



## **THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING**

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***November, 2024 Newsletter***

**“We have to be reminded that spirituality is not a separate compartment of life but life itself and...what is ordinary is the major part of our lives...Ordinariness can be radical: it gets to the root of knowing God in everyday life.”**

*Kathryn Damiano, in Faith and Practice, 1997 p. 170*

### **Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Thirteenth Day, Tenth Month, 2024**

**Opening Silent Worship** – Clerk Molly Brian opened Meeting at 11:38 a.m.

**Attendance** hybrid: Jim Altman, Molly Brian, Mia Brown-Echerd, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Christopher Angus Ford, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Steven Meixner, Beth Mufson, Kathryn Pettus, Clinton Pettus, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Priscilla Sener, Jon Slocum, Joan Wetmore, Jonathan Williams, Mary Yancey

#### **Comments on the Tenth Query-*Witnessing in the World: Ministry of Outreach***

Per this morning’s Meeting for Worship- a friend appreciated the level of stillness that connects all of us.

The query on outreach makes us realize that our outreach committee has become smaller. It would be good to have more committee members to create both inner and outreach in the community.

**Approval of minutes** from Ninth Month business meeting - **Approved**

### **Southern Quarterly Meeting Update- Marie Leonard and Susan Claggett**



A handful of Third Haven members went to SQM. Representatives from Camden, Chester River and Wicomico were not present. The presentation afterward discussed Warner Mifflin, founding abolitionist on the Eastern Shore who travel on horseback to encourage Quakers to let the slaves go. He also encouraged tallying the work slaves had done, giving them remuneration

with which to go forward in life when released.

### **Planning Committee Update- Tom Corl**

A hearing with the Historic District of Easton on Tuesday will include a presentation by Steve Meixner and Priscilla Sener on the Phase One plan for the Brick Meeting House.



Varied Comments: A member suggested putting this project on hold for a while, mentioning there are other possible paths which the member did not think had been explored. Also mentioned was that fewer children are attending First Day School. Another appreciated having one step forward to speak their mind; however, the need for a stairway is long overdue and other items, including tree succession, in the first phase have been long considered and are worth doing. One encouraged consideration of the second floor of the Brick Meeting House as more than children's space, also for adult use and clerk's office space. Noted was that upgrades on the second floor are minimal. The buildings are an undergirding of our

efforts to bring more younger people to Third Haven Monthly Meeting.

The financial role of the Trustees was questioned while the committee formed to raise money was noted as an appropriate place to support phase one costs. Some are disturbed that we are spending so much on ourselves when the community has needs.

One Friend mentioned that this BMH improvement is the most environmentally sound conservative plan. Building Fund money was given for this purpose. We still need to consider novel ways to attract families, like fun nights and camps.





The clerk invited all who wished to speak. The clerk concluded the discussion, noting that 4-5 years ago we embarked on planning for the entire campus, which would be more than the Trustees could manage. At that time, we decided it would be a partnership venture with the Trustees. The objective is to preserve an historic building, the Brick Meeting House, as well as making it safe and usable, despite a bill that looks large. This is phase one of the original plan, following which there will be a pause.

## **New Business**



Bill Lane discussed the improvements being made to the OMH. The project is in the works. Sills, windows, gable vent, painting and other items are finished or in process. The Virginia Guild of Antiques and the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Club are coming to see our project.

**Closing Silent Worship – 12:13 p.m.**  
**Recording Clerk: Dee Rein**

## **“Relating Across Differences in the Manner of Friends”**

The first session of this series on October 27<sup>th</sup> drew 30 people who appreciated the detailed, informative presentation by Clinton and Kathryn Pettus. For Friends who are interested in the handouts that were part of the presentation titled, “Relating Across Perceived Differences in the Manner of Friends,” given by Kathryn and Clinton, they were pleased to share them attached to announcements for October 28th. For anyone who wants a printed copy of the documents, a few will be available in the Brick Meetinghouse later this week. Also, if you are interested in viewing the video shown by Clinton and Kathryn from the comfort of your home, we’ve made it convenient for you by providing two options below: YouTube and Vimeo. If you like to use closed captions when viewing video, it is suggested that you use the YouTube link.



