

July 18, 2024

Dear POC Friends:

In lieu of our Quarterly Business Meeting this month, we are providing the following update on our activities.

Announcements

July 20, 2024 - On July 20, 2024 from 8-12 PM Maureen Regan and her Green Earth Urban Gardens project is sponsoring a Garden Clean Up Day with 75 children volunteering from a local church. Afterwards members will be offering an Introduction to Flushing Quakers by teaching them the songs, A Gift to Be Simple and Inch by Inch and offering a welcome tour of our Meeting House. Those concerned about the children encountering poison ivy can join members at 6:30 AM to help clear the grounds before they arrive (polyethylene gloves provided). The weather looks perfect for gardening and if you have never spent the early hours of the morning in our garden with 75 children you have missed something really special - join us for what looks like a lovely day.

July 21, 2024 - As part of our curriculum "Each One Teach One" funded by New York Quarter's Witness Fund, John Choe has participated in a number of POC trainings, including retreats with the Coalition of Quakers Uprooting Racism ([QCUR](#)) and workshops at FGC Gathering. He and other Friends will be presenting a virtual NYYM Interest Group discussion, "Toward a Multicultural Society," on July 21, 2024 at 4:00 PM. Visit [NYYM.org](#) to register and to see all the other really interesting Virtual Interest Groups you can also attend.

July 21, 2024 - Also on July 21, 2024, there is a Called Meeting from 1-3 PM at the Flushing Meeting House with the topic "How do We Address and Redress Harms at Flushing Meeting?". We will be discerning a process by which wounding can be addressed, both racial and otherwise. Join us for this worshipful attempt to find a way forward through the distrust that plagues Flushing Monthly Meeting. As a starting point, John Choe has brought back from FGC materials outlining their process for [Addressing Racial Wounding](#) (see attached).

August 11, 2024 - We will not be taking a summer break, so August 11, 2024 will be our next POC Worship & Reflection Group at 10:00 AM at the Flushing Meeting House, 137-16 Northern Blvd., Flushing, New York. See you there!

POC Quarterly Report

Financial Report for the months April through June, 2024. Expenses, which totaled \$257.97, are summarized below. These expenses are all for the POC Curriculum, funded by a grant from New York Quarter's Witness Fund. See paragraphs a) and b) below for income. Current total funds balance is \$4,892.05.

Date	Expense	Amount
April 10, 2024	\$50.00	Donation to Green Earth Gardens for teaching "Our Loving World" lesson in November 2023.
April 10, 2024	\$58.81	Office supplies and Art Supplies
April 22, 2024	\$62.00	Noguchi Trip for First Day School
April 27, 2024	\$20.60	2 copies of Faith & Practice
April 28, 2024	\$4.56	Art supplies
May 1, 2024	\$62.00	Travel for John Choe to FGC conference as part of "Each One Teach One"

- a.) We received a grant from New York Quarter's Witness Fund of \$2,000. to translate Faith and Practice into Chinese. John Choe has recommended a translator and we are working on drafting a contract. However, it looks like \$2,000. will not be enough to do the whole document, so we are going to start with the Faith section and seek future funding as needed.
- b.) We have also been notified that an anonymous donor will be making available \$1,000. to go to good causes of our choice (\$100. to go to the POC Curriculum). Recipients to be discussed at our next Quarterly business meeting.

POC Curriculum. Our "Introduction to Quakerism for Families" is up to our 5th lesson – "Community". We have been learning about the Friends School in Kissangura, Tanzania and the children are producing a video greeting card to be sent there. Next lesson will be an introduction to the Right Sharing of Resources and their first exposure to Quaker decision making process by holding a "mini-meeting for worship with a concern for business" to discern how much of \$100 (donated by an anonymous donor, see above) will be sent to the Kissangura School along with the video greeting card.

Faith & Practice – Revisions to Reflect a Diverse Society. The necessity of rewriting our NYYM Faith and Practice so that it reflects a multicultural, multiethnic society remains a

priority for POC. We are collecting faith-based, inspiring quotes from People of Color all over the world, especially women, which will then be suggested to the NYYM Faith & Practice Revision Committee. Currently, there is a startling lack of quotations in Faith & Practice from women or faith leaders from diverse backgrounds. Please contact Linda Shirley at cenhessepoc@gmail.com to contribute your favorite quotations.

As always, Mvto, Cenhesse,

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