

2026 Annual Session Minutes

July 28 - August 2, 2026

Hood College, Frederick, MD and online via Zoom

Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Y2026-1 Opening Worship. The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Reading Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring) broke the silence by reading the theme for these Annual Sessions.

Y2026-2 Welcome. Presiding Clerk, Stephanie “Steph” Bean (Adelphi) welcomed Friends to the session with these words: “Welcome to friends near and far, long-time participants and those brand new to us or to our Annual Session, physically or virtually present. Welcome to those who feel most comfortable being quiet and introspective about their faith and those who want to share with others, and everyone in between. Welcome to you, however you identify yourself on any spectrum of identity. Welcome to those who are carrying a concern for their own or another’s health, who are grieving, who might be wondering where they can find support for a problem or how they might best support someone else. We welcome you here, with all of your rough edges and unique gifts. We look forward to meeting you in love and tenderness and getting to know you better so that we can be together in community.”

Y2026-3 Land Acknowledgement. The Clerk read a land acknowledgement: “The Baltimore Yearly Meeting office is located on Piscataway ancestral land. BYM’s summer camps are located on the lands of the Piscataway (Catoctin Quaker Camp, near Thurmont, MD) and the Manahoac (Shiloh Quaker Camp, near Stanardsville, VA and Opequon camp, near Harpers Ferry, WV). BYM honors peoples and cultures of the many past and present Native Nations in our geographic area.”

The Clerk also read a land acknowledgement for Hood College, where we are physically present today: “Hood College acknowledges that it was established on lands in harmony with tribes of the Algonquian and Iroquois language families. Many tribes, including the Piscataway, Susquehannock and Tuscarora tribes passed through and resided in this region. Hood College recognizes this past and offers humble respect to the indigenous peoples of the past, present, and future connected to this place.”

Y2026-4 Orientation to business sessions and Anti-Racism Queries. The Clerk introduced those assisting with this afternoon’s meeting: Presiding Clerk, Stephanie “Steph” Bean (Adelphi); Recording Clerk, Barbarie Hill (Charlottesville); Tech assistants, Carl Benson (Annapolis), Jason Eaby (Nottingham); Prayerful Presences, Melanie Gifford (Adelphi) and Sara Bur (Homewood); Reading Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring).

The Clerk then oriented us to various arrangements needed for participating in communal decision-making, either in person or online, and shared with us several advices to consider when we are led to speak. In addition, the Clerk read the Anti-Racism Queries and encouraged all to name places in our work where any of them might be especially relevant.

Y2026-5 Welcoming Visitors and First Time Attenders. The Clerk invited visitors and first-time attenders to introduce themselves. The following individuals did so: Jeffrey Jordan (Fairfax County, VA/FCNL); Evan

Welkin (Olympia, WA MM of North Pacific YM/FWCC); Christopher Sammond (Poplar Ridge MM of New York YM/School of the Spirit); Gavin Sherrod (FGC Governing Board); Daryl Bergquist (Birmingham, AL, MM of Southern Appalachian YM/Racial Transformation Team)

Y2026-6 Welcome from the Program Committee. Acting Program Committee Clerk, Linda Coates (Eastland Preparative of Little Britain), welcomed Friends to this Annual Session and introduced members of the Program Committee and others who work all year to make this gathering possible. Early attendance numbers are 266 including all staying on campus, commuters, and online attenders.

Y2026-7 Report from Interim Meeting. Interim Meeting Clerk, Tom “TDubbs” Webb (Young Adult Friends), shared a report on Interim Meeting’s work this year highlighting the change in the camping program governing structure and the development of a structure to address concerns of racism in our practices. The written report was accepted and is attached.

Y2026-8 Manual of Procedure Changes. Julie Odland (Frederick), a member of the Manual of Procedure Committee, shared a summary of changes, which are in the documents from the Interim Meeting where they were accepted. The changes were approved.

Y2026-9 2027 Budget. Treasurer, Terence McCormally (Herndon), and Finance Director, Andrei Israel (Adelphi), presented the first reading of the 2027 non-camp budget. They pointed out that the YM will continue existing programs at similar funding levels, provide ongoing support for the camping program, enact our values in anti-racism work and support for our staff, and invest in upgrading the YM web site. Questions and comments on the proposed budget were heard, and more were invited to be directed to the Stewardship and Finance Committee before the second reading later in the week.

