



# PRISM

*The Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge*

*Poplar  
Ridge  
Information  
Sharing  
Monthly*

## JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day  7:30pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	2 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's  7:00pm Youth Commitee Meeting @ Lockhart's	3	4	5	6 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
7 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. Miller  11:30am Soup and Sharing - <u>On Tyranny</u>	8	9	10 7:00pm Movie Night - Transition Movement @ Phoenix Building	11 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond /Rhudy's	12 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	13 7:00pm Merrifield Concert - Rupert Wates
14 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Dill Otis  11:00am Coffee Hour	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	16 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	17 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	18	19	20 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
21 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Query #9 read by Barry Kahn  11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business	22 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	23 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	24 Deadline for PRISM submissions  4:00pm Outreach Committee @ Otis'	25 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren- Thomas'	26 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	27 6:00pm Family Night - Musical Fun
28 10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed)	29	30	31			

Birthdays: 4<sup>th</sup> Jackie Dickinson; 7<sup>th</sup> David Connelly; 8<sup>th</sup> Mark Temelko; 9<sup>th</sup> Evan McGonagle; 10<sup>th</sup> Sarah Nelson Weiss; 12<sup>th</sup> Suzanne O'Hara; 13<sup>th</sup> Trudy Buxenbaum; 25<sup>th</sup> Kristin Trapane Otis; 28<sup>th</sup> Gregory Otis; 31<sup>st</sup> Julie Lockhart

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com)

## **POPLAR RIDGE MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 10, 2017**

Present were Ruth Bradley, Larry Buffam, Anne Dalton, Jim Frisch, Barry Kahn, Jeffrey Layton, Suzanne O'Hara, Dill and Sally Otis, Hannah Richter, Christopher Sammond, Andrew Simkin, Paul and Jane Simkin, Charles Weld.

November minutes were read for information.

1} Outreach. On February 4 Chad Dell could give the message followed by a related Soup and Sharing. There are some conflicts with this date. Christopher will explore with Chad switching to March 4<sup>th</sup> with March 18<sup>th</sup> as snow date. The Outreach Committee will finalize the date after Christopher talks to Chad.

Meeting approved an invitation to Perry City and Ithaca Meetings by the Outreach Committee.

2) Budget. The budget was presented by the treasurer.

Meeting approved the following changes in line items:

Treasurer's expenses as a separate line from miscellaneous

Housekeeping to be a separate line item from building maintenance and social committee for the cleaning service and for paper products, soap etc.

Social Committee is responsible for kitchen supplies.

Vive la Casa changed its name to Jericho Road Community.

Budget final approval will be in January including amount for NYYM

3) Ministry and Counsel Committee reviewed Craig Kukuk's contract for pastoral counseling with him. The contract was read including the 7 tasks expected. The committee recommends that the contract be renewed for 2018.

Contract renewal was approved.

Ministry and Counsel will discuss the process for future reviews and feedback with the provider of pastoral counseling.

4) Furnace update was reported by Andy. A thermostat was installed to do programming in conjunction with the time clock.

5) Bathroom supplies. Replenishment responsibilities were assigned to be overseen by Social Committee clerk.

6) Peace and Social Action Committee will sponsor a Soup and Sharing discussion of the book On Tyranny led by A.T. Miller on January 7, 2018

Submitted by substitute recording clerk, Jane Simkin

Pastoral needs or questions:  
Call Craig Kukuk at 734-717-7719.

### **QUERY SUNDAY**

January 21<sup>st</sup> will be Query Sunday. Barry Kahn will read the 9<sup>th</sup> query in NYYM Faith and Practice (2014).

*Do we participate actively and intelligently in the political life of our country? Are we conscientious in fulfilling all obligations of state and society that are not contrary to the leading of God? Do we do all in our power to secure civil rights for all? Do we emphasize the single standard of truth, and are we free from the use of oaths?*

The current issue of Faith and Practice is online at <http://www.nyyym.org/sites/default/files/NYYMFaithandPractice-2016Edition.pdf>. Paper copies are available in the Meetinghouse library



## FRIENDLY NIGHT SUPPER HOSTS

The social committee is seeking host volunteers for Friendly Suppers in February. Names of guests will be provided to the hosts who then arrange a potluck supper for an evening of sharing. The host decides the date of the supper.

