

NYYM Monday Minute

Silver Bay, New York

Monday, July 20, 2015

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Meetings for Discernment Mealtimes Discussions & An Appeal for Greeters.

Queries for Monday's Meeting for Discernment—10:00–12:15. The query for the Monday Meeting is: *What can you say about the Truth you have found through your practice as a Friend?* The query for the Wednesday Meeting will appear in the *Wednesday Minute*.

Mealtimes discussions. The Meetings for Discernment Steering Committee will host three mealtimes open discussions on the Meetings for Discernment at designated tables in the dining hall: Tuesday lunch (facilitated by Roger Dreisbach-Williams), Wednesday dinner (facilitated by Ruth Bryan), and Thursday lunch (facilitated by Lucinda Antrim). Please join us!

We also invite those who would like to sit together during lunch on Wednesday, the day that the Meeting for Discernment will be held.

Appeal for greeters. The Meeting for Discernment is in need of greeters for the morning and afternoon sessions on Wednesday. If you are interested in serving, please leave a note for Lucinda Antrim on the bulletin board.

Business Agenda. The meetings for worship with a concern for the life of New York Yearly Meeting today are 3:30–5:15 and 7:15–9:45.

Agenda for Monday afternoon—3:30–5:15

1. Welcome visitors
2. State of the Society Report
3. Report of the general secretary
4. Report on interim actions
5. Travel minute for Robert Kazmayer (Sunfire)
6. Travel minute for Heather Cook
7. Travel minute for Rachel Pia

Agenda for Monday evening—7:15–9:45

1. Memorial minute for Nancy Sorel
2. Report from the director of communications
3. Report on the New York State Council of Churches
4. Report on the ARCH program
5. Report from the Liaison Committee
6. Report from the Meetings for Discernment Steering Committee
7. *Faith and Practice* — Covenant Relationships section — first reading

Consent agenda. The Consent Agenda will be brought to the Wednesday night business session for approval. Friends are asked to familiarize themselves with its contents prior to that time.

ARCH

The ARCH Coordinators (Callie Janoff, Anita Paul, and Barbara Spring) are available for personal appointments regarding aging issues this week. *See the ARCH display table for details.*

Friends Foundation for the Aging, Deb Frazer, Executive Director of Friends Foundation for the Aging (FFA), will be at the ARCH display table in Gullen Lounge, with ARCH coordinators between 6 & 7 pm both Monday and Tuesday. FFA would like to fund additional aging work in NYYM. Please come, meet Deb and discuss your ideas.

New Faith and Practice Books Available. The New Faith and Practice is available. You can pick up your meeting's copy in Gullen Lounge. Additional copies are available for \$7 if you pick it up; \$10 if we have to mail it to you. Feel free to pick up your meeting's copy and mail us the payment later.

Young Adult Friends. YAF is hosting a Worship Sharing group in Gray Pavilion from 10:15 to 11 am to share stories of our faith. All generations welcome!

6:30–7:00: Community worship in the Boathouse. Come worship with the wider Yearly Meeting community.

Vespers Message. Lu Harper brings the message to Vespers in the Silver Bay chapel this evening from 7:15-7:45 pm.

Mosher Fund Book Table. The Book Table is located in the central section of the Inn. We have a wide selection of books for sale at Summer Sessions. We are offering \$50 worth of books for each monthly meeting library, the Anna Curtis Center, worship groups in and out of prisons, the NYYM circulating library, and some Friends schools in our area that have applied to the H.H. Mosher Fund. These books must be selected and book bags checked out by 3 pm on Thursday. We also give a book to Yearly Meeting staff, to recorded ministers, invited speakers, and first-time visitors from other Yearly Meetings. In addition, Advancement Committee invites graduating members of JYM to select a gift book.

First-time attenders. Did you get your dot? If this is your first time at Silver Bay and you didn't get a blue dot for your Silver Bay badge, please stop by the Yearly Meeting conference desk to get one. The blue dot lets us know that you're new here, so we can welcome you. Red dots indicate members of the Sessions Committee and other people who may be able to answer questions. Orange dots indicate those who are members of the Conflict Transformation Committee.

