

# Morningside Matters

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

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

June 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 (resumes in September)	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	First Sunday	Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business (resumes in September)	room 12T	12:30 pm
	Second Sunday	Bible study (on summer hiatus)	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
	Fourth Sunday	Racial Justice Study Group (on summer hiatus after June 23)	room 12T	1:00 pm
Monthly, Quarterly, Yearly Meeting events	Thursdays	Downtown Manhattan Quaker Meeting	Battery Park	6:00 pm
	July 13	Quarterly Business Meeting	Prospect Park	1:00 pm – 4:00 pm
	July 21 – 27	NYYM Summer Sessions	Silver Bay	
	September 13 – 15	Morningside Meeting Fall Retreat	Stony Point	
	November 1 – 3	NYYM Fall sessions	TBD	
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
	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 – 8	Visual Storytelling: The Transformative Art of Altered Book-Makin	Pendle Hill	
	August 9 – 11	AVP Training for Facilitators	Pendle Hill	
August 16 – 18	Self-Care in the Art of Teaching	Powell House		

September 13 – 15	Journey Toward Wholeness	Pendle Hill	
September 15 – 27	Permaculture Design Certification	Pendle Hill	
September 27 – 29	Lives of Service (work days in grounds and buildings)	Pendle Hill	
October 6 – 10	Women of Color Writing Workshop	Pendle Hill	
October 11 – 13	Mindfulness & White Privilege	Pendle Hill	
October 22 – 26	Beyond Diversity	Pendle Hill	
October 27 – 28	Storywork: Deepening the Presence & Practice of Community Through Story	Pendle Hill	
November 22 – 24	Clerking, Serving the Community with Joy and Confidence	Pendle Hill	
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:***  
*Go joyously and with a light heart  
as far as you can;  
and if you cannot always go joyously,  
go with  
courage and confidence.*

*~St. Francis de Sales  
1567-1622*

**Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends  
Minutes of the Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business  
June 2, 2019**

- The Meeting began with worship at 12:30 p.m., and Jane Alexandre read from “Revelation and Revolution,” by Daniel Seeger, The Friends Journal (6/1/15):  

“Knowing that there is no time but this present, those who are valiant for the truth make the constant choice not to run from the present moment in the naïve hope that salvation will appear around the next corner. Alone, as individuals, we perhaps cannot accomplish much. But together our work and our witness can make the principle of love visible...  
“In our practical activism for peace and justice, there is neither anger nor affliction, but only love and joy—the same love which has summoned all things up from the formless dust and the same love which sustains them. It is a joy which comes from the simple tasting and feeling of all goodness and from the simple knowing of all Truth. For those to whom it is given to find natural delight in such being and such doing, rather than being full of monsters, the world is, indeed, a smiling place.”
- Corona Machermer gave the Peace and Social Concerns Report. The next meeting of P&SC will be on Sunday June 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
- Friend approve the Minute in Support of Morningside’s Endorsement of and Participation in The Ribbon International’s “Ribbon 2020 – Tangible Hope for No Nuclear War” event to be held in New York City on August 1, 2020.

4. Friends approve the Minute in Support of the Fair & Timely Parole Bill (S.497/A.4346). The Minute is attached.
5. Friends approve the Minute in Support of the Elder Parole Bill (S2144/A4319). The Minute is attached.
6. Daniel A. Seeger gave the Treasurer's Report. Friends accept the report, and the written report is attached.
7. Ed Elder read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on Friday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP to Pam. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
8. Friends approve the creation of a Naming Committee to fill the vacant position currently on the Nominating Committee and to fill the 2020 vacancies on Nominating Committee.
9. Friends approve Pamela Wood, David Fletcher and Jerry Reisig to serve on the Naming Committee.
10. Ed Elder gave the first reading of the letter requesting membership by Joseph Soto "Indio" Maguey, who is currently a member of the Woodbourne Worship Group. Friends approved the first reading of the letter.
11. Pamela Wood read the State of the Meeting Report from the Woodbourne Worship Group. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.
12. Corona Machermer gave a Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. The written report is attached.
13. Jane Alexandre, Tom Goodridge and Stephen McDonnell gave a report for Moving with the Spirit that happened this past year. They played the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm by Bobby McFerrin and moved. Friends accept the report.
14. Friends made Announcements.
15. The next Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business will be on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>
16. We will hold our Fall Retreat, "Our Relationship to the Earth," Sept. 13-15, 2019.
17. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Joyce Richardson, Robert Renwick, Ronald Rieder, Peter Beck, Mark Crang, Sally Campbell, Charlene Ray, Daniel A. Seeger, Tom Goodridge, Bryan Oettel, Angel Tueros, Ed Elder, David Fletcher, June Tano, Corona Machermer, Charlotte Ehrman, Robert Schwab, Pamela Wood, Jane Alexandre, Stephen McDonnell.

