

Morningside Matters

*The Newsletter for Morningside Monthly Meeting
of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)*

www.morningsidemeeting.org

December 2017

Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	Riverside Church 490 Riverside Drive, room 12T (childcare provided in room 13T)	11:00 am
Monthly	First Sunday	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business	room 12T	12:30 pm
	Second Sunday	Bible study	room 12T	9:30 am
	Second Sunday	Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting: everyone welcome.	room 12T	9:30 am
			room 12T	1:00 pm
Fourth Sunday	Welcome Breakfast: An easy way of getting to know other members and attenders. Just tell the cashier you're with the Quakers. The tab is picked up by our hosts, the Ministry & Counsel Committee	Riverside Café	9:30 am	
Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting events	Dec. 10	Amnesty International Write for Rights "write-a-thon"	room 12T	rise of meeting
	Dec. 17	State-of-the-Meeting Meeting	room 12T	rise of meeting
	Dec. 17	Cookie Swap	room 12T	rise of meeting
	Feb. 16 – 17	NYYM Meeting for Discernment Info: jephreyaaron@aol.com	15 th St. Meeting	
Events of interest	Dec. 15 – 17	What Are You Waiting For? Reflections on Advent, Life Unseen and Dwindling Light	Powell House www.powellhouse.org	
	Dec. 21	Solstice - The Birth Within	Powell House	
	Dec. 28 – Jan. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Year's: Art as Meditation—A Mindfulness Journey in Pen & Ink New Year's: Open Heart & Peaceful Mind New Year's: The Worlds of Leonard Bernstein 	Pendle Hill www.pendlehill.org	
	Dec. 30 – Jan. 1	PoHo's Annual New Year Celebration	Powell House	
	Dec. 31	New Year's Eve Celebration	Pendle Hill	
	Jan. 12 – 15	Dwelling Deep, A Contemplative Retreat	Powell House	
	Feb. 2 – 4	Friends Decision Making and Clerking: Participating in Meetings for Business with Joy and Confidence	Powell House	
	Feb. 9 – 11	Restorative Practices and Restorative Justice	Powell House	
	Feb. 16 – 18	Annual Winter Wonderland	Powell House	
	Feb. 17 – 19	Tribe of the H.E.A.R.T Retreat for Nurture, Reflection, Joy	Pendle Hill	
	Feb. 23 – 25	Creativity & Spirituality	Powell House	

Remember to check the Calendar and the Bulletin Board at www.morningsidemeeting.org

Newsletter Submission Guidelines: The purpose of the newsletter is to inform members, attenders and other interested people of Meeting news, including member interviews, news of Friends, other Quaker-related subjects, news of Quaker organizations, upcoming events, Meeting-sponsored projects, book reviews, etc. Articles and pictures are welcome. The deadline for the newsletter is the Sunday of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Please e-mail your material in Word or text format to morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com by the end of that day. Past issues of the newsletter are archived at www.morningsidemeeting.org.

Reflection

May we become such that someday, others, in a moment of moral conflict, will look to us as their teachers. May we be our own best selves for those around us and for ourselves. We are all in need of redemption and transformation. May we be our own lamp, the light that shines within us, around us, above us, beneath our feet.

Omid Safi

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business December 3, 2017

1. Meeting opens with worship

Pamela Wood read Query #5, p 84, from *Faith and Practice*.

“Do we keep to moderation and simplicity in our daily lives? Have we allowed the acquisition of possessions to interfere with God’s purpose for us? Are our homes places where the presence of God is felt by those who live there and those who visit there? Do we choose such recreations as are wholesome and consistent with Christian character? Are we careful in our choice of ways to use our time and energy?”

2. Ministry and Counsel

Report was given by Charlene Ray. M&C met on Monday, November 27th, the next meeting will be on Monday Jan 1st at Pam Wood’s house. A Welcome Breakfast is planned for December 24th The State of Meeting will be held on December 17th and M&C is looking for volunteers to help edit, write, and clerk this event which will take place along with the cookie swap.

Question raised as to who will organize the cookie swap. Meeting accepts report and it is attached.

