

February 2019

Welcome to February InfoShare, the email newsletter from New York Yearly Meeting. We have a lot of important events coming up:

- The winter **Meeting for Discernment**, an experiment in extended, waiting worship, is February 23 at Poughkeepsie Meeting. [Register](#) now!
- **What is Discernment? Quaker Decision-Making in the 21st Century**, a one-day [retreat](#) in the Young Adult Spiritual Nurture Series, is February 24 at Poughkeepsie Meeting (following Meeting for Discernment on Saturday Feb. 23)
- **Spring Sessions**, at which NYYM gathers and conducts business, is April 5-7 at Oakwood Friends School, Poughkeepsie, NY. More information is below and online. Registration deadline for Spring Sessions is **March 20**.
- **Summer Sessions registration is NOW OPEN!** Registration is much earlier this year due to the new **Pay as Led** payment arrangement. [Summer Sessions](#) is the annual week-long gathering of New York Yearly Meeting at Silver Bay on Lake George, NY, and all Friends are invited to attend. The [registration](#) deadline is **May 15**, but the earlier you register, the more likely you will be assigned your preferred room.

You can **announce your meeting's news** and **submit articles to *Spark***, our printed newsletter, by emailing me at communications@nyym.org. The deadline for the March issue, on Conflict, has passed. The theme for the May issue is **Quaker Commonality**. *What binds Quakers together in a common faith? What threatens to keep us apart? What makes us a religious society of Friends?* Articles should be 400-600 words in length and submitted by **April 6**.

You can keep in touch with the yearly meeting through our [Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), and [Instagram account](#). You can also explore the gatherings available to you at our retreat and conference center, [Powell House](#).

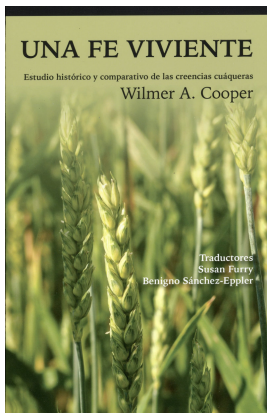
— Sarah Way, Editor

News and Announcements

Meeting Houses and Properties Fund

The NYM Trustees would like to remind all about the **Meeting Houses and Properties Fund**. From the *New York Yearly Meeting Trust Fund Descriptions*, August 2018 Version: “This fund was established in 2017 at the direction of the Trustees. The proceeds from the sale of the Plattekill Meeting House were deposited in this fund. The income is directed to the Meeting Houses and Properties designated use fund. The income from the Brinkerhoff fund is also directed to the Meeting Houses and Properties Fund. Per the Trustees minutes of May 23, 2017....the approved uses of that Fund are expanded to include maintenance, repair and new construction of meetinghouses and properties.”

The Trustees will be reviewing all applications to this fund at the end of May, so it is our request that you submit any requests prior to that time. Please visit the [NYM Financial Resources for Individuals and Meetings page](#) to find the form to complete and submit.



Spanish-language Quaker Classics

[Friends United Press](#) is pleased to announce the publication of two new Spanish-language versions of Quaker classics: *The Diary of John Woolman* and Wilmer Cooper's *A Living Faith*. You can purchase *El Diario de John Woolman* and *Una Fe Viviente* through the FUM Bookstore. We offer these with gratitude to Raices Cuaqueras for the work of translation into Spanish, and encourage Friends to check out their full list of translated texts.

Faith and Practice Now Available as a Talking Book!

The Committee to Revise *Faith and Practice* announces the release of the 2018 edition of *Faith and Practice* in two new formats through the Talking Books program of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. For participants in the Talking Books program, there is both a downloadable version and a cartridge version that's played on a machine. The Talking Books program is a free service for people with low vision, blindness or a physical disability that prevents them from reading or holding a book. Certification by a physician, healthcare professional or librarian is required.

Applications can be obtained through local libraries or [online here](#).

Write for Friends United Meeting's magazine, *Quaker Life*

Beginning in April, 2019, Friends United Meeting ([FUM](#)) will be centering each issue of [Quaker Life](#) around a Christian theme. Themes for upcoming issues of *Quaker Life*:

April, 2019 Grace

July, 2019 Joy
October, 2019 Justice
January, 2019 Hope

What we hope to receive in a submission is an account of your own experience with the theme—on your own, within your family or work place or neighborhood, in the life of your faith community. We are also eager to accept concrete or abstract images on the theme, accompanied by a brief description of the piece’s meaning, or process of creation, or both. We have no word limits for submissions, but most of our essays run between 175 to 1400 words. We are not able to accept handwritten submissions.

To submit your work, or for more information, please email danielk@fum.org. Submissions for the April, 2019, issue should reach us by **February 25**.

