



PRISM

Poplar
Ridge
Information
Sharing
Monthly

1st Religious Society of Friends, Poplar Ridge

JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
6 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Mary Ann Vaca 11:30am Soup and Sharing "Embracing Our Neighbors"	7 7:00pm Meditation Group @ Nelson's	8 7:00pm Peace and Social Action Committee @ Buxenbaum's	9 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Sammond/Rhudy's	10	11 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	12
13 10:00am Meeting for Worship - A.T. 11:30am Coffee Hour	14 7:00pm Youth Committee Meeting @ Otis'	15 7:15pm Women's Spiritual Nurture @ Otis'	16 7:30pm Quaker Worship in Spanish	17	18 7:30pm Movie Night - The Post @ Buxenbaum's	19 9:00am King Ferry Food Pantry
20 10:00am Meeting for Worship - Rebecca Schillenback 11:30am Monthly Meeting for Business at the rise of Meeting	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 7:30pm Men's Spiritual Nurture Group	22	23 Deadline for PRISM submissions 7:00pm Mid-week Worship @ Berggren-Thomas'	24	25 6:15pm The Cayuga Prison Worship Group	26 6:00pm Family Night - Game Night
27 10:00am Meeting for Worship (unprogrammed) 11:30am Joint Meeting Outreach/M&C	28 7:30pm Ministry & Counsel @ Otis'	29	30	31		

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

For more information about calendar events, check the PRISM or contact pr.prism@gmail.com.

**MINUTES FOR POPLAR RIDGE
MONTHLY MEETING FOR BUSINESS
DECEMBER 16, 2018**

The Monthly Meeting opened with a period of worship about 11:15 a.m.; the minutes from the November 18 meeting were read.

Attending were Ruth Bradley, David Connelly, Scott Lockhart, Dill Otis, Sally Otis, Hannah Richter, Andy Simkin, Jane Simkin, and Paul Simkin.

- Charlie, reporting for Ministry and Council Committee, said that for Spring 2019 adult education, a series on the topic of Quaker testimonies is being planned from about the end of February until April 1. They'll decide on the particulars at the next Ministry and Council meeting Jan. 7. We may be advertising the series before our next business meeting next month.
- Ministry and Council reviewed Craig Kukuk's pastoral care agreement with the meeting and recommended continuation of the agreement with no change. Ministry and Council also conducted annual reviews with A.T. and Rebecca regarding their roles as regular worship leaders. Recommended is an increase in compensation from \$150 to \$250 per diem.
- For the Youth Committee, Scott reported that YSOP is being considered for the weekend of March 17. Monthly Meeting agreed to approve sending YSOP \$500 from the Youth Fund if a sufficient number of youth and chaperones are found for the weekend. The committee will also explore whether there is flexibility in YSOP's requirement for the non-refundable \$500 deposit by December 31.
- The Treasurer, Ruth, offered a draft 2019 Budget proposal. It is attached. Friends reviewed the budget proposal, and the clerk requested the treasurer and Andy, the clerk of the finance committee, elaborate on the budget proposal in PRISM. We ask Friends to come to Monthly Meeting in January to discuss and approve a final 2019 budget.

- Andy said that to keep snow from avalanching on the Meetinghouse's ramp or a person upon on it, a company that makes a continuous bar that is installed along the roof may do the job. Monthly Meeting approves his offer to purchase the bar, install it, and if it works reimburse him for its costs of \$580.

We ended with a period of silence about 1:35 p.m.
Submitted by David Connelly, Recording Clerk



**SOUP AND SHARING - "EMBRACING
OUR NEIGHBORS"**

On January 6, 2019 at the rise of Meeting we will gather in the basement for soup and then have presentations by Debbie Patrick and Becky Davis. Becky is an English as a Second Language, ESL, teacher at Southern Cayuga Central School, SCCS, and will share with us information on support SCCS has for our non-English speaking student population. Debbie is our local Food Pantry coordinator and will tell us how the Food Pantry serves our neighbors. Andy Simkin and Jane Simkin will tell us about other support services available for our non-English speaking neighbors. Discussion, questions on the topic will follow.

All are welcome. Invite friends and neighbors.
Contact Trudy <rbuxenbaum@gmail.com> with questions.

