

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting

PO Box 4371, Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Phone: 757-428-9515

www.vbfriends.org

**Virginia Beach Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of
Friends
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
January 15, 2017**

Meeting opened with a period of silent worship, 16 persons present.

Query # 7 – Peace Testimony

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?

Response:

The times challenge us, and we feel especially called to focus on the work of reconciliation with renewed courage and dedication. This work begins with finding our own inner peace, emerges in face-to-face relationships with other individuals and matures into engagement with the larger community.

Communications:

Communications Committee noted that a detailed report is available online.

Attention was called to minor revisions of the committee's description on the website and that notice of first month's retreat has been posted on Facebook.

The committee was commended for its excellent work in keeping everyone informed of Meeting activities.



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.

Head of School:

Head of School reported for 12th month and 1st month. The Christmas gathering was very simple this year. Food was served in the Cottage after school ended, and afterwards some of the staff went bowling. Plans are already underway for Founders Day on the 25th of third month.

Admission has been working on retention as well as bringing in new students.

The five weather closures so far are making the end of the semester particularly hectic.

Treasure/ Finance Committee:

The Treasurer reported that income for the month was \$7331. Expenses were \$631. With expenses year to date at \$24,450 and income at \$27,378, total income exceeded expenses by almost \$3000. This includes all planned expenses except \$1700 for property insurance, which was approved last month and paid this month.

There was no capital spending the last two months.

Building and Grounds:

Building and Grounds Committee reported on the meeting room area; long-range planning follow-up is looking at how to extend handicap access and accommodate hospitality. A number of maintenance issues were addressed. The next meeting of the committee is fifth day of second month.

Peace and Social Justice:

Peace and Social Justice Committee called attention to the mandala/ bulletin board that addresses "My Concern/I will" in the meeting room and encourage members and attendees to post and repost as they discern their concerns. Activities and upcoming events are given in the full report which is posted on the website.

Ministers, Elders, and Overseers:

Ministers, Elders, and Overseers called attention to the upcoming retreat in first month, the planning of which has been their primary work.

School Committee and school staff have been invited to attend.

As always, friends are reminded to refer their concerns about Friends in need to the ministers, elders, and overseers.

Meeting Sound System:

The committee for the Meeting sound system reported that they are educating themselves about what are needed and soliciting quotes for an appropriate system.

**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.

Joint Property Task Force:

The Joint Property Task Force reported that it will be meeting on the 17th day of the first month at 7 PM to discuss new information about a request by Virginia Gas for an easement across the Laskin Road frontage.

Steady Footsteps:

An inquiry about Meeting support for Steady Footsteps presented. Tom Elder is the contact person. The Clerk, Nancy Nixon, will contact Tom for an update. The Meeting continues its financial support.

Long-Range Planning:

The Long-Range Planning Task Force reminds each committee to consult goals in the strategic plan summary of the long-range plan. This can be found on the Meeting website. Committees are asked to address these goals in their work as appropriate and to mention in their report to Meeting for Business any activity in support of the long-range plan.

Correspondence:

A letter from a prisoner requesting friendly correspondence was received and Patrick Goold volunteered to respond.

Meeting closed with a period of silent worship, 17 persons present.

Submitted by

Nancy Nixon - Clerk

Patrick Goold - Recording Clerk

Upcoming Events

[Creeds Hum Dinger](#)

Date: Sunday January 29
Time: 10:30 am until...
Location: Creeds Preparative Friends Meeting
Phone: 757-721-9320
Address: 1941 Clifton Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23457

[Coastal Friends Gathering](#)

Date: Saturday February 4
Time: 11 am, potluck follows

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

Date: Wednesday February 8
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

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

Date: Wednesday March 15
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

[Work Day at the Meetinghouse](#)

Date: Saturday April 1
Time: 9:00 am -1:00 pm
Location: Meetinghouse

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

Date: Wednesday April 5
Location: Judeo-Christian Outreach Center
Address: 1053 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

KingsWay: The Long Road Home
(Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. 1929 - April 4, 1968)

Wake-up Man, you summon us to rise and shine
Music Man, you sing that song of freedom's ring
Preacher Man, your sermons stir us up and on
Healer Man, you lay down hands that soothe and bless

Star Man, you steer us toward the drinking gourd
Marcher Man, you trek that trail that lies less traveled
Brother Man, you rise above the wounds of words.
Sower Man, you plant ripe seeds that reap rich crops

Yankee Man, you give our mountains majesty
Soul Man, you kindle chest and loins with fire
Warrior Man, you fight the fight with arms of love
Jailbird Man, you did the time; we do the crime.

Nobel Man, you walk the walk of peace and prize
Martyr Man, we have miles to go before we sleep.

We have miles to go before we sleep.

Annual Retreat

Virginia Beach Friends Meeting held its annual retreat last weekend, January 20th and 21st. Deborah Shaw from Guilford College guided us through enlightening exercises around deep listening, the clearness committee process, and aspects of vocal ministry. Several people not familiar with the Meeting attended the retreat and followed up with attendance at Meeting for Worship on the following First Day. The retreat was well attended and as always, the potluck lunch was superb.



Query to Consider for February:

Manner of Living

8. Do we observe simplicity and honesty in our manner of living? Are we careful to live within the bounds of our circumstances, punctual in keeping promises, prompt in the payment of debts, and just in all our dealings? Do we choose those activities which will strengthen our physical, mental, and spiritual life; and do we avoid those harmful to ourselves and others?

It's All Small Stuff

I'm 85 and I ain't marchin anymore
It's a Saturday morning
It's beautiful snowing outside
The leaves of the gingko tree
In the front yard are gone
But I'm a believer
They will be back

I'm sitting on the toilet -
One of the great pleasures of life/

The house was built in 84
The owner papered the downstairs bath with gingko leaves
Bless you, my unknown friend
I love the oneness of the inside and the outside

Directly before me I notice
That the bottom edge of the wall paper seam
Has come loose a quarter inch or so
I never paid attention to that before
It troubles me
I get out some glue stick and a kitchen knife
And make it right

a... a... h ...
They say *don't sweat the small stuff*
And that it's all small stuff
They are right
And praise the lord that it is thus.

bob young. 1/7/2017

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/DocPad/Review/_main.html.