

ANNOUNCEMENTS: for October 18th NYQM

(virtual) Interfaith Unity Walk on Sunday, October 25th at 3 PM organized by the Flushing Interfaith Council, which works to create understanding and common ground among various faith traditions in our community. To join us, please register with the following link: zoom webinar register John Choe 646-783-8985. https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_p-TL2sayRMyahl37DTb0nw

Quaker Cemetery is having a work day on Saturday, November 7th. Two shifts with 30 person limit. Times and directions with sign up instructions are posted on nycquakers.org. No rain date.

An invitation from Glenn Josey and Helen Garay Toppins.

During the Iraq War, Friends in New York City formed a network. We called it NYC Peace Friends. It was not a committee or an organization – it was a communications network. We met every 4-6 weeks with representation from NYC Quaker meetings and discussed each Meeting's peace activities. We offered advice and constructive support. We informed Friends in NYC about what each Meeting was doing. We attended each other's events. Occasionally, we came together as a NYC Quaker group and participated in marches and demonstrations. We would like to create a similar anti-racism network – **NYC Friends for Racial Justice**. Please let us know if you are interested in participating. And please spread the word.

Ribbon International:

The Ribbon International 2020 event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Friends can view the inspiring Ribbon2020 Virtual Book at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDthNVnECPA&feature=youtu.be>

Email from Bobby Trice of FCNL to Assistant Clerk

October 5, 2020

Dear Friend Ian,

Thank you for being a messenger of this corporate witness calling for a constitutional amendment to end slavery. I really appreciate the significance of NYQM coming to unity around this action and NYYM endorsing the call. It's heartening to hear and deeply inspiring. The background statement is very powerful – thank you for sharing with me and your elected officials. We have been compiling and publishing minutes and statements on racial justice, policing, and related advocacy on our website at fcnl.org/statements. Could I add your minute and background statement to our page?

As you may know, FCNL sets its lobbying priorities for each new Congress through the [priorities process](#) every two years. This year, we collected worshipfully discerned priorities from over 200 Quaker meetings and Friends churches around the country – the deadline for submission was May 1, 2020. Our governance has set this standard for ensuring FCNL's work is rightly ordered and representative of Friends' worship and discernment nationwide. Right now, our Policy Committee is seasoning Friends'

submissions and will present a set of draft priorities for approval by the General Committee at [FCNL's Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute, November 14-17](#).

While it is not our practice to commit the organization to lobbying on issues raised outside of the priorities process, we encourage Friends to draw on our lobbying resources in their own advocacy. Even if FCNL isn't able to take up the specific push for this constitutional amendment right now, Friends can carry forward this faithful and prophetic advocacy by lobbying elected officials as follow up to sending the proposed amendment and background statement.

Here are a few resources that may be of use:

- [FCNL.org/lobbyfromhome](https://fcnl.org/lobbyfromhome): Our landing page for virtual lobbying – includes a form for requesting support in scheduling a lobby visit for you and/or fellow advocates
- [Learn to Lobby in 30 Minutes](#) (biweekly virtual lobby training on Tuesdays)
- [Step-by-Step Guide to Virtual Lobbying](#)
- [FCNL's Annual Meeting and Quaker Public Policy Institute, November 14-17](#). This year, we will be meeting virtually and lobbying for the Justice in Policing Act to bring about far overdue law enforcement reforms addressing racist police brutality. I invite Friends to join us to lobby for racial justice – the lobby training we'll hold during the Quaker Public Policy Institute may be helpful for NYQM and NYYM Friends interested in lobbying for this constitutional amendment.

Thank you again for sharing this corporate witness with me and with FCNL – I am inspired by the vision Friends hold for our world.

Ever faithfully onward,
Bobby

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