

## An Open Letter to Friends in Monthly Meetings in Concord Quarter

Friends:

During our July Quarterly Business Meeting a concern was raised regarding membership challenges being experienced by our monthly meetings. It was a multi-faceted concern which related both to financial challenges and to difficulties in finding friends with the energy and ability to attend to the many tasks of our meetings. These challenges fall especially heavily on our smaller monthly meetings, but are shared by all.

Our business also included a request from the Quarter's Working Group on Climate Action to be laid down, not because of a lack of interest, but because of the lack of friends available to carry this work forward.

Friends in attendance felt the weight of these related concerns and it was agreed that as a quarter, we are called to meet to seek guidance and to share ideas and resources to strengthen monthly meetings and to perhaps lighten the load across the quarter.

A called meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 19, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.** The meeting will be conducted via zoom (the link is included in the email notice) I am requesting that each meeting designate at least 2 friends (more are welcome!) to participate who are familiar with these challenges and/or who have an interest in creative outreach and engagement inside of our meetings.

Concord Quarter is a resource to its monthly meetings, as is PYM. All of the concerns raised are shared. Please join this important conversation on October 19!

Debbie Murray-Sheppard, Clerk  
Concord Quarterly Meeting