

Newsletter of Albany Friends Meeting (Quakers)

Albany Friends Meeting Calendar

Children's First Day School: contact Chris Koster for schedule: 862-1895

Childcare available during Meeting events with at least 1 week notice: Chris Koster: 862-1895

Every First Day (Sunday): 10–11 a.m.: Meeting for Worship, then announcements and social hour, hosted by First Day School (no social hour on potluck Sunday). Childcare available during worship.

Every Wed., 7 p.m., Meeting for Worship with Margaret Smith, Eddy Heritage House. Info: 542-6000

1st Wed., May 3, 12:15-1 p.m., Monthly Peace Vigil in front of Capitol, State and Eagle St. Info: 595-9324

1st Sun., May 7, 11:30-1 p.m., Writing Group. Info: Elizabeth Gordon: walk33@gmail.com

3rd Sun., May 21, Potluck after worship, Peace and Earthcare meets and eats in library, all welcome; Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business follows pot luck (schedule change due to Mothers Day)

4th Sun., May 28, 9 a.m. Hymn Sing; During Meeting for Worship: a memorial reading of names of members and attenders of the Meeting community who have passed away, Faith and Practice discussion open to all after social hour. Info: Dot Richards: 380-5125, wrichard@nycap.rr.com

The Annual Grannies for Peace Tulip Festival Vigil, Sat. May 13, Washington Park, Albany

From Maud Easter, Grannies for Peace



Our vigil theme is protect and support our children, by keeping immigrant families together, feeding all the children, protecting Mother Earth for her children, and supporting public education. Grannies will meet on the Madison Ave. side of the Moses statue for the silent vigil, 1-2 p.m., and leaflet in pairs in the park, 2-2:30 p.m. We'll provide signs and banners. Please wear white if you can. We have some red hats and visors, but bring yours if you can. Rain or shine! Questions: Maud@WomenAgainstWar.org

American Friends Service Committee's Exhibit: *Humanize, not Militarize*, till May 23

From Anita Stanley, Women Against War

Humanize, not Militarize, the 50-poster AFSC exhibit, examines militarism on local and international levels. It invites you to explore your feelings and ideas, and where they might be leading us. The exhibit, open and free to the public, is sponsored by Women Against War. The exhibit is at the Russell Sage Upton Center, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., until May 4. On May 5 it will be at the Delmar Reformed Church, 386 Delaware Ave., Delmar, for the Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace annual fundraiser and staged reading of the anti-drone play, *Predator*, and a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. The exhibit goes to the EMPAC Center at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for *The Armed Man, a Mass for Peace*, sung by Albany Pro Musica, Sat., May 6, 7:30 p.m. WMHT's AHA! episode Wed., May 3, 7:30 p.m., will discuss *The Armed Man* and events Albany Pro Musica has supported. Our AFSC exhibit will be featured on AHA! The last *Humanize* venue opens at the Oakwood Community Center Soul Café, Mon., May 8, 6 p.m., 313 10th St., Troy. The menu includes food from countries that are on the front lines of refugee and immigration disputes. Local immigrant and anti-war organizations are invited. The exhibit will be there until May 23. Info: www.womenagainstawar.org, or Anita Stanley, at 441-7722, or meridiancomm@earthlink.net.

Questions? Who to contact:

Co-Clerks: Cinda Putman 426-9401 putmancr@nycap.rr.com, Maggy Wiard 235-8102 maggy.wiard@yahoo.com

Recording Clerk: Anne Liske 256-8230

Treasurer: Janet Poole 477-5443

Trustees: David Easter 475-9532

Building Caretakers: Anne Liske: 256-8230 and John Cutro: 256-8422 caretaker@albanyquakers.org
Outside groups need Trustees' approval prior to scheduling new events with caretakers. Schedule all new events (AFM and outside groups) with caretakers 2-4 weeks in advance to verify no conflicts.

