

# The Herndon Light



3rd Month 11, 2018 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 250

- 3/17 Interim Yearly Meeting in Charlottesville
- 3/18 First Hour Discussion 9:00 AM "Carbon Footprint or Handprint" Margaret Fisher
- 3/18 Fauquier Friends Worship Group 11 AM Bealeton Depot 10877 Willow Drive North, Bealeton
- 3/25 Assisted Hearing Demonstration 12 to 3 at Falcoln's Landing
- 4/1 Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck at Rise of Meeting
- 4/8 Meeting for Business 9:00 AM
- 4/8 FCNL Priority Setting Dinner 5:30 Meeting 6 PM at the meetinghouse
- 4/15 First Hour Discussion 9:00 AM
- 4/15 Fauquier Friends Worship Group 11 AM Bealeton Depot 10877 Willow Drive North, Bealeton
- 4/22 Earth Day Observances: Vegan Hospitality; Plant Exchange; Activity Tables

## *Query 11 Meeting For Worship*

*Do I prepare my heart and mind to receive the power of God's presence and love?*

*How does worship deepen my relationship with the Divine? How is this inspiration carried over into my daily life?*

*Are our Meetings for Worship held in expectant waiting for Divine guidance?*

*How does our worship inspire our Meeting's activities?*

### **Advices**

The heart of the Religious Society of Friends is the Meeting for Worship. In worship we are called to seek God's will with our entire being: body, mind, and soul.

In our Meetings for Worship, we are called to listen with prayerful obedience to God, with a willingness to give as well as to receive. In speech or in silence, each person contributes to the Meeting.

Worshipping God together, we can strengthen one another, and our bodies and minds can be refreshed in the life of the Spirit. As Britain Yearly Meeting said in 1999: "Let Meeting for Worship nourish your whole life."

Give adequate time for study, meditation, and prayer, and other ways of preparing for worship.

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. E-mail [tmccormally@ffpcs.com](mailto:tmccormally@ffpcs.com). Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Meg Wallace. Correspondence and contributions can be sent to PO Box 88 Herndon, VA 20172 **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 Priscilla Chamlee at [dandpchamlee@gmail.com](mailto:dandpchamlee@gmail.com); or Fred Cresson at [cresson4@verizon.net](mailto:cresson4@verizon.net), or Margaret Rogers at [margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com), or Bert Curtis at [bertedits@gmail.com](mailto:bertedits@gmail.com)

Be mindful that worship is the fusion of individual and collective waiting to experience the love of God. Come regularly to Meeting for Worship, even when you are angry, depressed, tired, or spiritually cold.

During the Meeting for Worship, Friends may be led by the Spirit to testify, to share an insight, to pray, to praise. When speaking, we should do so clearly and simply, using as many words as necessary and as few as possible. When another speaks, listen with an open spirit, holding the speaker in love. Rest with the message, recognizing that even if it is not God's word for you, it may be so for others.

## *Meeting for Business 3/11/18*

Clerk Liz Willson gathered 19 Friends for Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at 9:00 a.m. on March 11, 2018, with a reading of the 11<sup>th</sup> Query on **Meeting for Worship**, from the 2013 edition, Second Reading, of *Faith and Practice of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting*.

Terence McCormally presented the **annual report of the Finance Committee** and the year end treasurer's report. Terence reported that Friends were both frugal and generous in 2017, with contributions exceeding expectations and expenses less than planned. The report was accepted.

**Peace & Social Concerns** committee clerk Melanie Stanley and Katherine Cole brought a minute related to our participation in the DMV Sanctuary Congregations, NOVA cluster. United Christian Parish (UCC), one of the congregations in the NOVA Cluster has decided to become a sanctuary church, meaning that they are willing to house a person or family facing deportation. If someone seeks sanctuary at the church to avoid being detained, the UCC would let that person stay in the church until the situation was resolved. The church would plan to have a volunteer in the church all the time the person is being sheltered, including overnight. Those volunteers can come from UCC, or from members of other congregations in the NOVA Cluster.

The following Minute on support for UCC was read and approved by the Meeting.

***As Herndon Friends has united with the goals of DMV Sanctuary Congregation of NOVA at its March 2017 Meeting for Business, Herndon Friends supports United Christian Parish in its decision to be a Sanctuary Church and host an individual or a family in need.***

The committee will also establish an immigration subcommittee of Peace and Social Concerns consisting of those in the Meeting interested in and committed to volunteering to work for immigrants' rights in our community and coordinate efforts with the NOVA cluster of Sanctuary DMV Congregations and other organizations in our community as it sees appropriate. Katherine Cole and Jonathan Hammer are part of this subcommittee.

