



# QUAKER UPDATE

Wednesday • July 29 • Vol. 50, No. 11

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](mailto:office@nyym.org) office@nyym.org or call (607) 220-3219 or (212) 673-5750.

You can contact the **Tech Support Team** via [email](mailto:tech-team@nyym.org) 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](#).**

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

- Reports from the Trustees
- Interim Actions report
- First reading of the Epistle
- Proposal to make Meetings for Discernment permanent
- NY Council of Churches report

**Nominations changes:** Presentation of nominations will be moved from Wednesday's business meeting to Thursday's. [Please review nominations in advance](#). If anyone has any concerns about any nomination, they may write to Clerk Jeffrey Aaron at [jephreyaaron@aol.com](mailto:jephreyaaron@aol.com), with an explanation. If appropriate, a name can be removed to the regular agenda for separate approval or removed altogether. All remaining nominations not questioned will all be approved in bulk. Names of Friends who are not members of NYYM will be presented for separate approval.

## For Wednesday's [Bible Study](#)

Most Protestant denominations base their doctrine and practices on the letters the apostle Paul wrote. Join us on **Wednesday** for a look at Paul's thoughts regarding a slave he got to know personally. Please read the Letter to Philemon prior to class. It is quite short. [nyym.org/bible-study](http://nyym.org/bible-study)

## 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 (TONIGHT!)

**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 **TONIGHT (Wed.) between 7:00 and 9:00 p.m.** 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*

## Nominations for Yearly Meeting

The work of the Nominating Committee has been challenging this year. We ask all Friends to make sure that their Quarter/Region has appointed their representatives to the Nominating Committee. This past year we had no one from All Friends, Butternuts and Nine Partners! All the other regions were under-represented! A fully staffed Nominating Committee can better identify the talents and gifts that reside in our yearly meeting. Please help us by making sure your Quarter/Region is fully represented! If your region has made an appointment to the Nominating Committee, please notify both the Nominating Committee (Ben Frisch, clerk, [bfrisch27@gmail.com](mailto:bfrisch27@gmail.com)) and the YM office ([office@nyym.org](mailto:office@nyym.org))

## 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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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.** Has NYYM changed since its 300th anniversary, in 1995? What do you think—or hope—will be different at the 350th or beyond? 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 600 words and email your piece to [communications@nyym.org](mailto: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!

## NYYM-Endorsed Event, Ribbon International, is August 1st

NYYM Summer Sessions 2019 endorsed **Ribbon International 2020**, a participative remembrance of the atomic bombs dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. You are invited, with folks from across the US and Japan, to [attend this commemorative event online](#), Saturday, Aug 1, at 10:00 a.m.

## Easton Day

SAVE THE DATE! Easton Day will take place on Zoom this year on Sunday, September 13, from 1-3 pm. Beginning with singing to gather us and a brief worship, we will have the telling of the story

of the visitation by Native people to Easton Meeting right before the Battle of Saratoga in 1777. A moderated panel of three speakers will address the contemporary applications of the story, with the theme of Searching for Common Ground. We are very excited to have you join us. We'll send registration and more detail through NYYM closer to the date. Questions to Jeannine Laverty at [jlaverty@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jlaverty@nycap.rr.com)

### 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?

***Scroll down for the list of upcoming events & their links***

# Upcoming Events

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)

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

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**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:** Pre-K Group

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**10:30-11:30 a.m.**      **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89570703967?pwd=eFJiMjdIQnpycUlKTTJGODRxeDRHZz09>      **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656  
Meeting ID: 895 7070 3967  
Password: 562696

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Singing with Grades 6-8

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**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

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Grades 6-8 Group

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**12:30-1:30 p.m.**      **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86449071012?pwd=RVRXUTBlidXV5YmxNcFZobkJsT1NQUT09>      **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656  
Meeting ID: 864 4907 1012  
Password: 113052

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

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**1:30-2:30 p.m.**      **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVlxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>      **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656  
Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800  
Password: 832819

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

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**2:30-4:00 p.m.**      **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVlxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>      **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656  
Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800  
Password: 832819

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Grades 1-2 Group

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**4:30-5:30 p.m.**      **Join by computer:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88921808837?pwd=dklwdTFoWFJuaKvjdONNL2dYTGRKQT09>      **Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656  
Meeting ID: 889 2180 8837  
Password: 913132

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*Schedule continued on next page*

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

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**5:00-6:30 p.m.**

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82529047614?pwd=ejMrMGdlbTROQTY3NUdLTXZkYXBEQT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 825 2904 7614

Password: 905100

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**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](#)

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**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

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## Thursday, July 30

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

Call or text somebody that made you feel good this week and tell them you are grateful

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**Young Adult Friends:** Morning Walking Meditation. This YAF event is open to people of all ages and physical abilities. Olivia Gamber will guide us through a 30 minute mindful meditation in which we will observe and greet the world, our bodies, and our minds with compassion and gratitude. The second 30 minutes will be open to conversation, check ins, and joy! Grab your preferred morning drink, headphones, and walking shoes and head outside. (Or join us from bed!)

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**7:00-8:00 a.m.**

Conference Call #: 720-835-5019

PIN: 06418

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**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.

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**9:30-10:15 a.m.**

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84260505681?pwd=VGZmVERQOW13cnlEalV5ZkxkxOHlxUT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 842 6050 5681

Password: 909636

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Grades 3-5 Group

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

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87825635055?pwd=NjNxbERrZlFZQ01FKUEhncUU5SE13QT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 878 2563 5055

Password: 274291

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Grades 6-8 Group

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**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

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*Schedule continued on next page*

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**Junior Yearly Meeting:** Grades 1-2 Group

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2:00-3:00 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

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

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6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVlxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800

Password: 832819

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

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7:30-9:00 p.m.

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82718339800?pwd=c2MzRmlmVE80bVlxbnVhQlRhRnZhUT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 827 1833 9800

Password: 832819

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

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9:30-10:30

**Join by computer:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82941929083?pwd=ZEIXQU5vQlRTZHhmVVF0aXF4N0JoQT09>

**Join by phone:** (646) 558-8656

Meeting ID: 829 4192 9083

Password: 104519

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