

The Herndon Light



10th Month 9, 2016 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 238

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| 10-15 | Interim Meeting Sandy Spring—The Catoctin Bathhouse will be on the agenda |
| 10-16 | Adult Discussion 9:00 AM Four Doors Into Meeting For Worship led by Katherine Cole |
| 10-16 | Fauquier Friends Worship Group Singing at 10:30; Worship/First Day school 11:00 |
| 11-6 | Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship (Remember to set your clocks back or you'll be late!) |
| 11-12 | Second Saturday Friendly Eights Meg Wallace's House; sign up sheet at Meetinghouse |
| 11-13 | Meeting for Business 9:00 AM |
| 11-13 | Assemble Thanksgiving Food baskets after rise of Meeting |
| 11-20 | Fauquier Friends Worship Group Singing at 10:30; Worship/First Day school 11:00 |

each individual.

Query Social Concerns

How do I express my faith in action? How are my actions grounded in my faith?
Is my sense of justice based in love?
Do I endeavor to face the pain of the world and respond to it with forgiveness and compassion?
Am I concerned for those in our society who are disadvantaged?
Do I make an idol of that which I am led to defend?
How do I avoid demonizing those who march against my concern?
Do I take my full share of civic responsibility?
Do I avoid partisan assumptions and rhetoric?

Advices

Our testimonies are not the heart of our faith but are the fruits of our religious convictions. Assure that your actions in the world arise from your love of the Light in every person. Regard no person as your enemy. When opposing specific actions and abuses of power, seek to address the goodness and truth in

For example, prison ministry has been a long-standing social outreach among Friends. Our guiding doctrine of the Inward Light holds that the presence of God resides in all humanity, including those incarcerated. Therefore, we accept all people as children of God and believe that everyone, even those who have committed crimes, can transform their lives.

Friends are aware that our tasks are founded on witness, not results; that our testimony to the world is the substance of our truth. Assert the transforming power of love and nonviolence as a challenge to injustice and aggression and as an instrument for reconciliation.

While faith without works is dead, works without faith are hollow. Because we understand that activism is often spawned from an egocentric center, Friends are urged to test their leadings that their outward works are grounded in the Spirit.

Herndon Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends holds Meeting for Worship at 660 Spring Street in Herndon each First Day (Sunday). Hymn singing begins at 10:15 am. An unprogrammed Meeting for Worship begins at 10:30 am and lasts about one hour. After worshipping with adults for 10-15 minutes, children and teenagers attend First Day School classes until the end of Meeting for Worship. The building is wheelchair accessible. For more information call the Meeting's telephone answering machine at 703-736-0592. The Newsletter Editor is Terence McCormally. Notices for the Newsletter can be sent to him at 2514 Trophy Lane, Reston, VA 20191 E-mail tmccormally@ffpcs.com. Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Meg Wallace **WEBSITE AT** www.herndonfriends.org.

The Care Coordinating Committee is available for Friends in need. If you need assistance because of an illness or other emergency, contact Abbey Compton, Clerk, at abbey.compton@verizon.net; or Priscilla Chamlee at dandpchamlee@gmail.com; or Fred Cresson at cresson4@verizon.net, or Stacey LaRoy at staceybear@laroyfamily.com or Margaret Rogers at margrog@juno.com

Meeting For Business 10/9/16

After a period of silent gathering, Clerk Cat Wilkins gathered 17 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business with a reading of the Query on Social Concerns.

Friends responded out of the silence. “There is an inherent tension between faithfulness and effectiveness. Sometimes we just need to make decisions based on what Love requires us to do.” Another spoke of the need for all our decisions to be based on Faith. This principle can be applied in business decisions as well.

Recording clerk, Cathy Tunis, read the highlights from the minutes of the last Meeting for Business.

Greening Committee – Margaret Fisher reported that the event featuring a showing of the film “Hometown Habitat,” held on Sept. 25 at the meetinghouse, was a big success. About 20 people attended. Other faith communities represented were: Crossroads United Methodist, Reston Unitarian Universalists, Goose Creek Friends, Langley Hill Friends, St. John Newman Catholic, Nativity Catholic, and Holy Comforter Episcopal. The goal is to encourage the creation of wildlife habitats on church properties throughout the area. Margaret also reported that she and her husband Jon Rosenthal planted several new native plant ground covers and low-growing plants on the embankment and created a new installation of native shrubs in the bed next to the kitchen wall of the meetinghouse, as well as a coral honeysuckle vine on the trellis.