Family Promise ad hoc Committee: Maggy Wiard 235-8102 maggy.wiard@yahoo.com

Young Adult Friends and monthly gatherings: David Oehl 860-262-3813 oehlida2000@yahoo.com.au

Outreach and Advancement, and Website Coordinator: Judith Fetterley JFetterley@albany.edu

Ministry & Nurture Committee: Maud Easter maudeaster@nycap.rr.com 475-9532

First Day School Committee, and Child Care for Meeting events: Chris Koster 862-1895

Peace & Earthcare Committee (open to all): Sheree Cammer call/text 951-5953 or Paul Rehm 966-5366

Alternatives to Violence Project: Crystal: Crystal.heshmat@gmail.com 369-9675, or Pat Beetle 477-4004

Friends for Racial Justice Committee (open to all): Barbara Spring 441-6405

Compost: Janet Poole 477-5443 Take a bucket, fill with food scraps, put scraps on our compost pile.

Stay in touch between newsletters! Join the list-serve by emailing your request to jcutro@twc.com

Ministry and Nurture: Chase Crosley Now Living by the Atlantic Shore in Wells, Maine

Chase, a dear and delightful Albany Meeting attender, has moved with her husband to be near their daughter, Amanda. We'll miss her very much and wish her all the best as she settles in. Dot Richards was pleased to hear how happy and relaxed she sounded. Dot and her husband stayed in Wells from time to time and had recommended some favorite restaurants and attractions. Chase was pleased to find a local Quaker Meeting. Her address is The Evita, Apt. 128A, 86 Sanford Rd., Wells, ME, 04090.

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Sat., May 6, 12–6 p.m. at the Pruyn House, 207 Old Niskayuna Rd., Latham

From Sharon Alley and Carrie Kuehl

The first annual Fiesta will celebrate Mexican, Trique, Hispanic, Latino cultures, and contributions of immigrants, with food, music, dance, and an interfaith prayer vigil. Cinco de Mayo commemorates the Mexican and indigenous people's ousting the French from Mexican lands, under the leadership of Benito Juarez, the first full-blood Zapotec Indian President of Mexico. The theme for our festival is a quote from President Juarez: *El respeto al derecho ajeno es la paz*, (Respect for the rights of others is peace.)

We'll showcase our Triqui Copala community, (indigenous people from the Oaxaca region of Mexico). For decades, Triqui people have been settling here, working entry level jobs, then starting businesses in Latham, Albany, Troy, Schenectady, Saratoga, and Amsterdam.

Albany Friends Meeting plans to table; call Sheree 951-5953 to help). Carrie Kuehl plans to table for Amnesty International. Tabling applications are available at equinedimension@gmail.com for arts and crafts vendors and organizations supporting human rights, native people, and immigrants. Festival info: Sharon Alley 312-0424 or Carrie Kuehl 453-0545.

Congratulations to Christian Peace and Justice Activists

From Rabbi Michael Lerner, editor of *Tikkun*

Tikkun is both the preeminent intellectual and theological prophetic voice of progressive Jews and also an interfaith voice doing our activism through the interfaith (and secular-humanist-welcoming) Network of Spiritual Progressives (NSP). So on this Easter we want to highlight the important social justice work

being done by Christian progressives while simultaneously urging all Christian progressives and their organizations to JOIN the NSP so that we can coordinate strategies and activism and highlight each others' activities. Membership also gives you a subscription to *Tikkun* magazine! Meanwhile celebrate the fine work of the Christian activists described below as they reclaim the deep love, social justice and nonviolence message of Jesus' mission.

Good Friday Hancock Drone Action Statement



Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus. Recognizing that 70% of our nation identify as Christian, we come to the gates of the Hancock drone base to make real the crucifixion today. As Jesus and others were crucified by the Roman Empire, drones are used by the U. S. Empire in a similar fashion. In Roman times, crosses loomed over a community to warn people that they could be killed whenever the Empire decided. So, too, our drones fly over many countries threatening extrajudicial killings of whoever happens to be in the vicinity.

On this Good Friday, we recall Jesus' call to love and nonviolence. We're asking this air force base and this nation to turn away from a policy which amounts to a modern-day crucifixion. Let's embrace Jesus' call to build the Kingdom of God on Earth instead of killing suspected enemies and innocents, including children. In the process, we are also crucifying Children, Families, Love, Peace, Community, Diplomacy, Rule of Law, U.S. Constitution, U.N. Charter, U.S. Treaties and Due Process.

