



THIRD HAVEN FRIENDS MEETING

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October 2025 newsletter

“...welcome such diversity and reciprocity as the basis of creative dialogue in a spirit of love...”

A. Barrie Pitcock 1969, Faith and Practice 1997 p. 160

Third Haven Friends Meeting Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Fourteenth Day, Ninth Month 2025



Opening Silent Worship at 11:30 a.m. assistant clerk Larny Claggett opened the Meeting.

Attendance: Jim Altman, Mia Brown-Echerd, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Christopher Ford, Whitley Gray, Kristen Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Steven Meixner, Beth Mufson, Clinton Pettus, Kathryn Pettus, Terry-Thomas Primer, Cynthia Quast, Dee Rein, Nancy Robbins, Bill Schauer, Ellen Schecter, Priscilla Sener, Thomas Sinnott, Sheryl Southwick, Paige Tilghman, Joan Wetmore, Jonathan Williams, Mary Yancey

Comments on Ninth Query, Grounding for Transformed Lives: Equality and Justice

Comments:

One spoke: This is a favorite as well as most feared query appropriate after last week's worship sharing and then last week's events, murder of Charlie Kirk. In light of the query, we as Quakers need to do better self-examination. We are asked to change what we do and say, think before we speak or act. Let's not divide ourselves into groups.

Friends are encouraged to attend Conversations on Race. They help us discover hidden biases. See announcements for the invitation.

Approval of minutes from Sixth Month business meeting Approved

From the Assistant Clerk's Desk- Larny Claggett

We receive emails from Philadelphia Yearly Meeting which keep us up on PYM events.

A travel minute on the Quaker history journey to England of Priscilla Sener and Gwen Beegle endorsed by the 6 English meetings visited will be included in our archives. It will be discussed when Priscilla presents on Quaker history in 2 weeks.



Treasurer's Report for fiscal year-end 2024-2025, as of 6/30/25 - Bill Lane/Cynthia Quast

In our year-end Budget versus Actual report, our member income was just over \$71,000 or 124% of the budget. Our total income was over \$309,000 or 427% of the budget. This includes a non-budgeted amount which we booked to "Other Contributions" of \$177,000. This included contributions from the Trustees of \$170,000. Our total expenses for the year were almost \$234,000. This gave us a net income of just over \$75,000.

THIRD HAVEN MONTHLY MEETING OF FRIENDS

Budget vs. Actuals: Budget_FY25

July 2024 - June 2025

	Total			
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	% of Budget
Revenue				
Attender Contributions	31,420.00	8,050.00	23,370.00	390.31%
Camp Funds (deleted)	0.00		0.00	
Camp Tuition	1,000.00	1,200.00	-200.00	83.33%
Interest & Dividends Earned	7,703.89	30.00	7,673.89	25679.63%
Member Contributions	71,368.00	57,515.00	13,853.00	124.09%
Other Contributions	177,420.00		177,420.00	
Sales & Cash Box	382.01	450.00	-67.99	84.89%
Services	15,480.00		15,480.00	
Uncategorized Income	0.00		0.00	
Use of Facilities	4,345.00	5,000.00	-655.00	86.90%
	\$	\$	\$	
Total Revenue	309,118.90	72,245.00	236,873.90	427.88%
	\$	\$	\$	
Gross Profit	309,118.90	72,245.00	236,873.90	427.88%
Expenditures				
Camp Expense	470.77		470.77	
Campaign Committee		1,200.00	-1,200.00	0.00%
Charitable Contributions	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	100.00%
Communications	2,588.60	2,745.00	-156.40	94.30%
First Day School	250.91	3,600.00	-3,349.09	6.97%
General Administration	4,007.42	3,250.00	757.42	123.31%
Grant #23457	12,618.25		12,618.25	

