Virginia Beach Friends Celebrates World Quaker Day 2019

On Sunday, October 6th, Virginia Beach Friends celebrated World Quaker Day with an Intergenerational gathering for Worship, a potluck and a program on Sustainability and Quaker beliefs.
We began our morning in the Meetinghouse, the Young Friends gathered around to see and hear Friend Galen tell a Faith and Play story on the theme of taking care of our Earth.
As the adults continued in silent worship, our Young Friends were led downstairs and outside to participate in sustainability projects of making reusable lunch bags with the older children and planting bulbs with the younger ones.
At the Rise of Meeting, a group picture was taken and we then proceeded to enjoy fellowship and a bountiful potluck lunch together with the children opting to "picnic on the floor!"
Toward the end of our meal, we began our interactive program with introductions, welcoming our newcomers and learning a little more about one another.
The remainder of the program discussion centered on two QuakerSpeak videos: Arthur Larabee's *9 Core Quaker Beliefs* and *Quakers and Climate Change Around the World"* from Susanna Mattingly.
We value these times of fellowship in which we connect and share thoughts on pertinent issues, such as stewardship of the earth, and enabling us to carry and spread our Light.

Young Friends Report
As many know, we have decreased our Young Friends programs due to the decrease in children attending and teachers.
So, I am excited to report that Galen will be leading the Young Friends *Faith and Play* on the following dates:
December 1 (First Sunday)
December 22 (Fourth Sunday)
January 26 (Fourth Sunday)
February 23 (Fourth Sunday)
March 29 (Fourth Sunday)
May 17 (Third Sunday)

~I will work with Whit on updating the Young Friends website.
~I will work with Galen on publicizing these dates to Friends School, especially those dates that we decide to hold a Potluck.

‘continue to see Actions needed:

Actions for MFB:

1. Decide which dates could also have a Potluck. *I would suggest 12/22, 2/23 and 5/17.*

2. Move forward with background checks for all Friends that will volunteer for helping with child care. *Need point person to research and set-up.* This will involve:

- Researching the process
- Compile list of Friends who are willing to participate
- Establish date/time to complete

Submitted by Linda Smith, Young Friends Convener