

# Morningside Matters

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

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

### November 2016 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
		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	November 11 - 13	NYYM Fall Session Information at <a href="http://www.nyym.org/?q=node/458">http://www.nyym.org/?q=node/458</a> Registration deadline: October 28, 2016	Ethical Culture Society, White Plains (Saturday) Scarsdale Meeting (Friday evening and Sunday)	
	November 12	Cleaning day at Friends Cemetery	Prospect Park	10:00 am – 4:00 pm
	November 19	Keeping Our Elders: Intergenerational Living in New York City RSVP to <a href="mailto:charleneceis@gmail.com">charleneceis@gmail.com</a> or leave a message at 212-757-3504	Brooklyn Meeting	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
	November 30	Brown bag lunch with Quaker United Nations Office staff	QUNO	12:00 – 1:45 pm
	December 3	Quaker Parent Meetup	15 <sup>th</sup> Street Meeting	3:00 – 5:30 pm
Events of interest	November 19	Sally Campbell's birthday concert Information at <a href="http://www.peoplesvoicecafe.org/">http://www.peoplesvoicecafe.org/</a>	Peoples Voice Café	8:00 pm
	November 23	New York Coalition against Isolated Confinement: Rally against solitary confinement	Union Square	5:00 pm
	February 17-20, 2017	Friends for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender and Queer Concerns Midwinter Gathering Information at <a href="http://flgbtqc.quaker.org">flgbtqc.quaker.org</a>	Gresham, Oregon	

**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

*“To be afraid is to behave as if the truth were not true...”*

*Bayard Rustin*

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### Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business

2016-11-06.1 Our clerk, Pam Wood, reads from “Think of Others” by Mahmoud Darwish from Almond Blossoms and Beyond:

As you prepare your breakfast, think of others  
(do not forget the pigeon’s food).

As you wage your wars, think of others  
(do not forget those who seek peace).

As you pay your water bill, think of others  
(those who are nursed by clouds).

As you return home, to your home, think of others,  
(do not forget the people of the camps).

As you sleep and count the stars, think of others  
(those who have nowhere to sleep).

As you express yourself in metaphor, think of others  
(those who have lost the right to speak).

As you think of others far away, think of yourself  
(say: If only I were a candle in the dark).

2016-11-06.2 The Meeting approves Nancy Britton as recording clerk for today.

2016-11-06.3 David Fletcher reads the M&C Report and the Meeting accepts it. The report is attached.

2016-11-06.4 The Marriage Clearness Committee met with Bart Dominus and Virginia Shipley and brings forward their request with a recommendation for approval. The Meeting approves their marriage, to take place during Meeting for Worship on December 11<sup>th</sup>, with a reception to follow on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor. Their marriage oversight committee is Ernie Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Stephen McDonnell and Pamela Wood. The Meeting approves.

2016-11-06.5 M&C asks the Meeting for discussion on the frequency of our Meeting retreats. The Meeting asks M&C to consider a retreat in the spring for one day. The sense of the Meeting is to have a week-end retreat at least once a year.

2016-11-06.6 Jane Alexander requests a transfer of membership from Chappaqua Meeting to Morningside Meeting. The Meeting approves. The Welcoming Committee is Pam Wood, Naomi Paz Greenberg, and David Fletcher.

2016-11-06.7 Corona Macherer reads the Peace & Social Concerns report. The Meeting accepts the report as attached.

2016-11-06.8 The NYQM Clerk’s report is read by our clerk, Pam Wood. Discussion and clarification follows. The Meeting accepts the report and is as follows:

#### **NYQM Clerk’s Report 11-6-16**

1. Andy von Salis, Clerk of the NY Quarterly Meeting, has announced that the next three Quarterly Meetings are scheduled for Sunday, January 22, 2016, at Brooklyn Meeting; Sunday, April 16, 2016, at 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the Quaker Cemetery in Prospect Park.
2. Ann Kjelberg, Clerk of the NY Quarterly Meeting Trustees announced the last two Visioning Meetings:

#### **15th Street Meetinghouse – November 7th**

4:00 - 6:00 pm – team available for comments and discussion of the 10/5/16 draft of the Overall Vision Plan (written document)

6:00 - 9:00 pm – work shop with presentation and discussion of Strategic Master Plan – focus on 15th Street, review of Brooklyn

#### **Brooklyn Meetinghouse – November 17th**

4:00 - 6:00 pm – team available for comments and discussion of the 10/5/16 draft of the Overall Vision Plan (written document)

6:00 - 9:00 pm – work shop with presentation and discussion of Strategic Master Plan – focus on Brooklyn, review of 15th Street

There will be a Quaker UN Office Worship for the staff on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, from noon to 1:45 pm. Ernie Buscemi is requesting that this month’s worship

be under the care of Morningside Meeting. It's wonderful if two or three people from Meeting can be present for lunch and worship. Ernie is the contact person.

