



Newsletter of the

Ithaca Monthly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

February 2019

IMM CONTACTS

ithacamonthlymeeting.org

Meetinghouse:

120 Third Street • Ithaca NY 14850
607-229-9500

Clerk:

John Lewis • 607-227-6273
clerk@ithacamonthlymeeting.org

Assistant Clerk:

Bronwyn Mohlke • 607-220-3219
bjqmohlke@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Mike Simkin
607-387-5174 • mes13@cornell.edu
3137 Jacksonville Rd • T-burg, NY 14886

Ministry & Worship:

Shirley Way
607-319-1494 • shirleyway61@gmail.com

Childcare Requests:

Ellie Rosenberg • 277-1403
ellierosenberg7@gmail.com

Friends Center for Racial Justice at the Burt House, 227 N Willard Way

Angela Hopkins
angela@fcrj.org
607-319-2644

Listserv:

To join our email list for meeting-related announcements, send an email message addressed to:

IMMRSF-L-request@cornell.edu
with message body as simply: join

Marilyn's List:

To email Friends and others non-specifically Quaker messages that may be of interest to Friends, consider sending your message through Marilyn Ray. To join or contribute, email:
mlr17@cornell.edu

Newsletter

Submit contributions to clarkberg@cornell.edu. See the IMM Calendar, back page, for the next deadline.

What is the state of the Meeting?

New York Yearly Meeting encourages all Friends to gather early each year to consider the state of their Meeting. Those reports are then compiled and shared at Summer Sessions. It is a very moving experience.

Members and attenders of Ithaca Meeting are invited to get together after Meeting for worship on February 17 to consider the following query:

In our meeting how are we making Friends' testimonies a way of life?

Consider how Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality and Care of the Earth shape the life of our meeting—in worship, fellowship, witness and service.

If you are not able to be there on the 17th, you are welcome to share your reflections with John Lewis, Bronwyn Mohlke, or Asha Sanaker.

Memorandum of Understanding: IMM and FCRJ

Ithaca Monthly Meeting will take the MOU up at March Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Ithaca Monthly Meeting's agreement to turn over use of the Burt House to the Friends Center for Racial Justice spans three years. After taking up the MOU, the Meeting will turn to a period of discernment about its Meeting-wide commitment to anti-racism work.

The draft MOU is on page 2. Please send questions and concerns about this document to Antonia Saxon (tonia@iecc.com). The list of questions about the MOU will be used during discernment in March. Questions that exceed the scope of the MOU will be held over for threshing sessions later in the spring.

— Antonia Saxon

Friends Center for Racial Justice (FCRJ)

Upcoming Programs and Outgrowths

Upcoming events include a monthly First Friday Friends' Fellowship, and an upcoming "Seminar on Wheels: A History of Slavery and Racial Injustice." This bus trip includes visits to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia; the National Lynching Memorial, Montgomery, Alabama; the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Washington, DC; and other destinations. Check out the December issue of this Meeting's Newsletter for more details. If you are led to take this trip or have any questions, please contact Angela Hopkins at 607-319-2644 or 319-4645.

In addition to these offerings, there have been additional outgrowths of the work of the Friends' Center – branches of FCRJ are happening in the Carolinas, in Florida, and in Rochester, NY.

FCRJ programs, continued on page 2

DRAFT

Memorandum of Understanding Between the Friends Center for Racial Justice (FCRJ) and Ithaca Monthly Meeting (IMM) Concerning the Use of the Burtt House

From Friends Center for Racial Justice:

Angela Hopkins, Executive Director
Charley Flint, Mary Pugh Clark, Jeannine Laverty

From Ithaca Monthly Meeting:

Tom Brown, clerk of the Burtt House Committee
Steve Mohlke, Chuck Mohle, Antonia Saxon

A memorandum of understanding is not a contract, but a temporary agreement. It does not try to decide everything. It just sets down what we have been able to decide.

This document will be in effect until March 31, 2020, with the expectation of renewal with possible modifications. Ithaca Monthly Meeting and the Friends Center for Racial Justice can now reflect on their individual charges. Joint conversations about moving forward can also take place.

Nature of the relationship between FCRJ and IMM

- The FCRJ is a separate entity from IMM.
- The Executive Director of the FCRJ is not an IMM employee and is not a Friend-in-Residence.
- FCRJ makes all decisions about events to be held in the building during its occupancy.
- Communication between IMM and FCRJ flows through the Burtt House Committee.
- IMM Friends agree to observe the policies, practices, and procedures of FCRJ.
- IMM agrees to cover expenses associated with offering programming for IMM at the FCRJ.
- There is a budget line in IMM's budget to cover the expenses of services provided for IMM alone/exclusively (not open community) by FCRJ. If these funds are not sufficient, a request can be made via the Burtt House Committee to the Finance Committee for additional funds.

Rent and occupancy

- IMM, building owner, will rent the building to the FCRJ for \$1 a year.

Utilities, repairs and upkeep

- IMM will pay for utilities: electricity, water, gas, and sewer.
- FCRJ will pay telephone and internet services.
- IMM agrees to arrange for repairs and schedule repair visits.
- IMM agrees to coordinate repair visits with the Executive Director.