The report of the **Communications and Outreach Committee** was presented by clerk Ting-Yi Oei.

The committee felt that the newsletter is still a valuable part of our communications and is pursuing ways to continue it.

The Committee is planning to create a handout explaining "who we are" to be displayed outside the meetinghouse for passers-by to pick up. The issue of inclusive and welcoming signage on the meetinghouse grounds, and using bumper stickers that would promote Quakers and/or Herndon Friends specifically is also under consideration. The Committee will also pursue reaching out to other congregations by visiting them. Jay McClendon and others on the committee are creating a presence for Herndon Friends on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Making visitors feel welcome is a priority and greeters have been assigned to welcome them each week. Name badges have been created for all new attenders who requested them.

The Committee reported that Baltimore Yearly Meeting has requested all monthly meetings do an expansion of the annual survey of members. The Meeting Recorder typically sends to BYM information on the number of members and attenders, age ranges of attenders, and racial identities. The new survey asks the recorder to allow members and attenders to self identify their racial identity. Additionally, this year BYM is asking to have members of the meeting respond to several evaluative questions about how the Meeting meets its members' needs.

Communications and Outreach recommends the meeting separate these surveys. Cathy Tunis, the Meeting Recorder will distribute the demographic survey allowing Friends to self identify an ethnic or racial identity, including an option not to respond for Friends who object to the racial identifier information. Ministry and Oversight is to be charged with deciding on how to respond to the other request. The Meeting united with this recommendation

### ***Finance Committee Annual Report***

Finance Committee Annual Report for 2017

Clerk: Amy Shinkman

Members: John Smallwood, Jon Burton, Chris Long, Don Chamlee

Treasurer: Terence McCormally and Liz Willson

The Finance Committee met three times in 2017. In alignment with the discernment of the Meeting the Finance Committee arranged the payoff of the mortgage; the Meeting now owns the Meetinghouse at 660 Spring Street free and clear. The meeting expressed gratitude to the Herndon Fortnightly Club for their confidence in holding the mortgage for the Meeting during the last 20 years. It was the Meeting's desire to use the cash flow freed up by eliminating the monthly mortgage payment to allow the meeting to spend more on programs including social action projects.

The mortgage was paid out of the Meeting's Growth and Building fund, which still has about \$350,000. Because there is no imminent plan to move to another building, the question arose as to how to use the money in the Growth and Building fund: to continue to build an endowment, to shift money to the Capital Fund to allow Meetinghouse repair and improvement without the need for capital fund drives, or to use some funds for social action projects. This is a matter for continuing discernment by the committee.

The Finance Committee facilitated the payment for the extensive capital improvements to the Meetinghouse property including \$11,000 in

landscaping and \$5000 in electrical work to upgrade the interior lighting and outlets and the electrical supply to the Cabin.

Harry Tunis, one of the trustees of both Herndon Friends Meeting and Baltimore Yearly Meeting raised the issue of whether to make an additional donation beyond our assessed apportionment to Baltimore Yearly Meeting. A line item for this donation was included in the 2018 budget but the meeting did not find unity with this and the Clerk referred the matter back to the Finance Committee for further threshing.

The Peace Awards Subcommittee of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee approached the Finance Committee for advice regarding establishing a registered 501c3 non profit corporation in order for the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County Project to more easily receive contributions from donors outside the meeting. Because of concerns about potential liability for the meeting, the Peace Awards Subcommittee was advised to seek this status independent of the meeting, which was accomplished. This discussion led the Finance Committee to seek further clarity regarding the organization of Herndon Friends Meeting, its tax exempt status, and the advisability of incorporating the Meeting. A decision was made to seek legal advice regarding this issue and the Finance Committee included a line item in the 2018 budget for this advice. A report on this is expected in the March 2018 Meeting for Business.

The Finance Committee received concerns from Friends about the Meeting's use of Wells Fargo as an investment bank, because of concerns about the organization's suspect business practices, entanglement in financing fossil fuel projects, and higher fees. This matter was laid over for the 2018 Finance Committee to review.

The Finance Committee inquired of House and Grounds what Capital expenses are likely to come up. In the next few years we can anticipate having to put on a new roof, install an assisted listening device, and painting the building. Development of a more detailed Capital Budget was laid over for the 2018 Finance Committee.

