

Morningside Matters

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

www.morningsidemeeting.org

October 2020

Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	virtual	11:00 am
Regular Meeting events	First Sunday	Moving with the Spirit	virtual	10:00 am
	First Sunday	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business	virtual	12:45 pm
	Second Sunday	Peace & Social Concerns Committee meeting	virtual	12:45 pm
	Second Saturday	Bible Study	virtual	1:00 pm
	Fourth Sunday	Racial Justice Study Group	virtual	TBD
	Fourth Sunday	Welcome breakfast	suspended	
Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting events	October 10	NYYM Budget Saturday	virtual	9:00 am – 12:00 pm
	October 17	NYQM meeting	virtual	1:00 pm
	October 23 – 25	Morningside Fall Retreat	virtual	
	November 6 – 8	NYYM Fall Sessions	virtual	
Regular events of interest	Daily	Meeting for Worship at Pendle Hill	virtual	8:30 – 9:10 am
	Saturdays	Meeting for Worship at Powell House	virtual	6:00 pm
	Saturdays	FGC: Worship and Worship Sharing Groups	virtual	9:00 pm
	Tuesdays	FGC: Ministry on Racism Worship Sharing for People of Color	virtual	5:00 pm
	Wednesdays	FGC: Worship and Worship Sharing for People of Color	virtual	1:00 pm and 8:00 pm
	Fridays	FGC: Ministry on Racism Worship for Friends of European Descent Confronting Racism	virtual	7:30 pm
Special events	October 6 – November 17	Pendle Hill: Arts for Spiritual Discovery, Weekly	virtual	6:30 – 8:00 pm
	October 10	Pendle Hill: Garden Arts	virtual	10:00 – 11:00 am
	October 12	Pendle Hill: Working Toward Right Relationship with Indigenous People	virtual	7:30 – 9:30 pm
	October 13 – November 10	Friends General Conference, Book Discussion, See No Stranger by Valerie Kaur (Tuesdays)	virtual	7:00 – 8:30 pm
	October 14	Pendle Hill: Reading Group: Four Doors to Meeting for Worship	virtual	6:30 – 8:00 pm
	October 15	Friends Committee on National Legislation, Women, Children and Peace in Afghanistan	virtual	4:00 pm
	October 16 – 18	AVP Basic Workshops: https://avppeacemakers.org/workshops/	virtual	
	October 17	Powell House: The Lamb's War for Racial Justice	virtual	2:00 – 4:00 pm

October 19 – 23	Pendle Hill: Spirits in Darkness—Black Women’s Virtual Writing Group	virtual	
October 22 – November 17	Power of Enough: Right Sharing of the World’s Resources https://www.rswr.org/project/power-enough (Thursdays)	virtual	
October 24	Powell House: PoHo Bookclub discusses <i>An American Marriage</i>	virtual	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
October 25 – November 20	Friends General Conference: Understanding and Healing White Supremacy	virtual	
October 26	Pendle Hill: Working Toward Right Relationship with Indigenous People	virtual	7:30 – 9:30 pm
October 30 – November 1	Friends General Conference, Fall Retreat for Friends of Color	virtual	
November 1, 8, 15, 22	Friends General Conference, The Kingdom of God Is. Worship Sharing	virtual	5:00 – 7:00 pm
November 2	Pendle Hill: What Happens Wednesday? Preparing Ourselves for the Work Ahead [to create a more just world]	virtual	7:00 – 9:00 pm
November 5	Friends Committee on National Legislation: Finding Justice in Police Reform	virtual	4:00 pm
November 6 – 8	Pendle Hill: Mutual Accompaniment & the Creation of the Commons Online	virtual	
November 6 – 8	AVP Advanced Workshops: https://avppeacemakers.org/workshops/	virtual	
November 8 – December 11	Friends General Conference, Building a Meaningful Life (spiritual gifts of aging across a life span)	virtual	
November 11	Pendle Hill Reading Group: Race, Systemic Violence and Retrospective Justice	virtual	6:30 – 8:00 pm
November 13 – 15	Friends General Conference, Fall Retreat for Friends of Color	virtual	
November 14	Pendle Hill, Soul Collage as an Invitation to Inner Hospitality	virtual	2:00 – 4:00 pm
November 14 – 17	FCNL Public Policy Institute and Annual Meeting: Fierce Love	virtual	
November 20 – 22	Pendle Hill: Friends Decision Making and Clerking	virtual	
December 4 – 6	Pendle Hill, Opening to the Heart of Worship	virtual	
December 4 – 6	AVP Workshops: Training for Facilitators: https://avppeacemakers.org/workshops/	virtual	
December 5	Powell House: PoHo Bookclub discusses <i>Hamilton</i>	virtual	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
February 1 – 26	Pendle Hill: Aiming for Justice: Race Reparations and Right Paths	virtual	

