



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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Easton, Maryland 21601

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September, 2025 Newsletter

“At dawn it is easier to feel the universe is one organic whole, held together by the Radiating Power of Love which flows through everything, including thee and me...”

Rachel Davis DuBois, Faith and Practice p. 181

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Eighth Day, Sixth Month, 2025



Opening Silent Worship- Clerk Ben Tilghman opened the Meeting at 11:40 a.m.

Attendance: Jim Altman, Molly Brian, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Marsie Hawkinson, Amy Kimball, Bill Lane, Marie Leonard, Beth Mufson, Marian Murphy, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Thom Price, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, John Schreiner, Priscilla Sener, Sam Steffens,

Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Heidi Wetzels, Jonathan Williams, Mary Yancey

Comments on Sixth Query: Nurturing Our Community: Stewardship of Resources
(read at Meeting for Worship)

This testimony is appreciated. It includes not only finances but is also of physical nature: considering resources. The tree succession plan, a resource task, is a lot of work and is appreciated.

Approval of minutes from Fifth Month business meeting-Approved

Clerks Desk-- Ben Tilghman Museum of Southern Decorative Arts Summer Institute will visit Friday, June 13th from 12-1:30 p.m. Members will serve as docents.



Testimonies & Concerns, Outreach and Programs -Paige Tilghman

Following the February Worship Sharing Meeting addressing the realignment of federal resources, the Testimonies and Concerns committee meeting we provided a summary of the Immigration Discussion held at THFM on May 18 with approximately 70 people in attendance.

The messages we received from the presenters: Matt Peters, Chesapeake Multi Resource Center; James Altman, former Attorney; and Robin Strickoff, Immigration Task Force; about the status of those seeking to immigrate into our community were candid, informative and useful. Of note, the closing of the Snow Hill Detention Center, Snow Hill, Md, now requires that those detained by ICE be transported to a holding facility in Baltimore and then to detention facilities in other states. This is a hardship. Limited resources are available through ChesMRC, to support immigrants; the Immigration Task Force has turned attention to Citizenship Assistance; and, we were reminded that everyone in this country, regardless of citizenship status, is entitled to due process. This apparently is being ignored by federal officials and is alarming for its implications.

In terms of what we as a Meeting Community can do:

1. We were advised to send a letter of support to the Episcopal Diocese of Easton thanking them for their stand against President Trump's initiative to bring Afrikaner farmers into this country ahead of so many already waiting for asylum. There are other immigrants who've been waiting for a long time and the Afrikaners should not go to the start of the line. **Approved**

2. We agreed to host a letter writing campaign to express our concerns about the current immigration policy in the United States and send letters to our elected officials on 6th month 15, at the rise of Meeting.

Comments: Melissa Grant's unofficial adopted son has gone back to Guatemala following an immigration hearing. He elected not to appeal the decision because of the time it would take.

Testimonies and Concerns Presentations

Testimonies and Concerns will continue the program of hosting local nonprofit organizations. Our next event will be June 22nd at the Rise of Meeting for Worship. We will host Marilyn Neal, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Service Center and Julie Lowe, Executive Director of Talbot Interfaith Shelter. Similar to the program with Matthew Peters and Robin Strickoff, we will be discussing any challenges their programs are experiencing and asking about constructive ways to be helpful.



First Day School Annual Report – Susan Claggett

Accepted

First Day School is held every Sunday from Sept to June. The children gather at 10am with their families for Meeting for Worship. Around 1015, the teacher stands and departs with the children for their classroom lessons. The children return to Meeting for Worship at the rise of Meeting to be with families for announcements and singing.

In Sept 2024, along with Hospitality and Pastoral Care committees FDS hosted a Welcome Back breakfast- full on with eggs and

waffles to order.

In Oct, the families participated in Family Fun Night- a big success with pumpkin carving, food and fellowship, line dancing with Jonathan Williams plus a night game of Capture the Flag. Very fun!!

For the upcoming holidays, some of the families created wreaths for the Meetinghouse doors. FDS families were also the recipient of 2 gifts from the Pastoral Care committee. Each family received an advent calendar and an advent storybook entitled “All Creation Awaits.” This storybook was also used in some FDS lessons.

