

# Morningside Matters

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

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

December 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	Every Wednesday through January 16	Quarterly Meeting Called Meeting for Worship	15 <sup>th</sup> St. Meeting	6:30 – 8:00 pm
	December 11	Friends Seminary People's Supper. Register at <a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFDXXJ94ZRnpZAddBDLmXZGbkKDBKpr9v2DAUo_ZUbo5H0Pg/viewform">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScFDXXJ94ZRnpZAddBDLmXZGbkKDBKpr9v2DAUo_ZUbo5H0Pg/viewform</a>	Friends Seminary Cafeteria	6:00 – 7:15 pm
	December 16	Morningside Meeting State of the Meeting	room 12T	1:00 pm
	December 16	Morningside Meeting Cookie Swap (bring 3 dozen)	room 12T	after meeting
	January 20	Quarterly Business Meeting	Brooklyn Meeting	
	January 27	Racial Justice Study Group: <i>Deep Denial</i>	room 12T	1:00 pm
	April 5 – April 7, 2019	NYYM Spring sessions	Nine Partners Region	
	April 21	Quarterly Business Meeting	15 <sup>th</sup> St. Meeting	
	July 13	Quarterly Business Meeting	Prospect Park	
	July 21 – July 27	NYYM Summer sessions	Silver Bay	
November 1 – November 13	NYYM Fall sessions	TBD		
Events of interest	First Sundays	Monthly Vigil for Peace	Washington Square Arch	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	Saturdays	Vigil for Yemen	Union Square	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
	December 14 – 16	What Does Justice Look Like? Moving Towards a Just Peace in Palestine and Israel	Pendle Hill	
	December 21	The Winter Solstice: In Touch with Your Whole Self	Powell House	

December 28 – January 1, 2019	Looking within: Painting as a Spiritual Practice	Pendle Holl	
December 28 – January 1	Music of Inspiration for an Age of Anxiety	Pendle Holl	
December 28 – January 1	Open Heart Peaceful Mind	Pendle Holl	
December 30 – January	Powell House Annual New Year’s Celebration	Powell House	
January 13	Poetry Coffee House	Pendle Holl	
January 18 – 20	Alternatives to Violence, Basic Workshop,	Pendle Holl	
January 18 – 21	Dwelling Deep: A Contemplative Retreat	Powell House	
February 1 – 2	Friends’ Decision Making and Clerking	Powell House	
February 10 – 14	Aiming for Justice: Race, Reparation and Right Paths	Pendle Hill	
February 15 – 16	Annual winter wonderland,	Powell House	
February 22 – 24	Power of Enough	Powell House	
February 22 – 24	Strengthening Your Inner Wisdom & Silencing Your Inner Critic	Pendle Hill	
March 23 – 26	FCNL Spring lobby weekend: Join young people to lobby for im- migration reform	Washington, DC	
June 30 – July 6	FGC Gathering	Grinnell, Iowa	

**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*

*We are not for Names, nor men, nor Titles of Government, nor are we for this Party, nor against the other because of its Name and Pretence; but we are for Justice and Merce, and Truth and Peace, and true Freedom, that these may be exalted in our Nation.*

*- Edward Burrough, 1634-1663*

### **Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business December 2, 2018**

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:35 p.m., and Pamela Wood read a quote by Helen Steven:
 

“The important part is the doing, the stepping out in faith. Doing our utmost to the limit of our being: not to be bound by success, but to hold on to the confidence that the outcome will be picked up by others and the flame will continue to burn...and then we have to hand it over, to let go. Let go of the outcome of our actions in trust and confidence that they are not in vain and that somewhere in the secret workings of God a change is taking place.”
- ~Helen Steven, quoted in *Friends Journal*, August 2018, p. 16
2. Mason Jenkins read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on November 26<sup>th</sup> at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP. Friends decided to keep the new meeting room arrangement for Meeting for Worship, without closing the side door too tightly.

Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.