Explore websites of Powell House: Pendle Hill: and FGC at <https://powellhouse.org>, <https://pendlehill.org/contact-us>, and <https://www.fcquaker.org/resources/online-worship-opportunities>.

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:

***We have it in our power to begin the world over again.
— Thomas Paine***

**Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
October 4, 2020**

The meeting opened at 12:45 p.m. with a period of silent worship. Jane Alexandre read the following selection from Rufus Jones:

"It is a central faith of mine that God needs us as man needs his own hand to execute his thought. Truth is not fulminated from the sky; wrong and evil are not crushed by thunderbolts; justice is not established by divine proclamation; peace and good will do not reign by act of angels. If these ends are ever achieved, we must do it."

Friends Journal, January 15, 1963

1. Clerk's report – Jane Alexandre presented.
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.
2. Treasurer's report – Stephen McDonnell presented.
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.
Friends approve the minutes.
3. Ministry and Counsel's report – Ed Elder presented
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.
4. Peace and Social Concerns' report – Corona Macheimer presented
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.
Friends approve the minutes.
5. Communications Committee's report – Bryan Oettel presented
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.

6. Ad hoc committee on In Person Worship report – Jason McGill presented
Discussion followed and some suggestions were given by Friends.
Friends accept the report.
The report is attached.
Friends approve the creation of a permanent Committee for In-Person Worship.
Friends approve the duties of the committee as outlined in the ad hoc committee's report.
Friends approve the resumption of in person worship at Riverside with a tentative date of November 8th. From this date, Morningside meeting for worship will be a blended meeting, offered over Zoom and in person at Riverside church.
7. There was no additional business.
Friends approve the minutes.

The meeting closed at 1:20 p.m. following a period of silent worship.

Attendance: Charlotte Ehrman, Bernard Winter, Robert Renwick, Ronald Rieder, Charlene Ray, Nancy Britton, Dave Britton, Ed Elder, Corona Macheimer, Tom Goodridge, Jane Alexandre, Jason McGill, Jerry Reisig, Pamela Wood, David Fletcher, Megan Maurer, Sally Campbell, Helen Garay Topping, Ernie Buscemi, Bryan Oettel, Katherine Alford, Kathy Stackhouse, Stephen McDonnell, Richard Schmidt, Dan Seeger, Carly Rogers, Ri Pierce - Grove, Scott Blumenthal

Clerk's Report

1. There are no reports this month from Meeting with Children, the Nominating Committee, the Hospitality Committee, or the Library Committee.
2. Upcoming on the meeting calendar in October:
 - Bible study on October 11th; NYQM on October 18th; the fall retreat (virtual) October

23rd-25th; and a meeting of the Racial Justice study group, date and time to be announced.

- Friends are reminded that the Racial Justice Study group, while ongoing, is open to all, and welcomes all. For information on this and all meeting activities, please email the meeting at morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com

Treasurer's Report

Our Checking Account Balance as of 9/30/20 was: \$50,100.00.

We recorded \$2,530. in donations this month.

Our Peace and Social Concerns budgeted and scheduled commitments through the end of September, 2020 have

been sent out; most of these have cleared. We have sent our third and fourth quarter covenant contributions to New York Yearly Meeting, as approved by the Meeting, \$8922.50, which has not yet cleared.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen McDonnell, Treasurer

