

# Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

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[www.vbfriends.org](http://www.vbfriends.org)

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**Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting  
Religious Society of Friends  
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business  
Third month 13, 2016**

Meeting opened with silent worship. Fifteen persons were present.

The ninth query was read: *Are we mindful of Friends testimonies against alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and other harmful drugs; and do we refrain from using them or dealing in 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?*

Meeting united in the following response: *Taken in context and not as an absolute prohibition, the concern with tobacco and alcohol is a useful guide to families raising children. Our actions are what others see; they are who we*

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## Weekly Events

- \* First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - Meeting for Worship.
- \* First Day (Sunday), 10:30-11:30 am - First Day School - younger children join Meeting during or after Worship.
- \* Fourth Day (Wednesday), 8:30-9:00 am Morning Worship.
- \* Fourth Day (Wednesday), 7:00 pm Mid-Week Prayer.
- \* Sixth Day (Friday) 9:00-9:30 am - School's Meeting for Worship. All are welcome, with special invitation to the School and Meeting Community. Meets weekly when school is in session.

## Newsletter Submissions

To submit news, photos, articles, or original writing for the newsletter, please email Christen at [christenhansel@cox.net](mailto:christenhansel@cox.net).

*are. Our thoughts then go to other indulgences, diversions, and temptations that might be added here. This query helps us reflect on who we are, each of us, individually. We are not making rules for others.*

The Head of School reported that enrollment stands at 199. Founder's Day was a success. The Waller family appreciated the honor. A special technology fund was inaugurated at the event.

The Quaker Youth Leadership Committee ran a very successful Peace and Social Justice Day.

The Hospitality Committee has established four rotation groups. The committee appreciates the increased participation of Meeting members and attenders in cleanup. The committee encourages all to join in the Spring-it-on-a-thon. It will be even bigger and more ambitious than last year. It is a chance for all of us to get together in support of the school. Contact teacher Jordan or Whit Peace for more information.

A "meeting for eating" was proposed for 4/3/16 to test the chicken recipe. This was approved. [Note: This has been postponed.]

Ministers, Elders, and Overseers noted the passing of Betty Currie. (A memorial service at the meetinghouse is planned. See below.)

Adult First Day School will resume with a discussion of the Pendle Hill pamphlet "Metaphors of Meaning" on 4/17/16 at 9 AM. Meetings will occur regularly on the third First Day of the month.

Ministers, Elders, and Overseers reminds us all to bring to them any concerns about Friends who are in need.

Richard Miller will lead a workshop on "Humble Leadings" on April 1-2 at the meetinghouse. Richard is



## Monthly Events

- \* First First Day (first Sunday of each month), 9:00 am - Building & Grounds Committee meeting.
- \* Second First Day (second Sunday of each month), 8:30-10:15 am - Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention Towards Business.
- \* Third First Day (third Sunday of each month), Noon - Peace & Social Justice Committee meeting.
- \* Third First Day (third Sunday of each month), 9 am - Adult First Day School
- \* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), 8:30 am - Ministry and Oversight meeting.
- \* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), Noon - Communications Committee meeting.

clerk of Yearly Meeting's Ministers, Elders, and Overseers, and Professor of Philosophy at East Carolina University. Soup and salad will be provided the first night and a potluck is planned for the second evening.

Nominating Committee met on 3/7. Mary Pelham White is joining the committee.

Treasurer reported for the Finance Committee that Kathy Garner will be working with the treasurer to review the 2015 books.

Income for the second month was \$775. Expenses \$613. Year-to-date income stands at \$3075. Year-to-date expenses \$1348.

Joint Property Task Force reported on the status of negotiations with the Virginia Department of Transportation for two outstanding property issues. One issue is the utility easement across the Laskin Road frontage. The other is the Walke parcel in the back of the school property. The VDOT wants to link these issues in a single package.

School Committee has retained the attorney Edward Bourdon to negotiate the details of an agreement. Meeting was asked to approve allowing Mr. Bourdon to represent the Meeting as well in this negotiation and in allowing the negotiations to go forward as a joint venture of Friends School and Meeting. Lewis White and Jim Metcalfe will be working with Mr. Bourdon and will report back to the Meeting. Meeting approved.

Communications Committee met on 2/28. They continue to work on improvements to the meetings website, Handbook and databases. Their next meeting is on 3/27. Anyone is welcome. Those with special technical skills are especially encouraged to attend.

Young Friends Committee still needs volunteers to cover fourth First Day. A curriculum has been established.

## Upcoming Events

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### VBFM Spring Workshop On "Leadings"

**Dates:** Friday,  
April 1,  
6 - 8:30 pm  
Saturday,  
April 2, 9:30  
am - 2 pm  
**Location:** Meetinghouse

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### Honoring Those Known Only To God

**Date:** Wednesday,  
April 13  
**Time:** 7:00-8:30  
pm  
**Location:** Friends  
Center,  
1501 Cherry  
St.  
Philadelphia,  
PA

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### Philip Gulley will be at Hampton Baptist Church

**Date:** Saturday,  
April 16, 7  
p.m.  
**Location:** Hampton  
Baptist  
Church  
40 Kings  
Way  
Hampton,  
VA 23669

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The next meeting is on 3/17 at 7 PM at Linda Smith's home. The meeting is open. Contact Linda for details if you wish to attend. Someone with musical talents is particularly sought.