FAMILY NIGHT - GAME NIGHT

Come to the Meetinghouse on January 26th, 2019, 6:00pm to share a meal and an evening of old-fashioned fun. Bring a dish to share, table service and a favorite game. Perhaps you will learn a new game as well as have a fun evening. Contact Trudy <rbuxenbaum@gmail.com> with questions.

MEETINGHOUSE PARKING LOT PLANS

Dear All,

This has been an extraordinarily muddy fall season, exacerbating the longstanding problems with the condition of our parking lot. Many who can do so have been parking up the road next to the school playing field. We may get a respite for a while with the parking lot frozen, but we also have a plan for a longer-term solution. At the November monthly meeting for business, we approved an overhaul of the parking lot, to occur sometime in the Spring. The plan is to excavate and regrade the parking area, using landscape fabric underneath a new crushed-stone parking surface. The landscape fabric should keep the mud from oozing up through the stone again. At the same time, the regrading will allow on-grade wheelchair accessibility into the meetinghouse basement. The estimated cost will be \$12,000. Please be in touch with Dill Otis or Andy Simkin with any questions or comments about this upcoming work.

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

2019 BUDGET NOTES

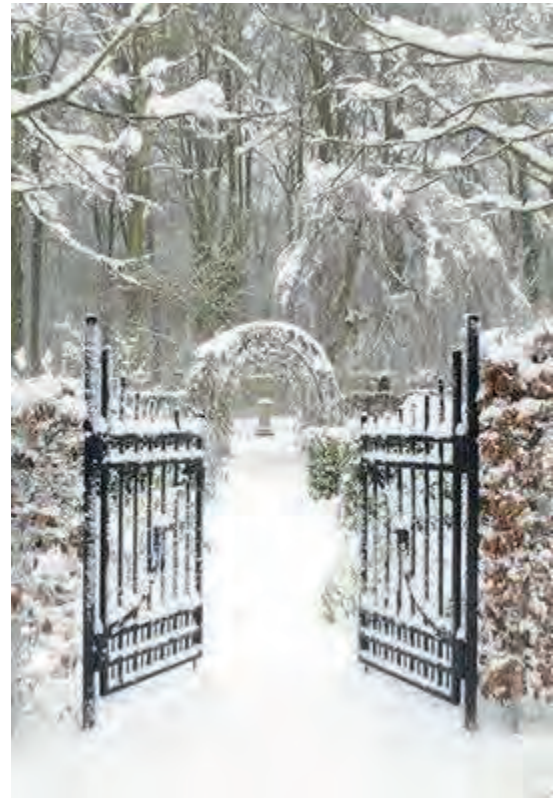
This month's PRISM includes a draft of the meeting's budget for 2019. This budget has been developed over the past several weeks by the Treasurer and Finance Committee, and refined by discussion at the November and December monthly meetings for business.

Most lines on the budget are the same as or close to 2018 figures. There is a major increase, from \$2,500 to \$5,000, in the allocation for the Capital Fund. Every year we put money into this fund, to cover major building improvements. The increased allocation for 2019 is intended to keep the Capital Fund healthy, in view of planned work to improve the parking lot and increase accessibility to the meetinghouse basement.

The budget also includes an increased figure of \$7,800 for honorarium payments to our regular and guest message-givers. The Ministry and Counsel Committee has recommended that our regular message-givers receive an honorarium of \$250 for each of their Sunday programs. Guest honoraria are to remain at \$150. Please note that some honorarium

payments are declined or balanced by special financial contributions to the meeting from message-givers. The Finance Committee is recommending that the budget include the full amount, as a reflection of the importance of our programmed Sunday messages to the health of PRMM.

As 2018 comes to a close, it appears that our actual spending for the year will come in a few percentage points below the amount budgeted. Note that the budget is a planning document; some items come up every year that were not anticipated and/or are covered by spending from specially earmarked accounts. All spending, budgeted or unbudgeted, will be reported at the Annual Meeting in April 2019. Treasurer Ruth Bradley and Finance Committee Clerk Andy Simkin welcome any input or questions regarding the proposed budget. The budget, together with updated figures for 2018 spending and contributions, will be presented for further discussion, revision, and approval at the January meeting for business (1/20/2019).



HANNAH RICHTER NEW CONTACT INFORMATION

Hannah has disconnected her land line. Please use the following number for phone calls. 315-729-3784.

MOVIE NIGHT – THE POST

Join your friends on January 18th at Buxenbaum's, 7:30. We will be watching The Post.

