

Morningside Matters

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

www.morningsidemeeting.org

April 2018

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	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	April 15	NYQM Meeting with a Concern for Business	15 th St. Meeting	
	April 22	Morningside Meeting: Racial Justice Study Group Karen Taborn, Helen Garay Toppins, and David Fletcher will lead a discussion of Deep Denial by David Billings and plans to meet every fourth Sunday. All are welcome. Some copies of the book are in our library.	room 12T	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	April 24 - 26	Circle Processes Training Info: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfmdS0UmpYy3VUqEoK_6KiXzEE5ykayZ-FbffXtLCoIjwG2nXg/viewform?c=0&w=1	Riverside Church	4/24-25: 9 am to 5 pm 4/26: 9 am to 1 pm
	May 6	Morningside Meeting: Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	May 12	NYQM Memorial Meeting (rain date: June 2)	Friends Cemetery, Prospect Park	11:00 am
	June 2	Morningside Meeting Spring Retreat: The Face of Resistance: Living with Awe, Wonder, and Joy in Challenging Times led by Ed Seligman	15 th Street meeting	
	July 14	NYQM Meeting with a Concern for Business https://www.nycquakers.org/event/new-york-quarterly-meeting-in-the-cemetery/	Friends Cemetery, Prospect Park	
	July 22 – 28	NYYM Summer Sessions http://www.nnym.org/nyym_sessions	Silver Bay, NY	
	October 5 – 7	Morningside Meeting Fall Retreat	Stony Point Conference Center	
Events of interest	First Sundays	Monthly Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	Saturdays	Vigil for Yemen	Astor Place	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
	April 1	Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm

April 6 – 8	Sustainable Spirit Led Action	Pendle Hill	
April 7	Tapestry: Weaving Sacred Images	Pendle Hill	
April 12	Engaging North Korea: Quaker Work for Peace on the Korean Peninsula	15 th St. Meeting	7:00 – 9:00 pm
April 12 – 14	Reading Classics with a Quaker Classics Scholar: a series of 3 evenings with Sarah Rudin	Pendle Hill	
April 15 – 19	Nurturing Faithfulness	Pendle Hill	
April 20 – 22	Playing in the Light/ Godly Play/Faith & Play Training for Quakers	Powell House	
April 24 – 26	Peacemaking Circles Training sponsored by the NYYM Conflict Transformation Committee Info: krexach@gmail.com	New York City	
April 27 – 29	Tending the Flock	Powell House	
April 28	Framing the Sacred: The Spiritual Journey of Photography	Pendle Hill	
May 2	Interfaith Strategies for Nonviolent Direct Action: http://interfaithcenter.org/mmr35/	Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive	
May 3 - 6	Truth and Healing: Quakers Seeking Right Relationship with Indigenous Peoples	Pendle Hill	
May 4	Restorative Practices & Transformative Justice Conference Info: http://www.bestrestorativepractices.com/	Lehman College	
May 4 – 6	Habitat for Humanity: Build for Unity	Queens	
May 5	Shake Your Soul	Powell House	
May 11 – 13	Story Fire, A Retreat for Parents	Powell House	
May 12	Compassionate Listening	Pendle Hill	
May 12	Journal Harvesting Listening	Pendle Hill	
May 14 – 17	Finding and Living the Community of Love	Pendle Hill	
May 18 – 20	Retreat: Rebalance, Recharge	Pendle Hill	
May 19	Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas	Powell House	
May 26	Writing and Dancing Our Challenges and Our Joys	Pendle Hill	
June 1 – 6	Continuing Revelation 2018: Building Intentional Lives	Pendle Hill	
July 1 – 7	Friends General Conference Gathering: The Power of Truth	Toledo, Ohio	

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

Our job is to love others without stopping to inquire whether or not they are worthy.

Thomas Merton

Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
April 1, 2018

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:40 p.m., and Pamela Wood read from Micah, Chapter 6, verse 8 (KJV):

“And what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.”

The reading was also followed by silent worship.

2. Charlene Ray read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on March 26th at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on April 30th at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP. A letter requesting membership by Bryan Wigfall was given a first reading. A letter requesting transfer of membership from Morningside Monthly Meeting to Langley Meeting in Virginia for Susan Carmody and Cole Carmody Harmatty was read. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
3. The meeting approved the transfers of membership for Susan Carmody and Cole Carmody Harmatty to Langley Meeting.
4. Tom Goodridge gave the Treasurer’s Report. After some discussion, Friends accept the report, and it is attached.
5. Pamela Wood gave a Clerk’s Report:

The Clerk gave some background to Ben Frisch’s situation at Friends Seminary and read a proposed minute.

