



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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March, 2026 Newsletter

“I was incredibly moved by the way some talked lovingly about membership, not as a stamp on your name tag, but as a beautiful symbol of mutual accountability, commitment and community.” *Emily Higgs, Philadelphia Yearly Meeting Faith and Practice, 2018, p. 195*

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Eighth Day, Second Month, 2026

Opening Silent Worship: Clerk Ben Tilghman opened the meeting at 11:15 a.m. with a moment of reflection.

Attendance: (hybrid) Jim Altman, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Nell Folmar, Whitley Gray, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Beth Inabinett, Katherine Johnson, Janet Kemp, Bill Lane, Connie Lewis, Tom McCall, Steven Meixner, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Terry-Thomas Primer, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Bill Schauer, Ellen Schecter, John Schreiner, Priscilla Sener, Christina Swaine, Ben Tilghman, Paige Tilghman, Heidi Wetzell, Jonathan Williams, Mary Yancey



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

Approval of minutes for First Month business meeting APPROVED

Clerk's Desk- Ben Tilghman

John Leon Donogue membership recommended by Pastoral Care **APPROVED**. Welcoming Committee: Paige Tilghman, Amy Kozak, Ben Tilghman

Planning Committee Status Report – February 8, 2026 -Steve Meixner



Brick Meeting House – External Stairway

Town of Easton, at final inspection, requires addition of stair riser panels

Alternatives being priced

Brick Meeting House – Access Ramp

Property and Grounds concern about visibility of step edge, tripping hazard

Alternative solutions being investigated

Brick Meeting House - Second Floor

First Day School project completed

Meeting office, furnishings being selected

Tree Succession Plan

Plan adopted

First phase of execution being planned

Additional Items being investigated

Ground Floor Newell Post - Termite Damage

Exterior Shutter Hinge broken

Maintenance recommendations for P&G

Budget Current Project Cost is within the approved budget

Schedule Brick Meeting House work to be completed by the end of next month

Questions and answers:

Tree bands colors: Yellow slated for reevaluation by arborist, red probably to be removed because dead, dying, or leaning dangerously over wall.

Next planning phase will be discussed in the future.



Storm Water Management -Whitley Gray

Last Fall a grant source for town storm water management control was presented briefly by Whitley Gray and recently reviewed by Property and Grounds. As part of tree succession grant funding, we added a component of thinking more broadly how to interact with neighbors. Shore Rivers gathered all entities with adjoining properties: town, middle school, and immediate Trippe Ave. neighbors. With rains and due to development, there is flooding from Trippe Avenue. Third Haven's wall has an effect. There is no storm water management to get water down to the creek. Shore Rivers would apply for funds to work with all entities involved to develop a design to solve this issue. The Town of Easton is willing to be a partner, but it is not their priority. Without the Meeting's approval of a grant request for evaluation and design, this will not proceed. Third Haven Monthly Meeting would be approving access to the property for people assessing and creating a design. Note that areas behind the West wall side may in the long run effect wall stability. Trustees as deed holders to the property are the legal party to approve this venture. Property and Grounds will take the necessary steps to consult the Trustees. This grant is an information, study and design effort. Meeting for Business approved support and deferred to Trustees for documentation completion.

Financial Update-*Kristen Hawkinson/Janet Kemp*

Our attorney, Martha Effinger, of the law firm of Parker, Counts, has drafted Articles of Incorporation of Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Inc., forming a religious corporation under the general laws of the State of Maryland. This corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The designated officers of the corporation are the Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the Meeting, the Clerk of the Budget and Finance Committee, and the Treasurers of the Meeting. Martha Effinger has agreed to serve as our Resident Agent. The legal name of the corporation is Third Haven Monthly Meeting, Inc., and the trade name is Third Haven Friends Meeting. Execution of this legal process allows us to make necessary changes such as authorized signers for our bank accounts so that we can continue to meet our financial obligations in the community.

New Business

Closing Silent Worship 11:39

D. Rein, Recording Clerk

March Queries

In keeping with Worship and Ministry's wish to offer queries based on significant occasions each month, here are a few for March, referencing the Spring Equinox:

On March 20th our Sun's rays fall directly over Earth's equator from south to north, giving nearly equal length of day and night across the globe. This is the spring equinox in the Northern Hemisphere (and autumn equinox in the Southern). As the ground softens and buds emerge from dormancy, we're reminded that life knows how to begin again, quietly, steadily and in necessary balance.

What does this balance of day and night teach us about welcoming balance in our own lives, accepting the good and the challenges with equanimity?

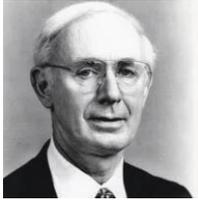
What weathered assumptions about ourselves and others need clearing to make space for the seeds we will nourish and bring forward into the freshness of new light?

