

PRISM

The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

*Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly*

APRIL 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1 Easter Sunday</p> <p>10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller</p>	<p>2 7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's</p>	<p>3 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's</p> <p>7:00pm Youth Commitee Meeting @ Lockhart's</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry</p>
<p>8 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Christopher Sammond</p> <p>11:00am Coffee Hour</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond/Rhudy's</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 6:00pm Camp Gregory Dinner Dance</p> <p>6:15pm Cayuga Prison Worship</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Query Sunday, Mark Ferrari, #11</p> <p>ANNUAL Meeting for Business at the rise of Meeting</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'</p>	<p>18 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry</p>
<p>22 10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)</p> <p>11:30am Soup and Sharing - Facism: What Is It?</p>	<p>23 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'</p>	<p>24 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group</p>	<p>25 Deadline for PRISM</p> <p>7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas's</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Multigenerational</p> <p>6:00pm Family Night - Susan Weisend</p>	<p>30</p>					

Birthdays: 1st Samuel Simkin, Drew Schlichtmann; 4th Sally Otis, Cyrus Jack Schillenback, Mary Jo Granger; 9th Janet Otis; 13th David Moora, Ryan Latham; 23rd Howard Nelson; 26th Eddie Richter; 29th A. T. Miller; 30th Micheal Foulke

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

MINUTES FOR POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MARCH 18, 2018

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:50 a.m.; the minutes from the February 28 meeting were read.

Attending were David Connelly, Jim Frisch, Barry Kahn, Suzanne O'Hara, Dill Otis, Sally Otis, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Andy Simkin, Jane Simkin, Linda Simkin, Paul Simkin, Bill Tyler, and Charlie Weld.

- Speaking for the Youth Committee, Charlie said that the Youth Committee asks for reimbursement for Heidi Richter and Drew Schlichtmann, the two adult leaders to New York, for travel and other costs. Per person cost is \$107 for tuition and an estimated \$140 for parking, gas, a night in an Air B&B, about \$270 a person. The group is looking for a date to present a report their experience to Monthly Meeting. We approved reimbursing Heidi and Drew out of the Youth Fund.

- We listened to Ministry and Council's draft of our annual State of Society report to New York Yearly Meeting. The Committee used notes taken at the last Monthly Meeting and other sources to draft the report. After a few additions and minor revisions, we turned the draft back over to Ministry and Council for a final review and transmission. It will be published in PRISM.

Also, Ministry and Council prepared a minute in support of the proposal to record Rebecca Schillenback's gifts in ministry and sent the minute for New York Yearly Meeting Ministry Coordinating Committee to consider its approval.

- Our Annual Meeting is on April 15 and committee reports will be due on that morning. Andy will send a reminder to clerks of the committees.
- We asked the Building Committee to consider the cost and needs of insulating the south end of the Meetinghouse this summer and to discuss options to improve accessibility to the basement and report to us next Monthly Meeting.

We closed with a period of silence at 12:45 p.m.

Submitted by David Connelly, Recording Clerk.

ANNUAL MEETING FOR BUSINESS

Our Annual Meeting for Business will be on Sunday, April 15th, after the rise of worship. All are encouraged to attend the meeting. All committee reports should be prepared and presented at this meeting.



QUERY SUNDAY

April 15th will be Query Sunday. Mark Ferrari will read the 11th query in NYYM Faith and Practice (2014).

Do we foster reverence for life? Do we strive to find, to understand, and to remove causes of misery and suffering? Do we, in loving concern, extend assistance to those who require it?

The current issue of Faith and Practice is online at <http://www.nyym.org/book/faith-and-practice>. Paper copies are available in the Meetinghouse library

OUR FRIENDS THE ANIMALS – 5TH SUNDAY MULTI- GENERATIONAL MEETING

On April 29th, our multigenerational worship is especially welcoming to the young, and the young at heart. All are encouraged to come forward and participate! Children are invited to bring a special stuffed animal friend to Meeting. Songs, readings, story and responses will be built around animals as our friends and neighbors on the Earth. Please join us!

SOUP AND SHARING

Join your friend on April 22 after the rise of meeting for a soup and sharing "Fascism: What Is It?", presented by Tom Butler from Ithaca. Tom (Yale '71) retired to Ithaca in 2011 after a 40 year teaching career. He is the president of the board at Lifelong where he teaches classes on politics, economics, and the Supreme Court, as well as drawing. His talk on fascism attempts to clarify the actual meaning of the term rather than pointing any fingers and is entirely drawn from sources predating our current political climate. Please join us for this stimulating topic. A simple meal of soup will be provided.

