



PRISM

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's 7:00pm Women's Spiritual	7:00pm Midweek Worship	7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group via zoom		9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller	Labor Day		7:00pm Midweek Worship		6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
10:00am Meeting for Worship via zoom - Rebecca Schillenback	7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting via zoom	7:00pm Women's Spiritual Nurture	7:00pm Midweek Worship	7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture		9:00am Farmington-Scipio Fall Gathering 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
10:00am Meeting for Worship - Tony Gaenslen 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business at the rise of Meeting			Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:00pm Midweek Worship			4:00pm Fall Festival at Merrifield
27	28	29	30			
10:00am Meeting for Worship @ Meetinghouse (unprogrammed)	7:00pm Ministry & Counsel via zoom		7:00pm Midweek Worship			

Birthdays: 1st Jim Frisch; 3rd Priscilla Berggren-Thomas, Tony Gaenslen; 7th Bryn Grube; 8th Bess Simkin; 9th Edward Hayes; 10th Wylan Gunderson; 11th Samuel Buffam; 15th Dorothy Lonsky; 18th Peter Charles; 19th Sarah Richardson Green; 21st Auden Ferrari; 27th Jim Burkett; 28th Paul Simkin, George Schillenback

Anniversaries: 14th Mary Lou and Jack Charles; 18th Jackie Dickinson and Ed Maassen

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact pr.prism@gmail.com

MINUTES FOR POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING (PRMM) FOR BUSINESS FOR AUGUST 16TH, 2020

Meeting Clerk, Christopher Sammond, began the 8/16/20 Meeting for Business with time for centering silence. In attendance were: Jane and Paul Simkin, Howard Nelson, Larry Buffam, Andy Simkin, David Connelly, Suzanne O'Hara, Jeff Turney, Barry Kahn, and Claire Howard. The meeting was held via Zoom and began at 11:48am. Howard Nelson read the minutes of the July business meeting, followed by the minutes of the specially called business meeting on August 2nd regarding the purchase of Verizon internet services.

Building Committee Report:

Andy Simkin reported on work being done on the Meeting House. The west side is insulated, all windows are in, masonry footing complete, and trim has begun. The siding is ready for pickup.

On the heat pump issue, Halco visited the site and gave us two proposals. The estimates were around \$8300, less a \$500 incentive discount, so the heat pump project will cost around \$7800. The units are to be installed both upstairs and downstairs, are 15,000 BTU's each, and will increase the heating and cooling capacity of the building. The kitchen unit would heat the entire basement at less cost than in the past, with little need for fuel oil. Also, there is internet connection with these heat pumps which affords remote control of heating. Andy is still waiting for a proposal from E&V heating company.

The internet connection was installed by Verizon on Thursday, August 14th on the west side of the building, and the router is in the library. The router that Verizon sells to businesses (\$200) is not as strong as the one they offer to residential customers (\$300). Therefore we are renting the router this month. Andy recommends stepping up to the stronger router and also pursuing their initial offer of a \$10/mo discount. There will be a password available to those wanting to use the internet. Guest sign in procedure will be

outlined in the PRISM. A Friend spoke of his positive experience in buying a router. The technical committee (Andy Simkin, Scott Lockhart, Suzanne O'Hara) agreed that buying is better than renting. The router range remains a question. The meeting agreed to leave the router decision in the hands of the Building Committee.

Ministry & Counsel Report:

Claire Howard, Clerk, reported for M&C. A request for membership was received from Tom Hoppel. M&C appointed a clearness committee to meet with Tom. After meeting with him in discernment, the committee (Dillwyn Otis, David Connelly, and Hannah Richter) recommended him for membership. They noted Tom's strong leadership skills, his eagerness to join our community, and his commitment to being a part of our community. M&C recommends Tom Hoppel's membership to the Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting. Meeting for Business approved the recommendation. Christopher commented that normally we arrange a welcoming event for new members. Claire will contact the Social Committee regarding this.

Finance Committee:

Suzanne O'Hara shared a document from Treasurer, Ruth Bradley. Contributions to date are \$20,277, 42% of the yearly budget. Of our yearly budget of \$48,120 we have spent \$29,508 to date.

Other Business:

Suzanne questioned our Zoom practice of spotlighting the speaker as she has received some negative feedback concerning this practice. After some discussion the meeting agreed that Suzanne would not spotlight the speaker next week, and we will monitor the feedback. The users can spotlight themselves, manually.

