

InfoShare

New York Yearly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends

Volume 15
Editor: [Steven Davison](#)

February 2016

Number 1

Welcome to February 2016 *InfoShare*!

[Download a pdf file of *InfoShare*, February 2016](#)

Spring Sessions 2016 — April 1–3, Somerset, NJ

Look for registration and other information by email later this week!

Extraordinary youth program, too!

Write for *Spark*!

May theme: *Conversations on Racism*. Timed to follow our participation in the White Privilege Conference to be held April 15–17 in Philadelphia, we invite your thoughts on Friends and racism. Send submissions to [Steven Davison](#), *Spark* editor. Deadline: April 25. This issue will also have information and registration for Summer Sessions 2016.

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April 15–17 • Downtown Marriott, Philadelphia

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White Privilege Conference

Invitation & Introduction to the White Privilege Conference 2016

April 15–17, 2016, Downtown Marriott, Philadelphia, PA.

[Visit our portal to White Privilege Conference information.](#)

[Register for WPC.](#)

[Visit the White Privilege Conference website.](#)

[Download a WPC information sheet.](#)

[Download a WPC brochure.](#)

An invitation to NYYM Friends. New York Yearly Meeting hopes to send 100 Friends to the Conference. We're already three-quarters there. NYYM is part of the Conference's organizing team and a co-host, along with Friends General Conference. FGC offers a substantial discount to Friends who register through FGC. This is an extraordinary opportunity to connect with the anti-racism movement. Please consider attending.

What is the White Privilege Conference? The White Privilege Conference (WPC) "examines challenging concepts of privilege and oppression and offers solutions and team building strategies to work toward a more equitable world."

WPC is a conference designed to examine issues of privilege beyond skin color. WPC is open to everyone and invites diverse perspectives to provide a comprehensive look at issues of privilege including: race, gender, sexuality, class, disability, etc.—the ways we all experience some form of privilege, and how we're all affected by that privilege. WPC is committed to a philosophy of "understanding, respecting and connecting."

Cost: \$200 with the FGC discount.

Theme: *Let Freedom Ring: Re-imagining Equity and Justice in the US.*

Who attends the WPC? The conference is unique in its ability to bring together high school and college students, teachers, university faculty and higher education professionals, nonprofit staff, activists, social workers and counselors, healthcare workers, and members of the spiritual community and corporate arena. Annually, more than 1,500 attend from more than 35 states, Australia, Bermuda, Canada, and Germany.

Notes & Announcements

New ARCH Staff

The ARCH (Aging Resources Consultation and Help) Program of NYYM has hired five new local coordinators to better serve our aging Friends and our network of ARCH Visitors in their ministry of care:

Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting

[Kathy Slatery](#), 716-988-5157
[Bronwyn Mohlke](#), 607-220-3219

Purchase Quarterly Meeting

[Martha Gurvich](#), 203-838-3433

New York Quarterly Meeting

[Yana Landowne](#), 917-684-8784

Shrewsbury & Plainfield Half-Yearly Meeting and All Friends Regional Meeting

[Abby Burford](#), 973-932-9785

Anita Paul and I continue to be available to Friends in NYYM for consultations, resources, and workshop facilitation. However Anita will be focusing more on mentorship and outreach, and I will be focusing more on administration of the ARCH Program. Your local coordinators have access to resources and experiences closer to where you are. They are as excited as I am to work towards our goal of cultivating a community of well supported aging Friends.

Thank you for your continued support of the ARCH Program!

Callie Janoff, Brooklyn Meeting, ARCH Director

Be A Junior Yearly Meeting Volunteer

As we look ahead to NYYM Summer Sessions at Silver Bay, Sunday, July 24, 2016 to Saturday, July 30, 2016, volunteers are being recruited to work for the Junior Yearly Meeting (JYM). We seek Friendly adults to work with young Friends from Grades 1-12. Perhaps there is someone in your meeting who has the gift of working with children or teens and would welcome this opportunity? It is a wonderful way to get to know the Yearly Meeting. We ask that meetings consider providing financial assistance to JYM volunteers from their community so that they may serve the Yearly Meeting in this way. Volunteers may also request that part of their Silver Bay costs be covered by JYM. Please contact [Rebecca Wolf](#) or [Ellie Rosenberg](#), this year's JYM coordinators.

Funding for your World Ministry leading

NYYM's World Ministries Committee (WMC) has funds available for Friends or Friends organizations with ministries in the wider world.

Visit the [World Ministries Committee page](#) to learn about these funds.

Download the application form [here](#).