### Peace and Social Concerns Committee Report

Peace & Social Concerns met on Sunday, May 12, 2019.

Attending were Sally Campbell; Pam Wood; Dave Fletcher; Robert Renwick; Kathy Stackhouse; Corona Machermer (acting as Clerk)

1. Friends approve contributing \$300 to hurricane relief in Puerto Rico through a congregation of the Church of the Brethren, which 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). The liaison is Sally Campbell.
2. At Morningside's Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business on May 5, the Meeting approved Morningside's endorsement of the event planned by The Ribbon International in New York City on August 1, 2020, in support of the abolition of nuclear weapons. (A flyer about The Ribbon International and the 2020 event in New York City has been circulated to Morningsiders and is available on the Literature Table. Friends can learn 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.)
3. An ad hoc "Ribbon Committee," consisting of June Tano, Robert Schwab, Charlene Ray and Sally Campbell (convenor), was appointed to organize Morningside's participation and to draft a Minute of support. **This proposed "Ribbon Minute," which has been seasoned by the ad hoc committee, is presented herewith for the Meeting's consideration and, we hope, approval.**
3. The long involvement of Morningsiders in prison issues has led us to concerns about the injustices associated with the administration of parole in New York State. With the recent political changes in Albany, there is renewed hope that improvements may be made. **To that end, Peace & Social Concerns brings forward two Minutes in support of two bills now before the legislature for the Meeting's consideration and, we hope, approval: (1) The Fair**

and **Timely Parole Bill (S.497/A.4346)** and **(2) the Elder Parole Bill (S.2144/A.4319)**.

**The Committee also plans to hold a letter-writing session in conjunction with the P&SC meeting on June 9 to encourage as many Morningsiders as possible write to Governor Cuomo on the subject of Parole Commissioners.** Background information on the reasons for this letter-writing campaign is attached to this report, and will be distributed to the mailing list, along with the governor's contact information for any who are unable to join the letter-writing on June 9. It is important that the governor hear from Friends well before the end of the current legislative session, on June 19.

4. Pam Wood reports that a women's version of the American Friends Service Committee's "Survivors Manual: How to Survive in Solitary Confinement" is now ready for publication, as is a Spanish-language version. The Committee agrees to make a contribution of \$230 towards publication—\$10 for each hour out of every 24 hours prisoners in solitary confinement

spend in their cells. (For complicated reasons, the contribution will be sent to Westbury Meeting, which is coordinating the publication for the AFSC.)

5. Morningside has long been involved in the Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement in New York (CAIC-NYC), which supports passage of the proposed the Humane Alternatives to Long-Term (HALT) Solitary Confinement Act (S.1623/A.2500) now before the legislature. CAIC-NYC believes the votes are there to pass both bills, but the leaders of the Assembly and the Senate, under pressure from unions representing prison guards, refuse to bring them to the floor for a vote. The Committee asks that Friends call the Senate Majority Leader, Andrea Stewart-Cousins (518-455-2585; 914-423-4031) and the speaker of the Assembly, Carl Heastie (518-455-3791; 718-654-6539), and urge them to allow votes on the HALT bills.