**YouTube Link: [https://youtu.be/xI75\\_qDt5nk](https://youtu.be/xI75_qDt5nk)**

**Vimeo Link: <https://vimeo.com/1023633159>**

From time to time, we are challenged as Friends in our personal and spiritual lives when we are called to relate to people across perceived differences. When this matter came up in a meeting of the Worship and Ministry Committee, one Friend said: “If Quakers cannot relate to one another across differences, we have no right to expect to be able to influence others to do so.” One could ask if that Friend was questioning whether we always act in the manner of Friends.

The expression “in the manner of Friends” may mean different things to different people.” However, many of us think about it as being spiritually grounded in an action, rather than in a particular outcome. Others may see it as caring for one another, being trustworthy, and being considerate in all our interactions. Finally, some may simply say that it means acting with integrity and “answering that of God in everyone.”

These perspectives about acting “in the manner of Friends” may seem simple. However, translating them into action when needed most is often more complicated. For example, what does “spiritually grounded” mean when someone is thought to be so disruptive that some Friends become reluctant to attend meeting for worship with attention to business. Or what does it mean when some Friends lobby, by telephone or electronic mail, for a particular outcome ahead of meeting for worship with a concern for business.

The Worship and Ministry Committee hopes to respond to some of these situations by sponsoring a four-part series titled “Relating Across Differences in the Manner of Friends” presented at Third Haven with guest presenters for which Molly Brian will serve as moderator.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>PRESENTERS</b>
10/27/2024	Overview of building and maintaining relationships across perceived differences in the manner of Friends.	Clinton and Kathryn Pettus
11/24/2024	The journey of Alexandria Friends Meeting using Trust Circles to build relationships across differences among Friends in the Meeting.	Alexandria Friends Meeting
01/26/2025	Camden Friends Meeting, regarding their journey using trust-building as a means for improving relationships across differences.	Camden Friends Meeting
02/23/2025	Sharing our Third Haven Friends stories. A time for each of us to share our stories, including our struggles and suggestions for relating to one another across perceived differences.	Third Haven Friends Meeting

### **Tree Succession Planning Grant Received**

The Planning Committee is pleased to announce that we were advised by the Chesapeake Bay Trust that they will fund the grant request we submitted last year for tree succession planning. This \$14 thousand award will offset the cost of the tree succession plan proposed by Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architects and will engage Shore Rivers to begin a dialog between Third Haven and neighboring community partners regarding possible future collaborations.

## **Property and Grounds Invasive Species Control and Clean-up Day**

The Property and Grounds committee is hosting a vine cleanup day on Saturday, Nov. 16 at 9:30am, with an informational session (optional but recommended to attend) on Friday Nov. 15th at 5:30pm in the Common Room and on Meeting for Worship Zoom. Two representatives from the Maryland Forest Service will instruct us on the identification and control of invasive vines. On Saturday we will put that knowledge into practice, attacking the vines along the East border of our property, also under the guidance of Forest Service personnel. Bring your own tools (loppers and clippers) if you have them, and dress defensively with long sleeves, gloves, long pants that you can tuck into your socks, and sturdy, washable shoes. We will be working in areas that may contain ticks and/or poison ivy.

RSVPs appreciated to Mary Yancey [my371365@gmail.com](mailto:my371365@gmail.com).

## **Philadelphia Yearly Meeting**



### **Fall Continuing Sessions**

***November 8 @ 8:00 am - November 10 @ 2:00 pm***

All Friends everywhere are invited to join Fall Continuing Sessions at Arch Street Meeting House. Our theme “Called to Healing” acknowledges that this is a vulnerable time in our world and as Quakers, we are charged with joining in the work of healing and renewal. Fall Sessions will begin on Friday, November 8th and conclude on Sunday, November 10th. Friday and Saturday will be hybrid, with both in-person and online options, but all activities on Sunday will be online or at a local PYM meeting.

