



QUAKER UPDATE

Tuesday • July 28 • Vol. 50, No. 10

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. Past Summer Sessions 2020 Quaker Updates are [here](#).

The Summer Sessions Information Desk: email office@nyym.org or call (607) 220-3219 or (212) 673-5750.

You can contact the Tech Support Team via email at tech-team@nyym.org or call 607-216-2203.

For all Summer Sessions events and Zoom info, refer to [The Summer Sessions 2020 Calendar](#).

Social Lunch on Tuesday: Leadings for the Wider World

Facilitated by Susan Weisfeld, clerk of the World Ministries Committee. How can we follow our leadings to hold the “wider world” in the Light? Do Quakers have a responsibility to care about those living in the “wider world?” Bring a sandwich and a drink and let’s share and, even, inspire...

Calling all Friends for the Café Night Talent Show

Do you want to share in **Café Night (Tuesday, 7/28, at 6:30 p.m.), the annual NYYM talent show?** Do you want to laugh and cheer Friends on and raise money for Powell House and the Sharing Fund? If you do, please sign up or encourage the hams in your household to sign up. Right now there are not enough acts for the show to go on! Contact sarahandmartin@powellhouse.org to make this historic event happen! (Otherwise it won’t be historic.)

Agenda for the Business Meeting at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday

- Reports from the Trustees
- Approval of Nominations ([please review nominations in advance](#))
- Interim Actions report
- First reading of the Epistle
- Proposal to make Meetings for Discernment permanent

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

S.Y. Bowland and Angela Hopkins are facilitating some spaces for Friends of Color to gather together in the Spirit during these virtual Summer Sessions. The next gathering will be on **Wednesday, July 29, at 5:00-6:30 p.m.**

Sign up for Wednesday Night Interest Groups

Check out the [list of Interest Groups](#) and reserve a seat at the ones you plan to attend. The third and last session of interest groups is on **Wednesday, July 29, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** The Zoom links for the interest groups are on the very useful [Summer Sessions Schedule](#).

Newly-added Interest Group: Myths of Gender, led by Cai Quirk

This interest group will explore notions of gender, particularly identities beyond the binary, through the lens of storytelling. Included will be myths read aloud and photographs from Cai Quirk's upcoming book *Transcendence*, and time to reflect and play with our understandings of gender together.

Drop in on the Supporting NYYM Interest Group on Wednesday

Help! Have you noticed all the young adults involved in our Zooming Summer Sessions? Have you noticed the new vibe that started with Pay-As-Led Summer Sessions and has continued since? Did you hear Marissa Badgley's powerful report on the work she's been doing in 2020 with Young Adult Friends? We can't lose our momentum!

Whatever our age, we are pained to hear that this vital work with younger Friends could go away just when they may need support the most—and when older Friends are wondering who will carry our Quaker values and good works into the future. The pandemic, the political climate, the economic uncertainty all show us how much we need one another and the New York Yearly Meeting that connects us—including many who have no access to a monthly meeting.

We are very grateful that the Young Adult Field Secretary position is funded through 2020 and that Marissa is able to continue to do this remarkable work through this year, but **we cannot even consider hiring a replacement until we know—in good conscience—that the position can be funded in 2021** and with a strong sense that it can continue to be funded for two years beyond that.

The Development Committee is reaching out from now until mid-September for a commitment of **at least \$50,000 in new donations** that will allow us to start advertising the position. It's a big number, but not if LOTS of us invest what we can in our future.

The Committee hopes you'll attend an Interest Group Gathering to find out how YOU can help and why. **Drop in when you can with your questions** (e.g. What would my gift support? What are some creative and do-able alternatives to writing NYYM a check? Can I pledge now and pay later? Can you tell me how to put NYYM in my will?). It's **tomorrow night (Wed.) between 7 and 9 pm** at [this link](#). You don't have to love money to celebrate what it can do for our younger Friends and for all of us!

— Dare Thompson, James Malchow, and the whole Development Committee and its helpers

Boathouse Musicians Wanted!

If you will be attending the **Virtual Boathouse Singing on Friday** and would like to lead a song from our usual Boathouse repertoire please e-mail John Scardina at johnscardina@hotmail.com.

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!

One Last Chance to Watch *Quakers: the Quiet Revolutionaries*

The movie [**Quakers: the Quiet Revolutionaries**](#) 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. The last online screening of the film is **Saturday, August 1, 2:00-5:00 p.m.** The film will be available for viewing **only within that time frame** at nyym.org/film.

Call for Proposals for the NYYM Parents and Kids Support Project

Families in NYYM with school aged children and younger are facing a range of challenges during this time. NYYM is offering to fund projects that support parents and children in NYYM in 2020. Do you have a creative idea to engage kids and/or connect parents with spiritual support that a small budget could help make happen? [Use this form to submit a NYYM Parents and Kids Support Project Proposal](#). Proposals that can support Families of Color in NYYM are especially welcome. Proposals are due August 15, 2020. Final decisions about projects will be made by the Personnel Committee as soon as possible. Questions can be directed to PKS@nyym.org or call 212-673-5750. Thank you!

Write an Article or Essay for the Next Issue of *Spark*!

