



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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October 2026 Newsletter

“Loving does not mean merely doing good works...It means warmth and intimacy, open-heartedness and overwhelming generosity of hand and spirit. It means a desire to know and a courageous willingness to be known.”

London Yearly Meeting, Faith and Practice 1997 p. 143

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Thirteenth Day, Ninth Month, 2026

Opening Silent Worship Clerk Ben Tilghman opened the meeting at 11:45 a.m. with a moment of reflection.

Attendance: Jim Altman, Cindy Browne, Susan Claggett, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Beverley Martin, Steven Meixner, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Priscilla Sener, John Schreiner, Ellen Schecter, Thomas Sinnott, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Mary Yancey

Comments on Ninth Query, Equality and Justice

Per 8th query: All are entitled to their own opinions but not facts. The query says, “truth as we know it.” We can know the truth differently...and where does that lead us.

As we learn with new information, we know what is true (like world is flat...changed later)

Truth is more abstract than facts.

Quantum physics winds up admitting they know very little about how the world is put together, therefore, what is the truth...energy wave or substance?

Approval of minutes from Sixth Month business meeting Approved

From the Clerk's Desk- Ben Tilghman

Discussions on bylaws document for the Meeting will continue in September.

Discussions on Chester River burial ground acquisition also continue. Call clerk for more info.



Scholarship Annual Report – Susan Claggett Accepted

The Scholarship committee met in April 2026 to discuss potential recipients for the Fall academic year for a Third Haven Scholarship. This year the SC awarded a high school student who is attending a Quaker high school. For the Fall semester, the committee awarded \$1000 each to the following four students

Serena Claggett- entering her final year at Leiden University in the Netherlands

Maeve Mufson- entering her junior year at Bates College

Molly McCall- entering her freshman year at Washington College

Cleo Moore- entering 9th grade at Westtown in West Chester, PA

The Scholarship Committee has an endowment fund of over \$175, 000 and the committee uses this fund to create bi yearly scholarships.

The committee members are Marsie Hawkinson, Lorraine Claggett, Bill Schauer-treasurer, Kristen Hawkinson, Paige Tilghman, Marie Leonard, Tom McCall and Susan Claggett, Clerk



Arts & Crafts Show Update-Marie Leonard

We have 14 artists registered to show in the Common Room. Attraction magazine ad publishes in October. Put Nov. 7th on the calendar. Help is needed: parking people, docents as mtg. houses will be open to visitors for outreach.

Introduction of Suggested Changes to Web Site/ICE Readiness-

Mary Yancey

The following will be shared in Announcements for discussion at next Meeting for Business

Web Pages Reviewed:

Home/ About Us (landing page)

In the highlighted bar at the top of the landing page, replace the statement regarding Israel and Gaza with the following: (There is a fuller statement regarding the Israel-Hamas war in Palestine on the T&C page, with a link from the landing page.)

We at Third Haven Friends Meeting express our welcome and support to immigrants based on our historic belief in equality, justice, and the inherent worth of every person. We believe that the commitment and diverse backgrounds that immigrants bring make our communities stronger. We



call on the US Government and local jurisdictions to conduct only limited, necessary immigration enforcement in keeping with historic trends and focusing only on convicted violent offenders and other rare individuals who may pose a threat to community safety.

Use of Facilities Policies

The beautiful facilities and grounds of this historic Quaker Meeting provide a quiet, reflective space that is primarily used to accommodate the needs of Meeting-sponsored activities.

However, the facilities are also available for outside events that are sponsored by Members **as well as any outside not-for-profit or for-profit groups.** Remove the word ANY?

A Quick Tour of Third Haven's Buildings and Grounds

(Add the following under each designated heading.)

The Old Meeting House

The Old Meeting House is generally open to the public from 9 am to 6 pm throughout the year but is closed to the public from 6 pm to 9 am daily and whenever it is used for a non-public wedding, celebration of life, or other special event.

The Brick Meeting House

The Brick Meeting House is not open to the public except during the following circumstances: when used for worship on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings in colder weather; by appointment; or when it is used to host a public event. The second floor of the Brick Meeting House is not open to the public at any time.

The Burial Ground (no changes recommended)

The Common Room

The Common Room is private and not open to the public, except when used to host a public event.

Other Structures

The Caretaker's Cottage is a private residence and is not open to the public. Annie's Cottage is a private workspace and is not open to the public except by appointment.

Testimonies & Concerns Pages:

Add an *Immigration* page to include the following:

We at Third Haven Friends Meeting express our welcome and support to immigrants based on our historic belief in equality, justice, and the inherent worth of every person. We believe that the commitment and diverse backgrounds that immigrants bring make our communities stronger. We call on the US Government and local jurisdictions to conduct only limited, necessary immigration enforcement in keeping with historic trends and focusing only on convicted violent offenders and other rare individuals who may pose a threat to community safety.

We express appreciation and support for the work of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) and its lawyers in protecting our right to freely exercise our Quaker faith and our privacy by successfully seeking protection from unlawful immigration enforcement efforts by the Department of Homeland Security in the lawsuit, *Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, et al. v. U.S. Department of Homeland Security, et al.*, Civil Action No. 25-0243-TDC (D. Md). We further

appreciate the work of PYM in preparing the text of signage to be affixed to Quaker buildings to apprise Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Customs and Border Patrol that the Meeting and its premises are protected by a court-ordered injunction entered in that case.

