



# 2021 Annual Sessions

Illinois Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

## Equality in Action: Root & Reality

*ILYM Annual Sessions, On-line, June 16-20 & 25-27, 2021*

This year's Annual Sessions focuses on the Testimony of Equality, how it shaped our past, our current understanding and application, and how we can move forward towards a more just future.

### Evening Presentations and Programs

On Wednesday evening (June 16), there will be a presentation on the theme of Annual Sessions, discussing how inequality manifests in Quaker spaces and traditions as well as how we can work towards being more inclusive in our meetings and communities.

Thursday evening (June 17) will be an all-ages musical program.

Friday evening (June 18) will be a time for participatory dancing.

On Saturday evening (June 19) will be a presentation by Dwight Wilson. Dwight is a recorded Friends minister, educator, author, and activist. Additionally Dwight has written historical fiction, poetry, contemporary psalms, and a memoir about work done as a volunteer baby holder. Dwight is a former general secretary of Friends General Conference.

Sunday Afternoon (June 20), Plummer Lecture delivered by Phyllis Reynolds of Evanston Monthly Meeting.

Sunday Afternoon (June 27) will be a Reading of the Epistles and Special Music Presentation. The program will opening with internationally acclaimed concert violinist, Rachel Barton Pine. A short business session will convene for the reading of adult, high school, and childrens' epistles. The program will close with an improvised musical performance by 9-year-old Sylvia Pine, inspired by the children's epistles.

## Annual Sessions Schedule

All times Central. See next page for schedule for High School and Childrens Sessions

### MONDAY 6/14

7:00-8:30 pm Open time to check out Zoom

### WEDNESDAY 6/16

3:00-4:30 pm Opening Session: Worship and Welcome

5:00-6:30 Shared Dinner

7:00-8:15 Presentation on theme of Annual Sessions

8:45-9:15 New Attender Meeting

### THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

#### MORNING/AFTERNOON 6/17-19

8:00-9:30 am New Attender Meeting (Saturday)

9:00-9:55 Shared Breakfast

10:00-12:00 Meeting for Business

12:05-12:55 pm Shared Lunch

1:00-1:45 Worship Sharing

2:00-3:30 Workshops

### THURSDAY AFTERNOON/EVENING 6/18

4:00-5:00 pm Meeting for Worship

5:30-6:30 Shared Dinner

7:00-8:15 All-ages musical program

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON/EVENING 6/19

4:00-5:00 pm Meeting for Worship

5:30-6:30 Shared Dinner

7:00-8:15 Participatory Dancing and Social Time

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON/EVENING 6/20

4:00-5:00 pm Meeting for Worship (Memorials read)

5:30-6:30 Shared Dinner

7:00-8:15 Presentation by Dwight Wilson

### SUNDAY 6/21

9:00-10:00 am Meeting for Business

10:00-10:45 Help Think about next year's Annual Sessions

11:00-12:30 Meeting for Worship

12:05-12:55 Shared Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 Plummer Lecture by Phyllis Reynolds

### SUNDAY 6/21

2:00-3:00 pm Epistle Reading and Music Presentation

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# New This Year

- ✿ Each day will be one meeting, so you will be able to join in the morning and keep your connection going until you leave in the evening.
- ✿ Open time between events will be available for open socializing.
- ✿ Shared meals will provide an opportunity to gather together to eat and visit. Meals will be hosted by members of the Food Planning Group. Zach and Kelly, the ILYM Annual Sessions cooks, will be providing a menu so you can prepare at home what they would have prepared if we were on-site. They will even be providing recipes for some of their more popular dishes and will be present to host the supper meals on Wednesday and Thursdays.
- ✿ The High School Program will meet concurrently with other programming June 14-20.
- ✿ Childrens Sessions will meet June 25-27.
- ✿ A special Epistles Reading and Music Program will be held June 27.
  - Opening by internationally acclaimed concert violinist, Rachel Barton Pine
  - Adult and Childrens' Epistles Reading
  - Improvised musical performance by 9-year-old Sylvia Pine, inspired by the childrens' epistles.

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# Childrens Sessions

Annual Sessions is a gathering of Friends that is supportive of families with children. Children's Sessions provide the opportunity for children to experience various aspects of Quaker faith and life. Children's Sessions will run June 25-26. Sunday, June 27 will be a special musical epistle reading program for all ages (adults and children)

**Preschool Children** (3-5 year-olds), Friday and Saturday, 2:00-2:25 p.m. Godly Play Stories: Margaret Fell and Meeting for Worship.

