

Morningside Matters

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

www.morningsidemeeting.org

May 2018

Calendar

Weekly	Sunday	Meeting for Worship	Riverside Church 490 Riverside Drive, room 12T (childcare provided in room 13T)	11:00 am
	Thursday	Downtown Outdoor Meeting https://www.nycquakers.org/event/downtown-meeting-2/2018-05-03/	The Battery, NE corner	6:00 pm
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	May 20	Morningside Meeting Racial Justice Study Group: <i>Deep Denial</i> by David Billings	room 12T	1:00 – 2:00 pm
	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	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
	June 3	Morningside Meeting: Moving with the Spirit	room 12T	10:00 – 10:30 am
	June 9	"In Pursuit of Meaning, Dance until You Drop": A NYQM discussion about Quaker response to life's challenges	Brooklyn Meeting	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
	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.nyym.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
	May 11 – 13	Story Fire, A Retreat for Parents	Powell House	
	May 12	Compassionate Listening	Pendle Hill	
	May 12	Journal Harvesting	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	
June 3	15 th Street Meeting Rummage Sale	15 th Street Meeting	12:00 – 5:00 pm
June 8 – 10	A Year at Hogwarts	Powell House	
June 26 – 29	Kairos: Silence, Contemplation and Scripture	Pendle Hill	
July 1 – 7	Friends General Conference Gathering: The Power of Truth	Toledo, Ohio	
August 5	Fierce Biblical Women Speak Power to Us Today	Pendle Hill	
August 10 – 11	Challenge of Progressive Christianity	Pendle Hill	
August 24 – 26	Godly Play	Pendle Hill	
November 28 – December 2	FCNL Annual Meeting: Prophetic, Persistent, Powerful	Washington, DC	

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
There is no other.
-- John A. Powell

**Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes of the Called Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
April 8, 2018**

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:15 p.m.
2. Friends approved Stephen McDonnell to clerk for the day.
3. Friends approved the nomination of David Britton to the Nominating Committee of the New York Quarterly Meeting and asks that the Clerk forward the nomination to the Quarterly Meeting.

The meeting ended with worship at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Robert Renwick, Joyce Richardson, Trudy Hayden, James Shipside, June Tano, Soobok Kim, Ava Gagliardi, Jason McGill, Peter Beck, Charlene Ray, Jerry Reisig, Sally Campbell, Richard Schmidt, Corona Machermer, Bryan Wigfall, David Britton, Stephen McDonnell.

**Morningside Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Minutes for Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business
May 6, 2018**

1. The Meeting began with worship at 12:30 p.m., and Nancy Britton read from: "Where Words Come From" by Douglas V. Steere, pp. 1 and 12-13:

"Have you ever sat with a friend when in the course of an easy and pleasant conversation the talk took a new turn and you both listened avidly to the other to something that was emerging in your visit?...Have you ever talked with someone who has listened with utter abandon to what you were trying to tell him that you yourself were made clearer in what you were trying to express by the very quality of his listening?...A listener extends openness when he accepts the person who is speaking, when he relinquishes all buffing and finishing operations and takes the man as he comes."

The reading was also followed by silent worship.

2. Friends approved Nancy Britton as Clerk for the day.
3. Charlene Ray read the report for Ministry and Counsel. M&C met on April 26th at the home of Pamela Wood. The next meeting will be at the home of Pamela Wood on May 28th at 7:15 p.m. All are welcome to the first part. Please RSVP. The written report is attached.
4. Friends approved moving September's Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business to the 2nd Sunday (September 9th) because of Labor Day.
5. Charlene Ray read the letter requesting membership by Bryan Wigfall; this was the second reading. Friends approved the membership of Bryan Wigfall. Jason McGill will convene the Welcoming Committee for Bryan, and this will be held at the home at Tom Goodridge. All who are interested in

joining are requested to let Jason know at rise of meeting.

6. Corona Macheimer gave a Peace and Social Concerns report. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.
7. Daniel Seeger gave the Treasurer's Report. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.
8. Corona Macheimer gave the Communications Committee Report. Friends accept the report. The report is attached.
9. Nancy Britton gave the Clerk's Report from Pamela Wood:

A follow up to our minute supporting Herman Bell's release: Despite opposition from the Police Benevolent Association and some family members of the policemen who were killed, Herman Bell was released from prison on Friday, April 27 to be with his family in California after an imprisonment of 45 years.