Please contact Hannah Richter ([hannahrichter79@gmail.com](mailto:hannahrichter79@gmail.com)) if you would like to host or if you have any questions.

For help with transportation contact Joanne Rogers at 315-673-7345, 607-345-8468 (cell) or [fron10ac@gmail.com](mailto:fron10ac@gmail.com)

## FAMILY NIGHT

Join your friends for a Musical Family Night at the meetinghouse on January 27th. Cathy Mullarney will be organizing a cheery evening of music and maybe dance to liven up our dark days of winter.

Dish to share supper at 6:00, program at 7:15. Come and Enjoy. All are welcome. Contact Trudy ([rbuxenbaum@gmail.com](mailto:rbuxenbaum@gmail.com)) for more information.



## SOUP AND SHARING

On Sunday, January 7th following the rise of Meeting the Peace and Social Action committee is sponsoring a Soup and Sharing for the discussion of the book *On Tyranny* by Timothy Snyder (<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/558051/on-tyranny-by-timothy-snyder/9780804190114/>). A.T. Miller will facilitate the discussion. This book, subtitled “Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century”, is very short and can be quickly read.

*“The Founding Fathers tried to protect us from the threat they knew, the tyranny that overcame ancient democracy. Today, our political order faces new threats, not unlike the totalitarianism of the twentieth century. We are no wiser than the Europeans who saw democracy yield to fascism, Nazism, or communism. Our one advantage is that we might learn from their experience.”*  
-- Penguin Random House

12 books were distributed through the meeting several weeks ago and have been shared between readers. People with books should pass them on or return them to the meetinghouse library. Contact Suzanne (315-406-3016, [sohara@ldeo.columbia.edu](mailto:sohara@ldeo.columbia.edu)) if you need a copy of the book before the discussion. This book is also available in the Fingerlakes Library System, on Kindle, at Amazon and through other book outlets.

Everyone is encouraged to join what we expect to be an enjoyable winter meal and lively discussion. Please feel free to attend even if you have not yet read this book.

## MOVIE NIGHT

On Wednesday, January 10th at 7pm a movie about the Transition movement (transitioning localities to a lower-energy future) will be shown in room 403 of the Phoenix building in Auburn. We will be inaugurating a new library in this room, focused on resources related to transition, alternative energy, coping with resource/environmental limits, etc. The library will be dedicated in memory of Robert and Thelma Simkin, who were ahead of their time in their concerns about these issues. All are welcome to participate. Contact Andy Simkin ([simkinat@msn.com](mailto:simkinat@msn.com)) for more information.

## CHRISTMAS PAGEANT THANK YOU

The Youth Committee wishes to send a big THANK YOU out to everyone who helped make our Children's Pageant such a joyful and fun event again this year. We really appreciate Santa dropping by; we know he is busy this time of year! Also thank you to all the elves, from Cathy and Jeffrey who helmed the pageant, and Elves Scott and Charlie who helped Santa out with the gifts and very punny jokes, to Patrick's beautiful piano performance and reading, to all those "invisible elves" who put it all together. Some of you from the Social Committee transformed the basement into a warm and inviting space for us to gather and socialize. Others made our main meeting space more festive for the pageant, or helped the children get ready, or brought in food and Santa gifts, and more. A special thank you to the children who took part in the pageant. You did a fantastic job and gave comfort and joy to everyone in the audience with your performance!



## SAVE THE DATE – UPREACH

On Sunday, March 4th, 2018 we welcome everyone to gather at the Poplar Ridge Friends Meetinghouse for a day of exploring and worship. Chad Dell, of the Manasquan Friends Meeting, will present "**Inreach + Outreach = Upreach**". Chad will be bringing the message to 10am worship. He will talk with us about preparing a meeting to begin the outreach process. After meeting the topic will continue with a soup and sharing program to include a more detailed look at Inreach and Outreach. For those who wish to stay after soup and sharing, Chad will continue to explore the creation of a program that best meets our communities' needs.