Also in December, FDS and the Meeting community participated in the Easton Holiday parade in downtown Easton. We again had our “Peace Dove” float. Many thanks for Jeanne Halpin, all the sewers, the parents who drove and rode on the float plus all the kids! It was a combined outreach effort of over 20 Quaker volunteers.

The week before Christmas, FDS held its annual holiday program for the children followed by a Meeting wide potluck.

2025

The FDS committee was delightfully augmented in early 2025 by the good work of the Nominating Committee. During our first committee meeting of the year, values and curriculum was discussed with much input from the parents. Monthly themes were agreed upon as a natural focus to the weekly lessons. These themes were Gifts, Integrity, Peace and Stewardship. (Recognize the testimonies?) During the late winter, early Spring FDS offered a “Secret Friend” activity. Their exchanges were fruitful in establishing a connected friendship.

Much support from the committee came in March, when FDS provided hospitality each week. On the fifth Sunday in March, FDS along with Hospitality and Pastoral Care held the New Members and Attenders luncheon. The common room was filled to the brim with tables food and friends as we recognized those who recently joined Meeting as members.

In April FDS held its annual Easter Egg Hunt on the Third Haven grounds. Many members contributed hard boiled eggs for the kids to dye and then find them!

Also, the FDS committee showed strong support for the MultiCultural Festival held in early May in Idlewild Park. A vibrant presence was felt as many patrons visited our Third Haven table asking questions about Quakerism and learning more about our summer camp for kids.

Speaking of camp, Third Haven is now in its 7th year of offering the summer mindfulness camp on the Third Haven grounds. There was a concerted effort this year by

many members of Meeting to provide more foundational support to help the camp succeed. There is much organizing, promoting, and processing even before the camp begins. With this added help, camp applications are rolling in and being processed quickly and efficiently.

Our lead camp teacher, Cherie Baron has been helping with some Sunday FDS teaching as well. We are grateful to Cherie for her inspirations and gentle wondering way with the children .

Besides our monthly themes, the children also learn from our Godly Play and Faith and Play stories, other storybooks, nature walks around the property, and Meeting members all of which supply variations in learning about Spirit.

In compliance with our Meeting's strategic plans, FDS packed up the 2nd floor of the BMH classrooms this Spring with classrooms continuing in the common room. FDS is very excited for the new stairway and entrance to the 2nd floor. Upgrades in furnishings, carpeting and fresh paint will add a refreshing look for our Fall studies.

Finally, FDS ended our year with the annual "Moving Up Day." It was a happy occasion celebrating 5 graduates who grew up in Third Haven and are now young adults. We were able to hear a little of their journey and their thanks for the Meeting's support.

FDS is looking forward to-

Working with T and C on immigration issues

Working with P and G on keeping the TH land clean and health

Continuing to collaborate with Hospitality and Pastoral care on Meeting wide events and celebrations

We really are a supportive community

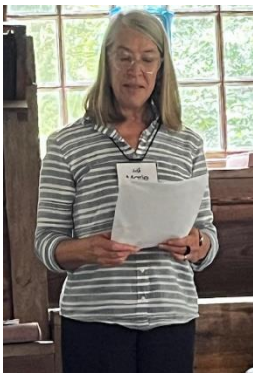
FDS committee consists of Melissa Grant, Sarah Claggett, Lisa Kluepfel, Kulveen Virdee, Katie Claggett, Susan Claggett FDS Clerk



Carriage Shed Sale Proposal-Paige Tilghman-Beth Mufson

Approved

Testimonies and Concerns proposes a Carriage Shed Sale as an opportunity for community outreach on Saturday, October 25 or another date to be determined from 8 a.m.-noon. The event will be chaired by Beth Mufson and Marian Murphy. Proceeds will be offered to: World Food Kitchen, Neighborhood Service Center to support heating bills, and a local mental health organization yet to be chosen.



