

Summary of 1st worship sharing on revitalizing the meeting:

Query 1:

Q: A lot has changed over the years. Imagine us as a young meeting, just getting organized. Allowing for fresh and new ways of doing things, in what ways can we, as a Meeting meet our various needs? How do you see yourself helping to meet the vital functions of the Meeting. How do you imagine the process of organizing a young meeting would unfold?

Imagine first, then support these imaginings with actions

Need to feel comfortable with one another so that we can deepen our interpersonal connections. Want to become 'filled' as an expression of our faith.

Need to incorporate ideas that make one energized, not feel more depleted--be solid, but not frozen.

Variations on: Being task-oriented, rather than committee oriented; have more group activities that have a spiritual purpose.

Need to strengthen FDS in a way that is covid-safe.

In our personal and corporate renewal set out to renew the world. Vs Feels like the world has replaced our worship.

Learning together, worship and fellowship should be focus.

Consider having Clerk, Recording Clerk, Treasurer, M&W, O&M. Remain task oriented.

Have faith and seek for God's will for me. Trust in the power to carry it out.

Importance of:

Being vulnerable

Grounded in SPICES

compassionate, patient, loving, committed, connected to the world

Honesty about our own skills/deficiencies

Communication: Share deeply about our spiritual challenges, offer support and kindness to each other. Consider using "faithfulness circles" (Marcel Martin). Reach out to people who might not be able to participate in group activities.

Process

Spontaneity

Learning

Interdependence

Query 2:

Q. How do you feel about the possibility of a revitalized spiritual community? Is it something that frightens or excites?

Hungry for spiritual community. See God in each other. Can we forgive and forget? We can if we revitalize.

Maybe we can focus on one project at a time? 0-based projects, perhaps one large one each year? Passion and dedication will lead to longer survival of Quakerism. Starting new should be energizing.

Many feel positive and excited.

Fears/concerns include

We won't actually do the refreshment of community/Mtg

Too much to deal with. Missing community, hard to share. Not feeling comfortable enough to be vulnerable.

Don't want to lose Quaker heritage

Chaos

Loss of history of BFM

Need time to flesh out our vision forward during this transition process.

Lack of energy in older people