Friends accept the report.
10. Friends made other announcements.
11. Friends approved these minutes. The meeting ended with worship at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen McDonnell

Present: Robert Renwick, Jerry Reisig, Peter Beck, Ed Elder, Jane Alexandre, Corona Macheimer, Kathy Stackhouse, Charlene Ray, Bryan Oettel, Sally Campbell, Joyce Richardson, Daniel A. Seeger, Bryan Wigfall, Ernie Buscemi, Jason McGill, Charlotte Ehrman, David Britton, Barton Dominus, Nancy Britton, Stephen McDonnell

Clerk's Report

On Friday, April 27, Herman Bell, a 70-year-old respected elder, was released after serving nearly 45 years in prison. Herman was one of thousands of incarcerated older people who was repeatedly denied parole for over a decade after completing his minimum sentence. His release is a result of important and urgent changes in the criminal legal system and parole regulations that are part of nationwide efforts to end mass incarceration. Let us hope that Herman's release brings inspiration for more change. Herman is deeply humbled and grateful for the broad expressions of trust and support, but out of respect for the feelings of the victims' families, he will not be making any public statements. We welcome him home.

Ministry and Counsel Report

1. M&C met on Monday April 26th at the home of Pam Wood.
2. The next meeting will be Monday May 28th at Pam Wood's at 7:15. The first half is open to anyone with concerns.
3. M&C asks the meeting to consider whether to move September's business meeting to the second Sunday since the first Sunday falls on Labor Day weekend.
4. Our next welcome breakfast will be on May 27th hosted by Pam Wood at 9:30 in the Riverside Cafe. All are welcome.
5. Also on May 27th after meeting the Racial Justice Study group will be meeting from 1-2. The group will discuss the book *Deep Denial* by David Billings. All are welcome.
6. Bible Study will be held on May 13th at 9:30.
7. Ministry and Counsel forwards to meeting for worship with a concern for business a recommendation to approve Bryan Wigfall for membership.
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. Friends are asked to sign up and to bring food in support of a potluck lunch.
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. M and C would like to know if there are specific themes that meeting would like addressed. We also need two volunteers: one to be the contact person for Stony Point and the other to be the registrar for the event.

Treasurer's Report

The Income and Expense Report on the reverse side shows activity for the first four months of the fiscal year. Income for April was \$710.12; expenses amounted to \$910.00.

It is very helpful to the Treasurer, and to the Meeting, that many members and attenders make donations through monthly automatic transfers from their bank. Anyone who has arranged internet access to their account can set this up. Contact Dan Seeger if you have questions: dseeger8000@gmail.com.

Difficulty in finding a date when the Finance Committee can meet has delayed the Spring Appeal. We hope to get it out in June. Also, some scheduled Peace and Social Concerns disbursements have been delayed pending that Committee's provision to the Treasurer of up-to-date information regarding payees.

We have been maintaining an account at the Schwab brokerage firm in order to have a proper channel for gifts of stock, should any be made. At last we have received a stock gift, but the procedures for transferring the cash equivalents to the Meeting has proven somewhat torturous. Treasurer Emerita Charlene Ray has been providing valuable help with regard to this. We are looking for a more expeditious system. We want people to feel free to make gifts of stock, particularly when planning their estates. We hope to have more to report on this in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel A. Seeger, Treasurer

Income/Expense by Category
1/1/2018 through 4/30/2018 (Cash Basis)

