

The Herndon Light



12th Month 10, 2017 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 247

- 12/16 Christmas Sing 5:30 PM Sweet and Savory Potluck at 5:30, followed by singing
- 12/23 Christmas Eve Eve Potluck at Meeting House followed by Meeting for Worship
- 12/24 Meeting for Worship 10:15
- 12/31 Herndon Friends serving Dinner at North County Hypothermia Shelter Contact Jay McClendon
- 1/6 10:30 AM Special Meeting of Student Peace Awards at the Meetinghouse
- 1/7 Potluck at Rise of Meeting For Worship
- 1/13-14 BYM JYFCON Junior Young Friends Conference at Herndon Meetinghouse 6-8th graders
- 1/14 Meeting for Business at 9:00 AM
- 1/26-28 BYM Women's Retreat; Pearlstone Retreat Center, Resisterstown MD Register online

Query 8 Integrity

How do we seek truth by which to live? How do we recognize it?

In what ways does my life speak of my beliefs and values?

Do I strive to be truthful at all times, avoiding judicial oaths?

In what way is my life in harmony with truth as I know it?

Advices

When we live with integrity, alone or as a faith community, our words and deeds ring true.

We are able to hear when there is discord between our values and our words or actions, and we often sense when others in our community are "out of tune" with their own truth, or when, as a community, we do not seem to be following the same conductor. Giving testimony to truth and integrity also means refusing to place things other than God at the center of one's

life – whether it be one's own self, possessions, the regard for others, belief in principles (such as rationality, progress, or justice) or something else. It is the understanding that even good things are no longer good when they supplant God as one's center.

Community plays a critical role in discernment. Integrity calls us to recognize our gifts and our flaws alike with humility, helping each other lovingly to "let our lives speak," the truth as we know it. When we live with integrity, we hold the imperfections and dark places in our selves and our communities to the Light, remembering that our mistakes and flaws may help us understand the pain and burdens of others or even become a spring for ministry. Living with integrity requires that we not "outrun our guide." Rather, as Caroline Stephen wrote, we do our best to "live up to the Light we have," knowing that "more will be given" when we are ready.

Meeting for Business 12/10/17

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** <https://www.fgcquaker.org/cloud/herndon-friends-meeting>

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 AbbeyComptonisHere@gmail.com; or Priscilla Chamlee at dandpchamlee@gmail.com; or Fred Cresson at cresson4@verizon.net, or Stacey LaRoy at stacebear@laroyfamily.com or Margaret Rogers at margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com

Cat Wilkins gathered 22 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at 9:00 am on 12/10/17 with a reading of the Query on integrity.

Cat Wilkins read the **letter of transfer of membership** for John Smallwood from Langley Hill Monthly Meeting to Herndon. The letter highlighted John's years of service at Langley Hill. Friends were enthusiastic in accepting this transfer and were appreciative of the description of John's contributions over his many years at Langley Hill.

Ministry & Oversight – Stacey Laroy reported for Ministry and Oversight. The annual Christmas Sing will be held on December 16, starting at 5:30 p.m., with finger foods, singing, and sharing of musical gifts. We will hold the Christmas Eve potluck dinner on December 23 instead of Christmas Eve this year, also at 5:30 p.m., followed by some singing and an abbreviated Meeting for Worship for all ages. Friends will gather for Meeting for Worship on First Day Christmas Eve at the usual time.

Nominating – Harry Tunis presented the proposed nominees for the 2018 committees and clerks, which is included in the newsletter. Liz Willson will serve as the Clerk. Several changes were suggested, including the addition of Bert Curtis's name to Care Coordinating and Fred Cresson to the Young Friends' Coordinator list. Some Young Friends may wish to serve on the new Communications and Outreach committee, as well as some other committees. It was also recommended that some of the names under other tasks could be moved to the C&O committee. Specific tasks for members of that committee will be discussed by that committee when it meets. The Nominating committee was charged with making these additions and changes. Friends were reminded changes can be made at any time during year, by speaking to any member of the Nominations committee who will bring names forward to Meeting for Business.

