



PRISM

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:00am Meeting for Worship - Song & Silence	7:00pm FSRM - Dismantling Racism as Quakers		7:00pm Midweek Worship	7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller 11:45am Ministry & Counsel	7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting		7:00pm Midweek Worship			9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:00am Meeting for Worship - Sigrid Mortensen Monthly Meeting for Business	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	7:30pm Women's Spiritual Nurture	7:00pm Midweek Worship	7:00pm Men's Spiritual Nurture		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)			Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:00pm Midweek Worship			7:00pm Virtual Mystery Tour
30	31					
10:00am Meeting for Worship - Intergenerational						

Birthdays: 4th Jackie Dickinson; 7th David Connelly; 8th Mark Temelko; 9th Evan McGonagle; 10th Sarah Nelson Weiss; 12th Suzanne O'Hara; 13th Trudy Buxenbaum; 25th Kristin Trapane Otis; 28th Gregory Otis; 31st Julie Lockhart

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 DECEMBER 19, 2021

Meeting began at 11:45 with some silence.

Present were: Christopher Sammond, Howard Nelson, Hannah Richter, Sigrid Mortensen, A.T. Miller, Craig Kukuk, Sally Otis, Dill Otis, Paul Simkin, Jane Simkin, Suzanne O'Hara, Andy Simkin, Larry Buffam, Rebecca Schillenback.

1. Christopher Sammond read the following statement from Elizabeth Meyer's Pendle Hill pamphlet A Practical Mystic: "Quaker business process is a group practical mysticism that opens the worshipping body to the promptings of the Divine." He invited Friends to use the same discernment as in our unprogrammed worship when deciding whether or not to speak.
2. Minutes from the November Meeting for Business were read.

3. Treasurer Report: Sigrid Mortensen reported:

"Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting contributions, year-to-date, total \$31,747, which is 65% of our 2021 budget. For comparison, in December of 2020, we had received contributions totalling 83% of our budget, and in December of 2019, we had received contributions totalling 98% of that year's budget.

"We are 96% of the way through 2021, and we have spent 91% of our budget. We have spent \$44,537 and have \$4,369 remaining in the budget to spend.

"We need \$17,159 more contributed in 2021 to meet our \$48,906 2021 budget, or a minimum of \$12,790 to meet our spending-to-date.

"Put another way, with only 4% of the year remaining, we still need enough contributions to meet 35% of our budget, or 29% of our spending."

Sigrid was thanked for her work as treasurer.

4. Finance Committee Report:
Preliminary copies of the proposed 2022 budget were circulated. Andy Simkin said that this version has incorporated consultation with the various committees. He noted a 10% increase in the Pastoral Care contract and worship leader honorariums, to address inflation and cost of living increases. These are the first increases in these budget lines in two years. Sigrid Mortensen noted the need to address NYYM's annual request. Andy said that we should follow previous practice, with final approval of the budget coming in January, when the current year has concluded. Thanks were expressed to the Finance Committee for their work, and in particular the annual appeal letter that has recently been sent out.



5. Ministry & Counsel Committee:
Hannah Richter reported: **M&C is working on filling the worship leader schedule during Rebecca's sabbatical. Volunteers are requested. Music and queries will provide the format at times. **Hannah noted that M&C has conducted its annual reviews with Craig Kukuk and A.T. Miller about their roles as Pastoral Care and worship leader carrying on into the future, as they are facing some uncertainty in their plans. Craig anticipates retiring from the Pastoral Care position in the late spring/early summer. The cost of living increases (see #4) were recommended. Those who perform the Shepherd's Play express gratitude for being able to enact the play in the meeting house, even in a year when public performance is not

possible. **There was some discussion of use of the term “honorarium,” clarifying that it indicates payment for services rendered.

6. At the request of the meeting, Clerk Christopher Sammond and Asst. Clerk Claire Howard met to bring forward a name for appointment to the Nominating Committee, in addition to current members Larry Buffam and Joanne Brum. It was proposed that Andy Simkin be added as the third member. His appointment was approved.