Y2026-10 Nominating Committee Report. Debbi Sudduth (Goose Creek) presented the Nominating Committee report and gave the first reading of the list of nominations. Friends were encouraged to contact Nominating Committee with questions or suggestions before the second reading later in the week.

Y2026-11 Search Committee. Meg Meyer (Stony Run) read the slate of nominations for officers which had its first reading at Interim Meeting. The slate was approved. The Clerk announced the need for a Naming Committee to find nominations for the Search Committee, and interested friends can contact the Interim Meeting Clerk, Tom “TDubbs” Webb.

Y2026-12 Epistle Committee. The Clerk requested volunteers for the Epistle Committee. Every year we ask for a few dedicated Friends to attend the events of Annual Session with the intent to listen deeply to how Spirit is moving among us. Those who feel that their gifts could be helpful, or know another Friend with these gifts, may send the recommendation to the clerk’s email so that they might be considered. Suggestions to be included in the Epistle are also welcome and may be sent to the committee’s email.

Y2026-13 Report from BYM Quaker Camps, LLC Board. LLC Board Member, Laura Miyoshi, introduced herself and described her long-standing ties to Baltimore Yearly Meeting. Laura presented the first annual report of the Board since it was established in May of 2026, which was received with gratitude. The Board invited all to meet with them at an informational meeting during these sessions.

Thursday, July 30, 2026

Y2026-14 Opening Worship. The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. Reading Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring) broke the silence by reading a quote from Leah Rampey of the Center for Spirituality in Nature.

Y2026-15 Welcome and Introductions. The Clerk again welcomed Friends and reviewed some of the orientation details shared at the previous session. They then introduced themselves, Presiding Clerk, Stephanie “Steph” Bean (Adelphi) and others helping at this session: Recording Clerk, Barbarie Hill (Charlottesville); Reading Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring); Tech assistants, Carl Benson (Annapolis) and Jason Eaby (Nottingham); Prayerful Presences, Otis Kenny (Roanoke) and John Kennedy (Patapsco).

Y2026-16 Land Acknowledgement. “The Baltimore Yearly Meeting office is located on Piscataway ancestral land. BYM’s summer camps are located on the lands of the Piscataway (Catoctin camp, near Thurmont, MD), the Manahoac (Shiloh camp, near Stanardsville, VA and Opequon camp, near Harpers Ferry, WV). BYM honors the peoples and cultures of the many past and present Native Nations in our geographic area.”

Y2026-17 Anti-racism Queries. The Reading Clerk read our queries to help us center our commitment to being an anti-racist community: “How could this decision affect those who have been harmed by racist behavior? To what degree have privilege, class, stereotypes, assumptions, and our ability to include other perspectives affected this decision? Will this decision promote equity, diversity, and inclusiveness? Will it enable us to be more friendly and whole? How will we provide opportunities for those most likely to be directly affected by our decision to influence that decision? How does this decision support the declaration of our Yearly Meeting that we are an anti-racist faith community?”

Y2026-18 Welcoming Visitors and First Time Attenders. The Clerk invited visitors and first-time attenders to introduce themselves. The following individuals did so: Kelly Kellum, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting; Rania Maayeh, head of Ramallah Friends School; Larry Kuenning, Quaker Heritage Press; Keith Barton, Berkeley, CA/Sierra Cascade YM; Laniash Kipp, Oxford Meeting (Nottingham); Keith Campbell, Langley Hill Meeting.

Y2026-19 Camping Program Report. Camp Program Manager, Zora Tucker, gave an extemporaneous update on a very busy camp season after a successful recruitment effort. They also described the effects of climate change on the camps in the form of air quality challenges and power outages, to which the program had to adapt to keep the campers safe. The report was received with many thanks.

Y2026-20 STRIDE Program Report. STRIDE Manager, Rai Carter, shared their joy at the rewarding stories of campers and families as they grow and change, illustrating continuity as a particular goal of the program. Rai also highlighted the importance of the opportunity to rent camping gear so that families don’t have to invest a significant amount of money to try out the camping experience. However, racism and racial harm will unfortunately continue to exist, and Rai expressed their belief that the practices in

place at camp can mean that restoration for campers that are harmed is possible. The report was received with gratitude.

