

Morningside Monthly Meeting
Clerk's Report to New York Quarterly Meeting for Business
15th Day of 1st Month 2023

Dear Friends:

Greetings Friends:

Morningside Monthly Meeting continues to worship in a hybrid format. Our combined in-person and online weekly attendance at Meeting for Worship feels similar to our attendance levels prior to the pandemic. We are also seeing a resurgence in new Attenders, both in the Meeting Room at Riverside Church and online. We continue to seek ways to encourage these new Attenders to continue joining us and become more involved in the life of the Meeting.

Our Committee on Peace and Social Concerns remains a particularly active part of our Meeting life. The Committee continues to develop and steward relationships with organizations and projects advocating on a wide range of issues, from anti-war efforts to environmental preservation, and from prison reform and liberation to Quaker education in Africa. While Morningside Friends have active volunteer and other engagements with many of these organizations, our witness also includes monetary contributions allocated from our annual budget.

We were in this sense grateful to the Quarterly Meeting for its support of \$3,000 to support our witness work with many of these organizations. Morningside has asked our Committee on Peace and Social Concerns to allocate these funds to organizations in addition to the budget the Meeting has allocated for such philanthropy. We look forward to reporting back to the Meeting in April with an update on how we have applied these funds to our Witness work. The Meeting has also asked me to request a more thorough explanation from the Quarterly Meeting about how it decided to allocate the funds in this manner.

One concerning effect of the pandemic and its aftermath has been a substantial decline in both contributions to Morningside and, as a result, our reserve fund. We are taking our time to understand exactly what is happening and to talk with Friends about how the Meeting might plan, budget, and fundraise differently. We will share our learnings and next steps with Friends in the coming months.

In Friendship—

Jason McGill
Clerk
Morningside Monthly Meeting