Spark is the printed newsletter for New York Yearly Meeting and contains news and articles written by NYYM Friends. The next issue is in September. **The theme: Reflections on NYYM's 325th Year.** NYYM held its first yearly gathering 325 years ago, and we celebrate that anniversary every 25 years. Has NYYM changed since its 300th anniversary, in 1995? What do you think—or hope—will be different at the 350th or beyond? Please share your thoughts on the past, present, and possible futures of our yearly meeting. A focus on the yearly meeting's inclusion of People of Color is very welcome. What has the yearly meeting done in the past to confront structural racism, and what can we hope to achieve? Please write up to 400-600 words and email your piece to communications@nyym.org by **August 7**. The following issue, in November, will have a more general racial justice theme. Articles for that issue are due October 1. Thanks for writing!

Reflections from Sunday's Meeting for Grieving and Healing

During Sunday's **Meeting for Grieving and Healing**, we named together some of the ways that grief is showing up in our lives and in the world. Our griefs form a vast and varied landscape, ranging from traumatic losses such as the death of a loved one or the ending of an intimate relationship, to more ambiguous griefs such as our assumptions about what the rest of our lives would be like. Our hearts are breaking because of what we are seeing in our communities and in the world, some things for the first time, many things for far too long. We may also be grieving for our self-image: if we can no longer do work we found fulfilling, or if we are seeing ourselves in new ways as we gain insights into how our previously unconscious ways impact other people. We shared different ways we can process these many kinds of griefs, by ourselves and in community. We heard that, as we process and move thru our griefs, we may release some, but others become a part of who we are.

Quote: We must treat grief as worthy of attention. In fact, it is essential for us to welcome our grief whatever form it takes. When we do, we open ourselves to our shared experiences in life. Grief is our common bond. Opening to our sorrow connects us with everyone, everywhere.
— Francis Weller, *The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred Work of Grief*

Query: Grief related to racism impacts individuals in different ways. For some naming losses due to racism is easier and for others it is more challenging. Where do you experience loss related to racism?

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, July 28

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

Create a piece of art or music on the theme of LOVE

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

Social Lunch: Leadings for the Wider World (See above for description)

12:00-1:30 p.m. **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84669168966?pwd=MzZsTWIvSUxlaGhCcHFkSTNFeTFnQT09> **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 846 6916 8966
Password: 201280

Junior Yearly Meeting: Senior High Group

2:00-3:30 p.m. **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdIQnpycUIkTTJGODRxeDRHZZ09> **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967
Password: 562696

Café Night: This is the **NYYM talent show** at which we donate money for the Sharing Fund and Powell House! Email sarahandmartin@powellhouse.org to sign up to perform!

6:30-8:30 p.m. **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88431793867?pwd=dHVCa1Y2ME9NS1E1Yk5NQXhPWmV3dz09> **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 884 3179 3867
Password: 358765

Young Adult Friends: Ice Cream Social. All are welcome.

8:30-9:30 p.m. **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89521109398?pwd=TUXibW9GOjAwMEOrUndiMzZKTzF3UT09> **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 895 2110 9398
Password: 782351

Social Time: Pop in for a chat about your day!

9:30-10:30 p.m. **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82941929083?pwd=ZEIXQU5vQlRTZHhmVVFOaXF4N0joQT09> **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656
Meeting ID: 829 4192 9083
Password: 104519

Wednesday, July 29

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

Donate to a cause that is important to you (even if it is just \$1)

Bible Study: Resources for Bible Study: <https://nyym.org/bible-study#resources>

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

Junior Yearly Meeting: Pre-K Group

10:30-11:30 a.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdIQnpycUlkTTJGODRxDRHZZ09>

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967

Password: 562696

Junior Yearly Meeting: Singing with Grades 6-8

11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88562962735?pwd=bWFLcWJPaTFPZEJzYXB0eExSVXA3Zz09>

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 885 6296 2735

Password: 663139

Junior Yearly Meeting: Grades 6-8 Group

12:30-1:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86449071012?pwd=RVRXUTBldXV5YmxNcFZobkJsT1NQUT09>

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 864 4907 1012

Password: 113052

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=c2MzRmlmVE80bVkxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>

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), and read the advance documents [here](#)

2:30-4:00 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVkxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800

Password: 832819

Junior Yearly Meeting: Grades 1-2 Group

4:30-5:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88921808837?pwd=dklwdTFoWFJuakVjd0NNL2dYTGRKQT09>

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 889 2180 8837

Password: 913132

Schedule continued on next page

Friends of Color Affinity Group Meeting: A virtual opportunity for Friends of Color to worship and gather together in the Spirit.

5:00-6:30 p.m.

Join by computer:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82529047614?p-
wd=ejMrMGdlbTR0QTY3NUdLTXZkYXBEQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82529047614?pwd=ejMrMGdlbTR0QTY3NUdLTXZkYXBEQT09)

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 825 2904 7614

Password: 905100

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

7:00-9:00 p.m.

Join by computer:

see [The Summer Sessions Calendar](#) for
the group you'd like to attend

Join by phone: (646) 558-8656

see [The Summer Sessions Calendar](#)
for the group you'd like to attend