Hospitality	111.73	250.00	-138.27	44.69%
Outreach (deleted)		500.00	-500.00	0.00%
Pastoral Care	301.63	300.00	1.63	100.54%
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting	17,500.00	17,500.00	0.00	100.00%
Planning		800.00	-800.00	0.00%
Property & Grounds	3,952.21		3,952.21	
Donation to Easton Fire Dept	100.00		100.00	
Grounds & Building Maintenance		8,900.00	-8,900.00	0.00%
Maintenance			0.00	
Brick Meeting House	157,490.06		157,490.06	
Caretaker Cottage (deleted)	582.00		582.00	
Stove Pellets (deleted)	502.14	1,500.00	-997.86	33.48%
Total Caretaker Cottage (deleted)	\$ 1,084.14	\$ 1,500.00	-\$ 415.86	72.28%
Total Maintenance	\$ 158,574.20	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 157,074.20	10571.61%
Routine Maintenance	1,990.07		1,990.07	
Total Grounds & Building Maintenance	\$ 160,564.27	\$ 10,400.00	\$ 150,164.27	1543.89%
Payroll Expenses			0.00	
Taxes	1,190.40	1,650.00	-459.60	72.15%
Wages	15,560.88	17,750.00	-2,189.12	87.67%
Workers Comp Insurance	139.00		139.00	
Total Payroll Expenses	\$ 16,890.28	\$ 19,400.00	-\$ 2,509.72	87.06%
Utilities	1,089.66		1,089.66	
Electric	1,036.21	1,460.00	-423.79	70.97%
Gas	2,161.10	2,340.00	-178.90	92.35%
Internet Services	649.50	900.00	-250.50	72.17%
Petrol	376.50	400.00	-23.50	94.13%
Telephone	295.01	330.00	-34.99	89.40%
Water & Sewer	671.61	970.00	-298.39	69.24%
Total Utilities	\$ 6,279.59	\$ 6,400.00	-\$ 120.41	98.12%
Total Property & Grounds	\$ 187,786.35	\$ 36,200.00	\$ 151,586.35	518.75%
Scholarships		2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.00%
Testimonies & Concerns	490.56	400.00	90.56	122.64%
TH Building	710.00		710.00	
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	4,000.00		4,000.00	
Worship & Ministry		500.00	-500.00	0.00%
Total Expenditures	\$ 233,836.22	\$ 72,245.00	\$ 161,591.22	323.67%
Net Operating Revenue	\$ 75,282.68	\$ 0.00	\$ 75,282.68	
Net Revenue	\$ 75,282.68	\$ 0.00	\$ 75,282.68	



Hospitality Committee Annual Report -*Mary Yancey* Accepted

The Hospitality Committee continues its role in providing light refreshments each First Day after Meeting for Worship. The committee also coordinates and contributes to meals and refreshments for special occasions including Meeting-wide potlucks, memorial and other gatherings and programs offered to the community.

The committee started the year with 6-8 members formed into 3 teams which rotated primary responsibility monthly, augmented by contributions of food, setup and clean up assistance from all Meeting members. Through attrition for various reasons the committee now consists of four persons, so assistance from other Meeting members is more important. This clerk acknowledges letting the sign-up sheet on the refrigerator lapse, and promises to re-post it for the remainder of the year. Last year and so far this year the committee underspent its slim budget due to the generosity of committee members and others who bring staples (notably coffee) on a recurring basis and decline reimbursement.



Scholarship Committee Annual Report-*Marsie Hawkinson* Accepted

The Scholarship Committee of Third Haven Friends Meeting continues to encourage our young students in their education.

On Moving Up Day, we were happy to celebrate with Zadoc Bond, who graduated from Haverford College, and Lucy Bond, who completed her undergraduate degree from the University of Maryland.

Max McCall, who graduated from Vanderbilt University, already had a job in DC at the time of our celebratory meeting.

Currently we have Maeve Mufson who is a sophomore at Bates College and Serena Claggett who is in her second year at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. This Committee paid the salaries of the Summer Mindfulness Camp teachers.

Coming along we have:

Liam Owsley-Ewing - beginning to think about college

Finley Owsley-Ewing

Riley Owsley-Ewing

Molly McCall - currently attending Wye River Upper School

Scholarships awarded in 2025:

Second term of the 2024-2025 school year:

Zadoc Bond \$2000

Lucy Bond \$1000

Max McCall \$1000

Maeve Mufson \$1000

Serena Claggett \$1000

Fall term of the 2025-2026 school year:

Maeve Mufson \$1000

Serena Claggett \$1000

Summer Camp teachers' salaries - $\$800 \times 2 = \1600

Current Accounts:

Shore United - \$5336.51

Friends Fiduciary (8/1/25) - \$190,497.19 and \$135,807.32

Scholarship Committee: Marsie Hawkinson, Bill Schauer, Paige Tilghman, Lorraine Claggett, Marie Leonard, Kristen Hawkinson, Doreen Getsinger-Emeritus, Sumner Parker-Emeritus

New Business**Proposed Instagram and Social Media for Third Haven Sheryl Southwick Approved**

Dee Rein will contact Tania Harrison, who handles the Third Haven website, and facilitate Sheryl Southwick beginning our presence on social media to facilitate information to the public. An update will be provided in a month or two.

