




QUERIES

Goose Creek Friends Newsletter

Queries for Ninth Month: Caring for Others

- Do you respect that of God in every person?
- Do you search yourself for and strive to eliminate prejudices such as those related to race, religion, gender, age, sexual orientation and economic condition?
- In what ways do you accept and appreciate differences among your friends and associates?
- Do you avoid exploiting or manipulating others to accomplish ends, however worthy?

Eighth Month Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Friends approved the Goose Creek membership of Wayne Hughes and appointed a welcoming committee to meet with him.

Friends approved the annual report of the Anti-Racism Committee. Their three goals for the year are all aimed at acting locally: Involvement with local immigration advocacy groups, the building of relationships with local African-American communities, and engagement with local indigenous communities. The posting of a new sign outside the Meeting House quoting Leviticus, a book discussion on the exploitation of foreign workers, and a silent worship on the front lawn have been among their actions this year.

Outdoors: Friends discussed the mounting of the historic Taylor bell on the lawn and whether it should remain there. The Leviticus sign placed by the Anti-Racism Committee has disappeared.

Ninth Month Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

Friends approved with thanks the annual report of the Religious Education Committee. The older teens now meet as a Young Friends group. The nursery cares for infants and preschoolers; the middle group serves ages six to nine; the upper group, ages ten through young teens. Thirty-nine children attended First Day School programs during the past year. Committee members oversaw improvements to Oakdale School and met to plan and advocate for a fenced play area for children. A Friend stood to say that the Religious Education Committee's careful and thoughtful work is the most important thing that this meeting does for the future. Many others voiced their agreement and thanks.

Friends approved with thanks the annual report of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee, which was challenged during the past year by our government's policies and actions. Committee members attended the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's "Day for all People," held at the state capitol, and BYM's Peace & Social Concerns networking event in Ijamsville, MD. At Goose Creek, they conducted an Alternatives to Violence workshop with our teenagers and assisted the Anti-Racism committee in offering a Second Hour.

This meeting has partnered with the Church World Services-affiliated office in Winchester for a number of years; that office is now closing. Peace and Social Concerns hopes that some Goose Creek Friends will be willing to partner with immigrant families and be available to assist with needs that might arise.

The Tech Subcommittee described the time-consuming research that its members will need to undertake if we are to install a hearing assistance system in the Meeting House. They don't wish to begin this process if it's unlikely that Meeting will move forward. Discussion ensued. Friends asked the subcommittee to proceed with their research.

The next regional Friends gathering has been proposed for October 18 at Frederick Meeting.

The Ministry and Oversight Committee recommended that further discussion of the placement of the Taylor bell be referred to the Property Committee.

News from Meeting

From the Peace and Social Concerns Committee: Dedicated to the reduction of gun violence, The Virginia Center for Public Safety is a group that Meeting has supported for several years. They continue to do good work on the root causes of gun violence and they promote sensible legislation in Virginia. A grassroots organization, VACPS is non-partisan; its members represent a cross-section of racial, religious, and political groups. Please visit their website for more information or to make a contribution: VACPS.org.

Goose Creek gatherings – all are invited! (But often the details aren't available in time for them to reach you in the newsletter.):

- **Coffee and Quakerism** – These opportunities for informal conversation about all things Quaker take place at various Friends' homes on the second Fridays of the month, 10-noonish. Emails with details (including how to join via Zoom) are sent out at the beginning of the second week.
- **Goose Creek hikes** – These take place during the clement months of the year on second Saturdays. Friends will receive emails with details each month. For more information, phone or email Fred Bishopp (703-517-2619 or FredBishopp@gmail.com).
- **Goose Creek reading group** – Book discussions take place at the Meeting House on third Saturdays of the month at 10:30 am. Friends will receive emails with details (including how to join via Zoom) each month. For questions or to request a Zoom link, contact Lisa Colburn at lisacolburn@gmail.com.

Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER 12 SATURDAY	10:00 AM	Goose Creek Hike: Algonkian Regional Park Sanctuary Trail
SEPTEMBER 13 SUNDAY	3:00 PM	Saving the Circle: Presentation on Local Indigenous Peoples
SEPTEMBER 19 SATURDAY	10:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Goose Creek Reading Group at the Meeting House*
SEPTEMBER 25 – 27	–	Family Camp at Opequon Quaker Camp**
SEPTEMBER 27 SUNDAY	11:00 AM	Ministry & Worship Committee Meeting
OCTOBER 3 SATURDAY	–	Memorial for Carolyn Taylor***
OCTOBER 4 SUNDAY	11:00 AM	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
OCTOBER 11 SUNDAY	11:00 AM	Second Hour: Deepening Our Worship Experience in Quaker Meeting

*We will be discussing *Living the Quaker Way* by Philip Gulley. For those who like to read ahead, in December we will discuss *The Comfort of Crows: A Backyard Year* by Margaret Renkl. All are welcome. For questions or to request a Zoom link, contact Lisa Colburn at lisacolburn@gmail.com.

**Designed for families of all shapes and sizes, this retreat offers a mix of fun outdoor activities, shared meals, and meaningful connection.

***We mourn Carolyn's death. She was a lifelong member of Goose Creek, much loved for her quiet but faithful presence at Meeting. Please hold her family in the Light.



“True godliness doesn’t turn men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it, and excites their endeavor to mend it: not hide their candle under a bushel, but set it upon a table in a candlestick.”

–William Penn, 1682

NEWSLETTER

The Goose Creek Friends Newsletter is published monthly by the Goose Creek Friends Meeting, 18204 Lincoln Road, P.O. Box 105, Lincoln, VA 20160.

DONATIONS

Please direct donations for Goose Creek Friends Meeting to Brian Burgher, P.O. Box 105 Lincoln, Virginia 20160 - OR - donate online:

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SUNDAYS

Meeting for Worship at 9:45 a.m.

First Day School & Oakdale Nursery, 10:00 a.m.



Facing Bench

September

Chuck Hough

October

Jackie Kosbob &
Nancy Robinson

Meeting for Worship can be joined via
Zoom by clicking or copying into your
browser this address:

<https://bit.ly/4g4G9ee>

Meeting ID: 833 5073 7205

Passcode: 061785