



Newsletter of the

Ithaca Monthly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

September 2018

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 Burrth 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.

Ithaca Monthly Meeting and Our Listserv

Last February we decided to expand the use of the IMM listserv for a trial period. This trial continues.

Members of the Clerks' Support Committee (Bronwyn Mohlke, Steve Mohlke, Antonia Saxon, Chuck Mohler, and John) began talking about ways Ithaca Monthly Meeting might best use a listserv or listservs. There no committee in the Meeting responsible for online policies at the present time. We hope to be able to provide a place for online communication that fosters community while remembering Friends' conviction that meeting face-to-face makes room for the presence of Spirit.

We have discovered as we share with each other that Friends hold many views about online communication. If you have comments or are interested in working on this issue, please speak to Bronwyn Mohlke, or write to her at BJQMohlke@gmail.com.

We'll publish an update of our discernment and the comments we've received in the October newsletter.

— Bronwyn Mohlke <BJQMohlke@gmail.com>, John Lewis <johnslewisiv@gmail.com>, Steve Mohlke <smohlke@gmail.com>, Chuck Mohler <clm11@cornell.edu>, Antonia Saxon <tonia@iecc.com>

Friends' First Friday Films

Think 4F. Each First Friday of the month the Friends Center for Racial Justice will show a film on some aspect of justice followed by a discussion of our thoughts about the issues. See the calendar for this month's selection (which will be on the 7th at 7 and it's a film with 7 in the title). Please contact Ruth Yarrow, 206-512-0688, rmyarrow@gmail.com. Suggestions for future films welcome!

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: New Rules, New Emphasis

Somehow, in the 48 years since the phrase "reduce, reuse, recycle" was coined, most of the emphasis has shifted from the original prime directive (reduce) to what was meant to be a lesser option (recycle). We may feel we are doing our part if we recycle the packaging our purchases came in when we should be purchasing as few new items as possible.

Reusing items is a great link between reducing our purchase of new items and our recycling things that really have reached the end of their life. There are three ways we can promote reuse: 1) we can repair items we already own, 2) we can sell or donate the items we no longer need, and/or 3) we can purchase used items.

All three of these steps can be done at the Finger Lakes ReUse programs. You can donate or purchase a wide range of items at either the Triphammer Reuse Center (at Triphammer Mall) or the Ithaca Reuse Center (214 Elmira Rd). You can also bring items to be repaired to the Fixers Collective, which meets at the Ithaca Reuse Center on Saturdays from 3-5.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, continued on page 2

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, continued from page 1

Of course, sometimes an item really has reached the end of its life and is neither usable nor repairable. This is where recycling comes in.

And you might think you already know how to recycle. Certainly, single-stream recycling collection makes it pretty simple. However, the rules have changed and here's why. There's been a sharp downturn in exports to China due to the rate of contamination. Furthermore, prices for recyclable materials have dropped 50%. The Tompkins County Recycling and Materials Management's County Open Letter to the community states:

Due to limited or no market outlets for certain plastics, we have no choice but to remove them from our list of acceptable materials. We are limiting acceptable curbside plastic containers to # 1,2 and 5 (ex: water and soda bottles, milk and juice jugs, tubs, carry-out and berry containers) as well as removing rigid plastics from the single-stream mix. Rigid plastics are acceptable only if brought directly to the Recycling and Solid Waste Center.

The letter goes on to list what items no longer will be recycled and is linked here: <https://recyclecomptkins.org/open-letter-regarding-recycling-changes/>

Then there's still the problem of electronics that cannot be donated or repaired. These can be brought to the Finger Lakes Reuse programs listed above or to the Tompkins County Recycling and Solid Waste Center at (122 Commercial Ave). How does one get there if you don't have a car? The Earthcare Committee is concerned about that so we're looking for volunteers interested in helping folks without their own means of transportation recycle or repair their electronics, please let Amala Lane know. laneamala@gmail.com

— *Dispatch from Earth(care committee):
Margaret Mccasland and Amala Lane*

By Elspeth Rhodin
August 20, 2015

Think in shape

Of mass and space

See it and be it

Looking for something

You know is there

But somehow, seems

Just out of reach

When down think up

Who shows in it,

Everybody. What is it Love

What next oneness.

Friends Center for Racial Justice Cleaning Team

Are you interested in supporting the work of the Friends Center for Racial Justice (FCRJ)? Of course financial donations are needed and appreciated and can be made directly to the Friends Center for Racial Justice or through the Ithaca Friends Meeting, but you can also help in another way by joining the Cleaning Team.

