

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Twelfth Month 2014

CURRENT ACTIVITIES	
<p><b>11/24 Christmas Eve</b> 7-8pm Caroling, 8-midnight, open worship</p> <p><b>1/5 Friends School</b> resumes!</p>	<p><b>1/19 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b> School Closed</p> <p><b>1/20 Teacher work day</b> no students</p> <p><b>1/23 Friends School</b> Admission Open House</p>
MONTHLY	
<p><b><u>EACH 1<sup>st</sup> DAY</u></b> (Sunday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>10:30 – 11:30 am Meeting for Worship with First Day School-</u> younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</li> <li>* <u>12:00-12:30 pm Silent Peace Vigil - in front of the Meetinghouse</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>EACH 2<sup>nd</sup> DAY</u></b> (Monday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>11:45 am for 30 minutes Moral Monday - Richmond VA St. Paul's Episcopal Church steps (across the street from the General Assembly/Capitol Park).</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>EACH 4<sup>th</sup> DAY</u></b> (Wednesday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>7 pm - Mid-Week Prayer</u></li> </ul> <p><b><u>EACH 6<sup>th</sup> DAY</u></b> (Friday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>9 – 9:30 am Meeting for Worship All are welcome, with special invitation to School &amp; Meeting Community (except when school is not in session)</u></li> </ul>	<p><b><u>1<sup>st</sup> First Days</u></b>  <b>9 am</b> – Buildings &amp; Grounds Meeting  <b>12 noon</b> - Peace &amp; Social Justice Meeting</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> First Days</u></b>  <b>8:30 am</b> - Meeting for Worship with attention to Business  <b>(except Seventh Month)</b></p> <p><b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> First Days</u></b>  <b>9 am</b> - First Day School Discussion</p> <p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> First Days</u></b>  <b>9 am</b> Meeting of Ministry &amp; Oversight</p>
SAVE THE DATES	
<p><b>2/4, 3/5, 4/9, 10/29, 11/19</b></p>	<p><b>JCOOC Homeless shelter meal</b> – Contact Tracey Paladini to assist and for details <a href="mailto:tpaladini@yahoo.com">tpaladini@yahoo.com</a></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2/7/2015</b></p>	<p><b>Quarterly meeting</b> – gathering in New Bern NC</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2/21</b></p>	<p><b>Friends School Founders Day</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4/25/2015</b></p>	<p><b>Interim Body Meeting</b> – Greenville NC</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5/2/2015</b></p>	<p><b>Quarterly meeting</b> - Host TBD</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7/15-19/2015</b></p>	<p><b>Yearly Meeting</b>, Guilford College, Greensboro NC: <b><u>Note: Date Change From Routine</u></b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10/24/2015</b></p>	<p><b>Interim Body Meeting</b> – Location TBD</p>

**Query to ponder for next month: Query 7:** *Do we endeavor to live in the life and power that takes away the occasion of all war, seeking to do our part in the work of reconciliation between individuals, groups, and nations? Do we faithfully maintain our testimony against nuclear and all other military preparations, the bearing of arms, and all participation in war?*

[www.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org), [www.ncymc.org](http://www.ncymc.org), Facebook Group: North Carolina Yearly Meeting Conservative

**Query #6:** Do we endeavor by example and precept to cultivate in our children a sense of openness and expectancy about life, and to aid them in their growth in spiritual understanding and moral discernment? Do we share with them the faith that guides the practice of Friends, while encouraging them to develop their religious insights as the Spirit of God may lead them?

**Response:** We reflect on opportunities, both seized and missed, not only in how we've raised our own children, but also in the ongoing outreach and ministry of our School. We take comfort that no matter whether those children joined this Meeting or not, their lives reflect our values.

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## **Virginia Beach Friends Meeting for Business with Attention to Business Twelfth Month 14, 2014**

**Opening:** Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting of Friends gathered for Worship with Attention to Business on First-day, 12<sup>th</sup> month, fourteen, 2014 at 8:33 AM in the Meetinghouse. Present were some 12 Friends and attenders.

**Head of School Report:** There was a call night to raise money for the Annual Fund last month. The Founders' Day fundraiser happens late in 2<sup>nd</sup> Month. The school was beautifully decorated to welcome our Alumni returning for Homecoming. To reflect simplicity, this year's Thanksgiving celebration was not called a "feast." Everyone brought their own lunch, and the Upper School brought dessert! Students continue their outreach to the native Mattaponi community with a Holiday gift program and food drive, to be followed by a visit to the reservation later led by Teacher Dee. The Holiday music program is this coming Friday (12/19) in the Wilson Center at 10:00.

