

■ NEWS

New York Yearly Meeting, at its annual Summer Session held at Silver Bay, New York, in July 2009 approved a minute on race and racism. "Friends know, by our experience, that there is 'that of God' in every person. Today, we in New York Yearly Meeting seek to live into this truth and the Testimony of Equality. We recognize that the concept of race and the practice of racism are created by society at large, to which we belong, and that some of us have benefited from an economic and social system that has exploited others of us. We regret the damage these practices have caused, whether intentional or through ignorance, to others and ourselves. We affirm the necessity for each of us to examine racism and white privilege, and the fear underlying these divisions among us. In going forward together we may make mistakes, and we understand that our only hope is to love one another. We will move with the Spirit to seek justice, healing, and reconciliation within our yearly meeting." At issue is the Ministry Coordinating Committee's call to end racism in NYYM, which has been made to all the monthly meetings. This minute originated in Rahway and Plainfield Meeting, underwent discernment in the Shrewbury and Plainfield Half Yearly Meeting, and was then forwarded to NYYM for further discernment and approval. NYYM has asked each monthly meeting to hold this minute on race and racism in their prayers as they labor and discern Spirit-led actions that will be faithful to God and the community. As an aid to discerning Spirit-led actions, the Task Group on Racism in NYYM has provided each monthly meeting with a self-facilitated workshop on "Fostering Inclusion in our Meetings." NYYM seeks God's guidance as we enter into looking more deeply into the Light, seeking the truth of our wholeness and living our actions to end racism.
—*Ernestine Buscemi, clerk*

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- December—Bolivia Santidad Yearly Meeting
- December—Burundi Yearly Meeting
- December 4-7—Rwanda Yearly Meeting