Y2026-21 Camping Program and Property Committees Report. Greg Tobin (Frederick) and Linda Garretson (Sandy Spring) presented a joint report. Linda thanked all the camping staff for the incredible work that they have done and reminded us of family camp weekend at Opequon on the last weekend of September 2026 and alumni weekend at Shiloh on Memorial Day weekend 2027. These events are planned to occur each year. Greg congratulated the staff on their resilience and creativity in managing emergency situations and discussed the building projects accomplished and future needs with facilities. He encouraged everyone to participate in a fall or spring workday at the camps. Greg and Linda also tried to anticipate how the committees will function moving forward under the LLC, but that process is yet to be determined.

Y2026-22 Camp Governance Study Group. The Clerk recognized the study group that gathered to help get the LLC started and which has now completed its tasks and asks to be laid down. The Meeting approved laying down the Study Group with much gratitude for its work in establishing the BYM Quaker Camps, LLC.

Y2026-23 General Secretary Report. BYM General Secretary, Sarah Gillooly, introduced the BYM staff and presented a report on the state of the Yearly Meeting. They shared concerns around how we hurt each other as well as how we can experience grace, illustrated with a personal story. They also described our organizational debt which has built up over the years just by the messiness of living, and they proposed a study group to look at our processes; this idea will be further explored and developed in the coming months. The report was received with gratitude for the report and for the faithfulness with which Sarah serves us. The written report is attached.

Y2026-24 Faith and Practice Committee. Committee member, Ken Stockbridge (Patapsco), reported for the committee and asked us the questions: “What is **our** faith? And what is **our** practice? The document is simply an attempt to capture our answers to those questions at a moment in time... We have an opportunity, perhaps an obligation, to use our Faith & Practice as a tool for exploring, articulating, and understanding our faith and what that demands of how we live, and then for holding ourselves accountable to what we have discerned. And we need to engage in this process together as a community... The committee is inviting our worshiping communities to hold listening sessions and [to] listen deeply to each other and to Spirit to discern what is ours to say about our faith and our practice. And for this round of revisions, we are specifically focused on the section on prejudice and discrimination...” The written report is attached.

Y2026-25 Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer, Terence McCormally (Herndon), reported the financial status of the Yearly Meeting as of June 30, 2026, and gave details of several items. A recent audit report was favorable. The Treasurer’s report was accepted, and the written report is attached.

Y2026-26 Development Committee Report. Committee Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring), shared a report on our development program, emphasizing that development is about relationships as well as

about financial needs. It is expected that development goals will be reached in 2026. The report was accepted, and the written report is attached.

Y2026-27 Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report. Peace and Social Concerns Committee Clerk, Doug Vaughn (Stony Run), reported the committee's deep concerns about the harms inflicted by our current federal government administration, and outlined actions taken to help counteract those harms. Doug referred to three minutes that will be considered for approval on Saturday. Two of the minutes are from AFSC and speak to genocide in Gaza and to apartheid-free communities, and the third minute on "harms done by our government" is from Shepherdstown Meeting. Helen Doerr (Shepherdstown) reviewed the circumstances which have led to creation of the latter minute. Steve Chase (Friends Meeting of Washington) spoke of the background for and the organizations collaborating in the first two minutes. Doug encouraged the meeting to demonstrate our commitment to peace and justice and to support all three minutes.

Friday, July 31, 2026

Y2026-28 Opening Worship. The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. The Reading Clerk broke the silence by reading a quote from *The Value of Silence in Quaker Spirituality* by Roger J Vanen Busch: "Quakers find in silence a deepening process bringing us into our hearts where we meet God, are empowered, and finally led to the service of others."

Y2026-29 Welcome and Introductions. The Clerk again welcomed Friends and reviewed some of the orientation details shared previously. They then introduced themselves, Presiding Clerk, Stephanie "Steph" Bean (Adelphi) and others helping at this session: Recording Clerk, Barbarie Hill (Charlottesville); Reading Clerk, Meg Boyd Meyer (Stony Run); Tech assistants, Carl Benson (Annapolis) and Jason Eaby (Nottingham); Prayerful Presences, Gary Sandman (Roanoke) and Peggy Dyson Cobb (Maury River).

Y2026-30 Land Acknowledgement and Anti-racism Queries. The Reading Clerk read the Land Acknowledgement provided by our Indigenous Affairs Committee as well as our queries that help us center our commitment to being an anti-racist faith community.

