

Queries

for

Reflecting

on the Health of a

Quaker Meeting

These queries are designed to kindle and deepen the spiritual life of the meeting. Meetings are welcome to use them as an opportunity for spiritual growth by pondering them together in contexts such as meeting forums, business meetings, and committee meetings. They may also be used for individual consideration. Meetings are advised to use these queries judiciously, as not all are applicable to every meeting's situation.

*Approved by Illinois Yearly Meeting Ministry and Advancement Committee
June 20, 2009*

1. How is the life of the Spirit faring in your meeting?
2. How is the Presence felt in your meeting's worship? Is vocal ministry Spirit-led? Is the silence Spirit-filled? How is the Presence reflected in your members' daily lives?
3. How is your meeting developing and nurturing ministry and service? Are you supporting guidance committees, traveling minutes, communication in business meeting, funding for education and travel, and loving eldering and mentoring? How are your efforts working? Do you have a system of accountability and support?
4. Does joy prevail among you? How are relationships of mutual care and enjoyment being fostered among members and attenders? Are you learning to know one another in that which is Eternal? How do you care for one another in times of need?
5. What kinds of conflict have you experienced? How has your meeting dealt with those conflicts? Has your meeting used these conflicts as opportunities for spiritual growth? Has your meeting grown spiritually in dealing with them?
6. What are you teaching your children? What are you teaching adults? How are you doing it? How are you encouraging Friends, including teenagers, to participate in your programs? Are you encouraging young people to attend Quaker and Yearly Meeting activities?
7. Is your membership changing? How and why has it changed in recent years? What are you doing in response?
8. Are you making use of the resources of Friends from outside the meeting? If so, has that been helpful?
9. How do you relate to your local community? Are you reaching out to invite newcomers? How are you doing so? How is that working?
10. What physical, financial, and spiritual resources does your meeting enjoy? Do you see them as entrusted to your care for a period of time? How do you exercise stewardship of these resources? Do you care for, maintain, and grow them while using them faithfully?