3. Sally Campbell gave the Peace and Social Concerns Report. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
4. Bryan Oettel gave the Treasurer's Report. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
5. Charlotte Ehrman the Space Committee Report. We have a contract from Riverside Church for next year; it was \$11,000 this past year; and will be \$12,000 for next year. Rent is paid by Quarterly Meeting; Quarterly Meeting pays building expenses for Monthly Meetings so that Monthly Meetings use their resources for outreach. Friends accept the report.
6. Dave Britton gave an oral Nominating Report. Jane Alexandre is nominated to be Clerk. Stephen McDonnell will continue as Recording Clerk. Ron Rieder and Pamela Wood are nominated to serve on M&C. Other vacancies and possible vacancies were discussed. Incumbents are assumed to continue. If members do not wish to continue, they are encouraged to speak with a member of the Nominating Committee. The report will be finalized and circulated prior to the January Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business. Friends accept the report.
7. Bryan Oettel gave a Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
8. Pamela Wood gave the Clerk's Report:

At the end of Fall Sessions of the NY Yearly Meeting in Rochester, there was no agreement on a budget for the coming fiscal year. An interim budget will be created. This means that there is no way forward to fill the position of a Youth and Young Adult Secretary at this time. One concern that emerged was that in reassigning the income from various trust funds, money was taken away from activities supporting people of color, such as the Indian Affairs Committee, the Prisons Com-

mittee and the Barrington Dunbar Fund. The Finance Committee heard the concern and will re-work the budget.

The legal case brought by the men of the Preparative Meeting at the Greenhaven Correctional Facility asking to have their ability to hold Quarterly Meetings restored is proceeding. The papers have been served. The Department of Corrections has asked for a postponement until the end of December.

The following was received from Angel Tueros, formerly of the Woodbourne Worship Group, currently at Queenboro CF, from which he will be released on parole on December 27:

"I would like to express...my gratitude to the Friends: Marjorie, Steve, Scott, Pam, Helen, Ernie and James. I am thankful for their visits while in prison, their concern for our spiritual condition and growth, for the solidarity (seeing us with the heart), for the prayers and keeping us in the Light (along with our families), and for the letters of support addressed to the Board of Parole. I am also grateful to those whom I do not know personally, but who support those who support us. It has been humbling and humanizing to learn about the kindness of strangers."

Friends accept the report.

9. Friends made Announcements.

If friends wish updates on Robert Leuze, they are invited to sign up in [caringbridge.org](http://caringbridge.org). If there is any difficulty signing in, they are invited to contact Charlene Ray.

10. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Jane Alexandre, June Tano, Robert Renwick, Mason Jenkins, Nancy Britton, Jerry Reisig, Charlotte Ehrman, Charlene Ray, Bryan Oettel, Kirsty Tinto, Katherine Alford, Ronald Rieder, Sally Campbell, Dave Britton, Ed Elder, David Fletcher, Charles Keyes, Richard Schmidt, Ernie Buscemi, Pamela Wood, Stephen McDonnell.

### Ministry and Counsel Committee Report

1. M&C met on Monday November 26<sup>th</sup> at the home of Pam Wood.
2. The next meeting will be Wednesday January 2<sup>nd</sup> at Pam Wood's at 7:15. The first half is open to anyone with concerns.
3. Our next welcome breakfast will be on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome.
4. There will be no fourth Sunday discussion or Racial Justice Study Group in December.

5. Bible Study will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> before meeting.
6. The State of the Meeting and Cookie Swap will be held on December 16<sup>th</sup> after meeting.
7. M&C currently has 6 support committees.

8. M&C has discussed the present arrangement with the meeting room door and suggests that we keep it going as it is.

Respectfully submitted,

Mason Jenkins, clerk  
Charlene Ray, co-clerk

### Treasurer's Report

The accompanying table shows income and expenses for the four quarters of the year (first four columns) and the total income and expenses for the year-to-date (fifth column). The sixth and last column shows the budget we approved at the beginning of the year, so the actual experience in the fifth column can be compared with our expectations last January as shown in the sixth column. But please be aware that the Budget column refers to twelve months, while the Total column includes only eleven months. Income and expenses for December 2018 have obviously yet to be recorded.

Peace and Social Concerns allocations are up-to-date, but the Peace and Social Concerns Committee's schedule of allocations provided that \$1,450.00 in disbursements would occur in December, so these have yet to be paid and recorded.