Y2026-31 Introduction of Readers from Junior Yearly Meeting: Trinity Cannon (Nottingham), Bianca Sikinyi (Friends Church of Baltimore), Whipple Shroyer (Annapolis), Gift Khanyeleli (Friends Church of Baltimore), and Victoria Sikinyi (Friends Church of Baltimore).

Y2026-32 Welcoming Visitors and First Time Attenders. The Clerk invited visitors and first-time attenders to introduce themselves. The following individuals did so: Jean Smith, East Africa Yearly Meeting, Kenya; Jessie Eaby, Reading (PA)/Philadelphia YM.

Y2026-33 Recognition of Our Community. Junior Yearly Meeting readers called the name of each worshipping group, and those affiliated with that group were recognized. A special welcome was extended to some new communities that have joined us: Heathsville Worship Group, under the care of Williamsburg Meeting in Virginia; Luray Friends Meeting in Luray, VA; North Mountain Friends Meeting in Woodstock, VA, under the care of Valley Friends; Martinsburg Friends Meeting, under the care of

Shepherdstown Friends Meeting in West Virginia. Friends who identify primarily with a Friends school, Quaker camps, Young Friends, Young Adult Friends, Collington Retirement Community, Friends Church of Baltimore, Friends House, Friends Wilderness Center, Broadmead Retirement Community, China Folk House, and Buckhannon Meeting were also recognized. Friends expressed their appreciation for the Junior Yearly Meeting readers, and the rest of the Junior Yearly Meeting members introduced themselves.

Y2026-34 Junior Yearly Meeting Report. Clerk of Junior Yearly Meeting, Erik Hanson (Sandy Spring), reported that there are ten children in the JYM program this week. Erik also recognized and thanked all those who helped to make JYM happen this year.

Y2026-35 Spiritual State of the Meeting Report. Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee members, Karen Lockett (Frederick) and Darcy Lane (Sandy Spring) presented the report which begins with the following statements: “The state of Baltimore Yearly Meeting is vibrant and in flux. In these dynamic times, many are called to action, often feeling as “one crying in the wilderness.” There has been a wide influx of seekers flocking to Quaker Meetings as both encourager and anodyne in these startling times. We are, as Friend Carrie Newcomer wrote, “all of us crazy holy, hungry ones who still believe in something better.”” The report went on to outline several common themes which arose as the Spiritual State Reports of our fifty-plus Meetings and Worship Groups responded to the queries that were laid out for them by Ministry and Pastoral Care. The report was accepted, understanding that the committee may make some additions, especially about support for trans and nonbinary persons, in response to the questions and discussion that arose after the reading. The written report is attached.

Y2026-36 Minute on Violence and War in Palestine. Young Friend Caleb Holland (Friends Meeting of Washington) presented a minute the Young Friends have written and approved condemning all violence and particularly the current conflict in Palestine.

Y2026-37 Minute on War in Iran. John Salzberg, Clerk of the Peace Committee of Sandy Spring Meeting, presented a minute on the war in Iran which is substantially increasing suffering worldwide. Several other Meetings have endorsed this minute, and others are encouraged to consider doing so. There was some misunderstanding about the process of bringing minutes to Annual Session through the BYM Peace and Social Concerns Committee which will be addressed going forward.

Y2026-38 Traveling Friends and Representatives of Other Friends Organizations. The Clerk invited visiting friends representing Friends organizations to give brief reports.

Kelly Kellum, General Secretary of Friends United Meeting, described the constituency of FUM which serves meetings in Cuba, Kenya, Ramallah and others across the globe. Kelly introduced Rania Maayeh, Head of Ramallah Friends School, who gave a moving account of the difficulties faced by people, including teachers, staff, students, and families of RFS, who daily must navigate Israeli checkpoints and obstacles across the West Bank. Regardless of this struggle and the constant threat of violence, the school continues to carry out its mission and to enable children to learn and dream for their futures. We hold Ramallah Friends School and all the children across the West Bank in the Light.

Saturday, August 1, 2026

Y2026-39 Opening Worship. The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. The Reading Clerk broke the silence by reading the query for today: “What does Spirit want me to do in response to the condition of the world? What locks or unlocks my power as an agent of Spirit? What new ways of living with the earth and with others will I take home?”