The activities at FCRJ have included Community Classes and weekend workshops which have brought many people to this home at the end of North Willard Way. Last year 24 Friends came every two weeks to one of three Community Classes. Weekend workshops and meetings often brought persons from a distance who stayed at FCRJ in one of the upstairs bedrooms. And during the year even when there are no FCRJ events, many Friends gather for Midweek Worship and committee meetings, so the Center is in regular use. A year after FCRJ opened, it was noticed how much housework was falling on Angela Hopkins, Director of FCRJ. She was cleaning the bedrooms, changing bed linen, cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, keeping the whole house clean on a regular basis, stocking the refrigerator for house guests, and much more. As Friends we know it is important to be good stewards of the buildings we are so fortunate to have—Third Street Meetinghouse, Hector Meetinghouse, and the Friends Center for Racial Justice. And a big part of stewardship is regular upkeep. Friends remembered that there was a history of several women in the Meeting cleaning the Burt House weekly about 10-15 years ago before it became FCRJ. Our Cleaning Team organized itself with input from one of the Friends who was part of that previous effort.

Last October a team was formed to help with the cleaning and upkeep of FCRJ. We now have a Cleaning Team of four people. Our cleaning time begins with a brief period of worship, and then guidance from Angela on what needs to be done that day. Team members come for about two hours once a week or once every other week. Right now the need is for someone who could vacuum and dust the downstairs rooms. There is also the option that you can "Adopt a Room." The rooms to be adopted are the upstairs bedrooms which sleep one to three people and need cleaning and preparation before guests come and after they go. Each room has a name; you can adopt Sarah Mapps / Room 1, Sojourner Truth / Room 3, or Paul Cuffe / Room 4. Sorry—Bayard Rustin / Room 2 has already been adopted! Current Cleaning Team members are Karen Friedeborn, Carolyn Kenyon, Elizabeth Schneider, and Dreia Spies.

If you wish to join the Team that is tending to the Friends Center for Racial Justice or if you just have questions, please speak with Angela or one of the Cleaning Team's current members. They are ready and willing to speak with you!

From the Archives

Where IMM Money Went, 1939-1955

The Ithaca Monthly Meeting minutes mostly tell stories of what the meeting was discussing and doing. Sometimes they pause to give a broader picture, one that makes it easier to see the longer story. In particular, the Annual Reports are somewhat consistent. Within the Annual Reports, the Treasurer's Report often provides a way to compare activity across the years. (The meeting 'year' went from June to May, lining up with the academic year.)

I was curious about Ithaca Friends' contributions during World War II and the immediate postwar period. I was happy to find that except for two years (1941-2 and 1945-6), the Treasurer's Reports from 1939 to 1955 follow a roughly consistent format. It's fairly easy to see ordinary expenses, and find more unusual situations. Many times there were projects that went outside the main flow of the finances.

The steadiest expenses were those to Cornell for meeting places in Barnes Hall or Anabel Taylor Hall. From 1939 to 1952, \$50 a year secured space. In 1952-3, it climbed to \$200 a year.

The meeting also paid \$10 a year to the Friends Fellowship Council, the national organization that was effectively the parent for the meeting.

When IMM changed its affiliation from FFC to New York Yearly Meeting and Scipio Quarterly Meeting, it sent a larger amount of money—\$112 in 1953-4 and \$163.85 in 1954-5—to the quarterly meeting.

IMM also consistently spent money—\$5 to \$16.50—on meeting suppers, sometimes at the Annual Meeting. There are also occasional food expenses for picnics and other events. Committees, speaker expenses, and Sunday school costs are also small recurring costs, as are support for Quaker organizations like the FWCC and FCNL. In 1951-2, IMM spent \$95 toward sending Ed Cranch to the Oxford Conference in Britain, a gathering to recognize 300 years since George Fox's vision of a "great people to be gathered" at Pendle Hill and his preaching there.

IMM sent money to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) every year, though the amount varied dramatically. In 1939-40 they sent \$25, and in 1942-3 and 1943-4 they sent \$140. The report for 1943-4 indicates that an additional "\$700 has been sent through the meeting to AFSC for Foreign Relief." In 1945, \$560 followed the same way, on top of \$85.95 from the meeting itself. After the war, IMM spent slightly less on AFSC—\$33 to \$75—but increased spending on other causes. In 1950-51 AFSC spending picked up again, from \$100 to \$170 annually by

the meeting, sometimes specified for particular projects like Korean hospital rehabilitation or Netherlands flood relief. The Joshua Cope memorial funds for a project in Finland also gathered donations from individuals.