“OSCAR® winners Steven Spielberg, Meryl Streep, and Tom Hanks team up for the first time in this thrilling film based on a true story. Determined to uphold the nation's civil liberties, Katharine Graham (Streep), publisher of The Washinton Post, and hard-nosed editor Ben Bradlee (Hanks) join forces to expose a decades-long cover-up. But the two must risk their careers — and their freedom — to bring truth to light in this powerful film with a celebrated cast.”

[-https://www.foxmovies.com/movies/the-post](https://www.foxmovies.com/movies/the-post)

Contact Trudy <rbuxenbaum@gmail.com> with questions or for directions.

WINTER CHEER BOXES

Ten Winter Cheer Boxes, previously called White Gifts, were filled to the brim by generous Friends at Poplar Ridge Meeting. Five women gathered in the meetinghouse to decorate the boxes and fill them with the goodies. We hope that they have brought some Winter Cheer to the recipients. Thanks so much to everyone who donated items.



THANK YOU FOR SHARING

Dear friends,
Thank you for the wonderful and thoughtful donations of warm clothing for Mike. He now has plenty of warm cozy outfits for the winter thanks to your generosity. He actually has enough clothing and sends a big thank you.

Also a thank you from Shirley Way and the Farmington Scipio prison committee.

Warmly,

Anne Dalton <annedalton@me.com>

MINUTES FROM NYYM FALL SESSIONS 2018

Dear Friends,

Fall Sessions 2018 in Rochester was at once a grounded and deep gathering of Friends laboring together lovingly and a time of serious concern about the need to face difficult financial decisions which for some years have been predicted to be imminent. We also heard uplifting reports, including an exciting new outreach proposal, and an intriguing new membership concept.

... At Fall Sessions, financial services committee reported that our trustees provided options to cover an anticipated deficit in the 2019 budget that came in at well over \$100,000, but all the options were unsatisfactory, and would have to include the sale of invested principal, which the trustees urged not be done. Therefore, the proposed budget, which included the sale of principal, was withdrawn. There is no 2019 budget at this time. The process for this situation, which has occurred before, is for the creation of an interim budget to carry us until Spring Sessions. At Spring Sessions, financial services committee will present a new budget. Gathered Friends were asked for input as to priorities and ways forward for the committee to consider.

Friends responded again with a call to faith, as they did at Summer Sessions, asking those who are able, to reach deep, including making pledges to the anonymous \$50,000 matching grant that is now in effect (see NYYM.org/matching). We were reminded that use of invested principal could quickly delete what little unrestricted investments that there are, which would also eliminate the income they provide which supports important witness work. Friends asked that we carry this report of our situation back to their local meetings in the hope of increasing both meeting and individual donations. Financial Services Committee will also seek ways to reduce expenses. Comments about priorities, ways to increase donations or reduce expenses can be sent by anyone to Mary Harpster, clerk of financial services committee, at financial-services-clerk@nyym.org.

...To view the minutes in their entirety, please visit [our website](#).

In the Light,
Jeffrey Aaron, Clerk, NYYM

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

NEW COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE FORMED

The PRISM, Facebook, directory, phone tree, website, and email committees met together as requested by Monthly Meeting. It was suggested at the 2018 Annual Meeting that these committees consider combining. The group felt that a single Communication Committee be formed that would replace the PRISM, Facebook, directory, phone tree, website, and email committees. Most of the original committees consist of one or two people that do not have regular meetings. It seemed a single committee, with leads for the various projects, that would meet once a year, or as necessary to communicate status and to share updates would be more useful. This suggestion was approved by Monthly Meeting.

A status of the various communication tools was presented to Monthly Meeting.

Directory:

Laura is the lead for the directory. She has kept her records up to date as she receives notification of changes or additions. There have been about 15 changes since the last directory was printed in 2017.

In the past paper copies were only printed in mass every four years since printing paper copies is expensive. Laura can provide current, electronic copies of the directory at any time or generate an unformatted paper copy on her home printer. She is also able to provide a printed or electronic listing of the updates since the last printed version.

There should always be at least one printed copy of the directory in the meetinghouse. The current copy is on the table at the front of the upstairs room. It necessary, a few printed copies could be generated to make available to hand out, but people should be asked first if they would be interested in the electronic version to save expense.