7. The topic of making a response to NYYM's proposed minute on becoming an anti-racist community was taken up. Peace & Social Action has discussed the statement. Larry Buffam shared some of the responses given in the committee:

- very long statement and very critical of Friends
- very critical but a necessary accepting of responsibility
- the tone is quite negative and excessively self-critical
- Quakers are best at looking for the good in everyone and building on that, for example, working with people who have committed murders and other heinous crimes through AVP and prison worship
- this feels like calling out people as racists, perhaps a better way is to acknowledge that people do racist things at times

--racism is a big problem in our world and none of us is completely free of it

--the specific examples given of slavery, migrant labor and Native American boarding schools are totally unnuanced and should be left out of such a short statement

--we believe this statement should conclude with a list of goals that NYYM Quakers can commit to acting towards

Larry began the discussion with a statement he has prepared, attempting to express the committee's reactions and reflections:

“We are mindful that persons of color have had different experiences in Quaker communities as well as the broader world. We are committed to listening to their experiences with our full attention. We are committed to unlearning some of the assumptions we have been raised with where they have led us into stereotyping others. We are committed to working for equal rights to health care, housing, education, clean water and justice for all people. We realize that our country is sadly very lacking in all these areas today.

“We believe that our understanding of continuing revelation encourages us to be ready to change to keep up with the demands of a changing world. We are ready to change. We believe that our faith that there is that of God in everyone supports us in this journey.”

Christopher Sammond suggested we send the list of comments from P&SA and Larry's statement to NYYM as a preliminary response to the proposed minute, while the minute itself is circulated again for our contemplation and future response. The question was asked, “What is the goal of NYYM's statement?” Christopher explained that NYYM seeks guidance from individual meetings before issuing any statement on an issue of great import intended to represent the Yearly Meeting as a whole. Larry will check with members of P&SA before sending the documents to NYYM. Both the NYYM

proposed minute and the P&SA response will be sent to the meeting's mailing list as an email, rather than putting them in Prism. These actions were approved.

8. The topic of singing in meeting was taken up, as we are doing on a monthly basis while the pandemic continues. It was noted that the pandemic has again become more severe. It was proposed that we continue with current singing practice, outlined in the November minutes, for the next month.
9. The topic of the print of Andrew Wyeth's "The Quaker" was taken up. Some were in favor of accepting and displaying, but it was also noted that there have been some negative reactions about having it displayed. It was clarified that the print would not be hung in the main meeting room. It was decided to accept the print, with the decision about hanging to be made by the Social Committee. Christopher Sammond noted that some friends relayed their lack of interest in the print but were not present at business meeting to labor with us.
10. Christopher Sammond noted that he will be distributing a list of suggested queries from NYYM, preparatory to undertaking the annual State of Society report.

Meeting closed at 1:37 with some silence.

Respectfully submitted,
Howard Nelson, Recording Clerk

PRMM ZOOM MEETINGS

Joining by phone

You can join any meeting by phone by calling the number (646) 558 8656. 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

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85813646235?pwd=OGxRTlcyL3pUcVVVeU9IczJ6YzlnZz09>
- Meeting ID: 858 1364 6235
- Passcode: 135575

Men's Spiritual Nurture: Every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89032629023?pwd=aUx3Y01yU1ZxRHVtZk9yU2s1WUxVdz09>

- Meeting ID: 890 3262 9023
- Passcode: 923814

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87873154230?pwd=SHhPOWxHbG1FYU9xR093eFpXNXo0UT09>

- Meeting ID: 878 7315 4230
- Passcode: 584140

Women's Spiritual nurture: Every 3rd, Tuesday at 7:30p.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85813646235?pwd=OGxRTlcyL3pUcVVVeU9IczJ6YzlnZz09>

- Meeting ID: 858 1364 6235
- Passcode: 135575

INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP JANUARY 30TH

Welcome, children and families, to a New Year, 2022! The Youth Committee is planning a 5th Sunday Intergenerational Service for January 30. All ages are welcome to join together for our regular 10am Meeting for Worship in the meetinghouse big room.