The meeting was adjourned with our usual practice of respectful silence at 12:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Howard, acting recording clerk

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP AT THE MEETING HOUSE SEPTEMBER 27TH

Dear Friends,

Ministry and Counsel has agreed to a trial Sunday meeting for worship in person at the Poplar Ridge Meeting House. This will take place on September 27th for our unprogrammed meeting. We will all observe the precautions we have grown to know so well over the past few months: Bring your masks, your hand sanitizer, sit at least six feet apart, enter the front door and exit the east door (unless you need to use the ramp), and refrain from handshakes and hugs.

Other considerations: if more than 50 people arrive we can use the meditation garden for overflow. The basement is currently housing construction equipment, except the children's room, so will most likely be inaccessible. We will not be singing hymns, and we discourage casual conversation while indoors. Doors and windows will be open if the weather permits. Zoom will be available for those who do not feel ready for gathering in person. Zoom will be "one way" and not afford two way communication.

In spite of all these constraints, we look forward to meeting together in our house of worship! Wishing everyone good health,
Claire Howard, clerk
Ministry & Counsel



PRMM ZOOM MEETINGS

Since we are unable to meet in person, our meeting has set up teleconferencing for our Meeting for Worship and several general meetings using [zoom](#) video conferencing. You can attend meetings with

your computer, mobile device or any touch tone phone. Email pr.prism@gmail.com if you need assistance.

Click on the url below from your computer or mobile device or use the phone number and enter the meeting id when asked. You may be asked to install an app or answer some questions when using zoom for the first time, so plan to make the connection to the meeting a little early.

Joining by phone

You can join any meeting by phone by calling the number (646) 876-9923. You will then need to enter the Meeting ID and Password for the meeting listed below.

Joining with computer, tablet or smartphone **Meeting for Worship: Sundays 10am**

- url:
<https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/283424937?pwd=bnpGNEc0bkRuYjdHVmJzR3ltZjREZz09>
- Meeting ID: 283 424 937
- Password: 873079

Men's Spiritual Nurture: Every other Thursday of the month at 7:30pm (check the calendar for dates)

- url:
<https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/550283200?pwd=UW93aXhOMG5Hem9PMWowWmtHL0lFUT09>
- Meeting ID: 550 283 200
- Password: 099078

Women's Meeting: Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The 3rd Tuesday is Spiritual Nurturing, the 1st for check-in and support.

- url:
<https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/495511683?pwd=Nk1VeGNcY1crT1BzV1FJbDM4RUUpJQT09>
- Meeting ID: 495 511 683
- Password: 169334

Midweek Worship: Every Wednesday at 7pm. Meeting begins with check-in and support.

- url:
<https://columbiauniversity.zoom.us/j/289886>

647?pwd=YnpwZTV2ZVlxbm92TGJRNHdHZVdqQT09

- Meeting ID: 289 886 647
- Password: 689562

FALL ADULT EDUCATION

Ministry and Counsel is planning an adult education program for this fall on the subject of racism. The discussions will take place on Zoom at 9:00am Sunday mornings during the month of October. The committee has chosen a book for the basis of the discussions: "Deep Denial" by David Billings (<http://deepdenialbook.com/>). Mr. Billings is a white man who grew up in the Deep South during the Civil Rights Movement in the 60's. His book interweaves his personal story with a history of racism and white supremacy in America from the time of slavery to the present day. The author's testimony as an active anti-racist throughout his life is impressive and inspiring. Our program will encourage both learning and self discovery, and we hope for everyone to join in! Our first session will be October 4th.

Claire Howard
Clerk, M&C



NEW NYYM CONTACT INFORMATION

An announcement about New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM): Due to family health concerns, Elaine Learnard, our yearly meeting clerk, requires immediate support of an assistant clerk. The NYYM Nominating Committee has co-opted Jeffrey Aaron to serve as NYYM assistant clerk pro tem. Friends are instructed to copy Jeffrey

(Jephreyaaron@aol.com) on all correspondence sent to Elaine (clerk@nyym.org). Thank you.

LOOKING FOR NEW WEB MASTER

PRMM is looking for someone to design and maintain a new website. The current site is on a legacy URL from quaker.org and is no longer working. We have purchased the hostname <http://www.poplarridgefriend.org> and a host server to allow us to build using a wordpress theme. If you are willing to share your gifts and help with this project, please email pr.prism@gmail.com or contact Suzanne O'Hara.

