

FAITH & PRACTICE – SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS

The following document was given a first reading at Spring Sessions 2015. The document has not yet been revised. Following the first reading, Friends offered their feedback to the Committee to Revise *Faith and Practice*. That committee will consider at Summer Sessions the feedback it has received, and may refer their revisions to Ministry Coordinating Committee for review. If that review takes place, and pending the outcome, the proposed changes may be brought to the floor of the Yearly Meeting for a second reading for approval.

The following document is that version which was presented at Spring Sessions 2015. Friends wishing to offer additional feedback may contact Irma Guthrie, clerk of the Committee to Revise Faith and Practice.

FAITH & PRACTICE – SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS

The section currently labeled SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS beginning on p. 121, is proposed to include an additional bulleted item at the end, and to read as follows:

SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS. Members of ministry and counsel should be concerned:

- to foster the spiritual growth of the meeting membership and enhance their religious life and fellowship, including especially the supervision and strengthening of corporate worship of the meeting;
- to consider individual needs for guidance and to make provision for personal counsel and assistance in matters of interpersonal relationships among members and in individual and family problems pertaining to illness, financial matters, marital relations, and decisions of conscience, and, where appropriate, to recommend professionally-trained counsel for especially difficult problems;
- to review annually the spiritual condition of the meeting and its membership and to write the State of the Meeting reports;
- to develop programs and conferences, study groups, and public meetings to disseminate information regarding Friends' spiritual concerns and to assist members and attenders to deepen the life of the spirit;
- where desired by local meetings, to consider qualifications and make recommendations concerning recording gifts in ministry or engagement of pastors or meeting secretaries;
- to seek guidance in nurturing gifts of ministry throughout the life cycle of gifts from naming gifts, to care and oversight and including changes in the gift.

NOTE: SAME TEXT, SHOWN WITH EDITS INDICATED

New text is indicated in square brackets and in bold.

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- **[to seek guidance in nurturing gifts of ministry throughout the life cycle of gifts from naming gifts, to care and oversight and including changes in the gift.]**