2018 Budget - Terence McCormally presented the proposed budget for 2018, which is presented elsewhere in the Newsletter **Friends approved this Budget plan.**

Student Peace Awards - Margaret Rogers reported that there will be a special meeting of the committee and others interested on January 6, starting at 10:30 a.m. The Student Peace Awards has established an organization separate from Herndon Friends Meeting. The meeting will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. with a discussion of their financial condition and plans for fund raising. After a light lunch, the group will discuss bylaws for The Student Peace Awards. Friends approved transferring the funds from Herndon's accounts, that were raised for the Peace Awards in past years, to the new organization.

Thanks to the Clerk!

Meg Wallace expressed her appreciation of Cat Wilkins service as clerk and her "good shepherding" of our Meeting over the last two years. The next Meeting for Business will be held on January 14, 2018, at 9 a.m. and will be led by Cat one last time, substituting for the newly appointed clerk, Liz Willson.

HFM 2018 Budget

Herndon Friends reviewed the 2018 budget presented by Treasurer Terence McCormally for the Finance Committee. Terence noted that the format for the budget has changed to represent all of the income anticipated for the meeting for 2018, including the projected gain in our investment account, the money raised for Thanksgiving Food Baskets and the Christmas Ornament project. This results in an apparent increase in the projected income for 2018 compared to the budget presented last year.

The Finance committee received direction from the Meeting in 2017 to pay off the mortgage, with an intention to use some of the cash flow released from this to increase the Meeting's involvement in the community. In line with this, the total amount of gifts to outside organizations presented in budget includes a 25% The Finance committee also recommended that the Meeting adopt a procedure to have the Peace and Social Concerns Committee review the organizations that the meeting supports. In the past, inclusion of these organizations was meant in large part to identify to Herndon Friends those Quaker organizations that they should consider supporting. Melanie Stanley, Clerk of Peace and Social Concerns agreed to work with the treasurer to develop the review process. The budget also includes an allocation of \$500 for legal fees requested by the Finance Committee to obtain an outside opinion about the extent of personal liability of church member for debts or negligence in meeting, and advisability of

incorporating the meeting and registering as a 501(c) 3 organization with the IRS.

For planning purposes, the budget includes an additional contribution to BYM of \$5304. Herndon Friends have contributed additional funds to BYM in the past including a \$5000 donation in 2016. This money will not be dispersed unless there is clearness in Meeting for Business regarding the additional contribution

Category Description	Budget 2017	2018 Budget	Δ 17-18
INCOME			
General Fund	49,233	43032	(6,201)
In-kind contributions	1,000	2000	1,000
Capital Fund Contribuitons	1,200	1200	-
Growth and Building Fund	3,180	3180	-
Thanksgiving Food Baskets	3,900	3900	-
MCCP Ornament Sale	830	830	-
Farquier Friends	828	800	(28)
Interest Income	80	90	10
Grant Income Landscaping	3,500	0	(3,500)
Projected Unrealized Invest. Gain	29,700	30,000	300
TOTAL INCOME	93,451	85032	(8,419)
EXPENSES			
Baltimore Yearly Meeting			
Apportionment	9,710	11755	2,045
Possible donation to BYM	0	5304	5,304
TOTAL BYM	9,710	17059	7,349
Clerk	100	100	-
Finance Committee			
Finance Committee Misc.	300	50	(250)
Post Office Box	0	134	134
Electronic Transfer Charges	250	400	150
TOTAL Finance Committee	550	584	34
Gifts			
AFSC	500	1000	500
FCNL	500	1000	500
FGC	325	325	-
Friends Journal (Appeal)	700	300	(400)
Friends Wilderness Center	825	500	(325)
FUM	200	0	(200)
FWCC	325	325	-
Peace Award	150	150	-
Camping Program	550	550	-
Wm. Penn House	600	600	-
Quaker House Fayetteville	0	500	500
LINK	175	175	-
Sanctuary DMV	0	200	200
Cornerstones (Reston Interfaith)	1,200	2000	800
TOTAL Gifts	6,050	7625	1,575
Hospitality Committee	600	600	-
	2017	2018	Δ
House & Grounds Committee			
Fire Alarm System (ADT)	550	560	10
Fire Dept. Inspection	400	150	(250)
Maintenance & Supplies	1,500	1500	-
Termite control	120	120	-