6. After discussion, the following Minute of Concern was approved to be sent to the Board of Trustees and the Care Committee of Friends Seminary:

Morningside Monthly Meeting would like to share its concerns around the recent firing of Ben Frisch with the members of the Board of Trustees of Friends Seminary and the Care Relationship Committee.

Our first concern is for Ben Frisch, a long-term faculty member at Friends Seminary. The process of dismissal was abrupt, giving Ben no opportunity for growth and change in the areas of concern. Friends have faith that our Inner Light helps us grow and change. In addition, the school’s portrayal of Ben that is not consistent with the conscientious and caring person whom we have also experienced as a good listener.

Our second concern is for the students at Friends. The students who were hurt or upset in class by Ben’s joke

mocking a Nazi salute, have been left with no way to express their feelings to Ben nor to have a better opportunity to understand Ben’s background and history that were the context for that joke, however ill-suited to the classroom. Healing did not happen. At the same time, there are many students at the school who consider Ben a mentor and a good teacher. They too have been wounded by the abruptness of his departure. We would like to see the school use restorative practice and restorative justice in addressing this and future situations when hurt feelings and conflicts arise and to reinstate Ben to his former position. In this way, everyone is able to have the possibility of growing and changing.

Finally, the school leadership has greatly underestimated the impact of this decision on the wider community of people who know and respect Ben in a variety of contexts. Many alumni, former teachers and the wider Quaker community are concerned for Ben but also are concerned about whether Friends Seminary continues to be committed to Quaker values and practice. This decision and subsequent events have broken the sense of community within the school and with the wider community. We support the Board of Trustees and the Care Committee, and we urge them to respect the process and intent of the Essential Principles, Practices and Procedures.

<https://www.nycquakers.org/2015/12/26/friends-seminary-essential-principles-practices-and-procedures/>

Approved.

7. The Clerk gave background on the case of Herman Bell whose recent grant of parole has been opposed by several groups, reading a proposed minute. After discussion, Friends decided to approve two separate minutes to Governor Cuomo, one in support of Herman Bell’s parole and the second opposing the firing of the Commissioners of Parole who made this decision:
8. Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), consistent with its endorsement of the SAFE Parole bill, supports the Commissioners of Parole’s decision to grant parole to Herman Bell after serving a 45-year sentence for the murders of two New York City policemen. While in prison, he took advantage of many programs, maintained a good conduct record and expressed remorse for his actions He deserves to

have those efforts recognized, and other people who are incarcerated need to have the hope that, if they turn their lives around, they too may be granted parole. Friends have faith in people's ability to grow and change, and we feel Herman Bell's efforts to change should be recognized and his parole should not be rescinded. Approved.

9. Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) oppose the idea of firing of the Parole Commissioners who made the decision to grant Herman Bell parole as some have requested. The Police Union, one of the families and Mayor DiBlasio have expressed their opposition to the decision. This opposition should not be grounds for the Commissioners' dismissal. They have the opportunity to review all of the records and should be supported when they make a decision that has the potential for being politically unpopular. Their willingness to look beyond the nature of the crime is an important step forward for the Parole Board. All lives are equally sacred, those of police and those of ordinary citizens. This should not mean that retribution and punishment should be exacted for a person's whole life. We

urge you to support your Commissioners. Approved.

10. Kathy Stackhouse gave the Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.
11. Dave Britton gave an oral Nominating Report. We need at least one Friend from Morningside Monthly Meeting to serve on the Quarterly Nominating Committee. The Committee proposes Jason McGill to serve on the Riverside Space Committee. Friends accept the report.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Dave Britton, Nancy Britton, Jerry Reisig, Kirsty Tinto, Joyce Richardson, Jane Alexandre, Tom Goodridge, Sally Campbell, Peter Beck, Naomi Paz Greenberg, Robert Renwick, David Fletcher, Kathy Stackhouse, Charlene Ray, Katherine Alford, Bryan Oettel, Bryan Wigfall, Robert Leuze, Richard Schmidt, Pamela Wood, Stephen McDonnell.

