

Faith and Practice Committee

Report to ILYM Continuing Committee

Third Month 9, 2013

The Faith and Practice Committee has met three times since the last session of the Continuing Committee. Most of our time in these meetings has been spent working on four separate sections of text.

First, we have been making revisions to the draft text on meeting for worship, in response to comments received. Our hope is to propose three-year provisional approval of this text 2013 sessions of Illinois Yearly Meeting. The current version is available on the ILYM website; we urge all Friends to read it and send comments and suggestions as seem appropriate. We plan to conduct workshops with local meetings throughout ILYM during the coming weeks, to seek additional comments and suggestions for improving this draft before submitting it to the yearly meeting.

The committee has also begun work on several new sections. These include a section on the Light Within and related topics, including Quaker views on Jesus and the Bible; a section on death, bereavement, and memorial meetings; and a section on Friends testimonies. We hope to have one or more of these sections available for comment by the 2013 sessions of the yearly meeting.

Although we still feel the loss of our dear friend and longtime member Larry Stout, the work of the committee has been very much advanced with the addition of two new members, David Shiner and Sarah Pavlovic.

As always, the committee welcomes comments and suggestions on all approved and circulating drafts, any of which may be downloaded from the ILYM website.