

The Monthly Silence
The Monthly Newsletter for Hopewell Centre Meeting of
the Religious Society of Friends
The Eighth Month, August 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

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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

Anne Bacon's Cousin, Marion Stump

Judy Enterline

Francine and John Guiser

Janet Harrison and Andy Mosholder, and her kidney donor

Donna Knight's family as they grieve the loss of her Stepdaughter, Christine Chamberlain

Hilde Matheson.

Betty McCormick, her daughter Susie

Meeting for Worship for Business
Hopewell Centre Monthly Meeting, July 13, 2025
Clerk Dick Bell, Presiding

The Clerk opened the Meeting with a moment of silence.

CQE: (Continuing Quaker Education)

"We tend to think historically that Friends have been out in front in all areas of social change, the abolition of slavery, rights for women, prison reform, and all the rest, but Margaret Bacon points out in an article that it was only a few Friends who were out in front. The John Woolmans and the Lucretia Motts were very lonely in their own meetings, in their own days, and the Elizabeth Frys also. They were eldred by their meetings and looked on as a little bit too far out for the general populace." Elizabeth Watson

Comments included: The current Friends Journal's theme is "Quaker Revival". In that spirit, one may have a leading or agitation to take action. / We have an obligation to listen to all voices. / But you must listen and then decide whether to accept the message. / No matter what denomination you represent, we are people first. / We must listen to the voices speaking within ourselves as well as to those voices from others. / We must be humble in our outreach. Some of our Quaker leadings have fallen flat. / Our own Ellie Haun had a leading in her career to serve underprivileged children. / We must recognize that many of the issues we pursue ride on a pendulum, swinging from one extreme to another. This helps us to understand the leadings of other people. / How important the Quaker practice is of listening and learning.

The Meeting wishes to thank Elizabeth Watson for providing a quote that set a world's record in CQE comments.

Thanksgiving and Concerns: Donna Knight expressed concern for her stepdaughter Christine who has cancer and is now under the care of hospice. We all are holding her in the light. Kristin Zimet asked us to hold Janet Harrison and Andy Mosholder and Janet's kidney donor in the light. She is scheduled for the transplant on July 30. Margie Riley asked us to hold Judy Enterline in the light as she recovers from recent surgery. Jim Riley gave thanks for the presence of the Opequon campers in Meeting this morning. And they presented us with two songs. What a treat!

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

Major items included:

Contributions :

Individual and Family	\$ 1,190
Use of Centre	170
Rogers Fund disbursement	11,000 (twice a year for about \$22,000)

Expenses:

Mowing	\$ 430
Utilities	436
Sarah Zane Fund	276

Checking Account Balance: \$ 14,363

Meeting owned CDs:

Centre Building	\$ 11,000
Hopewell Graveyard	21,000
Hopewell Graveyard	2,700 (will cash in)

Fund totals:

Rogers	\$ 58,000
Sarah Zane	2,979
Youth	1,434

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

Jim noted that Contributions as of now stand at \$6,231 which is about \$2,500 less than at this time last year.

Ministry and Counsel: Richard Cooper gave the following report:

Ministry and Council Meeting, July 7, 2025, by Zoom

Our written and electronic communications are doing well.

We are supporting Social Concerns and Outreach in planning aa regional potluck between Shepherdstown, Goose Creek, and Hopewell Centre on either October 18th or 19th. Goose Creek is already working with our committee, and Shepherdstown is discussing their role and who will join our planning committee this First Day at their business meeting today.

We have tentatively planned RE's through Homecoming:

July 6th – Weenier Roast (very successful)

July 13th – Meeting for Business

July 20th – Quaker 101 'Speaking Out of the Silence,' seasoning your message. Also, how to join or support a committee now if you are new to us.

July 27th – Potluck at Centre

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

We talked about an interim nominating committee to check on how folks were doing in their current stations. Also, assisting newcomers who wish to join a committee.

We discussed Homecoming, August 24th.

We suggest forming an Ad Hoc committee celebrating the 250th anniversary of Centre Meeting in 2026.

We agreed to send a paperback, large print Bible to support West Virginia prisoners.

We shared a sheet of Immigration resources which the clerk received Dr. Zakee McGill on July 8th that was put together by a consortium of concerned parties.

Respectfully submitted,

Ministry and Counsel

Follow-up: Donna Knight reported that the bible has been sent.

Social Concerns and Outreach: Margie Riley reported the following:

Last year we had a 1/2-page ad in the Winchester Star Church Directory. It's time to renew that. The Meeting approved doing so, cost @ \$150.00. We discussed adding the words stewardship, and welcoming -inclusive- affirming. Margie will coordinate with the Star.

General announcements - We're coordinating the program for Homecoming on Aug. 24; there is a peaceful protest on July 17, "Good Trouble Lives On" in Old Town Winchester, 6 - 8 p.m. sponsored by The League of Women Voters; a planning team meeting for the Fall Spirituality Retreat will be July 31 - talk to Margie if interested in helping; planning for a fall regional gathering of Hopewell Center, Shepherdstown and Goose Creek Meetings is ongoing; and Valley Interfaith Council is planning two fall activities - an Interfaith Justice Revival and Interfaith Cooking Event.

Building and Grounds: The stone marker will soon be moved from its current position on route 11 to the Hopewell property. Placement will be near the sign at the entrance.

Graveyard: Jim Riley reported that the youth group from the Mormon Church on Apple Pie Ridge is currently trimming and cleaning in the Hopewell graveyard.

The committee has employed someone to help with a revamping of the record keeping for the graveyard. She is making a spreadsheet that will include names, dates, and locations of graves. As of now we have paid her \$450 for her work.