**Sound System-Joan Wetmore**

Information presentation: As approved by the Communications Committee, Joan is exploring the cost and feasibility of obtaining a sound system to help members who are burdened with hearing loss. On Monday, Sept 8 she met with Ryan Shay of Talon Security, who did the system for the Talbot Historical Society. Given the ceiling height in the Brick Meeting House, he suggested one or more portable systems. He will get back to Joan with suggestions and cost.

Report to the Meeting on the Tree Succession Plan (TSP - under the Planning Committee)

Mary Yancey, Planning Committee and TSP project lead

Part 1 of the Tree Succession Plan Report:

Five member/attenders of Third Haven met with two neighbors from Trippe Ave. on July 29 at a meeting facilitated by Shore Rivers as part of the Tree Succession Planning grant which we received from the Chesapeake Bay Trust. The meeting was to talk about stormwater issues; to identify any problems and potential solutions. Letters of invitation were sent to approximately 34 neighbors on Trippe Ave.

The neighbors describe problems of flooding on the street and chronically soggy yards, mold, and frequent sump pump activation following heavy rains. Whitley Gray from Shore Rivers explained that the natural stormwater flow direction from this neighborhood would be across the Third Haven property to Paper Mill Branch via the swale which runs between the Old Meeting House and the caretaker's cottage on our property. The brick wall constructed along the South and West edges of our property redirects a lot of this water to a deep ditch which is directly behind our west wall. The town of Easton has done some stormwater mitigation but there is more to do which the Town is not prepared to do due to limited funding and other priorities.

Shore Rivers advocates for a solution that would allow at least some of this water to flow across Third Haven property. Removing one section of the wall and replacing it with iron work and

green screening would be one solution, or creating an arch in the bottom of one or more sections of the wall. This would also likely entail creating some rain-garden type plantings on our property to allow the water to slow down, spread out and soak in rather than rushing into the stream and ultimately into the Bay. That is best practice stormwater management, as high volumes of unimpeded stormwater through deep ditches and culverts bring over-heated water and pollutants directly into the Bay. The deep ditch just outside our west wall threatens the integrity of the wall which is in danger of being undermined in certain areas.

There has been some discussion about a possible collaboration between Shore Rivers, the Town of Easton, the Board of Education and possibly Third Haven to correct the gouging out of the ditch but it would be a big project and there are no formal plans to do so at this time.

The sense of the Planning Committee is to stay engaged with the neighbors to try to bring increased pressure on the Town to address these stormwater issues surrounding our property. Addendum:

At a discussion following this report at the Meeting for Business, the following items were discussed and clarified:

Whitley Gray from ShoreRivers states that there is an opportunity for Shore Rivers to apply for a planning grant this November to engage all the aforementioned partners to begin to plan and/or design possible solutions to the problem, focusing on the deep ditch which runs between Third Haven and the Board of Ed (Easton Middle School) property, but also looking at other “softer” solutions such as allowing some of the water to run across Third Haven property. The sense of the Meeting is that early Nov 2025 is too soon for us to decide whether we would like to be part of such an effort. Whitley states that the grant runs on an annual cycle so there would be another opportunity to apply in the future.

The Meeting decided to refer this question to the Property and Grounds Committee for further study and decision making over the coming months.

Part 2 of the Tree Succession Plan (TSP) Report:

Five members of the TSP/Planning Committee held a final meeting with Jonathan Ceci Landscape Architects (JCLA) at their offices in Baltimore on July 28. Three persons attended in person from Third Haven and two on Zoom. This was our final meeting before JCLA delivers the completed plan to us, which they will do in person on Friday, Sept. 19 at 1pm at Third Haven. The presentation of this final plan will be made to the Planning Committee, with all members of Third Haven invited to attend. Zoom may be available but Friends are encouraged to attend in person, if possible, to better view the final plan.

