

SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS  
To Be Presented to MCC  
Fall Sessions 2016

SPIRITUAL CARE OF MEMBERS. Seeking divine guidance in their discernment, members of ministry and counsel should seek to:

- foster the spiritual growth of the meeting membership and enhance their religious life and fellowship, including especially the nurture and strengthening of corporate worship of the meeting;
- consider individual needs for guidance and to make provision for personal counsel and assistance in matters of interpersonal relationships among members;
- assist individuals and families confronting problems pertaining to illness, financial matters, marital relations, and decisions of conscience, keeping in mind at all times the limits of ministry and counsel's expertise;
- review annually the spiritual condition of the meeting and its membership and to write the State of the Meeting reports;
- 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, consider qualifications and make recommendations concerning recording gifts in ministry or engagement of pastors or meeting secretaries;
- foster a meeting culture that encourages the emergence of gifts, and provides oversight for individual gifts in ministry.

[This replaces the section on p. 122. Note also the language addressing related topics at p. 118.]

NOTE: A reading of parts of this section was offered in Spring Sessions 2015 (see yellow Yearbook at p. 28). The final "bullet point" has been modified to emphasize support for individual gifts of ministry. The Committee to Revise Faith & Practice seeks the Coordinating Committee's guidance on whether presentation to the body at Fall Sessions 2016 would constitute a first or second reading.