

Minneapolis Friends Meeting - Care of the Future

Draft of Vision Statements - Revised Oct 1, 2015

Into the future, these words will describe us. Many of them already do describe us.

We envision a Minneapolis Friends Meeting that is:

1) ROOTED SECURELY IN QUAKER FAITH AND PRACTICE

We are a Quaker community who together deepen our Quaker understanding and nurture spiritual depth. We rely on God's leading in making decisions in Meeting for Business. Our divinely-led collective worship makes room for a range of beliefs and worship practices.

2) SHARING AND DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY

Our community has a secure future supported by genuine connections among generations. We intentionally share knowledge, skills, and energy intergenerationally, nurturing the leadership of young adults. We offer grounding and support for the spiritual development of children.

3) A WELCOMING PLACE FOR SANCTUARY AND RENEWAL

Our meeting is a place of refuge, renewal, prayer and growth for people of all ages and for families of all configurations. We strive to let those who come feel they can share their hearts and experience belonging. The meeting is infused with joy and hope. We demonstrate care for one another and, together, have a vitality that counters difficulties and brokenness. We welcome newcomers, visitors, and strangers. New attenders are attracted by what the meeting offers: being active in the world, seeking to understand answers to the big questions, providing quiet community in a loud world, and offering both temporary and long-term sanctuary.

4) INTEGRATING FAITH AND ACTION

Meeting worship and spiritual life deepen our outward engagement and are, in turn, deepened by that engagement. We engage with one another on issues of privilege and race. We act, love, and serve in the world, individually and corporately, in response to callings of the Spirit. We support one another in leading lives in which action is consistent with word.

5) MAKING AN ACTIVE WITNESS BEYOND THE MEETINGHOUSE WALLS

With a strong commitment to diversity and not bound by space and location, Friends are a visible presence in the community, actively engaged and reaching out, partnering with other communities of faith. Members contribute to Quaker organizations and to the wider Quaker community.

6) HONORING THE HOLINESS OF THE EARTH

Our meeting is committed to the well-being of the earth and, therefore, strives to benefit instead of harm the natural environment. We are meeting the challenge of new global conditions and finding ways to foster sustainability.

7) A LONG-TERM PRESENCE

We are good stewards of our physical, financial, and human resources. People in the meeting contribute time, talents, and money to the meeting according to their ability. We are flexible and courageously adapt Quaker practice in the context of a changing world.