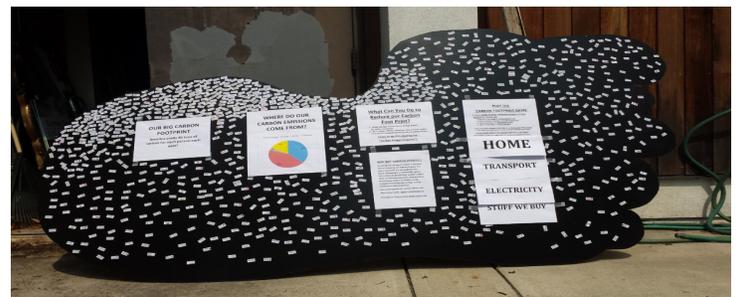
The Finance Committee presented a budget for 2018 which was accepted by the meeting. The Committee asked for the assistance of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee to review the gifts given by Herndon Friends to other organizations.  
(Presented by Terence McCormally)

## *Incentivizing Peace*

The Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County reception to honor student peacemakers in the county was held 3/11/18 at the Sherwood Community Center. Students from 23 Fairfax County Schools were recognized for works from starting student support groups for Muslim students to defending DACA in sit ins at the Senate. Congressman Gerry Connolly, Delegate Ken Plum, Fairfax County Supervisor Chair Sharon Bulova, Fairfax County School Board Chair Jane Strauss and other dignitaries helped recognize the students for their achievements. The gathering was addressed by Janessa Gans Wilder, a former CIA Counter Insurgency Analyst who founded the Euphrates institute, an organization dedicated to building peace in the Middle East. Ms Wilder challenged the audience to continue the work of the honorees in a three fold path: to be visionary in their expectations for peace; to be inclusionary by "seeing the other as a brother;" and to incentivize peace, to make it peace "profitable".

## **Herndon Friends Green Team**

**invites you and your family/friends to play**



## **THE CARBON FOOTPRINT GAME**

**3/16 – 5/6**

Starting with our **March 16<sup>th</sup> First Day** discussion of our Carbon Footprints, the Green Team will be hosting eight weeks of intergenerational activities to help us all HAVE FUN learning, trying and changing how we live as better Quaker stewards of the earth.

You will soon see a large Carbon Footprint cutout in the Meetinghouse and each week we will have a list of carbon saving activities. For each topic, children and members will receive stickers for their already completed carbon footprint reductions (affirmations) and for stretching to pledge new steps. They will place the stickers on the large footprint to make it disappear.

### **Our topics are:**

- MARCH 16, 23: Home and Energy
- APRIL 1, 8 Food
- APRIL 15, 22 Transportation
- APRIL 29, MAY Reduce, Reuse, Recycle
- 

**For more information:** Margaret F. 703/968/2971  
[lmargaret.e.fisher@gmail.com](mailto:lmargaret.e.fisher@gmail.com) or Louisa 703/860-1203

**Brief Notes**

The Nominating Committee has suggested **Jolene Smith** be recommended to the Board of Herndon Friends Projects as a Board Member for this non profit. Herndon Friends Projects is the parent 501c3 organization that sponsors the Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County. If accepted by the Board of Herndon Friends Projects, Jolene will join Terence McCormally and Margaret Fisher on the Board.

**March 24: March for Our Lives** On March 24, the kids and families of March For Our Lives will take to the streets of Washington DC to demand that their lives and safety become a priority and that we end this epidemic of mass school shootings. The collective voices of the March For Our Lives movement will be heard. To join the March or volunteer go to <https://marchforourlives.com/march-in-dc/>

**Assisted Listening Field Trip:** Dave Wilkins has arranged a demo of the kind of assisted listening system that the meeting is considering installing. The Demo, on March 25<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 3 pm at Falcoln's Landing in Sterling will give Friends the opportunity to try out the system and see what might work best in our Meetinghouse. Contact Dave for more details [dwilkins@metroav.com](mailto:dwilkins@metroav.com)

**FCNL Priority Setting:** Herndon Friends have been more active with Friends Committee on National Legislation in the last year. Every two years, FCNL asks Friends to help in setting the legislative priorities for the organization. This year, that input will be provided through a brainstorming/listening session led by Katherine Cole at the Meetinghouse on April 8<sup>th</sup>. A simple meal will be provided at 5:30 with the meeting beginning at 6. For more information on the priority setting process, go to <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/setting-legislative-priorities-1169>

Herndon Friends Meeting  
660 Spring Street  
Herndon, VA 20170