

## Virginia Beach Friends Meeting Newsletter Third Month 2014

CURRENT ACTIVITIES	
<p><b>5/1 Friends School Golf Tournament</b> Signature Golf Course Registration 11am Start 12 noon.</p> <p><b>5/18 4:30 pm Empower Hampton Roads Annual Banquet</b> – celebrating 10 years of Social Justice in Hampton Roads. Contact Nancy Craft to purchase tickets, place ads in the program, or to make donations for the Silent Auction. Donations are welcomed any time!</p>	<p><b>5/19 7 pm Empower Hampton Roads Regional Equity Engagement Task Force Meeting</b> – Learning about felons’ rights and how to regain their voting rights.</p> <p><b>5/26 School Closed for Memorial Day</b></p> <p><b>6/7 2 pm Friends School Graduation</b> - all are welcome and invited to attend</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-younger children join Meeting during or after Worship</u></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> – 11:45 am Moral Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* <u>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> –</p> <p><b>9 am</b> – Buildings &amp; Grounds Meeting</p> <p><b>12 noon</b> - Peace &amp; Social Justice Meeting</p> <p><b><u>2<sup>nd</sup> First Days</u></b> –</p> <p><b>8:30 am</b> - Meeting for Worship with attention to Business (except Seventh Month)</p> <p><b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> First Days</u></b></p> <p><b>9 am</b> - First Day School Discussion <u>The NCYM-C Book of Discipline</u></p> <p><b><u>4<sup>th</sup> First Days</u></b></p> <p><b>9 am</b> Meeting of Ministry &amp; Oversight</p>
SAVE THE DATES 2014	
6/7, 7/12, 8/9, 9/13, 11/1	<p><b>The River Cleanup Days.</b> Contact Whit Peace, 613-2828 <a href="mailto:whitpeace.river@gmail.com">whitpeace.river@gmail.com</a></p> <p>For more information or to register, call our office at 757-962-5398, <a href="mailto:Trista@LRNow.org">Trista@LRNow.org</a></p>
10/7, 11/6	<p><b>JCOC dates for 2014</b> – Contact Tracey Paladini to assist and for details <a href="mailto:tpaladini@yahoo.com">tpaladini@yahoo.com</a></p>
7/9-13	<p><b>Yearly Meeting</b>, Guilford College, Greensboro NC</p>

**Query 10 to ponder for next business session:** *Manner of Living - Do we endeavor to live in harmony with nature? Are we careful in our stewardship of the world's irreplaceable resources?*

**Query #11 to ponder for next business session:** *Do we reverence that of God in every human being with concern for the needs of each individual? Are we seeking to rectify existing social injustice and racial discrimination in our local communities and in the world at large?*

**Query #9:** *Our Manner of Living. Are we mindful of Friends testimonies against alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other harmful drugs; and do we refrain from using them or dealing with them, realizing that abstinence is the clearest witness against overindulgence? Do we seek to avoid all kinds of gambling and places of diversion that tend to be demoralizing? Do we keep in mind how diverse and widespread are the temptations to grow richer at the expense of others? Are we faithful to our testimony against taking oaths?*

**Response:** This query lists a variety of temptations. Growing rich at the expense of others is a form of greed. There are many temptations today that take advantage of others. This query challenges us to consider carefully our actions as an individual and as a community.

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## **Virginia Beach Friends meeting for Business with Attention to Business Fourth Month 13, 2014**

**Opening:** Virginia Beach Friends meeting for Business opened at 8:30 am with 14 members and attenders present.

**Head of School Report:** Current enrollment is 171 students. Cleanup day last week was very successful and helped to prepare the school for the Open House on Fourth Month 24, and the Founders Day celebration on Fourth Month 26. Maintenance is proceeding and the cottage may be ready for use for the Summer Camp. Over the next four weeks, "Friends for Fine Art" will be showing a variety of art work throughout the campus. A hive of bees will be a part of campus soon. Faculty is participating in the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS) conferences and will be going through a peer evaluation. The Alumni Newsletter has been mailed. The National Day of Silence was very successful with a powerful Meeting for Worship.

