

The Herndon Light



1st Month 8, 2017 A Newsletter of Herndon Friends Meeting - Quakers - Reston & Herndon Virginia 241

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| 1/14 | Second Saturday Friendly Eights Group hosted by Meg Wallace Sign up sheet available |
| 1/15 | Greening Committee Meeting at Meetinghouse at Rise of Meeting for Worship |
| 1/15 | Fauquier Friends Worship Group Singing at 10:30; Worship/First Day school 11:00 |
| 1/22 | Adult Discussion Session 9:00 AM "The Vocal Ministry" facilitated by Harry Tunis |
| 1/27-29 | BYM Women's Retreat at the Pearlstone Conference Center in Reistertown, Maryland |
| 2/5 | Potluck at Rise of Meeting for Worship |
| 2/12 | Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business at 9:00 AM |
| 2/19 | Fauquier Friends Worship Group Singing at 10:30; Worship/First Day school 11:00 |
| 3/12 | Peace Awards Recognition Ceremony, Sherwood Community Center 4 PM |

Query: Youth

Do you establish family standards including the mutual obligations of youth and adults? How do we get to know and care for our youth as individuals?

What have we learned from the wisdom expressed by our youth?

How do we share our deepest beliefs with our youth, while leaving them free to develop as the spirit of God may lead them?

Advices

Rejoice in the presence of our youth in meeting. Recognize and affirm the gifts that they bring to the life of the meeting community, and ensure to the maximum extent possible their well-being and safety. Our youth need their peer groups. They also need opportunities to join with the whole group as an integral part of the meeting, sharing experiences that deepen relationships. Part of sharing is learning our past as Quakers. Even more important is sharing what we as Quakers understand to be the

Truth today and expressing the ways in which it shapes our lives. Parents are their children's first teachers; the Meeting along with the parents need to help our youth understand what it means to attend Meeting for Worship. Our youth need specific expectations placed upon them. It is important that our youth learn to be accountable for their own actions. All Friends need to be mentors to the youth in their Meeting.

From Voices

To watch the spirit of children, to nurture them in Gospel Love, and labour to help them against that which would mar the beauty of their minds, is a debt we owe them; and a faithful performance of our duty not only tends to their lasting benefit and our own peace, **but also to render their company agreeable to us** (emphasis added). A care hath lived in my mind, that more time might be employed by parents at home, and by tutors at school, in weightily attending to the spirit and inclinations of children, and that we may so lead, instruct and govern them, in this

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 margaret.anne.rogers1@gmail.com

tender part of life, that nothing may be omitted in our power, to help them on their way to become the children of our Father who art in heaven.” - John Woolman, c. 1760

Meeting For Business 1/8/17

Clerk Cat Wilkins gathered 25 Friends for Meeting for Worship with attention to Business with a reading of the Query on Youth from Faith and Practice.

After Recording Clerk Cathy Tunis reviewed the minutes from the most recent meeting for Business, Cat read a minute from Hopewell Centre Friends on hate speech:

Minute from Hopewell Centre Friends

Hopewell Centre Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends finds unity in denouncing all speech that promotes, directly or indirectly, white supremacist ideology. As Friends, we believe in honoring the Testimony of Equality. We think of all people as equal and that we should embrace one another in those terms. We see ethnic, faith, and cultural diversity in our society as strengths which enrich our perspective and teach us new ways to live in the Light. Friends are urged to test their leadings by confronting resurgent hate rhetoric whenever it occurs.

Friends responded to the minute. Harry Tunis noted that some hate speech is easily identified but it can often be heavily coded. Some speech is violent, inflammatory and uncivil, but equally damaging thinking can be presented as beneficial to public health or safety.

Louisa Davis agreed that the word hate may be too easy, and that the notion of white supremacist ideology may not be broad enough as many of the beneficiaries of white privilege are not hateful; instead they are unaware of the injustice that provides for their comfortable existence

Ed Markam said it might be difficult to apply the concept of “indirect” promotion of white supremacist ideology. Reminiscent of last month’s discussion on dealing with the hurtful gender and sexual

behavior policies of FUM, Kim Davis spoke to the problem of having constructive dialogue with people we disagree with, trying to find a path that doesn’t “let things slide” but builds community and coalition.

Tim Stanley spoke to the increase in intolerant speech of school children including taunts about student “being deported.” Noting that children are often emulating behaviors they see in adults on television and at home, Jolene Smith emphasized the importance of setting examples for children.

Ting Yi Oei and Paul Murphy recounted their encounters with brave interviewers who were able to directly engage members of the KKK and the American Nazi party with persistent, patient interviewing, echoing the words of Justice Brandeis who said “the answer to evil speech is more speech.”

The clerk will respond to the Clerk of Hopewell Centre Meeting, expressing gratitude for sharing their concern and prompting a fruitful discussion for Herndon Friends.

Ministry and Oversight

Clerk Inga Erickson reminded Friends of the upcoming Adult Discussion Session on January 22nd at 9 AM. Harry Tunis will lead a discussion on the vocal ministry.

Nominating Committee

Paul Murphy presented a final version of the nominating committee report, to which there were slight changes. A new final version of the Clerks and Committees will be distributed on the list serve and with the newsletter.