2016-11-06.9 The QUNO office worship will be under the care of Morningside Meeting on Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 12-1:45pm. The Meeting approves. Pam Wood and Ernie Buscemi are attending and any Morningsiders are welcome to attend. Bring your own brown bag lunch.

2016-11-06.10 Charlene Ray reads the Treasurer's report. The Meeting accepts the report and is attached.

2016-11-06.11 Discussion follows on the level of support for Friend's Journal subscriptions when giving a new member a gift subscription. Should our Meeting pay the full cost of production, the lesser regular subscription rate, or the \$25 new subscriber rate? Our clerk will bring this concern back to the Meeting in December. The Meeting approves.

2016-11-06.12 Bernard Winter reads his proposal for an alternative means of lighting for our meeting room, as attached. The sense of the Meeting is generally positive and a committee of Richard Schmidt, Sally Campbell, and Charlotte Erhman will work with Bernard and report at the December business meeting. Friends approve.

2016-11-06.13 Corona Macheimer reads the Communications Report. Questions are answered. The Meeting accepts the report and is attached.

2016-11-06.14 The Meeting closes with silent worship at 1:45pm.

Attendance: Matthew Bell, Nancy Britton, Sally Campbell, Joseph Campagna, Maria Cordones, Barton Dominus, Charlotte Ehrman, David Fletcher, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Corona Macheimer, Bryan Oettel, Charlene Ray, Robert Renwick, Richard Schmidt, Virginia Shipley, Kathy Stackhouse, Bernard Winter, Pamela Wood

Nancy Britton, recording clerk

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## Ministry and Counsel Report

1. M&C met on Monday October 24<sup>th</sup> at the home of Pam Wood.
2. The next meeting will be Monday November 28<sup>th</sup> at Dave Evans.
3. Our next welcome breakfast will be on November 27<sup>th</sup> hosted by Pam Wood in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome. If any Friends have an interest in hosting a breakfast, see an M&C member.
4. The fourth Sunday discussion this month will be held after meeting on November 27<sup>th</sup>. Rob Stevens will lead us in considering the question "What are individual Friends doing during Meeting for Worship? and How do we each experience the Silence?"
5. Bible Study this month will be on November 13 at 9:30.
6. The "State of the Meeting" Meeting will be held on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Business meeting should agree upon someone to lead and someone to write the report.
7. M&C currently has 6 support committees and 1 clearness committees.
8. The Marriage Clearness Committee for Bart Dominus and Virginia Shipley has met and feels they are clear to proceed. Ministry and Counsel forwards their request with a recommendation for approval. They would like to be married during Meeting for Worship on December 11<sup>th</sup> and have the reception on the 13<sup>th</sup> floor. Lastly, for their marriage oversight committee they would like Ernie Buscemi, Sally Campbell, Stephen McDonnell, and Pamela Wood.
9. After another successful retreat at Stony Point Center, friends are asked to consider whether they would like to continue to hold retreats annually or if we would like to return to a pattern of every other year.
10. Young Adult Friends plan to gather for a brunch at Mason Jenkins's home on November 19<sup>th</sup> at noon. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact Mason.
11. Jane Alexandre has submitted a letter requesting transfer of membership from Chappaqua Meeting. The letter is attached to this report for the meeting's approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Fletcher

## Treasurer's Report for October 2016

For the year, we have received some \$19,188 disbursed \$22,443 and realized a \$3,915 shortfall. Disbursements include \$15,397 representing our 2016 NYYM Covenant payment, \$3,800 for Peace and Social Concerns, \$660 was paid in scholarships to Friends General Conference and the Morningside Retreat), \$675 for website assistance of a Communications Budget of \$2,790, \$1,140 for childcare (of a \$3,350 budget line), \$283 for hospitality (not inclusive of some \$84 of contributed food), clerk expenses of \$25 represent a new member subscription to Friends Journal, finance expenses of \$166 which do not include some donated stamps and photocopying, \$297.46 has been spent for library additions.

