



Newsletter of the

Ithaca Monthly Meeting

of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

November 2019

IMM CONTACTS

ithacamonthlymeeting.org

Meetinghouse:

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607-229-9500

To reserve space, email:
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Clerk:

John Lewis • 607-227-6273
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Ministry & Worship:

Elizabeth Schneider
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Childcare Requests:

Ellie Rosenberg • 277-1403
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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.

Earthcare Report to October Meeting for Business, Abridged

We are in unity with the analysis of the Friends Committee on National Legislation, which notes that a price on carbon is an essential first step towards reducing our use of fossil fuels. As Quakers, why should we advocate for a price on carbon? There are several justice aspects to the impacts of fossil fuels:

Global justice. The countries already most impacted by climate disruption are generally ones which contributed the least to global warming. We Americans currently create more than three times as many emissions as the global average (The Economist, September 21-27, 2019).

Intergenerational justice: Carbon dioxide stays in the atmosphere for hundreds of years (a percentage even stays in the upper atmosphere for millennia). We owe a safe climate to generations which will follow us.

Justice for frontline communities: Most of the people living in places where fossil fuels and petrochemicals are extracted, processed and/or used have low incomes and thus few options to move to places with less pollution. Many polluting activities are located in communities of color.

As a spiritual community, we must reorient ourselves and our country so that we are living in right relationship with Earth and all beings who live on our planet. We are being drawn inexorably into a crisis that involves all other species, habitats and, increasingly, human suffering.

Our testimony of Integrity calls us to finally be telling the truth about the true costs of using fossil fuels. It is time we say, "No! We cannot pollute planet Earth with impunity. We must pay the full costs." As the Religious Society of Friends and as a nation, we must recognize and address our role in creating and addressing the current climate crisis.

How does a carbon price work?

A price is placed on all high-carbon fuels, including coal, oil and natural gas, which is primarily methane (CH₄). The price is added at the point of extraction (at the mine or well-head), and thus cannot be avoided, the way corporations have found work-arounds which violate the spirit of other environmental legislation. The price is based on the amount of heat-trapping gases that carbon source will release to the atmosphere, calculated as CO₂ equivalents (CO₂e). Thus the price on natural gas (which is mostly methane) should be comparable to the price on coal, given that methane (CH₄) traps 100 times as much heat as CO₂, and given typical methane leakage rates.

Both the World Bank and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development agree that carbon pricing is an essential policy for preventing further climate disruption. American and international academic economists say that putting a price on carbon is the single most effective way for countries to reduce their emissions.

Friends Center for Racial Justice (FCRJ)

FCRJ is closed for the season. Look for the 2020 schedule which will be out in early January. Interesting workshops and events are planned, including an expanded Seminar on Wheels in the Spring. Looking forward to 2020!

Want to Be a Part of an FCRJ Support Team?

At the rise of Meeting on November 3, there will be a meeting upstairs for those who are considering being on one of the Teams that support the weekend workshops that will take place from March through June at FCRJ. Elizabeth Schneider is organizing the Teams, the purpose of which is to provide support so that preparations and logistics go as smoothly as possible for workshop attendees whether they are local or coming from a distance. The Teams are:

Meals: Workshops generally have some attendees arriving on Friday evening, and staying at FCRJ on Friday and/or Saturday nights. There is a meal and some social time on Friday or Saturday. On Saturday there is breakfast, lunch and dinner. If you can prepare and/or bring a casserole, a salad, or some part of the meal, that would be very helpful. You can drop it off at an agreed-upon time, and possibly chat and meet with workshop attendees.

Accommodations: Provide hospitality at your home for an overnight guest when FCRJ has large groups coming.

Facilitator Support: Make sure workshop leaders have the technology they need.

Hospitality: Greet guests as they arrive at FCRJ, generally on Friday night and/or Saturday morning.

Publicity: Work with Angela and/or workshop leaders to advertise the workshops to the local community and the wider Quaker communities.

Transportation: Provide rides to out-of-town guests. There are two subgroups: 1) Provide rides to and/or from transportation facilities like bus stops (probably local) or train station (probably in Syracuse). 2) Willingness to be a runner should anything be needed, such as a ride to a pharmacy for medication that was forgotten.

Set Up/Clean Up: You can choose to help before, during or after events, such as: Arranging furniture before workshop/gathering to meet its particular needs; Putting furniture back at end of workshop/gathering; Putting out food and drinks before a meal; Clearing table and washing dishes after a meal.