For more information contact Anne ([annedalton@me.com](mailto:annedalton@me.com)).



## MERRIFIELD CONCERT – RUPERT WATES

On January 13th, Craig and A.T. will be presenting another wonderful house concert with the 2016 "Artist of the Year" from the Concerts in Your Home organization. Rupert Wates is returning to Merrifield after last appearing three years ago. He writes beautiful story-songs of depth and empathy and performs them in an inventive and engaging folk style accompanied by his fantastic and skillful guitar playing. As a published writer of short stories and prose in addition to being an accomplished musician, Rupert is a warm and profound presence, and the evening promises to be a treat. Listen to a sample at [rupertwatesmusic.com](http://rupertwatesmusic.com) and then bring friends and family, or come by yourself and find us all here at 2345 Center Road, Scipio Center, NY, 13147 at the corner of Center and Black, with parking on Black Street. Enjoy a winter night of inspiring music in the intimate setting of a home at 7pm. There is a long intermission with coffee and tea provided to get to know the artist and each other a little better, and collect \$15 at the door to support the musician. Contact A.T. Miller ([atmiller@cornell.edu](mailto:atmiller@cornell.edu)) for more information.

Please notify Nance Simkin ([Donald.simkin@yahoo.com](mailto:Donald.simkin@yahoo.com)) to send a special note of remembrance from the meeting. Donations of cards are welcome.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Excerpts taken from the NYYM Faith and Practice

*Oppression in the extreme appears terrible; but oppression in the more refined appearances remains to be oppression; and where the smallest degree of it is cherished it grows stronger and more extensive. To labor for a perfect redemption from this spirit of oppression is the great business of the whole family of Christ Jesus in this world.*

– John Woolman, “A Plea for the Poor,” 1763

The Religious Society of Friends possesses no blueprint for social order. However, our Society, since its founding, has labored for the ordering of a community life in which all may have free and full opportunity to express and develop that divine potential with which everyone is endowed.

*We should like to see a greater unity between the religious service of our meetings and the social service of Friends, each being complementary to the other, since they are rooted in the same life and spirit; and to see this expressed in meeting houses which act as centres for varied activities of the surrounding neighbourhood.*

– London Yearly Meeting, 1944

We can draw no clear line between religious and secular affairs. We find ways to serve God in the world. We expect each Friend to live each day in holy obedience, secure in the faith that the Light illumines all relationships. Accordingly, Friends are enjoined to have a deep concern for the welfare of the community. This involves intelligent care for the dignity and welfare of all; love for adversaries, not merely for those who love us; and special care for those whom the world neglects, exploits, or condemns.

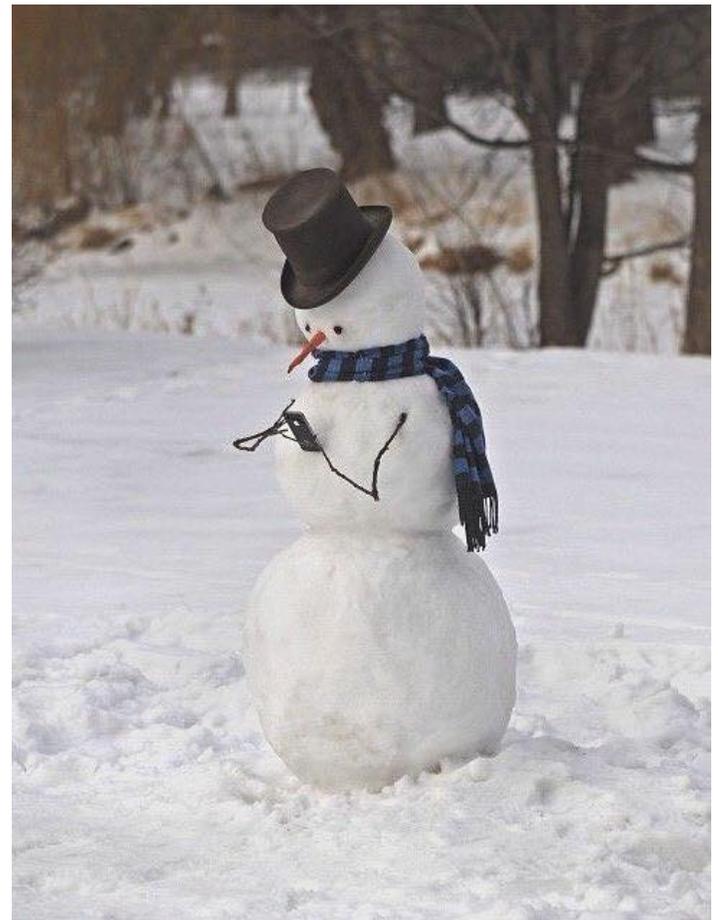
The task is never over. The vision is never complete.