Category	1/1/2018- 1/31/2018	2/1/2018- 2/28/2018	3/1/2018- 3/31/2018	4/1/2018- 4/30/2018	OVERALL TOTAL
INCOME					
General Fund Contribution	793.40	455.00	5,154.29	710.12	7,112.81
Interest and Dividends	1.68	1.57	1.85	0.00	5.10
Reintegration Grant	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
TOTAL INCOME	795.08	456.57	5,656.14	710.12	7,617.91
EXPENSES					
Huntington House	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
NYYM Allocation	0.00	0.00	4,125.00	0.00	4,125.00
Operations -- Breakfast	0.00	36.00	40.00	0.00	76.00
Operations -- Finance	0.00	20.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Operations -- First Day Child Care	0.00	290.00	185.00	0.00	475.00
Operations, Comm. -- Website	0.00	0.00	160.00	60.00	220.00
Outreach -- Peace, Social Concerns	100.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	600.00
Outreach -- Scholarships, Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	350.00	350.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	100.00	546.00	4,510.00	910.00	6,066.00
OVERALL TOTAL	695.08	-89.43	1,146.14	-199.88	1,551.91

Report from Peace and Social Concerns Committee

Peace & Social Concerns met on April 8, 2018.

Attending were Sally Campbell; David Britton; Robert Renwick; Bryan Wigfall; Corona Machermer (clerk)

The meeting opens with a few minutes of silence.

1. Bryan Wigfall has agreed to be Morningside's liaison with the Friends Committee on World Consultation (FWCC) (www.fwcc.org).
2. The committee approves Sally Campbell as co-clerk (with Corona Machermer).
3. The Committee tables until its May meeting further consideration of the proposal that the committee recommend to Business Meeting that Morningside become a supporting member of the *National Farm Workers Ministry: Together with Farm Workers, Harvesting Justice*. In addition to reading the various communications concerning the group distributed by

email, Friends are urged to visit the Ministry's website at www.nfwm.org to learn more about the organization. If you cannot attend the next Peace & social Concerns meeting, please share any thoughts you have on this matter with the co-clerks and/or Naomi Paz-Greenberg.

4. The Committee agrees to pursue joining in FCNL's monthly Letter-Writing Campaign.
5. The next meeting of Peace & Social Concerns will be on May 13.
6. 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.

Respectfully submitted,
 Corona Machermer, clerk

Report from the Communications Committee

The committee met on April 10, 2018. Attending were Bryan Oettel, Kathy Stackhouse, Emily Bishop, and Corona Machermer (acting as clerk)

1. The appearance and functioning of the website are discussed, especially ways in which the site can be made more useful to Morningsiders as well as more inviting to visitors, both Friends and seekers who are not Friends. We are discussing the "look" of the site as well as the content. Some changes have

already been made, in particular to the Bulletin Board, which, like the Calendar, is now accessible to all visitors to the site (only members of the database can post items on either). The committee welcomes any and all suggestions.

2. The Committee continues consideration of ways to attract new attenders, especially young people. Logically, we are first seeking "places" where Morningside might be listed free of charge or with payment

of a nominal fee. Alas, such places—listings at local universities and colleges or local public library branches, for example—seem to be disappointingly few and far between and/or not readily accessible. The search continues, however. If you have any ideas, please contact Emily Bishop at emilybishop@gmail.com.

3. Friends are reminded to contact Emily about possible postings to Morningside's Facebook page (in

addition to the Queries from Ministry and Counsel). She is particularly interested in posts about “outward-looking” events like the monthly Welcome Breakfast. Contact Emily at the email address above concerning possible posts.

4. The next meeting of the Committee is tentatively scheduled for May 15.

Respectfully submitted,
Corona Macheimer

The Face of Resistance:
Living with Awe, Wonder and Joy in
Challenging Times
A Morningside Monthly Meeting Retreat
Facilitated by Ed Seligman

Saturday, June 2, 10-3
15th Street Meetinghouse Lounge
Bring Lunch to share

Take an early summer breather, a break from your routines to let in some new light, to get to know our meeting members in refreshing new, perhaps inspiring new ways. Who could resist Awe, Joy and Wonder??? Why would you?? We (Your Ministry and Counsel Committee) hope to see you there.

Please let us know if you are coming by emailing Charlene at moneycoach@earthlink.net or leaving a message at 212-757-3504. Also, we are asking that you let us know what food you can bring by signing up at meeting or leave word as above.

Fifteenth Street Monthly Meeting will hold its

RUMMAGE SALE *

on Sunday, June 3rd, 12 noon - 5 pm

We welcome donations of:

gently used clothing, toys, games, household goods, and random oddities!

DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE SALE OR DROPPED OFF IN THE WEEK BEFORE--

from Tuesday, May 28th through Friday, June 1st, between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm,

at the NY Quarterly Meeting Office,

15 Rutherford Place, across from Room 1 on the first floor,

Please join us on the day of the Rummage Sale!

In addition to rummage there will be a lemonade stand, a bake sale, and a homemade feast courtesy of Manhattan Monthly Meeting (benefiting their Kenya schools project)

* proceeds of the sale are used to provide scholarships to families wishing to attend New York Yearly Meeting Summer Sessions



Pursuit of Meaning: Dance Until You Drop



CQL, a working group of the NYQM, invites you, your family, your friends into conversation about life's challenges. **At the movies!** We will watch the one-hour video *Being Mortal* together. We will take time to examine our reactions, have **lunch**, and look together at things (dances) we might do.

Saturday, June 9, 2018, 10-2

Brooklyn Meetinghouse, 110 Schermerhorn, Brooklyn

Childcare available; please request by Wednesday June 6.

For planning purposes, please let us know by June 6; RSVP to charleneceis@gmail.com or leave a message at 212-757-3504.

*"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass...
it's about learning to dance in the rain." -Vivian Greene*

Peacebuilding, One Plastic Tray at a Time

Plastic trays and portable sprayers aren't the first things that come to mind when we think of Friends' peacebuilding work. But they have proved vital to the success of the American Friends Service Committee's long working relationship with cooperative farms in North Korea.

The AFSC first went to Korea in 1953 to aid refugees and families divided by the war. In 1980 it was the first public affairs organization to enter North Korea and is now one of six Western faith-based groups working in the country, mostly in agriculture and health care. In 1996 the AFSC began a project to build food security in the midst of the famine of 1994-1998. Today, through an office in Dalian, China, it works with cooperative farms to boost crop yields, directly improving the lives of up to 72,000 North Koreans.

On April 12, AFSC representatives working in North Korea gave a presentation at 15th Street meeting organized by AFSC and the FCNL New York City Advocacy Team. The FCNL Advocacy team's lobbying focus this year is on preventing war with North Korea through legislation to prevent the administration from conducting a pre-emptive military strike.

Linda Lewis, the AFSC's Country Representative for China/North Korea described how the AFSC presents a "respectful and pragmatic face of America in an isolated place." The AFSC seeks out "underperforming" farms, consults with farmers on what they need, provides them with hands-on training in China, and sends them basic farm equipment. This equipment includes greenhouses, where they can raise vegetables like cucumbers and tomatoes for their own use and to sell at farmers' markets, and plastic trays that farmers in North Korea, with its short growing season, use to move rice plants sprouted in greenhouses to the fields when the weather is right. Because current sanctions prohibit importing anything made of metal to North Korea, the AFSC is pretty much limited to plastic items.

Daniel Jasper, Asia Public Education and Advocacy Coordinator for the AFSC based in Washington, DC, said that long-term humanitarian projects like the AFSC's lay the groundwork for diplomacy by building trust and demonstrating sincerity. Humanitarian projects provide an opportunity for conversations that can lead to new opportunities



photo from afsc.com

to foster relationships and bring an end to six decades of military and economic warfare.

Dan suggested that the US government could start engagement with North Korea with small steps such as promoting family reunification between US Koreans and their North Korean relatives or arranging to resume the repatriation, suspended in 2005, of the remains of more than 5,000 US service members still held in North Korea. North Korea might eventually be included in the International Visitor Leadership Program, a State Department exchange program for mid-level officials.

During the Q&A, Dan was asked how US repudiation of the Iran deal would affect North Korea's attitude. He said that North Korea is naturally wary of the United States because our elections can bring abrupt policy changes. He also noted that for many in the US government, Korea is a "handy enemy," as it provides an excuse for military bases to contain China.

According to Dan, "Humanitarian channels are not soft-power measures. They are concrete steps that could potentially dial back a very dangerous situation with a simple humanitarian gesture. In other words, Washington must begin to properly count the humanitarians when taking roll call for open channels, or it will continue to miss out on one of the most promising aspects of the bilateral relationship."