Pastoral Care: Karen Nelson sent the following report:

Please hold these Friends in the Light:

Judy Enterline, who now is home recovering from surgery for a broken hip

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

Janet Harrison, whose kidney surgery will be on or about July 30th.

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

Karen and Paul will be moving to Lancaster, PA in late November or early December. We will need a replacement for Karen on the Pastoral Care Committee. If you are interested, please see Karen or the Clerk for more details.

Old Business: As part of his applying for membership in the Meeting, Christian Mollitor met with a clearness committee. The committee exuberantly recommends Christian for membership and the Meeting likewise exuberantly agreed. Welcome Christian to membership in Hopewell Centre Meeting!!!

Announcements:

BYM annual session during the first week of August
Homecoming on August 24
Interfaith Spiritual Retreat on September 27

In Attendance: Clerk Dick Bell, Scott Lynch, Jim Riley, Margie Riley, Sunday Cote, Dan Riley, Richard Cooper, Peter Ford, Kristin Zimet, Donna Knight, and Judy McCarthy

Respectfully submitted by Dan Riley, Recording Clerk





CALENDAR

- 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 Spices Testimony
- August 24th** --- **HOMECOMING**
- August 31st** --- Kevin Slick and his Music



From the clerk

For as long as I can recall I have been entranced by the cosmic mystery: the relationship between God and me. Of course, we are stymied by our mere lives – which only allow us the lens of the present, the ever-renewing ‘NOW’ of creation, and then we pass. Below is a poem I wrote a dozen years ago about this question.

Jacob's Ladder

One night I had a dream—or it had me:
The Bible saw, Jacob and the tall stair,
A way between heaven and earth—
Angels' feet brightening as they neared God.

*

When did they join? Atoms which became me?
What ooze, what distant muck, iterating,
Iterating, stepped through evolution,
Becoming cells, then sentient life forms?

A myriad generations passing,
Winking into, out of conscious daylight.
I as distant branched as clover from that ooze,
As blind to my parents' thoughts as to my child's.

And yet awake to now I am: a flash from
The cosmic camera whose genetic
Record like helixed film evolving out
Proclaims – I'm still climbing Jacob's Ladder.

Respectfully submitted,
R. Dixon Bell, clerk

7/18/25



Blogs and Items of Interest

FROM THE MEMBERS OF
HOPEWELL CENTRE MEETING

Winchester Worth Fighting For and the League of Women Voters

hosted a peaceful demonstration on the Old Town Mall on July 17. The theme was "Good Trouble Lives On", based on Senator John Lewis' well-known phrase. One of our Friendly 8's groups attended after sharing a meal at Centre Meeting House. Food donations were collected for the Blue Ridge Food Bank. There were a lot of signs supporting democracy and good speakers giving examples of why we all need to continue to raise our voices in support of our democratic ideals.





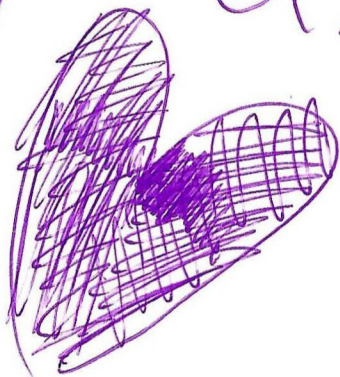




Lailah and Nalani at Camp Catoctin

Thank you!!!!

Thank
You!!!!



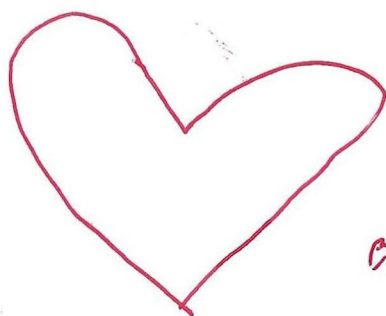
Hopewell...

Thank you so much
for paying me and my sisters
2 weeks!!! at camp ctoctin!
we really appreciate it.
I can't wait to go
hopefully one day ~~me~~ me
get it my sister and dad
can meet you all
one day! → Lailah

DEAR HOPEWELL, thank
you so much for donating
money to our camp! I can't
thank you all enough! Camp ctoctin
is ~~the~~ ~~another~~ my favorite
camp ever. So thank you!
From: Nakhi!

Thank

You

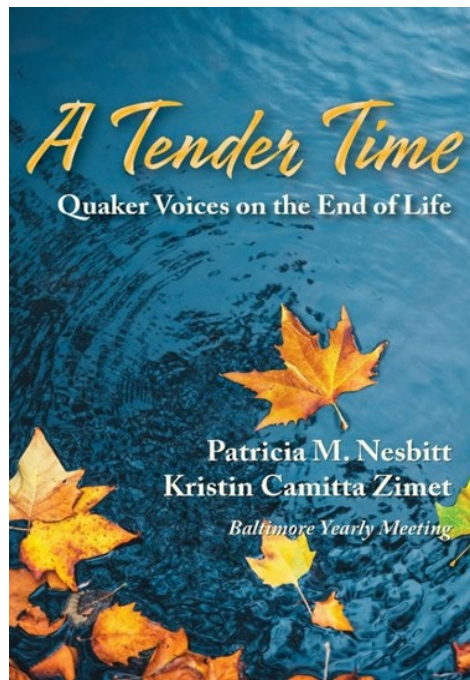




Homecoming

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

*I pray that your love may
abound yet more and more.
Philippians 1:9*



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



BYM annual session during the first week of August

August 24 Hopewell Centre Homecoming

September 27 Interfaith Spiritual Retreat

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



August 3rd Christian Mollitor

August 7th Mathew Bacon

August 16th Judy Landes

August 23rd Jordan Landes

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

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