The next meeting of P&SC will be on Sunday June 9 at 1:00 p.m. Sally Campbell will act as clerk.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Macheimer (Acting as Clerk)

**Background information relevant to the  
Peace & Social Concerns Letter-Writing Campaign Concerning Parole Commissioners  
To be held in conjunction with the P&SC Meeting on June 9**

Currently 12 of the 19 possible positions on the Parole Board have been filled. The budget presently in force provides funds for a total of 17 of the 19 to be filled, but as of the moment, no new commissioners have been appointed. Friends need to urge Governor Cuomo to appoint new commissioners before the end of the legislative session, preferably people with a broad range of backgrounds including rehabilitation: social workers, religious leaders, members of the community from which those who are incarcerated come, not just people with a background in law enforcement. In addition, the Governor should be urged to budget for the additional 2 positions next year.

There are several reasons why the number and type of parole commissioners is important. The Parole Board hears about 1,000 cases a month, usually by video conference with only one commissioner visible. Because of backlogs, cases are often delayed. In addition, because there are not enough commissioners, there are often only 2 commissioners at a hearing. If one votes for release and the other opposes, the person is not released. If there are 3 commissioners, and there are two positive votes, the person is released. When law enforcement dominates the Board, the nature of the crime becomes the most important factor despite any accomplishments the person may have. The repeated denial of parole has been one of the causes for the rising suicide rate in NY State prisons. The cost of maintaining aging people in prison is another factor that should be considered.

**Morningside Monthly Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends  
Minute in Support of Morningside's Endorsement of and Participation in  
The Ribbon International's "Ribbon 2020 – Tangible Hope for No Nuclear War" event,  
to be held in New York City on August 1, 2020**

***Approved at Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business June 2, 2019***

Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) supports the plans of The Ribbon International to hold a "Ribbon 2020" event in New York City (and other locations) on August 1, 2020, in commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the nuclear bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The Ribbon International is a non-governmental organization (NGO), in association with the United Nations, which promotes nuclear disarmament and Earth Care. The organization—and the movement it represents—was launched on August 4, 1985, the 40<sup>th</sup>-anniversary year of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, with an event in Washington D.C., in which thousands of hand-crafted cloth panels, each measuring 18 inches by 36 inches and each held by an individual, were tied together in a "ribbon" at least 15 miles long that circled the Pentagon, then stretched from the Pentagon to the Lincoln

Memorial and the Mall, around the Capitol and back again. Each hand-crafted panel depicted in images, words and symbols what its maker would miss most in a world destroyed in a nuclear holocaust.

For 350 years, the Quaker peace testimony has called Friends to work against militarism and to strive to build a culture of peace. Now, in the face of renewed nuclear fear-mongering and the continuing gross misuse of resources to support nuclear arsenals (the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons [ICAN] estimates that the nuclear-armed nations spend close to \$300 million a day on their nuclear forces), The Ribbon International 2020 project offers people of all faiths or none an opportunity to demonstrate in a simple, concrete way our love of peace on Planet Earth. By testifying with linked, handmade panels, creating New York's "Ribbon 2020: Tangible Hope for No Nuclear War," we announce our shared commitment to non-violence, and together speak truth to power.

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*At Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business on May 5, 2019, Morningside Monthly Meeting agreed to be a named sponsor of the Ribbon International 2020 Event in New York City and established an ad hoc Ribbon Committee to manage our engagement and to reach out to other groups engaged in peace work. We ask that this Minute be forwarded to New York area monthly meetings, to New York Quarterly Meeting and New York Yearly Meeting, as well as to other faith and peace groups, for their several endorsements and co-sponsorships. (For further information about the Ribbon International and the 2020 project in New York City go to [www.theribboninternational.org](http://www.theribboninternational.org).)*

### **Additional background relating to the renewed risks of nuclear war 30 years after the end of the Cold War**

Besides being a persistent threat to all life on Earth, nuclear weapons also amount to immense structural violence, preventing the establishment of positive peace.