Some \$10,350 in Peace and Social Concerns allocations are planned to be paid during November & December.

A reminder: Contributions to the work of the meeting may be made directly from your bank; for information, please contact Charlene Ray, [moneycoach@earthlink.net](mailto:moneycoach@earthlink.net) or leave a message at 212-757-3504.

**Committees with budget lines are urged to submitted their budget requests by December 15.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlene Ray  
Treasurer

<u>Treasurer's Report: 2016</u>		YTD	% Spent	Budget 2016
<b>Disbursements</b>				
Fixed	NY Yearly Meeting	15,396.50	100.0%	15,396.50
<b>Total Fixed</b>		<b>15,396.50</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>15,396.50</b>
Outreach	P&SC/FUN	3,800.00	29.7%	12,800.00
& Support	Misc. Contrib.	0.00	0.0%	300.00
	Scholarship/Relief	660.00	26.4%	2,500.00
<b>Total Outreach</b>		<b>4,460.00</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>15,600.00</b>
Operating	Communications	675.00	24.2%	2,790.00
Expenses	1st Day/Childcare	1,140.00	34.0%	3,350.00
	Hospitality	283.20	141.6%	200.00
	Breakfast	0.00	0.0%	750.00
	Clerk/ M & C	25.00	12.5%	200.00
	Finance	166.25	55.4%	300.00
	Literature	297.46	99.2%	300.00
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>		<b>2,586.91</b>	<b>32.8%</b>	<b>7,890.00</b>
<b>Total Disbursements</b>		<b>22,443.41</b>	<b>57.7%</b>	<b>38,886.50</b>
	In Kind Contributions/Disburse	74.93		
<b>Income</b>				
	Contributions	19,173.02		38,886.50
	Net of AGLI Match	18,513.02		
	Interest	15.28		15.28
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>18,528.30</b>	<b>47.6%</b>	<b>38,886.50</b>
<b>Net Income</b>		<b>(3,915.11)</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>Assets</b>				
	Ending Bank Balance	<b>43,254.81</b>		
	Hospitality Petty Cash	<b>195.51</b>		
	Cash at Schwab	<b>500.00</b>		
	Retreat Deposit	<b>(220.00)</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>				
	Crumlish Bequest	<b>(1,000.00)</b>		
	Hope Lives for Lifers	<b>0.00</b>		
estimate	Huntington House	<b>(282.19)</b>		
May-15				
<b>Net Worth</b>		<b>42,448.13</b>		
Actual annual rent paid by NYQM is \$11,000, 1/2013-12/2015				

## Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns met on October 23, 2016, at 1:00 pm, following Meeting for Worship.

Attending: David Fletcher; Sally Campbell; Charlotte Ehrman; Richard Schmidt; Corona Macheimer (clerk)

The meeting begins with a few minutes of silent worship.

1. The committee agrees to invite Friends to continue to express our opposition to the current anti-BDS (Boycott, Divestment, Sanctions) campaign which has resulted in Governor Cuomo's executive order of June 5, 2016 prohibiting the state of New York from doing business with any "entity" that supports or advocates boycott or divestment campaigns against United States "allies." (The governor's order short-circuited a legislative process which saw bills moving through the state legislature with the same aim.) More recently, on September 14 the New York City Council overwhelmingly passed a resolution "condemning . . . the global movement to boycott, divest from, and sanction the people of Israel."
2. On November 13, in conjunction with the Peace & Social Concerns meeting scheduled for that day, the committee will make available letters to the Governor and to the lead sponsors of the state legislation and the City Council Resolution expressing our disappointment at their support for sanctions against those engaging in this form free speech and peaceful protest. There will also be letters of appreciation to send to those in the legislature and City Council who stood in opposition to the anti-BDS measures.

