

THE HERNDON LIGHT

NEWSLETTER OF THE HERNDON FRIENDS MEETING
QUAKER, 660 SPRING STREET HERNDON, VA 20170

LIVING OUR FAITH

There is no one way to be a Quaker. The Religious Society of Friends, or Quakers, is by definition inclusive of all as we believe that there is something of God in everyone and that each human being is of unique worth. Quakers grow and live out their faith through the experience of sharing the quiet presence of God. Over the centuries of experiencing this shared presence Quakers have come to share core insights, called testimonies: integrity, equality, simplicity, community, stewardship of the Earth, and peace. Quakers challenge ourselves to live out these testimonies and then review our progress by responding through deep reflection to queries. Each newsletter will pose a query and offer responses from Members of Herndon Friends Meeting.

Our query for this edition:

How do our lives illustrate our understanding of the basis of our peace testimony?

As we work for peace, are we nourished by peace within and among ourselves?



A multi-generational group of about 20 Friends gathered at the meeting house recently to enjoy a session of *Spiritual Expressions in Words and Art* led by Friends Melanie and Tim Stanley. A Spirit-filled conversation was followed by a brief lesson in watercolor painting. The colorful results burst with joyful insights.

THIS ISSUE

COMMUNITY QUERY
PAGE 1

QUERY RESPONSE
PAGE 2

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS
PAGE 3

COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE
AND CONTACTS
PAGE 3

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO
QUAKERS
PAGE 4

UPCOMING EVENTS
PAGE 4

VISIT HERNDON FRIENDS WEBSITE FOR OUR
MOST CURRENT INFORMATION .

WWW.QUAKERCLOUD.ORG/CLOUD/HERNDON-FRIENDS-MEETING



QUERY RESPONSES

"For me the peace testimony is grounded in the conviction that peace is a moral imperative honoring our shared humanity. At its core, the peace testimony asks us in our relationships with each other, our family, our community – and even ourselves - to open-heartedly practice listening, respect, and empathy as the foundation of non-conflict and peace. We are called to action, to build the foundation of peace and find non-violent ways to confront and mitigate conflict. I am grateful to be part of the FCNL advocacy team for peace and social justice. I believe that war is not the answer but acknowledge that is an opinion protected by the privilege of a peaceful life. I continue to wrestle with the question whether we can know how we ourselves would live our testimony in the direct face of conflict, violence, or war." ----Herndon Friend, Mary Brandon

STUDENT PEACE AWARDS

Peacemaking is vital in our world, and students active in the pursuit of peace should be encouraged in every way possible. Herndon Friends Meeting and Herndon High School began The Student Peace Awards of Fairfax County in 2006 to encourage everyone to think more about peace as both a means and an end, and to recognize young people who work as peacemakers. In 2013, for the first time, it was offered to every public high school in Fairfax County. Two private schools are also included. Every year, the high schools in Fairfax County are asked to select one junior or senior, or a group of students, whose work has promoted peace. The project is organized by volunteers and funded by donations from 19 secular and religious sponsoring organizations.

This year we celebrate the efforts of 27 award winners, 23 individuals and 4 groups, from 27 participating schools in Fairfax County. The sponsors, family, and friends will celebrate their accomplishments at a reception on March 19 at the Sherwood Community Center in Fairfax, Va. The award consists of a monetary gift for each recipient and for a peace-focused charity of his or her choice, and a framed certificate, generally presented at each participating school's annual awards ceremony. Press releases are sent to schools and area newspapers and online news providers. More about this year's awards can be found at www.fairfax.studentpeaceawards.org.

**PEACE IS A GIFT, BUT
IT DOES NOT COME
MAGICALLY
THROUGH OUR
PASSIVITY. ONLY IN
OUR FAITHFUL
RESPONSE TO GOD'S
CALL DO WE RECEIVE
GOD'S PEACE.**

SANDRA CRONK





Committee list and Leadership

CLERK: Meg Wallace

MINISTRY AND PASTORAL CARE

Tim Stanley

Care Coordinating Sub-Committee

Priscilla Chamlee

FINANCE

Harry Tunis

Terence McCormally-Treasurer

COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

Stacey LaRoy

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

Mary Brandon & Katherine Cole

Anti-Racism Working Group

Marguerite Miller & Tivonia Nagle

Peace Awards Committee

Margaret Fisher & Margaret Rogers

Friends Committee on Federal Legislation

Mary Brandon

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Inga Erickson

COVID RESPONSE

Inga Erickson

HOSPITALITY

Cat Wilkins

HOUSE AND GROUNDS

Harry Tunis

Green Working and Landscape and

Habitat Working Groups

Margaret Fisher

**COMMITTEE LEADERS CAN BE CONTACTED
AT HERNDONFRIENDSMTG@GMAIL.COM
WITH LEADER'S NAME IN THE SUBJECT LINE**

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communication and Outreach:

Herndon Friends new website is currently under construction and should be online within the next few weeks.

