



# PRISM

*The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge*

*Poplar  
Ridge  
Information  
Sharing  
Monthly*

## FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry  2:00pm The March of the Big- Eared Nasties
4 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Claire Howard	5 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	6 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's  7:00pm Youth Commitee Meeting @ Lockhart's	7	8 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond/Rhudy's	9 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	10
11 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller, Evolution Sunday  11:00am Coffee Hour	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
18 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Query Sunday - Sally Otis #6  11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business  5:00pm Lenten Series	19 Presidents' Day	20 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	21 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	22 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren- Thomas's	23 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	24
25 10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)	26 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	27 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	28 Deadline for PRISM submissions			

Birthdays: 8th Miranda Cady Hallett, Deanna Nance; 10th Steff McGonagle; 12th Nick Dosch; 13th Thea Grube; 17th Janet Shea; 18th Patrick Connelly; 20th David Eckhardt, Bruce Culver; 25th Mark Ferrari

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 JANUARY 21, 2018**

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:45 a.m.; the minutes from the Dec. 10, 2017 meeting were read.

Attending were Ruth Bradley, David Connelly, Barry Kahn (by phone), Suzanne O'Hara, Dill Otis, Sally Otis, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Andy Simkin, Jane Simkin, Paul Simkin, and Charlie Weld.

The proposed budget for this year was presented by Ruth Bradley. Monthly Meeting approved the \$7,000 on the budget line for New York Yearly Meeting. We replaced the Motto Calendar line of \$145 with \$200 to cover postage. We approved the budget with that one change.

We will include the queries for the New York Yearly Meeting State of Society Report, due for the Meeting to respond to it, in early March, in PRISM so the Meeting can begin thinking about preparing it during the February Monthly Meeting.

We are responsible for hosting Fall Gathering in Poplar Ridge on September 15, 2018, and coordinating Spring Gathering May 2019. We will be discussing those commitments at future Monthly Meetings.

We confirmed that Chad Dell will lead us exploring Monthly Meeting outreach on March 4, or for a snow date March 18.

We approved Camp Gregory's using our Meetinghouse for its meeting March 11 and for its future meetings here.

We closed with a moment of silence at about 12:30 p.m.

Submitted by David Connelly, Recording Clerk

Please notify Nance Simkin ([Donald.simkin@yahoo.com](mailto:Donald.simkin@yahoo.com)) to send a special note of remembrance from the meeting. Donations of cards are welcome.



## **PASTORAL CARE NOTES**

Greetings Friends,

The holidays are behind us and we begin another year. Another year to be there for one another, another year of making our world a better place to live, and another year to walk with God. When people ask me what pastoral care involves, I start by telling them, that I am fortunate to love people. Never thought this would be my life's work, but it is and I am so grateful.

I wanted to tell you about a couple offerings I have begun for our meeting. First off I am offering a peer support for those who deal with depression. In our meeting, I have met with several people who struggle. Because of this, many struggle alone. Our group has met a few times and it is proving to be quite a wonderful healing experience for all of us. We stress confidentiality in the group, which is a necessity to making our group work. At anytime people can join the group for as long as they need. We meet once a month at my home. If you would like to attend please contact me, and I can give you more information. No one should suffer alone.

I am available to this beloved meeting, and want to be there for you. Oftentimes I only hear about folks needs after the fact. This makes it difficult for me to be there to help people in times of need. With that said, I am requesting that if you have a need or know of another who has a need, that you would inform me so I can follow up.

In the coming PRISMs this year I will post things that will keep you informed and provide you with support as we all walk our paths together

Peace,  
Craig ([craigkukuk@gmail.com](mailto:craigkukuk@gmail.com), 734 717-7719)

For help with transportation contact  
Joanne Rogers at 315-673-7345, 607-345-8468  
(cell) or fron10ac@gmail.com

### **INREACH + OUTREACH = UPREACH**

On Sunday, March 4th, 2018 we welcome everyone to gather at the Poplar Ridge Friends Meetinghouse for a day of exploring and worship.

Chad Dell, of the Manasquan Friends Meeting and Associate Professor of the Department of Communication at Monmouth University, will bring the message for 10am worship. He will talk with us about preparing a meeting internally -- tilling the soil, as it were -- prior to beginning the outreach process. He will also share with us a preview of the outreach work in which he has been involved.

Please join us after the meeting for Soup and Sharing. The program will include a more detailed look at Inreach and Outreach. Chad shall outline a step-by-step introduction of the "Seeking the Spirit" outreach program that was launched, based in part on Quaker Quest.