**Primary Children's Program** (6-7 year-olds), Friday and Saturday, 2:30 – 2:55 p.m. Godly Play Stories: Woolman and the Indians and Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Intermediate Children's Program** (8-10 year-olds), Friday and Saturday, 3:00-3:45 p.m. Theme: How and what did we, as a society, change from unequal to equal in our past? These classes will include talking, learning and students working and creating a short presentation for Sunday's program, could include and not limited to, utilizing shared screen, power points, videos, etc. All students are encouraged to take an active role.

**Middle School Program** (10-13 year-olds), 4:00 – 4:45PM. Theme: Difference between Equality and Equity – what does that mean in reality? These classes will include discussions, dialoging, learning and students working and creating a short presentation for Sunday's program, could include and not limited to, utilizing shared screen, power points, videos, animations created by them etc. All students are encouraged to take an active role.

**Hang Out Session for All Students of All Ages**, 4:45 – 5:30 p.m. Each day will have time for all students to socialize informally with each. Teachers will be present, but the space is for the young people of all ages.

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# High School Sessions

The Youth Oversight Committee and High School Friends (entering grade 9 through recent high school graduates) plan the program. The Youth Coordinator will contact youth and youth's parents with program specifics after the youth is registered for the program. High School Program times will be:

June 16: 3pm-5pm, 8 p.m.-10p.m.

June 17, 18, 19: 10 a.m.-12 p.m., 3 p.m.-5 p.m., 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

June 20: 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

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# Workshop Sharing and Workshops

Worship Sharing Groups will meet Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, 1:00-1:45 p.m. Participants will arrive in a general meeting room and be moved to breakout rooms for small group worship sharing. Queries should be posted by May 12.

Workshops will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday beginning at 2:00 pm. Participants will arrive in a general meeting room and will be moved to a breakout room for the workshop they want to attend. Alternatively workshops might be held at a different Zoom meeting. Workshop information is posted in the ILYM website.

Workshop information and Worship Sharing queries is available at [ilym.org/2020AnnualSessions](http://ilym.org/2020AnnualSessions).

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## On-line Information & Registration: [ilym.org/2021AnnualSessions](http://ilym.org/2021AnnualSessions)

Please register by June 3. Registration ends June 12

Advance Documents will be available (after June 2) at [ilym.org/2021AnnualSessions](http://ilym.org/2021AnnualSessions)

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# Annual Sessions Information

Due to large-gathering cautions and restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ILYM 2021 Annual Sessions will be held on-line, instead of on-campus, via video conferencing. While this will be a different experience than gathering on the ILYM campus in McNabb, Illinois, it can be taken up as an opportunity to connect with Friends who do not usual come to on-campus gatherings.

Many of the regular components of on-campus Annual Sessions will be offered during these on-line Annual Sessions: worship, business sessions, presentations, worship sharing, workshops, dancing, children's religious education and high school programs. There will be a pre-sessions meeting on Monday for people who want to check out their setup and become familiar with Zoom.

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**REGISTRATION:** Registration is required if you want to attend any of the online programs. Registration will put you on the list to receive links to programs. Registration helps in planning for these programs, helps to prevent unauthorized people crashing programs, and helps to keep contact data current. Please register before June 3, especially for Children's Sessions. You will not be able to register after June 12. If you are mailing in registration, it should arrive before June 12.

**FEES/DONATIONS:** The per day fee for on-campus Annual Sessions is set to cover the costs of on-campus Annual Sessions. Due to the on-line nature of this year's Annual Sessions there is not a per day fee structure. However there are still costs associated with holding on-line annual sessions. Friends are asked to provide a donation to help off-set these costs.

**TECHNOLOGY CONCERNS:** Some Friends might be unfamiliar with video conferencing. There will be a preliminary program Monday evening for those who might want to verify that their setup works and to get familiar with the video conferencing platform. Monthly meetings are encouraged to assist members who may have technological concerns.

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**Stay informed about what is happening in ILYM.  
Get updates and further details on Annual Sessions programming**

Subscribe to the twice-a-month e-newsletter.

Send a request to [illinoisym@ilym.org](mailto:illinoisym@ilym.org).

Please include your name and meeting along with your e-mail address.

## *Illinois Yearly Meeting*

5615 S. Woodlawn Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60637-1622

773-288-3066  
[illinoisym@ilym.org](mailto:illinoisym@ilym.org)  
[www.ilym.org](http://www.ilym.org)