Cookie swap: Ernie Buscemi will not be available to organize this year. Job includes making announcements; friends are to bring 3 dozen cookies or baked goods - 2 dozen to swap – and 1 dozen going to the refreshment table. Richard Schmidt volunteers to organize the event. The Meeting approves the minute.

State of Meeting Report on Dec 17th is a reflection on the past year. One writer, two note takers, and one clerk are needed. Bernard Winter and Pamela Wood volunteer to note take, Joyce Richardson volunteers to

clerk, and Jerry Reisig has volunteered to write the letter. The Meeting approves the minute.

The Yearly Meeting State of Society Committee society has forwarded an online survey regarding the State of the Meeting to Pamela Wood. Pam introduced the idea and the meeting approves having Pam answer the questions.

3. Treasurer’s Report

Dan Seeger reported. The Retreat was not part of the budget he inherited, and he proposes that the costs of the retreat be included in next year’s budget. We showed a deficit of \$90 in the cost of retreat. A cancellation was given as a contribution for \$220. Figures for December were not included in the report but our expenses are at a deficit of \$10,000 and Daniel expected donations to surge at end of year. Dan did receive several contributions totaling \$3,000 today.

Dan reported that Peace and Social Concerns is our largest discretionary expense for the year, and we will receive new budget proposal form them for the following year.

A question was raised as to current balance in the bank. Daniel answered that we have \$35,000 and very little has been designated for a specific purpose.

A question was raised as to purpose of the reintegration grant. Pamela Wood answered the question. She explained that when people who were incarcerated and are members of a prison worship group and are released, they encounter expenses, and this would be a grant to help them reintegrate to the larger society. The grant is for member of Quaker worship groups in

prisons. The initial grant would be for \$500 with possibility of more depending on individual circumstances. Money comes from New York Yearly Meeting Prisons Committee. Friends accepted the report; the report is attached.

4. Nominating Committee

Sally Campbell presents roster of committee members so for 2018. This is a first reading and the nomination will be approved in January. Names in red indicated positions needed to be filled. The Meeting accepts the report. The report is attached.

5. Peace and Social Concerns

Corona Macheimer gave report. November 19th was the first regular meeting since May 28th. The report is accepted as amended and is attached. The next meeting is scheduled for on Jan.14th

6. Clerk's Report

Pamela Wood read the Clerk's Report, the report is attached. The Meeting accepts the report. A comment was made that the possible query is powerful.

7. Announcements

We have a new address register. Friends who are here should cross off their name and take their own copy.

Volunteers are needed to package and label the envelopes.

The register will also be posted on the website.

Attendance

Corona Macheimer, Sally Campbell, Jane Alexandre, Charlene Ray, Bryan Oettel, Robert Renwick, Charlotte Ehrman, Joyce Richardson, Peter Beck, Katherine Alford, Caryl Slater, John Slater, Richard Schmidt, Tom Goodridge, Dan Seeger, Bart Dominus, Bernard Winter, Pamela Wood.

Ministry and Counsel Report

For the December 3rd Business Meeting

1. M&C met on Monday November 27th at the home of Pam Wood.
2. The next meeting will be Monday January 1st at Pam Wood's. The first half is open to anyone with concerns.
3. Our next welcome breakfast will be on December 24th hosted by Mason Jenkins in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome.
4. Bible Study will not be held in December.
5. The State of the Meeting meeting will be held on 12/17 after meeting. We need volunteers to lead, record, and write the report.
6. The State of the Meeting is traditionally held conjointly with the holiday cookie swap. Do we have a volunteer to organize the cookie swap?
7. M&C currently has 5 support committees.
8. M&C has scheduled our 2018 retreat for the weekend of October 5-7 at Stony Point Center.
9. Friends are encouraged to check out the Morningside Facebook Page. M&C has been posting occasional queries which have resulted in some increased traffic to our page.
10. Friends who are interested in being part of Quaker sixes or a Spiritual Nurture Group should sign up on the list on the ledge. In January we will organize those interested into groups. If you are able to host a Quaker six please let someone on M&C know.