Following our receipt of the plan, the Planning Committee, in collaboration with the Property and Grounds Committee, will identify first steps for implementation and will present these for approval by the Meeting at some future Meeting for Business. Priorities in the plan include addressing dead and dying trees, ensuring maintenance and upkeep of the grounds, and identifying the locations of mowed and/or mulched paths through the property. We anticipate working with a local arborist for necessary tree work, likely Dave Piver of Davey Tree who has been providing pro bono care for two large oak trees near the old meeting house for several years.

One of the recommendations in the draft (and likely the final) plan is to consider relocating the copper beech which is in the middle of the meadow area behind the carriage shed. This tree was planted by the Mufson family in memory of their son Charlie, approximately 5 years ago.

Consideration of moving the tree needs to be undertaken in a thoughtful and deliberate manner, and moving the tree, if that is the decision, will need to be done with the utmost care.

Laura Claggett sends greetings from Quaker Meeting Tokyo.

The Worship and Ministry Committee is offering a religious education program on "Faith and Practice at Third Haven Friends Meeting." This 6-session program follows on Quakerism previous 101 offerings with a focus on Third Haven.

On September 28th Priscilla Sener shared her travels with Gwen Beegle in England studying Quaker history.



On October 5th Tom Corl spoke on "That of God and More."

Upcoming topics:

- Silent worship — Molly Brian, 10.19
- Testimonies and witness — Molly Brian, 11.16
- Community — Clinton & Kathryn Pettus, 12.7
- Future of Third Haven Friends Meeting — Clinton Pettus & Tom Corl, 1.4.26

Carriage Shed Sale

With the leadership of Beth Mufson and Paige Tilghman, many volunteers planned, received, organized, priced, sold and packed up remainders from this year's Carriage Shed Sale. In addition to household objects, activities included a plant sale, a silent auction, bake sale manned by First Day School, and the always popular Quaker dogs and chili. All proceeds will benefit World Central Kitchen and the Neighborhood Service Center's Winter Fuel Fund. Remainders were collected by the Salvation Army.







Care Basket thought: Can you get along without toothbrush, toothpaste, band aids, soap, shampoo, or hand sanitizer for a few days? What about a few snacks after school or a warm meal for your family? Every item we donate in the Care Basket at Third Haven is promptly taken to the Neighborhood Service Center and distributed. They understand peoples' needs, and our donations help. Suggested offerings:

Hygiene Essentials

Toiletries
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Soap or body wash
Shampoo and conditioner
Deodorant
Feminine hygiene products
Household Cleaning Supplies
Dish soap
Sponges
Reusable Face Masks
Hand sanitizer
Laundry detergent
Multipurpose cleaners
Baby Products
Diapers (various sizes)
Baby wipes
Baby shampoo and lotion
Clothing and Accessories
Cold Weather Gear
Gloves, scarves, and hats
Thermal socks

Everyday Basics

Blankets
New socks

New undergarments

T-shirts

Comfortable clothing

Over-the-Counter Medicines

Pain relievers (ibuprofen, acetaminophen)
Cough syrup, lozenges
Allergy medications
Band-aids and antiseptics
First Aid Kits
Comfort Aids
Mental Health Aids
Journals or Notebooks
Pens and pencils
Books or Magazines
Small Toys or Games
Dietary-Specific Items
Gluten-free snacks
Allergen-friendly snacks

Nutrition

Canned Vegetables
Canned Fruits
Peanut Butter
Canned Beans
Stable Milk
Pasta
Rice

Cereal
Oatmeal
Flour
Sugar
Macaroni and Cheese
Canned Soups and Stews
Canned Meats: tuna, chicken
Dried Fruits: raisins, cranberries
Crackers and cookies
Granola Bars or Protein Bars

Olive oil, Vegetable oil
Condiments: salt, pepper,
ketchup, mustard, spices
Baby Food and Formula

Guidelines

Expiration date: within their "sold by" date.
Check packaging: unopened and not dented
or damaged.
Diversity: gluten-free or vegetarian options.

