



PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

the Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Drop off items for Winter Gift Box 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
2 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Advice Sunday #1 3:00pm Camp Gregory Annual Meeting @ Meetinghouse	3 7:00pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	4 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	5	6	7	8
9 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller 11:00am Coffee Hour	10 7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting @ Otis'	11	12 7:00pm Mid- week Worship @ Sammond/ Rhudy's	13	14 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	15 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
16 Drop-off Winter Gift Box Items 10:00am Meeting for Worship – unprogrammed Monthly Meeting for Business at the rise of Meeting	17 9:00am Winter Gift Box Packing @ Meetinghouse 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	18 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	19 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	20	21	22 7:00pm The Shepherds Play @ Meetinghouse
23 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Schillenback 5:00pm Children's Holiday Program	24 Christmas Eve 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	25 Christmas Day	26 Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:00pm Mid- week Worship @ Berggren- Thomas'	27	28 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					

Birthdays: 1st Vivian Cunningham; 2nd Charles Reynolds; 4th Arlo Temelko-Post; 10th Cazimer George Schillenback; 11th Joe Dosch; 12th Walter Moora; 13th Walter Foulke, Susan Deacon; 14th Beverly Rejman; 16th Bethea Brice; 20th Ruth Ann Bradley; 22nd Benjamin Otis, Kay Burkett and Tina Post; 25th Skyler Dickinson Maassen; 26th Nils Nobben; 29th Mary Lou Charles, Cathy Mullarney; 31st Addison Young Otis

Anniversaries: 29th Bruce and Priscilla Berggren-Thomas; 31st Benjamin and Kristin Otis

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

**MINUTES FOR POPLAR RIDGE
MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS
NOVEMBER 18TH, 2018**

Present were Ruth Bradley, Phyllis Bunker, Jim Frisch, Craig Kukuk, Stephanie and Howard Nelson, Suzanne O'Hara, Sally and Dill Otis, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Rebecca Schillenback, Andrew, Paul, and Jane Simkin, Charles Weld.

Meeting began at about 12:00 with a brief period of silent worship.

Buildings and Grounds. Printed copies of the Building Committee report were distributed and read, (attached). Dill Otis and Larry Buffam recommend not starting until spring.

The contractor is pretty sure work will be above the septic tank. For protection of the oak tree less will be taken out there. Slope will be to the South West corner. The driveway will match the parking lot. In regard to protection of the memorial ornamental plum tree, it is at the highest place. There has been a hump of material that has built up over the years at the south and west edges of the parking lot. Slope will be toward the west and southwest corner of the parking lot. The grading out will be to zero 30 feet before the garden. Eventually grass may come through the gravel when there is a plastic layer because of soil. It is effective, but not 100%.

We now have \$20,000 in the Capital fund. We need to get on Chris Jansen's schedule for spring. The parking area gets to be a mess and a remedy is needed. This in addition to the accessibility issue.

Meeting approved Phase I and asking Chris Jansen to get the project on his schedule.

After current snow, the snow guards were found on the ground and an avalanche of snow also blew out some of the ramp railing. Improved attachment of snow guards is being planned. We need to be mindful of the possibility of snow falling on the ramp. Until we have experience with the new snow guard attachment the ramp will be closed with cones when there is risk due to snow on the roof.

There will be no parking in back while contractor is working. We may need to plan for back up parking. The contractor hopes to do the work between

Sundays. It should also be possible to complete the back steps removal during the same week allowing for temporary access to the basement.

Presentation of proposed budget.

A Ministry and Counsel line item was added.

A garden committee line item was added. Earmarked contributions will be moved to that line item

Ministry and counsel may need to adjust the pastoral counseling compensation and speaker honorarium pending outcome of meetings with Craig, A. T. and Rebecca.

Religious Education line item will be kept. Unused line items for Peace and Social Action and for Scholarship can be folded into miscellaneous.

There was discussion of what possible expenditures to put in the budget.

Ministry and Counsel will discern regarding a workshop with traveling ministers and using Phoebe Talcott Fund to support this. It is desirable to have transparency and to have what we spend as a meeting reflected in the budget. Account balances on all funds are to be available.



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Ministry and Counsel

The 9:00 am Adult education sessions from October 14 through November 11, covering history and William Tabor's Four Doors to Worship were well attended and well received with interest expressed in future such classes

Communications report

This report was read and is attached. The proposal is to make a single communications committee to include PRISM, Facebook, directory, telephone tree, website and e-mail. We approved. This will provide our meeting with a more cohesive communication strategy (internal and external)

Announcement of upcoming dates:

January 6, Peace and Social Action Soup and Sharing
"Embracing our Spanish Speaking Neighbors"

Christmas Program -- December 23.

