



Third Haven Friends Meeting

405 South Washington Street

Easton, Maryland 21601

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December 2018 NEWSLETTER

Ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in.

Leonard Cohen

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Eleventh Day Eleventh Month 2018

Opening Silent Worship Molly Brian, Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:45 a.m. with a brief period of silence

Attending: 35 attended: Mark Beck, Gwen Beegle, Molly Brian, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Connie Crow, Bob Day, Doreen Getsinger, Jeanne Halpin, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Katherine Johnson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Steven Meixner, Priscilla Morris, Beth Mufson, Amy Owsley, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Adrienne Rudge, Bill Schauer, John Schreiner, Dona Sorce, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Bob Wack, Dolores Wack, Joan Wetmore, Winslow Womack, Mary Yancey, Ralph Young

Comments on Eleventh Query- Witnessing in the World: Education
Gratitude was expressed to Amy and Susan for First Day School philosophy and implementation.

Approval of minutes from Tenth Month business meeting-Approved



Long Range Planning group update – Mark Beck

The Long Range Planning Group has been meeting about every two weeks beginning last August.

Our charge is to look at the options which will:

-eliminate scheduling conflicts for multiple committees and groups which wish to meet at the same time.

-upgrade our facilities relative to code compliance and other practical considerations such as acoustics and accessibility.

- increase the welcoming and nurturing feel to our facilities and operations.-give special consideration to provisions for First Day School
- allow community groups outside of Third Haven, to use our facilities when practical and when economical. This can be a source of funding for Third Haven as well as increasing our connectedness to our larger community.
- fulfill our needs without building more facilities than can be justified, functionally and economically.

The group has been:

- examining various building options along with associated costs.
- examining trends in terms of membership and economics.
- working with the local fire marshal relative to code compliance and safety issues. Heed potential recommendations. It is envisioned that a called meeting will be held in the near future to get input from the meeting relative to their needs, wishes, and hopes for the further evolution of Third Haven facilities and operations.

The group will make recommendations to the meeting for approval relative to what the priorities and phasing would be relative to starting any approved projects.

LRP requested to be made a temporary committee. Clarification indicated that working group requires less formal action than committees, which are formed under the nominating committee process. This request was deferred following an extensive discussion of long range planning.

The variety of factors in long range planning was noted, including vision for the future of the meeting, which was emphasized. We seek unity in the manner of Friends.

It is the intention of this LRP working group to hold called meetings to solicit input from the entire meeting community. A called meeting for sharing ideas about our future may be beneficial-Approved to be held at a date to be announced.

Nominating Committee Preliminary Report – *Dona Sorce*

Connie Crow and Bill Lane comprise the committee.

While there has not been a significant change in the composition of most of the committees, there are certain committees where the composition has shrunk and there seems to be less interest or energy, on the part of members and attenders, in actively participating with these committees.

Do the committees, as they are currently structured, reflect the needs as well as the leadings of the membership?

Are there activities that are performed by

Liaisons/Representatives to outside organizations that can be collapsed under committees? For example, it seems that participation with TACL, Marilla's Lunches, is an outreach function, and that the one of the common threads in these discussions was the Nominating Committee's thought that the Meeting would benefit

from a long range strategic planning process that could lead to identification of a common vision for the future as well as guide us in the process of creating some goals or priorities that cut across the work of each committee.



The proposed list of role and committee members for 2019 will be circulated with announcements. Let the committee know of any changes after seeing the list. December Meeting for Business will hear the finalized list for purpose of approval.

Testimonies and Concerns Annual Report – *Paige Tilghman*-Accepted

2018 PYM Faith & Practice encourages meetings to set aside a committee for attention to “Witness in the World” as a social concerns committee that helps member address a variety of issues that reflect Quaker values of peace, social witness, racial justice or environmental stewardship in their community, state, nation and world.

Recommendations include the following: plan and carry out service projects; recommend actions to individuals; encourage work for social change through established Quaker organizations; support a member to bring a concern to monthly, quarterly or yearly meeting; contribute services of financial support for individuals to work as “released friends”; initiate consciousness raising and skill building activities that reflect our testimonies.

