

November 2019

Dear Friends,

At Fall Sessions the yearly meeting approved funding for an interim, part-time Young Adult Field Secretary through June 2020. Marissa Badgley has agreed to continue to serve. If you have any young adults connected to your meeting—even if they don't attend—PLEASE forward their contact info to [Marissa Badgley](#). See upcoming events for young adults [below](#).

If you know a teenager (ages 13-18), please have them take this [quick survey](#) so we can learn how the yearly meeting can better serve their needs.

This is an **OPEN CALL** for articles, poems, artwork, book reviews, etc., **for the January issue of *Spark***, the printed NYYM newsletter. Have something to say about Fall Sessions? Want to update Friends on what your committee or your meeting is doing? Do you have a daily spiritual practice that you find helpful? Thoughts about the year ahead? We're starting off 2020 – the turn of a new decade! – with a collection of anything you want to share with other Friends. Please write! The submissions deadline is **Dec. 9**. Articles for *Spark* should be 400-600 words long, emailed to communications@nyym.org.

Please send news and events from your meeting so I can share them in future editions of InfoShare. [Email](#) or use this [form](#) to submit items.

Follow the NYYM social media accounts! See the NYYM [Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), and [Instagram account](#).

– Sarah Way, Editor

News & Announcements

Calling All Young Friends (ages 13-18) of New York Yearly Meeting:
Take the NYYM Youth Survey

At New York Yearly Meeting's Summer Sessions, some Friends noticed that

while young adults have spent time and energy naming their needs, we haven't heard much directly from our youth (the folks around 13-18 years old) about YOUR needs. As NYYM discusses the position(s) of Youth/Young Adult Field Secretary, it is important to hear from you!

We have spent some time learning about what activities are available for youth connection and care at yearly meetings across the US and Britain, and have used these conversations as the basis of this (anonymous) survey:

tinyurl.com/nyymyouthsurvey.

Please complete it, even if you don't go to meeting or Powell House (or perhaps ESPECIALLY if you don't!). It will only take 2 minutes or so. We are excited to hear from you!

In Friendship,
Beth Kelly, Emily Provance, and Corina Tulevech

New Quaker-Produced Video on War, the Environment, and Your Taxes

Members of the Friends Meeting at Cambridge (MA) community have produced a 28 minute video, "*Peace and the Planet: War, the Environment, and Your Taxes*," addressing the common bonds among environmentalists, peace activists, and advocates for economic justice. The video reviews the impact of war and preparations for war on the environment and on the availability of public funds for health, education, infrastructure repair, and other social needs. It is suitable for individual as well as group showings.

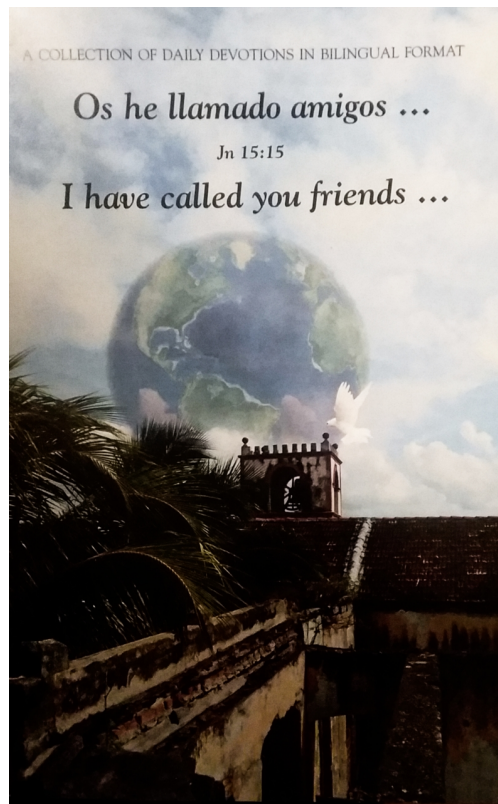
Peace and the Planet references the estimated million peace, justice, and environmental sustainability organizations world-wide. It discusses successful efforts at conflict resolution and the relatively new concept of *Just Peacemaking* as formulated by Jewish, Christian, and Muslim thinkers.

You can [view](#) a 5-minute trailer or watch the entire [video](#).

The video can be downloaded for public viewing from the Friends Meeting at Cambridge website, under "[Outreach](#)."

Spanish/English Devotional Now Available

A new book, *Os he llamado amigos/I have called you friends*, published by Janine Saxton, is now available for purchase. This devotional includes contributions from native Spanish-speaking Friends from Cuba, Mexico, and South America. Saxton invited and translated these devotions, and has published them at a price meant to be affordable to Friends outside the USA. As far as she knows, it's the only Spanish/English Friends devotional available. The book can be obtained by emailing Janine at mamaj9.js@gmail.com. Copies will cost \$5.00 each, shipping by media mail included. Expedited shipping is also available by arrangement.



