



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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

June, 2026 Newsletter

“Now, Friends, deal plainly with yourselves, and let the eternal light search you...” Margaret Fell 1656
Faith and Practice 2018 p. 162

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business 5th Month, 10th Day, 2026

Opening Silent Worship: Clerk Ben Tilghman opened the meeting at 11:41 a.m. with a moment of reflection.

Attendance: Jim Altman, Molly Brian, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Beth Inabinett, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Bill Schauer, Priscilla Sener, Ellen Schecter, Sheryl Southwick, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Mary Yancey

Comments on 5th Query, Nurturing Our Community: Religious Education in the Home and Meeting

Approval of minutes from 4th Month Meeting for Business Approved

Clerk’s Desk –*Ben Tilghman*

Thanks to those who helped with the house and garden tour.



Communication Committee Update *Dee Rein*

The communications committee has purchased and installed a 55” TV on a rolling stand in the Common Room for use by presenters. It does not have cable or airwaves TV reception. It does have an HDMI cord allowing presenters to connect a laptop computer to it, showing anything that the laptop presents: PowerPoint, internet sites, streaming, or zoom. Please use with care, cover and return to storage in the corner by the Common Room back door when finished.



Budget and Finance 2026 Budget-*Bill Lane*

We are in good financial order. Fiscal year starts July 1. Budget will be discussed and approved at the June Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business.

Third Haven Friends Meeting Draft 26-27 Proposed Budget

	25/26 Budget	Actual to Date	26/27 Request
INCOME			
Attender Contributions	\$9,275.00	\$30,802.19	\$15,000.00
Camp Tuition	\$1,200.00		
Interest & Dividends Earned	\$350.00	\$419.98	\$400.00
Member Contributions	\$59,425.00	\$85,612.06	\$70,448.00
Sales & Cash Box	\$450.00	\$412.00	\$300.00
Use of Facilities	\$4,000.00	\$542.00	\$400.00
Contributions from Trustees			
Total Income	\$74,700.00	\$117,788.23	\$86,548.00
EXPENSES			
Burial Ground	\$200.00		\$3,000.00
Camp Expense	\$1,200.00		n/a
Charitable Contributions	\$3,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Communications	\$3,250.00	\$1,988.72	\$5,160.00
First Day School	\$3,050.00	\$191.27	\$1,500.00
General Administration	\$4,250.00	\$4,535.63	\$5,000.00
Hospitality	\$250.00	\$263.47	\$700.00
Library			\$500.00
Pastoral Care	\$300.00	\$317.65	\$1,413.00
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00
Planning	\$300.00		\$250.00
Property & Grounds	\$38,000.00	\$31,590.26	\$44,375.00
Quarterly Meeting	\$150.00		\$150.00
Scholarships	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Testimonies & Concerns	\$2,000.00	\$825.00	\$500.00
Worship & Ministry	\$250.00	\$248.50	\$500.00

Total Expenses

\$74,700.00

\$60,960.50

\$86,548.00

Discussion: Feedback to Budget and Finance between now and June is welcome so adjustments can be made. Charitable contributions are recommended by Testimonies and Concerns and given out by end of calendar year following Meeting approval.



Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Inc. Annual Report *Priscilla Sener*

In 1949, the members of Third Haven Monthly Meeting created a new standalone Maryland corporation called The Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Incorporated. The monthly meeting then deeded its real property assets this new nonprofit entity. Perpetual local ownership, preservation, and stewardship of the historically significant buildings and grounds drove the decision.

Funding for the trustees has come from donations, bequests, and from the growth of investments which could be characterized as an endowment. The trustees insure the buildings and grounds and support capital projects, large and small.

In recent years, trustees have spent \$307,000 for expert rehabilitation work on the 1684 Meetinghouse, with an estimated \$20,000 still needed. Trustees contributed \$170,000 to the Meeting's Building Fund for Brick Meeting House accessibility improvements, insulation, roofing and tree succession planning.

