

The Herndon Light



11th Month 11, 2018 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 255

11/29	7 p.m.	Communications and Outreach Committee meets at the Meetinghouse. All are welcome.
11/29-30		Public Policy Institute (for information: see FCNL's website: FCNL.org)
12/16	11 a.m.	Fauquier Friends Worship Group, Bealeton Depot, 10877 Willow Drive North, Bealeton
12/2		Potluck lunch at the rise of Meeting for Worship
12/9	9 a.m.	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
12/15	5:30 p.m.	Christmas Sing and finger food potluck, led by Stacey LaRoy
12/24	6 p.m.	Potluck and Christmas Eve worship

Query 16 Social Concerns

from *Faith and Practice*

of the *Baltimore Yearly Meeting*

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?

Are you 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 each individual.

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.

Voices

It seems to me that the moving force behind the Quaker social witness has got to be some vision, however faint and tantalizing, of what the world would be like if we were really obedient to God.

Deborah Haines, Baltimore Yearly Meeting

True godliness doesn't turn men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it, and excites their

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 Jay McClendon. E-mail bluejay825@gmail.com Newsletter assembled addressed and mailed by Stacey LaRoy. 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; or Fred Cresson at cresson4@verizon.net, or Margaret Rogers at margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com, or Bert Curtis at bertedits@gmail.com

endeavor to mend it: not hide their candle under a bushel, but set it upon a table in a candlestick.

William Penn, 1682

Friends responded out of the silence about the difficulty of adhering to these queries in these difficult times, particularly the question about not categorizing the “other” as evil or wrong. We are called to see the good in everyone and remember that people of all political persuasions have worthwhile ideas to contribute to the discussion of current issues. The reminder that prison ministry is a long-standing concern of Friends is a good thing to keep in a mind and perhaps inspire future action.

Minutes, 11th Month, 11th Day, 2018

Clerk **Liz Willson** asked the 22 Friends present to introduce themselves and then she reviewed the agenda.

Cathy Tunis read excerpts from the Minutes from 10th Month Monthly Meeting.

Terence McCormally presented the First Reading of the Budget for 2019 on behalf of the **Finance Committee**. Terence summarized the reasons for some of the changes in the budget from last year. The proposed operating budget shows total expenses of \$68,678, a smaller total than last year, reflecting a smaller income from investments and contributions.

Peace and Social Concerns:

Tim and Melanie Stanley reported on the history of the Minute on Care for Animals, which had been introduced a few months ago and laid over from last Meeting for Business. Melanie read the revised Minute, based on the one approved by Baltimore Yearly Meeting, with a revision naming Herndon Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends as the approving body.

The Meeting approved the following Minute:

"In the interest of peace, and with a deep concern for the living world, Herndon Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends encourages Friends to discuss how to extend their love and compassion to animals, and to consider their welfare when making food choices."

Nominating Committee:

Paul Murphy, clerk, reported for the committee that also included **Cat Wilkins** and **Kim Glazer**. The First Reading of the slate of officers and committee members for 2019 was read, with changes to names and dates noted as we went along. The report will be edited and held over until next month for final approval. Paul encouraged anyone who was not contacted about serving on a committee, and would like to do so, to speak with one of the members of the Nominating committee.

Landscaping Subcommittee: **Harry Tunis** reported for **Margaret Fisher**. A landscaping consultant did not meet with them as originally scheduled, but the committee will continue to pursue plans to redo the bed to the left of the side entrance and around the back of the building, including consideration of redoing the brick sidewalk or replacing it with something else. Harry reported that the hydrangeas in the pots outside the cabin have been moved to the side of the parking lot with the azaleas. Lowbush blueberry bushes were planted in the pots instead, requiring less watering in summer.

Communications and Outreach Committee: **Ting Yi Oei** reported on things that have been going on behind the scenes, including greeting new visitors and welcoming them, sponsoring a book discussion on “White Fragility,” making bumper stickers advertising our Meeting available for purchase, and installing the “You are Welcome Here “ handout boxes located on the entrance door and on the sign out front.

Ministry & Oversight Announcements.

Inga Erickson made note of upcoming events sponsored by M&O. These include:

First Hour discussion – November 18 at 9 a.m. with Meg Wallace, on getting along with those with whom we disagree

Christmas Sing – December 15

Christmas Eve potluck and Meeting for Worship – December 24

The Clerk closed the meeting with a period of worship at 10:10 a.m.