(Add links to the PYM ICE Readiness documents and/or our own documents.)

Which??

Add AFSC link:

6 ways to support immigrants right now | American Friends Service Committee

<https://afsc.org/news/6-ways-support-immigrants-right-now>

(Other proposed changes to the website's T&C pages will be in a separate document)

Comment: Might this be an appropriate time for a minute to be developed on the immigrant topic or Quaker belief in equality? A subcommittee might write such a minute on the immigration issue. PYM website has statements that are a starting point. Committee volunteers: Nancy Robbins, Jim Altman, Thom Sinnott, Ellen Schechter, Lorraine Claggett, and Mary Yancey, who will convene under auspices of T&C. Results will hopefully publicize prior to next business meeting.

New Business

Nominating committee: Paige Tilghman, Mary Yancey, and Jim Altman will contact all in our community and meet to create draft of committees for next year.

We celebrate the Meeting for Worship Wedding in the Manner of Friends of Eva Paxton and Earnest Cook held Sept 12, 2026 at Third Haven Friends Meeting.

Closing Silent Worship 12:15

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

Eva Paxton and Earnest Cook Wed at Third Haven, September 26, 2026 Congratulations and Best Wishes!





Southern Quarterly Meeting



Over thirty Friends gathered at the recent Southern Quarter Meeting held in Chestertown and hosted by Chester River. After worship, we heard a presentation from a member of PYM who led us in remembering the Indian boarding schools and the families and individuals who were displaced there. As an activity we created felt birds to be released as a symbol of freedom for those oppressed.

Accomplishments:

Number 1 - We now have a clerk of the Southern Quarter – Ben Tilghman

Number 2 - We will now meet quarterly to worship and address whatever business the clerk puts on the agenda. However, one of those meetings may be more social than business, but all will include worship.

Number 3 - We had an opportunity to hear from and to share our concerns and "confusions" with the general secretary of the Yearly Meeting.

New Members and Attenders Luncheon

On September 27th we gathered at the rise of Meeting to honor new members from this past year and celebrate our attenders. A pot luck luncheon ensued with good fellowship among us. New Members spoke and baby Emilia Gray, the newest among us received a proper introduction from her great grandmother, Lorraine Claggett.



Emilia Gray with Dad, Tim Nowicke and Great Grandmother, Lorraine Claggett



Members and attenders listen intently



New members spoke:
John Leon Donohue shared his journey to Third Haven



Jim Altman relaxes after his talk about doors to Third Haven opening for him.

Arts & Crafts Sale 2026 – at Third Haven Friends Meeting

Please join us for another Arts & Crafts Sale on Saturday, November 7th from 10am-3pm. Fifteen artists from Third Haven and elsewhere will exhibit & sell their artwork. This is a great time to find handmade holiday gifts and help support the community. A portion of all sales will go toward winter coats for the Neighborhood Service Center and Talbot Interfaith Shelter. Volunteers are needed for the Bake Sale, Parking, and in the Meetinghouses to answer questions from visitors. This is a good Outreach opportunity, and if you are interested in volunteering or have questions, please contact Marie Leonard at: leonardworksdesign@gmail.com.

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Continuing Sessions

We are happy to announce that [**registration for Fall Continuing Sessions is open!**](#)

[**Learn more about Fall Sessions**](#)

Fall Continuing Sessions will be held online via Zoom and in person at Arch Street Meeting House on November 14, 2026. Friend, you and your meeting are invited to join together for worship, fellowship, and the business of our community, under the continued theme *Members One of Another*. If you are able to join for Saturday, November 14, we hope you will. If you can only join for part of it, you are welcome at the times and events that work best for you. Your spirit and presence helps our yearly meeting continue to build the blessed community! **PS** Fall Continuing Sessions will include youth programming in person. For more information on youth activities contact Kristin Simmons at [**ksimmons@pym.org**](mailto:ksimmons@pym.org).

[**Follow this link**](#) for more information on the activities on November 14 or to learn more about registration.

Nace's Day Celebration Scott's United Methodist Church, Trappe, Md. invites us all to the annual Nace's Day celebration November 7, 2026 with the theme: Preserving the Past, Embracing the Future, Celebrating Our Community. Let us stand in community together.



HONORING
NATHANIEL
"UNCLE NACE"
HOPKINS
— Descendent —

159th ANNUAL NACE'S DAY



Theme:
Mapping Our Way Forward

SATURDAY,
NOVEMBER 7,
2026

10:00 AM SERVICE
PREACHING



MINISTER EDDIE ROBERT'S
CHURCH OF THE KING
EASTON, MARYLAND
Nathaniel Hopkins Descendent



PARADE STARTING
1:00 PM

★ — INCLUDES: — ★
BANDS, CLASSIC CARS
AND CIVIC GROUPS



SCOTTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

3748 MAIN STREET • TRAPPE, MD 21673

★ HOST PASTOR: CHARLES A. BELL JR. ★

★ — Preserving the Past. Embracing the Future. Celebrating Our Community. — ★