

NPYM Ministry and Oversight Committee
Report to Coordinating Committee
March 18, 2017

Each year Ministry and Oversight schedules consultation meetings by conference call on topics of concern. These consultations are offered to Clerks of Ministry and Counsel or the equivalent from Monthly Meetings, Worship Groups, and Quarterly Meetings.

We met by phone Sunday evening, January 8, 2017 to talk about “Eldering.” There were 24 Friends on the call, including five members of the NPYM Ministry & Oversight Committee and our NPYM Presiding Clerk. We considered the following queries:

- How do we recognize or discern who among us has the gift of eldering?
- How is this different from being a Seasoned Friend?
- What is our role as elders in helping Friends discern what they are called to do?
- How might we encourage those with ministries or concerns to center and still themselves enough to listen to the voice within for guidance – to find the next step with their Guide?
- How do we hold the spiritual center of our meetings in troubled times?

Participants responded carefully and shared with one another. We circulate minutes from these calls among participants but ask that the actual minutes not be shared wider as we consider the content of the calls to be confidential. A summary of this call is posted on the NPYM website, <http://npym.org/?q=content/mo-consultations>. (Scroll down to January 8, 2017, and open the PDF file.)

The next phone consultation will be Sunday evening, May 7, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. PDT. We will be considering a suitable topic at our next meeting. If you have suggestions, please give them to me, Nancy McLauchlan.

Ministry and Oversight is searching for an NPYM-sponsored visitor to Northwest Yearly Meeting, July 23-27, 2017, at George Fox University, Newberg, Oregon. Please contact Nancy McLauchlan, NPYM Ministry and Oversight Committee, nancymaemc@gmail.com, [503-970-2512](tel:503-970-2512), for application information. The deadline for applications is April 30, 2017.

It is time for annual State of Society Reports which Meetings send to the Montana Gathering of Friends (MGOF), Pacific Northwest Quarterly Meeting (PNWQM), and Willamette Quarterly Meeting. These organizations then send the State of Society Reports to your NPYM Ministry and Oversight Committee. We find various ways to bring these fascinating reports about the lives of our Meetings and Worship Groups to you at Annual Session. This year we will also be posting State of Society reports on the NPYM website.

Ministry and Oversight meets in person on Sunday, March 19th in Olympia. At that time we will begin making plans for our participation at Annual Session 2017.

Nancy McLauchlan, Clerk, NPYM Ministry and Oversight Committee