



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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March 2019 NEWSLETTER

"He told me once he wishes everyone could talk in silence." "Talk in silence?" "I don't understand it, either,"

Chaim Potok *The Chosen*

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Tenth Day, Second Month, 2019



Opening Silent Worship Adrienne Rudge, Assistant Clerk of the Meeting, gathered together the meeting for worship with attention to business at 11:40 a.m. with a brief period of silence

Attending: 30 attended: Mark Beck, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Tom Corl, Connie Crow, Robert Day, Doreen Getsinger, Jeanne Halpin, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Lane Jr., Marie Leonard, Connie Lewis, Joyce Macijeski, Steven Meixner, Beth Mufson, Amy Owsley, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Adrienne Rudge, Bill Schauer, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Jon Slocum, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Dolores Wack, Bob Wack, Winslow Womack, Ralph Young.

Comments on Second Query (Deepening our Faith: Meeting for Business)

Comments included that a still small voice led the Friend to note that stillness can mean inaction and touches on sins of omission too. Friends hope we pick up on things left undone.

Approval of minutes for January business meeting Accepted as amended: treasurer report year date changed to 2018, and Adrienne Rudge removed from attendance list.

Clerk's Desk

Third Haven received a check sent from the Shroyers in appreciation of Third Haven's contributions to Southern Quarterly Meeting activities.

Esther, daughter of Lucinda Sharp Gates, received note was read as previously published in the newsletter.

Long Range Planning meeting will be facilitated by Grace Cook and Molly Brian on Saturday, March 2 starting with breakfast at 8:30 a.m. and concluding with lunch at noon. Members are encouraged to write down their thoughts in preparation for the LRP meeting. Those unable to attend may forward their ideas to the Molly Brian.

Membership Recorder Annual Report for 2018 – *Martha L. Hawkinson*

Accepted

Died – Mary Jane Beckner Milliken –

Jane became a member of Third Haven in 1993 when she transferred from Wicomico River Meeting. She was nurse and worked for years at the Talbot County Health Department. She was predeceased by her husband and by two of her four children. A memorial service was held for her in the old Meetinghouse.



New Member (by application) – Robert Day

Bob has been attending Meeting for Worship regularly for the last few years, and has participated actively on the Property & Grounds Committee. He is a positive addition to our number.

In the last year three of our younger members came of age. They are Katie Claggett (graduating from Gilford College in May), Laurence Claggett, and Juliette Neil.

Current adult membership: 164

Children under the age of 21: 15



Outreach Committee Annual Report *Jeanne Halpin* Accepted

Committee members: Jeanne Halpin, Outreach Committee Clerk, and its members Lorraine Claggett, Pete Howell and Mary Yancey, and associate member Harvey Zendt.

The Outreach Committee focuses on increasing our visibility in the wider community and supporting our Meeting in sharing our perspectives as Friends. Our activities and initiatives over the past year include the following:

Hosting public events:

- We offered a film/discussion series on race (five films shown January through April) which was well attended and well received, attracting more people from the wider community than from Third Haven. Planning for our next series, to be on Environmental Stewardship, is well underway.
- We partnered with the Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center to offer two Summer Fun Nights, both of which were held on our campus. We found the atmosphere on our campus much more hospitable than holding these events in Idlewild Park as we did the previous summer.
- We are hosting the bi-monthly meetings of the Talbot Association of Clergy and Laity (TACL) in our Common Room this year, giving attendees the opportunity to explore our grounds and our testimonies.

Letting the wider community know about us:

- We continued to promote our visibility through press releases, with several articles appearing in the Star Democrat and Talbot Spy. We had several new people attend our events as a result of these efforts. We offer help to all committees and initiatives here at

Third Haven with publicizing events and opportunities, including writing and placing press releases for use by local media outlets; just ask!

- We hosted an information table at the Carriage Shed Sale in support of the First Day School Committee; we are open to hosting such tables for other events; just ask!
- We host two tables at the Multicultural Festival the first Saturday in May along with the First Day School and Testimony and Concerns Committees. Last May we provided a query activity that invited visitors to tell us their word for equality and how they were promoting equality at home, in their community, and in the world. These are popular activities which invite active participation and elicit thoughtful responses.

Welcoming and retaining newcomers:

- We partnered with the Pastoral Care Committee to produce and distribute name tags to all our local members and attenders. We are grateful to all those who help make our community more welcoming by wearing them and greeting newcomers with a smile, a handshake, and a kind word. Please let us know if you need a new name tag or magnet for your name tag.
- We are also partnering with the Pastoral Care Committee on meeting with newcomers on a regular basis to be sure we are addressing their needs.
- We are about to produce a new rack card (a double-sided handout on stiff paper, suitable as a bookmark) welcoming newcomers and explaining our meeting for worship to help them know what to expect when in our midst.

