



Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

(410) 822-0293

Further Information contact: 3rdhaven@gmail.com

March 2020 NEWSLETTER

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Ninth Day Second Month 2020

Opening Silent Worship Molly Brian, Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:35 a.m. with a brief period of silence

In Attendance: 32 Gwen Beegle, Molly Brian, Tom Corl, Larny Claggett, Susan Claggett, Benita Cooper, Connie Crow, Robert Day, Stephanie French, Whitley Gray, Jeanne Halpin, Marsie Hawkinson, Larissa Kitenko, Bill Lane, Connie Lewis, Joyce Macijeski, Steven Meixner, Priscilla Morris, Beth Mufson, Amy Owsley, Dee Rein, Adrienne Rudge, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Jon Slocum, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Kevin Walsh, Joan Wetmore, Winslow Womack, Mary Yancey, Harvey Zendt,

Comments on Second Query (Deepening our Faith: Meeting for Business)

Members appreciate the clerk's language: "meeting for worship with attention to business." Our words reflect our thoughts and actions. What would an outsider say if they heard these words in light of world events? The simplicity is power. We are, "Open to the community in discerning the truth." This query makes us mindful. Our discipline includes freedom to speak in a community that holds our thoughts in a sacred space.

Approval of minutes for January business meeting-Approved

Clerk's Desk Summary of All Clerks Meeting- *Molly Brian*

All committees were represented and shared many ideas to support the planning committee. Covered were values (themes) and priorities (features). Free form ideas were generated, including keeping this an inclusive community experience with communication throughout the community. The list of values and priorities will be circulated with the announcements.



Membership Annual Recorder's Report – *Martha L. Hawkinson*

Accepted

New Members (by application) –

Sue Ann Raring – transferred from Winston-Salem Meeting

Henry D. Lane – had grown up a member, but later resigned*

Jonathan Slocum

Steven Meixner

Died –

Ralph Young – August 16, 2019 - Ralph was a conscience to all of us. He originated our weekly donations to the food pantry at the Neighborhood Service Center, led the way with the library at the

Detention Center, promoted our alliance with the Multicultural Center, stood with the Peace Vigil at the Courthouse on Thursday evenings, and more. He was also the one who, after many years of Meeting disunity concerning the marriage at Third Haven of gay and lesbian people, said “Let’s just do it. It’s the right thing to do.”

Robert Shattuck – October 4, 2029 -Though “Bubbles” never applied for membership, he was a positive force in our Meeting. He welcomed all who came and regularly counted attendance. In years gone by he visited and encouraged members in need of a little TLC. His personality suited his nickname, or vice versa.

Current Adult Membership – 166

Children under 21 - 14

As I read through the Meeting’s book of membership I find that there are people who haven’t lived in our area for many years, probably have not contributed in any way. We have lost contact with them and, in fact, some may no longer be living. This should be addressed.

A member suggested the finance committee and pastoral care follow up with people who are not participating in the financial and active support of the meeting.



Outreach Committee Annual Report – *Jeanne Halpin* Accepted

The Outreach Committee (Jeanne Halpin, Pete Howell, Henry Lane, Mary Yancey) focuses on increasing our visibility in the wider community and supporting our Meeting in sharing our perspectives as Friends. We do this through a variety of methods: hosting public events, letting the wider community know about us, and helping newcomers feel welcome. Our activities and initiatives over the past year include the following:

Hosting public events:

- In 2019 we offered a film/discussion series on environmental stewardship (four films shown March through April) which was well attended and well received, attracting more people from the wider community than from Third Haven. Planning for our next series, to be on Immigration, is well underway.
- We hosted the bi-monthly meetings of the Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity (TACL) in our Common Room the first half of this year, giving attendees the opportunity to explore our grounds and our testimonies.