For those who wish to stay after the Soup and Sharing, Chad will continue with a meeting exploring the creation of a program that best meets our community's needs and interests. This will include an exercise or two, written materials, and a discussion.

For more information contact Anne  
([annedalton@me.com](mailto:annedalton@me.com))

### **FRIENDLY SUPPERS**

The Social Committee is once again hosting Friendly Suppers in February instead of a Family Night. Hosts have been selected and supper groups will be posted on Sunday January the 28th in the Meeting House. You should be hearing from your Host in early February to make arrangements for a date and for specifics regarding a dish to pass. Most people find these smaller gatherings quite delightful. If you have questions or were mistakenly left off the lists please contact: Hannah Richter at [hannahrichter79@gmail.com](mailto:hannahrichter79@gmail.com).

### **THE MARCH OF THE BIG-EARED NASTIES**

The "March of the Big-Eared Nasties" is back! Written by Auburnian Beverly Miller with music by Bob Miller, the show is an allegory based on the true story of the 1993 march in Auburn and the lessons that were learned about how love can conquer hate. First produced in 1994, it was written to help Auburn's families remember the lessons learned from the original event, and it is equally relevant today. The show is funded by a grant from Westminster Presbyterian Church, Auburn, NY.

The show will be performed on Saturday, February 3, 2pm at Morgan Opera House, Aurora and Sunday, January 28, at 4pm in Euterpe Hall, 68 North Division Street in Auburn. Kids admitted free; adults \$5.

For information call 315-224-7766.

The proceeds from "The March of the Big-Eared Nasties" will be donated to the Harriet Tubman Memorial, a project of the Harriet Tubman Center for Justice & Peace, Inc. and Harriet Tubman Boosters, which furthers the message of the show "Love is stronger than hate."



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

## THE QUAKER STUDY TOUR TO BOLIVIA

For those with the time, energy, and resources for foreign travel, do consider the Quaker Study Tour to Bolivia this summer. July 28 to August 10. There is a flyer with details available on request from Jane Simkin ([simkinjab@gmail.com](mailto:simkinjab@gmail.com)) or at the meetinghouse.

## QUERY SUNDAY

February 18th will be Query Sunday. Sally Otis will read the 6<sup>th</sup> query in NYYM Faith and Practice (2014).

*Do our children receive the loving care of the meeting? Does the influence of the meeting promote their religious life and give them an understanding of the principles and practices of Friends? Do we offer our young people opportunities for fellowship, for service, for religious instruction, and for participation in the life of the meeting?*

The current issue of Faith and Practice is online at <http://www.nyym.org/sites/default/files/NYYMFaithandPractice-2016Edition.pdf>. Paper copies are available in the Meetinghouse library

## STATE OF SOCIETY REPORTS

It is time to begin thinking about getting our meeting's State of Society report together. NYYM can only truly discern the state of our society if we all participate. We will discuss our meeting's response to the query at the February Meeting for Business.

**QUERY:** What is the current state or condition of your Meeting (or Worship Group)?

**Guiding Questions:** If you are in need of additional structure, we offer five guiding questions. These are not required but may assist your Meeting or Worship Group in finding direction.

1. What is the spiritual condition of your meeting, committee, or worship group? Where is there light? Where is there darkness?
2. Are meetings for worship and business held in expectant waiting for divine guidance? How do we feel about the quality of our worship and ministry?

3. How are love and unity fostered among us? If differences arise, how do we endeavor to reconcile them in a spirit of love and truth? How well do we do?
4. How do we make ourselves available in a tender and caring way when we sense a need for assistance in time of trouble? Do our members and attenders trust each other enough to make their needs known to others in the meeting, committee, or worship group?
5. How do we acknowledge the oneness of humanity and foster a loving spirit toward all people? Do we honor Friends' traditional testimony that all people are equal? How do we work to make these ideals a reality?

## CHILDREN IN FRIENDS MEETINGS

Excerpts taken from the NYYM Faith and Practice

Friends have a particular responsibility to bring children under the loving care of the meeting. Friends should be sensitive to the needs of these young people, nurturing their spiritual well-being and helping them grow into mature and concerned members.

Children remind us of the miracle of life and of the continuing opportunity for renewal. We recognize that children have that of God in them as do adults. We are called, therefore, to treat them with respect and dignity and to stay in dialogue with them. While their abilities and 'weightiness' vary according to their experience and clarity, we cherish the contributions that they make to family, meeting, and social life.

