

# Morningside Matters

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

[www.morningsidemeeting.org](http://www.morningsidemeeting.org)

May 2019

## Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	Riverside Church 490 Riverside Drive, room 12T (childcare provided in room 13T)	11:00 am
Monthly	First Sunday	Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	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	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	First Sundays	Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 am
	Wednesdays	NYQM Call to Worship	15 <sup>th</sup> Street meeting	6:30 – 8:30 pm
	Thursdays	Downtown Manhattan Quaker Meeting	Battery Park	6:00 pm
	June 1	Morningside Meeting Spring Retreat	15 <sup>th</sup> Street meeting	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
	July 13	Quarterly Business Meeting	Prospect Park	
	July 21 – 27	NYYM Summer Sessions	Silver Bay	
	September 13 – 15	Morningside Meeting Fall Retreat	Stony Point	
	November 1 – 3	NYYM Fall sessions	TBD	
November 14 – 17	FCNL Annual Meeting	Washington, DC		
Events of interest	First Sundays	Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	Saturdays	Vigil for Yemen	Union Square	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
	May 12 – 17	The Wisdom of Jesus and the Light of Christ	Pendle Hill	
	May 17 – 19	Getting in Touch (with your true self),	Pendle Hill	
	May 17 – 19	Providing Pastoral Care in All Kinds of Weather	Powell House	
	May 19	Feel the Spirit and Dance!	Pendle Hill	
	May 25	Flushing Interfaith Council potluck dinner: St. George's Church, 135-32 38 <sup>th</sup> Ave.	Queens	6:00 – 8:00 pm
May 30 –	Pendle Hill Quaker Institute	Pendle Hill		

June 2			
June 7 – 12	Continuing Revolution 2019: Experimenting Beyond Capitalism	Pendle Hill	
June 14 – 16	Forgiveness as a Spiritual Practice	Powell House	
June 21 – 23	Nonviolent Communications: A Spiritual Practice and Act of Social Change	Powell House	
June 30 – July 6	FGC Gathering	Grinnell, Iowa	
July 11 – 14	Kairos: Silence, Contemplation and Scription	Pendle Hill	
July 26 – 28	The Spiritual Practice of Letting Go	Pendle Hill	
August 4	Visual Storytelling: The Transformative Art of Altered Book-Makin	Pendle Hill	
August 16 – 18	Cultivating Generous Congregations	Powell House	
November 14 – 17	FCNL Quaker Public Policy Institute and Annual Meeting	Washington, DC	

**Remember to check the Calendar and the Bulletin Board at [www.morningsidemeeting.org](http://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](mailto:morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com) by the end of that day. Past issues of the newsletter are archived at [www.morningsidemeeting.org](http://www.morningsidemeeting.org).*

### *Reflection*

*O Me! O Life!*

*by Walt Whitman*

*Oh me! Oh life! of the questions of these recurring,  
Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish,  
Of myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more foolish than I, and who more faithless?)  
Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean, of the struggle ever renew'd,  
Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around me,  
Of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest me intertwined,  
The question, O me! so sad, recurring—What good amid these, O me, O life?*

Answer.

*That you are here—that life exists and identity,  
That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.*

### Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business May 5, 2019

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:30 p.m., and Jane Alexandre read a selection from Parker J. Palmer, *Let Your Life Speak*

“...there is a hard truth to be told: before spring becomes beautiful, it is plug ugly, nothing but mud and muck. I have walked in the early spring through fields that will suck your boots off, a world so wet and woeful it makes you yearn for the return of ice. But in that muddy mess, the conditions for rebirth are being created.

“I love the fact that the word *humus*—the decayed vegetable matter that feeds the roots of plants—comes from the same root that gives rise to the word *humility*. It is a blessed etymology. It helps me understand that the humiliating events of life, the events that leave ‘mud on my face’ or that ‘make my name mud,’ may create the fertile soil in which something new can grow.”

2. Corona Macheimer gave the Peace and Social Concerns Report. The next meeting of P&SC will be on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.

3. Friends approve the Minute: “Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends endorses The Ribbon International’s New York City event, planned for August 1, 2020, in support of the abolition of nuclear weapons.”
4. Friends approve the Minute: “The Meeting appoints an ad hoc Ribbon Committee to be responsible for organizing Morningside’s participation in the event, including, but not limited to, drafting a Minute of Support, which, once seasoned and approved by the Meeting, will be widely shared; and informing and engaging other New York area Friends, including the Monthly Meetings, New York Quarterly Meeting, and New York Yearly Meeting in the campaign.”  
  
Robert Schwab, Sally Campbell (convener), Charlene Ray and June Tano have volunteered to be on the ad hoc committee.
5. Daniel A. Seeger gave the Treasurer’s Report. Friends accept the report, and the written report is attached.