We budgeted the Retreat as breaking even. The \$4,075.00 total Retreat Expense shown in the fifth column on line 26 is balanced by the tuition paid by participants of \$3,570.00 shown in column 5 on line 6 plus a \$55.00 transfer from Ministry and Counsel shown on line 16 and a transfer from the Scholarship Fund of \$460.00, shown on line 24 column 4. The Meeting has been charging retreatants the same room and board fee charged by Stony Point. So, there are additional expenses besides room and board — refreshments, audio-visual equipment, etc. — which are

not covered by retreatants' fees. These are charged to Ministry and Counsel. The draw-down on Ministry and Counsel funds this year was minimized because one participant contributed \$90.00 more than Stony Point charged for his/her participation.

The Meeting approved a budget at the beginning of the year which anticipated contributions from members and attenders totaling \$37,680.00. If we assume that there are approximately fifty active members and attenders, it means we committed ourselves to an average annual contribution per person of \$750.00. Of course, we understand that some must give less, and so we depend upon others giving more. Members and attenders who do not give on a monthly basis frequently make late December end-of-the-tax year donations; we depend upon this late December inflow to balance the budget.

It would be enormously helpful if people wishing to make contributions to be accounted for in the 2018 tax year and the Meeting's 2018 fiscal year would get their checks in the mail on or before December 31, 2018 so that the Treasurer can account for everything in the end-of-the-year report to be given at Meeting for Business on January 6, 2019. Many thanks for your help with this.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter*	Total (11 months)	Budget (12 months)
<b>Income</b>						
General Fund Contributions	6,402.69	2,260.47	9,289.53	5,646.10	23,598.79	37,680.00
Interest and Dividends	5.10	5.16	5.02	3.80	19.08	20.00
Reintegration Grant	500.00				500.00	
Retreat Fee Income			2,540.00	1,030.00	3,570.00	3,200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>6,907.79</b>	<b>2,265.63</b>	<b>11,834.55</b>	<b>6,679.90</b>	<b>27,687.87</b>	<b>40,900.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Huntington House	200.00				200.00	
NYYM Allocation	4,125.00	4,125.00		8,250.00	16,500.00	16,500.00
Operations - Hospitality		200.00	100.00		300.00	400.00
Operations - Breakfast	76.00	21.50			97.50	200.00
Operations — Clerk/Ministry & Counsel					55.00	400.00
Operations — Finance	20.00	176.35		66.21	262.56	300.00

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter*	Total (11 months)	Budget (12 months)
Operations — First Day Child Care	475.00	370.00		690.00	1,535.00	2,400.00
Operations — First Day Literature		13.47			13.47	100.00
Operations — Website	160.00	60.00			220.00	1,000.00
Operations — Advancement						1,000.00
Operations — Literature						300.00
Outreach — Peace and Social Concerns	100.00	2,400.00	1,400.00	6,250.00	10,150.00	12,800.00
Outreach — Scholarship Relief		350.00		460.00	810.00	2,000.00
Outreach — Miscellaneous						300.00
Retreat Expenses			1,100.00	2,975.00	4,075.00	3,200.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,156.00</b>	<b>7,716.32</b>	<b>2,600.00</b>	<b>18,691.21</b>	<b>34,218.53</b>	<b>40,900.00</b>
<b>Total Income Minus Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,751.79</b>	<b>(5,450.69)</b>	<b>9,234.55</b>	<b>(12,011.31)</b>	<b>(6,530.66)</b>	<b>0.00</b>

\* The fourth quarter includes October and November only.

### Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns met on November 11, 2018.

Attending were Sally Campbell; Kathy Stackhouse; Richard Schmidt; Dave Britton; Corona Machermer (acting as clerk)

The meeting opens with a few moments of silence.

1. The Committee begins work on the P&SC budget for 2019. The absence of several liaisons and the fact that several organizations will have new liaisons in 2019 complicated matters.
2. Sally Campbell agrees to take on the Amnesty International Write for Rights event on December 9. [Subsequently, David Fletcher volunteered to take this on. He will work with Caroline Lane of Flushing Meeting.]
3. Dave Britton raises his concern that the Coalition for Immokalee Workers, one of the organizations we came to support through Naomi Paz Greenberg, has become a nationally recognized and successful organization. He is looking for a smaller or-

ganization, perhaps more local, concerned with exploited workers and migrants where our small contribution might make a bigger difference.