Friends working with refugees

Are you working to help refugees? At Coordinating Committee Weekend this January, the yearly meeting's Witness Coordinating Committee heard several accounts of the work that local and regional meetings are doing to help refugees. Some Friends on the committee thought that Friends working in this area might appreciate knowing what others are doing, and that a phone conference call would be a good way for us to see how we can support each other.

Conference call. Sunfire, a member of the Committee, has set Tuesday, March 8, 7:00 p.m. as the date and time for a conference call for those working to help refugees to talk about what they are doing and how the yearly meeting might help them in their work. The number to dial to participate in the call is (712) 775-7031. When prompted for your access code, you should enter 164440. If you are interested in participating, please let Sunfire know by emailing him (sunfirequaker@earthlink.net) and he will send you a reminder on the day before the call. If you are working in this area but cannot make the call, please let Sunfire know so that he can keep you in the loop on what is developing.

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Job Opportunities

Full-time pastor, Adirondack Meeting

Adirondack Friends Meeting (gathered in 1767) is seeking a full-time pastor. Our programmed meeting is open and affirming, and includes waiting worship as well as a pastoral message. We are a small faith community with an enduring commitment to our Quaker heritage and to all in our Meeting. Our Meetinghouse and adjacent parsonage are nestled in the southern Adirondacks of upstate New York.

Please submit your letter of interest and resume to:

Ministry and Council/Search Committee
Adirondack Friends Meeting
27 Saratoga Avenue
South Glens Falls, NY 12803
adirondackfriendsmeeting@gmail.com

General Secretary, Baltimore Yearly Meeting

[Download a job description.](#)

Baltimore Yearly Meeting is hiring a new General Secretary. The successful candidate will supervise the office and staff and provide spirit-based leadership for our growing yearly meeting. BYM comprises 54 local Meetings in Maryland, Virginia, Washington, DC, and parts of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. We operate a vibrant regional camping program.

To read the full job description and learn more about BYM, click the link above. The General Secretary Search Committee is now accepting applications. We will begin evaluating applications on May 1, but will continue to accept them until the position is filled. To apply, send letter of application, resume, and names and contact information for at least three (3) references to the committee at gssearch@bym-rsf.org.

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Upcoming Events

Meeting for Discernment

February 27, 2016 • 9 to 4 • Westbury Meeting

[Download the flyer.](#)

[Download the registration form.](#)

[About Meetings for Discernment.](#)

Query: What is alive, engaging, exciting in your meeting? What is alive in you?

Come hear and experience what is rising in our meetings and in ourselves. Bring our meetings together and get to know each other better. Share extended worship among NYYM Friends.

Lunch and childcare is provided. We request a cash donation of \$15 to cover lunch and childcare. A reflections sessions for those who wish to stay will take place from 4:15 to 5:15. For more information email [MrDSC.NYYM\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:MrDSC.NYYM[at]gmail.com). Snow date is March 5.

Extended Meeting for Worship

February 27, 2016 • 9:15 to 3:30 • Rochester Meeting

“I want to tell you that the experience of the Extended Meeting for Worship has truly made a difference in my life. It reconnected me with the visceral sense of joy and wonder in Meeting for Worship, and surprise at its ease. In large part, that has made space for some clarity and changes in my life. I am thankful beyond words!” ~ participant

Do you yearn to deepen your experience of worship? Have you wished that meeting for worship didn't end when the clock struck the hour? Does extra time in worship with others feed your soul? Ministry & Counsel of Farmington-Scipio Regional Meeting invites you to experience Extended Meeting for Worship.

What: Extended meeting for worship. No queries or program.

Why: To offer Friends the possibility of worshipping more deeply together.

When: Saturday, February 27, 2016. Attend for a portion of the day or the full day!

9:15 am	Gather
9:30	Setle into worship
12:30 pm	Brown-bag lunch and discernment about the afternoon
1:30	Afternoon session
3:00	Clean up, say farewells, leave by 3:30

Where: Rochester Friends Meeting, 84 Scio Street, Rochester, N.Y. 14604.

Travel

Carpool: [Connect with others to carpool.](#)

Bus: [Bus route and schedule.](#)

Who: Everyone interested! Bring your spiritual hunger—and also bring your lunch.

Recommended: *Invitation to a Deeper Communion*, (Pendle Hill Pamphlet #366) by Marcelle Martin.

Next Extended Meetings for Worship:

June 11, 2016, at Elmira Friends Meeting

October 1, 2016, at Farmington Friends Church

Your Meeting or Worship Group is encouraged to host one of these extended meetings for worship on a Saturday in February, June, or October. For more information, and to learn about hosting an extended meeting for worship in 2017, contact Regional M&C co-clerk Heather M. Cook (Central Finger Lakes Meeting) at burritolass2@gmail.com or 908-377-9665.