Ministry and Counsel Report

1. M&C met on Monday March 26th at the home of Pam Wood.
2. The next meeting will be Monday April 30th at Pam Wood's at 7:15. The first half is open to anyone with concerns.
3. Our next welcome breakfast will be on April 22nd hosted by Karen Taborn at 9:30 in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome.
4. Also on April 22nd after meeting at 1-2 pm Karen Taborn, Helen Garay Toppins, and David Fletcher will lead a meeting of the Racial Justice Study group. This group will meet every fourth Sunday after meeting. The group will discuss the book Deep Denial by David Billings. All are welcome.
5. Bible Study will be held on April 8th at 9:30.
6. Ministry and Counsel forwards to meeting for worship with a concern for business a recommendation to approve Bryan Wigfall for membership. This is the first reading of his letter requesting membership which is attached to this report.
7. Ministry and Counsel forwards to meeting for worship with a concern for business a recommendation for approval of membership transfer of Cole Carmody Harmatty and Susan Carmody from Morningside to Langley Meeting in Virginia.
8. M&C currently has 7 support committees.
9. M&C plans to hold a one-day retreat on Saturday June 2nd at 15th Street Meetinghouse in the Lounge. The retreat will be facilitated by Ed Seligman. The topic will be: The Face of Resistance: living with Awe, Wonder and Joy in Challenging Times.
10. Moving with Spirit with Jane Alexandre and Tom Goodridge met this morning before meeting. Going forward all are invited on First Sunday's from 10-10:30 in the meeting space. Friends will be led into some simple movements and encouraged to move as the spirit leads. No experience necessary.
11. M&C plans to hold our annual weekend retreat from October 5th to 7th at Stony Point Conference Center. We are looking for three people to organize and lead the retreat. Please volunteer.

Treasurer's Report, April 1, 2018

Members and attenders have contributed \$5,266.40 during the first quarter of the fiscal year. An additional \$500.00 Reintegration Grant has been received from New York Yearly Meeting. Interest income has amounted to \$3.25. Total income for the quarter is thus \$5,769.65.

The major expense for the quarter is the allocation to New York Yearly Meeting of \$4,125.00. Other expenses are

shown in the chart below. The annual program of Peace and Social Concerns allocations has not yet been received by the Treasurer.

Income exceeds expenditures for the first quarter by \$463.65.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

Income/Expense by Category – Q1 2018 1/1/2018 through 3/31/2018 (Cash Basis)				
Category	1/1/2018- 1/31/2018	2/1/2018- 2/28/2018	3/1/2018- 3/31/2018	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME				
General Fund Contribution	793.40	455.00	4,018.00	5,266.40
Interest and Dividends	1.68	1.57	0.00	3.25
Reintegration Grant	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	795.08	456.57	4,518.00	5,769.65
EXPENSES				
Huntington House	0.00	200.00	0.00	200.00
NYYM Allocation	0.00	0.00	4,125.00	4,125.00
Operations -- Breakfast	0.00	36.00	0.00	36.00
Operations - Finance	0.00	20.00	0.00	20.00
Operations - First Day Child Care	0.00	290.00	185.00	475.00
Outreach - Peace, Social Concerns	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Outreach - Scholarships, Relief	0.00	0.00	350.00	350.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	100.00	546.00	4,660.00	5,306.00
OVERALL TOTAL	695.00	-89.43	-142.00	463.55

Report from Peace and Social Concerns Committee

A special meeting of Peace & Social Concerns was held on March 12 to discern which legislative priorities Morning-siders deem most important for the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) to pursue in the 116th Congress, which will be elected this coming fall and will be in session from January 2019 through December 2020. A report on the results of this discernment will be presented to those who attended the meeting and to the regular meeting of Peace & Social Concerns on April 7. Once finally approved, it will be forwarded to FCNL; the deadline is April 13. (Attending were Sally Campbell, SooBok Kim, Charlene Ray, Kathy Stackhouse, Katherine Alford, David Fletcher, Robert Renwick, Richard Schmidt, Pamela Wood, Bryan Oettel, and Corona Machemer [acting as clerk]).

A regular meeting of Peace & Social Concerns was held on March 18. Attending were Sally Campbell, Richard Schmidt, Robert Renwick, David Fletcher, Charlene Ray, Karen Taborn, Bryan Wigfall, Naomi Paz-Greenberg, and Corona Machemer (clerk)

Prior to the meeting we heard an informal presentation by Lyn Adamson, a Canadian Friend, on efforts by Friends and others to push for a peaceful resolution to the Korean conflict. In particular, actions by North American and South Korean women, including crossings of the DMZ, were described, as were the dire effects of the UN's maximum sanctions on ordinary North Koreans. Also noted was the current push for implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325, which was adopted in 2000, and

which urges the participation of women in all UN peace and security efforts.