Peace and Social Concerns:

The FCNL conducted a successful zoom lobby visit on 2/22/23 with legislative correspondents from Senator Kaine and Senator Warner's offices. Mary gave a brief overview of the current ASK for this year: increase funding to 3 peacebuilding funds: Complex Crises Fund, Atrocities Prevention, Reconciliation Programs. Friends are asked to watch for notices via our listserv on how they may contact Congress to request increased funding. Forms and instructions will also be available on Herndon Friends website.

The Committee is considering how to best create and disburse "household kits" to local Shelter House. Instructions to Friends will be forthcoming.

A dividend disbursement committee with members from this committee and Ministry and Oversight are discussing how we wish to disburse our dividends to local organizations which reflect our values. In light of the history of our building as a segregated library: how might we contribute reparations to the Herndon community? How would we do that? Meg Wallace, Meeting Clerk, commented that this seems like an appropriate question for the Anti-Racist Work Group. We look forward to that group considering this and bringing back suggestions to us at some time in the future.

This year's Student Peace Awards reception was held on March 19. See article on Page 2 for more details

House and Grounds:

Spring has sprung and weeding has begun. Requests for assistance throughout the spring will be made via list serve mailings, weekly Meeting announcements and on the website.

Hospitality:

The monthly Friends Potluck will be changed in April to coincide with Easter. April Potluck will be on Easter Sunday, April 9 after Meeting for Worship. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will also take place at that time.

Everyone is welcome. Please contact CAT WILKINS at herndonfriendsmtg@gmail.com to let her know if you have children who will be searching for eggs or hiding the eggs so adequate supplies can be acquired.

Religious Education:

Our weekly Godly Play sessions continue during Meeting for Worship with our youngest friends. All children are welcome. Registration is now open for Quaker summer camps. Scholarship funds are available. Sessions fill up quickly. For further information contact Inga Erickson



THE WORLD ACCORDING TO QUAKERS

QUAKERS ARE KNOWN FOR WANTING TO GIVE BACK. BAN THE BOMB AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND THE NATIVE AMERICAN STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE - THOSE THINGS WERE VERY, VERY FRONT-BURNER IN MY CHILDHOOD, AS WERE THE IDEAS OF WORKING FOR PEACE AND IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN YOU NEED, THEN YOU SHARE IT WITH PEOPLE WHO DON'T.

BONNIE RAITT



UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US FOR MEETING AT 660 SPRING STREET
SUNDAYS AT 10:15. A.M.
TO ATTEND VIA ZOOM PLEASE CALL
703-736-0592 TO ACQUIRE THE LINK

POT LUCK SUNDAY: IN APRIL WILL BE ON EASTER
SUNDAY APRIL 9. ALL OTHERS SCHEDULED FOR
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT NOON AT
MEETING HOUSE

VIGIL FOR PEACE JUSTICE AND EQUALITY:
SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 4:00 P.M. AT
MEETING HOUSE

MEN'S GROUP: SUNDAY, APRIL 2 AT 7:30 P.M.
AND THEN BI-WEEKLY (VIA ZOOM)

SANDWICH MAKING (FOR LOCAL SHELTER):
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH 10:30 A.M.

BIBLE STUDY: TUESDAYS 7:00 P.M. (VIA ZOOM)

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION
(FCNL) ADVOCACY TEAM: FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH
MONTH 7:00 P.M. (VIA ZOOM)

ANIT-RACIST WORKING GROUP: FOURTH
WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH 7:00 P.M. VIA
ZOOM

EASTER EGG HUNT: SUNDAY APRIL 9 AFTER
MEETING FOR WORSHIP

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE APRIL MONTHLY MEETING
FOR WORSHIP WITH ATTENTION FOR BUSINESS
WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN APRIL,
APRIL 2, INSTEAD OF THE SECOND SUNDAY TO
ALLOW POT LUCK TO BE HELD ON EASTER
SUNDAY, APRIL 9. THIS MEETING WILL RETURN TO
ITS USUAL SUNDAY SCHEDULE IN MAY, MEETING
ON MAY 7