



# PRISM

*The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge*

**NOVEMBER 2015**

*Poplar  
Ridge  
Information  
Sharing  
Monthly*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 2am Daylight Savings Time  10am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Shillenback	2 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	3 7pm Youth Committee Meeting @ Lockhart's  7:30pm Peace & Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	4	5	6 7:30pm Movie Night - Merchants of Doubt @ Meetinghouse	7 9am King Ferry Food Pantry  7pm Merrifield Concert - Alison and Zoe
8 10am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller  11am Coffee Hour	9	10 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	11 Veterans Day	12 7pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond's	13 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	14
15 10am Meeting for Worship - Tony Gaenslen  11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	16	17 Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	18 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	19	20	21 9am Genoa Food Pantry  9am Aurora Farmers Market  6pm Family Night - Photo Essay on Abraham Lincoln by Craig Kukuk
22 10am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)	23	24 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	25 Deadline for PRISM submissions	26 Thanksgiving Day	27 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship	28
29 10am Meeting for Worship - Queries Sunday	30					

**Birthdays:** 7<sup>th</sup> Hannah Richter; 11<sup>th</sup> Zehan Henry Lama Nelson , Ted Rejman; 12<sup>th</sup> Sara Charles Seifert; 17<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Connelly; 18<sup>th</sup> Ella Pearl Gunderson, Patsy Myers; 19<sup>th</sup> Kevin Sullivan; 20<sup>th</sup> Larkin Aela Green; 22<sup>nd</sup> Scott Heinekamp; 29<sup>th</sup> Graham Hanson , Gopini Lama Nelson

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com).

## **POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 18, 2015**

Meeting minutes will be in the December PRISM.

### **MOVIE NIGHT**

Movie night is back! The November movie will be on Friday 11/6 at the meetinghouse at 7:30. The Peace and Social Action Committee will be showing Merchants of Doubt. Inspired by the acclaimed book by Naomi Oreskes and Erik Conway, MERCHANTS OF DOUBT takes audiences on a satirically comedic, yet illuminating ride into the heart of conjuring American spin. Filmmaker Robert Kenner lifts the curtain on a secretive group of highly charismatic, silver-tongued pundits-for-hire who present themselves in the media as scientific authorities – yet have the contrary aim of spreading maximum confusion about well-studied public threats ranging from toxic chemicals to pharmaceuticals to climate change.

All are welcome to view the movie and participate in discussion. Contact Eric Devin ([end@cbord.com](mailto:end@cbord.com)) for more information.



### **FAMILY NIGHT**

Come to the November Family Night in the meetinghouse on November 21st at 6:00pm. Bring a dish to pass and your own place setting. Craig Kukuk will share a slide presentation of his journey with A.T. to Springfield, Illinois for the reenactment of Abraham Lincoln's burial. Craig has a wealth of knowledge about Abraham Lincoln and will delight us all with his enthusiasm and beautiful photos

### **GAS FREE SENECA**

Maryl Mendillo has shared a link to a petition started by Gas Free Seneca against the storage of liquid propane under Seneca Lake. Their goal is to present 30,000 signatures to Governor Cuomo. The petition may be viewed and signed at:

[https://www.change.org/p/governor-cuomo-save-seneca-lake-and-the-finger-lakes-region-from-lpg-gas-storage?recruiter=338212307&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_campaign=share\\_page&utm\\_term=des-lg-share\\_petition-custom\\_msg](https://www.change.org/p/governor-cuomo-save-seneca-lake-and-the-finger-lakes-region-from-lpg-gas-storage?recruiter=338212307&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=share_page&utm_term=des-lg-share_petition-custom_msg)

Contact Maryl ([shunktaketcha@yahoo.com](mailto:shunktaketcha@yahoo.com)) for more information or to join her email list.

