



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

405 South Washington Street
Easton, Maryland 21601
(410) 822-0293
3rdhaven@gmail.com

February 2026 Newsletter

“Is our meeting for business held in worship in which we seek divine guidance?”

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 11th Day 1st Month 2026

Opening Silent Worship At 11:38 a.m. clerk Ben Tilghman opened the Meeting.

Attending: (hybrid) Jim Altman, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Nell Folmar, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Amy Kozak, Bill Lane, Steven Meixner, Beth Mufson, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Terry-Thomas Primer, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Bill Schauer, Priscilla Sener, Sheryl Southwick, Christina SwainePaige Tilghman, Joan Wetmore, Jonathan Williams

Comments on the Query; First Month: Deepening Our Faith: Meeting for Worship none

Approval of minutes for 12th Month business meeting APPROVED

Clerks Desk –Ben Tilghman

All Clerks Meeting: Tentatively planned for first or second Saturday in March, 9 a.m.-12. Topics will be outward looking and included in invitation. Stand for what we believe by actions will be focus. All are invited to attend in addition to clerks.

Preliminary Financials for 2026-Bill Lane ACCEPTED

Third Haven Friends Meeting 2025/2026 Fiscal Year Income & Expenses to Date (12/31/25)

INCOME	Budgeted Amount	Amount to Date
Attender Contributions	\$9,275.00	\$29,342.52
Camp Tuition	\$1,200.00	
Interest & Dividends Earned	\$350.00	\$419.98

Member Contributions	\$59,425.00	\$75,227.06
Sales & Cash Box	\$450.00	\$277.00
Use of Facilities	\$4,000.00	\$50.00
Total Income	\$74,700.00	\$105,316.56

EXPENSES

Burial Ground	\$200.00	
Camp Expense	\$1,200.00	
Charitable Contributions	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00
Communications	\$3,250.00	\$1,252.32
First Day School	\$3,050.00	\$191.27
General Administration	\$4,250.00	\$1,561.23
Hospitality	\$250.00	
Pastoral Care	\$300.00	\$38.45
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	\$17,500.00	\$9,250.00
Planning	\$300.00	
<i>Property & Grounds</i>	\$10,550.00	\$8,062.21
<i>Caretaker Payroll Taxes</i>	\$1,650.00	\$595.21
<i>Caretaker Wages</i>	\$18,850.00	\$7,780.44
<i>Caretaker Workman's Compensation</i>	\$150.00	
<i>Total Caretaker</i>	\$20,650.00	\$8,375.65
<i>Utilities</i>	\$6,800.00	\$1,537.04
Total Property & Grounds	\$38,000.00	\$17,974.90
Quarterly Meeting	\$150.00	
Scholarships	\$1,000.00	
Testimonies & Concerns	\$2,000.00	\$225.00
Worship & Ministry	\$250.00	
Total Expenses	\$74,700.00	\$32,993.17

Third Haven Friends Meeting Balance Sheet (12/31/2025)

Monthly Meeting Operating Fund	Shore United Bank	\$146,348.70
Monthly Meeting Operating Reserve	Friends Fiduciary	\$60,726.53
Planning Committee Operating Fund	Truist	\$84,380.76
Planning Committee CD	Truist	\$64,989.46
Scholarship Committee Operating Fund	Friends Fiduciary	\$16,011.83
Scholarship Committee Endowment Fund	Friends Fiduciary	\$154,079.84

Scholarship Committee Checking	Shore United Bank	\$4,226.51
Kemp Fund	Friends Fiduciary	\$34,581.75
Shoffner Fund	Friends Fiduciary	\$29,255.47
Total		\$594,600.85

We are working to get Articles of Incorporation documentation for our organization to allow changes to signatories at banks. Treasurer Kristin Hawkinson is working on this. We may remove PayPal, which is expensive, from our donation page. Online banking allows automatic payments out of checking account, which is free.

End of year tax donation letters will be sent by email.

Comments:

This is a very comfortable amount in cash.

Some think this amount of money is too much.

Pastoral Care-Annual Report - Bill Schauer ACCEPTED

The Pastoral Care Committee consisting of Lorraine Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Amy Kimball, Terry-Thomas Primer, Katherine Johnson, Susan Claggett, Beth Mufson, Beverley Martin, and Ben Tilghman, clerk of the meeting, continued to meet monthly for the purpose of sharing news of members and attenders, with a focus on those in need of Spiritual support in the manner of Friends and identifying new attenders who might be considering becoming members.