Greening Committee

Margaret Fisher announced the next meeting of the Greening Committee at rise of meeting on 1/15/17. The committee will be discussing how to make the meetinghouse grounds a sanctuary for wildlife.

Peace Awards - Margaret Rogers reported that we now have 21 nominees, after much hard work by the committee. There was some difficulty communicating with guidance counselors this year and the committee may

have to find new ways of reaching potential applicants in the schools. The award ceremony for the recipients will be held on Sunday, March 12 at 4 p.m., at Sherwood Community Center, the same venue as last year. The speaker will be Suraya Sadeed, author of "Forbidden Lessons in a Kabul Guesthouse." She will speak about her experience returning to Afghanistan as an adult aid worker.

Religious Education – Jolene Smith reported that there is additional storage space in the attic of the shed, if anyone has any First Day School supplies they want to store there.

Women's Retreat January 27-29

Registration is still available for the 2017 Baltimore Yearly Meeting Women's Retreat January 27 through 29 at the Pearlstone Conference Center in Reisterstown, MD. Herndon Friends Liz Willson and Anna McCormally are among those presenting workshops at the retreat.

One Way to Observe New Years Eve

Eighteen Herndon Friends provided dinner on New Year's Eve for the Cornerstones/Fairfax County North County Hypothermia Prevention Program.

Jay McClendon organized Herndon Friends in providing a meal of chicken, beans, rice, raw vegetables and fruit for 35 staff and client. Adhering to the adage that "many hands make light work," Jay, Ginger, Eli and Asa McClendon led the team with cooking, preparation at the Meetinghouse prior to delivery and serving; Lynn Nagle and Inga Erickson purchased food, and Kim and Jon Glazer brought drinks and helped with the preparation; Cathy and Harry Tunis, Antonia Nagle and her friend Stephanie Huard helped transport the food and serve it at the shelter. Louisa Davis, Liz Willson, and Katherine Cole did the cooking. Margaret, Jon, and Joshua Fisher did the cleanup.

The meal was well received with at least one comment that the food was the best they'd had. The serving crew was treated to applause and thank yous.

The Hypothermia Prevention Program operates each evening from December through March, providing an evening meal and a place to shelter

from cold weather. Local faith communities rotate the tasks of providing a meal. The North County site, near the Embry Rucker Shelter, is one of three hypothermia prevention sites in Fairfax County. The program accepts donations of new warm clothing to be distributed, as well as food supplies that are nutritious, easy to prepare and compact (granola bars, cans of tuna, trail mix) Donations can be dropped off at the Embry Rucker Shelter (11975 Bowman Towne Drive, Reston, right next to the Reston Regional Library). For more information, Debbie McCormick is HFM's Cornerstone representative, or contact Susan Alger, Volunteer Manager at Embry Rucker at susan.alger@cornerstonesva.org (571) 323-1383.

Sandwich Making

The First Day Class started the 2017 Sandwich making project in fine form. With the organizational and shopping skills of Lynn Nagle, Abbey Compton, Liz Willson and Katherine Cole the sandwich makers were accurately stocked. Joseph Long, Mina Garcia, Finn Wilkins, and Asa McClendon, aided by FAPs Tim Stanley, Tanya Hanna, and Terence McCormally produced 128 sandwiches with no leftovers, and no requirement for emergency runs to the grocery store. Abbey and Jolene Smith helped the Little Friends class of Alia Garcia, Milo Wilkins, Jack Shinkman and Ebba Shinkman get the paper bags stocked with napkins and nonperishable supplies. It's a good omen for the year. Friends who are willing to sign up to do the shopping for the project should contact Abbey Compton (abbey.compton@verizon.net) to get on the SignUpGenius website.

Thanks to the Treasurer

The meeting united with a minute expressing gratitude for the service of Devin Mahoney who has served as treasurer since 2010, after one year as assistant treasurer. In addition to keeping the bills paid, keeping track of contributions, and reconciling the bank statements, Devin has automated much of the accounting work and bill payment with on line tools. And we are particularly grateful that he got the telephone bill cut in half, saving \$600 a year.

Brief Notes

Weez Rothrock, Liz Willson, Katherine Cole, and Terence McCormally had the occasion to visit Don and Priscilla Chamlee at their home out in Warrenton this week, where Don is making steady progress in his recovery after a severe fall late last summer. He is up and around and even driving himself to physical therapy.

And speaking of being up and around, Gretel Von Pischke practically danced into MFW this First Day, looking largely recovered from her recent hip surgery.

Ed Markam and Ting Yi Oei reminds us that the Virginia legislative session begins this month and the Day for All People is January 25th. The Day, sponsored by the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, is devoted to education and discussion with legislators on laws of concern to the faith community. This year the legislature will be considering bills on expanding health care access, promoting a living wage and discouraging wage theft, restoring drivers licenses to former offenders, and raising the financial threshold for “felony” offenses (currently the \$200 threshold means that a kid who swipes a jacket can be jailed for a felony) Friends who are interested in participating in the events in Richmond on the 25th can get more information on the website <http://www.virginiainterfaithcenter.org/>

Paul Murphy reported that we sold \$830 worth of Ornaments this year, a big jump from last year. The proceeds will purchase 2 to 3 insurance policies for uninsured kids through the MCCP Partnership.

*Herndon Friends Meeting
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