

Ministry, Care, and Guidance
September 12, 2022

Ministry, Care, and Guidance met on September 12, 2022. Present were Val Liveoak, Stephen Shearer, James Goslin, Gretchen Haynes, and Julie Crum, clerk.

Query: The query for September is "How are we led to participate in the life of the Meeting, and how can we encourage newcomers and others to do so?"

Donation: Tampa Monthly Meeting sent a donation which we would like to direct to the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation.

Minute: A donation from Tampa Monthly Meeting was received by FMSA in the aftermath of the murderous violence in Robb Elementary School, Uvalde, Texas. The donation was to be used at our discernment. Having learned that donations to the Uvalde community and organizations, thus funds for allied purposes, was appropriate we discerned that prevention of future such events was the appropriate use. The committee directs the Treasurer to forward the donation to the Sandy Hook Promise Foundation, P.O. Box 3489, Newtown, CT 06470. In addition, this committee, acting for the Peace and Social Concerns Committee adds \$50 from its Emerging Issues budgeted line item (63100) to the contribution from Tampa Monthly Meeting.

Review of worship: Attendance has been increasing. We intend engage visitors more consistently, and would like to identify members of the committee at the rise of meeting and to encourage visitors to speak with us.

We are pleased with the increase in vocal ministry and encourage friends to speak loudly enough for all to hear. We ask the clerks to return to the practice of calling for joys and sorrows in the last five minutes of meeting for worship. On the first and third Sundays the children will return a few minutes before that in order to include them.

Forums: On September 11 a forum was held to begin the process of considering how to structure our organization in order to do the things that need to be done. We started by thinking about what needs to be done and what is not presently being done. On September 25 we will continue this discussion. Jim Spickard is facilitating. We would like to hold a retreat on Saturday, November 12 at the meetinghouse to continue the dialogue around Shared Intent which Gary W. has been facilitating. Is there interest from Meeting in this project?

Pot lucks: Pot lucks on the porch will resume on October 2. We ask Friends to come 20 minutes early to set up the tables outside, and to stay to clean up.

Wider Quaker Community:

Peggy McDonald from Live Oak Meeting invites Friends to come via zoom to their monthly Meeting for Worship for healing, every third Saturday. Her email is PMcDonald@sitecoach.com.

Wednesday, September 21 is the International Day of Peace. Val will see if Celebration Circle would like to observe with Friends. We will prepare for an organized observance in 2023.

World Quaker Day is October 2. We'll take a group photo, with the banner, at our pot luck. We ask the treasurer to send \$50 to the Friends World Committee on Consultation to help with their communication costs.

Dream Week: We have submitted a movie night, showing "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin" on January 20, 2023.

Children's program: The children's program will continue on the first and third Sundays through October. There are usually about four children of the twelve who are "on the books", ages 2-7, with three new families.

Concerns for individual Friends: We discussed Friends and will continue to reach out.

Next meeting: Monday, October 10 at 7:30.