

New York Yearly Meeting Religious Society of Friends *InfoShare*

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Summer Sessions Registration Reminder

Summer Sessions will be held at Silver Bay YMCA of the Adirondacks on the shores of Lake George from July 17–23. The theme is “Peace with Earth: Transforming Our Communities.” Anne Mitchell, general secretary of Quaker Earthcare Witness, will be the keynote speaker. There will be worship sharing, a special symposium; an inter-generational Council of All Beings, and fellowship. Details and registration forms are in the May *Spark* and available on line at www.nyym.org. In keeping with the theme of Summer Sessions, Friends are encouraged to travel to Silver Bay via car pool or other means of group transportation.



Healing Work at Silver Bay

Buffy Curtis and Healing Center Support Committee

Sproul Pavilion will have regularly scheduled hours for healing work again this year at Summer Sessions. The Healing Center is under the care of the Committee on Worship at Yearly Meeting Sessions.

We are calling for Friends who work in the healing arts or are interested in helping with healing work. We are looking for volunteers who would offer their skills in the healing arts or support the work by greeting and scheduling. Skills can include energy work (Healing Touch, Reiki, Therapeutic Touch, etc.), massage, Rolfing, craniosacral, spiritual counseling/direction, or other areas of healing work. Friends should have training with qualifications or experience to practice. Friends who are called to the work are welcome to “buddy” with other practitioners as possible. We will need people to meet and greet and help match those desiring work with the practitioners available. Those wishing to hold the space in prayer are welcome indeed. It is yet another extension of worship after all.

Please contact Buffy Curtis, havehelpinghands@gmail.com; 508-566-6639 (cell) to offer your assistance, make suggestions, or let us know what else you need. We plan to talk and meet with volunteers at the beginning of Silver Bay sessions to organize and clarify details. We look forward to hearing from you. Look for us at the Healing Center.

Everyone Invited to Meeting for Discernment!

The next Meeting for Discernment will be on Tuesday, July 19, in the Silver Bay YMCA Auditorium. In recognition of our Summer Sessions theme, "Peace with the Earth: Transforming Our Communities," this Meeting for Discernment will be devoted to looking at how our faithful life in the Spirit may support us in the work of earthcare and other witness in the world. Meetings for Discernment are times of extended worship, open to all. Friends appointed by their monthly meetings and worship groups form the core of the body of listening hearts. We hope you will join us.

In preparation, we invite you to spend time sitting with the following query, letting the words unfold within you in ways that speak to your condition, that resonate in harmony with what you know of Trust and Love and Light and Truth: **How has your faith helped you to keep your spiritual grounding, hope, and optimism while living your witness in the world?**

The Tuesday morning session will run from 10:15 to 12:15, with Junior Yearly Meeting joining us at noon. After lunch, at 1:45, the Yearly Meeting will gather for an hour of open meeting for worship, and the afternoon session of the Meeting for Discernment will flow from that worship, running roughly until 4:00 p.m. In the evening, from 7:45 to 9:15, there will be an opportunity for Friends to reflect on their experience of the day's Meeting for Discernment. **Funds are available to help with travel and accommodations.** For additional information please contact: Janet Hough, clerk, Meetings for Discernment steering committee at: janet.hough@verizon.net or 914-769-6885. More information available [here](#).

Stevens Fund Assistance Available

The Stevens Fund is administered by the NYYM Trustees in consultation with the Ministry & Pastoral Care Committee and Ministry Coordinating Committee. The fund consists of two bequests, from the estates of Seneca Stevens and Lindley Stevens to the former Orthodox NYYM. Terms of the bequest were for "the aid of superannuated ministers, missionaries, or other outstanding Christian workers among the Orthodox Friends, aged or otherwise incapacitated...to be applied towards supplying the necessities of life, such as food, clothing, shelter, and care to those who through age or disability, may be in need."

