopewell Centre). The dates we came up with are Saturday, October 18th or Sunday, October 19th depending on whether worship is part of the occasion.

We have tentatively planned RE's through Homecoming:

June 1st – A Discussion of some Quaker fiction – Becky Ebert

June 8th – Meeting for Business

June 15th – Being a Quaker dad – Jim Riley

June 22nd – Potluck at Centre

June 29th – RE on Hopewell Centre Committees and Roles

July 6th – Hot Dog cookout and picnic

July 13th – Meeting for Business

July 20th – Quaker 101

July 27th – Potluck at Centre

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

August 10th – Business Meeting

August 17th – Quaker 101

August 24th – Homecoming

We recommend forming a C

We began talking about Nominations (current terms ending July 1st, 2026). If you would like to clerk

that committee, talk to anyone on M&C. Also, if you would like to join a committee now, again talk to an M&C member (thinking chiefly of new folks here).

members to submit more personal photos of Hopewell Centre events, establishing a Hopewell Conservancy (future RE), writing a procedures manual for the clerk, the role of the trustees, and we closed with noting that 2026 is the 250th anniversary of Centre Meeting.

We closed by affirming an action by members of Social Concerns and Outreach encouraging a former member of our meeting to apply for Sarah Zane relief funds.

Respectfully submitted,

Ministry and Counsel

June 4, 2025

Social Concerns and Outreach: Becky Ebert reported the following:

The Meeting agreed to cover the cost of food for the Spiritual Retreat to be held at Hopewell on June 28. Workshop facilitators will be Christian Mollitor, Kevin Slick, Janet Harrison, Charlotte Harman, Sunday Cote, and Margie Riley. Each participant will choose two of the six workshops, one from a first session, and one from the second session. A flyer will be sent out to everyone for more information and is attached to these minutes.

It was suggested that we might consider providing spiritual retreats quarterly.

Building and Grounds: Becky Ebert reported for

Interiors: Lisa Mortensen and herself are beginning to organize the many books in the library.

Graveyard: The youth group from the Mormon Church on Apple Pie Ridge are currently trimming and cleaning in the Hopewell graveyard.

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson sent the following report:

On behalf of Hopewell-Centre Friends Meeting, I sent a condolence card to the Cline family, our Hopewell neighbors, on the loss of William Cline.

Ellie Zeigler continues to recover from a car accident. This past week, she sent me an update. Her fractures are healing well, and she can use her left arm with limitations. She expects it will be a month or more before she is able to use her right leg, and, for now, she is using a wheelchair or walker for short distances. Overall, she wrote, "I feel much better . . . and every day is a little more normal."

For those who missed last month's report: Ellie Haun has moved to a new assisted living community in Woodstock. Her new address is: The Warren, 935 S. Ox Rd., Woodstock, VA 22664

Please hold these Friends in the Light:

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

Hilde Matheson who is struggling with memory 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

New Business: Maggie Stetler has volunteered to work on the Hopewell Centre website on a regular basis. This is much appreciated. Thank you Maggie.

Pam Hambach and Judy Enterline will coordinate the potluck for our annual Homecoming on the 4th Sunday in August.

Announcements:

June 28 - Our second Interfaith Spiritual Retreat to be held at Hopewell from 8:30 to Noon. Sign up for workshops now. See the Social Concerns and Outreach report above for more information.

July 6 - Annual Hot Dog cookout. Non meat options provided. Bring a side dish.

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Betty McCormick, Becky Ebert, Mike Hambach, Pam Hambach, Judy Enterline, Diane Popik, Bo Beeman, Scott Lynch, and Jim Riley.

Respectfully submitted by Betty McCormick, Acting Recording Clerk





CALENDAR

June 15th --- Being a Quaker Dad – Jim Riley

June 15th --- Father's Day

June 22nd --- Potluck at Centre

June 29th --- Hopewell Centre Committees & Roles

July 4th --- Independence Day

July 6th --- Hotdog Cookout and Picnic

July 13th --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

July 20th --- Quaker 101

July 27th --- Potluck at Centre Meeting House

August 3rd --- Queries from A Tender Time; (presented by Dick Bell)

August 10th --- Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

August 17th --- Quaker 101

August 24th --- **HOECOMING**



From the clerk

Friends.

This morning I talked to two of my dearest friends, Barb Leedy and Beta Anderson. They live across a continent, outside of Portland, OR. Because Beta worked for Microsoft during its halcyon days, she retired in her early 40's. So every time I go out, I join them on vacation. We all undertook the Friends journey together. Barb was first to join the Quakers, I second, and Beta third. It wasn't a contest – more like Spirit hatched a clutch of eggs with each breaking the shell at a different moment.

Barb is the volunteer receptionist at Hopewell House in Portland where over 10,000 people have gone since its inception to pass over to the other side. She is beyond qualified for the job. She also posts monthly poems for the residents to read or have their families take copies home. She shows the residents there the same care and focus and love she showed her mother Peg, a woman I grew to devoutly love, in her long decline.

I first met Barb in the mid-90's when I would annually visit Beta and her in Olympia. The first night I arrived she was playing in a piano recital. She was great, and I was so proud she was my friend. Barb's always trying something new. Whether it is piano, learning Portuguese, or touring a foreign land for months by herself, Barb throws her whole self into it. When we first met, she was returning from six months biking solo across Indonesia. We then toured Vancouver Island, spending our longest stint at a peach of a resort called Yellow Point. The price was right, the food spectacular, the company even better. During today's call Barb told me she was planning her 'last' big trip: three months in Brazil, Portugal, and the Azores. Afterwards, she said, "I'm going to get a dog." Dogs have played large roles in Barb's life. So much so that when I would visit Olympia annually, I often heard people we met say, "In my next life I want to come back as Barb's dog."