Letting the wider community know about us:

- We continued to promote our visibility through press releases, with several articles appearing in the *Star Democrat* and *Talbot Spy*. We had several new people attend our events as a result of these efforts. We offer help to all committees and initiatives here at Third Haven with publicizing events and opportunities, including writing and placing press releases for use by local media outlets; just ask!
- We hosted two tables at the Multicultural Festival the first Saturday in May along with the First Day School and Testimony and Concerns Committees. Last May we provided a query activity that invited visitors to tell us what peace meant to them; their word for peace; what it looks like, sounds like, and feels like; how they were promoting peace at home, in their community, and in the world; and two queries on how we are alike and how we are different. These are popular activities which invite active participation and elicit thoughtful responses. We also offered dove and crane making activities.
- We hosted an information table at the Open Houses in support of the First Day School Summer Camp and the Tiny Spices group; we are open to hosting such tables for other events; just ask!
- We participated in the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service hosted by TACL and held at the Temple B’Nai Israel in Easton.
- We refurbished and rolled out our Dove of Peace float (co-sponsored with P.E.A.C.E.) for the 2019 Holiday Parade on the first Saturday in December. This float was a real crowd pleaser garnering applause and thumbs up as we proceeded through the parade route. A mention of our float and a photograph of it appeared in the pages of the *Star Democrat*.

Welcoming and retaining newcomers:

- We continue to produce and distribute name tags to all our local members and attenders. We are grateful to all those who help make our community more welcoming by wearing them and greeting newcomers with a smile, a handshake, and a kind word. Please let us know if you need a new name tag or magnet for your name tag. Alternatively, let us know if these magnetic name tags don’t work for you and you would prefer a different form of attachment (e.g., lanyard, pin, clip); we are happy to accommodate you!
- We produced a new rack card (a double-sided handout on stiff paper, suitable as a bookmark) welcoming newcomers and explaining our meeting for worship to help them know what to expect when in our midst.

Effective outreach involves more than publicity or public events; it also involves the willingness of individuals to identify themselves as Friends and to give voice to their faith and practice. We are grateful to the many committees and initiatives here at Third Haven which support us all in walking our talk and talking our walk. In particular, we are grateful to the Worship and Ministry Committee for providing a wealth of opportunities to speak of our faith amongst ourselves and learn more about our Quaker ways. These opportunities prepare us not only to more fully participate in the life of our Meeting, but also to feel comfortable expressing our faith and practice when participating within the wider community. We are also grateful to the Testimonies and Concerns Committee for their initiatives and their willingness to present our views to our government and to collaborate with other initiatives outside our Meeting. And we are especially grateful to the First Day School Committee for their outreach efforts. Their innovative efforts in

partnering with like-minded organizations have brought us much joy and many new faces here at Third Haven.

There are many other activities and initiatives our Meeting sponsors which provide us the opportunity to put our faith into practice and make ourselves known. We encourage you to check them out: Marilla's lunches, the Talbot County Detention Center library project, P.E.A.C.E. vigils, the Talbot Interfaith Shelter (Third Haven provides dinner for guests of TIS every other month on the 17th day of the month), the Immigration Task Force, and the Climate Crisis Action Group are just some of them.

We will need to fill the role that Pete Howell executed so well, advertising Quaker events in the community.

If you have suggestions for or concerns about our outreach activities, please let us know; we welcome your input. We thank you all for showing up as you do and making Third Haven the nurturing community that it is.

Effective outreach is the meeting members letting people in the community know who and what we are. Speaking that truth is what the world needs.

Nominating Committee Update- *Connie Crow* Approved

The establishment of the Long Range Planning Committee necessitated the following changes: Planning Committee membership: Ben Tilghman, Clerk, Bill Lance, Bob Wack, Larny Claggett, Susan Claggett, Amy Owsley, Tom Corl.

Property and Grounds Committee membership: Bob Day, Clerk, Priscilla Morris, Co-Clerk, Larny Claggett, Ed Danser, Robert Gladney, John Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Clay Owens, Ben Tilghman, Bob Wack, Joan Wetmore, Winslow Womack.