### **MERRIFIELD CONCERT**

This month is different--a concert early in the month due to the holidays! Please come over to 2345 Center Road, Scipio Center, NY at 7pm on Saturday the 7th of November to hear Alison and Zoë--a fantastic local duo from Marcellus! They're two sisters born in Dublin, Ireland who love to play music, make art, and be outside. They've been playing music together since they were wee little ones and in the past few years have started writing a lot of their own songs and sharing them with people they love. These two hope their songs bring you to a place of nostalgia, of feeling at home, and feeling those chills we all know so well. Listen in at <https://alisonzoe.bandcamp.com/releases> and then come on by for a warm and friendly relaxed evening of music! Bring along some of your favorite people! We collect \$15 at the door for the musicians. This is something of a "CD Release Event" for their new recording! Please do let us know if you'd like to be on the regular concert list or have any questions by contacting us at [atmiller80@gmail.com](mailto:atmiller80@gmail.com) or [607-279-7515](tel:607-279-7515).



## **OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPRESS OUR FAITH THROUGH SHARING**

My first involvement with youth in Poplar Ridge Meeting at Halloween was as one of the adults who went door to door in the hamlet of Poplar Ridge with children of the meeting who were called Friendly Beggars. By then they might have been Friendly Beggars for UNICEF. Initially the Poplar Ridge First Day School children, as Friendly Beggars, collected clothing for the AFSC material aids program instead of collecting treats for themselves. For many years the children went door to door with UNICEF boxes and then ended up at a party in the meetinghouse. Miranda Buffam initiated the transformation of this activity into the Halloween Carnival for the community with which most of us are now familiar.

As a Meeting we have had and continue to have other opportunities to express our generosity. White gifts just before Christmas are packed into individualized boxes for ill and the shut-in people connected with the meeting and in the local community. This tradition is shared with many other denominations and may go back a hundred years or more.

Members of the Auburn Prison Meeting expressed a wish to share with a family in the Poplar Ridge community that could be identified as needing help with a Christmas meal and gifts for children. For many years we were able to work with someone at the Southern Cayuga school and use money sent from the prisoners and contributions Poplar Ridge Friends to make Christmas happen for a family where it might have otherwise have been very meager. Only the person or persons who delivered the food and gifts knew the identity of the family. However, school policies changed and any identification of a family was considered to be an unacceptable risk to privacy.

For a few years we worked with a food pantry and other agencies to identify families who had children and were in need. But last year it was determined that even this had too many complications and the Auburn Prison Meeting accepted an arrangement whereby their donation went to the excellent backpack program at Southern Cayuga which serves children identified as in need. Although many of us in the meeting felt a sense of loss at no longer participating as a group in helping a family at Christmas, there are still many ways to that as

individuals we can anonymously help children and families have a better Christmas.

Our meeting is the focus for other opportunities to for our generosity to have a personal dimension at Christmas and throughout the year. The San Pedro project offers opportunities to support activities we hear about from those who travel to El Salvador each year and at the same time choose some of the Christmas gifts for our own families from the cards, coffee, chocolate, and purses displayed at the back of the meeting room.

As the person who works with sponsorships for Bolivian Quaker Education Fund I have a chance to see the satisfaction that sponsors and university scholarship students in Bolivia get from getting to know something about each other. And I get to see the importance that donors attach to the sense of a personal relationship over and above the satisfaction that comes from supporting a worthwhile program.

These are a few of the opportunities past and present for generosity with a personal touch that I personally know about. Others may want to tell about others.

-- Jane Simkin



## **THANKSGIVING PRAYER**

"Eternal God, source of all created things, we would give substance to our thankfulness by resolving to make right use of the gifts we have received from thy bounty.

With thy gift of the senses we would fashion and preserve a world of beauty for all.

With thy gift of reason we would engage in a responsible search for truth.

With thy gift of compassion we would build a world of justice and mercy.

And with thy gift of being we would walk together in peace."

-- Robert R. Walsh

## **NYYM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Dear Friend,

[Help us close the gap!](#)

We are just a few thousand dollars away from reaching the \$40,000 goal for the Yearly Meeting's 2015 budget.

Your dollars help us to nurture the growing edges of our faith and to do the important outreach work of sharing our simple faith and radical witness. Please help us now by making a tax-deductible contribution to NYYM.

It takes only a few minutes.

Online at <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=bab75c>  
Checks can be mailed to NYYM, 15 Rutherford Place New York, NY 10003. Put "2015 Appeal" on the memo line. And thank you!

In Gratitude,

New York Yearly Meeting Development Committee  
Sandra Beer, Linda Hill Brainard, John Choe,  
Albert Hsu, Joyce Ketterer, Sara Niccoli, Radames  
(Ray) Rios, Christopher Sammond, Karen Tibbals,  
Susan Weisfeld

Pastoral needs or questions:  
Call Craig Kukuk at 734-717-7719.

