

Worship and Ministry Committee Job Description

Meeting for Worship is at the center of our life as a community. We worship in-person and in zoom meetings on-line. The main purpose of our Worship and Ministry Committee is to nurture the Meeting's spiritual community. When the Meeting community has a strong spiritual life, the spiritual lives of individuals, as well as our corporate discernment of God's will, are strengthened and blessed. The Worship and Ministry Committee keeps the Meetings for Worship and Business under review, prayer, and care.

The Committee works to create an environment conducive to a gathered Meeting. The first responsibility of the Committee's members is to deepen their own spiritual lives and their preparation for worship. Committee members' concern for the Meeting throughout the week, the promptness and reverence with which they approach the meeting for worship, and their faithfulness to the Guidance of the Spirit are the most effective ways they can deepen the quality of worship.

The Committee seeks to strengthen the lives of individuals in the meeting by helping individuals discern, ground, and grow into varied gifts for ministry and service. We work to respond to our community's spiritual needs in the circumstances of our times, including offering on-line meetings in addition to in-person meetings. We help and encourage Friends and attenders to engage in spiritual study, meditation, prayer, and other ways of preparing themselves to worship.

As Faith and Practice notes, Worship and Ministry Committee customarily consists of seasoned Friends of varied ages and gifts who are known to be faithful in worship and sensitive to the life of the spirit. It includes both Friends inclined to speak in the meeting and those less inclined to do so. Members serve overlapping two-year terms beginning June 1 through May 31.

Functions and Duties

Steward Meeting for Worship and Meeting for Business, both in person and on-line

Arrange for greeting, closing, and reading of queries in Meeting for Worship.

Provide support and guidance for spoken ministry.

Work with the Facilities Committee to provide a setting for Meeting for Worship and to make Meeting for Worship accessible for all.

Work with the Mutual Care Committee to help arrange special worship meetings for those needing concerns held in the light or those unable to attend meeting for worship.

Attend to our Spiritual Life

Organize and present educational programs on topics that nurture spiritual growth, such as Quaker history and practice.

Make ourselves available to speak with Friends on matters of the Spirit and Quaker tradition.

Arrange Memorial Meetings.

Arrange and care for clearness and anchoring committees for individuals in the Meeting who are seeking guidance and support for public ministry.

Lift up issues of diversity and racism to support Meeting in becoming a more inclusive community.

Nurture the work of Worship and Ministry Subcommittee on Power, Privilege, and Race to uproot and dismantle racism within Meeting through education, deep discernment, and active engagement.

Manage the Traveling Ministry and Service Fund.

Provide informational pamphlets about Meeting for Worship, Spoken Ministry, Meeting for Business, and other topics.

Work with other groups to provide queries for activities such as Retreats and Friendly Sevens.

Work with other Committees

Coordinate scheduling of Sunday afternoon programs.

Maintain contact with, and provide Spiritual support and guidance for Worship Groups under the Meeting's care.

Communicate with other committees on matters affecting worship, ministry, and spiritual growth, as needed.

Provide one committee member to serve on the State of Meeting Report Committee and one committee member to serve on the Bridging the Gap Working Group with Berkeley Friends Meeting and Berkeley Friends Church.

Participate in the Strawberry Creek Corporation Annual Meeting by committee's clerk/co-clerk.

Updated by Worship and Ministry Committee July 18, 2023.