Upcoming Events



New York Yearly Meeting **SPRING SESSIONS**

Friday-Sunday, April 5-7, 2019

Hosted by Nine Partners Regional Meeting at

Oakwood Friends School, 22 Spackenkill Road, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

Nine Partners Quarter welcomes you to the 2019 NYYM Spring Sessions. These meetings, which carry on the business of the yearly meeting between the annual summer meetings, need the wide involvement of Friends to ensure that they reflect the diversity and depth of all our monthly meetings and worship groups. This spring we are again being warmly welcomed by Oakwood Friends School. All the sessions and committee meetings will be held on this beautiful campus.

Please find information on our Friday evening program on Pay as Led, youth programs, registration, hospitality, YM agenda, and advance documents [online](#) as they are made available. A detailed schedule will be posted online by March 1.

Registration is due **Wednesday, March 20.**

We look forward to welcoming you to our region!

Slavery and the Quaker Abolition Movement

A talk with Monmouth County historian and author Rich Geffken

February 15, 2019, 7-9 p.m.

Manasquan Quaker Meeting, 2257 Meetinghouse Rd., Manasquan, NJ

This overview of the history and legacy of New Jersey's 200-year embrace of human bondage is free and open to the public. Images and stories of the enslaved, slave owners, and the local Quaker abolition movement will be examined, including the influential early activities at Shrewsbury Meeting, Manasquan Meeting, and other Quaker meetings in western NJ.



The Power of Enough

a workshop with Jackie Stillwell, Right Sharing of World Resources General Secretary

February 22-24, 2019 at Powell House

Are you seeking to simplify your life and take personal steps to create right order in our world? Using queries, we will reflect and listen in small and large groups to how we approach these aspects of our lives. There will be very little lecture. We will experience perspectives through storytelling, games and singing. We'll seek to experience God's abundant love in worship and worship-sharing. We will leave with a deeper sense of self, connection and how our personal choices ripple forward to everyone.

[Click here](#) for more info and to register.

Speak TRUTH! To Power

Share your convictions at **ADVOCACY DAY, February 27, 2019,**
in Albany, NY

New Politics, New Action, New Budget, New Hope for All

*Sponsored by New York State Council of Churches, of which
NYYM is a member*



Wednesday, February 27, 9:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Event begins at the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State Street, Albany, NY 12210, and ends at the NY State Capital buildings (for legislator visits)

Register for the program [here](#). The \$25 fee includes lunch and materials.

Spend Tuesday night (4:30 p.m. Tues to 8:00 a.m. Wed) at Powell House, 524 Pitt Hall Rd., Old Chatham, NY 12136. Visit www.powellhouse.org or call 518-794-8811. \$75 fee includes overnight accommodations, supper, and breakfast before you head to Albany.



THE WHITE PRIVILEGE CONFERENCE

Attend the White Privilege Conference with FGC Friends

March 20-23, 2019, in Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Transform yourself with FGC Friends at the White Privilege Conference. Following the report and recommendations presented to FGC's Central Committee in October 2018 on rooting out racism and white supremacy, many Friends have asked "how can I help?" After you've read the [Institutional Assessment on Systemic Racism's Report and Recommendations](#), you may want to consider deepening your commitment to change by heading to the [White Privilege Conference](#) with FGC in March. Founded by educator and activist Dr. Eddie Moore, Jr., the conference strives to empower and equip individuals to work for equity and justice through self and social transformation. Friends who register to attend with FGC receive a discount, so visit [our WPC page](#) to begin the registration process.



Friends World Committee
for Consultation
SECTION OF THE AMERICAS
Comité Mundial de Consulta
de los Amigos
SECCIÓN DE LAS AMÉRICAS

¡Come and See! (John 1:46)

Friends World Committee for Consultation—Section of the Americas

[2019 SECTION MEETING](#) March 21-24, 2019

Lake Doniphan Camp and Conference Center (Outside Kansas City, MO)

Join Quakers from across the Americas to explore “Who is my neighbor?” and “How can we all be Friends?” through workshops, worship, Scripture and the ministry of FWCC Traveling Ministers.

In a time of conflict and uncertainty, the biannual Section Meeting provides vital opportunities for personal encounters with Friends, and spiritual transformation through the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God, the Inward Christ, the Light Within.

We urge all Friends who carry concerns for the Earth to attend the meeting as there will be an important conversation – **An Examination of Earthkeeping Through the Lens of Quaker Conviction** – with sessions on both Friday and Saturday. NYYM's Earthcare Working Group may have funds available to help pay travel costs.

All Friends are welcome to attend. [Preregistration is required.](#)



Quakers United in Publications (QUIP) Annual Conference

March 28-31, 2019, at Canby Grove, Canby, Oregon

This year's QUIP conference focuses on **Building Bridges:**

Quaker Writers and Publishers Working Together to Bring Us Together. Are you a “publisher of Truth”? Are you a writer, a publisher, an editor, a translator, or a bookseller? Do you blog, produce videos, write songs, create websites, or manage social media for Friends? At QUIP we are united in sharing the Quaker message with the world. Join us for worship, fellowship, education, and mutual support. For more information, click [here](#).

