

Ministry and Counsel
Report to Meeting
January 2021

1. Fourth Sunday – We plan to once again use January 4th Sunday to gather input for State of Society report from the Meeting. We will invite you to consider these prompts: How do you experience God over Zoom? How has the pandemic changed your experience of Meeting? Has it weakened us? Strengthen us? What are the spiritual consequences of using Zoom? How has the forces in our outer society affected our Meeting? What spiritual learnings have happened? Expect to offer your thoughts and they will be transcribed into a report.
2. Restructuring small groups: We've had a request that we switch the care groups around. This will be a way to include some people that are not in any group now. We expect some groups may continue but some people in those groups may want to join another new group also. These will be somewhat themed and or structured. We suggest we consider these as short term (maybe 6 weeks) to allow people the opportunity to switch. Here are some ideas we thought of, we invite other ideas. For example,
 - a. a group that would share poetry
 - b. Share songs and why they were important to them
 - c. Crafting together (Sit and knit for a bit or other handwork)
 - d. Discuss a book or reading on a set topic/theme (e.g. Native American spirituality or racial justice - Long book group - or short book group
 - e. A Slack group (using Slack to communicate)
 - f. Walk once a week for an hour
 - g. Bible Study group
 - h. Podcast group – listen to and respond to a podcast (not more than 30 minutes)

Ruth will be organizing these- so look for an email. There is no limit on how many groups you join.
3. Mark's Tuesday evening Quakerism 201 on the Testimonies has continued to meet as "Living Our Testimonies" and is now researching homelessness. This grew organically out of their learning and gives them joy. Three other Meeting attenders have joined that group. They wish to remind us that anyone can participate at any time.