



QUAKER UPDATE

Thursday • July 23 • Vol. 50, No. 5

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING'S 325TH SUMMER SESSIONS 2020

To **submit items to the Quaker Update**, please use [THIS FORM](#) by 5:00 p.m. of the date desired. You can access the past Summer Sessions 2020 Quaker Updates [here](#).

The **Summer Sessions Information Desk** consists of our two registrars, Helen Garay Toppins and Bronwyn Mohlke! Send your questions to them by email to office@nyym.org or by phone: (607) 220-3219 or (212) 673-5750.

Having technical troubles? Contact the **Tech Support Team** via email to tech-team@nyym.org or call 607-216-2203.

We don't want to miss your voice!

In Meetings for Business, it will be much easier for the clerk to see you if you raise your digital hand, not your physical hand. Find it on the top or bottom of your participant's list; phone users, use *9.

This calendar has **all Summer Sessions events and Zoom info**: [The Summer Sessions 2020 Calendar](#).

Friends of Color Affinity Group — Opportunities to Gather at Summer Sessions

S.Y. Bowland has arranged some opportunities for Friends of Color to gather together in spirit during our virtual Summer Sessions. Below are the times that have been scheduled and confirmed. Other times may be added, and will appear in future Q-Ups if they are.

Friends of Color Affinity Gatherings:

7/24 Friday, 2-3:30 p.m.

7/29 Wednesday, 5-6:30 p.m.

Study Action Teams: Lifting as We Climb

As racial violence hurled around us this spring, NYYM Black Concerns Committee (BCC) members, after consulting with other anti-racism groups in NYYM, decided to focus on addressing **structural** racism with an emphasis on impacting mass incarceration (often described as the New Slavery). We established the following Action Study Teams:

- **Advocating for College behind Bars** (*Emmy Gay – Coordinator*) Research shows that incarcerated people who participate in prison education are far more likely to stay out of prison once they are released. The BCC has been advocating for college behind bars for quite some time. Our long-term goal is the reinstatement of prison TAP and Pell grants. Our immediate goal is to nurture and support existing private college prison programs.

- **Disrupt the School-to-Prison Pipeline** (*Helen Garay Toppins – Coordinator*) Neighborhoods with the highest number of incarcerated Black and Brown people are the economically poorest neighborhoods with the worst performing schools. Can we assist these schools? Can we assist at-risk youth from these neighborhoods?
- **Racial Justice and Anti-Racism Resources** (*David Fletcher – Coordinator*) We are asking Friends to submit resources addressing all aspects of racial justice, on YouTube, print media, film suggestions, internet links, etc. Here are a few samples: [Scaffolded Anti-Racist Resources](#); [You Want a Confederate Monument? My Body Is a Confederate Monument](#); [Books on racism](#).

If you are interested in participating in a BCC Action/Study group, please contact co-clerks Emmy Gay or Helen Garay Toppins at office@nyym.org.

Epistle from FGC's Pre-Gathering of Friends of Color and their families

The Epistle from Friends General Conference (FGC)'s Pre-Gathering of Friends of Color and Their Families was read at business meeting Tuesday night. You can read it here: [Epistle from FGC's 2020 Pre-Gathering of Friends of Color and their Families](#)

Resources from Tuesday night's Business Meeting

Friends recommended some anti-racism resources during ministry at the end of business meeting Tuesday night and posted them in the Zoom meeting's chat box. Here they are, if you missed them:

- The book [White Fragility](#) by Robin DiAngelo
- The book [My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathway to Mending Our Hearts and Bodies](#) by Resmaa Menachem
- The [recent episode](#) of Krista Tippet's **On Being** podcast with the authors of *My Grandmother's Hands* (Resmaa Menachem) and *White Fragility* (Robin DiAngelo)
- The article [For White People: How to Listen When Race is the Topic](#) by Beth Roy
- [A Facebook page](#), organized by John Wilmerding, for white Quakers who want to address their own racism: www.facebook.com/groups/whitequakers/

Sign up for Interest Groups

Check out the list of [Interest Groups](#) and reserve a seat at the ones you plan to attend. The second session of interest groups is on **Thursday, July 23, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** The Zoom links for the interest groups are on the very useful [Summer Sessions Schedule](#).

Online Screenings of the Quakers: the Quiet Revolutionaries documentary

The movie **Quakers: the Quiet Revolutionaries** (website: <https://quakersthefilm.com/>) will be discussed in a Q&A with Director/Producer Janet Gardner and Senior Producer Dick Nurse during the interest group session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 29. There will be a couple of screenings of the film online before then: on **Friday, July 24, 7:00.-10:00 p.m.** and on **Sunday, July 26, 7:00-10:00 p.m.** More details will follow.

Share an ice cream with Friends!

When New York Yearly Meeting meets in person for Summer Sessions, many Friends gather over ice cream in the afternoon or evening, laughing and talking and sharing news. Will you join us for a virtual ice cream, please? Click this link — nyym.org/sites/default/files/Ice-cream-sundae.pdf — print the PDF, and color and write a message to the rest of the yearly meeting. Then scan it (or take a photo) and send it to communications@nyym.org. You can also post it online with #nyym2020summer.



Read the Summer Sessions Minutes Online!