Effective outreach involves so much more than publicity or public events; it also involves the willingness of individuals to identify themselves as Friends and to give voice to their faith and practice. We are grateful to the many committees and initiatives here at Third Haven which support us all in walking our talk and talking our walk. In particular, we are grateful to the Worship and Ministry Committee for providing a wealth of opportunities to speak of our faith amongst ourselves and learn more about our Quaker ways. These opportunities prepare us not only to more fully participate in the life of our Meeting, but also to feel comfortable expressing our faith and practice when participating within the wider community. We are also grateful to the Testimonies and Concerns Committee for their initiatives and willingness to present our views to governmental agencies. And we are especially grateful to the First Day School Committee for their outreach efforts. Their innovative efforts in partnering with like-minded organizations have brought us much joy and many new faces here at Third Haven.

There are many other activities and initiatives which our Meeting sponsors which provide us the opportunity to put our faith into practice and make ourselves known. We encourage you to check them out: Marilla's lunches, the Talbot County Detention Center library project, P.E.A.C.E. vigils, and the new initiative underway for supporting the local immigrant community are just some of them.

We thank you all for showing up as you do and making Third Haven the nurturing community that it is.

Southern Quarterly Meeting Report *Marie Leonard* Accepted

Representatives from Third Haven Friends Meeting: Marie Leonard, Adrienne Rudge and Paige Tilghman attended Southern Quarterly Meeting, first month, 21, 2019 at Camden Friends Meeting located in Camden, DE. After a worship service and a delicious potluck meal, Susan Kight, Clerk, gathered the Annual Meeting of Southern Quarter with silence. 28 members from respective meetings were announced (Camden Friends Meeting, Lewes Worship Group, Third Haven Friends Meeting and Wicomico River Friends Meeting). No representatives from Chester River Friends Meeting attended.

Annual Reports were read from all participating meetings, including Chester River, and were approved; several were contingent on final approval from their perspective Business Meetings who were unable to meet first month due to weather. News of Friends was visited upon. Expressions of well wishes for Kenneth Carroll were expressed. Peace Teams publications were distributed by David and Sharon Hoover and a summary of activity of the Peace Teams was provided; a newsletter is available—contact Cynthia Johnson (CFM) at cjohn139@dtcc.edu. The Meeting was brought to a close with prayerful silence.



First Day School Informational presentation *Amy Owsley*

Introducing the Peachblossom Learning Community:

In 2013, a group of teachers and parents gathered together to discuss how they might fulfill the need for a new type of educational opportunity in this area. Through this small working group the Peachblossom Learning Community (PLC) was born – a secular homeschool cooperative with a mission statement that reflects the atmosphere they strive to foster:

PLC is committed to supporting self-directed learning, fueled by a child's natural curiosity and passion. Through experiential learning, we encourage children to:

- *Think creatively and globally while working cooperatively*
- *Explore their interests and strive for their personal best*
- *Engage with and give back to their community*
- *Resolve conflicts peacefully*
- *Connect with the natural world around them*
- *Embrace and celebrate diversity*
- *Act with compassion towards others, the environment, and one's self*

PLC has asked Susan Claggett and Amy Owsley as members of Third Haven to be a part of their conversation about the growth of their co-op. Today's report is presented as an intersection of Peachblossom Learning Community and Third Haven might be included in consideration during our long range planning. A more extensive description was provided and will be circulated as an attachment with announcements.

Looking forward, Susan and Amy have felt led to hold for the Meeting the idea of a future Friends school. It's not a new idea for Third Haven – however at this time there is a new and exciting potential. We have a group of parents and children seeking a home for growing a new educational option in the area – one that already feels familiar to First Day School in its

philosophy and values. We wonder: could PLC offer us a new way to expand the reach of our Meeting's work? Could we reach more families and affect more change if we entered more deeply into education policy and offerings in the area?

At this time, we have more questions than answers. However, we thought it important to lift up this conversation as Third Haven continues its long range planning conversation through the upcoming facilitated conversations.

Note: an interesting article about hybrid schools can be found here:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikemcshane/2018/05/21/is-hybrid-homeschooling-the-wave-of-the-future/#65bf4d0c6bf7>

Comments:

Members noted the need for future meeting conversation when proposed plans are formed. Friends support the efforts of the First Day School committee.

New Business

Parking- We may need to increase our parking area or encourage some to use Trippe Ave. New parking areas require construction underlayment in addition to gravel. Handicapped parking also needs to be considered. Referred to property and grounds.

The meeting closed with silent worship at 12:30 p.m.

D. Rein

Recorder

Cultural Competency A training session by Matt Peters, Executive Director, *Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center* was conducted February 21, hosted by Testimonies and Concerns. After his introduction, breakout groups addressed their individual cultural experiences. During the potluck meal these discussions continued among the 30 attendees, who were about half from Third Haven meeting. The focus of the program was to provide insights as to how we can be more accommodating in our interactions with people from other cultures who are living in our community.