3. The Committee approves sending Morningside's share of the proceeds from last May's Rummage Sale at 15<sup>th</sup> Street to the Lambi Fund for hurricane relief in Haiti. The amount is \$400. Anyone wishing add a personal contribution to this sum should put cash or a check in an envelope marked "Haiti" in the contributions box or send a check with the appropriate memo to Charlene Ray ASAP. (As reported to Business Meeting on October 2, the Committee had originally decided to donate the rummage-sale funds to FCNL's "The World We Seek: Now Is the Time" Capital Campaign. In view of the emergency in Haiti, it was decided to defer this contribution until 2017.)
4. The 2016 Peace & Social Concerns budget is distributed to those present in preparation for discernment concerning the budget for 2017. It is noted that the FGC's Friends for LGBTQ Concerns Committee, whose future had been in some doubt since the legalization of gay marriage (as reported in the Peace & Social Concerns Report to Business Meeting on October 2), has now been repurposed and P&SC expects to continue supporting it.

It is noted that on November 23 at 5:00 pm there will be a major rally in Union Square in opposition to the use of solitary confinement in New York prisons and jails and in support of legislation to HALT the practice. The rally is sponsored by the New York Coalition Against Isolated Confinement (nyCAIC) and other organizations in which several Morningsiders are involved.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Corona Macheimer

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## Communications Committee Report

The Committee met twice since the last Business Meeting, on November 3 and October 27.

Attending: Bryan Oettel; Kathy Stackhouse; Corona Macheimer (clerk);

The Committee continues to focus on publishing a new Address Register. To this end:

1. A draft has been prepared incorporating the data in the database as of November 5. Printouts of this draft have been forwarded to M&C so they can contact inactive members to see if they wish to remain in the database. The Nominating Committee has also received a copy.
2. An additional printout is being made available today on which Friends may update the information in their

entries. This printout will also be made available after Meeting on the remaining Sundays in November.

3. The formatting of the profiles in the database has been made consistent, so that the entries in the Address Register will have the same appearance.

Friends may update their profiles directly in the database. Detailed instructions on the procedures to be followed will be sent in the near future to all Morningsiders via the email blast system. It is expected that in future, most members will keep their profiles up to date by logging on to the website and updating them "in person." (Note: All persons listed in the database are termed "members," whether or not they are official members of the Religious Society of Friends. Only members of the database can log onto the website, update their profiles, add events to the Calendar, and read and post messages on the Bulletin Board.)



Once the database is updated, the new Address Register can be printed and distributed. While the speed at which all this will take place depends on a number of factors, it is expected that the new register will be available early in the New Year, if not before.

Friends are reminded to visit the website ([www.morning-sidemeeting.org](http://www.morning-sidemeeting.org)) regularly (daily?!) to check the Calendar and log in to view the Bulletin Board. Instructions on us-

ing these two “community building” features of the website, which were to have been issued in October, have been delayed because of glitches in the functioning of the Bulletin Board. These have now been fixed and the instructions will be distributed in an all-meeting email blast as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Macheemer, Clerk

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### FCNL Annual Meeting: Spirit-Led Action in 2017

At FCNL’s Annual Meeting, November 10-13, more than 300 Friends came together from across the country for worship, listening, advocacy, and community, as we confronted what it means to love all of our neighbors now.

We spent Thursday lobbying to bring sentencing reform to a vote in the lame duck session. Before Congress are bills ready for a vote that would reduce minimum sentences for non-violent drug offenses, give judges more sentencing discretion, and fund education and re-entry programs.

Friends from 40 states visited 180 Capitol offices. The New York delegation visited the offices of their representatives and of Sen. Gillibrand and Sen. Schumer to urge them to put the bills to a vote. In each office, legislative assistants stressed the importance of writing op-eds and letters to the editors of local newspapers to advocate for bills we support.

FCNL urges Friends to contact their elected representatives to impress on them the urgency of passing these bills

before the end of the year. Plans are in the works to schedule meetings with our senators and representatives in their New York offices to insist that Congress come together to pass criminal justice reform.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday were times for worship and community. FCNL’s governors met to approve members of the General Committee, set the budget, discern Legislative Priorities, and lay out plans for advocacy work in the next year.

Details, including information on the bills we lobbied for and the Legislative Priorities for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, which are based on input from Friends across the country, are at <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/spirit-led-action-report-on-annual-meeting-2016-450>.

(Photo: NY Friends, courtesy of FCNL)