6. Corona Machermer gave a Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. A Morningside Website and Facebook-Page Brainstorming Session is planned for the third Sunday in May 19 at 1:00 p.m. The written report is attached.
7. Tom Goodridge read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on Monday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP to Pam. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
8. Friends made Announcements.
9. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Robert Renwick, Max Goodman, Sally Campbell, Dot Savage, Charlene Ray, Ron Rieder, Daniel A. Seeger, Tom Goodridge, Kathy Stackhouse, Jason McGill, Robert Schwab, Corona Machermer, Ernie Buscemi, Jane Alexandre, Stephen McDonnell.

### Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns met on Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Attending were Sally Campbell; Pam Wood; June Tano; Bob Schwartz; Dave Fletcher; John Herron; Dave Britton; Tom Goodridge; Ernie Buscemi; Richard Schmidt; Robert Renwick; Bryan Wigfall; Kathy Stackhouse (Clerk); Corona Machermer (Recording Clerk)

1. With the exception of the two issues noted below, this was a special meeting of the committee, focused on the discernment of Morningside’s suggestions for revising and updating “The World We Seek: Statement of Legislative Policy,” the foundational document of the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL). Notes are to be forwarded to FCNL by May 6 (the deadline was extended from the original April 26).
2. Friends hear more about the efforts of a congregation of the Church of the Brethren in Puerto Rico to provide hurricane relief. The church is focused on helping people without clear legal title to their property repair their houses (this situation is common in Puerto Rico, and people without clear title cannot get help for such repairs from FEMA). Further discussion is tabled until the next P&SC meeting, scheduled for May 12.

2. June Tano brings to the committee additional information on the event planned by The Ribbon International in New York City on August 1, 2020, in commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and in support of campaign to abolish nuclear weapons. She also brings several panels from earlier Ribbon events to clarify the “ribbon” idea and asks that Morningside endorse the 2020 event and take the lead in securing the support and participation of New York Quakers. (A flyer about The Ribbon International and the 2020 event in New York City has been circulated to Morningsiders and published in the Newsletter. Friends can find out more on the group’s website [[www.theribboninternational.org](http://www.theribboninternational.org)], and should also take a look at *The Ribbon: A Celebration of Life*, a book that tells the story of the first Ribbon event, in Washington, D.C. in 1985. There are copies in the Morningside Library.)

The Peace & Social Concerns Committee strongly supports the Ribbon International Campaign for the abolition of nuclear weapons and Morningside’s participation in the 2020 Event planned for New York City. Accordingly, the Committee brings forward the following minutes for approval:

1. Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends endorses The Ribbon International's New York City event, planned for August 1, 2020, in support of the abolition of nuclear weapons. ["Endorsement" means that Morningside's name will be added to a list of endorsing organizations that is just beginning to be assembled. Pax Christi has already endorsed the event.]
2. The Meeting appoints an ad hoc Ribbon Committee to be responsible for organizing Morningside's participation in the event, including, but not limited

to, drafting a Minute of Support, which, once seasoned and approved by the Meeting, will be widely shared; and informing and engaging other New York area Friends, including the Monthly Meetings, New York Quarterly Meeting, and New York Yearly Meeting in the campaign. (June Tano, who is a member of The Ribbon International and on the organizing committee for the 2020 Event, will be on the committee.)

The next meeting of P&SC will be on Sunday May 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Macherer, Acting as Clerk

### Treasurer's Report

The attached spreadsheet shows income and expenditures for the period from the beginning of the fiscal year until April 30, 2019.

Disbursements in April all fell into the Outreach for Peace and Social Concerns category: donations were sent to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, Black and Pink, and RAPP (Release Aging People in Prison). Scheduled disbursements to Hopper House and Puerto Rico hurricane relief are pending the development of contact information.

Contributions in April, mostly from those who contribute automatically each month, amounted to \$1,366.11.

Our second quarterly allocation to Yearly Meeting will go out in May. This is a large expenditure, and will probably tilt the balance between income and expenditures into the negative for the month of May.

The Finance Committee is endeavoring to get out the Spring appeal.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

### Income/Expense by Category 1/1/2019 through 4/30/2019 (Cash Bass)

Category	1/1/2019- 1/31/2019	2/1/2019- 2/28/2019	3/1/2019- 3/31/2019	4/1/2019- 4/30/2019	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>					
General Fund Contribution Interest	643.00	5,196.40	1,070.00	1,366.11	8,275.51
and Dividends	2.05	1.93	2.16	2.06	8.20
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>645.05</b>	<b>5,198.33</b>	<b>1,072.16</b>	<b>1,388.17</b>	<b>8,283.71</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
NYYM Allocation	0.00	4,331.25	0.00	0.00	4,331.25
Operations, Comm. - Website	120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00
Outreach - Peace, Social Concerns	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	1,250.00	2,550.00
Retreat Expense	1,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,200.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,320.00</b>	<b>4,331.25</b>	<b>1,300.00</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>8,201.25</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-674.95</b>	<b>867.08</b>	<b>-227.84</b>	<b>118.17</b>	<b>82.48</b>

## Ministry and Counsel Committee Report

Ministry & Council met on 4/29/19 at the home of Pam Wood. Our next Meeting will be on Monday, May 27 at Pam Wood's apartment at 7:15 pm. The first part of the meeting is open to all (please let Pam know that you are coming). The second part is to consider support and clearness committee concerns. We currently have 11 on-going support or clearness committees.