For future reference, after the minutes from a meeting for business have been approved and finalized, they will appear on this page: nyym.org/2020-minutes

Engaging in NYYM Virtual Summer Sessions Without a Screen

For each day of virtual Sessions there is an activity that you can engage in without a screen! These optional activities will allow us to share common experiences throughout the two weeks of our Summer Sessions. If it feels comfortable, we encourage you to **send pictures of you or others completing these activities** by texting the photo, your name(s), and any other helpful details to 845-288-3225. They might be in our closing slideshow!

CAFE NIGHT IS COMING

Café Night is next Tuesday, 7/28, at 6:30 p.m. We would love all you singers, stand up comedians, and story tellers to share your gifts with the meeting. If you would like to be part of this, or have an idea and wonder if it would work on Zoom, please email the new Powell House Youth Directors, Sarah and Martin, who are leading the Senior High group: sarahandmartin@powellhouse.org

Quote & Query of the Day for Meeting for Grieving

The Meeting for Grieving and Healing will be a time for Friends to acknowledge the trauma and losses we've experienced as individuals and as a yearly meeting since we last gathered, including interconnected losses due to the pandemics of systemic racism and the coronavirus, economic disruption, and climate change. We will be posting a quote and a query in this and each Q-Up. If any or all of these quotes or queries speak to your condition, please join us **Sunday, July 26, from 2-4 p.m.** The link will be in both the Quaker Update and the Summer Sessions schedule.

QUOTE: One of the cruelest affronts was the expectation that pain should be hidden away, buried, privatized — a lie manufactured so as to mask and uphold the social order that produces our many, unnecessary losses. When we instead open ourselves to the bonds of loss and pain, we lessen what debilitates us, we assert life and its beauty. We open ourselves to the bonds of love, expansively understood. Crucially, we have a way, together, to at once grieve more quantitatively and struggle to undo the deadening and deadly structures intent on destroying us. —Cindy Milstein, *Rebellious Mourning: The Collective Work of Grief*

QUERY: How does processing your own griefs help you support the people and the ministry you care about?

Upcoming Events

Thursday, July 23

Today's way to engage in virtual Summer Sessions without a screen (text pics to **845-288-3225**):

Go on a scavenger hunt outside and search for:

- A thing that gives you hope
- Something that reminds you of Quakers
- A rock that tells you a story

Community Worship: a period of family worship in which all are joyfully invited to participate. The first part of the session will be programmed, followed by a short period of worship.

9:30-10:15 a.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84260505681?pwd=VGZmVERQOW13cnlEalV5ZkkxOHlxUT09>

Join by phone:

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 842 6050 5681

Password: 909636

Junior Yearly Meeting: Grades 3-5 group

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82625843060?pwd=aUwvUTBYZkJBBeDZ1WmtDL0dCRnpCZz09>

Join by phone:

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 826 2584 3060

Password: 978747

Junior Yearly Meeting: Grades 6-8 group

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdlQnpycUlkTTJGODRxeDRHZz09>

Join by phone:

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967

Password: 562696

Worship: Each meeting for business will be preceded by a period of unprogrammed worship.

1:30-2:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVxkbnVhQIRhRnZhUT09>

Join by phone:

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800

Password: 832819

Meeting for Business: See the most up to date agenda [here](#) (subject to change, of course), and read the advance documents [here](#)

2:30-4:00 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVxkbnVhQIRhRnZhUT09>

Join by phone:

(646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800

Password: 832819

Interest Groups (section 2): There are seven to choose from! See the list here: [Interest Groups](#)
 For the list of groups and their Zoom links see [The Summer Sessions Calendar](#)

7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.	Find your interest group in The Summer Sessions Calendar	Find your interest group in The Summer Sessions Calendar
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Social Time: Pop in and say hello! Facilitated by Yana Landowne and Jennifer Swann

9:30-10:30 p.m.	Join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83073738673?pwd=K3R0ZEZQUG1GZXZuUkd4VHpMY1J5QT09	Join by phone: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 830 7373 8673 Password: 399164
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Friday, July 24

Today's way to engage in virtual Summer Sessions without a screen (text pics to **845-288-3225**):
 Open a Bible to a random page and read the section you come across. Spend a few minutes worshipping on how that passage relates to your current life. Discuss it with somebody else if you can!

Bible Study

9:30-10:30 a.m.	Join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83173964903?pwd=czBmYkhWTWEvT21OcDQzeWZmOFBFdz09	Join by phone: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 831 7396 4903 Password: 815089
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Junior Yearly Meeting: Singing with Grades 3-5

11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87990786377?pwd=UVhKTIFuWit1a0dUVVMzQ1RUV3liUT09	Join by phone: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 879 9078 6377 Password: 191176
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Social Lunch: Meet the staff! Come say hello to the people who staff New York Yearly Meeting.

12:00-1:30 p.m.	Join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88554736005?pwd=Q1duTIZ6VkhZMWpNQ0tUNHN0UHAvdz09	Join by phone: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 885 5473 6005 Password: 836255
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Junior Yearly Meeting: Senior High School group

2:00-3:30 p.m.	Join by computer: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdlQnpycUlkTTJGODRxeDRHZz09	Join by phone: (646) 558-8656 Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967 Password: 562696
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Friends of Color Affinity Group		
2:00-3:30 p.m.	Join by computer: Details to come	Join by phone: Details to come

Screening of the film "Quakers: The Quiet Revolutionaries"		
7:00-10:00 p.m.	Join by computer: Details to come	