

InfoShare

New York Yearly Meeting
Religious Society of Friends

Volume 14

Summer 2015

Number 4

Editor: [Steven Davison](#)

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Send us your news!

InfoShare and Spark. Want to share your meeting's or committee's news and upcoming events with the rest of the Yearly Meeting? We will publish it in either *InfoShare* or *Spark*, depending on the timing.

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Staff Calendars

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NYYMOnline

Summer Sessions 2015

We have published the proceedings of [this year's Summer Sessions](#), including some specific things that may interest you:

- [The 2015 Epistle](#) of New York Yearly Meeting
- [The State of Society Report](#) for 2014
- [Letter to Pope Francis](#) asking him to rescind the papal bulls behind the Doctrine of Christian Discovery
- [The plenary message](#)—text of Don Badgley's message
- [General secretary's report](#)
- [By-laws](#) for the corporation of the Yearly Meeting, with notes
- Plus revisions to *Faith & Practice*, changes to the Yearly Meeting *Handbook*, several minutes for travel in the ministry, and lots more. See the [InfoShare page](#) for these details.

Website volunteers

Would you like to help publish content to our website? We still have a lot of things we would like to put on the website and not enough time to do it. You don't have to know anything about websites to help, as long as you're up for learning a little bit. Some knowledge of HTML would be great, though, and some knowledge of CSS would be really great. If you're interested, contact Steven Davison, the communications director, at [steven \[at\] nyym.org](mailto:steven@nyym.org)



New on our *Resources for Meetings* page: **Spiritual Nurture Programs for meetings**

NYYM's Spiritual Nurture Working Group is offering twelve [Spiritual Nurture Programs](#) for meetings. They range from workshops on worship and vocal ministry to prayer and other personal spiritual practices. Would your meeting be interested?

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News & Announcements

Recent Witness Minutes of New York Yearly Meeting

Spring Sessions 2015: The gathered body of the Yearly Meeting [endorsed the Peace & Planet Mobilization](#) for a Nuclear-Free, Peaceful, Just, and Sustainable World, to be held in New York City April 24–26. The body also agreed to send Friends to serve on the 2016 [White Privilege Conference](#) host committee; the Conference will be held in Philadelphia. Finally, the gathered body approved a minute of conscience opposing solitary confinement and sent a letter supporting a New York State legislative reform bill to the New York State governor and legislators.

Summer Sessions 2015: A working group was created to support NYYM Friends' participation in the 2017 White Privilege Conference (see above). The body also approved a minute brought forward by Indian Affairs Committee that directs the clerk of the Yearly Meeting to send a letter to Pope Francis upon his visit to the United States asking the Pope to repudiate the so-called Doctrine of Christian Discovery, and to rescind the papal bulls on which the Doctrine rests. Click the following to read [the minute](#) and [text of the letter](#); click the following to learn more about the [Doctrine of Discovery](#).

You can see all of the Yearly Meeting's minuted witness work for the past several years on our [Actions We Have Taken](#) page on our website.

Faith & Practice—2015 Edition now available

The 2015 *Faith & Practice Edition* is now available. This edition includes earthcare advices and queries, as well as a section on worship groups. The price is \$10.00 per copy. If you pick up your copy from the NYYM office, the cost is reduced to \$7.00. Checks should be payable to New York Yearly Meeting or pay using a credit card on our [online Donation/Payment page](#). Send your requests to NYYM, 15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY 10003, Attn: Helen Garay Toppins, or email [office \[at\] nyym.org](mailto:office@nyym.org).

Call for Papers: *Quakers and American Indians from the 1650s to the 21st Century*

**An interdisciplinary conference
Philadelphia, November 10–12, 2016**

This conference will examine from a historical perspective all aspects of relations between American Indians and the Society of Friends. Submit proposals to [mceas \[at\] ccat.sas.upenn.edu](mailto:mceas@ccat.sas.upenn.edu) by October 28, 2015.

Click the following for [more information](#).

Irish Friends visit Powell House

Ten youth and three adults from Ireland Yearly Meeting spent time at Powell House during Unwinding. Irish Friends joined in work projects, conversations, games, worship, and, of course, American food! Carolyn McMullan, Ireland Yearly Meeting's youth staff, led some sessions with Mike and Chris. Good times were had by all.



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Job Opportunities

Executive Director — New York State Council of Churches

The New York State Council of Churches is seeking an Executive Director to lead the organization into its next phase of growth and accomplishment. NYSCC joins together Christians of many denominations across New York State to care for one another, safeguard the presence of vital Christian communities, provide hospitality to all, proclaim the Gospel boldly in each place, and declare God's just will among the powers and principalities. Our mission goals focus on social justice witness and advocacy on state-level issues, such as income inequality, health care for all, earth care, and an end to mass incarceration; institutional pastoral care; and ecumenical cooperation in education, worship and action..