We agreed that Ron Rieder would host the fourth Sunday breakfast in May.

Our Spring Retreat is set for June 1, 10 am to 4 pm, with a potluck lunch. We will share something about our own spiritual journey in the first part of the retreat and the story of the Meeting in the second part.

Our Fall retreat will be "Our Relationship to the Earth." We will think about the historical perspective and our evolutionary story, common ancestry, a connection with nature we had as a child, the universe and our evolution from the stars. We will examine our commitment to the care of the earth.

We have created a sign announcing where we are meeting and where childcare is, to place with the information desk on the C level of the church.

We have begun the process of reviewing the Meeting address list and contacting people in the address list we have not seen in some time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Elder, clerk, M&C

## Communications Committee Report

The committee met on Monday, April 22. Attending at Bryan Oettel's home were Bryan, Richard Schmidt and Corona Machemer (acting as clerk).

### 1. Facebook Page and Outreach (Ad Campaign):

The committee decides that the Facebook Ad Campaign will be handled jointly by Richard Schmidt and Bryan Oettel, and that we will run the ads over a period of several weeks in late summer and early fall. We believe this is a time of "seeking" in the lives of many. As recorded in previous Reports, the zip codes expected to be included in the campaign are 10025, 10026, 10027, 10031 and 10032.

2. **Photos:** The Committee continues to invite Morningsiders to send us their photos from Morningside events such as committee meetings and retreats for inclusion in the Morningside Photo "Library" and possible use community building efforts, like the Facebook page, the website, and the ad campaign. Send photos to Kathy Stackhouse at [kathy.stackhouse@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.stackhouse@gmail.com).

3. **Address Register:** The updated printout of the current database with corrections made by Friends after Meeting is still being vetted by Ministry & Counsel. When M&C has completed its work, the new Address Register will be issued.

4. **New Google Group:** There is still confusion about the new Google Group. All of those who belong to the Morningside Database should have received an

invitation to join Morningside's new Google Group, [MorningsideQuakers2@googlegroups.com](mailto:MorningsideQuakers2@googlegroups.com). If you did not receive one, or did not respond to the invitation (not responding was the equivalent of declining), or are new to Morningside and would like to be part of this Google group, which shares information about issues and events related peace and social justice issues, email Bryan Oettel ([brktell@yahoo.com](mailto:brktell@yahoo.com)) and he will add your name and email address to the group. (The old Google Group, though still functional, should no longer be relied upon because there is no one to administer it.)

5. As always, Friends are reminded to maintain connections with the Morningside community through the Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/MorningsideQuakers](http://www.facebook.com/MorningsideQuakers)) and the Website ([www.morningside-meeting.org](http://www.morningside-meeting.org)) to see what's happening and to post events and other information.

**A Morningside Website and Facebook-Page Brainstorming Session is planned for the third Sunday in May, May 19, at 1:00 pm.** The subject will be how to use the Facebook page and the Website, and how they might be changed to best serve the Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Machemer, Acting Clerk

## Communicating with Morningside Friends

We have two ways to share information:

1. The gmail account [morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com) to distribute information to everyone in the Morningside Meeting database. Messages to the gmail account are **not** automatically distributed. A message sent to the gmail account is manually forwarded to recipients. To make sure that your message is distributed promptly, please include "Please distribute" in the subject line. A reply to the gmail account goes to that gmail account, **not** to the person who initiated the message. For example, if a message from Friend A is forwarded via [morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com) to the database, and Friend B replies, the reply will go to [morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com), not to Friend A. Always reply to the initiator of the message, whose email address will be in the body of the message.
2. The Google group [MorningsideQuakers2@googlegroups.com](https://www.google.com/groups/morningsidequakers2) to share peace and social concerns information. A message sent to that email address automatically goes to everyone who opted to receive messages.

## News from AFSC

The American Friends Service Committee has released [new research showing who profits from the militarization of the U.S.-Mexico border](#). The research is part of its *Investigate* project, which allows individuals to scan their stock portfolios and mutual funds to see if they are invested in companies that make money from state violence.

The site tracks publicly-traded companies that have been contracted for border wall construction and maintenance, as well as border surveillance and monitoring. It also provides information on companies profiting from detention

facilities, services to such facilities, and the surveillance of immigrants.

The Investigate database is based on original research and information drawn from a variety of sources. In addition to borders and immigrant detention, the site also provides research on companies that profit from [prisons and incarceration](#), and companies involved in Israel's [occupation](#) of the Palestinian territory or the Syrian Golan Heights.

Start at [www.investigate.afsc.org](http://www.investigate.afsc.org)