Powell House SUBSCRIPTIONS

Don't forget that monthly meetings (and individuals!) can sign up for a subscription to Powell House that enables them to send one person free to each adult conference. See [here](#) for more details.

Reflections of a Moderate Quaker

Writings by Roy Allen, Rochester Meeting

Roy Allen has written a series of epistle-like letters designed to promote a greater tolerance of free speech within our beloved Quaker meetings and, perhaps, within the larger faith-based community. While Quakers are indeed a diverse collection of truth seekers, it is also true that dissent from group-think ideas about social, economic, racial, gender, and political advocacy is not always welcome. Therefore, our actual practices often reflect secular philosophies (constructs of people) and are not indicative of the spiritual faith we seek to live by, nor accepting of the extraordinary pluralistic society in which we depend upon for our freedom to worship as we please.

Topics include white privilege, Christ as the foundation of Quakerism, technology, climate change, and evangelism. [Email Roy](#) for a full list.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Conferences at Powell House

Powell House is the conference and retreat center for New York Yearly Meeting.



Conferences for adults and families:

Quaker 12-Step Weekend

November 22-24

Led by facilitator Juliet Wright, the weekend will include many 12-step activities including 12-stepping a problem, the patterns of codependency and characteristics of recovery, meeting in a bucket, gratitude boxes, individual sharing, writing and sharing on program literature from your 12-step program, singing and more!

Retreat on Eldering and Healing

For young adult Friends

Date: December 6-8

See below for more details.

Cherish Friends and Family—New Year’s Celebration

December 30, 2019-January 1, 2020

This annual, multigenerational conference is one of our most popular. There are workshop slots for YOU to offer an activity. Bring your instruments, a song, story, poem and/or skit to share with everyone at Cabaret! Celebration concludes with brunch on January 1st. Come and be part of this intergenerational celebration.

Dwelling Deep, a Contemplative Retreat

with Linda Chidsey and Carolyn Moon

January 17-20, 2020 (Through Monday lunch)

During this extended weekend, Friends are invited to enter more fully into the silence and to experience the deeper rhythms in which we might live. This retreat will include the opportunity for solitude, individual and corporate worship, silent meals, and “active” silence.

Upcoming youth programs:

[At the End of Your Line? Build a Bridge](#) – 11th & 12th grade plus YOUNG ADULTS, November 22-24

In our lives there's a lot to be angry and fearful about. But we are not alone. Please join us for a weekend of discussing what we can do with that fear and anger in a nonviolent, productive way!

[Winter Eyes](#) – 4th & 5th grade, December 6-8

We will practice using “winter eyes” for these short cold days of winter: seeing color in gray days, feeling the joy of being together, and practicing ways to bring energy and warmth into ourselves and others.

[Wintersong](#) – 7th to 12th grade, December 13-15

This is Powell House's traditional two-house celebration where older middle schoolers join high schoolers to create a vibrant, joyful community.

Witness to End Gun Violence

[Manasquan Friends Meeting](#) will be holding a [Witness to End Gun Violence](#) event.

Date: Saturday, November 23, 2019

Time: 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Location: Manasquan Friends Meetinghouse, 2257 Meetinghouse Rd., Manasquan, NJ (on the Manasquan Circle at Rt. 35 and Atlantic Avenue)

The schedule for the event includes worship sharing, a presentation from a representative of Moms Demand Action, an outdoor vigil including gathering signatures on a petition, and light refreshments and conversation.

SUPPORT [YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS!](#)

Upcoming Programs for Young Adults

[Retreat on Eldering and Healing](#)

Date: December 6-8 (dinner Friday-lunch Sunday)

Location: Powell House

This weekend will be devoted to learning about eldering and healing within the Quaker tradition. We will explore the history of these practices while building our skills and capacity to use our gifts in these areas.

[Virtual Workshop](#): Q&A with Quaker Orgs and Groups

Date: Wednesday, December 18

Time: 7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

ZOOM MEETING ID: 359070600

Friends, please consider hosting a retreat or workshop at your meeting in 2020. The Young Adult Field Secretary is looking for locations outside of NYC for spring workshops and retreats. Generally, host meetings provide space, coordinate hospitality (in homes or in meetinghouse), and designate a volunteer for childcare. Some hosts also coordinate meals through potlucks or catering. The young adult group will work with you to determine what you are best able to take on. If you or your meeting are interested in hosting, please reach out to the Young Adult Field Secretary, [Marissa Badgley](#). *Please let Marissa know by December 1 (if at all possible) if your meeting can host on any of the following dates.*