Y2026-40 Welcome and Introductions. The Clerk again welcomed Friends and reviewed some of the orientation details shared previously. They then introduced themselves, Presiding Clerk, Stephanie “Steph” Bean (Adelphi) and others helping at this session: Recording Clerk, Barbarie Hill (Charlottesville); Reading Clerk, Meg Boyd Meyer (Stony Run); Tech assistants, Carl Benson (Annapolis) and Jason Eaby (Nottingham); Prayerful Presences, Sarah Bur (Homewood) and John Kennedy (Patapsco).

Y2026-41 Land Acknowledgement and Anti-racism Queries. The Reading Clerk read the Land Acknowledgement provided by our Indigenous Affairs Committee as well as our queries that help us center our commitment to being an anti-racist faith community. The Clerk reminded us to be mindful of these queries and to be ready to name a time when these queries may become relevant.

Y2026-42 Welcoming Visitors and First Time Attenders. The Clerk invited visitors and first-time attenders to introduce themselves. The following individual did so: Dennis Gregg, Ann Arbor Meeting/339 Manumissions and Beyond Project.

Y2026-43 Nominating Committee Report. Debbie Sudduth (Goose Creek), presented an updated list of nominations. The nominations previously read were approved, and new nominations that were read for the first time were also approved.

Y2026-44 Traveling Friends and Representatives of other Quaker Organizations.

Freddie Wilson of Atlanta and American Friends Service Committee introduced himself and thanked all those who support AFSC.

Becka Haines Rosenberg (Alexandria), representative to Friends General Conference, offered some news items relating to FGC, including the joy of the recent FGC Gathering, the changes in governing structure, and online programming.

Evan Welkin, Executive Secretary of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) Section of the Americas expressed his appreciation for our representatives to FWCC and encouraged all Yearly Meetings to consider in the coming year a set of queries relating to healing injustices around the world.

Levi Goren (Richmond) announced that Friends for LGBTQ Concerns is becoming more active and invited all interested to contact Levi.

Lauren Brownlee (Bethesda) representing Quaker Coalition for Uprooting Racism (QCUR) spoke briefly about their work and directed us to their web presence on the FGC website.

Y2026-45 2027 Budget. Treasurer, Terence McCormally (Herndon), presented the 2nd reading of the 2027 non-camp budget. He explained a few items including how the planned drawing down of our reserves affects our financial health and contributes to a reasonable and balanced budget. The 2027 budget was approved.

Y2026-46 Epistle Committee. The Clerk announced that an Epistle Committee did not form this year, but a couple of Friends have prepared a draft possibility for an epistle. The Reading Clerk read the draft, and the Clerk invited anyone who wishes to offer further contributions or clarification to the draft to submit a written item or to meet this afternoon.

Y2026-47 Peace and Social Concerns. Committee Clerk, Doug Vaughn (Stony Run), spoke of the many current world events that reflect what George Fox spoke of as the “ocean of darkness”, but Doug also brought forward the ways we are striving toward the “infinite ocean of light and love.”

Shepherdstown Meeting’s minute on the harms done by our current federal administration was considered, with some commenters agreeing to the facts presented in the statement and offering additional considerations that could be named. Several questions and suggestions arose regarding how we will follow up this minute with action. A concern was also expressed that the minute reads like a political statement rather than a document grounded in our religious testimonies and our understanding of Truth, but the opening paragraph and an addendum, which will be made available, somewhat mitigated that concern. Despite imperfect mechanisms, the Meeting agreed to the truths reflected in the statement and united in the minute.

Because of time constraints, a minute concerning genocide in Palestine and the Apartheid-Free Communities Pledge were held over for the next business session.

Y2026-48 Introduction of Incoming Presiding Clerk. The Clerk introduced Ted Heck (Richmond), who will become our new Presiding Clerk at the rise of Sessions tomorrow. Ted spoke of being asked by Tom Fox in 2003 to step up to be Clerk of Youth Programs. In Ted’s words, “We had been Friendly Adult Presences, then called FAPs, now called Friendly Adult Mentors or FAMs, for several years, and I’d joined Youth Programs Committee because of my interest in supporting Young Friends conferences. Before that moment though, I had never imagined myself as a clerk of anything.

In addition to his confidence in me, helping me to see my own potential, I learned something else from him, which had to do with stepping back and making room for those with less power or privilege to have a voice. This was something he did as a way of empowering young friends and helping them to find their own voices, something he strongly believed in. He did his best to gently communicate to all the adults acting as FAPs that they should be striving to do this as well.