Ministry and Counsel Committee

1. Ministry and Counseling continues meeting every other Tuesday at 10 a.m. Our next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 13. The first part of the meeting is open to anyone who wants to attend, the second part deals with more confidential matters. Please let Ed know you would like to attend and if you have a concern to lay before M&C so he can send you the link.
 2. We continue to be immensely grateful for the support of our communications committee in its continued presence in our zoom meetings and assistance with its features.
 3. The ad hoc committee on returning to in person worship continues to explore questions and concerns we have with Riverside church.
 4. Moving with Spirit continues with on-line gatherings the first Sunday of the month. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jane Alexandre.
 5. Bible Study is meeting on Zoom Oct. 11th at 1PM; contact Jerry Reisig if you would like to be added to the group. They will now be meeting monthly again.
 6. Ministry and Counsel is working with the Racial Justice Study Group to promote a more anti-racist culture within the Meeting, in line with Friend's Testimonies on Justice, Equality and Integrity.
 7. We continue to reach out to Friends who might be feeling more isolated than usual and helping (when possible) to connect them to Meeting for Worship or other resources if we can.
 8. The dates for our Fall retreat at Stony Point are October 23, 24, 25. We have learned that Stony Point is no longer accepting in person gatherings. The retreat is now being planned as an on-line event. The planning committee continues to work out the details.
 9. We will be looking into the formation of more Spiritual Nurture groups after the retreat.
 10. Currently Ministry & Counsel has 9 clearness and support committees.
- Respectfully submitted,
Ed Elder, Clerk

Peace & Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns gathered virtually on Zoom on Sunday, September 6 at 1:15 pm, following Meeting for Worship and a called Meeting for Business (to consider Morningside's response to the situation at Brooklyn Friends School).

Attendance: Jane Alexandre; Pam Wood; Ernie Buscemi; Robert Renwick; June Tano; Charlene Ray; Sally Campbell; SY Bowland; Corona Machermer (Clerk)

The meeting opens with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. June Tano reports on the The Ribbon International 2020 event commemorating the 75th anniversary of the 1945 atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Friends can view the inspiring Ribbon 2020 Virtual Book at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDthNVnECPA&feature=youtu.be>.
- June also brings a suggestion for keeping the spirit of The Ribbon 2020 alive by holding a Ribbon Silent Walk next year in association with the 20th anniversary of 9/11. While The Ribbon International has focused on the Nuclear Issue, the crux of the matter is Peace with Justice, and love rather than hate and discrimination among people. Peace & Social Concerns will be exploring this idea in the coming weeks.
2. Friends discuss the Inside Outside Letter Writing Collective, a program of the NYYM Prisons

- Committee, which aims to connect incarcerated people within the New York Yearly Meeting who attend a Quaker Worship Group (or have attended in the past) with Friends on the Outside. To learn more, go to nyym.org/content/inside-outside. The web page contains not only information, but links to the request-to-join form, etc. You can also contact Judy Meikle, NYYM Inside Outside Coordinator, by emailing InsideOutside@nyym.org. (Note that if you are a registered volunteer with the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision [DOCCS] you may not participate in this program. Also, there is currently no Quaker Worship Group in the Women's prison at Bedford Hills.)
3. Sally Campbell informs Friends of the **Say Their Names Vigil** held on Friday evenings at 96th Street and Broadway. The group observes 8 minutes 46 seconds of silence (the length of time George Floyd was pinned to the ground). There are currently over 200 names on the list.
 4. Pam Wood reports on the work of the Samburu Friends Mission in northern Kenya, one of the organizations to which Morningside contributes. In addition to focusing on ways to provide access to clean water in a region devastated by an ongoing drought, the mission this past summer has been helping people cope with one of the worst plagues of locusts seen in years. In one ongoing program,

the mission offers scholarship help for girls, not only because of the value of education, but because keeping girls in school empowers them and delays marriage. Pam notes that, because the people the mission serves are pastoralists, meetings for worship are “mobile.” To learn more, Google Samburu Friends Mission.

5. SY Bowland brings to Friends’ attention the Epistle from the 2020 Gathering (Virtual) on August 27-30 of the Fellowship of Friends of African Descent. How should Morningside respond? One Friend

suggests that the epistle be brought to the Racial Justice Study Group. To read the epistle, go to friendsofad.org/2020/09/19/gathering-epistle.

The meeting ends with a few minutes of silence.

The next meeting of Peace & Social Concerns is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, October 11. It will probably be virtual, following Meeting for Worship.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Machamer

Communications Committee Report

The Committee met via Zoom on September 9 and September 23 with the participation of Jane Alexandre, meeting clerk.

1. General: We continue to update the website home page with the clerk’s message and email the clerk’s message and the invitation to worship to the community each week. We will continue to meet biweekly.
2. Virtual meeting for worship: We have been focusing on maintaining a smooth Zoom experience and a fulfilling meeting for worship online. Morningside Meeting may be the first meeting in the Quarter to set up a hybrid meeting, as it poses the fewest technical challenges.