FAMILY NIGHT - SUSAN WEISEND

On April 29 our family night program will feature Susan Weisend, local artist and educator. Susan is about to retire from Ithaca College, where she has been a Professor for many years. She will be sharing her career experiences and lovely artwork, following the meal. – The meal will begin at 6:00pm. Please bring table service and dish to share.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

May 2 - 7:00pm, community read discussion of book "Return to Sender" at Emily Howland School library. Sponsored by Aurora and Poplar Ridge libraries and the Anne Frank Tree Project Committee. All are welcome.

May 11 -6:00pm, Anne Frank Tree Project annual dinner and celebration. Dinner will be a Mexican meal and Make a Difference program will be an Immigration theme. Details next month.

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

CAMP GREGORY DINNER DANCE

Come to the annual Camp Gregory Dinner Dance Fund Raiser on Friday, April 13th at the Aurora Inn. \$30 Donation,

- Cash bar, Appetizers start at 6
- Dinner at 7
- Silent auction ends at 8:30
- Chinese auction & raffles during dance
- Dance from 9-11
- Music by THE DESTINATION

Can't make dinner? Come to the dance and enjoy the music for a \$10 donation.

Reservations required: Please call or email Karen Simkin a klsnl22@gmail.com or 315-364-8674.

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

HAZARD LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

On Monday, April 9th, 7:00 PM in our meetinghouse, all are invited to join the Hazard Library to review the library's past year. Enjoy a presentation on the status of the Opendore House Restoration Project. Come and meet the Library Board of Trustees while having some refreshments.

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

VISITOR FROM SAN PEDRO SISTER COMMUNITY PROJECT

Below are excerpts from the Talk given by Armando Marquez Ochoa on March 17, 2018 at the dinner to support the San Pedro Sister Community Project.

“THE SILENCE as a privileged form of encountering God. Not a sickly silence that closes and embitters people, but a fertile silence that permits listening to God and opening ourselves to others, to their needs in order to transform the reality that surrounds us.

These days have been a privilege for me because I have been able to live the silence of the snow, its whiteness and uniformity have permitted me to be in silence to enter into myself; the silence of the calm lakes that surround this blessed land, its beauty speaks to us of the beauty and goodness of the Creator; the silence of the cold, yes surely the cold favors being indoors, in my land, because of the heat we are always outside in the streets, the children play and shout, the dogs bark, some go and come.. this permits communication but it also favors noise and eliminates the silence.

...
SISTER COMMUNITY. As I have said, within the Program of Solidarity, we have the program of Sister Communities; there are some 15 in Canada, Australia and above all in the United States. It is without a doubt and you have confirmed it, a very enriching experience for both parties. We would be able to say that the spirit of this experience of sisterhood is that which we find in the book of Acts of the Apostles (Acts 3, 1-10) in which Peter goes to the Temple and finds a sick person begging and says to him “I don’t have gold or silver, but what I have I am going to give: in the name of Jesus, get up and walk” thus is the relationship of sister communities, it isn’t so much about sharing material goods but the mutual experience of Jesus that dignifies us. When you visit the community of San Pedro you share together simple foods, stay in humble homes, speak without barriers with people. Upon ending the visit, you say “thank you” and the people are surprised because they think: “thanks, why? if we never have anything, we are poor, what can we offer? “ Then they discover that yes, they have gifts, they have the values, the dignity of daughters and sons of God and, in this way they grow spiritually, their self-esteem is strengthened and they enjoy the happiness that the encounter brings; on your part you also grow spiritually

because you learn to see the world through the eyes of the poor, you experience that of the second letter to the Corinthians You will give of your abundance what they lack and they at the same time will give of what they have so that you will not lack. Thus reigns equality. Therefore among other things the relationship of the Sister Community is long term, it isn’t a project that you carry out in the community, finish and go away and do not return to see the participating families; no, here we are involved with a “permanent accompaniment”, respectful and constructive.

For all of that MANY THANKS, MAY GOD BLESS YOU.”

--translated by Jane Simkin



QUAKERS ENGAGING WITH THE WORLD

What are Quaker testimonies?

Quakers find that attending to the Light Within influences the ways we act in our personal lives, as well as the changes we work for in the wider world. We have noticed that certain values seem to arise more or less consistently when we try to stay close to the guidance of the Inward Teacher, and we call these principles our “testimonies.” They are not so much rules that we try to obey as the outcomes of our efforts to live in harmony with the Holy Spirit. Some commonly recognized testimonies include peace, integrity, equality, simplicity, community, and care for the earth.

Do I have to be a pacifist to be a Quaker?

Peace has always been a very important expression of how Quakers are guided by the Spirit. We wrestle with our understanding of what God requires of us. We are asked to consider if we are called to be pacifists, but this determination is left to the individual as conscience dictates. For many, it has meant a commitment to nonviolence and

conscientious objection to participating in war. Some Quakers, however, have served in the military. Quaker institutions, such as meetings, generally hold to a pacifist position. For more on Quaker pacifism, see the QuakerSpeak video *The End of Violence?*

What do Quakers think about science?