**School Committee Report:** The contributions from Meeting and School remain strong with a long list of leaders from both communities. A Virginia Beach Friends School Board of Visitation is being created and members are currently being invited to accept. The school has been working on strengths and needs; and with periodic reports and updates to the VAIS. The School Committee had an inspiring meeting with three of the eleven students scheduled to graduate this year.

**Treasurer's Report:** Income last month was approximately \$1,000. Expenses were approximately \$5,000, which includes our annual \$3,000 commitment to the Yearly meeting.

**Buildings and Grounds Report:** Workday was successful with about 12 persons assisting. Maintenance is proceeding with the windows decision due next month. Yard maintenance contract will begin mid Fourth Month and run through Mid Twelfth Month.

**Peace and Social Justice (P&SJ) Committee Report:** The committee has met twice in the past month. Madison Galler received an award from the Volunteer Hampton Roads organization in recognition of recycling efforts on behalf of children with cancer. The pilgrims organized by the Norfolk Catholic Worker will be at the Meetinghouse starting today for the next three days for a portion of the "Holy Week Station of the Cross Pilgrimage" P&SJ concerns survey is now available on-line, and in hard copies at the Meetinghouse for those without computer access. More copies of "Shared Security – Reimagining U. S. Foreign Policy" are available in the Meetinghouse.

**The subcommittee to support the Young Friends Program** met to discuss strategies (1) to engage more support from Friends School families (2) to engage more support from Meeting members and attenders, (3) collect and organize resources, and (4) determine Wi-Fi capabilities for the children's program. This subcommittee recommends reducing the formal Young Friends Program to the first and third First Day each month, which will avoid the week of our Business session, and suggests that it be identified as the "Meeting for Learning" (spelling to be determined). Meeting approved of this recommendation. At this time on the remaining First Days, children will join us in Worship unless someone is led to assist with the children downstairs.

Meeting closed in a brief period of waiting worship.

Rebecca Mani, Clerk for the day and Nancy Craft, Recording Clerk for the day

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**Reminder:** Please complete the Peace and Social Justice Survey either on-line or via a hard copy from the Meetinghouse. We will be looking for a response from every member and attender!  
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Empower Hampton Roads (EHR) Annual Banquet: Keynote speaker, Rev. Randy Orwig, former President of EHR, currently working in North Carolina.

EHR currently has two Social Justice Task forces:

The Healthcare task force meets 10 am on the second Saturday each month at the Third Baptist Church of Portsmouth, and has been focusing on Medicaid Expansion and on encouraging folks to contact their state House Delegates in support of closing the Medicaid Gap. In addition, they have available informational pamphlets and posters for healthcare providers, and suggestions for those with insurance on how to effectively use their health insurance.

The second Task force on Equity Engagement meets 7 pm on the third Monday each month at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Norfolk and is currently focusing on restoration of felons' rights including "Ban the Box" and learning about improvements to restore felons' voting rights. In addition they are planning voter registration opportunities, public transit, supporting low income housing residents and increasing the minimum wage.

These task forces are open to everyone, whether members of member congregations or not, and encourage folks to join in this work.

Banquet tickets are \$40 per person. Please contact Nancy Craft for tickets – 426-2019 or [craft@juno.com](mailto:craft@juno.com)

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**Join us for Virginia's Moral Mondays**

On Monday, April 21, 2014, people of faith will again gather across from the Capitol in Richmond to pray for good decisions by our legislators regarding health care for all Virginians.

You are the key to Moral Mondays in Virginia. We need to keep the focus on getting a budget that includes health care for all Virginians. Forward this email and invite friends to attend. Let's continue to meet each Monday with more and more Virginians to call for leadership that gets results.

Join us on the steps of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 11:45 am as we lift up the Virginia General Assembly and the need for health care in Virginia.

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*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.**