3. Social Media: We continue posting on Facebook information about the meeting and the organizations in which its members are active. We continue to look for sources of new content.
4. Website: We are proceeding with updating the website text and exploring possible platforms. We are looking for images for the website. Please send any you consider appropriate to morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Oettel

Report to Morningside Meeting from the Ad Hoc Committee on In-Person Worship

1. The Ad Hoc Committee met on September 11, 2020. Current members include Jane Alexandre, Katherine Alford, Sally Campbell, Megan Maurer, and Jason McGill
2. The Committee proposes that the Meeting plan for a return to in-person worship beginning November 8th, 2020. From this date, Morningside’s Meeting for Worship will be a “blended” Meeting, offered over zoom and in-person at Riverside Church.
3. Two core steps are required to make this possible:
 - a. Appointment of a permanent Committee for In-Person Worship.
 - b. The permanent committee coordinates with Riverside Church and NY Quarterly Meeting on finalizing technology, logistical, and safety needs.
4. For the permanent Committee on In-Person Worship, we recommend to the Meeting:
 - a. That the committee have four key responsibilities:
 - i. Scheduling volunteers to welcome members/attenders and to break Meeting at the end of Worship (currently the First Day Coordinators Committee).
 - ii. Overseeing technology for the Meeting room, including setting up, operating, and putting away the equipment each Sunday; and coordinating with Riverside when tech challenges arise.
 - iii. Serving as the primary contact for facility issues with Riverside Church (currently the Space Committee)
 - iv. And, for the foreseeable future, managing COVID-related logistics, including the attendance reservation system, attender/member check-in on 12T, maintaining records of sign-up and attendance, bathroom monitoring, etc.
 - b. That members and attenders who plan to attend Meeting for Worship in person and are interested in joining the committee email morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com to express their interest. The Committee will need

- between five and seven members to share the responsibilities noted above.
- c. The ad hoc Committee and the Permanent Committee coordinate to hand-off this work from the former to the latter.
 - d. The permanent Committee would be populated in subsequent years through the normal Nominations Committee process.
 - e. Note: The Communications Committee would continue to oversee the running of the actual Zoom meeting.
5. To launch the coordination step, the ad hoc Committee recommends to the Meeting:
 - a. That the ad hoc Committee identify members of the Permanent Committee from among those who volunteer not later than October 11.
 - i. Megan Maurer has offered to serve on the committee to support reservation and data management systems remotely—she will not be attending in person, so is not one of the five to seven members sought.
 - b. That the ad hoc and permanent Committees meet together on October 13, ideally with the General Manager of the Quarterly Meeting, to formalize final steps needed based on an existing to-do list the ad hoc Committee is maintaining.
 - c. That the ad hoc Committee provide its final report to the Meeting in November, including final confirmation of the re-opening date of November 8th and related information. The permanent Committee would begin to report to the Meeting in December.
 - d. The permanent Committee will work with the First Day Coordinators Committee and Space Committee to confirm that these committees be consolidated into the permanent Committee and will report to the Meeting in December.
- Respectfully Submitted,
Jason McGill, Clerk

“Say Their Names”

by Sally Campbell

When I heard the statement that Morningside agreed to about Racial Justice, I was particularly struck by the following:

Black Lives Matter
Black Lives Inspire
Black Lives Bring Joy
Black Lives Make Our Community Whole

I have been attending a weekly "Say Their Names" gathering most Fridays from 5 to 6 at Broadway and 96th Street. About 300 names of people killed by police are read aloud and then repeated by those in attendance. Then a bell is rung. When all the names have been read (which are only a fraction of those they have collected) we stand in silence for 8 minutes and 46 seconds (It is a long time).

I made a poster to hold during the vigil with those four sentences on it in black letters on a white background. People liked it and said it was nice but maybe too nice. I had just purchased a bright yellow button that said "Where's the outrage". So, I have redone the sign using colors and added a final phrase;

"So, Stop the Killing!"



Ribbon International

On August 1st, Ribbon 2020 Committee had a memorial Zoom event for 75th Anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombing. People in the US and Japan attended. It was recorded, edited, and “Ribbon 2020 Virtual Book” was uploaded:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NDthNVnECPA&feature=youtu.be>