THE KING FERRY FOOD PANTRY

The King Ferry Food Pantry, serving your neighbors and friends in the Southern Cayuga School District, is a resource for shut-ins who may be in need of assistance with obtaining food. If you know someone in need, please suggest they contact Debbie Patrick at (315) 497-2049 to learn about our food pantry services.

FALL FESTIVAL

Friends are invited to a socially-distanced, garden-based fall festival at Merrifield, the home of Craig Kukuk and A.T. Miller starting at 4pm on Saturday, September 26th. This year, the dinner will be catered and wrapped for safety. During the harvest waltz, if you do not bring a partner from your own COVID pod, we will be dancing on our own across the lawn without changing partners, but with exchanging smiles! Yes, things will be a bit different, but we have enough space across four acres for all, and it will be good to see you all and all of the friends you are comfortable to invite or bring. Bring a chair, if you have one, and a flashlight, and your mask. We will have hand sanitizer wipes and chairs set out around the lawn. Our address is 2345 Center Road, Scipio Center 13147 on the corner of Center and Black, with parking along Black Street. We will have pumpkins for carving and sidewalk chalk to decorate our driveway as the young or young-at-heart wish. It would be a joy to have you join us and to see you!

NYYM SUMMER SESSIONS



Hello!

You are invited to fill out the New York Yearly Meeting [Summer Sessions Evaluation Form](#), now available online. The form is for everyone, whether you attended Summer Sessions or not. These Summer Sessions were the first sessions that NYYM has held online but they won't be the last. Please help make future online sessions even better by sharing your feedback.

And remember, you can now read [the minutes and reports from Summer Sessions](#) online.

Thank you, Friends!

INSIDE OUTSIDE LETTER WRITING COLLECTIVE

Dear Friends

I am the coordinator of a program under the care of the NYYM Prisons Committee with a mission to connect incarcerated people within New York Yearly Meeting who attend (or have attended) a prison Quaker worship group with Friends on the outside. During these very difficult times, connection with outside Friends is critical in many ways for incarcerated Quakers and we are in great need of people willing to write letters. Our program - the Inside Outside Letter Writing Collective - provides ongoing support to all members of the collective.

Please visit the link for information about the program including how to sign up on the NYYM website.

<https://www.nyyim.org/content/inside-outside>.

In the light
Judy Meikle
Coordinator Inside Outside Program

EASTON DAY

Easton Meeting Sponsors Panel Discussion on Searching for Common Ground
“Searching for Common Ground” is the theme of this year's Easton Day, an annual celebration held by the Easton Meeting of Friends (Quakers). A moderated three-member panel will explore the theme. All are welcome to the virtual celebration on Sunday, September 13, at 1:00 p.m. It may be accessed by phone or though the internet. Please register by sending an email to EastonDay2020@earthlink.net or by calling 518-321-1356.

Easton Day commemorates a time during the Revolutionary War when a party of Indians loyal to the British general put down their weapons to worship with the Quakers in Easton, NY. Margaret Waterson will tell this Easton Day story. The panelists — Sgt. Robert Danko, head of the Cambridge-Greenwich, NY, police department; Emily Provance, a Quaker widely experienced in ministering to local, regional, and world-wide Friends' organizations; and Joseph Bruchac, a writer, musician, traditional storyteller, and enrolled member of the Nulhegan Abenaki Nation — will relate the story to the challenges our communities face in the twenty-first century. Charlie Lapinski and friends will provide music.



FALL GATHERING

Farmington Scipio Fall Gathering Retreat

September 19, 2020

9:00am-4:00pm

How are we feeling led today, in this time of uncertainty? Visioning, discernment, and naming the gifts in our region as we consider our work

Friends, Fall Gathering is upon us. We know things are not going to look the way they have looked in the past. Due to the pandemic, some events in the region—Extended Meeting for Worship, Ministry and Counsel’s fall retreat—have been cancelled or postponed. We considered postponing, but we’re going ahead with Fall Gathering on its originally scheduled date.

Like Spring Gathering, Fall Gathering will be held via Zoom. Many Friends and Friends’ organizations have found that holding gatherings by Zoom has some unexpected advantages. We have the chance to learn more about who we are as a region, and the opportunity to have more of the region included in our gatherings and in the work of the region.

At FSRM’s Fall Gathering 2019, we asked: “How do we live as Quakers in a world with increased acts of intolerance, fear, and hate? How do we live our Quaker values?”

Much has occurred in our world since then, and no one has escaped the impact of these events. This fall we are asking: What and how have things changed? What has changed in our Quaker communities? What changes are still needed?

