

Piedmont Friends Fellowship

Uncovering our Wholeness: Learning to Share Faith Journeys

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First Activity: Question Hokey Pokey (these question are at the end of the post)

Second Activity: Two circles of chairs facing each other so that there are pairs of people. Each person will have 3 minutes to answer the question.

1. Describe the first Quaker meeting you attended and how it affected you.
2. Share a book that has spoken to you on a spiritual level.
3. Share how your family of origin affected you becoming a Quaker.
4. Describe an experience in meeting that had a strong affect on you.
5. Share a word or phrase that “triggers” you to stop listening. Something that you do not agree with or do not understand.

Third Activity: Small group discussions. Break in to small groups of three. Each person has 5 minutes to answer the question. You will have 1 minute first to think about the question and formulate and answer.

6. How has being a Quaker changed you?
7. What are the challenges for you around the Quaker testimony of Simplicity?
8. When do you experience the Sacred?

Fourth Activity: From: *Turning to one another: simple conversations to restore hope to the future* by Margaret J. Wheatley. Margaret Wheatley puts forth 6 principles that are needed to be able to have a deep conversation with others.

1. We acknowledge on another as equals.
2. We try to stay curious about each other
3. We recognize that we need each other’s help to become better listeners.
4. We slow down so we have time to think and reflect
5. We remember that conversation is the natural way humans think together.
6. We expect it to be messy.

Activity: Small group conversation. Get into groups of 6 people and discuss the following questions for 30 minutes each:

1. Which one of the testimonies is important to your relationship with the Divine?
2. Have you ever been reluctant to share your faith journey because you might be seen as different or strange?

(Question Hokey Pokey on next page.)

Question Hokey Pokey

1. Who has a life partner?
2. Who has a furry pet?
3. Who has a non-furry pet?
4. Who has children?
5. Who has grandchildren?
6. Who has great-grandchildren?
7. Who enjoys mystery novels?
8. Who enjoys horror movies?
9. Who owns a hybrid car?
10. Who has traveled overseas?
11. Who has lived overseas?
12. Who is an extrovert?
13. Who is an introvert?
14. Who is a clerk of a committee at meeting?
15. Who is a birthright Quaker?
16. Who is a convinced Quaker?
17. Who is a refugee from a different denomination/faith tradition?
18. Who has been to Pendle Hill?
19. Who has been to Pendle Hill in England?
20. Who has a regular spiritual practice?
21. Who wishes they had a regular spiritual practice?
22. Who has experienced a covered meeting?
23. Who has not experienced a covered meeting?
24. Who is not sure what a covered meeting is?
25. Who has had a transformative spiritual experience?
26. Who has experienced the dark night of the soul?
27. Who turns to prayer for solace?
28. Who turns to nature for solace?
29. Who does not like the word God?
30. Who is still trying to figure out who Jesus was/is?
31. Who turns to the Bible for knowledge and guidance?
32. Who feels like they are missing something in their faith lives when they listen to other people's faith journeys?
33. Who feels like Mother Teresa in that you have not felt lately or have ever felt the presence of God?
34. Who attends Quaker meeting not for spiritual reasons but for other reasons?
35. Who is reluctant to share their faith journeys because they might be seen as being different or strange?
36. Who feels like they have gotten closer to the Divine over the years?
37. Who feels that they have been called to a particular ministry?
38. Who is trying to discern if they have a particular calling or not?
39. Who feels like they do not have a particular divine call?