How can we honor what we have held while refreshing our hearts to what is beginning?

Meeting for Worship Messages

Friends, your messages are important. To be heard by all, would you please look at the Friend who is at the farthest distance from you in the Meeting House and project your voice to speak to them? We value your contributions. Thank you!

Condolences to the family of Frank Ryan



Frank (Francis) T. Ryan, 86, of Easton, MD died February 19, 2026. Frank was born in Brooklyn, New York on August 27, 1939, the son of the late Harry and Dorothy (Kolson) Ryan. Frank was predeceased by his wife of forty-six years, Devote (Hanrahan) Ryan, and is survived by multiple extended family members.

Frank's early education was in the public and parochial schools of New York City. Before graduating from high school, he decided to become a Dominican priest. He earned his undergraduate degree from Providence College and his Master's degree from Saint Stephen's College. He continued his education at the Pontifical University of the Immaculate Conception and was awarded baccalaureate, licentiate, and lectorate degrees in theology. Frank then completed doctoral studies at Georgetown University where he was a university fellow. He also earned certificates in scriptures and in liturgy while there.

After receiving a dispensation from Pope Paul VI to return to the laity, Frank served as a contributing author and editor of *The Encyclopedic Dictionary of Religion*, specializing in contemporary philosophy and Eastern religions. He later entered the government relations field and also served the US Labor Department as a member of the Business Research Advisory Council. He retired in 2001. After retiring, Devote and Frank moved from the Washington area to the Eastern shore of Maryland, where he enjoyed sailing and serving as a chaplain with the Easton Memorial Hospital.

Memorial contributions may be made in Frank's honor to [Doctors Without Borders](#). He looks forward to a heavenly reunion with family and friends. A funeral mass was held February 28th at St. Peter and Paul in Easton, Md.

A full obituary may be viewed at

<https://www.fhnfuneralhome.com/obituaries/frank-ryan-5/#!/Obituary>

Palestine

Amy Kozak writes: "Please join me in a heartfelt moment of reflection as earlier today I learned that U2 has dedicated its new song to Palestinian activist, Awdah Hathaleen. His image appears in their video and you can listen without the visuals if you'd prefer through the following links.

<https://youtu.be/XRmpvPtcTAQ?si=RNH1yZj4WJwYriZU>

<https://on.soundcloud.com/BDs2hcgncR0MeIVUkP>

Awdah was murdered by an Israeli settler six months ago while filming an illegal settler invasion of his village, Umm al-Khair, Masafer Yatta in the West Bank.

This village is where Eid also lives (the gentleman nominated for the human rights Tulip Award that I previously mentioned)

and they continue to face constant settler and military violence, harassment, and terror as part of an ongoing forced expulsion campaign.

Awdah traveled with the same coalition I took part in that was mentioned previously, and he touched many lives through his leadership, generosity, and kindness. I know *he believed in nonviolence, worked tirelessly on coalition building, and taught English to the children of his village. He leaves behind a wife and several young children. As other activists have said, “may his memory be a revelation.”

"Sometimes non-action is violence. If you allow others to kill and destroy, although you are not doing anything, you are also implicit in that violence. So, violence can be action or non-action." -
Thich Nhat Hanh

First Day School



On March 22nd Susan Claggett led a Faith & Play session on Let Your Life Speak.

Our FDS committee gathered for a committee meeting March 22nd at 8:45 a.m. and discussed a range of issues including our ideas for teaching Quaker Values to middle schoolers and a curriculum for “Let Your Life Speak”.

We laid out our events for the rest of the school year including the April 05 Egg Hunt, Multicultural Day at Idlewild Park on May 02 and Moving Up Day on June 7.

Susan Claggett has agreed to prepare a Faith & Play Story for March 27 and a Quaker Easter Story for April 05.

We will be calling all parents of children to check in with them in the week ahead. We are planning to offer FDS to any and all children attending meeting for the foreseeable future. Thank you to the FDS Committee and volunteers for making this possible.

Pat Scanlon climate justice song

Dear Fellow Quaker Friends, Colleagues, Staff, and Committees,

I recently talked with Pat Scanlon, a Vietnam Vet, member of Vets for Peace, and songwriter. He reached out to me to offer his song toward the climate justice movement, and he felt Quakers are one of the faith groups that might use the song and video as part of our outreach and education efforts. Personally, I love what Pat has produced. Please see Pat’s comments and links below.

Yours in the struggle for Peaceful and Justice society
Keith B Harvey
Northeast Regional Director, American Friends Service Committee

Climate Change Music Video - "You are OUR Sunshine"
PLEASE SAVE AND SHARE THESE LINKS FOR FUTURE USE
YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/i8yC9Sh4qz0>
Vimeo link: <https://vimeo.com/1119912993>

Friends being friends...