Building and Grounds Committee reports that ceiling work progresses. Installation should occur in May. The lawn mowing contract has been renewed. Bailey Roofing will be capping and working on the flashing of the roof of the meetinghouse. The next work day is 5/21.

Peace and Social Justice Committee met on 2/21. The next meeting of the committee is on 3/20, following rise of Meeting. The committee will be surveying this community about its priorities for Friends Committee on National Legislation's legislative goals for the next Congress.

Faith and Practice Revision Task Force reported that the Yearly Meeting committee on revision of *Faith and Practice* has sent a draft of a proposed revision. The task force will be considering this and communicating with Meeting.

A memorial for Betty Currie is scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM at the meetinghouse. This service is under the care of the Meeting.

Long-Range Planning Task Force has met twice. Approximately twenty persons from the Meeting took part in one or both of these meetings. A date and time for a meeting to process the results of these meetings has yet to be determined.

Meeting closed with silent worship, twenty persons present.

Patrick Goold, Recording Clerk

Nancy Nixon, Clerk

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### VBFM Adult First Day School

**Date/Time:** April 17,  
9 am (3rd  
Sunday of  
the month)  
**Location:** Meetinghouse  
**Current  
Topic:** Metaphors of  
Meaning

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### VBFM Faith and Practice Revision

**Date/Time:** Sunday April  
17, Rise of  
Meeting  
**Location:** Meetinghouse

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### Interim Body Meeting

**Date:** April 23  
**Location:** Durham  
Meetinghouse  
Durham,  
North  
Carolina

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### Friends School - Spring-It-On-A-Thon

**Date:** Saturday  
April 30  
**Time:** 10 am - 3  
pm  
**Location:** 1537 Laskin  
Road  
Virginia  
Beach, VA  
23451

## More Upcoming Events

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### VBFM - Long Range Planning

**Date:** Sunday,  
May 1  
**Time:** Rise of  
Meeting  
**Location:** Meetinghouse

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### Coastal Friends Gathering

**Date:** Saturday May 7  
**Time:** 11:00 am, potluck follows  
**Location:** Fayetteville Friends Meeting  
223 Hillside Ave  
Fayetteville, NC 28301

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### Work Day at the Meetinghouse

**Date:** Saturday May 21  
**Time:** 9:00 am -1:00 pm  
**Location:** Meetinghouse

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### Peace and Racial Unity Consortium

**Date:** Sunday June 19  
**Time:** TBD  
**Location:** Mount Trashmore, Virginia Beach

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### Yearly Meeting

**Dates:** July 13-17  
**Location:** Guilford College  
Greensboro, North Carolina

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## Grounded

Submitted by Christen  
Hansel

About 25 Quakers from VBFM and Norfolk Preparative Meeting met up to see *Grounded*, a one-woman play directed by Laley Lippard. The play tells the story of a female drone pilot. It was a powerful and thought-provoking drama about the drone program and the trauma of being involved in a remote-controlled war. You can read a review of the play at

<http://www.broadwayworld.com/norfolk/article/BWW-Review-GROUNDED-Soars-at-Virginia-Stage-Company-20160314>.



## Library Corner

Submitted by Nancy Craft

Our Library Books are shelved by the following Subject:

Biblical Writings  
Biography  
Children's Books  
Education  
Family Life  
History  
Memorials  
Ministry & Worship  
New Testament Writings  
Peace and Social Justice  
References  
Prayer  
Quaker Peace Issues  
Quaker Practices  
Religious Education  
Quaker Thought/Theology  
Quaker Writings  
Quaker Peace & Social Issues

There is also a small section called *Introduction* with mostly small booklets with some basic information about Quakers. In addition, the Reference section has the listing of Hymnals and Yearly Meeting related information along with our own Yearly Meeting Minute books.

While we have had audio tapes, including the complete Bible on tape, and some videos, these have not been used and consideration is being given to removing them, or converting them to a more usable format. I welcome suggestions on the value of these items. Please contact someone from the Library Committee for details!

### Query to Consider for Next Month:

10. Do we endeavor to live in harmony with nature? Are we careful in our stewardship of the world's irreplaceable resources?

## Reminders

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.

Materials for consideration at Monthly Meeting for Business should be sent to the Clerk, Recording Clerk, and [vbfm.emailer@gmail.com](mailto:vbfm.emailer@gmail.com) no later than the Wednesday prior to Meeting for Business. Thank you, from our Communication Committee!!

Documents submitted for review and comment before being presented to MFB for approval can be found at:

[http://vbfriends.org/DocPa/d/Review/\\_main.html](http://vbfriends.org/DocPa/d/Review/_main.html).