

2021418Morningside Report

Morningside Monthly Meeting Report to the New York Quarterly Meeting April 18, 2021

1. Morningside Monthly Meeting has been holding meeting for worship each first day at 11 a.m. We meet in blended worship, with some Friends attending via zoom, while others gather in person in Riverside Church and join the meeting on zoom. Meeting for Children is not convening at this time.
2. Meeting for Worship with a Concern for Business was held in a blended meeting via zoom and in-person at Riverside Church on February 7, March 7, and April 4, 2021.
3. Bible study continues to meet on the second Seventh day of each month at 1 p.m., via zoom.
4. Moving with Spirit continues to meet on the first First Day of each month at 10 a.m. via zoom. We anticipate meeting in blended worship in person/via zoom beginning in May 2021.
5. The Racial Justice Study Group met on January 24th, February 28th, and March 28th. The Racial Justice Study Group is open to all at Morningside, focusing us on interrogating and understanding the ways that white supremacy and structural racism have permeated and driven all aspects of life and history in the United States.
6. As a *first* step in deepening Morningside Meeting's commitment to pursuing anti-racist principles and practices, a year-long exploration of New York Yearly Meeting's *Faith and Practice* began in February 2021. The exploration is focused with queries on how *Faith and Practice* might challenge the Meeting to be more aware of and committed to dismantling racism within Morningside, *and* how implicit or explicit racial bias might underpin some structures laid out in *Faith and Practice*, which guides much of how Morningside operates. The overarching goal of this work is to deepen Morningside's commitment to building a beloved learning community.
7. Committee meetings continue chiefly via zoom, with more blended meetings in person/zoom anticipated. We are grateful for Friends and attenders faithful efforts to hold and nourish our community through the pandemic, as committee meetings have become much more frequent.
8. Morningside's Peace and Social Concerns, formerly a committee of the whole, was approved by the meeting to become a standing committee for at least through the end of 2021, to be reviewed at December meeting for worship with a concern for business. The standing committee held its first meeting on April 11, 2021.

Jane Alexandre
Clerk
Morningside Monthly Meeting