Our work with Testimonies & Concerns reflects this focus both from our committee members and from those meeting members who work outside the committee. We feel closely aligned by the work of the TIS and the Neighborhood Service Center; the Outreach Committee and the First Day School to encourage social connection activities. The T&C budget is \$1,200 which includes allocations for the on going work of activities that are not directed by T&C but are of interest including: Marilla’s Lunches and the Talbot County Detention Center Library. T&C provides oversight of the Schoffner International Education Fund, reporting a current Market Value of \$18,124.81 as of September 30,2018. This year the T&C Committee will also provide recommendations for THFM Charitable Giving campaign which includes a budget of \$3,500. Additionally T&C Committee focused on building a survey early in the year to identify areas of social interest of the THFM members so that we might assist and coordinate projects of interest to a wider group. The survey project was not embraced and we determined that we are a meeting that enjoys independent work. T&C was successful in obtaining Monthly Meeting’s commitment for a letter to the Commission on Military, National and Public Service to lay down continuation of Selective Service registration. T&C drafted that letter under the clerk’s signature which was submitted during a period for public comment ending September 2018. We have no further status to report on the status of their decision at this time. T&C responded to a request from an inmate the Eastern Shore Correction Facility for hosting Quaker Meetings at the facility We introduced the request to Southern Quarter and will continue to coordinate as the need grows.

We are currently participating with a local Task Force for Humane Treatment of Immigrants organized by Temple B’Nai Israel and the Unitarians. to support the work of the Multicultural Center. The Task Force mission: Take action against separation of immigrant children from parents and other dehumanizing treatment of immigrants. The work includes 10 objectives to assist the local immigrant community. We have identified the possibility of offering a 3 to 4 hour “Cultural Awareness” training program, developed and offered by Matt Peters, and are coordinating the organization of the event to be open to our community. Harvey Zandt is a member of the Board of the Multicultural Center and is himself involved with tutoring immigrant children in our Talbot County

school system where the need is very large. Connie Lewis will be attending a training session today at Temple from 2 to 4 in order to offer services to immigrants who are incarcerated.

Committee Members include: Bob Day, Ryan Ewing, Sandra Herbert, Been Mufson, Bob Wack, Ralph Young, Harvey Zendt, and Paige Tilghman, as Clerk. We meet on the first First Day of the month at 9 a.m..

First Day School Report for future programs- *Amy Owsley and Susan Claggett*



As the Meeting considers how to grow its physical building space, Susan and Amy offered some thoughts on how Third Haven can also use our beautiful grounds as a special outdoor classroom. They reported briefly on the success of the recent and current programs that feature the use of the grounds (namely the summer camps, First Day School, and the Tiny SPICES program) and offered ideas on how these efforts to welcome

families and children to the Meeting can be further supported. They suggested the Meeting consider incorporating “forest play” features around the grounds and creating a simple outdoor pavilion that could be used for multiple purposes. Examples of ‘forest play’ features can be found

here: <http://www.abingtonfriends.net/academics/preschool/overview/> and <https://natureexplore.org/about-us/nature-explore-classrooms-look-like/>. These features are typically very low cost and impact, simple and easy in design, and focus on inspiring kids’ imagination and play. Features that are selected would be those that further the curriculum of First Day School and enable kids to physically experience our testimonies. The Meeting could also consider enhancing how the grounds are knit together - some faint trail work (already begun through the summer camps) could help define the different features of the grounds. Another idea that’s been simmering is a “storybook trail” - see example here <https://www.hometownlife.com/story/news/2017/05/29/read-along-beverly-park-story-book-trail/344652001/>. The Meeting could also consider adding to the Quaker signage on Washington Street a subtle information kiosk (and possibly a little free library that features kids and parenting books). To help sort out and prioritize the many ideas, the sense of the Meeting was for FDS to work with the Property and Grounds Committee on a proposed plan. Property and Grounds enthusiastically supports these efforts.



Burial Grounds Group Proposal- *Adrienne Rudge*-Approved

We are all aware of the need to be good stewards of our historic graveyard, but the task of maintaining it falls mainly within the purview of the Property and Grounds Committee. In the past few years, there has been discussion about types of burial and a potential scatter garden by the Pastoral Care Committee and at All Clerks Meetings. Recently, John Hawkinson did a survey of the graveyard, updating the work previously done by Clarence Barker.

This seems like a good moment to form a Burial Grounds Group as a sub-committee under Property and Grounds Committee, to do the following:

- a. Review the final intentions documents that we have on file currently.
- b. Assess the long-term capacity of the graveyard, using documentation and John's survey
- c. Consider how to incorporate a scatter garden into the graveyard
- d. Address related issues and policies.