Shepherd's Play – December 22

White gifts – December 16 to bring

December 17 to pack boxes

Name of White gifts to be changed to winter cheer boxes.

Report on two matters from NYYM Fall Sessions.

The Yearly Meeting has a large deficit. The budget is to be revisited at Spring Sessions.

There is a proposed alternative membership pathway outside of a Monthly Meeting. Involved a discussion of the meaning of membership.

Minutes were approved item by item.

Meeting closed at about 1:45 with a brief period of silent worship.

Submitted by Jane Simkin substituting for the Recording Clerk.

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

JANUARY SOUP AND SHARING

Save the date! On January 6th, 2019, Peace and Social Action will sponsor a Soup and Sharing on "Embracing Our Neighbors". This discussion will help us understand how can we show we welcome and care about our non-English speaking neighbors?

Becky Davis, ESL teacher at SCCS, and Debbie Patrick coordinator of local Food Pantry and Migrant Camp will be joining us for this discussion.

Contact Trudy (rbuxenbaum@gmail.com) for more information. All are welcome for this timely conversation.

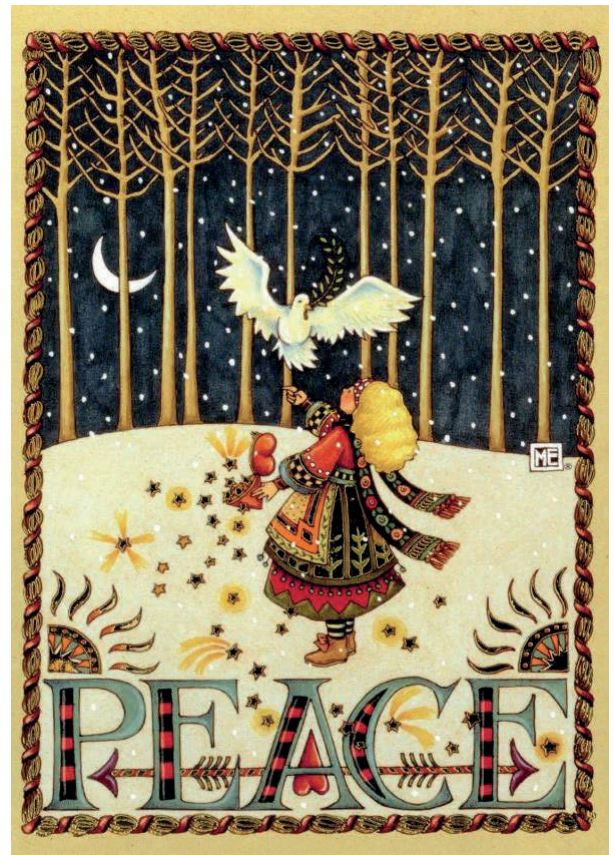
ADVICE SUNDAY

NYYM recommends that the advices and queries be read regularly in monthly meeting. The reading should remind us that all aspects of our lives are regarded as under divine guidance.

December 2nd will be an Advice Sunday. Advice #1 in NYYM Faith and Practice (2018) will be read.

From the beginnings of our Society, we have considered it necessary to assemble frequently for the purpose of public worship held in expectant waiting for divine guidance, thereby manifesting our belief in and dependence upon our creator. Meeting for worship is fundamental for us, and we should be diligent and punctual in our attendance. We seek, through communion with God, the strengthening influence of the Holy Spirit to enable us to discharge with fidelity the services we owe to God, to each other, and to all people.

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



WINTER CHEER BOXES

This year Poplar Ridge Meeting renamed White Gifts to Winter Cheer Boxes. The boxes were originally named for the white paper in which the boxes were wrapped. The boxes are now wrapped in papers of all colors. We hope that the new name will more clearly identify the purpose of these gifts.

The tradition of our white gifts for Christmas goes back many decades. Christmas Friends bring small gifts like homemade treats, fresh, canned or dried fruit, packaged pudding, individual packages of tissues, note paper, postage stamps or like items to the meetinghouse. The boxes are packed by volunteers and are delivered to community people who have a connection to the meeting that are in need of a bit of extra cheer during the winter season. Often receivers find the gift of the visit more important than the box. Many boxes go to people who may be unable to get out frequently due to poor health, age, or disability but we also include people that are facing other challenges.

Please drop off items for the winter cheer boxes in the meetinghouse kitchen on, or before, Sunday December 16th. Please do not bring things that must be refrigerated or that could spoil quickly. Clean boxes similar in size to shoe boxes are needed as well.