In the spring, we organized the friendly 8's gatherings where members and attenders met for a meal in their respective homes 3-4 times, about once per month. Feedback suggested that this was a great success and will be repeated again in the Spring of 2026. We gathered a complete list of all the resources available to support members and attenders both locally through Talbot County and the State of Maryland and also resources available through PYM. These have all been added to the Third Haven website under Pastoral Care, so they are available to all with web site access.

PCC members took postcards to send to all reminding them of the upcoming Spring pot-luck on March 30th. We acknowledged 7 new members:

Transfers: Sam Steffens, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Matthew Gray

Regular: Beverley Martin, Amy Kimball, Don Simon

We lost 3 long-time members this year, John Hawkinson, Henry Lane, and Alice ("Jimmie") Glen. John's memorial service was held on May 3rd and Henry's on May 17th. Committee members supported both. Alice Glen's memorial service, in the manner of Friends, was held in Chestertown at her retirement community and led by Larny Claggett.

Another long-time member, John Turner, transferred his membership after moving to the Western Shore. Several members personally supported John following the death of his wife Nancy by helping to find new homes for Nancy's sewing and knitting materials.

Inward Bound will be hosted by Pastoral Care and Katherine Johnson from now on.

We co-hosted a Welcome Back Breakfast with First Day School on September 21st for all members and attenders. Post cards were sent to all as reminders. Susan Claggett and Bill Schauer presented “How to Become a Member” following the December 7th Worship & Ministry presentation of their latest Quaker 101 session. Advent calendars were distributed to the children by Susan Claggett and Dee Rein, and later puzzles created by Beth Mufson were given to all children and their families. Thank you, Beth, for creating these unique gifts! Third Haven Christmas cards were sent to all members and attenders.

Spiritual State of the Meeting -*Clinton Pettus APPROVED*
Second Reading and Approval

The spiritual state of the meeting report was (a) prepared by the Worship and Ministry Committee of the Third Haven Meeting of Friends, (b) circulated via announcements, (c) presented for a first and second reading at meetings for worship with attention to business, 12/28/25 and 1/11/2026 (d) approved for submission to the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting by the Meeting after worshipful discernment. The purpose of this report is to respond to the question “How does spirit move among us?” Using this query, we have engaged in a spirit-led assessment of our worship, community care, spiritual growth, outreach, and challenges.

Comment: Practical state of Third Haven will be prepared and shared by the clerk

Red Cards/ICE- *Jim Altman*

Even before the shooting of Renee Good this past week, the Testimonies and Concerns Committee has been working to take effective, peaceful action in response to ICE enforcement actions and the fear ICE has engendered among immigrant and other populations. One small step is to help persons understand their rights if and when they are confronted by ICE. To that end, we have assembled a stack of “Red Cards,” prepared by the Immigration Legal Resource Center, that people can carry and use in the event they are confronted by ICE. Essentially, these “Red Cards” inform people, in English and Spanish, that they have the constitutional right to refuse to speak to ICE officers and that they have the constitutional right to prevent ICE from searching their premises or their belongings, unless ICE presents an effective authorizing judicial warrant.

I have 50 of these “Red Cards” with me. Let me know if you would like one or if you would like some cards to give to others. We can get more cards, if needed.

In the near future, a proposed protocol will be presented to the Meeting for how Third Haven should respond to any ICE enforcement action on Third Haven premises. Although Third Haven is currently protected by the preliminary injunction obtained by the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting against ICE enforcement actions, that injunction does not prevent ICE from enforcement actions on Third Haven property in all circumstances. Among other things, the proposed protocol will address the important question of whether and when the Old Meeting House, the Brick Meeting House, the Common Space, or any parts of them could be considered private space such that ICE can be prevented from entering them, unless it presents an effective judicial warrant authorizing such entry.

Comments: A process to determine private vs public spaces at Third Haven has been reviewed by an immigration attorney in Easton based on a survey, meeting with the clerk and others, and documentation of the property's ownership. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting has also provided information. Jim prepared some documents which will go to Testimonies and Concerns committee who will work on the issue in order to provide status of various parts of the grounds and buildings. As Quakers all are welcome, this makes it public access, allowing law enforcement access. This topic will be discussed at a later business meeting.

Peace Vigil/Testimonies and Concerns-*Paige Tilghman APPROVED*

Update on the PEACE vigil (in front of the county courthouse every Thursday evening 5pm to 5:30pm):

Following research on the history of the Peace Vigil and town insurance requirements, Testimonies and Concerns requests Meeting approval of continuing sponsorship and widening the focus and title of the vigil to: Witness for Peace and Justice. The clerk of our Finance committee is confident that our indemnity insurance would cover this event in case we are required to show proof of insurance.