- Friends are reminded of the program on North Korea sponsored by AFSC and FCNL on April 12 at 7:00 pm at Fifteenth Street. A flyer about this event is attached to these minutes.

Following this presentation, the regular meeting of the Committee opens with a few minutes of silence.

1. The committee resumes consideration of the 2018 Peace & Social Concerns budget. While there are still a few unresolved issues, the budget is for the most part finalized, and a copy is attached to these minutes. It is decided to lay down support for Breathing Space due to changes in its mission and a lack of need for additional “seed” money, as evidenced on its website.
 - Note that an up-to-date list of the organizations Morningside supports, with short descriptions and links to websites has been prepared. Copies are available on the P&SC table and it is available on the Morningside website (www.morningsidemeeting.org); click on the Social Concerns tab.
2. The most serious of the unresolved issues related to the budget is Morningside’s contribution to the

Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC), which brings Friends of varying traditions and cultural experiences together in worship, communication and consultation (www.fwcc.org). Morningside has contributed to FWCC for many years, but as of now we have no liaison to the organization. If you are interested in becoming Morningside’s liaison to FWCC, please contact Corona Macheimer. Our continued support depends on someone stepping forward.

3. The Committee considers a proposal that Peace & Social Concerns recommend that Morningside become a supporting member of the *National Farm Workers Ministry: Together with Farm Workers, Harvesting Justice*, whose boycott of Wendy’s Morningside endorsed at last month’s business meeting. The Committee does not reach unity on this, and the proposal will be brought to the next meeting of the Committee for further discernment.
4. The next meeting of Peace & Social Concerns will be on April 7.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Macheimer, clerk

Morningside’s Peace and Social Concerns	2018 budget	Schedule	Memo (in bold) / Comment
Local Hands-on Organizations			
Woodbourne Prison Quaker Worship Group (Pam Wood & Helen Garay Toppins)	300.00	As Requested	
Alternatives to Violence Project NY (Pam Wood)	400.00	Aug	
Huntington House-Sarah Powell (Helen Garay Toppins)	200.00	Dec	
Redemption Center (Pam Wood & Helen Garay Toppins)	600.00	June	
Flushing Interfaith Council (Naomi Paz-Greenberg)	350.00	Dec	\$50 Mbrshp + \$300 for Social Justice Committee
Brooklyn for Peace (Pam Wood)	100.00	Dec	
Sacred Heart Church School, Camden, NJ (Joyce Richardson)	200.00	June	For the School
Wider Quaker Fellowship			
Friends General Conference (FGC) (Robert Renwick)	400.00	March	
Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC)	400.00	Dec	LIAISON NEEDED IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE
FCNL (Kathy Stackhouse)	700.00	March	
AFSC: Healing & Justice NE Region (Pam Wood)	600.00	May	For Liberation Summer Youth Advocacy Training Camp
Fellowship of Friends of African Descent (Karen Taborn)	200.00	???	NEW
FLGBTQC (Robert Renwick)	200.00	Dec	
NY Yearly Meeting ARCH (Charlene Ray)	200.00	May	
NY Yearly Meeting Sharing Fund (Helen Garay Toppins)	600.00	Nov	