Beta was tall, thin, and blond when I first met her in my teens. She was part of the Potomac English Handbell Ringers along with me and eleven other local teens in the Fort Washington, MD area. Together we visited the Southeast US for our annual Spring tour. Every New Years was spent ringing it in Colonial Williamsburg. Throw in a couple of trips to Montreal (one for Expo 67) and our huge tour of Europe in 1969 for six weeks, plus dozens of concerts each year, and you had the experience of a lifetime. Betty (then) was as smart as could be. And I think I could not have been more fortunate to have been surrounded by so many peers of such brilliant talent. Beta and I became incredibly close – and still are.

Beta went west, following her progenitors' footsteps, and ended up at Microsoft where her Betty was morphed to Beta – among other things she wrote the original Help section of Excel.

I was moved deeply to find that her family was among the very first to settle The Dalles, OR. In fact, if you go there today at their city museum, there is the original home of the Anderson family, completely restored in its pioneer rusticity, having been moved in pieces from ten miles west of the town. Beta's great strength is keeping all of us together and welcoming all of us into her now three generation family – to whom I am Uncle Dick.

Several years ago, Beta and I were sitting together in a particularly sweet moment reminiscing. She suddenly said, "We're not married, we're not lovers, we're not related... What are we?"

"Friends," I answered.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Dixon Bell June 17, 2025



Blogs and Items of Interest

FROM THE MEMBERS OF
HOPEWELL CENTRE MEETING



Let Freedom Ring!!!

And Dance and Sing and March!!!!

NEIGHBORHOOD FUN DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1 PM TO 4 PM



COME WITH YOUR
FAMILY AND FRIENDS

ENJOY AN AFTERNOON OF
GAMES, ART, CRAFTS
SINGING, AND TREATS



Address: Picnic area in front of 527 Gray Ave, Apt. 6
Winchester, VA 22601 Text Mrs. Sallie Grundman,
540-303-0028 for more information



Announcing...

**A Summer Interfaith Spirituality Retreat June
28, 2025 8:30 a.m. - noon
Hopewell Meeting House - Clearbrook, Virginia**

Sponsored by Hopewell Centre Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Join us for a Meet and Greet continental vegetarian/vegan breakfast, after which we will center ourselves with body prayer, chanting, and song. Two 50 minute workshop sessions will follow. *Workshop descriptions are on the next two pages.*

First Session - *Choose one from:*

Earth Spirituality and Environmental Ethics Christian Mollitor	Experiencing Interfaith Spiritual Voices Charlotte Harmon	Life Perspectives: Using a Circle-plot to Connect with Spirituality Margie Riley
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Second Session - *Choose one from:*

Music and Spirituality Kevin Slick	Three Centered Awareness in Spiritual Practice Sunday Cote	Spiritual Poetry Janet Harrison
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TO REGISTER...(no costs)...

*PLEASE EMAIL YOUR TWO WORKSHOP CHOICES and A CONTACT PHONE NUMBER TO mcweducatorphone@gmail.com
You will receive a confirmation email. Thank you for registering!*



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR A FALL SPIRITUALITY RETREAT...

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

We hope you can come!



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.

Pictures from the Community Kindness Fair

May 17, 2025

Centre Meeting in Winchester, VA





• *Alma y Folklore Dance Troupe*



• *Harambee Gospel Choir*

- ***Kids building Home Depot Projects***





Nalani and Lailah are pictured here with their Grandfather, Zakee
Hopewell Centre Meeting is sending these two lovely young ladies to
the Baltimore Yearly Meeting Summer Camp this year



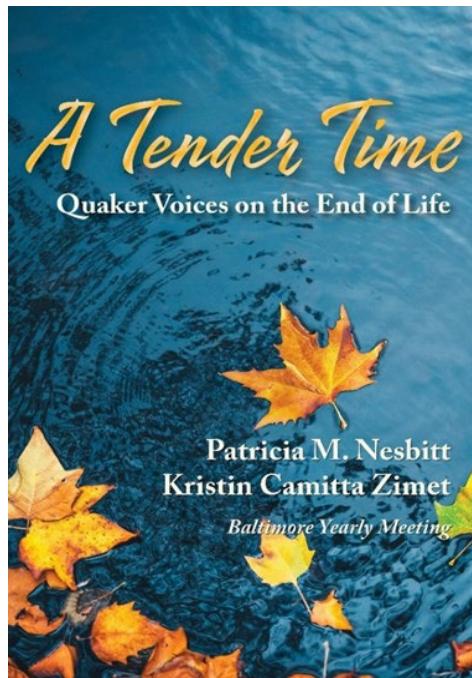
Read by Anne Bacon at Meeting for Worship

from:

Prayers From An Island, by Richard Wong.

When speed is king, O God, teach me to be slow
slow to anger,
slow to condemn,
and slow to walk,
that I pass neither friend nor those who need me. Amen

(Worth Repeating)



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*

In 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)*

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.



Saturday, June 28th Spiritual Retreats 8:30-Noon

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



July 15th David Landes

July 15th Brett Osborn

July 16th Maggie Stettler

July 17th Robyn Harris

July 18th Martha Hanley

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

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