

October 2017

Happy Fall, and welcome to the October edition of InfoShare, the email newsletter from New York Yearly Meeting.

You can **announce your meeting's news** and **submit articles** to Spark or InfoShare by emailing me at communications@nyym.org. The theme for the January issue: **Membership**. Why did you become a member—or why have you not? What does being a member even MEAN? Please submit articles by Dec. 4.

NYYM Friends send out regular communications with tons of information and opportunities. Make sure you're not missing anything! Visit [NYYM Connect!](#) to sign up for all the Quaker information you want (and none that you don't.)

And don't forget to keep in touch with your yearly meeting through our [Facebook page](#), [Twitter feed](#), and [Instagram account](#).

—Sarah Way, Editor

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Bring Your Child to the Fall Sessions Youth Program!

Want to find a way to address the hate crimes in Charlottesville, Virginia? To deal with the divisive policies of the current administration? To talk to people who have ideas and beliefs that are completely different from yours? Come join the youth program at Fall sessions!

This year we will open up the conversation on Friday with an intergenerational Alternatives to Violence mini session with the gathered folks of New York Yearly

meeting. We will continue as youth group (sleeping over Friday and Saturday nights) and have time to bond and have fun as we sort out, through active listening, where we are, where we want to go, and how to get there.

We all have a point of view and sharing will give us an opportunity to listen and learn from each other. We can't learn without laughter, so of course we will play lots of games. There will be music (bring your instruments!) and yoga and maybe some theater. A movie might get us talking about some issues on one of the evenings. Abby Burford will share some guided meditation with us too (ah, scented eye pillows!)

The group will be facilitated by Stuart Sydenstricker, Jim Mandala, Sylke Jackson, and youth facilitators from the AVP camp that is co-sponsored by Chatham Summit meeting and Wind of the Spirit, an immigrant led non-profit in the area. Fifty eight youth (ages 12-18) have taken Basic/Advanced AVP training and 19 have become Apprentice Facilitators through this camp. Working with a few of these young leaders will provide us with an exciting opportunity to partner with people who are affected by the crackdown on immigration and work together to come up with productive solutions.

Please bring a (Quaker or otherwise) friend! This weekend will be fun and we want to be inclusive and welcoming!

Program will be offered for all ages from nursery to high school. Kids 7th grade and up can participate in the sleep over. Deadline to register is October 30th.

Questions? Please email Sylke Jackson at: sylkej@gmail.com

REGISTER for Fall Sessions [here](#) and get more information [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Quaker Youth Gathering for Farmington-Scipio Region

Saturday Oct. 21 (THIS WEEKEND), 9:00am-5:00pm, at Rochester Meeting

For ages 4th grade and up — Music, art, games, conversations and activities around the issues that are important to you. A look at what people in your region can do (and are doing) to make our society better in a group that accepts you just as you are. Register on-line at www.powellhouse.org or email chrisandmike@powellhouse.org. Suggested donation of \$10 for lunch, snacks and supplies.

Join a Teleconference on Ecological Eating

Tuesday, October 24, at 7:00pm

What we eat affects both our own health and the health of the planet. Please join Sheree Cammer and the Earthcare Working Group in a teleconference to discuss ways we can promote more ecological eating in our homes and our meetings. We are also interested in ways to support more ecological food production in our regional foodsheds. We would love to hear what you and/or your meeting are currently doing or considering starting. Are there ways that NYYM could support your work around food? Do you have experiences or resources you can share with others?

The date is Tuesday, October 24, at 7:00 p.m. The dial-in number is (712) 775-7031 and the access code is 164440. To get an email reminder of the call, send a note to sunfirequaker@earthlink.net

Conversation Circle for Friends Serving Children and Youth

Wednesday, November 1, 8:00-9:00pm

Melinda Wenner Bradley, Children and Youth Field Secretary, is offering an online opportunity to gather with our **community of practice** to share and support one another in the ministry of spiritual formation with children and youth.

- *What are the joys and challenges in your meeting's First Day programs for children and youth?*
- *Is there a project or resource you would like to share? Is there a question, concern, or task you would like companionship in?*
- *How are you finding ways to support parents and help Friends of all ages to "carry" their Quakerism into their daily lives?*

To join the video conference, [click here](#). For more information, [email Melinda](#).



ARCH Re-Up Conference

November 17-19 at Powell House

Are you 65 or older? Care for someone who is 65 or older? Care about someone who is 65 or older in your meeting? This is an opportunity for ARCH Visitors, other members of the extended ARCH

network, members (or emeritus members) of the Committee on Aging Concerns, and ARCH staff to get together for a weekend of renewal, reinvigoration, and resources. We will deepen connections with each other and our shared ministry of care and compassion, vulnerability and trust, stewardship and healthy boundaries. Visit [Powell House](#) for more information and to register.

Purchase Meeting Harvest Dinner RESCHEDULED

Purchase Meeting's annual Harvest Dinner to benefit the Sharing Fund has been rescheduled to **Saturday, November 18**. Details on reservations will be available soon on www.purchasemeeting.org.