Creating One Spiritual Community

Integrating Children into the Spiritual Life of the Meeting

Saturday, March 12, 2016 • 9am–4pm • Brooklyn Meeting

[Download a flyer.](#)

How can our meetings better integrate our children into the spiritual life of our Meeting? How can we give them a voice in their experience of Quakerism and an awareness of Quaker process? Participants will leave with new energy, new ideas, and new tools to implement these ideas.

Sessions will explore both the worship and the community aspects of Quakerism, including:

- Children in the circle of meeting life: joys and challenges
- Supporting children's spiritual development
- Hands-on approach to teaching children Quaker process

* Some parts of the day will be multigenerational and childcare will also be provided.

Who should attend? Religious Education Committee members, Ministry & Counsel Committee members, Parents, Families, and anyone with a concern for the spiritual life of our children. *It is recommended that meetings send two or more participants to the session. There is no cost to attend.*

Facilitators:

Mary Harpster has served on Ministry & Counsel and Religious Education Committees. As a First Day School teacher she develops programming that gives the students input into meeting life.

Melinda Wenner Bradley leads religious education workshops for yearly meetings, FGC, Pendle Hill, and Friends schools. She serves on the NYYM Youth Committee, and is the former clerk of the Children's Spiritual Life Committee of Philadelphia YM.

Quakers Involved in Interfaith Work

March 13–18, Stony Point Retreat Center

A weekend of worship sharing, reflection and conversation for Friends involved in interfaith work about how we as Friends contribute to that work and how we are affected by that work. Sponsored by Kitty Ufford-Chase of the Community of Living Traditions and Rebecca Mays of the Dialogue Institute of Temple University. Special subsidized rate of \$40 for the weekend (not including travel).

Register online: stonypointcenter.org/quaker-interfaith

For questions or concerns, contact kitty@stonypointcenter.org or 845-786-5674, ext. 121.

Purchase Quarter Retreat—*Surrender and Resistance*

April 9, 10 to 3, Purchase Meeting

Purchase Quarter is hosting a retreat facilitated by Mary Kay Glazer, entitled *Surrender and Resistance*. It is free and all are welcome, not just people from the quarter, and registration is needed so we get the right amount of food.

To register, please email [Laura Higgins](mailto:Laura.Higgins@purchasequarter.org) or call her by March 31: 203-849-0012.

NYYM/NEYM Annual Spring Retreat to Support Our Pastoral Meetings

April 15–18, Powell House

In past years we have limited this retreat to the pastors and Friends from our pastoral meetings, along with a very few Friends from our yearly meetings' structures which offer these meetings support. This year we are clear to open this retreat up to broader participation and welcome all those who carry a concern for our pastoral meetings.

In each of our yearly meetings, many of our pastoral meetings are in some form of transition. Some are between pastors. Others are in discernment as to whether to remain a pastoral meeting, or even a programmed meeting. Given this amount of flux we will be examining what gifts our pastoral meetings hold, how these gifts are valuable to our wider yearly meetings, what forms might best sustain these gifts, and how our yearly meetings can help to preserve what is

precious in this part of our tradition. We all seek thriving faith communities. How can our yearly meetings help our pastoral meetings thrive? What gifts can our pastoral meetings share which will help our unprogrammed meetings to thrive?

ARCH Visitor Training

April 22–24, Stony Point Retreat Center (lower Hudson Valley)

Do you feel called to a ministry of care for our oldest Friends? Join a vibrant network of trained ARCH Visitors by attending our next ARCH Visitor Training!

Contact [Callie Janoff](#), ARCH Director, 347-249-8470, for more information.

Quaker Party

June 17–19, Fifteenth Street Meeting & New York Quarter

[Download flyer.](#)

What: This June (June 17-19) Young Adult Concerns Committee is sponsoring a unique and exciting event in New York City. The purpose of this event is to pull together Young Adult Friends (YAF) who graduated High School in 1990 and later, into a weekend long celebration at 15th Street Meeting in New York City. Organizers are reaching out to those YAF who grew up in NY Yearly Meeting, Powell House, Junior Yearly Meeting, or local meetings, and have drifted away. They also are reaching out to our neighbor YAF in New England YM, Philadelphia YM and Baltimore YM.

Activities: There will be a variety of activities, worship opportunities, workshops discussions, and dancing! Best of all, it will be a time to visit with old Friends, and make new ones!

Cost: The cost is minimal. Hospitality provided in homes. There will be childcare.