FCRJ programs, continued from page 1

Monthly

First Friday Friends' Fellowship. Movie night at FCRJ. Starts at 7:00pm with discussion to follow. Organizer: Ruth Yarrow. All are welcome.

Feb 16-23

Seminar on Wheels: A History of Slavery and Racial Justice. Facilitator: Angela Hopkins. Registration is underway. See Ithaca Friends' December Newsletter for more information. If you feel led to take this opportunity, please let Angela know, (607) 319-2644.

March 1-3

Writing Our Stories. Facilitator: Janaki Spickard-Keeler. *Generational Trauma: Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (Joy DeGruy).* Facilitators: Tommy Miller and Angela Hopkins.

March 29-31

Corporate Forgiveness. Facilitators: TBD. *Benefit Concert #2-FCRJ Music Ministry.* Facilitators: Annie Patterson & Charlie King.

April 12-14

Racial Healing, Justice and Reparations. Facilitators: Jerry Leapart and Tommy Miller.

April 26-28

Witness to Injustice: Unraveling Historic Native and U.S. Relations. Coordinator: Jeanine Laverty.

May 31-June 2

Facing Unintended Racism. Coordinators: Barbara Bleecker and Mary Pugh Clark. Facilitators: NYYM European American Quakers Working to End Racism.

June

Friends Center for Racial Justice Children and Youth Open House. Facilitators: Rima Segal and Angela Hopkins

June and September

Building a Multiracial/Multicultural Community: The Journey of NYYM Task Group on Racism and the Friends Center for Racial Justice. Facilitators: Nancy Cooper and Angela Hopkins.

Finally, watch for annual FCRJ Annual Meeting in October.

From the Archives

A few decades ago, Friends General Conference met at Ithaca College several times: 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, and 1980. I would love to hear from Friends with memories of these events, both the events themselves and intersections with Ithaca Monthly Meeting. I hope to collect enough stories to create a small series on these past events. (The Minutes and the Ithaca Journal have some, of course!) Thank you!

— Simon St. Laurent, Meeting Historian

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, January 13, 2019

Clerk: John Lewis
Assistant Clerk: Bronwyn Mohlke
Recording Clerks: Marin Clarkberg, Blair Jennings

(The @ signifies that the minute has been read and approved during Meeting. Copies of all written reports are on file with and available from the Clerk or Recording Clerk.)

2018.12.01 Opening Worship

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society Friends met in Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, and for the Annual Meeting of IMMRSF Inc., on January 13, 2019. At 12:18 Pm, forty-one Friends gathered in worship. Copies of the annual reports from the corporation officers were distributed. A sign-in sheet was circulated.

Clerk recognized Nancy Gabriel who was holding the meeting.

Present: Barbary Barry, Melissa Blake, Michelle Brimage, Tom Brown, Asa Cadwallader, Karen Friedeborn, Nancy Gabriel, Barbara Ganzel, Chris Gartlein, Giny Gartlein, Angela Hopkins, Blair Jennings, Elizabeth Keokosky, Carolyn Kenyon, Betsy Keokosky, Judith Knight, John Lewis, Margaret McCasland, Bronwyn Mohlke, Steve Mohlke, Laura Peters, Carl Peterson, Marilyn Ray, Karen Reixach, Nancy Riffer, Ellie Rosenberg, Irena Rosenberg, Anna Rosenblatt, Asha Sanaker, Antonia Saxon, Elizabeth Schneider, Tony Serviente, Pat Sewell, Mike Simkin, Dreia Spies, Joanne Sturgeon, Connie Thomas, Garry Thomas, Shirley Way, Ruth Yarrow, Gina Varrichio.

2019 01.2 Annual Meeting with Reports from the Meeting Corporation

Clerk introduced Tom Brown, Recording Clerk of Trustees and Secretary of the Corporation who convened the Annual Meeting of IMMRSF, Inc., providing a bit of history and requirements of the meeting and reports. He introduced President of the Corporation, Tony Serviente.

1) Tony Serviente, President of the Corporation presented the President's Annual Report for 2018, noting the work load was light this year. He then formally introduced the officers for 2018 as follows: Tony Serviente, Clerk of Trustees and President; Tom Brown, Recording Clerk and Secretary; Mike Simkin, Treasurer. Other members this year included John Lewis, Clerk of the Meeting, Nancy Hillegas and Liam Murphy.

2) Tom Brown, Recording Clerk of Trustees and Secretary of the Corporation, read the 2018 annual report of the Secretary of the Corporation and fielded question(s) as asked.

3) Mike Simkin, Treasurer of the Meeting and of the Corporation, gave the end of the fiscal year budget report. Mike then noted highlights of the 2018 Treasurer's/Budget Report and reviewed several budget highlights, including the following:

- a) Total contributions for 2018 were \$66,259 which was \$3,790. less than our 2018 request of \$70,759. This accounts for the fact that our expenses against income show a negative balance.