Beyond the AFSC, Ithaca Monthly Meeting supported a number of organizations and people. During World War II, IMM supported the Civilian Public Service (CPS), which ran work camps for conscientious objectors.

AFSC ran a camp nearby, in Big Flats and Painted Post. Between 1942 and 1945, IMM sent New York Yearly Meeting \$275, \$466, and \$374 toward the CPS work.

After the war, the focus shifted to relief work, with \$308.43 for "foreign relief" in 1946-7. Clothing shipments and sewing supplies appear constantly, with some funds going to the local Women's

International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) sewing projects. In 1947-8, meeting sent \$227 to Save The Children Education, with \$105 going to a French school and \$112 to a French child. CARE packages that year were \$140.

1951-2 saw \$70 of CARE packages each to Germany and Korea. 1952-3 had \$120 to "CARE for General Relief in Korea", and 1953-4 continued that Korean work with another \$40.

The Treasurer's Reports, though a useful overview, have their limits. Some years are missing, and many lack detail. Only about half say how much money came into the meeting. Still, they offer a broad view that's hard to see in the many more detailed stories.

— Simon St. Laurent

Treasurer's Report	
Ithaca Society of Friends	
May 15, 1947	
to	
May 24, 1948	
Save the Children Education	French School \$105.00
	" Child 112.00
Adult Discussion Group of Joint Home Chapel to A.F.S.C.	20.00
Monthly meeting suppers and picnics	13.20
Picnic and Student Reception Refreshments	10.15
Pacificist Research Bureau	10.00
C.A.R.E. packages to Hantha Legats	140.00
First Day School Supplies	6.20
Postage on package to Germany	79
C.V. R.W.	50.00
Committee on hall liquidation	5.00
6 copies of Faith & Practice	2.89
Friends Fellowship Council	10.00
Typing of letters to N.Y. Papers & Congress	3.00
Fellowship of Reconciliation pamphlets U.M.T.	2.75
A.F.S.C. for work in Japan	25.00
Friends World Center for Annihilation	20.00
George borrowing for expenses to Europe	25.00
Balance	\$418.56

Quakers Reading for the Library: Support TCPL!

Some of your Friends will be participating in a 24 hour fund-raising Readathon at the library on beginning Saturday, September 29 at noon and running until Sunday, September 30th at noon. You can donate to support their efforts and your library. Readers include: Gina Varrichio, Pat Sewell, Melissa Travis Dunham, Chris Dunham, Connie Thomas, Garry Thomas, Kris Altucher, Lynn Podhaski, and Susan Wolf (who will be reading in American Sign Language at 8:30am on Sunday). To make a donation online:

<https://www.givegab.com/campaigns/2018-readathon>

Did you know?

- Your tax dollars support the Tompkins County Public Library, but it's not enough - the library and library foundation need to raise money each year to buy books and other materials
- The library is the only access to the internet for many low-income and homeless people in the area seeking jobs or information
- The library is committed to serving everyone in the community for free

Fall Gathering at Poplar Ridge, Sept 15

Reaching the Sacred Across the Divide

As Friends, we affirm "that of God" in each person. Yet, many of us struggle to see and answer to the sacred in those with whom we disagree about the salient issues of our time.

Recent studies of morality, ethics and values across the political spectrum can help deepen our understanding of the current divisions among us and inform a constructive response.

Join Farmington Scipio Regional Meeting Fall Gathering for an exploration of the moral matrices put forth in Jonathan Haidt's book, *The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion*, and let us see how the way forward opens for us together.

The agenda runs from 9am to 3pm and includes business meeting in addition to the program. Soup and beverages will be provided for lunch; bring your own sandwich.

The Poplar Ridge Friends Meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY. For more information email pr.prism@gmail.com or call 315-364-3531. Contact Hannah Richter (hannahrichter79@gmail.com) to arrange overnight hospitality or childcare.

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, August 12, 2018

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.)

2018.8.1 Opening Worship

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends met in Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on August 12, 2018. At 12:20pm, thirteen Friends gathered and settled into worship.

"May words of the Spirit be spoken, and words of the Spirit be heard."