2025 Third Haven Friends Art Show and Sale Proposal-

Marie Leonard Approved

We propose with Meeting approval to move forward with planning details for an Art Show & Sale again this year. In the past, we have been successful at engaging Members, Attenders and others from the Community in this event, and where donations from artists & vendors have totaled over four-thousand dollars for Third Haven to date.

If our proposal is approved, Sheryl Southwick and Marie Leonard will be co-coordinators for the event this year. The proposed date is

Saturday, Nov. 1st from 11am-3pm. The CR is currently available on this day. New this year might be outdoor tent space for artists.

Details of the Event:

- an invitation to participate will be emailed to previous year's participants as well as others.

- a general invitation to participate in the event will be included in Email Announcements.

- there will be a \$20 fee for each artist to participate, which will help cover the cost of promoting the event.

- same as previous years, each artist will donate a portion of sales to Third Haven.

- press releases with images will be sent to the local newspaper, magazines and online sources, to run in their "Community Calendar or Events" sections.

- flyers will be posted at the libraries and other locations.

- event graphics will be provided to the artists to share with their contact lists.

- each artist will be responsible for set-up & clean-up of their displays, collecting their own payments, and making a donation to Third Haven based on their chosen percentage.

- both Meetinghouse buildings will be open for visitors.

Art Show Specific Instagram to be started by Sheryl Southwick- **Approved for Art show**

Addendum: as of September 2025 Art Show postponed to 2026.

Proposed ongoing Instagram account for the Meeting.

Comments: This would need an Instagram savvy person do this. It would require a lot of posts, feeding her information about Third Haven events. It is recommended to check with Tania Harrison who is our webmaster, and parents from FDS. Consideration of an ongoing Meeting Instagram account is **postponed for future consideration.**



Budget & Finance: Approval of Budget for FY 2025/2026 –

Bill Lane/Cynthia Quast/Ben Tilghman **Approved**

See budget document on next page.

Comments:

Property and Grounds expenses were clarified. The Quick Books spreadsheet was further explained, including Building Fund covering: Brick Meeting House Phase 1 Projects including Tree Succession. Today's budget discussion covers operating budget expenses, which is separate from Building Funds.

New Business-none

Closing Silent Worship 12:22 p.m.

D Rein, Recording Clerk

THIRD HAVEN MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

Budget FY26

Period: FY 2026 (Jul 2025 - Jun 2026)

APPROVED 2025-6-10

Operating Fund

Accounts Budget

Income

Attender Contributions	\$9275.00	
Camp Tuition	1200.00	
Interest & Dividends Earned	350.00	
Member Contributions	59425.00	
Sales & Cash Box	450.00	
Use of Facilities	4000.00	
<u>Total Income</u>		<u>\$74700.00</u>

Expenses

Burial Ground	200.00
Camp Expense	1200.00
Charitable Contributions	3000.00
Communications	3250.00
First Day School	3050.00
General Administration	4250.00
Hospitality	250.00
Pastoral Care	300.00
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	17500.00
Planning	300.00

Property & Grounds:	10550.00
Caretaker:	
Payroll Taxes	1650.00
Caretaker Wages	18850.00
Workman's Comp	150.00
<u>Total Caretaker</u>	<u>20650.00</u>

Utilities	6800.00
<u>Total Property & Grounds</u>	<u>38000.00</u>

Quarterly Meeting	150.00	
Scholarships	1000.00	
Testimonies & Concerns	2000.00	
Worship & Ministry	250.00	
<u>Total Expenses</u>		<u>\$ 74700.00</u>

Philadelphia Meeting Annual Sessions Summer 2025 Wisdom

Third Haven

Cheyney University Auditorium

andrew and

You are viewing Cecilia Filauro (staff,)

Joanna Macy

"This is a dark time, filled with suffering and uncertainty. Like living cells in a larger body, it is natural that we feel the trauma of our world. So don't be afraid of the anguish you feel, or the anger or fear, because these responses arise from the depth of your caring and the truth of your interconnectedness with all beings."

"You don't need to do everything. Do what calls your heart; effective action comes from love. It is unstoppable. We will never be able to build what we have not first cherished in our hearts."

The Work that Reconnects

34
Participants

Chat

Reactions

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Summer Immigration Protest with Friends participating:

