

**MINISTRY AND ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE'S  
REPORT TO CONTINUING COMMITTEE  
October 19, 2013**

As members of Ministry and Advancement (M&A) met during annual session, we realized that ministering with integrity to Friends of color in our monthly meetings, and outreach to seekers with diverse backgrounds, require us first to discover and find healing for hurtful assumptions of the dominant culture that are hidden within ourselves. Consequently, we plan to attend as a group the 2014 White Privilege Conference at Madison, Wisconsin, in March.

Our committee also recognizes the importance of strengthening our connections with, and support for, members of ministry committees in monthly meetings. We began by offering two workshop periods during annual session in which Friends with special responsibilities for worship and pastoral care could share experiences, joys and concerns, and ideas. Saturday's session was particularly well attended, and participants expressed interest in gathering regionally during the year. One of our members will be working with our field secretary to follow up.

M&A welcomed Phyllis Reynolds and Chris Jocius to the committee. We also regretfully accepted the resignation of Mariellen Gilpin, for whom the mission of M&A is central, and who willingly gave her energy and creativity as long as she was physically able.

In response to a request from one monthly meeting's ministry committee, M&A members joined them in a session of worship sharing and listening. A request from another meeting was referred to our field secretary, whose visits and presentations throughout the yearly meeting have kept her on the road nearly every weekend. The variety and depth of her skills and experience, along with her gracious personality, are wonderful blessings. We also are grateful when you reach out and tell us your meetings' needs so that we can offer resources that are timely and appropriate.

M&A's autumn meetings are scheduled for October 12 and 13 in Evanston. We plan to begin with a workshop on prayer led by Quaker teacher Marcelle Martin. We need Divine guidance as we seek more effective ways to support and strengthen Friends' ministries of spiritual nurture, pastoral care, adult education, and outreach.

Joan Pine, Clerk  
Ministry and Advancement