Clerk recognized Nancy Riffer who volunteered to hold the Meeting in the Light and read the following:

What is the gospel according to Jesus? Simply this: that the love we all long for in our innermost heart is already present, beyond longing... It is realer than the real, more intimate than anything we can see or touch, "unreachable," as the Upanishads say, "yet nearer than breath, than heartbeat." The more deeply we receive it, the more real it becomes."

— Stephen Mitchell, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, 1991

2018.8.2 Ad Hoc Sound System Committee – Listening System Research & Report

Antonia Saxon (representing Susan Wolf who could not be present) read the document; Susan's report took the form of an informative Q & A that covered the whys & hows of installing and using a new, comprehensive Listening System at the Third Street Meetinghouse.

The Ad Hoc Sound System Committee asked IMM to approve an expenditure of up to \$450. for sound consultant Laura Mather of POW Sound Solutions in Toronto, Ontario to visit our meetinghouse September 17-19 and advise us on the installation of a permanent sound system that will greatly improve the accessibility of those with hearing difficulties. She has successfully installed sound systems at the Toronto and Hamilton, Ontario meetinghouses. Susan Wolf, who has been researching ways to make our meeting more hearing accessible, identified the Toronto system as the one most likely to suit our meeting space and Laura Mather's Services as the best available for helping us move forward on this concern. The cost of a system Mather is likely to recommend will probably cost around \$5,000 depending upon the amount of equipment we choose to acquire, when and where we buy it, and how we install it.

Minutes, continued on page 5

Minutes, continued from page 4

Antonia fielded a variety of questions & comments. Steve Mohlke addressed concerns and questions related to amending the budget to include a new capital improvement fund and/or line item to account for monies (collected/dispersed) related to the sound system, as well as future projects.

Friends approved the request for up to \$450. to come from TSMC's Operations budget line to bring Laura Mather from POW Sound Solutions to conduct an assessment. @

Friends approved a request that the IMM Finance Committee assess the best way to account for capital improvements in our bookkeeping. @

2018.8.3 Naming Committee

Bronwyn Mohlke reported for the committee. She brought forward the following names for inclusion on the nominating committee – Marin Clarkberg & Pat Sewell, both of whom have agreed to serve. Friends approved the appointments w/gratitude.@

2018.8.4 Meeting & Worship Committee – New Members

Bronwyn Mohlke reported for the committee. She brought forward the following names for membership – Jill Marie & Linda Griggs. Friends approved membership for Jill Marie and Linda Griggs.@

2018.8.5 Report from the Clerk – Listserv Concerns

As directed by a business meeting decision made in February 2018, John Lewis, clerk presented a six-month follow-up report on Listserv Concerns. So far, there is no indication of unity around the changes that were made, new changes/corrections that could be made, and/or various suggestions related to either limiting or expanding the current digital information distribution system. After reading the minute from February 2018, clerk asked those present to consider the following queries:

Query 1: Did Friends understand how the use of the listserv changed and did not change after the approval of the minute in February?

Query 2: How do we respond to this minute after it has become apparent that we lack unity on how to use the listserv?

Clerk fielded questions and comments, then encouraged a time of worship sharing around the queries. A variety of suggestions were made for moving forward, including the creation of a committee and/or organization of a threshing session. Clerk will take this under consideration and make recommendations on how to move forward. Friends received the report & considered the queries.@

2018.8.6 Corrections to the June Minutes

Clerk brought a report in which he asked the meeting to consider changing the minutes from June to clarify certain points.

After considerable discussion, the meeting decided not to change the minutes. Friends approved this decision.@

2018.8.7 Third Street Meetinghouse Committee (TSMC)

Gina Varrichio reported that the TSMC applied for and received \$5000. from the Walbridge Foundation for purchase/installation of a new automatic door closing system. This amount is anticipated to cover the entire expense. Friends received the report.@

2018.8.8 Other Concerns

No other concerns were raised.

2018.8.9 Closing Worship

Thirteen Friends settled into silent worship at 2:20pm before adjourning. Our next regular Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be held at the rise of Meeting on September 9, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Blair Jennings

More September Calendar...

AVP Basic Community Workshop, Sept 21-22

Please consider joining us for a lively, thought-provoking, life-changing, and fun workshop on these two days: Friday, Sept. 21 and Saturday, Sept. 22 from 9am to 7pm on both days. Cost: \$40. Location: Community Room of First Baptist Church, DeWitt Park- 309 North Cayuga Street. 607-273-5800 Lunch and snacks will be provided each day. We are not able to provide childcare for this workshop.