### **WHY FUM?**

Why did our fore-parents form something like FUM? Friends United Meeting is the child of the Five Years Meeting of Friends in North America, which was formed in 1901, and held its first sessions in 1902. The roots of the Five Years Meeting, in turn, lay in the controversies and separations that characterized American Quakerism in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

As early as the 1810s, some English and American Friends, concerned about what they perceived as disorganizing tendencies, urged a conference of yearly meetings that would create a Uniform Discipline for all of the yearly meetings in the world. Other Friends regarded this as a power grab, and it was one of the issues in the Hicksite Separation of 1827-1828.

By the 1880s, as American Friends had divided into Hicksite, Wilburite and Gurneyite groups, the

strains were visible and worrisome. The largest group, the Gurneyites, had undergone dramatic changes, with the introduction of revivalism, programmed worship and pastors. The desire of some to use physical sacraments convinced some weighty Friends that change was out of control, let to a conference in Richmond, Indiana, in 1887. The conference produced the Richmond Declaration of Faith, a foundational document for many Friends today.

In one of the last sessions of the Richmond conference, William Nicholson, the clerk of Kansas Yearly Meeting, argued that if Friends were to avoid "disruption, disintegration and dissolution," they needed a central organization and authority. He proposed a triennial conference of yearly meetings that would operate under a Uniform Discipline. Such an organization, he concluded would bring "unification, compactness, strength, solidity, power of resistance and an effective wielding of our forces."

Then, as now, Friends did not move quickly. Some saw the proposed authority as a dangerous concentration of power. Ohio Yearly Meeting (now Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region) steadfastly refused to contemplate joining. It was not until 1901, that the other Gurneyite yearly meetings agreed on a Uniform Discipline and formed the Five Years Meeting of Friends in North America. Over the next 60 years it would evolve into Friends United Meeting. The vision of a uniform faith and practice for Friends had broken down by the 1940s. Instead, the Five Years Meeting, as is the case with FUM today, became a way that Friends could organize for mission and service.

-- Tom Hamm, From Ask Tom, July/August 2015  
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## **QUAKER VIDEOS AT NYYM**

Visit the New York Yearly Meeting's [video portal](#) for one-stop access to the vibrant culture of Quaker video production. Available videos include.

### **Independent Productions**

[Conflict in Quaker Meetings: Crisis or Opportunity?](#)—a film of the workshop offered by NYYM's Conflict Transformation Committee.

[Open for transformation: being Quaker](#), by Ben Pink Dandelion; The 2014 Swarthmore Lecture, Britain Yearly Meeting

[Statement of Conscience on Torture](#) of New York Yearly Meeting—by Chad Dell

[The Future of Quakerism: The Image of Fish](#)—by Callid Keefe-Perry

[Second Flushing Remonstrance: 2013 Signing Event](#)—by NYInterfaith; about a rededication to religious freedom based on the first such declaration in American history

[The Quaker Way](#)—Baltimore Yearly Meeting's introduction to Quakerism

[The Quaker Way: Junior Young Friends](#)—Baltimore Yearly Meeting's youth speak on Quakerism

[The Quaker View of Christianity](#)—by Tim Sauder, a Mennonite

[Quaker Beliefs](#)—an interview of two Friends on *Vermont Today*, a TV program

[A Brief History of Quakers](#)—According to the Young Friends of Richmond Meeting

[Jan De Hartog's The History of Quakerism](#)—Excerpts from the unfinished English version of Jan De Hartog's documentary series on Quakerism. The full series exists only in Dutch, which was aired on Denmark television in the '70's.

[Max Carter: The Quakers Explained](#)—Quaker Religion professor Max Carter of Guilford College discusses the Quakers (documentary interview format) the diggers, levelers and other movements

[Quakers Living Adventurously](#)—A lecture on the persecutions of Quakers in the 17th century, by David Blake of the Library and Archives of the Society of Friends (UK)

[Quakers and Nakedness: Maggie Harrison & Jon Watts Interview](#)—Jon and Maggie talk about their joint multi-media project, "Clothe Yourself in Righteousness" ... an exploration of "going naked as a sign" amongst Early Friends and the implications for Quakers today.