Snow Removal	0	325	325
Furnace Inspection	0	184	184
H&G Utilities			-
Electric	1,000	1000	-
Gas	1,000	1000	-
Water	150	125	(25)
Telephone	800	600	(200)
TOTAL Utilities	2,950	2725	(225)
TOTAL H & G Committee	5,520	5,564	44
M & O Committee			-
Annual Retreat	600	600	-
Book order	300	300	-
M & O Committee Misc.	195	150	(45)
Scholarships, Travel, Visitation	3,500	3500	-
TOTAL M & O Committee	4,595	4550	(45)
P & SC Committee			-
P & SC Committee Misc.	450	450	-
Embrey Rucker Sandwiches	2,750	2750	-
Thanksgiving Food Baskets	4,200	3900	
MCCP Child Insurance	0	830	830
TOTAL P & SC Committee	7,400	7930	530
Communications & Outreach			
Miscellaneous	0	500	500
Special Projeccts	0	100	100
Friends Journal Ad	0	140	140
Advertising	105	105	-
Newsletter	200	200	-
Internet - Website	300	300	-
Library Committee	200	200	-
Total Comm and Outreach	805	1545	740
Recorder	25	25	-
Religious Education Committee	1,500	1500	-
Youth Budget for Junior/Seniors	100	100	-
Trustees Attorneys Fees	0	500	500
Insurance	1,800	1600	(200)
Mortgage	6,018	0	(6,018)
TOTAL Trustees	7,818	2,100	(5,718)
Fauquier Friends Worship Group			-
TOTAL Fauquier Friends	828	800	(28)
Transfer to Growth and Building	29,700	30,000	
Transfer to Capital Fund (1.5%)	5,000	5750	
TOTAL EXPENSES	79,473	85,032	5,559

BYM Budget

By far the biggest expense of Herndon Friends is the apportionment to BYM. Herndon Friends apportionment (which is based on the amount of contributions the meeting received in 2016 compared to the total contributions received by all BYM monthly meetings in 2016) has increased about \$2000 from 2017 to 2018.

BYM is funded through a combination of program fees (especially for the camping program but also Annual Session fees, and the Women's Retreat), the apportionment process, and individual donations. In recent years, especially with the addition of professional development staff, BYM has funded new programs with campaigns for additional individual donations rather than increasing apportionment. For 2018 the BYM

budget sets increased targets for individual contributions to meet the proposals approved by the Yearly Meeting.

Responding to a request from BYM for additional donations, the budget includes a line item for a \$5000 contribution to BYM above the allocated apportionment amount. This amount is based on a calculation by the BYM trustees that if every member of BYM donated \$34, it would meet the projection in the budget. BYM records that Herndon Friends Meeting has 105 members and 156 members and attenders out of a total BYM Community of 6850. The \$5304 budget line is calculated at \$34 x 156. Herndon Friends may decide to donate any different amount, or no additional funds, but inclusion of this line was to illustrate the effect a donation would have on our budget.

Fall Clean Up Day

David Whomsley led 12 Friends in a Meetinghouse Clean up on 12/2/17. In addition to cleaning out flower beds and gutters, the interior of the meetinghouse was cleaned, vacuumed, and dusted. A House and Grounds Committee Meeting followed a hearty lunch. There will be an opportunity to clean up again next Spring!



Margaret Rogers, Fred Cresson, Cathy Tunis, David Whomsley, Selena Leary, Meg Wallace, Harry Tunis, Joshua Whomsley, Katherine Cole, Bert Curtis, Andrew Laroy, Margaret Fisher (Not pictured: Eli McClendon)

MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS

Whoever has been fully pregnant in December knows the ridiculousness of preparing for Christmas in the ninth month.

What was the church thinking having

the beginning of the new year start with Mary's last month of pregnancy?

Limping along those many miles to Bethlehem, riding the donkey for a break, then getting off its swaying back to walk again.

No wonder there was no room in the Inn. They must have been the last people to enter the city of David.

Whatever you are heavy with – child, sorrow, old age, even joy – whoever has no energy to put up

the tree or untangle the lights, write the cards or bake the cookies, close your eyes and

get on the donkey for awhile. Let the story carry you through the dark that was not just back then

but is also now.