Once we have the town permit and insurance approved, we will invite members of other congregations to join the vigil. Third Haven Friends are encouraged to put this on their calendars and participate in this weekly witness.

Comments: This is open to other faith groups including Talbot Association Clergy and Laity. People call our phone and ask, indicating interest in participating.

New Business

Point of information: Philadelphia Yearly Meeting joint council meeting revealed that they will no longer pay for background checks for people who work with children in Pennsylvania. They will supply the guidelines so we can consider them and see what action we need to take. The clerk will create an ad-hoc group to address this issue. First Day school will work on this.

We have always had background checks for those working with children, often two adults present, which has not occurred recently.

Membership request from John-Leon Donoghue. Pastoral Care will pursue.

Last month Wayne Co. Pa. historical society, sent us a sketch of our Old Meeting House, drawn in 1900 from a photograph. It will be framed for display.

Closing Silent Worship 12:23

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

2026 Friendly Sixes sponsored by Pastoral Care Please consider joining a group for occasional lunch or dinner get togethers in the coming months. Groups plan their own schedules. Sign up in the Common Room, or by emailing: Susan Claggett or Amy Kimball.

Condolences go out to Katherine Johnson and the rest of Dick Smith's family and friends from all of Third Haven Friends Meeting.



Richard "Dick" John Smith passed away peacefully on January 14, 2026, at age 83, at home in Easton, Maryland, surrounded by family. Dick was born November 5, 1942, in Erie County, Pennsylvania, to John Henry and Gladys Otteni Smith. After earning degrees from Gannon and Johns Hopkins universities, he accepted a job at the Department of Defense, where over the next 30+ years he built a successful career and forged lasting friendships.

Dick led an active life. He ran marathons, bicycled across the US, played golf, practiced and taught yoga, and walked to Starbucks for chai every morning he could. His volunteer work included building houses for Habitat for Humanity, volunteering for Partners in Care, serving on the Board of Evergreen Cove Holistic Learning Center, and being a founder of A Community of Transformation. Dick was generous, kind, intelligent, and eager to be of service.

Dick and his wife Katherine enjoyed retired life in Annapolis and Easton, Maryland filled with good friends, spiritual exploration, teaching and practicing Reiki healing, and occasional adventures in ballroom dancing and the arts. They traveled to many places abroad and in the States, including Argentina, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, Mexico, California, Florida, Hawaii, North Carolina, France and other European countries. They enjoyed annual beach visits and Washington state reunions with the Johnson/Jones families. Gatherings with daughters Julia and Rebecca (Pablo), and later the birth of grandson Eliot (now 18 years old) warmed Dick's heart and enriched his world.

Dick is survived by wife Katherine Johnson; daughter Rebecca Smith Hurd (Pablo Ramirez); daughter Julia K. Smith and grandson Eliot Hunter-Watts; step-daughter Ashleigh Creveling (Jimme Pilkerton); brother-in-law Jerry Johnson and family; sister-in-law Ellen Jones (Tom) and their extended family; and Majik the Cat.

A celebration of Dick's life will take place Saturday, March 21, 2 PM, at Third Haven Friends Meeting House in Easton, Maryland. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to Habitat for Humanity Choptank (habitatchoptank.org), Third Haven Friends Meeting (www.thirdhaven.org), and Talbot Hospice (www.talbothospice.org)

Testimonies and Concerns Gaza presentation

Michael Van Hoy, an active member of Greene St. Meeting in Germantown, part of Philadelphia, PA., will speak about his recent trip to Gaza on February 1 following hospitality. This talk, beginning around 11:30 a.m. will be available on Third Haven Zoom using the Meeting for Worship Zoom link.

Religious Education Thread Gathering

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting sponsored a religious education workshop at Wicomico River Friends Meeting on January 24th. The day long training was attended by Paige Tilghman and Susan Claggett of Third Haven and about 10 members of Wicomico River. Melinda Wenner-Bradley from PYM conducted the training, which included many intergenerational activities including a fishbowl/ Faith and Play story and a game called Silent Squares. After lunch, the children had a class with PYM's Claire Kinnel while the adults went deeper into religious ed by watching a video entitled "What do we mean by Worship?" and then heart sharing. Melinda left us with 2 wonderful curricula to allow us to center and go deeper. They are "The Quaker Way Across the Year" and "Walking in the World as a Friend." Susan Claggett has shared these worksheets with Worship and Ministry in hopes our community will continue to pursue and grow in our understanding of Quakerism.