**Treasurer's Report:** Last month's income exceeded expenditures by better than \$2000, although year-to-date expenses are still behind. Our rent payments of nearly \$4000 are up-to-date. Almost all expected expenses have been paid. The biggest increases were in support for our School. The treasurer requested approval for next years' budget of nearly \$31,000. The suffering fund would be replenished to \$1000. This year's \$6000 deficit troubled the membership. While we approved the budget, members were concerned about this lack of income. It was agreed that the need for greater income be published in the newsletter and announced at the rise of worship. We agreed to continue further discussion at future business meetings.

**Nominating Committee:** Met to confirm the process of nominating new servants by the summer of 2015. The current roster of committees, which had not yet been approved, will be emailed out to the membership for action in 1<sup>st</sup> Month.

**Hospitality:** Our committee of four oversees the table setup for after worship. Anyone so led brings food to share for which the committee is very grateful.

**Faith & Practice Revision:** There has been extended discussion of changes to the membership section of our Discipline. Confusion about the different classes of membership persists. Conditional approval was given for our proposed response to the suggested changes with the urging of using stronger language to emphasize the need for greater clearness about those classes of membership.

**Buildings & Grounds:** Work day was great, with lots of needed yard work. Thanks for all the help! New storm doors in the back stairwells are due to be installed Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. We don't have any progress on ceiling/attic upgrade work. Our next committee meeting is likely in 2<sup>nd</sup> Month, 2015.

**Ministers, Elder & Overseers:** Faye Bailey approved as a new overseer. Adult 1<sup>st</sup> day school will begin 12/21 with a presentation on Quakerism to be given by Paula Justice. The role of committee conveners was reviewed. It was suggested that M.E.O. aid nominating committee in cultivating members' gifts because we will need a new clerk and recording clerk.

**Peace & Social Justice:** Bob Young hosted a meeting on lobbying with Delegate Barry Knight at his home. Activist Kathy Kelley, who spoke to our young people at Friends' School, was recently sentenced to a 3 month jail term for civil disobedience. This was not unexpected. Much discussion ensued about conflict between white police officers and black citizens occurring around our country. We see this same kind of conflict here in our own community, and believe that Virginia Beach Friends can play a role in its resolution. This work has only begun, and the Committee will continue to keep the membership apprised of further discussions in order for others to join in.

**Transfer of Membership:** Patricia Swan requested a transfer to Chatham Monthly Meeting in NJ. Her valuable service to our meeting will be acknowledged in a letter written by the clerk.

**Christmas Worship:** We agreed this should be part of our yearly calendar, and it will be announced at the rise of meeting. Caroling begins at 7:00 PM and we have someone to play the piano this year!

**Closing:** No further business appearing, the Meeting closed at 10:22 AM with a brief period of silent worship, to meet again in 1<sup>st</sup> Month, 2015 if consistent with Divine will.

Patricia Phelan Young, Clerk and Andrew M. Young, Recording Clerk

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**Note from our treasurer:**

With the end of the year approaching, we find that our income is several thousand dollars less than our spending. Those of you who haven't made financial contributions to the Meeting should know that we depend on your support to meet the obligations the Meeting has agreed to; we are doing the things you want done, and we need your help in doing them.

Please make your contributions now so we can end our year on a financially sound basis. And thanks to those who already have been generous with their money, their time, and their spirit.

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**From the School:**

Anyone who shops at Harris Teeter, now is the time to link your VIC card to Virginia Beach Friends School. If you have done this in the past, it needs to be re-linked every fall. Click on this link (or cut/paste into your browser): [https://www.harristeeter.com/other/my\\_harris\\_teeter/login\\_page.aspx](https://www.harristeeter.com/other/my_harris_teeter/login_page.aspx) to connect your VIC card to our school. If you have trouble, just go to the Customer Service counter at any HT store.

Target: if you use a Target red card, you can link this to Friends School as well. Just go to the Customer Service counter and this can be quickly set-up. They donate a percentage of your purchases to the school. Coke caps and Box Tops for Education - these small items also bring in cash to the school. There is a box in the Meetinghouse to collect these items.

*The purpose of this newsletter is to share the Monthly Meeting minutes with members, attenders and others interested in the Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting. The minutes represent the official view of the Meeting. Other articles relating to the Meeting are included on a space available basis and reflect the views of the person submitting the information. The name of the person writing or submitting each article is included to avoid the impression the information represents the opinion of the Meeting.*

**Newsletter Notes: The Deadline for the newsletter is the day of our monthly Business session.**

We are encouraging folks to receive the newsletter electronically to help save our funds. **To receive the newsletter and/or other Meeting news electronically via email only, send a request to [vbfm.emailer@gmail.com](mailto:vbfm.emailer@gmail.com).** Please include your name, address, phone number and email when making requests. Please indicate if you no longer want to receive the hard copy newsletter. You may also communicate your request via our mailing address: Virginia Beach Friends Meeting, PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454.

**Please remember it costs the Meeting 57 cents for every returned newsletter. Please forward address changes via email or regular mail to avoid returned newsletters.**