What if our country were constantly being spied upon by drones, with some of us killed by drones? What if many bystanders, including children, were killed in the process? If that were happening, we would hope that some people in that attacking country would speak up and try to stop the killing. We're speaking up to try and stop the illegal and immoral drone attacks on countries against which Congress has not declared war. Those arrested today: Ex-CIA analyst of 32 yrs. Ray McGovern, Jessica Stewart, Ed Kinane, Tom Joyce, James Ricks, Joan Pleune, Mark Colville, John Amidon, Brian Hynes.

More at www.upstatedroneaction.org, www.knowdrones.com

Filmmaking and Advocacy Summer Camp, July 5 – Aug. 3 in New York City

From Lewis Webb, Director, American Friends Service Committee, New York Healing Justice Program



AFSC is teaming up with Echoes of Incarceration for Filmmaking and Advocacy Camp to help people ages 15-19 use filmmaking to be agents of change. Those impacted by immigration or criminal justice systems are especially encouraged to apply: online by May 5 at www.afsc.org/liberationsummer.

A Faith-Based Community Solar Farm Under Consideration Locally

Local members of faith groups are exploring creating a solar farm where financial benefits could be enjoyed by members of faith groups while living out their missions of earth stewardship and social responsibility by passing along savings to low and moderate income families. With a community solar farm, electricity is shared. People can go solar without installing solar panels on their roof or their property, and can receive credits worth almost as much as what they paid their electric utility. Federal and state tax credits for people who pay enough income tax can offset the cost of developing the solar farm. Owning a share would be an investment, which could be sold later. More at www.energysage.com

Peace and Earthcare plans to ask Business Meeting to schedule a date for a presentation to our Meeting and other local faith groups. People interested in the planning meetings, usually every other Monday 5:30 p.m., may contact David Barnard (439-6505), who has been attending, and Sheree Cammer (951-5953), who has been keeping a finger on the pulse.

I am Drawn to the Things that have Never Been Said (Ich Glaube an Alles Noch Nie Gesagte)

by Rainer Maria Rilke, translation by [Martina Nagel](#)

<p>I am drawn to the things that have never been said. I am determined to release these godly feelings and not hold back what others do not dare to ask.</p> <p>If that's outrageous, my God, forgive. All I am trying to say is this: My very best offerings are spontaneous, without hesitation or irritation, in precisely the way children love You.</p>	<p>Like waters swell and ebb into the open sea, I want to proclaim Your name, in mounting waves, like no one has done before.</p> <p>If that is audacious, then let me be rude for the sake of my prayer, which, sincere and solemn, rises before Your veiled face.</p> <p><i>The Book of Hours, I, 12, from Praying the Hours in Ordinary Life (Cascade Books, 2010)</i> https://prayingthehours.com/2012/04/30/ich-glaube-an-alles-noch-nie-gesagte/</p>
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Friends General Conference in Niagara Falls, NY, July 2 – 8: You are invited! Details: www.fgcquaker.org

Albany Friends Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business 4.9.17

Clerk: Cinda Putman, Co-Clerk; Recording Clerk: Anne Liske; Present: Dorothy Richards, Carol Barclay, Janet Poole, Barbara Sinacore, Chris Koster, Joe Levinger, Maggy Wiard, Sue Clark, Sheree Cammer, Fidel Moreno.

The Clerk gathered everyone into worship.

The Clerk reminded Friends that registration is open for Friends General Conference to be held this year at Niagara University.

Treasurer's Report: Unrestricted cash on hand as of April 9, 2017 is \$10,493.74. This month another portion of our contribution to New York Yearly Meeting will be made in the amount of \$2000.

May Meeting for Business: The Clerk asked and Friends approved scheduling the May Meeting for Business on May 21, 2017 after rise of meeting potluck.

Family Promise: A group of Friends from the meeting prepared a meal for the first time as part of our role as a Family Promise support congregation. Held at the First United Methodist Church in Delmar, we enjoyed meeting six of the current eight members from the two families being served by the program.

We enjoyed the sharing and connecting with all. A request was made to use the Other Projects line in

the Meeting's 2017 budget to help support the food costs for our Family Promise meals. The request was approved.

Ministry and Nurture: During Meeting for Worship on May 28, 2017, the annual memorial reading of deceased members and attenders will take place.

First Day School: A reminder and request that Friends who are willing to take turns with the children on non-First Day School consider doing so over the next several months so that parents can stay in meeting.