Gifts sustain our long-term preservation work. We urge members and attenders to support the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting through an outright gift or through estate planning for a legacy gift. Information on how to make a gift is located on the inside cover of the directory and on the fourth item of the website's "DONATE" page.

Trustees can help with questions about donor advised funds or matching grants.

Current trustees are Larny Claggett, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Allan Mielke, Dee Rein, and Priscilla Sener

This report is given for the information of the Meeting each year and requires no action.

Memorandum of Understanding requested by Testimonies and Concerns for their work on ICE readiness as approved by Trustees for clarity on public and private areas at Third Haven. APPROVED

Memorandum of Understanding
Between
Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Incorporated.
And
Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Incorporated
Public and Private Access
20th day, Fourth Month, 2026

Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Inc. (the Meeting) may restrict access to the following buildings, with consideration for the Trustees obligations to the Maryland Historical Trust past and future grants, and post necessary signage and documents, except in the Maryland Historical Trust easement area.

Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Inc. may designate representatives to assert privacy rights for any building on the property on behalf of the Meeting and the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Incorporated.

Below designations concerning private or public access for these locations are endorsed by the Trustees of Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends, Incorporated as consistent with the free use and occupancy of the Meeting and visitation as an historical place, per the 1949 deed.

Caretaker Cottage- private residence, not open to public

Annie's cottage- private workshop open to public only by private appointment

Common Room- private, not open to public except when used privately by other groups. Joining Third Haven Friends Meeting for hospitality when worshipping with the Meeting community is private since those worshippers are then part of the Third Haven community

Old Meeting House open 9a.m.-6 p.m. through the year is public.

Closed to public 6 p.m.-9 a.m. or when used for invitation only events.

Upstairs is private, available only by appointment.

No permanent signage or documents may be affixed to or in the building.

Brick Meeting House second floor always private.

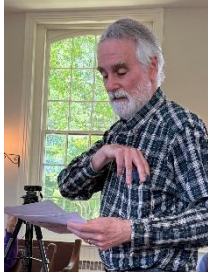
Foyer, Meeting for Worship space-open to public during Meeting times.

Otherwise, not open to public except by appointment or for a public event.

Any future changes to building use will require an amended Memorandum of Understanding between the parties. To be signed and dated as indicated below:

Priscilla B. Sener
President
Trustees of Third Haven Monthly
Meeting of the Society
of Friends, Incorporated
Date

Ben Tilghman
Clerk
Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Inc.
Date:



Testimonies and Concerns: ICE Readiness Proposal *Jim Altman/Mary Yancey* Approved with referral of signage specifics to Testimonies and Concerns for presentation in June

As of Wednesday the current injunction applied to PYM affiliated organizations. It continues to be on appeal to the government, so is currently a provisional decision.

Paragraph 4 recognizes Memorandum of Understanding and subsequent actions.

Paragraphs 2 & 3 will be presented to PYM in appreciation for their legal work and explain how signage will be provided.

Paragraph 1 is a statement of principle.

The Testimonies and Concerns Committee proposes that the Third Haven Friends Meeting adopt the following statements and carry out the following actions:

1. "The Meeting welcomes and supports immigrants, whether authorized or not, because it believes that immigrants make our country and community stronger and that, as Friends, we have a Spirit-led commitment to welcome the stranger."
2. "The Meeting expresses its appreciation and support for the work of PYM and its lawyers in protecting our right to freely exercise our Quaker faith and our privacy by (a) successfully prosecuting a lawsuit against the Department of Homeland Security, and then (b) preparing the text of signage to apprise ICE and the Customs and Border Patrol ("CBP") that the Meeting and its premises are protected by a court-ordered injunction."
3. The Meeting will post similar signage (PYM's signage is at <https://www.pym.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/PYM-House-Of-Worship-Sign.pdf>) in appropriate places on or at the Old Meeting House, the Brick Meeting House, the Common Room, and Annie's Cottage.
4. To make clear to the public the expectations of privacy reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Meeting and the Trustees, consistent with that Memorandum the Meeting will (a) revise its website, and (b) prepare appropriate signage and post it in appropriate places.