Anne Mugler 12/4/17

Hot Meal at the Hypothermia Shelter

Herndon Friends will be serving New Years Eve Dinner at the North County Hypothermia Shelter. Volunteers are needed for making and serving food, and doing clean up. If you'd like to help, contact Jay Maclendon (bluejay825@gmail.com) or sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e054fa4ac2ba02-newyears>

Join the Herndon FCNL Advocacy Team

If you have been wondering how you can make a difference, how you can “let your life speak,” and be a part of the solution, please join the group of Quakers and other friends learning how to be effective advocates for federal legislation that represent Friends' values and testimonies. This year the focus of our advocacy was to keep military spending from growing at the expense of social programs to help the most vulnerable. Next year, we will be focusing on preventing nuclear war with North Korea.

The Herndon team is one of over 80 teams nationwide, consisting of 1300 people, and new teams are forming all the time. We have the advantage of leadership from the FCNL staff who support our work, provide valuable research on the issues, and help us learn to be effective advocates. The power of Advocacy Teams comes from the strong relationships we build with Congress grounded in mutual respect and

listening. You can read more about the work at fcnl.org/advocacy teams.

The FCNL (Friends Committee on National Legislation) Advocacy Team has been meeting at Herndon Friends meetinghouse since our first workshop in June 2017. The workshop was followed by four training sessions and we have been meeting every month since for a team meeting and conference call with FCNL staff and guest speakers. Attendance varies from 8 to 20 Quakers and other friends. We have made six in-person visits with the staff of congressional Representatives from the three districts team members live in, one lobby visit with each Senator from Virginia, sent countless emails to their offices, and written letters to local and national newspapers.

The next team meeting will be on Wednesday, January 10, starting at 7 p.m., at the meetinghouse. For questions, talk to any team member, including Katherine Cole, Meg Wallace, Margaret Fisher, Mary Brandon, Rob Hall, Amy Shinkman, Jack Shinkman, Jolene Smith, Mina Garcia, Louisa Davis or Cathy Tunis.

-- Cathy Tunis

Reducing Gun Violence

A group of Herndon Friends including Jonathan and Annabelle Hammer, Cathy Tunis, Gretel Von Pischke, Bill Benson, Keith Curtis, Kay Fowler, Katherine Cole, and Ting Yi Oei joined a vigil at the National Rifle Association building on December 14th, the 5th anniversary of the Sandy Hook school mass shooting in which 20 elementary school students, 6 adults, and the teenage shooter died.

The event began at 10:00 led by those who have come to the same spot in front of the NRA on the 14th day every month for 59 months to remember those killed and those families affected not only at Sandy Hook, but at mass shootings that have occurred almost daily in the United States, and to witness for the efforts to reduce gun violence

On this 5th anniversary, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax sponsored a second hour to the vigil with a peaceful gathering of clergy and others. Six faith leaders from around the country delivered prayers and words of inspiration reflecting Unitarian, Jewish, Baptist, Muslim and Hindi unity about the possibility and necessity of action. About 200 participants chanted and

sang songs of protest and inspiration. There was a display of T shirts with the names of the children killed at Sandy Hook hung so that they that could be seen by drivers along a busy road in front of the NRA building.

A recurring theme of speakers was that gun violence in the United States is much higher than in many other countries and is correlated with high levels of gun ownership by citizens and by laws that allow easy gun purchases, and lack of restrictions on ownership of semi-automatic weapons. The needless tragedy of gun violence affects not just those killed in mass shootings, but also victims of accidents, domestic violence, suicide, and other hostilities.

The issue of gun violence speaks loudly to me personally and as Quaker and Personally as my family has been directly affected by gun violence, and as a Quaker because I do not believe that conflicts can be resolved with one or both parties having a gun to use against the other.

A FCNL position paper on gun violence prevention sums it up well for me:

The gun violence epidemic is both a public health crisis and a troubling reflection on our country's spiritual state. As we seek policy solutions to reduce deaths from guns, we must also look critically at the culture that enables so many people to kill each other with guns. As Quakers, we believe that there is that of God in every person and that all creation has worth and dignity. We call on Congress to act immediately to protect each sacred life.

--Katherine Cole

Brief Notes

We resist
We refuse to let hatred in
We rise up
We won't back down
We are in this til the end.

(a chant from the vigil against gun violence at the NRA)

Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
Herndon, VA 20170