Cleaning Team: There are three ways to participate: 1) Ongoing weekly cleaning of FCRJ. 2) Cleaning FCRJ, especially bedrooms, before workshops/gatherings. 3) Adopt-a-Room™ lets you become familiar and responsible for one of the upstairs bedrooms, cleaning it before and after the room has been occupied by workshop participant(s) or visitor(s).

You can learn more about the various Teams and see if one is right for you. The amount of time given is totally up to each volunteer. If you have any questions beforehand, contact Elizabeth Schneider: nescheid@aol.com, or 273-3566. Contact Elizabeth if you are reading this after November 3, and wish more information.

— Elizabeth Schneider

Powell House Youth Director Position Open

Are you looking for a role where you can help young people experience what it is to be loved unequivocally? To guide them through the process of truly knowing themselves and helping them see how they can make a difference in the world?

We invite you to apply to the role of Youth Director of Powell House, the conference center of New York Yearly Meeting. The Youth Program hosts approximately two weekend retreats a month for children ranging from 4th to 12th grade. The Powell House Youth Directors will be responsible for creating programming that is impactful and meaningful for attendees, manage logistics of the program and be accountable for programming enrollment and advertisement. This is an opportunity to make a significant impact and enrich the lives of hundreds of children.

Powell House Youth Director Requirements

- Direct experience working with children and adolescents and creating impactful programming for youth
- A clear understanding of the practices and values of the Religious Society of Friends as well as a desire to share Friends' values with young people

Powell House Youth Director compensation includes salary, housing, some meals, and a complete benefit package. If interested, please contact Regina Baird Haag, Co-Executive Director, Elsie K. Powell House, Inc.

Dispatch from the Earth: Plastics Recycling

The Earthcare Committee gently reminds Friends that we are still collecting and dropping off Additional Plastics - items that cannot go into your curbside single-stream recycling. These include:

- 6-pack rings
- Plastic grocery bags (clean and dry)
- Plastic retail bags (clean, dry, and string ties removed)
- Plastic newspaper bags
- Plastic dry-cleaning bags
- Plastic wrap from paper products (paper towels, toilet paper, etc)
- Plastic wrap from beverage products (water bottles, sports drinks, etc)
- Plastic pallet wrap
- Plastic air pillows found inside shipping packages (air removed)
- produce wrap such as the kind that Aldi uses

Place these items in the cardboard bin in the kitchen next to the wire shelving unit. The children decorated it so it's easy to spot. For more information about additional plastics recycling or about recycling in Tompkins County in general, please visit their website: <https://recycletompkins.org/>

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business, September 8, 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.)

2019.10.1 Opening Worship

Ithaca Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends met in Monthly Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business on October 13, 2019. At 12:23pm, twenty Friends gathered and settled into worship.

Clerk recognized Bronwyn Mohlke, Drea Spies and Barbara Chase who were holding the Meeting in the Light and shared the following reading:

... I believe that if a person is living a balanced life where mind, body and soul are in harmony, one will care about others because it is one's nature. If we see in our reaction to this the element of compulsion, we can take this as a prompting to look at our life and see how it might in some way be out of balance. In my experience, nothing done out of compulsion brings about the desired end. On the other hand . . . a life in balance can be by its very existence a help to others.

— *Vince Oredson, 1986; from Daily Readings From Quaker Writings Ancient & Modern*

2019.10.2 Earthcare Committee Report

On behalf of the committee, Elizabeth Keokosky introduced the group's ongoing research and seeking in its attempts to craft a minute regarding carbon pricing and Quakers' right relationship with Earth. In turns, Amala Lane, Elizabeth Keokosky and Jim Grant read the report, an abridged version of which you can find on page 1 of this newsletter.

Questions were asked and answered.

Clerk asked if the Meeting felt inclined and/or ready to engage with Earthcare Committee's ongoing effort to discern a meaningful minute. Friends responded with comments, requests for ongoing information sharing and appreciation.

Friends received the report and stated readiness to support a minute when it is brought forth.@

2019.10.3 Finance Committee Report

On behalf of the committee, Chuck Mohler reported on a variety of problems directly related to the poor handling of IMM finances by the recently hired bookkeeper. In September Asha Sanaker's name, professional ability and potential availability were recognized. Her familiarity with the complexity of IMM's budget responsibilities, leadings and intention were also recognized. In light of the aforementioned financial problems, the first book-

keeper has been relieved of her duties and Asha has accepted the position. Asha expressed her gratitude for being able to share her gifts and talents in a way that represents meaning for IMM; she stated her hope to be in a financial place soon that will allow her to donate her bookkeeper's wage back to the meeting.