Real human security, human rights and well-being continue to be sacrificed to maintain this apparatus of mass murder.

The new nuclear arms race will drastically increase structural violence.

The US government's recent decision to withdraw from the bilateral Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty is an ominous development. Russia responded by announcing that it will follow suit, further contributing to this dramatic erosion of global security.

For over 30 years, the INF Treaty between Russia and the US underpinned the system of global nuclear arms control. It led to the dismantling and destruction of close to **2,700 nuclear missiles**, and on-site inspections to make sure the treaty was being upheld. This partial nuclear disarmament and the accompanying system of nuclear arms control assisted the processes which ultimately led to the end of the Cold War.

The collapse of the INF treaty comes in a context of increasingly belligerent US-Russia relations, and of great power competition and conflict more generally. It is part of a wider shift away from the (limited) efforts to achieve nuclear de-escalation. This shift has included the development and promotion of "low-yield" or "tactical" nuclear weapons, which increase the scope for and plausibility of nuclear weapon use.

In 2018 the US also turned away from the Iran nuclear deal. **The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons** has warned that the abandonment of efforts to constructively engage with Iran "risks igniting new conflict rather than reducing the risk of nuclear war." At the same time, the current US administration is seeking to sell highly sensitive nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia.

In February 2019, open military hostilities erupted between two nuclear weapons states, India and Pakistan. Grassroots campaigners from both countries challenged the march to war by speaking out en masse to [#SayNoToWar](https://twitter.com/SayNoToWar). The events showed the fragility of peace but also the power of ordinary citizens to influence political leaders. [Adapted from text found on [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk)]

### **Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends**

#### **Minute in Support of the Fair & Timely Parole Bill (S.497/A.4346)**

#### ***Approved at Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, June 2, 2019***

Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) supports the passage of the Fair and Timely Parole bill, which provides that if a person's record in prison is good and the person does not evince a current and unreasonable risk to the safety of members of the community outside prison, the person should be granted parole as a matter of course once he or she has served the minimum time the judge has set. As Friends, we believe that we all have the possibility of transforming our lives. People who have turned their lives around while incarcerated and have demonstrated that transformation deserve to be released. They can make important contributions to their communities and families. The nature of the crime committed many years before should not be the sole reason for denying parole. Those of us who have volunteered in NY State Correctional Facilities have seen numerous examples of this kind of positive change and know many who, upon release, have been **assets** to their communities.

**Morningside Monthly Meeting  
of the Religious Society of Friends Minute in Support of the Elder Parole Bill (S2144/A.4319)  
*Approved at Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business, June 2, 2019***

Morningside Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) supports the passage of the Elder Parole bill. This provides that all people aged 55 years or older who have served 15 years or more in prison would become eligible for parole consideration. It does not mean people will automatically receive parole, but it does allow people who have sentences such as life without parole or 50 years to life to be considered. As Friends, we believe all lives are sacred. This does not mean, however, that those who have committed murder or other violent acts deserve to have indefinite or life-without-parole sentences if they have transformed their lives while incarcerated. In fact, it means the opposite. Moreover, African Americans and other people of color receive these sentences disproportionately, so that granting those who are over 55 years of age a chance to be paroled may well be mitigating earlier injustice. At the same time, the evidence shows that people who are over 55 years of age have a minimal risk of recidivism. It also shows that people with these long sentences often lose hope and sometimes commit suicide. By recognizing the possibility of change, the possibility of hope is restored.

**Treasurer's Report**

Attached is an account of Income and Expenditures from January 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019. Since the Clerk wanted this report by Friday, and the bank had not yet posted the interest for May, the income is understated by approximately \$2.00.

The Fall appeal, having been gotten out in a timely way, has produced the expected bulge in income, a bulge which might continue into June. The income which arrives monthly from members who have programmed their banks to send checks automatically continues to provide stability and predictability to the fiscal life of the Meeting.