[Being a Quaker in Today's World](#)—A Patheos interview with Laura Mancuso at the Parliament of World Religions in Melbourne, Australia.

### **Series Producers & Playlists**

[QuakerSpeak](#)—dozens of videos on many aspects of Quakerism.

[QuakerQuest](#)—videos introducing Quakerism produced by QuakerQuest, a program for helping meetings reach out to newcomers.

[The Jewels of Quakerism](#)—videos introducing Quakerism produced by Callid Keefe-Perry.

[Mineapolis Friends Meeting](#)—members of Minneapolis Meeting speak about their faith.

[Quakers and Friends](#)—A YouTube playlist of videos produced by Martin Kelley, currently Editor of *Friends Journal* and of [QuakerQuaker.org](http://QuakerQuaker.org).

[Claire Simon](#)—three videos produced by Friend Claire Simon of Montclair Meeting, New Jersey

[The Watford Quaker Videos](#)—videos published by Watford Meeting in the UK and produced by Just Film

[Quaker History: The Bridge Film Festival](#). A YouTube playlist of lectures on various aspects of Quaker history in America

[Popular Quakers and George Fox videos](#)—An automatically-generated YouTube video channel, #Quaker, comprising 32 videos on aspects of Quaker history

[Dame Judy Dench: I'm a Quaker and a Peacenik](#)—Interview on Channel 4 News

[Quaker Beliefs](#)—Featuring the pupils of Bootham School, York, England

[Equality: Is it really what we think it is?](#)—George Gorman lecture, Britain Yearly Meeting 2014

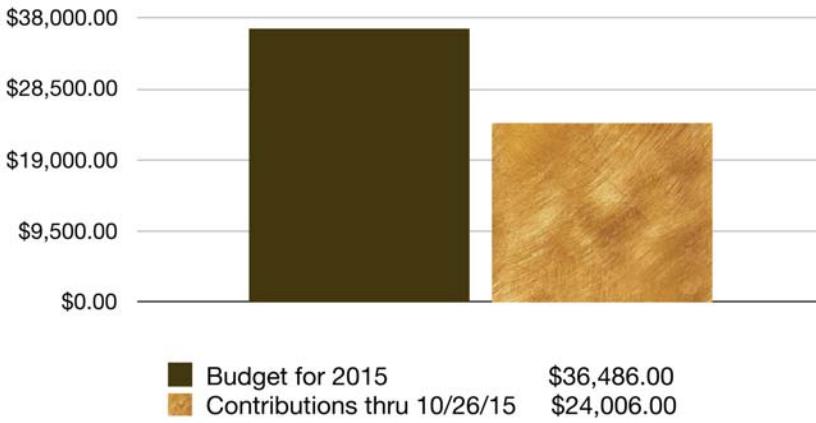
[The Separation Forced Upon Us: Philadelphia's Free Quakers and the Culture of Revolution](#)—A production of the Library of Congress about the Free Quakers who supported the War for Independence and were disowned

[An introduction to Quakers](#)—Friends at Watford Quaker Meeting in Great Britain explain why Quaker silent worship is important to them.

[George Fox's Book of Miracles](#)—A lecture on the long-suppressed record of miracles performed by Quakerism's prophetic founder George Fox by Michele Lise Tarter, given to Haddonfield Friends Meeting on September 16, 2012.

### 2015 PR Budget vs Contributions

Budget for 2015	\$36,486.00	
Contributions for 2015	\$24,006.00	65.80%
Budget Deficit for 2015	\$12,480.00	



### POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Anne Dalton

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

Assistant Clerk – Andy Simkin

Recording Clerk – David Connelly

Treasurer – Jeff Layton

Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Sally Otis

Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday is a youth centered service. 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, updated calendar or copies of previous newsletters or 1<sup>st</sup> day messages. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Mary Lou Charles at 364-7391 or Scott Heinekamp at 246-7151. You can request PRISM electronically and save the Meeting the expense of postage by emailing pr.prism@gmail.com.

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com) or  
Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting: Attn PRISM  
PO Box 146, Aurora, New York 13026

Poplar Ridge Information Sharing Monthly  
Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends  
Poplar Ridge, NY 13139