Funds are disbursed twice a year by the NYYM Trustees upon the recommendation of Ministry Coordinating Committee and Ministry & Pastoral Care Committee. Persons who meet these guidelines may be identified by their monthly meeting and/or by concerned

Friends. Interested Friends should contact Buffy Curtis, havehelpinghands@gmail.com, or David Herendeen, daherendeen@gmail.com.

Ithaca Monthly Meeting Seeks Ideas for Handling Hearing Loss

Ithaca MM is exploring dealing with hearing loss among members and attenders. We are gathering information, experience, and valuable input from other monthly meetings. Please send any suggestions or ideas that have worked for you, especially if you have a listening or amplification system and are pleased with how it functions, to Susan Wolf, quakerwolf@gmail.com, (607) 272-1618. Thank you for your help.

An Invitation from Manhattan Meeting

Manhattan Monthly Meeting invites everyone to join its Monthly Prayer Meeting, via conference call, on the third Tuesday, of every month from 8:00–9:00 p.m. How does this work? Your totally free conference telephone number is: 712-432-6100. Your participant passcode: 91703#. If you have difficulties signing on the date and time mentioned, please call 646-334-2978. Please join with your hearts open ready to lay your burdens down and share your gifts with one another.

Friends General Conference Gathering “Meeting at the Center”

The 2011 Gathering will be from July 3–9 at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. The theme will be “Meeting at the Center.” The Gathering features Spirit-led programming for children, a dynamic high school program, and opportunities for Friends with common interests to gather. There will also be special opportunities for young adults. Choose from a wide variety of small, week-long workshops such as Quilting, Racism, Lobbying, Truth, Clerking, Bible, Eldership, and Dancing in the Light. You should register ASAP. Further information is available at www.fgcquaker.org/gathering or from FGC, 1216 Arch St. #2B, Philadelphia PA 19107; 215-561-1700.

FGC Hires Youth Ministries Staff Person

Judy Hale Reed has been hired by Friends General Conference (FGC) to work on Youth Ministries projects through this summer. Her primary responsibility is informing and training Friends about FGC’s new resource, a book called *Build It! A Toolkit for Nurturing Intergenerational Spiritual Community*. This book is a compilation of best practices for strengthening intergenerational spiritual community in our meeting and includes information, discussion, activities, and games.

If you would like her to provide an announcement for your Web site or an article for your newsletter, or talk to you about other ways to promote this valuable resource, contact: Judy Hale Reed, Youth Ministries coordinator, Friends General Conference, 1216 Arch St. #2B, Philadelphia, Pa 19107, 412-999-2422, judyhr@fgcquaker.org

2011 Friends United Meeting (FUM) Triennial, July 27–31

The FUM Triennial will be held at Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio, July 27–31. Unique to this Triennial will be a global marketplace, an ice cream social, and the welcoming of incoming General Secretary Colin Saxton. Join Friends from across the U.S., Canada, Cuba, Jamaica, Ramallah, and Belize to discuss the current work and the future of FUM ministries. Workshops will be held on Wilmington's Grow Food, Grow Hope initiative, Young Adult Friends, the Peace Curriculum, and intervisitation. Featured speakers include Sam and Becky Barber, Randy Quate, B. Welling Hall, and Sylvia Graves. Registration: Online at www.fum.org or call the FUM office at: (765) 962-7573, or e-mail: info@fum.org.

New Editor for *Friends Journal*

Martin Kelley has been appointed editor at Friends Publishing Corporation, publishers of *Friends Journal* and friendsjournal.org. Martin is a South Jersey Friend with a love of outreach and ministry and a passion for looking afresh at Friends' testimonies, language, and practices. Before becoming an independent Web developer and social-media consultant, he worked for Friends General Conference, Friends Publishing Corporation, and New Society Publishers. He is the creator and publisher of QuakerQuaker.org, a community site for the Convergent Friends movement. He cofounded the Quaker Ad Network with Friends Publishing Corporation in 2010.