The chart of organizational contributions decided upon by the Peace and Social Concerns Committee has been an evolving phenomenon this year, and the latest version available to the Treasurer contains some ambiguities, two of these involving disbursements scheduled for May. So these two scheduled payments have not yet been made,

and so the expenses are also understated. Attached is a chart of the Peace and Social Concerns Disbursements which have been made to date; members who are liaisons with organizations scheduled but not yet paid should resolve the ambiguities with the Treasurer via the Peace and Social Concerns Committee Clerk. While the Treasurer has accepted disbursement instructions from individual members in the past, good order would suggest that the Clerk should authorize expenditures made in the name of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee.

The second quarterly disbursement to the Yearly Meeting will go out in June, which will throw the income/expenditure ratio into a negative position at the end of the first six months of the fiscal year, which is normal.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

**Income/Expense by Category**

1/1/2019 through 5/31/2019 (Cash Basis)

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	5/1/2019- 5/31/2019	OVERALL TOTAL
<b>INCOME</b>						
General Fund Contribution	643.00	5,196.40	1,070.00	1,366.11	3,936.11	12,211.62
Interest and Dividends	2.05	1.93	2.16	2.06	0.00	8.20
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>645.05</b>	<b>5,198.33</b>	<b>1,072.16</b>	<b>1,368.17</b>	<b>3,936.11</b>	<b>12,219.82</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>						
NYYM Allocation	0.00	4,331.25	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,331.25
Operations - Finance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	131.48	131.48
Operations, Comm. - Website	120.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.86	220.86
Outreach - Friends in Unity w Nature	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Outreach - Peace, Social Concerns	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	1,250.00	480.00	3,030.00
Retreat Expense	1,200.00	0.00	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>912.34</b>	<b>9,113.59</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>-674.95</b>	<b>867.08</b>	<b>-227.84</b>	<b>118.17</b>	<b>3,023.77</b>	<b>3,106.23</b>

### Peace and Social Concerns Disbursements through May 31, 2019

Payee	
Black and Pink	250.00
Bolivian Quaker Education Fund	400.00
Friends Committee on National Legislation	700.00
Friends General Conference	400.00
Judson Memorial Church	250.00
Release Aging People from Prison	300.00
Sane Energy Project	500.00
Westbury Monthly Meeting	230.00
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>3,030.00</b>

### Ministry and Counsel Committee Report

Ministry & Council met on 5/27/19 at the home of Pam Wood. Our next Meeting will be on Friday Sept. 6th at Pam Wood's apartment at 1:00 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 8 on-going support or clearness committees.

We agreed that Ed Elder would host the fourth Sunday breakfast in June, Pam Wood would host in July and Charlene Ray would host in August.

The Fourth Sunday Discussion/Racial Justice Study Group will meet in June and will not meet in July or August. Moving with Spirit and Bible Study will also not meet for the summer.

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

Ministry and Counsel is proposing that the Meeting create a Naming Committee to propose people for the Nominating Committee. This is the practice followed in most Meetings. We propose that Ministry and Counsel members be named to this committee as they cannot serve on Nominating and Ministry and Counsel at the same time. This Committee would be charged with working to fill the vacant position currently on the Nominating Committee and to fill the 2020 vacancies on Nominating Committee.

Ministry and Counsel proposes Pamela Wood, David Fletcher and Jerry Reisig to be the Naming Committee.

Ministry and counsel forwards the membership request from Joseph Soto "Indio" Maguey, who is currently a member of the Woodbourne Worship Group to the Meeting with a recommendation for approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ed Elder, clerk, M&C

### Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) State of the Meeting Report - 2018 Woodbourne Worship Group

Some good Friends from our group were able to go home and we are gladdened at hearing that they are continuing to meet and worship with other Friends. Having that support is necessary to stay on the right path and continue growing 'In the Light.' It is a comfort and encouragement to those of us waiting for our turn to be released, knowing there is a good welcome waiting.