Group members: Adrienne Rudge, Winslow Womack, John Hawkinson, and John Schreiner. Noted were: the earliest marked grave states 1787. There are 260 marked graves and 43 plaques on the wall.



Property & Grounds request- *Priscilla Morris*- Approved Town grant supported restoration of Papermill Branch stream that goes by our property is moving along and asks for a support letter from us for this process. This restores the stream bed to its historic proportions, grading steep banks caused by culvert runoff, ending with shallower, wider pools, and planting to hold the banks. Access and staging grounds may occur at that end of the property. Egress for our events will be preserved. Attention will be given to three large trees, which, if they fall, will be replaced. We will benefit from invasive vine removal and riparian plantings as well as upland plantings. The required letter must come from the Trustees since they are the property owners. The clerk of Trustees indicated this will be provided by the deadline.

New Business

Bids are being solicited to trim the rhododendron with the goal of decreasing moisture leaking into the Brick Meeting House. Buildings need air and sunlight to prevent deterioration.

Meeting closed with silent worship at 1:05 p.m.

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

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

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

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

Requesting Membership

Membership with Third Haven Monthly Meeting is an open process, meaning that any regular attender may request membership at any time throughout the year. Attached is a link for a video that provides a general overview of the membership process for the Religious Society of Friends. <http://quakerspeak.com/how-to-become-a-member-of-a-quaker-meeting/>

Attenders who would like to discuss membership are encouraged to reach out to a member of the Pastoral Committee. *Dona Sorce* dyesorce@yahoo.com

December 2 (Sunday)

First Day Conversation

Start With What's Easy to Love

Buddhist monk Ajahn Brahm shares his personal approach to loving-kindness meditation, also known as metta. For more in-depth information, see this web

page: https://www.lionsroar.com/start-with-whats-easy-to-love/?mc_cid=1842a5d0b0&mc_eid=cc3a0508ab

If you don't have time to go to the web page, just come and we will catch you up. We meet Sunday, December 2nd at 9AM in the Common Room. Call Susan Dickinson 410-673-2012 with any questions.

Spiritual Journeys

On December 2, 2018 John Schreiner will discuss his spiritual journey. This program is offered by Worship & Ministry, monthly.

December 5 (Wednesday)

Gift Box

The Talbot County Detention Center has requested our help with their annual Christmas Party to be held for the children of those incarcerated. They could use: wrapping paper; ribbon and tape; cards and stamps; coloring books and colored pencils, pens or crayons; Christmas candy, decorations and lights; small gifts; and of course, monetary \$\$\$\$ donations welcome. We would like to deliver the donations by Friday, December 5th.

Talbot County thanks you for your contributions- contact: Paige Tilghman ptilghman4@gmail.com

December 20 (Thursday)

Inward Bound Quiet Day

December 20, 2018; 10am to 3pm (pot-luck lunch at 12 noon)

Common Room and grounds of Third Haven Friends Meeting, 405 South Washington Street, Easton, Maryland 21601

Join Third Haven 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. Information and/or RSVP: Candace Shattuck candace.shattuck@gmail.com or Katherine Johnson katherinekai@goeaston.net

December 23 (Sunday) Christmas Party

Please mark your calendars for 12/23: the First Day School in partnership with the Hospitality, Outreach, and Pastoral Care Committees is hosting a Christmas party and potluck! That day the children will be practicing songs, making desserts, and preparing the Common Room for all to enjoy at the Rise of Meeting that morning. Get ready for a warm gathering filled with lots of good food - already on the menu is ham, mac and cheese, and Christmas cookies! If you any jingle bells to bring/to share, please bring them along for the singalong.

Talbot Interfaith Shelter:

Sarah Sayre will be coordinating volunteers for THFM's commitment for the 17th day of the month. We share the duties for that day with Grace Lutheran Church. We are responsible for once-a-month evening supervision (7-11 p.m.) and every-other-month providing dinner for guests and staff (to be delivered at 5:30 p.m.)