Reaching the Sacred Across the Divide

Come to Farmington Scipio Regional Spring Gathering

May 17-19 at Watson Homestead, Painted Post, NY

Registration Questions: contact Bronwyn Mohlke

FSRMSpringGathering@gmail.com

607-220-3219



FGC
FRIENDS
GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Friends General Conference Gathering – early registration opens soon!

June 30-July 6, 2019 at Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa

The Friends General Conference (FGC) Gathering is an amazing opportunity to immerse yourself in Quaker spirituality and to enjoy yourself among new and familiar F/friends. It's also a week-long opportunity to learn a new skill or take a deep dive into an issue you care about in the company of Friendly learners. This year's Gathering theme, *Peace in our Hearts, Justice in the World*, will offer a plethora of [workshops](#) focused on spirit-led activism and ways to practice nonviolence and foster community in our day-to-day lives. The evening programs will also reflect on the theme of peace and justice; see [here](#) for the full list of speakers and performers.

This year, thanks to a generous donation, there are [deep discounts](#) for children, teens, and young adults – including no program fees for children and teens! **Bring your family and come this year!**

Mark your calendar for the first day of Gathering Early [Registration](#), April 1st!

Spiritual Deepening Online Retreats with Friends General Conference

(FGC)

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to combine the excitement of online learning with the fun of meeting new Friends? That's the experience of participating in a Spiritual Deepening eRetreat, an online opportunity to build spiritual community with Friends and spiritual seekers while learning about Quaker thought and practice from the comfort of your own home. The eRetreats combine multimedia activities (like reading a poem or watching a video related to the main topic of the eRetreat) with personal reflection and opportunities to share your thoughts with other participants during a weekly phone check-in. There will be four opportunities to participate in Spiritual Deepening eRetreats this year—view the full schedule [here](#).



WOODBROOKE

Learn Online with Woodbrooke Quaker Centre

Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, in Birmingham, UK, supports the learning, spiritual growth, and active witness of thousands of Friends throughout the world. Our experienced tutors teach online workshops that can be accessed by anyone, anywhere. We offer a range of online learning opportunities which give the chance to deepen your connection to the spirit, discover more about the Quaker tradition, explore contemporary issues and learn about Quaker roles. Visit [here](#) for more information and [here](#) for the full list of courses.

Job Opportunities

Penington Friends House is hiring!

[Penington Friends House](#) (the Penington), an intergenerational, cooperative residential community in the Union Square neighborhood of Manhattan, has been providing affordable short- and long- term accommodations, meals, and fellowship for Quakers and individuals inspired by Quaker testimonies since 1897. The Penington aspires to serve as a model of cooperative living and the Quaker precepts of simplicity, integrity, community, and equality.

The Penington seeks to hire a **Director of Operations and Community** to guide the day-to-day management of the Penington and to help develop and implement the strategic goals of the organization.

This is a full time position, starting Spring 2019 and including some weekend and evening hours. Compensation includes a one bedroom apartment and partial board at Penington.

Read the full job information [here](#). To apply, email your resume and a cover letter to search@penington.org by **February 15, 2019**.

Director and Associate Director

Ben Lomond Quaker Center

1000 Hubbard Gulch Road, Ben Lomond, CA

[Quaker Center](#) is now accepting applications for a **Director** to begin work during the summer of 2019 providing spiritual leadership to Friends in the west, developing workshops; managing staff, finances and facilities; fundraising; and working closely with spirit-led Board in support of Quaker Center's mission. Compensation includes: salary, benefits, and housing in the glorious California coastal redwoods. Please see the job description [here](#). The application deadline is March 31, 2019. Send resume and cover letter to search@quakercenter.org.

We are also seeking applications for the position of **Associate Director**. This individual will support the BLQC Director to maintain a vital, spirit-led organization, which speaks to the spiritual condition of Friends and others. Compensation includes: salary, benefits and housing. This position will remain open until filled; applications received by March 31st may be prioritized. Please see the job description [here](#). Send resume and cover letter to search@quakercenter.org.

Staff Travel Calendar

February

February 17: *Woodbourne Quaker Prison Worship Group*: Helen Garay Toppins (Associate Secretary)

February 22-23: *Meeting for Discernment, Poughkeepsie, NY*: Steve Mohlke (General Secretary)

March

March 29-31: *Pastoral Ministry Retreat "They Gathered Around," Powell House, Old Chatham, NY*: Steve Mohlke

April

April 5-7: *NYYM Spring Sessions, Oakwood Friends School, Poughkeepsie, NY*: Callie Janoff (ARCH Director), Steve Mohlke; Helen Garay Toppins; Sarah Way (Communications Director)



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