4. Robert Renwick has asked to be released from service as the liaison for FGC and FLGBTQC. Sally Campbell will become liaison to FGC. The Committee needs a new liaison for FLGBTQ. Sally will ask Robert for a recommendation.
5. It is confirmed that there will be a presentation to Morningsiders about the RAPP (Release Aging People in Prison) Campaign on the second Sunday in January, January 13.

There will be no regular meeting of Peace & Social Concerns in December. Instead, the Amnesty International Write for Rights Campaign will take place on the second Sunday in December, December 9. Because of the presentation about RAPP, the next regular meeting of P&SC will be on the third Sunday in January, January 20.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Machermer, clerk

### Communications Committee Report

The committee met on November 26, 2018. Attending were Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse, Emily Bishop, and Corona Machermer (acting as clerk). The meeting opens with a period of silence.

1. Emily Bishop gives a comprehensive report on the Facebook page and other possibilities for Advancement.
  - a. Our Facebook page is not being extensively used by Morningsiders; most visitors to the site appear to be seekers. (The page registers about 1 like per week.) A large part of the

problem is that the site is relatively static because Emily cannot generate content unless we send it to her by email ([emilybishop@gmail.com](mailto:emilybishop@gmail.com)). She will be happy to format it and add pictures, then post what we send her, but she doesn't have the time to search far and wide for content that might be of interest. (The problem is similar to that of the website's calendar and bulletin board features. They are only as useful as we make them.) Note that there is a link to the Facebook page on the Morningside website.

- b. As for Advancement, having learned that university listings and publications are no longer accessible to “outsiders” at a reasonable cost, we have decided to make use of a Facebook advertising program established by New York Yearly Meeting. While the campaign uses stock images and text, it can be particularized to individual meetings and run in the Facebook area (determined by zip code) that we decide is most pertinent. The cost is \$5 per day for a total of 141 days. We decided to start Morningside’s campaign on January 1 with a Happy New Year theme; it would run for the first couple of weeks into 2019.
  - c. The Committee feels it is important to have another Friend in addition to Emily to help administer Facebook page—both to assist Emily, and so there is more than one person who knows what’s what. We are looking for volunteers.
2. The Committee proposes that we use an image of one of “our” windows as a kind of Morningside logo on the Website, the Facebook page, our ads, etc. This would replace the blue flower on the Website and the Riverside tower on the Facebook page. Emily is working on the “design.”

3. We are hoping to have the new Morningside Google group, [MorningsideQuakers2@googlegroups.com](mailto:MorningsideQuakers2@googlegroups.com), up and running starting in the New Year.
  - a. Invitations to join the group will be going out soon to everyone on Morningside’s email list, as well as to the administrator(s) of 15<sup>th</sup> Street’s Google group. Meanwhile, continue using the old Google group.
  - b. Bryan Wigfall has volunteered to be the third administrator of the Group, along with Bryan Oettel and Kathy Stackhouse.
4. We continue to be concerned about how to encourage Morningsiders to make postings to and use the Calendar and Bulletin Board features on the website ([morningsidemeeting.org](http://morningsidemeeting.org)) as much a matter of routine, as checking one’s email—the calendar for Morningside and Quaker events, the Bulletin Board for non-Quaker and personal events. One way is to make an announcement after every Meeting for Worship, the same way the Redbook and Guest Book are announced. The Facebook page will also be regularly announced.

The next meeting of the committee will be held in the New Year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Macheimer

### **[morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com): How Does It Work?**

We use the gmail account [morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morninsidequakermeeting@gmail.com) to distribute information to everyone in the Morningside Meeting database. It works differently from the [MorningsideQuakers@googlegroups.com](mailto:MorningsideQuakers@googlegroups.com) email account, which is used to share peace and social concerns information, in 2 ways:

- 1) 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. This email account receives nu-

merous messages from many sources and, without clear instructions, it’s impossible to know the sender’s intent.

- 2) 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 [morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com](mailto:morningsidequakermeeting@gmail.com), not to Friend A. Always reply to the originator of the message, whose email address will be in the body of the message.