The boxes will be packed on Monday, December 17th. Anyone who would like to help should come to the Meetinghouse at 9:00 a.m. to decorate and pack.

If you would like to suggest someone as a recipient, please contact Karen Simkin (klsn122@gmail.com).



CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Lights, action, Christmas! Please join us on Sunday, December 23rd at 5pm for our annual Christmas Pageant, simple supper, and visit from Santa. The celebration begins as people of all ages, particularly children, perform the story of Jesus's birth in story and song. If you have little ones, please encourage your children to take part! We will begin discussing roles with the kids a couple of weeks before the big day, downstairs during worship time.

After the pageant, we will adjourn downstairs for a simple supper. Families, please bring easy to clean up finger foods to share. Cookies are always welcome. Hot chocolate will be provided.

The excitement returns upstairs with Santa's anticipated arrival. With help from his elves, Santa will visit with the children and give each child a small gift to celebrate a season of good will and sharing with others. The evening should be complete by 7:30. Please contact Julie at gem6183@gmail.com with questions regarding the holiday program.

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

THE SHEPHERDS' PLAY

The annual Shepherds' Play performance will be on Saturday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m in our Meetinghouse. We hope you will all be able to attend this special musical rendition of the Christmas Story. For many in this community it is the true beginning of Christmas!

CAMP GREGORY ANNUAL MEETING

Camp Gregory Annual Meeting will be at the Poplar Ridge Meeting House at 3:00pm on Sunday December 2nd.

This is a time when interested people from the community are encouraged to learn more about Camp Gregory and become members. Input and participation from Friends is encouraged.

Camp Gregory, a rustic camp on the Eastern shore of Cayuga Lake between Long Point Winery and Long Point State Park has been providing a camping experience for local children since the 1940's. It

depends on volunteer activity to keep the cost to campers affordable. When children are not at camp, community groups may rent the camp during available weeks. Many different kinds of skills and contributions are welcomed. Do consider coming and becoming a member.

This year the annual meeting is especially important. All are welcome whatever your previous or current connection might be or even if you have had no past connection but want to learn more. There are rumors that Pizza or some other food will be offered. Contact Jane (simkinjab@gmail.com) for more information.

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

WITHIN OUR REACH: JOY

"I salute you. I am your friend, and my love for you goes deep. There is nothing I can give you which you have not. But there is much, very much, that, while I cannot give it, you can take. No heaven can come to us unless our hearts find rest in it today. Take heaven!"

No peace lies in the future which is not hidden in this present little instant. Take peace!

The gloom of the world is but a shadow. Behind it, yet within our reach, is joy. There is radiance and glory in darkness, could we but see. And to see, we have only to look. I beseech you to look!

Life is so generous a giver. But we, judging its gifts by their covering, cast them away as ugly or heavy or hard. Remove the covering, and you will find beneath it a living splendor, woven of love by wisdom, with power. Welcome it, grasp it, and you touch the angel's hand that brings it to you.

Everything we call a trial, a sorrow or a duty, believe me, that angel's hand is there. The gift is there and the wonder of an overshadowing presence. Your joys, too, be not content with them as joys. They, too, conceal diviner gifts.

Life is so full of meaning and purpose, so full of beauty beneath its covering, that you will find earth but cloaks your heaven. Courage then to claim it; that

is all! But courage you have, and the knowledge that we are pilgrims together, wending through unknown country home."

Fra Giovanni Giocondo (c.1435–1515) was a Renaissance pioneer, accomplished as an architect, engineer, antiquary, archaeologist, classical scholar, and Franciscan friar. Today we remember him most for his reassuring letter to Countess Allagia Aldobrandeschi on Christmas Eve, 1513.



SEWARD HOUSE CANDLELIGHT TOURS

Dec 8th 2017 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Don't miss this beloved holiday pageant, a charming Victorian Christmas with all the trimmings and trappings. Costumed guides lead candlelit tours of the home, which is decorated in nineteenth-century splendor much as the Seward family would have known it. As visitors learn about Christmas traditions of the Sewards, actors portraying various members of the family emerge to share heart-warming holiday memories gleaned from their letters and diaries.

Admission: Adults \$15, Children 12 and under \$8
*Space limited. Pre-paid reservations required.
Call 315.252.1283 for tickets.*

2018 PR Budget vs Contributions



Budget for 2018	\$36,839.00	
Contributions 10/20/2018	\$30,953.00	84.02%
	\$5,886.00	

POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Hannah Richter

Assistant Clerk – Andy Simkin

Treasurer – Ruth Bradley

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 Sally Otis at sotis3067@gmail.com 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

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 Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting
 of the Religious Society of Friends