We have a concern, based partly on Friends’ three-hundred-year history of imprisonment for conscience’s sake, for the humane treatment of those held in prison. There are many ways to help those convicted of a crime, as well as their victims, to rethink and remake their lives, and it is important in doing so that we avoid activities that support the destructiveness of the prison system. Many Friends encourage and support meetings for

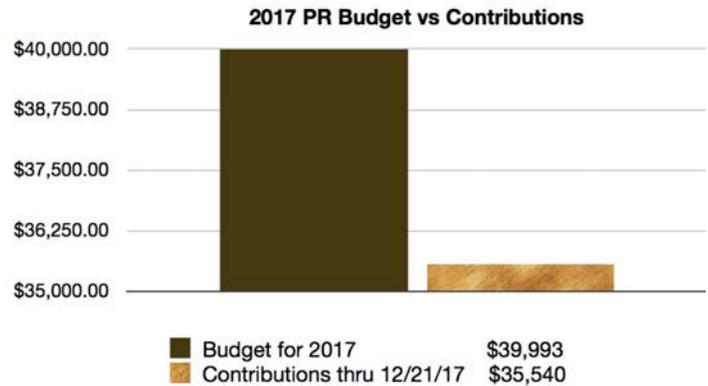
worship among prisoners, teach prisoners and staff, work with and counsel lawyers and offenders, and help released prisoners to find work and to build new lives.

While we recognize a need to restrain those whose dangerous behavior is a threat, that restraint and any help offered must reflect our concern for that of God in everyone. The prejudice, dishonesty, and racism prevalent in society frequently lead to unfair and unjust sentences and to brutality in the handling of prisoners. Improvement in the parole system and the reduction of pretrial time are greatly needed.

We have consistently opposed capital punishment. Each person is uniquely valuable and divine, and none is totally beyond redemption. Capital punishment rejects the message of forgiveness. In some cases, it legally destroys innocent persons, and in all cases it degrades the humanity of the executioners and of the society that endorses the act.



<b>Budget for 2017</b>	<b>\$39,993.00</b>	
<b>Contributions for 2017</b>	<b>\$35,540.00</b>	<b>88.87%</b>
<b>Budget deficit for 2017</b>	<b>\$4,453.00</b>	



### **POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING**

Clerk – Andy Simkin	Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk ( <a href="tel:734-717-7719">734-717-7719</a> )
Assistant Clerk – Hannah Richter	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Jeff Layton	Ministry & Counsel Clerk – Charlie Weld
Musicians – Claire Howard, Jeff Layton, Cathy Mullarney, Mary Jo Granger	

Poplar Ridge Friends meet every Sunday at 10 am for worship. The fourth Sunday of the month is an unprogrammed meeting. The fifth Sunday has a variety of formats. Nursery is available during meeting. The meetinghouse is located at 1868 Poplar Ridge Road, Poplar Ridge, NY 13139.

See <http://www.quaker.org/poplar/> for more information, updated calendar or copies of previous newsletters or 1<sup>st</sup> day messages. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Mary Lou Charles at 364-7391 or Scott Heinekamp at 246-7151. You can request PRISM electronically and save the Meeting the expense of postage by emailing [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com).

To contribute items for PRISM contact us at [pr.prism@gmail.com](mailto:pr.prism@gmail.com) or  
 Poplar Ridge Friends Meeting: Attn PRISM  
 PO Box 146, Aurora, New York 13026

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