



QUAKER UPDATE

Sunday • July 19 • Vol. 50, No. 1

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING'S 325TH SUMMER SESSIONS 2020

embracing our past
envisioning our future
living into our present

This is the Quaker Update (or Q-Up, or Update), a daily bulletin that updates Friends on business agendas, Zoom links for the next day, changes in the schedule, and other news. The Quaker Update is sent via email every evening of Summer Sessions to everyone who registered .

To submit items, please use [THIS FORM](#) by 5:00 p.m. to be included in that night's Q-Up. Submissions may be evaluated by the clerk of Sessions, the associate secretary, and the communications director, and are subject to editorial discretion and copy edits.

Welcome!

Dear Friends,

In times of great stress, Friends historically have led the way forward. This year is no exception. We gather to do good work, to make plans for our future, to learn where Spirit is leading us, to share stories, to find peace and joy in each other's company. Welcome to our 325th annual gathering! Though online and a brand new technological experiment, we will find hope in the presence of good people who share our Quaker values. We will laugh together and experience that-of-God in each other's faces. Welcome to 2020 Summer Sessions!

In peace,

Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk, New York Yearly Meeting

Helpful People

Technical Support Team: Chad Gilmartin, Lu Harper, Jill McLellan, Steve Mohlke.

Email or call 607-216-2203

Clerk of Sessions Committee: [Melanie Claire Mallison](#)

Junior Yearly Meeting coordinators: Ellie Rosenberg & Dawn Pozzi

Quaker Update Editor: [Sarah Way](#) — **Submissions:** [Fill out this form](#) by 5pm

Registrars: [Bronwyn Mohlke](#) and [Helen Garay Toppins](#)

This is possibly the most useful link for the next two weeks of Sessions:

[The Summer Sessions 2020 Calendar.](#)

The Summer Sessions 2020 calendar has a list of all public events, including their Zoom link information. A list of the events happening in the next two days, with their Zoom info, is below.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 19

Meeting for Discernment: periods of extended worship on specific queries (see below)		
10:30-11:30 a.m. 2:00-4:00 p.m. 7:00-9:00 p.m.	To join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87991018843?pwd=eNveGRNTHgraU82SmRZWDBLeUj1QT09	To join by phone: Dial 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 879 9101 8843 Password: 838017
Tech Trainings: Learn how to use Zoom in an online tech training session		
9:00-10:00 a.m. 5:00-6:00 p.m.	To join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88618736417?pwd=ZlRqL1Z6UzV2TkRSMjA3ZXJrU2x2dz09	To join by phone: Dial 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 886 1873 6417 Password: 477413

Meeting for Discernment

Continuing our reflections from the Winter Meeting for Discernment on individual Friends' Experiences of Power and Authority, today we are also gathered together to reflect on our collective present experience of the dual impact of systemic racism and the coronavirus pandemic.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected everyone. There has been death, sickness, job loss, isolation, fear, separation from loved ones, and more distress than can be named here. Communities of color have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic because of the "pre-existing condition" of systemic racism that lays a deadly ground-work in which every inequity is amplified by a world-wide emergency.

Though it affects us all, the violence of systemic racism also disproportionately affects people of color. We are in a time of heightened protest and struggle in which all Friends can strive to live in accordance with our testimonies and to make the world more just, beginning with ourselves.

Together today, then, we can hear from one another, with empathy and openness. The hope for this day is that we can share deeply from our experiences and that this day of worship will help us move forward together in the Light.

(see queries for each session on next page)

Morning

What are you carrying through this time? What joys and griefs? What gifts and losses? What has been revealed? What have you let go of? How have you been lifted up? Where have you been disappointed? For yourself? For your Quaker communities?

Afternoon

How are love and truth working in our hearts during these challenging times? What openings have we experienced? How are we called to respond? What might that look like?

Evening

How might our life in faith during this time help us name our gifts and our needs? What resources have we gained through these experiences that might help us find the way to a more inclusive and constructive community of love and care? How are we called to live into our future?

Monday, July 20

Looking for the link to your worship sharing group? It won't appear here. Check your email for a message from your worship group facilitator.

Social Lunch: Share a casual meal and conversation with other Friends

12:00-1:30 p.m.

To join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86085858369?pwd=VzRPMey3ZWVWV1qOW82eHowWIR5Zz09>

To join by phone:

Dial 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 860 8585 8369

Password: 889233

Junior Yearly Meeting: Junior High School group

2:00-4:00 p.m.

To join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdIQnpYcUlkTTJGODRxeDRHZz09>

To join by phone:

Dial 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967

Password: 562696

Tech Training: **ORIENTATION** and online tech training session

5:00-6:00 p.m.

To join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88618736417?pwd=ZlRqL1Z6UzV2TkRSMjA3ZXJrU2x2dz09>

To join by phone:

Dial 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 886 1873 6417

Password: 477413

Opening Gathering: A welcoming gathering for everyone. [See the agenda here.](#)

7:00-8:30 p.m.

To join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88467629125?pwd=azZDdnFWsncrc2cwOGsweDFuaHFodz09>

To join by phone:

Dial 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 884 6762 9125

Password: 921682

Sign up for Interest Groups

The list of [Interest Groups](#) is now available! Check them out and reserve a seat at the ones you plan to attend. The first session of interest groups takes place on Tuesday, July 22, 2-4:00 p.m.

Letters to Absent Friends in Prison Worship Groups

This year, our Letters to Absent Friends will be dedicated to our incarcerated Prison Worship Groups. Over the course of Summer Sessions, if you would like to add a note to these letters, please email your message to sessions-clerk@nyym.org. Every Prison Worship Group will receive our messages and a copy of our 2020 NYYM Epistle.

Statement of the Role of the Healing Center in our Virtual Gathering

For the past fourteen years, NYYM Friends have been supported and served by the practitioners and sacred space of the Healing Center at Summer Sessions. A circle of healing, care and holding has supported hundreds of Friends both individually and collectively in a ministry of love and service.

We find ourselves in a time when reimagining patterns of being, listening for continuing revelation, discerning how we are led, and living into our witness and ministry of equality, justice and unconditional love are more crucial and needed than ever before.

To best serve the Yearly Meeting this year, the Healing Center and its practitioners have discerned that our greatest service will be to come together in a circle of love and light, knowing our interconnection experientially. **We will serve the body as a collective, rather than as individuals, helping to hold space and the energy at Summer Sessions: in meetings, worship, committees, and gatherings.** We continue to listen to discern other ways to serve. We have been and will continue to prayerfully hold the condition of the yearly meeting.

We invite you to join this circle. To listen. To connect. To hold space for new patterns of being. To live into our witness and ministry. This is our collective work. Please [contact Lu Harper](#) if you are led to join.

Participant Expectations and NYYM Agreements

We are meeting online instead in person this year, but we still expect to create a community together. Accordingly, there are some participant expectations for our gathering. Please read the list of [Participant Expectations and NYYM Agreements](#) for this Summer Sessions.

Caring for Our Blessed Community

If concerns or issues arise during our virtual Summer Sessions, if something is said or seen that is upsetting, or you feel overwhelmed for any reason, we encourage you to contact [Melanie-Claire Mallison](#), clerk of Sessions Committee, and or [Dawn Pozzi](#), JYM Coordinator – and we will work with you on solutions, resolutions, or just offer a sympathetic, listening ear.