Peace and Earthcare: Members of the committee would like the Meeting to support the Cinco de Mayo event on May 6, 2017 in Albany. The request is to endorse the event, including help with a Quaker table at the event. Friends approved the request.

The committee also asked for clarification and guidance on whether the committee can write and release letters, take public positions or make statements to the wider community prior to being brought before the Meeting for Business. Friends reminded one another of the Quaker practice of discerning such positions as a gathered group.

The Meeting closed with silent worship.

Community Events See also the Progressive Calendar of the Capital Region <http://peaceact.net/> and <http://www.sierraclubhudsonmohawk.org/capital-region-all-green-calendar/>

Until May 23, *Humanize not Militarize* poster exhibit: see news item

Sundays, 6 p.m., Kirtan (sacred chanting and singing), Unity Church, 21 King Ave., Albany. Info: 453-3603

Usually 2nd Monday (confirm with Facebook NS4Immigrants or jpaparone@labor-religion.org): 7 p.m., New Sanctuary for Immigrants meeting, St. Vincent's Church, 900 Madison Ave., Albany

Mon. May 1, 11 a.m., New Sanctuary Prayer Walk for Immigrant Rights, Shrine Church, 273 Central Ave., Albany to Townsend Park. Info: Pat Beetle: paxpat@nycap.rr.com

Wed., May 3, 5:30 p.m., Interfaith Alliance Awards Dinner, Albany Country Club. Perry Jujulius, Dahlia Herring, Barbara Smith will be honored. Info. Deb Riitano, Capital Area Council of Churches: 462-5450

Thurs. May 4, 7 p.m., CAP_NY Progressive Action Network Meeting, Albany Public Library, Washington Ave., Albany. Info: Pat Beetle: paxpat@nycap.rr.com

Fri., May 5, Bethlehem Neighbors for Peace potluck, play, *Humanism not Militarism*. See news item.

Sat., May 6, *The Armed Man, a Mass for Peace, Humanism not Militarism*. See news item

Sat., May 6, Cinco de Mayo Fiesta. See news item

Wed. May 10, Parole/Prison Justice Lobby Day at the Capital: 9:30 a.m., Emmanuel Baptist Church, State St., Albany; 11 a.m., meet legislators; 12:30 p.m., Rally/March. Info: Pat Beetle paxpat@nycap.rr.com

Sat., May 27, 7:30 p.m., The Last Minute Jazz Ensemble, benefit concert, Old Chatham Quaker Meeting-house, 539 Co. Rte. 13, Old Chatham. Advance: \$15, door: \$18. Info: 766-2992 oldchathamquakers.org

Sun. May 28, 11 a.m., Buddha's Birthday, Flower Festival, Peace Pagoda, 87 Crandall Rd., Petersburg. Bring healthy food to share. Info: 658-9301

Powell House: <http://powellhouse.org> or 794-8811

May 12-14, Tend thy Friend, caring for parishioners with challenges

May 12-14, Orient Yourself, 5th -7th grade

May 26-28, Earth Song, 7th -12th grade

June 9-11, Inside, Outside, 3rd and 4th grade

Albany Friends Meeting (Quakers)
727 Madison Avenue
Albany, NY 12208

On Facebook and at
www.albanyfriendsmeeting.org.

To start or stop the emailed or
mailed newsletter:
Sheree4614@gmail.com or 951-5953.

We recall the wisdom of the Quaker elders, assembled at Balby in 1656, who wrote: Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by, but that... [they] may be fulfilled in the Spirit, not from the letter, for the letter killeth but the Spirit giveth life.

Advice and Queries for May: On the Peace Testimony

We are called to live “in the virtue of that life and power that takes away the occasion of all wars.” Do we maintain Friends’ testimony that war and the preparation for war are inconsistent with this calling? Do we search our own behavior for the ways in which our lives may contain the seeds of war? Do we exert our influence to bring about the non-violent resolution of conflict? Do we seek to share the peace testimony with everyone we meet?

Enriching Vocal Ministry

Ministry is what is on one's soul, and it can be in direct contradiction to what is on one's mind. It's what the Inner Light gently pushes you toward or suddenly dumps in your lap. It is rooted in the eternity, divinity, and selflessness of the Inner Light; not in the worldly, egoistic functions of the conscious mind.

Marrienne McMullen, 1987