Ride Board. The ride board is in front of the Yearly Meeting conference office in Gullen Lounge. If you need a ride, please list your need on the board. If you would like to provide a ride for someone else, please check the board and then leave a message on the message board for anyone for whom you can provide this transportation.

Racial Listening Project organized by European American Quakers Working to End Racism Working Group. During this week at Silver Bay you will see individuals wearing a nametag that looks like this: **Racial Listening Project: I want to hear your story.**

These Friends are offering you the opportunity to share with them how you have been affected by racism. All conversations will be confidential and will neither be recorded nor reported. It

will simply be an opportunity for deep listening as you recount your personal journey with the issue of race in our culture. It is our hope that by this process of telling our stories to an attentive, nonjudgmental listener we will take another step toward healing, trust, and discerning what each of us is “called to do to bring about justice and reconciliation.” (NYYM 2013 Apology to Afro-descendants)

You may say whatever you wish, but if you would like some ideas to get you started, there are six questions below that may be helpful. However, do not limit yourself to these items, or even use them at all if there is someplace else you would like to begin.

1. Have you ever made a racial faux pas and wished you had done something else?
2. When did you first become aware of differences in skin color? What was your emotional reaction?
3. Do you ever find yourself influenced by racial stereotypes?
4. Have you ever been in the minority among people of a different color? How did it feel?
5. Have you ever challenged people making racist jokes or acting in racist ways? How did you feel?
6. What do you think you can do to promote racial healing?

Meals with Meaning

*All meal meetings are held in the rear of Gullen Lounge.
Bring your food from the dining room.*

Tuesday – Lunch with Colin Saxton. An opportunity to talk with the general secretary of Friends United Meeting regarding the work of Friends around the world; to ask questions and share ideas and concerns around how FUM can better support New York Yearly Meeting.

Tuesday dinner – Light behind the Walls. Everyone interested in prison worship groups and the Alternatives to Violence to Project are encouraged to attend. We will share our stories and experiences. This will also be a great opportunity for people interested in prison ministry to gather more information.

Wednesday breakfast. Five Mualim-AK will share the lessons he learned from the time he spent in solitary confinement.

Wednesday lunch — Yearly Meeting communications. Join Steven Davison, the Yearly Meeting’s communications director, to share your ideas and vision for our communications.

Wednesday dinner – Getting to Know the American Friends Service Committee. Amy Gottlieb, Associate NE Regional Director, and members of the AFSC Corporation will share updates about programs in New York, New Jersey, and the world. Amy has worked extensively on Immigrant Rights and will also speak about AFSC's work on immigration issues.

Thursday Lunch – Creating a Child & Youth Field Secretary position. Join Barbara Menzel, Personnel Committee clerk, to learn more about the creation of this new position. Share your thoughts and vision as we move forward to meet the spiritual needs of our youngest members.

Thursday dinner – Black Lives Matter. Charley Flint will report on the White Privilege Conference that was held in Kentucky. The conference examined the concepts of privilege and oppression, and offered strategies to work towards a more equitable world. Friends who plan on attending the 2016 Philadelphia conference are encouraged to attend.

Friday — Lunch with Breathing Space – Breathing Spaces provides a pathway from prison to the community. Located on 32 acres in the Catskill Mountains, it provides a safe environment for returning citizens. Angel Ramos and Ray Rios will share how they create business opportunities for returning citizens and how Quakerism changed their lives.

Please share this Minute! We would like to make fewer copies of the *Minute* and other handouts. We are asking Friends to share. Friends may pick up copies from the conference area and, after reading it, return it to the conference area so that others may read them. We post copies on the porch bulletin boards, and in front of the conference office. And we are emailing it to attendees daily, unless you ask us not to

We will have enough copies of the materials available for Friends who want to keep their copies and take them home. In addition many materials will be put on our Web site so that Friends will have easy access from home. Note: **There are enough *Programs* and *Advance Reports* for everyone.**