Morningside's Peace and Social Concerns	2018 budget	Schedule	Memo (in bold) / Comment
Quaker UN Office (Ernie Buscemi)	400.00	Nov	
Right Sharing of World Resources (Sally Campbell)	400.00	Nov	Note that postage stamps also go to Right Sharing
Quaker House of Fayetteville (David Britton)	200.00	Dec	
Ramallah Friends School (FUM) (Pam Wood)	800.00	ASAP, July	\$200 ASAP for new Head of School ; \$600 in July for Scholarship Fund
NYQM African Education Committee (Corona Machemer)	800.00	Sept	
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund (Pam Wood)	400.00	March	
Samburu Mission (Kenya) (FUM) (Pam Wood)	100.00	???	NEW
<i>National/ International Organizations</i>			
National Religious Campaign Against Torture (Dave Britton)	50.00	Dec	Membership Fee (for 2019)
Center for Conscience and War (Pam Wood)	300.00	June	
Christian Peacemaker Teams (Naomi Paz-Greenberg)	500.00	July	
AGLI (African Great Lakes Initiative) (Pam Wood)	500.00	Dec	
Progresa Guatemala (Charlotte Ehrman)	200.00	Dec	
Lambi Fund of Haiti (Sally Campbell)	600.00	???	
Hispanic Federation Unidos Disaster Relief and Recovery Program (Pam Wood)	300.00	April	NEW; Puerto Rico relief (Morningside made emergency contribution in 2017 out of Meeting funds)
Coalition for Immokalee Workers (Naomi Paz Greenberg)	100.00	???	NEW
<i>Environment</i>			
Quaker Earthcare Witness (Tom Goodridge)	300.00	Dec	
Sane Energy Project (Amala Lane)	500.00	???	NEW
<i>Total Provisionally Allocated (3/18/2018)</i>	11,900.00		
<i>P & SC Reserve Fund (for emergencies)</i>	900.00		Difference between sum of initial allocations and budget from Meeting
<i>TOTAL (including Reserve Fund)</i>	12,800.00		
<i>BUDGET FROM MEETING</i>	\$12,800.00*		
*Equivalent to P&SC's Budget from Meeting in 2017			

Report from the Communications Committee

The committee met on March 22, 2018. Attending were Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse, Emily Bishop, and Corona Machemer (acting as clerk)

1. The relationship between Morningside's website and the developing NYQM site is discussed. Bryan Oettel is the Committee's liaison to the NYQM website committee.

- a. An up-dated list of the organizations Morningside contributes to, including descriptions of each, is being added to Morningside's page on the NYQM site. The same list can be found on Morningside's website (www.morningsidemeeting.org); to view click on the Social Concerns tab. The updated list for 2018 is attached to these minutes (for publication in the Newsletter).

- b. The calendars from the websites of the various meetings in the Quarter are being coordinated with the NYQM site to provide a comprehensive calendar for the Quarter. This means that all entries in our calendar should include in the title the name of the organization concerned, or the location of the event. Thus, instead of simply entering "Meeting for Worship," the entry should read "Morningside Meeting for Worship." Further instructions for entering events on the calendar will be circulated to Morningsiders separately and published in the Newsletter.
2. Many events are not being routinely entered on the calendar by committee clerks or other responsible parties. This especially applies to events under the care of M&C. such as Bible Study, the Welcoming Breakfast, Meeting for Worship, etc. If the calendar is to be useful, it must be comprehensive and be kept up to date.
 3. The Committee decides that the Bulletin Board should operate like the Calendar, that is, it should be open to the public, but with the posting of entries only by logged-in members of the database. There will be a separate Tab for the Bulletin Board, for ease of access. [This change has been made. Check it out.]
 4. Arrangements have been made with Vonn New to work on the website on an ad hoc basis. She will bill us \$75/hour for her services. (Previously, she was on retainer, but this level of service is no longer necessary.)
 5. The Committee begins its consideration of ways to attract new attenders. It is decided to focus on young people, and various possibilities for notifications and advertising will be explored, from Snapchat to making sure Morningside is named on lists of Houses of Worship made available by local colleges.
 6. In addition to the queries from M&C, Emily Bishop seeks postings about outward-looking events like the Welcome Breakfast and the April 12 Forum on Korea at 15th Street for Morningside's Facebook page. Contact Emily at emilysbishop@gmail.com concerning possible posts.
 7. The next meeting of the Committee will be on April 10.
- Respectfully submitted,
Corona Machermer

War or Peace on the Korean Peninsula?

A presentation by Linda Lewis and Dan Jasper
of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)

Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 7:00 PM
at the 15th Street meetinghouse - 15 Rutherford Place
All are welcome (call 646 489-4175 for more info)

Sponsored by peace committees of NYC Quaker meetings
and the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)

NYC Advocacy team whose focus this year is on legislation to prevent the U.S. president from starting a war with North Korea.

The AFSC has been working in North Korea for over three decades. By 1998, AFSC had established an on-going agricultural development project with cooperative farms, and today is one of only a handful of American NGOs actively engaged in the DPRK. Linda Lewis, and Daniel Jasper will discuss AFSC's program in North Korea, the challenges of working in this isolated nation and the impact of sanctions, and opportunities for peace on the Korean peninsula.