Raising Anti-racist White Children Workshop

Saturday, November 18, 9:00-3:30pm, at Brooklyn Meeting

Workshop topics include: basics of anti-racism education and practices; awareness of white culture; how and when to talk with children about race and racism; media literacy for children; and strategies for supporting children as they encounter racism in everyday life. The workshop is appropriate for white people who are open to learning what to do about racism, and for people of color who want to support white people taking action against racism. The workshop is part of the [Center for the Study of White American Culture](#)'s series on What White People Can Do About Racism. It is open to families in New York Quarter, with thanks to Brooklyn Meetings' First Day School Committee for sponsoring the workshop. [See flyer for details](#), including registration. *Childcare and lunch will be provided.*

NYYM News and Resources

Progress on Priorities

In the summer of 2015, after a long process of listening to Friends in monthly meetings, New York Yearly Meeting approved six statements called “Leadings and Priorities.” These six statements are meant to guide the work of the yearly meeting organization, including committees and staff. [Click here](#) to read the first

of a series of articles on the progress toward living into these priorities, based on the observations of the Priorities Support Working Group.

We would like to hear from Friends about other ways that the yearly meeting and monthly meetings are growing into the Priorities; email [Deb Wood](mailto:Deb.Wood@nyym.org). Also, see the [Leadings and Priorities page](http://nyym.org/Leadings-and-Priorities) on nyym.org.

Send Your Child to Powell House!

Powell House Quaker Conference and Retreat Center is in its 55th year of providing programming to youth in grades 4th to 12th. Conference themes center around developing positive relationships, dealing with difficult emotions, creative expression and social responsibility. All retreats emphasize awareness, kindness, curiosity and courage, attributes that are important in a just and democratic society. All youth are invited to attend! For more on the Powell House youth program, click [here](#).



The Tote Bag:
NYYM Religious Education
and Family Resources



The Tote Bag is the children and youth field secretary's e-newsletter with resources, events, and opportunities for youth religious education and families in NYYM's local meetings. Read [the early Fall issue here](#). To subscribe, visit [NYYM Connect!](#)

Social Media Ads Outreach Report

Emily Provance, interim young adult field secretary, has been helping several meetings learn how to use social media ads as outreach. The [full report](#) from Phase Two is now available.

The Youth Service Opportunities Project



Did you know there's an easy way to get middle school, high school and college students involved in Quaker-inspired service learning in New York City? The Youth Service Opportunities Project (YSOP), headquartered in the 15th Street Meeting House in Manhattan, is a Quaker organization dedicated to engaging youth in meaningful service to homeless and hungry people. For more information, check out the YSOP website at www.ysop.org or call 212-598-0973.

Penington Friends House

Did you know that there is an intergenerational Quaker cooperative residence in Manhattan? Penington Friends House is located in a townhouse at 215 East 15th Street, next door to the Fifteenth Street Meeting House. In addition to 23 rooms for long-term residence, we offer two short-term guest rooms. [Click here](#) for more information.

Job Opportunities

JOB OPENING: FUM General Secretary

The General Board of Friends United Meeting (FUM) has announced the opening of its search for the position of FUM General Secretary.

In accordance with the decision reached at the April 2017 FUM Board Meeting to enter into a year of transition as Colin Saxton ends his call as General Secretary and the Board searches for a new executive, the Board has released a series of [documents](#) describing both FUM and preferred qualifications for its next leader. Application deadline is November 30, 2017. The position will be filled by July 1, 2018.

Members of the Search Committee can be reached via search@friendsunitedmeeting.org.

JOB OPENING: Youth Ministries and Education Coordinator

Friends Meeting at Cambridge (FMC) seeks a full-time Coordinator to start January 2, 2018. We seek a dynamic, spiritual, thoughtful, engaging, fun person who loves working with youth (from infants to high schoolers) and families in a Quaker setting. The Coordinator is responsible for coordinating

and facilitating the religious education of young people and plays a central role in co-creating a vision of FMC as a welcoming and supportive spiritual home for youth and families; integrating youth and families into the meeting, as well as integrating the meeting community into the lives, joys, and concerns of youth and families; articulating priorities that will help the community work towards a blessed multigenerational community; and coordinating events, programs and projects in alignment with those priorities. For the full job description, [click here](#).

Staff Calendars

Steve Mohlke, General Secretary

October 26-29: FGC Central Committee weekend

November 10-12: Fall Sessions

Melinda Wenner Bradley, Children and Youth Field Secretary

October 29: Wilton Meeting visit

November 10-12: Fall Sessions

November 18: CSWAC workshop "Raising Anti-racist White Children" at Brooklyn Meeting

November 19: Albany Meeting visit

December 16-17: Ithaca Meeting visit

Callie Janoff, ARCH Director

October 21: Purchase Meeting, Budget Saturday

October 28: Brooklyn Meeting, ARCH Workshop

November 10-12: Fall Sessions

November 17-19: Powell House, ARCH Re-Up Retreat Weekend

Emily Provance, Interim Young Adult Field Secretary

October 21: Facilitating monthly meeting retreat for Cornwall

October 22: Visiting Salem Quarter, NEYM, to talk about social media outreach

October 26: Presenting on social media outreach to FGC Central Committee

October 27-28: FUM Board Meeting

November 4: QuED Day at New Brunswick Meeting

Chad Gilmartin, Digital Communications Director; **Helen Garay Toppins**, Associate Secretary; and **Sarah Way**, Communications Director, will be at Fall Sessions Nov. 10-12.



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Contact info: 15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY 10003 / 212-673-5750