We hope to confirm what is emerging in the region. Many of our State of the Meeting reports express the desire to widen conversations in our communities. The co-clerks began to engage in a process of naming which tasks of clerking were ours. We began by considering our gifts and our challenges. We then engaged in this process with Ministry and Counsel.

Friends have named some of the Region’s immediate concerns. The rotating schedule that sorts the tasks of organizing Spring Gathering has been problematic for some. Friends are often tapped for more than one task, more than one role, and might wear many hats simultaneously in their home meetings. The Nominating Committee process that identifies Friends to do the work of the region does not serve us well.

Queries that arise are:

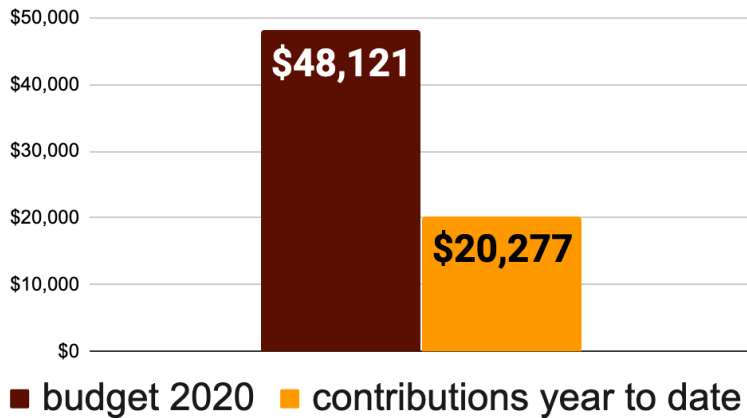
- How can we come from a place of strength—a strength-based way of meeting the region’s needs rather than a lack-based way? Rather than coming from a not-enough-ness, a sense of burnout, and the need to fill positions, we might ask:
- What are we good at? What do we have? What can we give?
- What are the strengths of our meeting/church/worship group?
- What would we like to do, if we could do anything?

Some of us use our gifts to repair the world, some of us use them to grow and sustain our meetings: What is our part in the region’s work?

Angela Hopkins and Antonia Saxon

	Fall Gathering - September 19, 2020
8:30am	Tech check-in/optional fellowship/chat/conversation/preplanned meeting groups
10:00am	Meeting for Worship/ Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business
	Morning group time: Meet in monthly meeting/church groups. Last year each meeting considered concerns, challenges, and gifts. These were included in the State of the Meeting Reports. Queries: · What has changed, and what may need to be changed? · How do we recognize what is needed? Describe your sense of how Friends are called into community. · How do we create the Beloved Community? How can we live into being and creating community? · Are there practical steps you hope Friends will commit to?
12:00pm	Lunch/ Self-care/ Optional discussion and group time
1:00pm	Preparation/transition time for 1:30pm session
1:30pm	Afternoon group time This morning, we met in our monthly meetings and church groups. This afternoon, we will meet in affinity groups formed around the gifts and leadings we named this morning, considering our spiritual gifts as we engage in the emerging work of the region. Spiritual gifts are abilities we have that often seem to come naturally to us. They may stand out as exceptional to others. Friends have gifts for working with children, for managing money, for resolving conflict, for comforting the sick, and more. Sometimes we know our own gifts. Sometimes it takes others to see Spirit at work in us. Recognizing our own gifts and those of others helps us restore justice and repair the world. Can the naming and evoking of gifts within our meetings and churches help us address the region's most pressing needs? Queries: · What is emerging in our region? How are we called to respond? · Where and how do we discern what we are going to do? What are our next steps?
2:30pm	Break
3:00pm	Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business · Report from the afternoon's affinity groups regarding next steps · Spring Gathering Report · State of the Region Report · Suspension of FSRM rotation schedule · (additional agenda items invited)
5:00pm	Optional dinnertime reflections and conversations

August 16th, 2020 PRMM Budget vs Contributions



Contributions are 42% of the 2020 budget

Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting

Clerk – Christopher Sammond
Assistant Clerk – Hannah Richter
Treasurer – Ruth Bradley

Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk ([734-717-7719](tel:734-717-7719))
Recording Clerk - Howard Nelson
Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Claire Howard

Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney, Mary Jo Granger

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is usually an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday has a variety of formats. Nursery is available during meeting. The meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY 13139.

See <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/> for more information, Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Sally Otis at sotis3067@gmail.com or Scott Heinekamp at 246-7151. You can request PRISM electronically by emailing pr.prism@gmail.com.

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at pr.prism@gmail.com or
Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting: Attn PRISM
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Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting
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