Discussion:

Following suggestions for posting of specific signage at various locations, sometime on window panes, and one suggesting avoiding window panes and using walls, signage decisions were **Referred to Testimonies & Concerns**. Specifics on sign characteristics and locations might be presented at June Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business for decision making.

New business

Reading Room BMH-*Paige Tilghman*

Proposal to use second floor, north facing room with dormer as research reading room with historically important books available for use there.

Comments: Keep foundational texts available downstairs for easy access. Other possible use for that room per planning committee might be for a nursery, baby care area. The proposal was held for further discussion.

Suggestion: We need to keep communication between committees clearer and without assumptions to avoid surprises and for efficient decision making.

Closing Silent Worship 12:32 p.m.

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

Southern Quarterly Meeting *Susan Claggett*

Southern Quarter Meeting was held at Camden Friends Meeting on May 17, 2026. Friends gathered at 10 a.m. for Meeting for Worship. All four Meetings, Third Haven, Wicomico, Chester River and Camden, as well as Lewers Worship group were represented. There were about 30 present. Following the Meeting for Worship and introductions, the Meeting gathered for a business meeting to reflect on 3 queries.

“How can Southern Quarter support the monthly Meetings?”

“Do you envision a Quarterly Meeting Clerk?”

“Name challenges and highlights of your monthly meeting?”

After business meeting, all joined for a lunch at The Gathering Place.



Talking to Children about Guns *Melinda Wenner Bradley* · Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
National Gun Violence Awareness Day has taken place each June since 2015 and will be observed this year on June 5. As part of that wider conversation, Melinda Wenner Bradley recently shared ways adults can approach conversations with children about guns, violence, fear, and safety. Melinda Wenner Bradley is a member of West Chester Meeting, clerk of Concord Quarter, co-founder of the **Quaker Religious Education Collaborative** and **Faith & Play Stories**, and the parent of three young adults raised in Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. Her work has focused on children, faith formation, and helping families and meetings create places where young people can ask questions and bring forward concerns.

To see her article use this link:

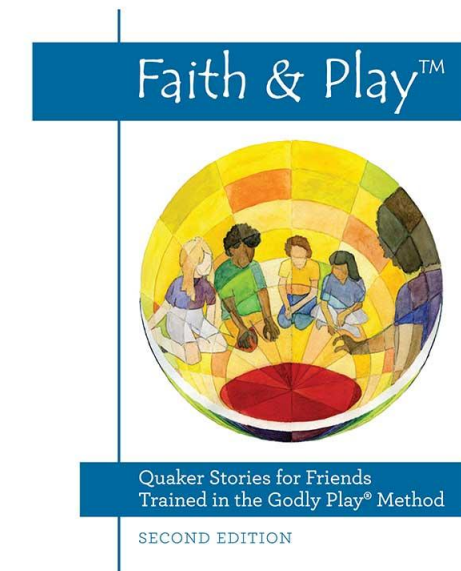
<https://www.pym.org/talking-to-children-about-guns-melinda-wenner-bradley-part-1/>

Faith and Play

In May following hospitality, Susan Claggett presented a Faith and Play story, Let Your Life Speak. **Faith & Play™** is a set of stories for Friends to use as a vehicle for learning about Quaker faith and practice, and to explore our identity as Friends. Because the format is experiential, listeners can find meaning in the story drawing on their own life experience. Stories provide an opportunity to explore faith both as an individual and as part of a spiritual community. <https://quakerfaithandplay.org/stories/>

Following the Godly Play® model, a Faith & Play story is told both verbally and visually, using simple materials, with participants gathered in a circle. It is characterized by:

- Reverently-paced storytelling
- Periods of reflective silence
- Gentle gestures and movements of story materials
- Invitations to wonder out loud together
- Affirmation of each person's sharing
- Individual work and creative expression using art or story materials
- An ongoing rhythm of communal listening, worship, and sharing.



Get out the Vote Pary With the artistic guidance of Sheryl Southwick, Friends gathered for a Get Out the Vote pary, printing a variety of bookmarks with clever themes for distribution in the community. Be sure to Vote!