*"Our children are given to us for a time to cherish, to protect, to nurture, and then to salute as they go their separate ways. They too have the light of God within, and a family should be a learning community in which children not only learn skills and values from parents, but in which adults learn new ways of experiencing things and seeing things through young eyes. From their birth on, let us cultivate the habit of dialogue and receptive listening. We should respect their right to grow into their own wholeness, not just the wholeness we may wish for them."*

– Elizabeth Watson, 1980

## THE SOUTHERN CAYUGA WIDER PARISH LENTEN SERIES FOR 2018

Awakening Our Spirituality: using the multiplicity of resources available

2018	Topic	Presenter	Venue	Donations to
18 Feb	<i>Spirituality through Technology</i>	Bryan Bedell	UMA Aurora	King Ferry Food Pantry
25 Feb	<i>Spirituality through Poetry</i>	Howard Nelson / Charlie Weld	United Church of Genoa	Camp Gregory
4 Mar	<i>Gratefulness through Spirituality</i>	Dan McCollister	Scipioville Presbyterian	Health Tapestry
11 Mar	<i>The Faithful Countryside</i>	Linda Schwab	Trinity UCC Union Springs	Union Springs Food Pantry
18 Mar	<i>Experiencing spirituality in the season of Passover</i>	Ken Hover	King Ferry Presbyterian	Matthew House

Each evening begins at 5:00 PM in the host church with a crock-pot soup offering. Soups are provided by the many churches in the Wider Parish with each attendee encouraged to bring their own soup bowl, utensils, and mug. Drinks (coffee, tea, water, punch) will be provided. The evening's presentation will begin at 5:45 PM and conclude not later than 7:00 PM.

### A short description of each presentation:

18 Feb: *Occasionally we hear the refrain, "I'm not religious but I am spiritual." This can become an offering of understanding for not attending church. Oftentimes these same proponents are deeply engaged in communication forms utilizing the newly minted technologies of social media: Snapchat, FB, Twitter, Instagram, and others. A reframed understanding of social media can assist in experiencing the spiritual with the consequence of discovering a deeper relationship between religion and spirituality.*

25 Feb: *Howard Nelson and Charlie Weld will share poetry they have written as well as poetry written by others they choose to read. They will share how the writing of poetry leads into their own spirituality.*

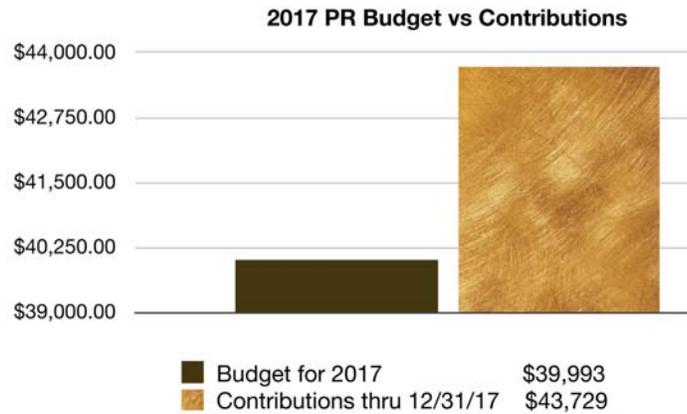
4 March: *Surprise is the beginning of philosophy as well as the beginning of gratefulness. There are degrees of grateful wakefulness. Great truths can be found in moments of surprise. The degree to which we are awake to this truth is a measure of our gratefulness. We will take a closer look at this process of awakening. It is the growth process of gratefulness.*

11 Mar: *A fresh reading of ancient texts can provide new insights into what it means to live faithfully in today's world. Old Testament scholar Ellen Davis offers such a resource in her book "Scripture, Culture, and Agriculture: An Agrarian Reading of the Bible." In these essays, Davis explores the pervasive biblical theme of land care and puts it in conversation with some of today's best writers on the subject. This session, "The Faithful Countryside," responds to Davis' prophets and poets, both ancient and modern, and what they have to say about the practical spiritual life.*

18 Mar: *Cayuga Lake has approximately the same surface area as The Sea of Galilee. While their shapes are very different, long versus round, they facilitate an inquiry into experiencing our upcoming Passover Season events. As illuminated in the sixth chapter of the Gospel according to John, similarities and differences can shape our experience of spirituality as well as help us see into the spirituality of our experiences.*



<b>Budget for 2017</b>	<b>\$39,993.00</b>	
<b>Contributions for 2017</b>	<b>\$43,729.00</b>	<b>109.34%</b>
<b>Budget Surplus for 2017</b>	<b>-\$3,736.00</b>	



### **POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING**

Clerk – Andy Simkin	Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk ( <a href="tel:734-717-7719">734-717-7719</a> )
Assistant Clerk – Hannah Richter	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Jeff Layton	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Charlie Weld
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 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, 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](mailto: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