

THE DAILY E-QUACKER

Canadian Yearly Meeting Virtually in Session 2020

Wednesday 12 August



Thank you to Caroline Martindale for our new logo

Recordings of yesterday's presentations are now available at <https://quaker.ca/yearlymeetinginsession/longer-schedule-description/>

Discord tip: If the display is too dark for thee, change it in user settings (gear in lower left) > Appearance. Choose the Light, Friends, If the ocean of darkness does not suit thy sight.

A reminder that tonight's presentation starts at 5:30pm ET, 30 min earlier than previous days

PRIVACY In the course of CYM2020, you may learn contact information of other Friends. Please ask their permission before using that contact information for further communication. In particular, do not send email about your interests without permission.

Events for Wednesday, 12 August 2020

30-minute Meeting for Worship — 12:00 noon ET

Worship sharing groups — 12:45 to 1:45 pm ET

Meetings of these groups are organized by worship sharing group leaders. If you signed up for a worship sharing group, you should have received information from your worship sharing leader about how your group will be meeting. If you have not been contacted or if you have other questions or concerns, please send a message using the form on the "Comments and Questions".

Meeting for Healing — 2:00 to 3:00 pm ET

"Meeting for Healing" will be held over Zoom (see the link below). All are invited! Concerns can include healing for individuals, our meeting communities, our world; whatever is heavy on our hearts. Sometimes all that is needed is to speak a name. If you are unable to attend you can send your concern to Stuart (luckystu222@gmail.com) or David (nightmail@ncf.ca) and they will bring it forward at the meeting.

Hosted by Stuart Greene of Baltimore YM and David Raymond (Ottawa MM) under the care of CYM CMMC

<https://zoom.us/j/7455410157?pwd=N1BwQVBCVUVoTEkvbEJKdzdDeGo0Zz09>

Defunding Criminal Justice – Transforming, Abolishing, and What Comes Next — 3:00–4:30 pm ET

*With Joy Morris (Lethbridge WG, Calgary MM), Dick Cotterill (Truro WG, Halifax MM),
and John Samson Fellows (Winnipeg MM)*

The Black Lives Matter movement has focused public awareness on the systemic racism and broad harms that are built into our existing criminal "justice" systems. "Defund the police!" has become a slogan. The criminal justice system has long been an area of concern for Friends, and this public dialogue presents an exciting opportunity to make real changes.

Members of CFSC's criminal justice program committee (Quakers Fostering Justice) will present a brief history of Canadian Quaker concerns with the justice system, along with some of the alternative models that have been used or are currently being explored. There will be opportunities for small-group discussion and sharing local initiatives and experience. We will also introduce a forthcoming webinar series currently being planned by CFSC around these issues.

Quaker Readings and our Calling in these Times — 5:30 to 7:30 pm ET (early start time!)

with Alastair McIntosh (Glasgow Meeting)

The coronavirus has been a wake-up crisis of our time, "a basic call to consciousness," to borrow an expression from the Haudenosaunee "Address to the Western World" of 1977. It sits enfolded in a wider constellation of crises or turning points that include democracy, race relations, indigeneity, and coming on relentlessly, climate change. What can Quakers do and be? Should we merely add our weight to the voices of non-religious organisations that carry these interconnected concerns? Or might our tradition give us particular insights and experience that the wider world might value? Are we fit for purpose for the purposes to which the Spirit might call us in this century? What roots can we draw from, and what branches might bear fruit?

Alastair McIntosh will be known to some Canadian Friends for his 2015 Sunderland P. Gardner lecture, entitled, [Decolonising Land and Soul: a Quaker Testimony](#). A Scottish activist, best known for his work with land reform, Alastair is an honorary professor at the University of Glasgow and the author of several books including *Soil and Soul: People versus Corporate Power*, *Poacher's Pilgrimage: an Island Journey*, and *Riders on the Storm: The Climate Crisis and The Survival of Being*, which will be launched on the UK on Thursday 13 August 2020.

Online Sing with Tim Kitz and Chrissy Steinbock — 8:00 to 9:00 pm ET

followed by more music by request and open song sharing

For about an hour, we'll sing and play our way through a set of songs. You can access the lyrics and chords in [this google drive folder](#) to sing and play along. Unfortunately, you'll have to mute yourself due to the limitations of latency and physics, but we do hope you'll participate where you are, to the degree possible, and that you'll chat with us and with each other in between songs. Some of songs come from the Rise Up Singing songbook or will be familiar to Friends who have been to recent Yearly Meetings.

After our set, we'll open up the session to everyone who anyone can share or song or would like to request a song from [this songbook](#). It will be a little like after-hours music making at Yearly Meeting. If you want to provide advance notice you'd like to share a song, please email avantgardener@wychwood.xyz. If you just want to wing it, speak up during the Zoom call.

News and Comments from Friends

Celebrating 100 years of Friends' Testimony Against War

Friend World Committee for Consultation — Global Online Worship to mark 100th anniversary of the First All Friends' Conference.

Saturday 15 August from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm UK (BST Time)

On 12–20 August 1920, to years after the end of the First World War, 963 Friends met in London (UK) for the first world conference of Friends, to garner a worldwide opposition to war. This conference brought Evangelical Friends, Conservative Friends, and mystical Friends (Gurneyites, Wilburites, and Hicksites) in a common approach to postwar social and political problems. On Saturday 15 August 2020, we want to come together to mark that occasion and to continue to express our longing for a peaceful world.

