

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

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www.vbfriends.org

Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

10th month 16th day 2016

Meeting open with a period of silent worship, 21 persons present.

Love and Unity- #03

Do we follow the teachings of Jesus and seek the inspiration of his Holy Spirit in our daily lives? Are love and unity maintained among us? Do we cultivate a forgiving spirit, and do we avoid and discourage needless and destructive criticism of others? When differences arise, do we endeavor promptly to resolve them in a spirit of love, honesty, and humility?

Response to query #03

Avoiding needless criticism of others is challenging in the present political season. Among us here a prior challenge is acknowledging differences that exist, moving outside the comfort of letting sleeping dogs lie. After listening comes working in love and humility toward honest and open life together.

Work of the Meeting- #04

Do we assume our rightful share in the expenses of our Meeting? Do we regard our times, our talents, and our possessions as given us in trust, and do we use them freely for the needs of others.

Response to query #04

Friends support the work of the meeting with money, time and dedicated service. Our budget commitments reflect our faith



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.

in what is to come and our sense of being only stewards of what the present has put in our care.

Ministers, elders, overseers:

Planning continues for a 2017 workshop. MEO welcomes your ideas and suggestions with a focus on spiritual development.

School committee:

Members came away from a fall retreat energized and confident.

At 2017 the fiscal year budget was approved. It is a deficit budget that reduces costs but still runs a deficit because of an unexpected shortfall in enrollment this period. Current enrollment stands at 162.

Treasurer:

Income and expenses for the month were nearly equal at roughly \$850. Year-to-date expenses are at \$21,000 while year-to-date income stands at \$15,000. The bill for \$328 dollars for chimney capping was paid, leaving roughly \$8000 in the capital budget.

Communication Committee:

Friends are encouraged to explore the Meeting's website. More and more information is being made available.

Conveners should review the pages on their committees for accuracy and currency. The committee is exploring making use of other social media. The World Quaker Day potluck and discussion was "a resounding success" with all tables and chairs in use.

Building and Grounds Committee:

Work on ceiling renovation continues. Insulation for the attic is the next priority. The next work date is November 19. Everyone is invited!

The chimney has been capped.

Peace and Social Justice Committee:

An extensive and detailed report was presented which all are encouraged to read online. Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting welcomes a discussion of Bruce Arnold's passionate and timely proposed minute at Interim Body Meeting on 22 October. We urge Bruce to incorporate into his proposed minute more of the irenic tone and inclusive point of view of



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 To 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), 9-10:15 am (library), and Noon-1 pm (Meetingroom) - Ministry and Oversight meeting.

* Fourth First Day (fourth Sunday of each month), Noon - Communications Committee meeting.

the 2003 "Minute on Racism" adopted by New England Yearly Meeting. Tom Bertrand was charged with communicating this minute to Bruce Arnold so that he can prepare in advance for interim body.

The committee is planning several events, including a series of meetings to explore the origins of the Quaker peace testimony and a showing of *Joanna Macy and the Great Turning*, a movie documentary calling for environmental action.

Nominating Committee:

Meeting approved making Keith Williamson the Meeting representative to Yearly Meeting nominating committee.

Clerk of Meeting:

A called meeting will be held on October 30 to discuss what actions our Meeting will take in the process of reviewing the Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice*. Details are available on the website.

Debbie Reilly has requested membership in the Meeting. Andy Young, Tom Bertrand, Nancy Craft and Kathy Garner we're named to a clearness committee for Debbie.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship, 23 persons present.

Nancy Nixon – Clerk

Patrick Goold – Recording Clerk

Quaker Meeting: First Day
By Bob Young

Sunday silent meeting

blackbird squawks at us
from branch
outside the window

elderly man muffles his cough
baby in the row behind me
squeals
a yellowed leaf bows to bless the
earth

within, within there is quiet
there is peace.

Upcoming Events

[Coastal Friends Gathering](#)

Date: Saturday November 5
Time: 11am, potluck follows
Location: Wilmington Friends Meetinghouse
202 N. 5th Street
Wilmington, NC 28401

[VBFM Communications Committee Meeting](#)

Date: Sunday November 6
Time: 6pm
Location: Tom and Lisa Kennedy's House

[2016 N.E.S.T. Concert](#)

Date: Sunday November 6
Time: 4pm
Location: Unitarian Church of Norfolk
739 Yarmouth Street

[Friends School Judeo-Christian Outreach Center Service \(JCOC\)](#)

Date: Wednesday November 9
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

[Work Day at the Meetinghouse](#)

Date: Saturday November 19
Time: 9am - 1pm
Location: Meetinghouse
Flyer: coming...
Work List: coming...

Queries to Consider for October:

Meeting for Business

5. Do we regularly attend our meetings for business, and are they held in a spirit of love, understanding, and forbearance? Do we seek the right course of action in humble submission to the Authority of Truth and in the patient search for a sense of unity under Divine guidance?

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 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>.