- b) Total income for 2018 was \$74,698.
- c) Liquid assets total \$128,407.
- d) Balance for the general fund is \$0; balance for the general fund reserve is \$7,364.

Last, he reviewed major financial transactions/events for 2018, including historical data and notable circumstances for specific funds of interest. Meeting received the reports.

This ended the Annual Meeting of the Corporation. @

Clerk offered his gratitude and a few remarks before he began Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business. Clerk distributed copies of Annual Reports and described the process for the meeting.

2019 01.3 Ministry & Worship

On behalf of Ministry & Worship, Bronwyn Mohlke reported that a clearness committee met to consider a request from Thea Clarkberg to enter into membership of Ithaca Monthly Meeting. She was highly recommended.

Friends happily welcomed Thea Clarkberg into membership.@

2019 01.4 Annual Reports from Meeting Committees

Friends presented annual reports and answered questions for committees as follow: Tom Brown for the Burt House, Ellie Rosenberg for Children & the Life of the Meeting (CALM), Elizabeth Keokosky for Earthcare, Bronwyn Mohlke for Greeters.

When queried, Friends agreed that the Annual Report for Hector Meeting House be held over until February's Business Meeting at which time a representative from the committee would be present.

Friends continued presenting the annual reports and answering questions as follows: Garry Thomas for the Ad Hoc Working Group for Immigrant Support, Margaret McCasland for the Library, Asha Sanaker for Ministry & Worship, Karen Friedeborn for Neighborhood Outreach and Antonia Saxon for Nominating.

Friends received the annual reports. @

2019 01.5 Other Concerns

A Friend shared that she misses the presence of a Pastoral Care Committee.@

A Friend asked Meeting to consider our practice of waiting for people to feel led to perform necessary tasks.@

2019 01.7 Closing Worship

At 1:36 Pm, twenty-six Friends settled into silent worship before adjourning. Our next regular Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be held at the rise of Meeting on February 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Blair Jennings, Recording Clerk

Women's Chair Yoga, Mondays and Thursdays 11a-noon

Women of all ages are welcome to gather for gentle, yet powerful restoration of heart, mind, soul, strength. No experience or equipment needed. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Gabriel: 339-7123; ntg2@cornell.edu. We offer a donation to the teacher.

Ruth Yarrow's Watercolors at Ten Forward

On Saturday, Feb. 2, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, you are invited to the opening sale of Ruth Yarrow's watercolor paintings, notecards and books. It will be at the Ten Forward Cafe, 115 E. State St. on the Commons above Autumn Leaves Bookstore. All income will go to the Tompkins County Workers' Center.

February 2019 Calendar of Ithaca Monthly Meeting

Friends First Friday Films Friday, February 1, 7p

Join us at the Friends' Center for Racial Justice, 227 N Willard Way, We will see a compelling drama about race and class, "The Help." Come start the new year with fellowship! Questions? Call Ruth Yarrow, 206-512-0688.

Earthcare Committee Sunday, February 3, Rise of Meeting

All are welcome to join us on first Sundays.

Beyond Diversity 101 Sunday, February 3, Rise of Meeting

In early December, Michelle Brimage visited Pendle Hill in Wallingford, PA to intern at a Beyond Diversity 101 four-day intensive workshop/training. I will share some of my experience with Friends after Meeting for Worship. There will be coffee and some refreshments. All are welcome!!

Quaker Guys Lunch Thursday, February 7, noon

Lunch for Friendly Men and those who don't mind talking with them. We meet at the Ten Forward Café in Autumn Leaves on the first Thursday of each month.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Sunday, February 10, Rise of Meeting

Join the decision-making process. Proposed agenda items should be sent to our clerk, John Lewis, by the preceding Wednesday.

Women's Fellowship Friday, February 15, 6:45p

A Friendly, informal gathering to meet, knit, eat and/or hang out once a month, we will meet in Wegman's cafe upstairs. Stop by for a cup of tea, dinner, or just to say hi, everyone is welcome!

Peace and Social Justice Committee Sunday, February 17, Rise of Meeting

All are welcome to join us on third Sundays.

State of the Meeting Discussion Sunday, February 17, Rise of Meeting

See page 1 for more information.

Last Friday Soup Supper Friday, February 22, 6p

Soup and bread will be provided. If you'd like to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert, that would be great, but you are welcome to come without bringing any food. There is no agenda, this is just a time to be with Friends.

Fourth Sunday Dish-to-Pass Brunch Sunday, February 24, Rise of Meeting

Bring something tasty to share if you can. All are welcome.

Newsletter submission due Thursday, February 28, 5p

Please provide your newsletter contributions to Marin Clarkberg: 150 Giles St., 14850, 607-279-4722, clarkberg@cornell.edu.

On Sundays

10:30a **First Day School** upstairs at the Third Street Meetinghouse

10:30a **Meeting for Worship** at the Third Street Meetinghouse

11:15a **First Day School attendees** join Meeting for Worship

Other Weekly IMM Events

Mid-week Meeting at the Burt House
Wednesdays at 7:30p

The Burt House is at 227 North Willard Way, Ithaca.