Nightingales Gathering in Ithaca Sept 21-23

The Nightingales gatherings are for Quakers who like to sing! A group of Friends get together periodically in various places in New York Yearly Meeting to be nourished, restored and transformed through the gift of communal singing. We sing a cappella, and

each person gets a chance to choose a song, so we go anywhere from hymns, to rounds, to Broadway songs, etc.

We will be getting together Friday evening, September 21 (location to be announced), all day Saturday during the day and evening at the Meetinghouse, and again Sunday morning from 9:00 to 10:00. All are welcome for as much of the weekend as you like! Meals are dish-to-pass.

Some Friends will be traveling from out of town. Might you have a bed or two to share for the weekend? Or perhaps a place for a sleeping bag on the floor? If you have any questions, or have space to offer, please contact Bronwyn Mohlke, Melody Johnson and/or Melissa Blake.

— Bronwyn 220-3219 / BJQMohlke@gmail.com]

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. Please check with Nancy Gabriel the day before: 339-7123; ntg2@cornell.edu. We offer a donation to the teacher.

Celebrate our 25th anniversary and 300th Sing! Saturday, September 15

This special Richie Sing will be at the Ithaca Meetinghouse, 120 3rd St. Dish to pass at 6:30. Hopefully we'll eat outside in the courtyard. Singing at 7:30. Everyone is welcome.

September 2018 Calendar of Ithaca Monthly Meeting

Earthcare Committee

Sunday, September 2, noon to 1:30p

All are welcome to join this monthly Earthcare discussion.

Meeting for Worship at Hector Continues Sundays, 10am

Meetings for Worship at Hector Meetinghouse, 5066 Perry City Rd, continue through September. This traditional Quaker meetinghouse is beautiful and rustic (no electricity or plumbing). Tom Brown or Dreia Spies can provide directions and answer questions. Please note that worship at Hector begins 30 minutes earlier than it does in town, leaving time to get to Business Meeting.

First Friday Films

Friday, September 7, 7p

Come join us for "Seven Pounds," about which it is difficult to say more without giving away the story. So we'll just give the Wikipedia first sentence: "Will Smith stars as a man who sets out to change the lives of seven people." Questions? Please contact Ruth Yarrow, 206-512-0688, rmyarrow@gmail.com. Suggestions for future films welcome!

Third Street Meetinghouse workday

Saturday, September 8, 1-4 p

What's that you say? You had such a blast at this year's summer work party you wish you could do it every week? Or you missed out last time and wish you had the chance for a make up?

Well, TSMC reads you loud and clear, and that's why we're offering this *bonus* work party. We have a pretty specific punch-list this time around, which includes cleaning the windows inside and out, weeding the patio (and anything else we get to), and completing the board replacement on the front deck. Join us!

Hearing System for the Meetinghouse

Monday Sept 17, 3-5p and Tuesday, Sept 18, 5-7p

We have been considering a hearing (assisted listening) system for the meetinghouse. Laura Mather from POW Hearing Solutions will be traveling from Toronto, Canada to meet with us. Her busi-

ness specializes in providing hearing access in gathering spaces for those with hearing loss and Laura installed a similar system in the Toronto Friends Meeting. She will be available to meet with interested people at the meetinghouse. During this visit she will evaluate our meeting space and bring equipment to show us.

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business Sunday, September 9, Rise of Meeting

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

Newsletter submission due

Thursday, September 27, 5p

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

Women's Fellowship

Friday, September 28, 6:45p

Now that the season is changing, Quaker women will start meeting again. 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!

Dish-to-Pass Brunch

Sunday, September 30, Rise of Meeting

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

Aging Resources, Consultation & Help Talk

Sunday, September 30, 12:30pm

At the invitation of ARCH, Reverend Kendrick Arthur Kemp will be speaking on "Lord Will You Guide My Feet While I'm Running This Race—The Intersection of Race and Disability" after brunch. His talk will focus on the intersection of race and disability from the perspective of a Black man living with a disability in the 21st century. All are welcome. If you have any questions, speak with ARCH members Bronwyn Mohlke, Elizabeth Schneider, or Susan Wolf.

On Sundays

10:00a **Meeting for Worship** for all ages at Hector Meetinghouse, 5066 Perry City Road.

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

Other Weekly IMM Events

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

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