-Cathy Tunis, Recording Clerk



Assembling Thanksgiving Baskets (Photos by Melanie Stanley)

A Thanksgiving Thank-You

By Terence McCormally

What wonderful teamwork — from the team that made the sandwiches and got them delivered to the shelter to the shoppers to the assembly and packing crew. It all went great!

I'm pleased to report that we took in \$3145 in donations, and, thanks to **Tim Stanley's** fabulous negotiating abilities, we got the entire package (Food, \$25 gift card, and boxes) for \$2706 I'll be sending Cornerstones an additional check for \$439 to support their other programs.

Too many people to thank, but **Ed** bought boxes, **Nathan** assembled boxes and caught Meeting for

Business via headset. **Judith** test fitted the items in a box to make sure they'd fit without crushing the potato chips.

Finn and **Eli** carried a lot of boxes of groceries first from store to car, then car to Meetinghouse; **Fred** and **Paul** drove to Northpointe to get the supplies, **Stephanie** brought the food for the sandwich making, of course **Melanie** and **Tim** organized the whole thing. **Lauren** was wrangling the filled boxes two or three at a time to load the van.

This year, because we had so many food baskets to donate, the folks at Cornerstones asked if they could be delivered directly to the donors rather than going to St John Neumann Catholic Church as we have in the past. They had received requests, for 30 baskets for Hunter's Wood Fellowship House and 30 baskets for Lake Anne Fellowship House.

(The Fellowship Houses are federally subsidized, low-income housing for seniors and people with disabilities, run by **Lutheran Fellowship Square Foundation**)

Accordingly, on Thursday (in the snow!) half of our boxes were delivered to each of the Fellowship Houses. The staff and residents expressed their gratitude (and curiosity, to see the little luggage cart piled with boxes rolling through the corridors). Herndon Friends may even have a picture in the Lake Anne Fellowship House Newsletter !

October 28 Visit to Pentacostal Church

By Margaret Fischer

Margaret Rogers and I visited our neighbors as planned on October 28. The congregation was most welcoming.

The service was preceded by a prayer session. So although we thought we were arriving early, we ended up having to sit in the third row because the other seats were taken, so we were pretty conspicuous and were welcomed from the pulpit.

The service lasted well over two hours. It started with about an hour of music and fervent singing, then a talk by a man whom I took to be the equivalent of a deacon, then a sermon (on the topic of being ready for the Second Coming) by a guest pastor, because **Pastor Lopez** and his wife, **Kenia**, were out of town. Then there was a lot more praying, and some birthday benedictions.

What struck me was that all parts of the service were marked by a lot of repetition, which I take to have a similar purpose to chanting - an inspirational rather than an intellectual experience.

Afterwards, **Jesrael Lopez** came up to greet us and gave us a tour. He is the son of the pastor and his wife, who are from Puerto Rico, although most of the congregation of 300 members are from El Salvador.

We learned from him that they have been in that building for about 20 years. They rented for a while then bought it 15 years ago. He showed us their classroom area and the community hall which is upstairs above the sanctuary and which they occasionally rent out. They have evening services during the week, and once a month on a Sunday have an all-day fast and prayer service, broken in the middle to give lunch to the children. This is when we have seen them on occasion. They also do an outdoor fundraising lunch twice a year, to which the community (and we) are invited. This church is what he called a mission church, meaning they have spun off over 50 missions which are located all over the world.

I feel we accomplished our simple purpose, which was to introduce ourselves and be neighborly.

Visit to Baptist Church

By Meg Wallace

On October 21, **Margaret Rogers, Mary Brandon,**

Marguerite Miller and Meg Wallace visited Oak Grove Baptist Church in Sterling to worship with them as they celebrate their 150th year as a congregation.

The church was organized in 1868 by former slaves and has been going strong ever

since. We were enthusiastically welcomed before, during and after the service, which lasted for 2 ½ hours!

There was much singing by a big choir, accompanied by drums, bass and keyboards. There were some beautiful prayers, and a sermon by a visiting preacher who described what he called a “portrait of a disciple, using as his text the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5,6,7). Blessed are the peacemakers! W

We didn’t know before we got there that they were serving lunch after the service, and had another worship service starting at 3 that afternoon. Alas we did not stay for lunch. One thing I noticed was how really comfortable their pews were, which is especially good for those long services.

QuakerSpeak Videos

Did you know QuakerSpeak, a project of Friends Journal, releases a new video every Thursday?

Check it out here: <http://quakerspeak.com/>

Herndon Friends Meeting
660 Spring Street
Herndon, VA 20170