Phone Tree:

David is the lead for the phone tree. It was decided that the phone tree is still necessary for emergencies. It's most recent use was to contact people when

Meeting for Worship was canceled due to bad weather. We still have members that do not use email and the group felt it was more likely to reach people on short term via their phone than by using email.

Laura and David will work together to insure that the phone tree includes all people and that the numbers are correct. David will distribute the updated tree to the people at the top calling level. Phone tree members will then call everyone on their lists to verify phone numbers. It would be good if Sally could help with this task since she is familiar with the phone tree history.



Facebook:

Julie is the lead on our Facebook page. David and Ruth both have administrative access to the site. Only administrators of the page can post announcements, but anyone with a Facebook account can make comments on the page. People who wish to add postings to our page should send a request to Julie at gem6183@gmail.com. Since long or complex text with embedded links or PDF documents do not work well on Facebook, postings should be a brief text summary and/or image with URL links to more information.

Julie noted that most comments come from just 2 people. We encourage more people to either make comments and/or to send information to Julie for posting. Julie has included events as requested, has linked to the Quaker speak videos and has been linking to items in the news. To help understand the usefulness of the Facebook page she will look into providing an annual usage statistics report to that could be used by the outreach committee.

Website:

Suzanne is the lead for our website. She manages the existing site, but would like to update the pages using a template system that would allow someone else to more easily manage the site. The current site is custom PHP/HTML code that she wrote many years ago. There is also an ongoing question about the status of our website server.

The main part of the website is static since events and announcements should be sent to the Facebook page. The first day messages and monthly PRISM newsletter are included on the website. People that have suggestions about the website should contact Suzanne through pr.prism@gmail.com. Items will then be brought to the committee as necessary.

We have not been tracking the usage of the website for several years. Individual page counters are not very useful. ~~Suzanne enabled google analytics on 2018-11-04. She will be able to make summaries of usage, including number of visits, length of time on site, number of pages visited, number of new or repeat visitors, etc., annually starting from that date.~~ Since we do not control the root <http://quaker.org/> site, Google Analytics was not useful for our webpages. Suzanne will look into other tracking mechanisms.

Email:

Suzanne the lead for our email pr.prism@gmail.com. She tries to read the email daily and then either answers email directly or forwards them to someone best qualified for the topic.

PRISM – newsletter:

Suzanne is the lead for the PRISM. She publishes, Scott Heinekamp prints and Sally assembles, distributes and mails the PRISM. Most information for the PRISM comes from pr.prism@gmail.com. People tell Suzanne directly about content. Quaker related items are automatically included. Items outside Quaker topics are sent to the Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Clerk of Ministry and Council for approval.

Mary Lou Charles was the PRISM assembler and Clerk for many years and is still available for advice or assistance.

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

WALKING TOUR OF THE INNS OF AURORA

On January 1st, 11am-12pm join a tour guide from the Inns of Aurora at the Schoolhouse, 371 Main Street in Aurora for a one-hour stroll through the Village.

Topics will vary and include highlights of architecture, history, the art collection, and rare and interesting trees and other natural wonders. This walking tour is free for Inns of Aurora guests and to the public. Wear comfortable shoes and warm clothing.

The tour is free. For question or reservations please call the Inns of Aurora Front Desk at (315) 364-8888.