After the meal, Matt Peters recounted his years in Guatemala. He outlined the political, economic and social developments in Central America which have led to mass emigration. His presentation addressed the Hispanic community but the concepts discussed were applicable to all other groups. "Cultural competence is not a set of standardized behaviors but an attitude towards learning, discovering and adapting our own behavior to foster vibrant relationships with people from diverse backgrounds." Starting in 2016, local and state funding has supported cultural competence education by the *Chesapeake Multicultural Resource Center* for more than 500 members of our community.

Announcements

March 9 (Saturday)

Pastoral Care in Multigenerational Community

Princeton Monthly Meeting 10 AM to 4:00 PM

Friends are invited on Saturday March 9 at Princeton Monthly Meeting to explore ways in which meetings can work to maintain the day to day spiritual and emotional health of their community. This gathering will put special emphasis on caring for all ages, children, families, and youth.

Three Featured Workshops

- Pastoral care through the lens of young adulthood with Meg Rose, Coordinator.
- Pastoral care with children and families in a multigenerational context with Melinda Wenner Bradley, Youth Engagement Coordinator.
- Pastoral care with the aging in a multigenerational context with George Schaefer, Care & Aging Coordinator, Pastoral Care

March 15 (Friday)

Harriet Tubman Day

Please share with your members and attenders. Appoquinimink Preparative Meeting (Odessa, DE) hosts this annual open house to commemorate the activities on the Underground Railroad in northern Delaware. If there are any interested, please have them contact me using email. Kate O'Donnell, Friend at Appoquinimink Meeting

kateinmaryland@atlanticbb.Net

443-480-5209, cell

March 23 (Saturday)

continuing sessions of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. in Reading, PA

We are about four weeks away from continuing sessions! We continue to hold the query from fall sessions: How do we, as Friends, center ourselves toward trust and love? In carrying this messages, Friends are invited to participate in Seeking Faithfulness, a multi-generational action outside Berks Detention Center in the morning, and Meeting for Business at the Miller Center for the Arts in the afternoon. Youth Programs will be welcome to join in the action, and they will have their own programming at Reading Meeting.

The action at Berks will take the form of extended, multi-generational, semi-programmed worship. Contributions from Young Adult Friends and our partners at the Shut Down Berks Interfaith Witness, as well as music, will ground and structure our time together. Much of the action will be devoted to deep, centered silence, out of which all are invited to bring messages of prayer, protest, and other energetic movements of the Spirit that rise among us.

Make sure you bring your meeting's quilt pieces to Continuing Sessions so we can have One Quilt One Yearly Meeting.

For more information on Continuing Sessions, check out the PYM website. Register Today!

<https://www.pym.org/continuing-sessions/>

In Spirit, Meg Rose, Young Adult Engagement and Sessions Coordinator

Updates from the Upstairs of the Meetinghouse...

The spring schedule has sprung in First Day School with new adventures! The month was kicked off with our new Philosophy Club, led by Dee Rein and Jeanne Halpin. The kids are beginning to explore the concept of “clear thinking”, considering how contemplation can illuminate ideas. This involved building a “philosophy cave” using a tarp and table - and you know that was fun! Our kids also enjoyed a lesson in sign language with Mary Yancey, exploring how much meaning can be found in silence. A highlight was learning the sign for Quaker - take a look at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=l0zJnJY9W0k> ! As always, the children thoroughly enjoyed adventuring around the grounds, and this month in Nature Seekers was a lesson how to “see” without your eyes. Lots of laughter was shared as they built a sensory walk out of moss, sticks, dried leaves and other nature treasures - with their eyes covered, they tested out how to “see” using their stocking feet. They wondered: what else can we “see” in our minds? Wrapping up February, Susan Claggett told the story of the “Good Samaritan” in their Godly Play session. Susan laid out story of an injured man and those who passed him by on the road, and the one man who finally stopped to help him. The children considered this helpful man, unraveling from this story the meaning of love in action. In March, the kids will look forward to another Philosophy Club, Nature Seekers, Faith & Play story - with the new additions of weaving with Heidi Wetzel and music with Jonathan Williams. *Amy Owsley*



First Day Conversation is an amiable and informal opportunity to share our thoughts and connections. Everyone is welcome to join in the conversation. Topics for discussion are announced in Third Haven's weekly e-mail announcements. First Day Conversation meets in the Common R room on the first and third Sundays of the month 9 - 9:50 am. Coffee and bagels are served.

Some past topics were: "The light and love we see in other's eyes"
"Walking Each Other Home"

Future topics will include: "How can I help?" "Belief!"

For more information contact *Susan Dickinson* by e-mail or telephone.

Sharing Our Spiritual Journeys and Learning



Mary Yancey shares her journey



Tom Corl presents Quaker decision making