Planning Committee Update *Ben Tilghman*

The Long Range Planning Committee will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wed. and at future to be determined dates and times. These are open meetings which welcome comments. Broad input is desirable

The Request for Proposals has elicited 4 + proposals. The scope of plans and team makeup of the firms are to be determined. Third Haven communication without constraints is a priority. Planning may cost \$10-20K. The committee is beginning to review these complex plans. A summary will be forthcoming. Some items may wind up being responsibilities of Property and Grounds. A worship sharing on the long range plan was requested and will be planned by Tom Corl and Molly

Brian. A copy of the Request For Proposals will be provided again with announcements. We may consider doing this process in stages as capital is available.

Southern Quarterly Meeting- *Paige Tilghman*

Clerk of hosting meeting presides, which Molly Brian did, since there is no longer a clerk nor a budget for SQM. Third Haven's annual report should be presented at Third Haven in April for

approval and presentation in May at SQM. Southern Quarter will continue despite lack of a recording clerk, for which Paige volunteered. Next meeting is May at Wicomico Monthly Meeting. Chester River Monthly Meeting in Chestertown is struggling. Since we are the largest meeting, our clerk proposed a discussion of our desires for SQM at our next meeting for worship for the purpose of doing business. Some quarterly meetings in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting are much larger, owning retirement homes, schools and other enterprises, so we might consider merging with another quarterly meeting.

New Business

Emergency planning- Molly Bryan, Larissa Kitenko, and Kulveen Virdeen will discuss procedures for handling medical and other emergencies for adults and children as well as access to the buildings. Approved

First Day school sponsored Little Spices needs 4 more children for the March session for ages 0-4. A similar activity for older children is being considered in partnership with a local education coop. Next month's meeting may include this on the agenda.

Property and Grounds requests:

Please park closer together near the meeting house to facilitate greater disabled access. People who do plantings should check with Priscilla Morris before doing so.

Closing Silent Worship 1:00p.m.

Announcements <http://www.thirdhaven.org/announcements.php>

The Third Haven newsletter circulates during the first week of each month to enable readers to review the minutes of the most recent meeting for worship with attention to business.

March 6 [Friday]

Outreach Film Series

Join us for our third annual film series beginning Friday, March 6 at 6:00 pm. This year's theme is Immigration: How Do We Welcome the Stranger? We will gather every other Friday evening to view a film related to various aspects of immigration and to discuss how the issues raised are playing out locally. We are partnering with the Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center this year to bring an added level of depth to the discussion. The evening begins with a complimentary meal of soup and bread, followed by the film and discussion. Our first film, *The Dreamers (Immigration Documentary): The Real Story*, tells the story of five teens who attempt the 3,000 mile journey from Honduras to the United States in search of what they think the Obama administration's DACA (i.e., Dreamer) program promised them. Seating is limited to 50 per session. To reserve your seat, RSVP to tomy371365@gmail.com or call (410) 829-0959. Please share the flyer available in the Common Room with interested friends, colleagues, and/or family. Volunteers are needed to provide soup for each film session; if interested, please sign up for an evening on the list posted on the refrigerator in the Common Room.

March 8 [Sunday]

Daylight Saving Time Begins at 2 am

Meeting for worship with attention to Business

March 15 [Sunday]

Aging as Friends Programs – 2020

March 15, 12 noon – **Housing Options:** Program by Dee Rein and Adrienne Rudge. Interactive presentation for people interested in exploring a variety of housing options suitable for different life circumstances.

March 19 [Thursday]

Inward Bound Quiet Day

Join us for a day of peace and inward renewal!

March 19, 2020; 10am to 3pm (pot-luck lunch at 12 noon)

Common Room and grounds of Third Haven Friends Meeting.