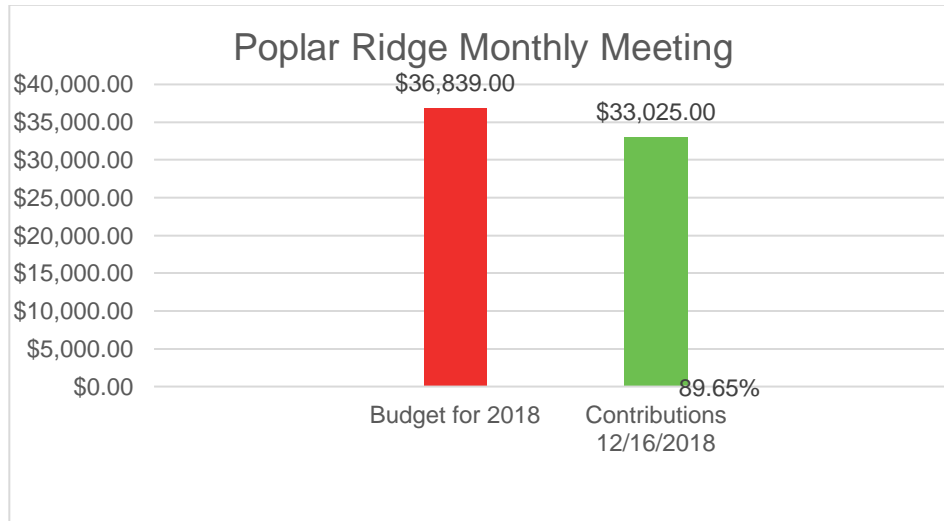
**YSOP 2019 ALERT!**

Poplar Ridge's planned YSOP experience to New York City is coming up fast. Poplar Ridge Meeting for Business has approved the deposit for our preferred weekend of March 15 and 16, 2019, provided we have enough interest for the trip.

Rooted in Quaker Principles, the Youth Service Opportunities Project partners young volunteers with agencies who care for people struggling with chronic hunger and homelessness. Do you have fond memories of experiencing YSOP, either as a teenager or as an adult chaperone? If so, we need your help. We are looking for high school area youth (not just from Poplar Ridge Meeting) to participate, and adult chaperones to join them. Interested? Contact Kathleen Connelly at connellyarchitect@gmail.com.

2019 PROPOSED BUDGET

Category	2018 budget	PD YTD 12/13/2018	Proposed 2019	Comments
Building and Grounds	\$750	\$346	\$750	
Conferences	\$300		\$300	
Contribute to Gen/Cap Fund	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$5,000	Increase in anticipation of parking lot improvements
Electric	\$1,000	\$790	\$1,000	
Fuel Oil	\$3,000	\$1,916	\$3,000	
Gardens Committee	\$0		\$450	Transfer from 2018 earmarked contributions
Housekeeping	\$1,500	\$1,100	\$1,500	
Insurance	\$1,073	\$1,038	\$1,100	
Library	\$0		\$50	Re-newed budget line
Ministry and Counsel Comm	\$0		\$200	Re-newed budget line
Misc.	\$400	\$511	\$400	
Motto Calendars	\$200		\$200	
NYYM	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$7,000	
Outreach	\$125	\$50	\$125	
Pastoral Care Compensation	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	
Pastoral expenses	\$1,500	\$923	\$1,500	
Prism	\$250	\$137	\$250	
Regional Meeting	\$516	\$516	\$516	
Religious Edu.	\$0		\$0	Expenses paid by in-kind donations
Snow Plowing	\$300	\$190	\$300	
Social Committee	\$100	\$32	\$100	
Speaker Honorarium	\$4,000	\$2,550	\$7,800	Increase for regular ministers \$250 per service
Treasurer Expenses	\$250	\$180	\$250	
<i>Outside Contributions</i>				
Am. Friends Service	\$100	\$100	\$100	
AVP	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Bolivian Quaker Edu.	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Camp Gregory	\$250	\$250	\$250	Outside contributions = \$1,775
CCAIM - Cay Co Interfaith	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Center on Conscience	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Christian Peacemakers	\$100	\$100	\$100	
FCNL	\$400	\$400	\$400	
FGC	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Friends World Com.	\$50	\$50	\$50	
Human Services Cayuga	\$40	\$40	\$40	
Jericho Road/Vive Shelter	\$100	\$100	\$100	
Non-Violent Peace Force	\$50	\$50	\$50	
NYS Council of Ch's.	\$25	\$25	\$25	
San Pedro	\$100	\$100	\$100	
The Sharing Fund	\$50	\$50	\$50	
UNICEF	\$10	\$10	\$0	
Wider Parish	\$100	\$100	\$100	
				YTD Contributions for 2018 - Dec. 16, 2018
	\$38,539		\$45,556	\$35,569
from Jamison Fund	-\$1,700	-\$1,700	\$0	96.55%
Total	\$36,839	\$33,554	\$45,556	



POPLAR RIDGE FRIENDS MEETING

Clerk – Hannah Richter	Pastoral Care - Craig Kukuk (734-717-7719)
Assistant Clerk – Andy Simkin	Recording Clerk – David Connelly
Treasurer – Ruth Bradley	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 1st day messages. Visit us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/poplarridgefriendsny>.

To change or correct a mailing label please contact Sally Otis at sotis3067@gmail.com 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.

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

Poplar Ridge Information Sharing
 Monthly
 Poplar Ridge Monthly Meeting
 of the Religious Society of Friends