[Visit the Council's website](#) for a full position description.

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Conferences

September 17–20 — *Prayer and Connection: A Practice Retreat for Quakers in Pastoral Care and Counseling*

Quakers in Pastoral Care and Counseling 2015 Conference, Quaker Hill Conference Center, Richmond, IN

This year's conference will be led by Jennie Isbell, a Quaker spiritual director, workshop facilitator, and author of two books. Click the following to [download the brochure](#).

September 30–October 2 — Quaker Fundraisers Gathering: *Fundraising as a Spiritual Practice*

Wyndham Hotel, Philadelphia, PA

The Gathering begins with registration and a reception at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, followed by dinner and the keynote by Thom Jeavons. Thursday is a full day of sessions with an opportunity to network in affinity groups of similar organizations. Thursday evening includes free time and dinner on your own. The Gathering continues on Friday morning with additional sessions. The Gathering will conclude on Friday, October 2nd at noon. Sponsored by Friends Fiduciary Corporation.

Visit the [Fundraisers Gathering website](#).

October 10 — NYYM Quaker Outreach Roundtable, Shrewsbury Meetinghouse

Interested in Quaker outreach? There will be an Outreach Roundtable on Saturday, October 10, 9:30–3:30, sponsored by NYYM Advancement Committee and hosted by Shrewsbury Meeting. Hear speakers, ask questions, and exchange ideas . . . talk about what's working, what's not working, what you've learned, and what you'd like to know. Lunch and childcare provided. Contact [Robin Whitely](#) or [Emily Provance](#) with questions. [Download the flyer](#).

October 17 — Workshop: *Integrating Children into the Spiritual Life of the Meeting: Creating One Spiritual Community*

Brooklyn Meeting, 9 am – 4 pm

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; and hands-on approaches to teaching children Quaker process. Some parts of the day will be multigenerational and childcare will also be provided.

Facilitators: Mary Harpster and Melinda Wenner Bradley.

Download [the workshop brochure](#).

ARCH Visitor training — October 30–November 1, Ocean Grove, NJ

Does your meeting have an ARCH Visitor? Consider coming to ARCH Visitor training October 30 - November 1 in Ocean Grove, NJ. ARCH Visitors work well in teams, so bring a friend! Contact ARCH@NYYM.org for more information, or visit the [ARCH page](#) on our website.

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Staff Travel Calendars

ARCH Coordinators: Callie Janoff, Anita Paul, and Barbara Spring

Sep 25–26	Anita, Barbara, & Callie	Committee on Aging Concerns Retreat, Poughkeepsie, NY
Sep 30–Oct 1	Callie	Friends Services for the Aging Annual Meeting, Medford Leeds, NJ
Oct 2	Callie	Jewish Home Himan Brown Lecture with Atul Gawande, New York City
Oct 3	Anita	Quaker Values and End-of-Life Decision Making Workshop, Purchase, NY
Oct 17	Callie	ARCH Visitors Day

Oct 30–Nov 1	Anita & Callie	ARCH Visitor Training 1, Ocean Grove, NJ
Nov 6–8	Anita, Barbara, & Callie	Fall Sessions, Rensselaer & Old Chatham, NY
Dec 4–6	Anita	Visitor Training for New England YM's SAGE program, Woolman Hill, MA

General Secretary, Christopher Sammond

August

21–31 Vacation

September

1 Vacation

12 Facilitate Mini-retreat for Easton Meeting, Greenwich, NY

13 Bring message to Easton Meeting's White Feather Day, Easton, NY

19 Attend Nurture Coordinating Committee Consultation *Integrating Children into the Life of the Meeting*, Brooklyn Meetinghouse, Brooklyn, NY

21 Meet with General Secretaries of NEYM, PhYM, and FGC, Hingham, MA

21–24 Attend Superintendents and Secretaries Retreat, Hingham, MA

October

7–9 Participate in FUM General Board meetings and North American Ministries Committee meetings, Richmond, IN

10 Support Outreach Roundtable, Shrewsbury Meetinghouse, Shrewsbury, NJ

17 Attend All Friends Regional Meeting Quarterly Meeting, Montclair, NJ

19–22 Support NYYM/NEYM Pastors Retreat, Weekapaug, RI

31 Attend Budget Saturday, Purchase Meetinghouse, Purchase, NY

Associate Secretary, Helen Garay Toppins

August 16 Woodbourne Prison, Quaker Worship Group, Woodbourne, NY

August 21–23 Fellowship of Friends of African Descent, Philadelphia, PA

October 10 Outreach Roundtable, Shrewsbury Meetinghouse, Shrewsbury, NJ

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