

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Report to New York Quarterly Meeting for Business
16th Day of 7th Month 2022

Dear Friends:

Morningside Meeting continues to worship every First Day at 11 AM in a hybrid format, with Friends joining in person in our Meeting Room on the 12th floor of Riverside Church or by Zoom. As we have noted in earlier reports, the Meeting is fortunate for the ongoing, collaborative ministry of both our Communications Committee and Space Committee that makes this hybrid format run smoothly and seemingly effortlessly.

Our two-plus years of corporate and individual experience with “Zooming” into Meeting means we have more regular contact with both Members and Attenders who can join for worship even when any number of limitations, obligations, or preferences mean they can’t be present in Riverside Church. At the same time, we are grateful to see an increasing number of people join us in person; this growth prompted our Committee on Ministry and Counsel this June to resume hosting a breakfast in the Riverside Church cafeteria preceding Meeting for Worship on the fourth Sunday of each month. We continue to anticipate a different time, a “tipping point” when those of us in the Meeting Room will outnumber those online. How might we ensure everyone feels equally connected while also restoring some of the other activities we’ve long associated with Meeting for Worship: post-worship food offerings, first-day school, and other forms of in-person hospitality?

The Meeting has had a practice of taking an annual hiatus from Business Meeting in the months of July and August, and we approved a hiatus for this year at our June Meeting for Business. Our committees continue to have robust engagement across the summer. This includes monthly Bible Study, which this summer is starting an in-depth engagement with the Acts of the Apostles that will see us through the remainder of this year and into next spring. Through our Peace and Social Concerns Committee, the Meeting continues to advocate for progressive criminal justice reform in New York State in partnership with community organizations. And Morningsiders were joyfully present in the NYQM contingent at the Gay Pride Parade this year, as Quakers have been at virtually every New York parade since the very first.

In Friendship—

Jason McGill
Clerk
Morningside Monthly Meeting