Join TH Friends in a silent retreat that offers a day of listening for the Light within, contemplation, reading, walking the grounds, writing, and self-chosen art activities. We enjoy a shared, silent potluck lunch, and end our session with a short sharing session. Come for all or part of the retreat.

Calendar of Activities <http://www.thirdhaven.org/calendar.php>

Online directory <http://www.thirdhaven.org/members/dir.php>

Off-set Your Carbon-Footprint

Beth (Minga) Claggett writes, “Dear Friends at THMM, At Molly’s request I’m sending to the newsletter an innovative, uniquely Quaker way to off-set our carbon-footprint. Several Meetings in New England YM follow this. <https://www.mounttobyfriends.org/action/voluntary-carbon-tax-witness/> Meetings offer support to those of their members who are believed to be undertaking a spirit-led witness. A small group of Quakers in Cambridge, MA have come together to gain knowledge about our individual carbon footprints, and to calculate a related “carbon tax” on ourselves. We hope to raise awareness in making this calculation and garner more carbon offset contribution. As a group we decide four times per year a non-profit organization to which to make our contributions. The amount for each witness is confidential and known only by the treasurer. This quarter we decided to focus on the removal of plastic from the oceans, and after some research have chosen to give our \$600 to Ocean Cleanup North Pacific Foundation. Other groups have been NE Grassroots Environment Fund, One Tree Planted, and Mothers Out Front. The climate calculator is created by Stephen C. Gates, a Quaker from Cape Cod Members of Quaker Meetings in New England learn how to use the calculator—<http://climatecalculator.org/ClimateCalculator.html>. Yearly Meeting would challenge all New England Quakers to reduce their carbon footprint by 10 percent between December 20 of this year and December 20 of next year. Carbon footprint is a measure of how much your activities ultimately depend upon fossil fuels, such as oil, gas or coal, Dr. Gates said.”

Quaker Voice of Maryland

Months ago, we (Baltimore Yearly Meeting Friends) made contact with Eastern Shore Friends, inviting you to join with us -- aspiring to do on a state-level to what FCNL does with the U.S. Congress. We are calling this effort "Quaker Voice of Maryland (QVM)."

<https://www.quakervoicemd.org/resources>

After a short survey of Md. Quakers willing to respond and after lots of discussion, we selected four priority areas for 2020: 1) climate change, 2) mass incarceration / criminal justice, 3) gun violence / peace-building, and 4) immigrants / refugees. With those priorities, we identified between one and three bills for each. Now, with the legislature in session, we have compiled a couple of one-page flyers to tell Maryland Quakers how they / we can help, if so moved.

Even if Friends don't have the time / leading to attend a Lobby Day, we encourage you: 1) to send us your suggestions via our website, 2) to take a brief look at the bills on the website, and 3) if so inclined, phone or email your legislator(s) & ask them to vote for these. If you don't know your legislator's name, you can go online to mdelect.net and type your street address in the box at the left. Your legislators' names will appear and, if you click those, you will see their emails, office phone numbers & Annapolis office locations.

Thanks for taking a look at Quaker Voice of Maryland and for helping us do better!

Abundant After Thoughts and Announcements





Aging as Friends Programs – 2020

February 16, 2020 featured **End of Life Planning**, a presentation by Connie Crow and Tom Corl. The discussion centered around the forms for Health Care Power of Attorney, 5 Wishes, and the Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatments (MOLST). Participants received 5 Wishes forms and had an opportunity to discuss their decisions and planning process with each other under the leadership of Tom and Connie.

Memorial Intentions Form For your personal planning

The updated Memorial Intentions form is posted on the website. Please provide as much detail as you want and forward to The Pastoral Care Committee. The committee and the Meeting will help you fulfill your Memorial Intentions. Those who are computer free may ask any Pastoral Care member to provide a copy. <http://www.thirdhaven.org/pastoralcare.php>

Worship Sharing on the Future of the Meeting Community and Its Facilities Needs

As part of our long range planning process and in the interests of including as many meeting community members as possible, Tom Corl and Molly Brian sponsored the first of two worship sharing meetings on February 23rd after hospitality.