### **FCNL: NY Friends Lobby to Protect SNAP Benefits, Celebrate FCNL’s 75 Years on Capitol Hill**

At FCNL’s Quaker Public Policy Institute on November 29-30 more than 400 Quakers and friends asked their representatives and senators to protect SNAP (Supplementary Food Assistance Program) benefits. SNAP helps put food on the tables of some 40 million Americans (1.6 million in New York City). The benefits are funded through the farm bill, which is up for renewal

this year. The 22-member New York State group urged Senator Gillibrand, Senator Schumer, and their House members to support a final reconciled farm bill that would retain funding for SNAP benefits.

Here are some highlights of the annual meeting:



FCNL Advocacy Team summit

- Rep. Ro Khanna (D-CA) received the Snyder Peace Award, named after Ed Snyder, FCNL's second executive secretary, for his work to prevent war with North Korea, end US support for the Saudi-led war in Yemen, and strengthen US diplomacy.
- To prepare us for lobbying, Amelia Keegan, legislative director for domestic policy, moderated a panel discussion on SNAP, including Barbie Izquierdo, a food justice advocate, who spoke eloquently about struggling with poverty and hunger as a 20-year-old mother of two in north Philadelphia.
- We had extensive skill-building workshops and opportunities to talk to FCNL's lobbyists about their work on militarism, the Middle East, nuclear disarmament, Pentagon spending, sustainable energy and environment, criminal justice reform, election integrity, immigration, refugee policy, Native American advocacy, health care, and the federal budget.
- We celebrated FCNL's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, marked by a keynote address by Ruth Flower, former FCNL associate executive secretary for legislative programs, and a Q&A with Joe Volk and Diane Randall, former and current executive secretaries, who talked about FCNL's legacy as the first faith-based lobby in Washington, its firm anchoring in Quaker values and processes, and its long-standing relationships with Congress.



Rep. Ro Khanna at the FCNL Annual meeting

- The General Committee approved FCNL's legislative priorities for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress (see page 8), which are based on input from more than 280 Quaker meetings, churches, and organizations and the staff's discernment on legislative opportunities in the next two years.

Audio recordings of presentations are here:  
<https://www.fcnl.org/updates/prophetic-persistent-powerful-annual-meeting-2018-1756>



SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS

Friends Committee on National Legislation

*A Quaker Lobby in the Public Interest*

## Legislative Priorities for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress

Approved by FCNL's General Committee on December 1, 2018

Since the early days of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers), God's spirit has led Friends to be a prophetic witness and to take action in the world. The Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) brings Friends' spiritual values and testimonies to bear on U.S. public policy decisions. FCNL solicited the views and concerns of Quaker meetings, churches, and organizations around the country to help discern the following priorities for our lobbying and public education work during the 116th Congress (2019-2020):

- Peacebuilding, diplomacy and the peaceful prevention and resolution of violent conflict with an emphasis on the Middle East.
- Reduction of military spending and armed interventions.
- Nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation.
- A criminal justice system that is just and equitable, eliminates mass incarceration and promotes law-enforcement that is community-oriented and demilitarized.
- An immigration system that promotes and respects the rights, safety and dignity of all immigrants, refugees and migrants.
- Equitable access for all to participation in an open and transparent political process.
- Ending gun violence including through the support of policies informed by public health best practices.
- Witness and advocate on Native American concerns. Honor the treaties.
- Economic justice and equity; strengthen programs that meet basic needs including universal access to quality, affordable healthcare.
- Sustainable solutions to climate change, including reducing fossil fuel use, increasing renewable energy, strengthening environmental protections, promoting international cooperation, and protecting vulnerable populations.

Friends are called to promote genuine equality of opportunity and communities in which everyone can safely live, learn, work, worship, and love. In each priority we will identify, expose and work to eliminate institutional racism, institutional sexism and other forms of systemic discrimination. We are mindful that our nation has a special responsibility to redress the consequences of its long history of slavery, race-based discrimination and oppression.

FCNL seeks to collaborate across the political spectrum to advance these priorities. FCNL's work will be based on legislative opportunities, specific expertise, leadings, and available resources. In addition, *The World We Seek* (FCNL's Policy Statement) gives FCNL the flexibility to respond to crises and to important legislative opportunities, as Way opens.

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FRIENDS COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL LEGISLATION

245 2ND STREET NE » WASHINGTON, DC 20002 » (800) 630-1330 » [FCNL.ORG](http://FCNL.ORG)