- *Friday, February 7 - Sunday, February 9: Discovering, Unleashing, and Living into my Spiritual Gifts*
- *Saturday, March 14: Workshop on Giving Vocal Ministry*
- *Saturday, April 18: Workshop on Fundamentals of Spiritual Leadership*
- *Friday, May 15 - Sunday, May 17: Retreat on Building the Future of Quakerism*
- *Saturday, June 20: Bearing Witness in the World*



Quaker Institute on Mysticism and Resistance

Please visit Pendle Hill for their second Quaker

Institute: [Practicing Our Quaker Heritage of Mysticism and](#)

[Resistance](#), December 12-15, 2019, with Stephen Angell, Eileen

Flanagan, Dwight Dunston, Tom Hamm, Ingrid Lakey, Amanda Kemp, among those on hand for worship, plenary talks, panel discussions, and workshops on listening, hearing, discerning and following the Inward Light into the world.

Young Adult Friends: Submit Artwork for Juried Exhibit

For *Young Adult Friend* artists, Pendle Hill is soliciting submissions for a juried exhibit to open in April 2020 entitled [Expressions of Peace: Envisioning a Just Community](#). Click the link for more information.

Opportunities

Seeking New Powell House Youth Director

Are you looking for a role where you can help young people experience what it is to be loved unequivocally? To guide them through the process of truly knowing themselves and helping them see how they can make a difference in the world?



If you desire to be in a role where you are making a marked difference in the lives of young people, we invite you to apply to the role of [Youth Director of Powell House](#). Powell House is the Conference Center of the New York Yearly Meeting and the Youth Program hosts approximately two weekend retreats a month for children ranging from 4th to 12th grade. The Powell House Youth Directors will be responsible for creating programming that is impactful and meaningful for attendees, manage logistics of the program and be accountable for programming enrollment and advertisement. This is an opportunity to make a significant impact and enrich the lives of hundreds of children.

Powell House Youth Director Requirements

- Direct experience working with children and adolescents and creating impactful programming for youth
- A clear understanding of the practices and values of Religious Society of Friends as well as a desire to share Friends' values with young people

Powell House Youth Director compensation includes salary, housing, some meals, and a complete benefit package.

If interested, please contact [Regina Baird Haag](mailto:regina@powellhouse.org), Co-Executive Director, Elsie K. Powell House, Inc. regina@powellhouse.org

Resident Sought for Rockland Friends Meetinghouse

Are you a responsible adult or couple looking for very reasonable rent in the

NYC metropolitan area, a few obligations to look after the building (not cleaning), and being a welcoming presence when you are there? Rockland Meeting is in a wooded, suburban area, so a car is probably necessary.

For more, contact [Alice H Coulombe](#), clerk of Rockland Meeting.

Pendle Hill Seeks Executive Director

[Pendle Hill](#) seeks an Executive Director. The Executive Director, in concert with the Board, leads Pendle Hill, a Quaker study, retreat and conference center that seeks to transform lives and foster peace with justice in the world. The Executive Director advances the values, mission, and vision of Pendle Hill. A full [job description](#) and some [materials of interest](#) are on their website.



Beacon Hill Friends House Seeks Program Manager

Beacon Hill Friends House, a Quaker nonprofit, cooperative residence, and center for education and social action in downtown Boston, seeks an organized and motivated self-starter as our next full-time Program Manager. In this role you'll lead and grow our initiatives advancing social justice, social action grounded in Quaker values, and public programming and outreach. [Check the Beacon Hill Friends House website for more information.](#)

Grants for the Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism

The Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund for the Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism supports the study and practice of Christian mysticism with grants of up to \$1,000 to selected individuals, groups or institutions. Proposals for 2020 grants are due by March 1. For an application or more information, email Secretary [Kathleen McVey](#).

Staff Travel Calendar

November

Nov. 22-24: *Clerking: Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence*, Pendle Hill, PA: Steve Mohlke (General Secretary)

December

Dec. 6-8: *Retreat on Eldering and Healing*, Powell House: Marissa Badgley

(Interim Young Adult Field Secretary)

January

Jan. 24-26: *Coordinating Committee Weekend, Powell House:* Marissa Badgley, Callie Janoff (ARCH Director), Steve Mohlke, Helen Garay Toppins (Associate Secretary), Sarah Way (Communications Director)

UPCOMING NYYM SESSIONS

2020

NYYM Spring Sessions, April 3-5 (Host: Sessions Committee; Location: Oakwood Friends School)

NYYM Summer Sessions, July 19-25 (at Silver Bay YMCA)

NYYM Fall Sessions, November 6-8 (Host: Shrewsbury & Plainfield; Location: TBA)



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