Finance – Amy Shinkman presented the third quarter budget report, prepared by Devin Mahoney, treasurer. She reported that the contribution levels are lower than usual this year and the cash balance was the lowest Devin has ever seen it. A question was raised about whether we should consider contacting individual members to remind them of the need for financial support. Friends discussed the possibility of sending a letter reminding attenders about the general financial needs of the Meeting and the projects that our budget supports, while being sensitive to the fact that

not everyone is in a position to contribute equally. **In addition to announcements after Meeting for Worship and reminders at potluck about financial needs and the electronic transfer auto-donor option, the Meeting approved the concept of the Finance committee preparing a letter and bringing the letter back to the Meeting for Business for approval. After approval, this would be sent, most likely by email, from the Clerk of the Meeting.**

Ministry & Oversight – Amy Shinkman reported for Fred Cresson. Katherine Cole will lead a discussion on the Pendle Hill pamphlet “Four Doors to Meeting for Worship” by Bill Taber, next Sunday, October 16, at 9 am at the meetinghouse. Additional copies are available and can also be found in electronic form on Amazon.

Amy also read the Scholarship Policy recently prepared by Ministry and Oversight Committee. This applies to Quaker camp scholarships, as well as attendance at adult workshops and conferences sponsored by BYM or other Friends organizations, and will provide guidance for the committee on the disbursal of funds. **The general policy was approved and sent back to the committee for some wording refinements.**

Peace & Social Concerns – Melanie Stanley reported that the committee will begin collecting for Thanksgiving baskets again this year. Each basket costs about \$55 but any donation is acceptable. Checks should be made out to Herndon Friends with a memo indicating Thanksgiving baskets. On the second Sunday of November, sandwich making will occur during the First Day school time period as usual, while older Young Friends will shop for the basket contents. The Thanksgiving boxes will then be packed after Meeting for Worship by everyone, in assembly line fashion, and delivered to Cornerstones.

Plans are also being made for another Christmas ornament sale to benefit the Medical Care for Children Partnership in Fairfax County. Young Friends are invited to submit design proposals. If time runs out, the committee will consider selling the supply of

previous-year ornaments instead, perhaps at a discount.

Liz Wilson reported that a **Care Committee** for Don and Priscilla Chamlee is being formed. Don fell last week and will be in Fairfax Hospital ICU for some time. Liz Wilson reported that Priscilla is very grateful for the Meeting's support and the many Friends who have stopped in to visit her at the hospital. She appreciates visits, but asks that we send her a text before visiting. Liz has her phone number. Katherine Cole also reported that Terence has been checking on Don at the hospital. She brought a card for everyone to write messages on and said that Terence will deliver it to the hospital. **The Meeting united in love and concern for Don and Priscilla and the entire Chamlee family.**

Religious Education - Meg Wallace announced that the shed is here and sits happily in the parking lot. Meg reported that from here on out it will be referred to as "the Cabin." The idea is to create a kind of camp feel about it. The total cost amounted to less than budgeted. Other parts of the project include deciding on furniture, possibly adding some planters along the side facing the parking lot to keep people from parking too close, and providing electricity. Andrew Laroy is the point person on the electrical project and will begin by contacting electricians for an estimate to provide electrical service to the Cabin.

On Back to First Day School night held on Sept. , there was a small but worthwhile gathering. Abbey Compton will be the lead teacher for the Junior Young Friends class that will meet in the Cabin. She will involve them in the planning of the cabin furnishings. The Godly Play class and infant/toddler class will continue to meet in the meetinghouse and the Young Friends will continue to go out for breakfast and discussions.

Meg also reported on the first "Second Saturday," Friendly Eights gathering at her house held the previous evening. The evening was a success and Meg was thanked for hosting the event and getting this program underway.

Cathy Tunis, Recording Clerk

Scholarship Policy

The Meeting has streamlined the procedures for the Ministry and Oversight Committee to distribute scholarship funds for Quaker camp and for Friends educational conferences or meetings.