Sarah invites you to join the list of those who will be asked at the beginning of each month. Learn more about TIS at <http://www.talbotinterfaithshelter.org/Home.html>
Sarah would be happy to more fully describe the duties at 410-596-1376 or pssayre@gmail.com

A different immediate short term-need is for daytime supervisor on Friday mornings 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. to cover for Pete Howell until he is recovered. You may volunteer for a single day or more. Contact Sarah.

One Quilt

One Quilt, One Yearly Meeting brings us together across local meetings, collaboratives, youth programs, Young Adult Friends, councils, Friends schools, and other groups in PYM. Each entity will design and contribute a ten-inch quilt square, which will be gathered into a "quilt skirt" to wrap around the clerks table when we gather, holding them in the care of the body and witnessing to our gathered community. See the how-to- do-it: https://www.pym.org/event/one-quilt-one-yearly-meeting/?instance_id=20

Dining Out Card

Pete Howell writes, "Sixteen area restaurants will sponsor the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's 2019 Dining Out Card. Together, these restaurants and other local businesses all help feed the hungry in Talbot County. Participating area restaurants offer discounts to patrons who buy the card. All proceeds from card sales go directly to help Talbot County neighbors in need.

This year's card, valid from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2019, is still only \$25, and can be used all year. As an added bonus, anyone who buys a 2019 card before Christmas will receive a free 2018 card, enabling him or her to begin enjoying dining discounts immediately.

The 2019 Dining Out Card partner restaurants are 208 Talbot, Ava's, Banning's Tavern, Blackthorn Irish Pub, Doc's Downtown Grille, El Dorado Bar & Grill, Harrison's Restaurant, Hot Off the Coals, Hunter's Tavern, Lighthouse Oyster Bar & Grill, Limoncello Italian Restaurant, Peacock Restaurant & Lounge, Pope's Tavern, Robert Morris Inn, Scossa, and Ticklers Crab Shack & Restaurant at Wylder Hotel (formerly Harrison's Chesapeake House) on Tilghman Island.

Dining Out Cards are just the ticket to support a great cause while enjoying great meals at great prices. To purchase one or more

Friends can order Dining Out Cards by calling 410-770-4505 and leaving a DOC request, along with their name and telephone number. A volunteer will call back for order details. Or order online at <https://svdpeastonmd.org>

Click on the Dining Out Card menu at the top left of the home screen, and follow the prompts.

Outreach

Friends 2019 Film/Discussion Series

The Outreach Committee is considering themes and films to present in 2019 as part of our film and discussion series on an issue of social justice relevant to our Mid-Shore community. We believe our best ideas come from you, so take a moment to reflect on what you've seen, heard, or experienced and let us know your thoughts on what good ways we can shine a light on something that needs more attention. Send your ideas to Pete Howell at piratepete@goeaston.net or call him at (410) 924-5752.

Moving? Changing? If you have changed your address, telephone number or e-mail address, please send the new information to 3rdhaven@gmail.com

Spiritual Journey

Catherine Cripps discussed her spiritual journey with a large audience.



First Day School this week focused on the annual tradition of making a gift of Christmas wreaths for the Meetinghouses. Susan organized and led the effort, with enthusiastic help from Candace Shattuck, Catherine Cripps, Lisa Kluepfel, Susan Claggett and Dona Sorce. Brody was our youngest helper, and employed his considerable artistic skill in weaving the wreaths with berries, pine cones, oyster shells, and other lovely treasures supplied by generous Meeting members. The results are beautiful! Take a look if you'd like - there is one wreath for each door of the Meetinghouses plus the caretakers home (pictures attached). We're hoping the scent of pine and memories of happy cooperation are felt in the Common Room through the whole of the holiday season.



Thanksgiving Dinners including turkey, stuffing, sweet potatoes, green beans, gravy, cranberry sauce and seasonal pie were assembled Thanksgiving morning at Asbury Methodist Church on South Higgins Street with the cooperation of numerous faith group volunteers. Cooks delivered food ready to eat to Asbury. Serving personnel formed an assembly line to put together dinner packs, and delivery personnel stood at the ready to wheel out stacks of dinners for elderly, homebound, homeless and others. In all 157 meals were delivered, and 43 walkin guests from the Hill also enjoyed a meal. Cynthia Quast served as the Third Haven organizer. Asbury members will use turkey carcasses and other leftovers for their soup kitchen efforts this winter. We give thanks to all contributors.





All packed up and out the door!





Let us be silent that we may
hear the whisper of God

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

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