Help. How can you help? Please help spread the word by emailing, mailing, putting in a newsletter, skywriting, posting on facebook, or handing out the attached flyer. Also, please contact your Friends, the ones you miss and really want to see but never seem to have the opportunity. We need your help to get in touch with Friends! When you find them, please email their names and email addresses to Gabi Savory Bailey nyym.yafs@gmail.com or Emily Provance at eprovince@gmail.com. We hope to hear from you! More to come!

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Conferences

Parents at Play

April 18–20, Powell House

[Download a flyer](#)

March 18–20, Powell House

A Quaker parents' retreat facilitated by Julie Glynn and Mike Clark. (Next door in the Anna Curtis Center is the 6th–8th grade youth conference.) Parents sharing and growing together, discussing how we nurture the spiritual lives of our children and ourselves. Run like a youth conference, but more fun because “we said so”.

***REnewal and REsources*—NEYM-sponsored First Day School conference**

March 18–20, Woolman Hill, Deerfield MA

[Download a flyer](#)

Resources and thinking from the growing edges of children's RE and spiritual formation and a gathering of a community of practice around First Day School issues

Playing in the Light: Godly Play / Faith & Play Training for Quakers

April 22–24, Powell House (see below also for this date)

[Download a flyer](#)

This powerful way of being with children can transform your First Day School or Friends school classroom, and nurture your own spiritual life. A full workshop to learn and practice the curriculum and process. Discussions to include weaving Godly Play/Faith & Play stories into a First Day School program with other religious education and spiritual nurture resources available to Friends.

Youth Institute II: *Living into Community Together*

April 22–24, Powell House

[Download a flyer](#)

Under the care of the Youth Committee of NYYM, hosted by Chris DeRoller and Mike Clark

Join us for an action-packed, joyous gathering filled with helpful stuff for anyone interested in creating multigenerational faith communities. Plenary sessions and breakout workshops: spirituality, feminism, creativity, service projects, sexuality and gender, games for spiritual work, and Quaker practices with youth.

Young Adults—*Continuing Revolution: Integrity as a Radical Act*

June 3–8, Pendle Hill

[Download a flyer.](#)

The series. The Continuing Revolution conference series is a social justice conference for young adult Quakers (18-35) held every summer at Pendle Hill designed to strengthen a networked generation of awakened and effective spiritually-grounded change agents. You can read more about the conference on [our website](#), but to share briefly, the conference is a six day, intensive training-oriented program designed around one thematic issue that changes year to year.

This year's conference will be centered around the theme of integrity as a radical act. We are working with that in its most expansive capacity, with inspirational speakers, workshops and trainings, worship and worship-sharing, fellowship, community-building activities, and discernment opportunities, all focused on wholeness, identity, accountability, interconnectedness, truth-telling, letting our lives speak, moving from ideas to action and much much more.

Program Cost: \$325 per participant; includes everything but travel. Scholarships are available; interested individuals should consider asking their local or yearly meetings for financial assistance.

Welcome! This conference is open and welcoming to young adult Quakers of all backgrounds, experiences, and Friends theologies, and also to seekers. Check [for updates](#). Contact [Katrina McQuail](#) with ideas or questions.

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Staff Travel Calendars

Gabrielle Savory Bailey, Young Adult Field Secretary

Feb 27	Meeting for Discernment, Westbury Meeting, Westbury, NY
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Callie Janoff, Director

Feb 27	Meeting for Discernment, Westbury, NY
Mar 16–22	Vacation
Apr 1–3	Spring Sessions, Somerset, NJ
Apr 22–23	ARCH Visitor Training, Stony Point, NY
Apr 29–May 1	Brooklyn Meeting Retreat, Powell House, Old Chatham, NY
May 5–6	NYYM staff retreat, location tbd
May 13–15	Farmington-Scipio Spring Gathering
May 19–20	Friends Services for the Aging CEO Retreat, Philadelphia, PA
May 30	Memorial meeting for worship, NYQM Cemetery, Brooklyn, NY

Christopher Sammond, General Secretary

February

12–14	Co-facilitate retreat "The Ground from which Vocal Ministry Springs" for Manasquan Meeting, Manasquan, NJ
17–23	Medical leave
26–27	Support Meetings for Discernment, Westbury Meeting, Westbury, NJ
28	Visit Westbury Meeting, Westbury, NJ

March

12	Participate in Meetings for Discernment Steering Committee day-long working retreat, Bulls Head-Oswego Meetinghouse, Clinton Corners, NY
18	Meet with Search Committee for the new Children and Youth Field Secretary position, Yearly Meeting Office, New York, NY
20	Visit Fifteenth Street Meeting, New York, NY

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