This worship sharing was convened to offer an opportunity, to all members and attenders in the Third Haven Friends Meeting community, to reflect together on visions for the future of the Meeting community, concerns about realizing that vision, and facilities needed to realize that vision. At the beginning, the conveners provided guidance (see the attached), so that the worship sharing proceeded in the manner of Friends. All present were encouraged to offer their Spirit-led reflections when it was their turn with the talking stick. The worship sharing lasted an hour.

This worship sharing featured 2 parts, in response to 2 queries: First, what is your own vision for the long-term future of the Meeting community? Do you have concerns about realizing your own vision? Second, what facilities will be needed to realize your own vision in the long term?

Because the hour was consumed with the first query, another worship sharing to address part two has been scheduled for March 29 after hospitality. This is an opportunity to share your Spirit-led reflections and experience this unique Quaker process. Even if you missed part 1, please join in for part 2.



Worship Sharing Guidelines

from Friends General Conference

Worship sharing focuses on a particular question and helps us to explore our own experience and share with each other more deeply than we would in normal conversation. It seeks to draw us into sacred space, where we can take down our usual defenses, and encounter each other in “that which is eternal.”

The guidelines for worship sharing have been evolving among Friends for the past half century, drawing on a number of different sources. They can be summarized as follows:

1. The convener or leader should define a question as the focus for sharing which is simple, open ended, and oriented toward individual experience. It might be a question about the spiritual journey. (How is God moving in my life today? Where do I experience beauty most intensely?) It might be related to an issue that is exercising or dividing the meeting. (What is it that frightens me most about this controversy? What do I most long for in our community?) It might relate to a book you have been reading together. (What touched me most deeply? Which character seems most like me when I was a child?)

The question should be chosen prayerfully, to meet the particular needs of the group at that time. There are no stock questions.

2. The convener then explains the basic rules for sharing:

- a. Reach as deeply as you can into the sacred center of your life.
- b. Speak out of the silence, and leave a period of silence between speakers.
- c. Speak from your own experience, about your own experience. Concentrate on feelings and changes rather than on thoughts or theories.
- d. Do not respond to what anyone else has said, either to praise or to refute.
- e. Listen carefully and deeply to what is spoken.
- f. Expect to speak only once, until everyone has had a chance to speak.
- g. Respect the confidentiality of what is shared.

3. Some leaders feel that going around the circle makes it easier for everyone to speak. Others prefer to ask people to speak as they are ready. Explain which practice you would like to follow. In either case, participants should know that they have the option of “passing” or not speaking.

4. Allow at least half an hour for a group of five or six to share their responses to a single question, and at least an hour for a larger group. If you have more than a dozen people, it would be better to divide into smaller groups to make sure that everyone has a chance

to participate.

5. Enter into worshipful silence and begin.

Celebrating Generations





2020 FILM AND DISCUSSION SERIES IMMIGRATION

HOW DO WE WELCOME THE STRANGER?

Join the Quakers of Third Haven Friends' Meeting along with partners from the Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center as we explore questions about our nation's response to immigration through a series of films and discussion.



A complimentary soup and bread meal will precede each discussion. *Limit 50 persons per session. RSVP to my371365@gmail.com or 410 829 0959*

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MARCH 6
6-9 PM
THE DREAMERS
(IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTARY) THE REAL STORY
WITH
GUEST SPEAKER

MARCH 20
6-9 PM
FRONTLINE: LOST IN DETENTION
WITH
GUEST SPEAKER

APRIL 3
6 - 9 PM
SEPARATED:
CHILDREN AT THE BORDER WITH
GUEST SPEAKER

APRIL 17
5:30 - 9 PM
THE UNAFRAID
(DREAMERS)
WITH
GUEST
SPEAKER
PANEL

Quaker Style?

