

March, 2019

Brooklyn Monthly Meeting response to the call for a Jubilee Year

The call for a New York Quarterly Meeting jubilee year was presented and discussed at the February Business meeting and then further discussed at our March meeting. The letter from the NYQ Ministry and Counsel committee along with the queries provided by the committee were part of the presentation. At first, Brooklyn Friends were not clear what was being asked of them, but then they began to understand the need for a time to refresh and for deepening fellowship among the members of the Quarter. Friends noted that the Quarterly meeting is not a separate worship community, but is comprised of all of us, and as a Quarterly meeting, a great deal of financial and property work is done on our behalf. We were not clear as to what if any committee work could be set aside, but would leave that to the Quarterly committees, which include many of our members. In Brooklyn, we feel that the work of our committees is an opportunity for fellowship and spirit and do not feel the need to set aside this work.

Friends agreed that they want to support the Jubilee year, primarily by opening up Brooklyn's activities to other Friends and by participating in other meeting and Quarterly activities that allow us to get to know better one another in the Spirit. Friends were excited by the idea of opening our annual retreat at Powell House to the whole Quarter and exploring sharing activities carried out by the Adult Education and Peace and Social Action committees. The work by CQL is a good model of how we might develop more programs for all of us. We would also welcome learning about educational and activist activities carried out by the other meetings that we might attend. We hope the new Quarterly Communications committee will enable us to learn about opportunities to be together in a timely way.