Treasurer's Report, December 3, 2017

In order to review activity in the last month and in the last quarter we have to take into account the income and expenses associated with the retreat. The retreat was not included in the budget developed at the beginning of the year, perhaps because, since the expenses were expected to be balanced out by the income, it was deemed immaterial. But since the retreat's income and expenses have to run through the Meeting's bank account, and since it is useful

to have one set of books which can be easily reconciled with the bank account, I will recommend in the future that all anticipated income and expenses be included in budgets.

At any rate, here is an accounting of the retreat's income and expenses:

INCOME	Fees deposited 2017 10 10	\$3,421.00
	Fees deposited 2017 10 16	\$440.00
	Transfer from Meeting's Scholarship Fund	\$1,220.00
	TOTAL INCOME	\$5,080.00
EXPENSES	Deposit made to Stony Point Center 2017 02 14	\$1,100.00
	Payment to Stony Point Center, invoice of 2017 10 31	\$4,070.00
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$5,170.00
PROFIT/LOSS	Booked as a Ministry and Counsel expense	\$90.00

One member paid a \$220.00 fee for the retreat, but did not attend. She did not want the money refunded, and Stony Point did not charge us for the space. So, the \$220.00 does not show as part of the retreat finances, but has been booked as a General Fund Contribution.

The year-to-date income and expense figures, including the retreat, are shown on the reverse side. All scheduled Peace and Social Concerns disbursements for the year have been made, all bills are paid up to date, website services have been paid for through December 31, 2017, and the entire

Yearly Meeting Covenant Contribution for the year has been paid. There will still be expenses to be met for the balance of December, but they will be relatively small. So far, we have spent 93% of what was budgeted for the year. But we have only raised 66% of the funds needed to balance the budget. We will need something like \$10,500 in response to the recently mailed fall appeal to break even for the year.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

Income/Expense by Category

1/10/2017 through 12/31/2017 (Cash Basis)

Category	1/10/2017- 3/31/2017	4/1/2017- 6/30/2017	7/1/2017- 9/30/2017	10/1/2017- 12/31/2017	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME					
General Fund Contribution	5,072.61	10,997.65	5,995.67	2,387.50	24,453.43
Interest and Dividends	4.57	4.82	5.02	1.74	16.15
Reintegration Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Retreat Fee	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,170.00	5,170.00
TOTAL INCOME	5,077.18	11,002.47	6,000.69	8,059.24	30,139.58
EXPENSES					
Huntington House	215.68	0.00	0.00	303.73	519.41
MMM Oper. -- Hospitality	200.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	350.00
NYYM Allocation	3,994.00	3,994.00	3,994.00	3,994.00	15,976.00
Operations - Breakfast	69.50	30.00	0.00	0.00	99.50
Operations -- Finance	0.00	34.97	0.00	80.54	115.51
Operations -- First Day Child	550.00	300.00	635.00	330.00	1,815.00
Operations - Literature	108.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	108.43
Operations -- Ministry and	75.00	103.00	125.00	90.00	393.00
Operations, Comm. -- Website	525.00	525.00	525.00	525.00	2,100.00
Outreach - Peace, Social Con-	100.00	3,800.00	2,100.00	6,150.00	12,150.00
Outreach -- Scholarships, Relief	0.00	300.00	0.00	1,220.00	1,520.00
Retreat	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	4,070.00	5,170.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,937.61	9,086.97	7,529.00	16,763.27	40,316.85
OVERALL TOTAL	-1,860.43	1,915.50	-1,528.31	-8,704.03	-10,177.27

Nominating Committee Report

WORKING COPY - PROPOSED MORNINGSIDE COMMITTEES AND POSITIONS:

new nominees are underlined

CLERK: Pamela Wood (3rd year)

RECORDING CLERK: Stephen McDonnell (2nd year)

Asst. RECORDING CLERK: Bernard Winter

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Charlene Ray, Pamela Wood, Bryan Oettel

TREASURER: Dan Seeger

ASSISTANT TREASURER: Bryan Oettel

MINISTRY AND COUNSEL: (3 years, renewable once)

Ends January 2019: Mason Jenkins co-clerk (2nd term), Rob Stevens (1st term) Jason McGill (to replace 1-year opening)