What will happen in 2020? The world office of Friends World Committee for Consultation is inviting Friends to 90 minutes of worship to mark the 100 years from our first world gathering. What compelled

Friends in a postwar environment? What inspires us now to continue in our work for a peaceful world? How has God called us during these last 100 years? To what can we testify today?

As a global family, we welcome Friends across the branches, across sections, and across time zones. Please join us! Register for the Global Online Worship: Come Celebrate 100 years of Friends' Testimony Against War from 1920 to 2020.

Submitted by Elaine Bishop (Winnipeg MM) e.bishop@shaw.ca

Pelham Executive Meeting — Online Togetherness

Pelham Friends have been searching for various options for online togetherness and they are currently investigating Cisco Webex. The note that Cisco Webex's CEO recently presented online about "ugly reminder of the systemic racism still present in society" to 120,000 attendees at Cisco Live. Cisco had previously announced spending \$50 million on helping homeless people in Silicon Valley, half a billion dollars on fighting the effects of the virus, and a recent donation of \$5 million to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Black Lives Matter and other organizations fighting racism and discrimination." Cisco has appeared on the Ethisphere's list of "Most Ethical Companies" since 2007. For these reasons Pelham Executive Meeting (Niagara) is considering moving from Zoom to Webex. <https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cisco-live-tackling-the-pandemic-racism-and-technological-challenges/432194>

From David Millar

Looking for Friend(s) who would like to collaborate on one or more Quaker projects. Just click to view the one-page list, then click within the list to see info about a particular project. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/74e30tjh2kdetiu/DM%20projects.docx?dl=0>
You can message me on Discord, email fdmillar@gmail.com, or phone 514 386-8421.

From Lillia Fick (Ottawa MM)

During the time of pandemic, Lilia Fick has been travelling through the weird and wonderful world of online Quaker gatherings and Meeting for Worship offerings and has been gathering wisdom and pieces of the Truth along the way. It has been a really spiritually enriching time for her/them. Lilia wanted to share some of her/their witnessing of and participation in "the work" being done by Quakers, particularly in the United States.

Among many other gatherings, she/they attended Friends General Conference gathering. Afterward, there was an epistle sent out from the Virtual Pre-Gathering of Friends of Color and their Families (<https://www.fgcquaker.org/news/outgoing-epistle-2020-virtual-pre-gathering-friends-color-and-their-families>). White Friends, please take particular note of the queries. Accept these queries as they are and take them into your heart and let them move within you.

Although the context in Canada may be different in some regards from the US, I know that there is a lot of the same happening here. Racism and White supremacy are very much alive and present in Canada, particularly toward Indigenous and Black People. For Lilia, as she/they knows is the way for many Friends (White and BIPOC alike), addressing racism and White supremacy here in Canada has the same level of immediacy as in the States.

Lilia wonders if Black, Indigenous and People of Colour (BIPOC) Friends within Canadian Yearly Meeting might feel called to add to these queries from within the Canadian context?

As a White Canadian Young Adult Friend, Lilia wants Canadian Yearly Meeting (CYM) to be a place within which all Friends feel welcome, safe, uplifted and where their gifts are celebrated. Together, we need to do the much needed and urgent work of becoming anti-racist and of healing White supremacy within our Quaker bodies - individually, locally, nationally, internationally, globally. ****BIPOC should not be put in situations of explaining these problems and their experiences of them, nor owning these problems, they are fatigued from being asked to teach White folks.**** Lilia poses this question as an invitation for BIPOC *themselves*. to decide if this would be energy well spent. This is not an invitation for White Canadian Friends to approach Canadian Friends of Colour asking them to do this work.

In having spent time at Pendle Hill (an education and retreat centre outside of Philadelphia) during one of her intercessions at The Meeting School, she/they built a special bond with Pendle Hill and Friends in and around Philadelphia. She/they has made a daily practice of attending Pendle Hill's daily online Meeting for Worship and has found being in fellowship with this beloved Quaker community to be nourishing beyond words. Lilia felt fortunate to attend Philadelphia Yearly Meeting online this year and was present for the polishing off of the Young Adult Friends' Epistle 2020 <https://www.pym.org/yafepistle20/>. This is a must-read

as well as we strive to create a space where everyone's whole selves are welcome at CYM and within our Monthly Meetings.

New England Yearly Meeting (NEYM) wrapped up as Canadian Yearly Meeting was getting started this year and Lilia found this epistle to be deeply deeply moving <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ehXaRyF6xoYJipuOpExewy-nuvvOMzwA/view>. NEYM also wrote an apology to the Indigenous Peoples of the US (<https://neym.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/Apology%20to%20Native%20Americans%20and%20Call.pdf>)

Lilia wants us to heal and come into wholeness - individually and collectively, holding all parts as equally sacred. Lilia is really disappointed that we couldn't be in Meeting for Worship for Business (considered such an asset and joy by her/them during CYMs in session) to really wrestle with some of this together as a body, to grow and expand our minds and hearts, and to be doing some of the work. required of us in this time of addressing racism, White supremacy and the systems of oppression, but is grateful for the programming offered this CYM. Lilia wants to thank the Program Committee, any other folks who made this online gathering possible, and all Friends in attendance!

Heard anything worth sharing? Send It to the **Gleanings** team using the link on this page <https://quaker.ca/yearlymeetinginsession/gleanings/>

Tomorrow Is the last Issue of the Daily e-Quacker. Submit your Information on-line In the form at the bottom of <https://quaker.ca/yearlymeetinginsession/announcements/>