All children age 9-16 enrolled in First Day School at HFM are eligible to receive a \$350 stipend to attend a Baltimore Yearly Meeting camping program upon presentation of a camp registration form to the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer.

Adults in the Meeting can request meeting support up to \$350 for registration fees, transportation, or lodging to attend BYM sponsored events (such as the Women's Retreat, BYM Annual Session or FAP training) or an activity sponsored by another Quaker organizations (such as Pendle Hill, or Friends General Conference Meeting). Requests should be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Meeting or the Clerk of Ministry and Oversight.

Nominating committee call

(Herndon Friends will soon be hearing from the Nominating Committee about serving on committees next year. They may want to consider this from Pendle Hill Pamphlet 439, **Marking the Quaker Path (7 Key words plus 1)**, by Robert Griswold)

For the word "Discipline:

"Friends don't just get to be Sunday worshippers. If you are just coming to worship on Sunday and steadfastly declining an office or committee work, you are missing a key element that will let you grow as a Quaker. What you will be missing is the discipline of working on spiritual tasks with others. All of us have many demands on our time and energies. Indeed, our society encourages us to always keep doing things. But busyness by itself isn't a virtue, and it isn't an excuse for not sharing the work of the meeting community. The meeting needs all who can be ready to serve when called."

Catoctin Bathhouse Project

Ned Stowe, General Secretary of Baltimore Yearly Meeting invites Friends to Interim Meeting this Saturday, 10/15/16 at Sandy Spring, MD. Meeting for Worship with a

Concern for Business will begin at 2:00 at the Miller Center at Friends House. One of the items on the agenda is discernment on how to proceed with the replacement of the bathhouse at Camp Catoclin.

Friend Stowe reports that new information and analysis indicate the project could cost almost \$830,000. Staff is hoping to complete the project--designed to be gender neutral and environmentally friendly--for less than \$730,000 but still far more than the originally expected \$297,000 or the \$230,000 raised so far for the project.

The Stewardship and Finance Committee and Trustees are preparing recommendations for how we might finance the additional cost using existing resources, anticipated future revenue, and generous contributions and loans from members and camp alums. Plans for an alternative more traditional and less expensive facility are apparently not being considered.

After the Election



After the TV ads stop, and your inbox stops being flooded with solicitations, the Friends Committee on National Legislation reminds us that the election is just one step in the political process and Friends who want to

pursue social concerns on an organized level and work towards peace and justice have to answer a larger call. FCNL describes a 7 step ladder for Friends led to political advocacy. It starts with supporting Quaker organizations like FCNL, steps up by subscribing to list serves and newsletters to stay informed, and challenges us to organize letter writing campaigns to our legislators, write letters to the editor, participate with other in organizations like the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, attend the Virginia legislative lobbying "Day for All People".

FCNL's mission is summarized in their statement on "The World We Seek":

We seek a world free of war and the threat of war
 We seek a society with equity and justice for all
 We seek a community where every person's potential may be fulfilled
 We seek an earth restored

Funeral Blues

Stop all the clocks, cut off the telephone,
 Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone,
 Silence the pianos and with muffled drum
 Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let aeroplanes circle moaning overhead
 Scribbling on the sky the message He Is Dead,
 Put crepe bows round the white necks of the
 public doves,
 Let the traffic policemen wear black cotton
 gloves.

He was my North, my South, my East and
 West,
 My working week and my Sunday rest,
 My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song;
 I thought that love would last forever: I was
 wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: put out every
 one;
 Pack up the moon and dismantle the sun;
 Pour away the ocean and sweep up the wood.
 For nothing now can ever come to any good.

W.H.Auden

Some Other Calendar Items

October 21 – 23 Family Camp Weekend Opequon Quaker Camp (Brucetown, VA)

October 22 – 23 – Junior Young Friends Conference Gunpowder Friends Meeting
(Sparks, MD)

November 5 – Rise Up and Sing Friends Meeting of Washington (Washington, DC)

November 25 – 27 – Young Friends Conference Friends Meeting of Washington
(Washington, DC)

December 10 – 11 – Junior Young Friends Conference Goose Creek Friends Meeting
(Lincoln, VA)

Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
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