Quakers find compatibility in our longing for spiritual understanding and in our desire to understand the workings of the natural world. Many Quakers have been leaders in science, including some who have won the Nobel Prize in a variety of fields. We understand that people evolved over millennia, and we stand in awe of the creation. Many Quakers feel called to help protect and heal the world that we are blessed to inhabit. -- <https://www.fgcquaker.org/explore/faqs-about-quakers>

POVERTY AND STEWARDSHIP

(Excerpts from NYM Faith and Practice 2016 edition)

Jesus said, if you wish to be perfect, go and sell what you own and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.

– Matthew 19.21 (JB)

Those of us fortunate in worldly goods need to be aware of the suffering that poverty imposes on much of humanity. All that we have, spiritual or material, belongs to God and should be used in God's service.

Hundreds of millions of people live in privation hard to imagine here in America. As we seek social justice, we find that physical need is often the root of lawlessness, alienation, oppression, and prejudice.

We have seen that peace stands on a precarious footing so long as there is unrelieved poverty and subjection. Subjection, poverty, injustice, and war are closely allied. This situation demands sweeping political and economic changes; and we are convinced that the hope of freedom does not lie in violence, which is at its root immoral, but in such changes as may be brought about by fellowship and mutual service.

– London Yearly Meeting Epistle, 1937

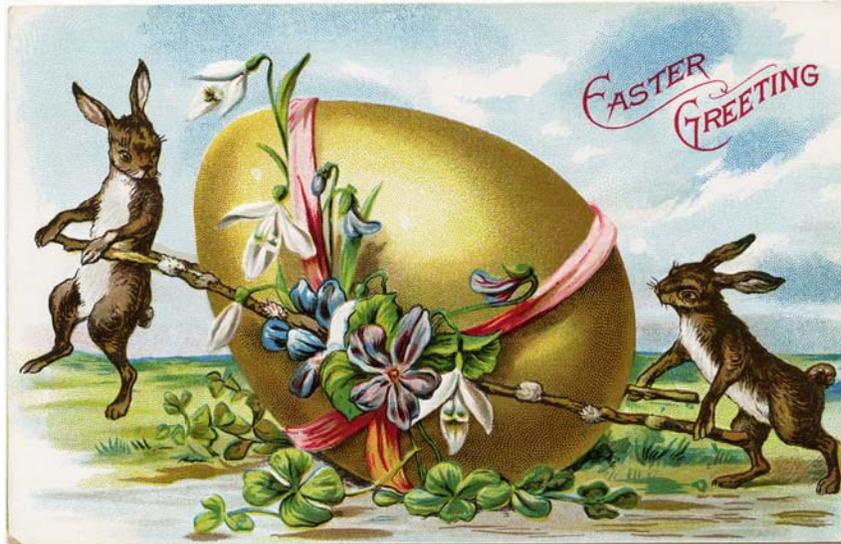
In the United States millions of people live in poverty without adequate food, shelter, clothing, and medical care; and they are often shamed by the very fact that they need help. Our concern for equality and justice encourages our support of government policies that might alleviate poverty and our involvement in private efforts to extend direct, personal help to friends and neighbors.

Let us reflect on our own participation in an oppressive economic system, remain sensitive to the potentials for violence in the ways we acquire and use material wealth, and consider whether we are gathering more than we need to live examined, committed lives. Accumulation of wealth beyond prudent requirements in a world of dire need may pose a threat to the life of the Spirit. It often leads to an attachment to financial reserves, which may obscure the call to bind up the wounds of the afflicted and to look to God for our true security.

Our gracious Creator cares and provides for all his creatures. His tender mercies are over all his works; and so far as his love influences our minds, so far we become interested in his workmanship and feel a desire to take hold of every opportunity to lessen the distresses of the afflicted and increase the happiness of the creation. Here we have a prospect of one common interest from which our own is inseparable, that to turn all the treasures we possess into the channel of universal love becomes the business of our lives.

– John Woolman, *A Plea for the Poor*, 1763

We should seek opportunities to make a positive impact on society by supporting socially responsible methods and institutions and avoiding those that oppress others and block a more equitable distribution of wealth. We who have at our disposal or under our direction funds for investment should avoid projects, no matter how rewarding, that might serve anti-social or immoral ends. We should also avoid the illusory benefits of highly speculative schemes or practices that seem, like gambling, to promise something for nothing. Especially we should avoid activities, whether involving money or work, that can bring benefit to us by hurting someone else.



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Andy Simkin

Assistant Clerk – Hannah Richter

Treasurer – Jeff Layton

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

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

Recording Clerk – David Connelly

Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Charlie Weld

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 1st 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 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