Summer Events at Farmington Meeting

The 1816 Farmington Quaker Meetinghouse Museum will be presenting a series of summer open houses, tours, and lectures:

June 25—Christopher Densmore, curator, Friends Historical Library: "Why Farmington Was Such a Hotspot of Reform"

July 30—David Anderson, chair, Rochester and Monroe County Freedom Trail Commission: "Austin Steward and the Underground Railroad in Farmington"

August 27—Carol Faulkner, History Department, Syracuse University: "Lucretia Mott, American Hero"

All talks are at 2:00 p.m. at Farmington Friends Meeting, 187 County Rd. 8, Farmington, NY. Funded by the New York Council for the Humanities. For information contact historicalnewyork@me.com.

All Welcome to Quaker Worship in Historic Wheatland Meeting House at Genesee Country Village

Date: Sunday, July 31, 2011

Place: Wheatland Meeting House, Genesee Country Village, Mumford, NY

Time: Check in at 10:30 am, Worship from 11 am to noon

Lunch: Dish-to-pass (potluck) lunch following worship at the Nature Center Pavilion; open to all

Admission Rate: Adults: \$10; Teens 13–17, \$5; Children 12 and under are free! (GCV Members are also free). Financial assistance available upon request.
Family rate: \$30 (two adults and their teen kids or grandkids).

Registration: Send payment and a list of people in your group attending (with age range—adult/teen/child) to Suzanne Blackburn, 9609 Riley Lane, Nunda NY 14517. Make checks payable to Suzanne Blackburn. For questions, contact Suzanne at kandsblackburn@gmail.com or 585-468-5274.

Fellowship of Reconciliation Middle East Delegations

The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) has participated in creative peacemaking efforts in the Middle East for more than 30 years. Upcoming delegations led by FOR and FOR affiliate Interfaith Peace-Builders are listed below. Contact Leila Zand at 518-831-9005 or lzand@forusa.org for further information.

Balata Refugee Camp, Palestine. Sept. 6 to Oct. 3—Call for Artists. Artist Lily Yeh and Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, founder of the Shomer Shalom Network for Jewish Nonviolence, will lead the delegation. We are looking for artists in visual art, photography, and hip-hop, aged 25–35 with experience in Palestine solidarity work. We are particularly interested in Arabic speakers. For more information, contact Rabbi Gottlieb at rabbilynn@earthlink.net.

Spots still available in the July delegation, “Today’s Realities, Tomorrow’s Leaders” This delegation will explore current realities of life for Israelis and Palestinians, including settlements, the occupation, and the peace process, by learning directly from those living there. Delegates will also explore issues relevant to young people in the region, including efforts to educate and empower future generations working toward a just resolution to the conflict. Led by Mohammed Abu-Nimer, who has just returned from Islamic Peacebuilding projects in Chad and Niger, and Emily Siegel, delegations coordinator at Interfaith Peace-Builders and a trained facilitator and dialogue leader.

Peace Studies at the University of Basel, Switzerland

The World Peace Academy (WPA), in cooperation with the Advanced Study Center at the University of Basel, offers a 9-month full time Master of Advanced Studies in Peace and Conflict Transformation. Students can begin the program in March, June or September each year. The program is accredited by the University of Basel. All courses are taught in English by leading specialists in their field. The WPA program is designed to provide students with the intellectual competence to analyze conflicts and their underlying causes and practical skills in reconciliation, conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

For more information and to apply, see www.world-peace-academy.ch or write to: info@world-peace-academy.ch, or dietrich.fischer@gmail.com

**Gabrielle Savory Bailey, Young Adult Field Secretary
Travel Schedule for June and July 2011**

June 12 Ridgewood MM
19 Brooklyn MM and YAF picnic
July 17–23 Summer Sessions at Silver Bay

**Christopher Sammond's Travel Calendar
June 1–July 31, 2011**

June 11–12 Visit Ridgewood Monthly Meeting, Ridgewood, NJ
July 9 Visit Green Haven Prison Preparative Meeting, Poughkeepsie, NY
16–23 Attend Summer Sessions, Silver Bay, NY
27–31 Attend FUM Triennial, Wilmington, OH