Friends received the report with gratitude.@

2019.10.4 Peace Witness and Social Justice – Report on Sanctuary Alliance

On behalf of the committee, Miguel Piery reported on the committee's ongoing relationship and communication efforts with the Sanctuary Alliance. Clerk shared more specific information about the Alliance's progress in providing sanctuary and asked interested F(f)riends to consider how they may be called to provide support for this effort. F(f)riends expressed a desire to reassure the committee of their commitment.

Friends received the report.@

2019.10.5 Other Concerns

A friend received a request from an individual who heads a non-profit organization. Open Doors English: The Julie Rudd Coulombe English Program teaches English to adult immigrants and refugees and they would like to present information too IMM about their work. Clerk asked that his name/contact information be shared with this individual.

A friend reminded those present that remembering where we as a meeting have been in terms of generating minutes and stating commitments can be of value to our understanding of who we are.

A friend requested a clearness committee for marriage. This request has been forwarded to Ministry & Worship. Joy and good wishes were offered.

2019.10.8 Closing Worship

Eighteen Friends settled into silent worship at 1:34pm before adjourning. Our next regular Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business will be held at the rise of Meeting on November 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Blair Jennings

Instagram.com/IMMRSF

After announcements have been written on the whiteboard, they are photographed and the photos are posted on Instagram. If you want to review that information, visit the website [Instagram.com/immrsf](https://www.instagram.com/immrsf).

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. Schedule may vary, please contact Nancy Gabriel: 339-7123; ntg2@cornell.edu. We offer a donation to the teacher.

Yoga with Kris and/or Dreia, Sundays at 6p now!

The Community Yoga class taught by Kris Altucher and Dreia at the meetinghouse on Sundays will be moving to 6pm downstairs at the meetinghouse.

This class is intended for all levels and all are welcome regardless of current flexibility or fitness levels, or previous experience. Bring a mat if you have one; we have a few extras. Donations accepted.

Yoga contributes to strength, flexibility, balance, and peace of mind. Hope to see you there!

November 2019 Calendar of Ithaca Monthly Meeting

QuakerSpeak! discussion Sunday, November 3, 9:30a

First and third Sundays, Friends will gather in the library to watch a QuakerSpeak video and discuss. QuakerSpeak is a video series on YouTube, <https://www.youtube.com/user/Quakerspeak>. Come once or every time. This is a lovely, low key way to spend time together, learn and share

Earthcare Committee Sunday, November 3, Rise of Meeting

All are welcome to join us on first Sundays.

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

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

Friendly Women Third... Friday! Friday, November 15, 6:30p

Exploring a new calendar option: how about third Friday of each month? Also exploring the location, so watch the listserv or contact Kris at kris.altucher@gmail.com.

QuakerSpeak! discussion Sunday, November 17, 9:30a

Gather in the library to watch a QuakerSpeak video and discuss.

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

All are welcome to join us on third Sundays.

Last Sunday Dish-to-Pass Brunch Sunday, November 24, Rise of Meeting

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

Friends Peace Teams work in Honduras Sunday, November 24, Rise of Meeting

Shirley Way spent three weeks in Honduras in January, February, 2019 working with Friends Peace Teams. She was on-team for two Alternatives to Violence Project Trauma Awareness and Resilience workshops--one inside a men's prison and one with women. She will show slides and talk about the work following worship and brunch.

Thanksgiving Worship at Hector Thursday, November 28, 10a

Join us for a special Meeting for Worship at the Hector Meetinghouse. Tom Brown will be firing up the wood stove. The more people who come, the cozier it will be. There have been rumors about hot cider. Ask Tom or Dreia for directions.

Vegetarian Thanksgiving Thursday, November 28, 4p

Join Friends for a dish-to-pass, casual Thanksgiving dinner with fellowship at the Third Street Meetinghouse. All dishes should be vegetarian.

Newsletter submission due Thursday, October 31, 5p

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

On Sundays

- 10:00a **Meeting for Worship** at Hector Meetinghouse
- 10:30a **Children gather** upstairs at the Third Street Meetinghouse
- 10:30a **Meeting for Worship** at the Third Street Meetinghouse

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.