

Faith and Practice Report

Representative Meeting, November 10-11, 2023

The first draft of the document was unveiled at SCYM, 2023, at G. Family Camp. We were pleased that this coincided with the theme of YM, having to do with being "replenished for the future," or "being rejuvenated as a body."

After Yearly Meeting the committee sent a letter to meeting clerks, asking them to continue to encourage friends' interest in the document, and to provide feed-back to the Committee. This has happened, and is ongoing. The committee wants to emphasize again how important it is to hear from others, from Friends and attenders from across our Yearly Meeting. We encourage friends to take this and other similar leadings seriously. This is one of the ways in which the final text of our Faith & Practice will, in the end, actually reflect the wishes, teachings and experiences of our larger, dear Quaker community.

Mention was made that a letter has been again sent recently to meeting clerks, informing them that the F&P committee is inviting friends to submit for publication as part of the final text, their "favorite" quotes (written pieces, quotes, excerpts, phrases, etc.) Emphasis was placed on how valuable such passages were for many of us in being introduced to the history, teachings and vibrant spirituality of Quakerism. It seems right order to continue such a tradition in our own Faith & Practice. The above-mentioned letter will provide further details. We hope to hear from many of you in reply!

We are pleased and excited to continue work on the text, and on the acceptance, we hope, of these continual additions such as favorite passages or quotes. Feedback from everyone is invited and welcomed. Please contact the committee with your thoughts and insights, too. Finally, the entire Faith and Practice committee consists of Leada Dietz, Jane Houser, Danielle Evans and John Coffin, clerk. The work, commitment and diligence of the committee remains essential and is generously provided.

We hope to make real progress between now and YM 2024. It was remarked that we believe that by YM 2025, we will be so far that we will be in a position to seek the approval of the Yearly Meeting and the text then presented.

This report was given by John Coffin - clerk of the committee