We encourage Friends to consider making Fall Sessions an overnight weekend experience! Home hospitality worked so well for Annual Sessions that we are planning to do it again for Fall Sessions. There are also several hotels close to Arch Street; a list of options will be provided.

Fall Continuing Sessions is an opportunity for us to gather as a body. When we come together, we find comfort in one another and are steadied by the presence of both new and longtime Friends. As we conclude our 2024 Sessions theme, “Called to Healing,” we recognize how vital this call is now and will remain in the days and weeks ahead.

Friends are invited to participate in the many events we have planned on the theme of healing: a memorial meeting for worship, a meeting for healing, and keynote speakers on



Friday and Saturday evenings. Registration is open! *Use link in title above for more information.*

### **Continuing Sessions Schedule**

*Items with an asterisk (\*) are hybrid format*

*Events with two asterisks (\*\*) are online-only*

#### **Tuesday, October 29th**

7:00 – 8:30pm [Threshing Session: Reaching Our Carbon Footprint Benchmark](#)\*\*

#### **Friday, November 8th**

- 3:00pm Registration opens
- 3:00pm A Memorial to the Lost: A dedication to the lives lost to gun violence
- 4 – 5:30pm Memorial Meeting for Worship\*
- 5:30 – 7:00pm Dinner hour on your own
- 7:00 – 8:30pm **Tom Gates: Healing Across Cultures: Two Stories\***

#### **Saturday, November 9th**

- 8am – 9am breakfast on your own
- 8:30am Registration opens
- 9:00am Worship for all ages\*
- 9:30am Youth programs begin
- 9:30am Meeting for Business\*
- 12:30pm Lunch (provided by PYM)
- 1:30pm Meeting for healing
- 1:30pm Worship Sharing on Zoom\*\*
- 3:30pm Afternoon break
- 3:30 Collaboratives and Sister Orgs Table Fair
- 5:00pm Potluck picnic dinner
- 6:30 – 8:30pm Evening program: **Katy Hawkins: The Somatics of Centering: Quaking and Stillness\***

#### **Sunday, November 10th**

*All events online\*\**

- 10:00am – 11:00am All Together Worship\*\*
  - The Zoom link to join **All Together Worship** will be the same one being used for that Sessions weekend; individuals and meetings will receive it when they register for Sessions.
- 11:00am break
- 11:30 – 1:00 Meeting for Business\*\*

#### **Tuesday, November 12th**

- 7:00 – 8:30 Reports from Collaboratives and Sister Organizations\*\*

### **CALENDAR Events**

**Peace Vigil Every Thursday 5-6 p.m.** A vigil for peace sponsored by Third Haven Monthly Meeting is held from 5-6 p.m. each Thursday at the Easton Courthouse. You are welcome to come at any time during the hour and stay only as long as you wish. Come and stand for Peace!

### **Zoom Happier Hour Every Friday 7 PM**

Zoom happier hour conversation is scheduled on Fridays at 7:00 pm. Typically, about 5-6 people use the hour to reconnect, share news and again, offer fellowship. *Please consider joining our group this evening.*

Use the Meeting for Worship Zoom Link found in announcements to join.

### **November 11 (Sunday) Meeting for Worship in Brick Meeting House followed by Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.**

Meeting for Worship will be held in the Brick Meeting House from 10-11 a.m. with simultaneous virtual meeting available on Zoom. Use the Meeting for Worship Zoom Link found in announcements to join.

### **November 16 (Saturday) Fall Clean Up Day**

Many hands are needed to remove invasive vines, rake leaves and do other Fall clean up activities. See the article above for details. Bring your rakes and other tools and meet at 9:30 a.m. to care for our treasured property.