This ethos fit in well with something I have come to see as a kind of personal mission throughout my life, to facilitate communities that value lifting up those least heard voices, which sometimes means encouraging those more frequently heard, louder, voices to take a step back and listen and wait before speaking. We all can benefit from considering our privilege of age, gender, wealth, access to education, nationality, etc. I hope in my new role as Presiding Clerk, I can help to strengthen our community so that it better supports and lifts up our members in all of our diversity.”

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Y2026-49 Opening Worship. The Meeting opened with a period of silent worship. The Reading Clerk broke the silence by reading a quote from Carolyn Treadway: “Slowing down frees time and space for spiritual connection and reverence for life. We must act on what our deep hearts already know: all life is sacred, everything is connected. From this space, we can create a world we are proud to leave to our children and all future generations. Reverence for life empowers us to take responsibility for, and to care for, ourselves and each other.”

Y2026-50 Welcome and Introductions. The Clerk again welcomed Friends and introduced the people helping at this session: Presiding Clerk, Stephanie “Steph” Bean (Adelphi); Recording Clerk, Barbarie Hill (Charlottesville); Reading Clerk, Gloria Victor-Dorr (Sandy Spring); Tech assistants, Carl Benson (Annapolis) and Jason Eaby (Nottingham); Prayerful Presences, Meg Boyd Meyer (Stony Run) and Jeff Soulen (Patapsco).

Y2026-51 Land Acknowledgement and Anti-racism Queries. The Reading Clerk read the Land Acknowledgement provided by our Indigenous Affairs Committee as well as our queries that help us center our commitment to being an anti-racist faith community.

Y2026-52 Program Committee and Registrar Report. Linda Coates (Little Britain) reported on the committee’s work throughout the year to make Annual Session a reality and recognized the members of the committee as well as volunteers and staff. Attendance this year was 268 people, including 72 commuters, 14 online only, and 28 youth in JYM and YF. Some walk-ins may not have been captured in these numbers. Next year’s theme will be *Building Spiritual Community with Joy and Connection*.

Y2026-53 Peace and Social Concerns. Helen Doerr (Shepherdstown) emphasized the fact that the concern for how to carry the minute on the harms done by our current administration into actions was held uppermost in their minds as the minute was crafted. Helen shared an addendum to the minute containing action items to be used as a resource by anyone who is led to action. The addendum can be found on the Shepherdstown website.

Steve Chase (Friends Meeting of Washington) summarized the history and events that led to the Quaker organizations’ statement on the genocide that is occurring in Gaza. Steve quoted Paul: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God ...” AFSC, FCNL and several other Quaker organizations have coordinated to produce the joint statement and list of action items that we are being asked to endorse. Concern was heard that the language used in the statement is inflammatory and divisive in our work within interfaith circles, but many Friends spoke to the need to speak plainly to the great wrongs that are being done. The Clerk reminded us that the goal is not just to endorse these items but to do the work among ourselves on the issues involved, and that work will be ongoing. Friends are united in our deep concern for what is happening in Palestine and Israel, and there is more for us to do in working toward peace. We recognize that naming is very important and understand that there is still discomfort with some

aspects of the minute which will be part of ongoing discussion among individuals and local meetings. The Meeting endorsed the minute.

Y2026-54 Epistles.

Caleb Holland (Friends Meeting of Washington) shared the Young Friends epistle, reviewing all the Young Friends gatherings throughout the year, and thanked all the local communities that shared facilities to make that possible. The Meeting received the epistle and will append it to the Annual Session epistle.

Helen Tasker (Frederick) read the Annual Session epistle which was written with contributions from several Friends. The Meeting approved the epistle, and it will be made available with some small improvements.

Y2026-55 Final Thanks. The Clerk shared thanks for all of the hard work done to keep us all together: the microphone runners and golf cart drivers; the Friends working with our children, and the people who fed us well; Program Committee and Ministry and Pastoral Care, which sets up much of our worship opportunities, as well as Friends who helped to make our Memorial Meeting the spirit-filled experience it was. We express our gratitude to our speakers and all the people who have made this gathering work.

As they step aside, Steph expressed what a blessing it has been to work with staff, committees, volunteers, their support group, and the many, many others who have been loving and encouraging.

A minute of gratitude for the outgoing Presiding Clerk will be brought to Interim Meeting in the fall.