The Woodbourne Worship Group was saddened by the passing of Marjory Clark, our beloved Friend and one of the first members, of our worship group almost 25 years ago. Even when there was only one other Friend to worship with at times, she remained faithful and consistent to keep the worship active. We are forever honored to know her and continue to reflect on the wisdom, strength and faithfulness she had to God and Friends. While saddened, we also rejoice in knowing Marjory is eternally in heaven with her Lord and Savior, Jesus, whom she loves with all her heart; that love which she continually shared with us.

We are also blessed with having members share current events and other topics for discussion. It helps all of us to grow more 'In the Light' and also prepares us as we reengage with others in our community. Christmastime this past year provided us an opportunity to try something different for the coming year to help us have a sense of togetherness during worship. When circumstances cause us to be apart, we take some time at 8:00 a.m. and/or 3:00 p.m. on that day to lift up our Friends, listening to the spirit who guides us in our prayers and thoughts for our Friends.

Most of this year was focused on trying to look at things from different points of view other than our individual ones. Understanding situations and comments from different perspectives helps us find that which is the good and true in whatever comes our way. Such as:

- ⌘ Being honest with God first and having that honesty carry on to others.
- ⌘ Our attitude and actions which sets the course for the consequences afterward.
- ⌘ Looking for the good and positive first in everything and everyone you can.
- ⌘ Forgiveness and honesty with family and friends.
- ⌘ Making ourselves available to others and helping when we are able.

It is amazing how these things can be adjusted for the better, and strengthened just by not being quite so self-oriented during our interactions with others.

An interesting T-shirt was worn one day that depicted a kitten looking through a glass floor and seeing a lion below looking back up at it ... or, was the lion looking up and seeing the kitten looking down? It created a very good ongoing discussion and thought process about how we continue to pursue the various ways of looking at the reasons and process behind what someone says or does during our interaction with them. Rather than thinking only of our own current thoughts and opinions on how we might immediately react, we try to “see” as they see. This gives us insight into other possibilities, which allows us to respond rather than react to the statements or situations before us. There is truth in the saying “walk a mile in the other person’s shoes.”

We can all become better people, for God, for others, and ourselves by how willing we are to be open to seeing different perspectives to make better assessments of what is present before us and within us. We are thankful for Friends and the diversity of Friends, for we have realized this year that diversity, in the right forum, can create clarity and bring us nearer to that desired closer walk with the Light within us.

Be Blessed in the Light  
Woodbourne Worship Group

### Communications Committee Report

The committee met on Wednesday, May 15. Attending at Bryan Oettel’s home were Bryan, Kathy Stackhouse, and Corona Macheimer (acting as clerk).

- 1 The Committee spends its time together planning for the presentation and brainstorming session on the Morningside website scheduled for Sunday, May 19 at 1:00 pm. The decision is made to purchase a projector and portable screen for the Meeting to facilitate the presentation. This equipment, which will be kept at Bryan Oettel’s home and will be available to Morningsiders for presentations.
2. The presentation on May 19, led by Bryan Oettel, offered those attending a “guided tour” of the website,

instructions on using the three functions available only to members of the database who have logged in (posting events on the Calendar and the Bulletin Board, and contacting another member of the database through Friend Finder). Notes were made on text that needs updating and suggestions for other changes that would help the site better serve the Meeting. The Committee will be following up during the coming weeks. [Morningside’s Facebook page will be the subject of a future session].

Respectfully submitted,  
Corona Macheimer, Acting Clerk

### Accompaniment Training at the New Sanctuary Coalition

The New Sanctuary Coalition (supported by Morningside Meeting) is recruiting volunteers to accompany people facing deportation to their immigration hearings and ICE check-ins. This provides moral support to the person facing deportation and enables volunteers to hold immigration authorities accountable. Standing in solidarity with migrants facing deportation also demonstrates to immigration judges, ICE officers, and government attorneys that there is a community mobilized against their deportation. NSC accompanies hundreds of people a year. Once you’re trained you become part of the accompaniment program. You’ll learn about upcoming accompaniments and can sign up for time slots and locations that work for you. For more information about training sessions, see <https://www.newsanctuarynyc.org/>