Ends January 2020: Ed Elder, Karen Taborn, Tom Goodridge (all 1st term)

Ends January 2021: David Fletcher, Charlene Ray co-clerk (both 2nd term) *need one more person*

RECORDER FOR MEMBERSHIP/HISTORIAN: Helen Garay Toppins

NOMINATING (2-year position):

Ends January 2019: Emily Eckstut, Burr Eckstut, Charlotte Ehrman

Ends January 2020: David Britton, *need one more person*

HOSPITALITY: Joyce Richardson (Convener), Richard Schmidt, Charlene Ray, June Tano, Brian Wigfall

FIRST DAY COORDINATORS: Sally Campbell, Richard Schmidt

FIRST DAY CAREGIVERS: Naomi Paz Greenberg (Coordinator), Tom Goodridge, Sally Campbell, Ernie Buscemi

LIBRARY/LITERATURE COMMITTEE: Corona Machermer, Richard Schmidt, Jane Alexandre

LIBRARIAN: Sally Campbell

RIVERSIDE SPACE COMMITTEE: Charlotte Ehrman (Convener), Sally Campbell

COMMUNICATIONS AND WEBSITE COMMITTEE: Corona Machermer (Convener), Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse,

PEACE AND SOCIAL CONCERNS: Corona Machermer / David Fletcher (Co-Conveners), Committee of the Whole.

ARCH VISITORS: (No committee at present.) The following have ARCH training: Sally Campbell, Kathy Hinton, Dot Savage, John Tweddle, Charlene Ray.

COMMITTEE FOR PRISON MINISTRY: Helen Garay Toppins, Pamela Wood, Ernie Buscemi, Woodbourne Prison Quaker Worship Group.

Committee member who does not visit the prison worship group – for correspondence - David Fletcher

QUARTERLY NOMINATING (MMM appointment): Sally Campbell – interim – subject to Quarterly Meeting approval

LIAISONS/REPRESENTATIVES:

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE (AFSC): Pamela Wood

FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION (FCNL): Kathy Stackhouse

NEW YORK QUARTERLY MEETING: Nancy Britton

YOUNG ADULT FRIENDS: *Currently under care of Ministry and Counsel*

POWELL HOUSE:

PENDLE HILL: Bernard Winter

FRIENDS GENERAL CONFERENCE (FGC): Lee Rada

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING: Pamela Wood

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING COMMITTEE ON DISCERNMENT: Peter Beck

RIGHT SHARING OF WORLD RESOURCES:

FRIENDS IN UNITY WITH NATURE/ Earth Care Witness: Tom Goodridge

NEW YORK QUARTERLY MEETING POSITIONS

(filed by Joint Nominating, except for Joint Nominating itself, which is a Morningside nomination):

TRUSTEES: Katherine Alford (term ends 2018), Bart Dominus (Term ends 2019)

CLERK: Nancy Britton

RECORDING CLERK:

AUDIT AND BUDGET:

EDUCATION FUND:

MINISTRY AND COUNSEL:

RELIEF:

THE GREAT LAKES REGION (Africa) EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

COMMITTEE FOR DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN ALLOWED MEETING: (no maximum, 3-year terms) Sally Campbell (term ends 2020), Richard Schmidt (term ends 2019)

Report from Peace and Social Concerns

Peace & Social Concerns met November 19, 2017. Attending were: Sally Campbell; Richard Schmidt; Charlotte Ehrman; Karen Taborn; Corona Macheimer (clerk)

Because of various circumstances, including scheduling difficulties, this was the first regular meeting of the committee since May 28.

The meeting opens with a few minutes of silence.

1. The committee approves the proposal from Amala Lane that in 2018 P&SC make a contribution to the Sane Energy Project, whose co-directors made a presentation about their organization's work to Morningsiders on November 12, after Meeting for Worship. The amount of the contribution is still to be determined. Amala will be liaison. To learn more about the Sane Energy Project, go to their website www.saneenergyproject.org.
2. The committee also approves making a contribution in 2018 to the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent (www.FoFAD.org), the Friends organization that sponsored the trip to Ghana that Helen Garay Toppins, Karen Taborn and Ernie Buscemi went on last summer. Again, the amount of the contribution is not

yet determined. Go to the website to learn more about FoFAD and the Ghana trip, especially if you missed the slide show Karen and Ernie presented on October 22.