In this dark wintertime of the year, and coincidentally two days before Chinese New Year begins, we will celebrate together the concept of light as it relates to Quakers and others around the world. Through music and prayer, stories and a simple craft activity, we will consider what it means when Quakers

speak of “the light of God in everyone”. We will wonder together how darkness plays a part in understanding light. We will think about what we mean when we tell someone we will “hold them in the light.” Also, through the magic of light, we hope to have a special guest joining us live from thousands of miles away!

As has been our custom for the past year+, we will arrange the service so that children and their families can participate in person, or virtually. Remember that folks worshipping in person should please wear a mask, and children will stay seated with their families to maintain social distancing. We will send out an email reminder to families with kids one or two weeks before the 30th. Until then, stay warm, and look for the light in your everyday life.

SOCIAL NIGHT JAN. 29TH

You won't want to miss the upcoming virtual Social Night on Saturday January 29 at 7:00 . We are planning an exciting mystery tour with details to follow throughout the month. So Save the Date!
(Thanks, Hannah for the Social Committee)

QUAKER WORSHIP AT KENDAL IN ITHACA

Every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a group of Kendal residents join in worship. Jeffrey and I rearrange the tables against the wall and form a circle of chairs in a small conference room.

Prison worship and women's spiritual nurture group have both been wonderful gifts to me. I wanted to share this gift with my fellow residents at Kendal. I must admit I was also longing for this kind of worship since the pandemic had shut down the other groups. We begin with the check-in in which each person tells a little of what was going on in the past week that affected their spiritual condition. We then have a reading from Quaker literature followed by about 20 minutes of silent worship. After worship we have a discussion of either the reading or

whatever rises. Members occasionally speak from the silence.

Since we began in October and have continued every week, our little group has been growing slowly. We now number about 10. It is with great joy that I am able to introduce this wonderful quaker practice to others.

Anne Dalton <annedalton@icloud.com>

KING FERRY FOOD PANTRY

The mission of the King Ferry Food Pantry is to provide access to healthy food and resources for our neighbors in need. If you or anyone you know is in need of assistance with obtaining food, please suggest they contact Debbie Patrick at 315-497-2049 for further information.

For more information on ways to contribute to the food pantry:

- Email: kingferryfoodpantry1@gmail.com
- Website: www.kingferryfoodpantry.org
- www.facebook.com/KingFerryFoodPantry/

*The winter tree Resembles me,
Whose sap lies in its root:
The spring draws near
As it, so I Shall bud, I hope, and shoot.
~ Thomas Ellwood, 1639-1714*

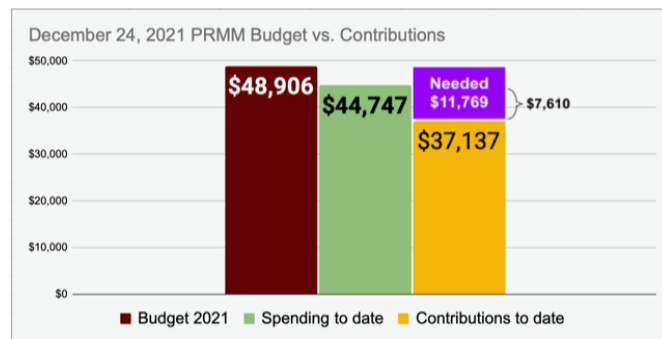


*We are not for Names, nor Men, nor Titles of Government, nor are we for this Party, nor against the other, because of its Name and Pretence; but we are for Justice and Mercy, and Truth and Peace, and true Freedom, that these may be exalted in our Nation.
~ Edward Burrough, 1634-1663*

2021 contributions as of December 24th are \$37,137,
(76% of budget with 98% of the year passed)

At this date:

- in 2020, contributions were 83% of budget
- in 2019, contributions were 98% of budget



Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting

Clerk – Christopher Sammond

Assistant Clerk – Claire Howard

Treasurer – Sigrid Mortensen

Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Mary Jo Granger

Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk ([734-717-7719](tel:734-717-7719))

Recording Clerk - Howard Nelson

Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Hannah Richter

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/poplaridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Sally Otis at sotis3067@gmail.com or Scott Heinekamp at 315-246-7151. 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
PO Box 146, Aurora, New York 13026

Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting
PO Box 146
Aurora, New York 13026