3. On Sunday December 10, Morningside will hold its annual Amnesty International Write for Rights "write-a-thon." Friends are invited to gather after Meeting for Worship to send letters in support of prisoners of conscience in the US and around the world. Biographies of the prisoners will be provided along with printed letters to be signed and sent to the appropriate officials. Envelopes, mailing labels, postage, pens—all will be provided. In many cases participants are also invited to write a personal note of support to the prisoner, for which paper and envelopes will be available.
4. Because of the Write for Rights "write-a-thon," the next regular meeting of Peace & Social Concerns will be held on Sunday, January 14; the P&SC budget for 2018 will be the primary focus.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Macheimer, clerk

Clerk's Report and Reading

December 3, 2017

Reading:

"I take away [from reading Rheinhold Niebuhr] ...the compelling idea that there's serious evil in the world, and hardship and pain. And we should be humble and modest in our belief we can eliminate those things. But we shouldn't use that as an excuse for cynicism and inaction. I take away...the sense that we have to make these efforts knowing they are hard, and not swinging from naïve idealism to bitter realism."

Former President Obama in an interview with Bob Kemper

Clerk's Report:

I have a few updates from the Fall Sessions of NY Yearly Meeting that people might like to know. First, Melinda Werner Bradley has resigned her post as Youth Secretary to take a full-time position with Philadelphia Yearly Meeting. She will continue to work very part time to complete the youth project for NYYM, which has been funded by a grant. Emily Provence's work as Young Adult Field Secretary has also come to an end. She had committed to working only until October. This means both part time positions are open.

At Summer Sessions the concept of "pay as led" for Summer Sessions at Silver Bay was approved. It was hoped that

this plan could begin on the summer of 2018, but logistics with Silver Bay need more work. The hope is to be able to begin this plan for 2019.

At our last Meeting for Worship with a concern for Business, we approved a query to be posted to our Facebook page. Emily Bishop enhanced it with a lovely visual. This query generated more traffic on our page than any other post. It was shared 13 times. It seems worth continuing to experiment with additional queries. I encourage all of you to generate new open-ended questions. It is helpful ask for feedback from people before sending them to Emily. They need to be fairly short to be effective.

Possible query: What may help us feel compassion for those with whom we disagree, especially those who have power over us?

Agenda

Opening worship and reading
M&C report
Nominations-first reading
Treasurer's report
Peace & Social Concerns
Clerk's report

Spiritual Nurture

Many of us gather in a Spiritual Nurture Group, typically meeting in a home, to consider our spiritual wellbeing. In these groups, the members listen to each other in the manner of Friends and explore themes of mutual concern as they are led. Newly formed groups may follow a curriculum drawn from Patricia Loring's Spiritual Listening (see our library) while they find a rhythm and style of their own. As Morningsiders who are in small groups have found them meaningful, we are encouraging the formation of new groups to spread the bounty! For prospective new members, we are asking a commitment of at least 6 sessions; sessions are typically about 2 hours long. Groups will be forming in January, so sign up soon.

If you are interested, please let us know by signing up in meeting or contacting a member of Ministry & Counsel or by sending an email to Charlene Ray, moneycoach@earthlink.net.

Please give us your name, contact info and list days (M, T, W, TH, FRI, SAT, SUN) that are likely to be best for you and also times (10am, noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6:30pm) and area (Upper West Side, Harlem, Bronx, Midtown, Village, Financial District, Other).

Quaker Sixes

A small group to gather for a couple of hours to get to have some fun; the group decides the activity (many a potluck meal have resulted, but also a museum visit, walk in a park...whatever suits). Please give us your name, contact info and list days (M, T, W, TH, FRI, SAT, SUN) that are likely to be best for you and also times (10 am, noon, 2 pm, 4 pm, 6:30 pm) and area (Upper West Side, Harlem, Bronx, Midtown, Village, Financial District, Other) or by sending an email to Charlene Ray, moneycoach@earthlink.net.