

## Great Falls Worship Group

### State of Society Report for 2018

Through nearly blizzard conditions several Friends drove from different directions, one from a farm 40 miles out of Great Falls, and another 60 miles from a mountain home to worship together with those of us here in town and consider the state of our worship group. What is the spirit which pulls our worship group together even in such conditions?

How does the Truth fare in the Great Falls Worship Group?

Friends find, in the silence and spoken word, support and help in living their lives more in tune with the Creation. Here we are reminded of how all of Creation is tied together as one. Injustice for another is injustice to me. Many of us are privileged and through worship become more aware of our responsibilities to the Whole. For many of us, it is a joy to come together and feel cared for and supported by our group as we journey in times that are not reflective of our vision.

Although this speaks for many of us, some find that vocal ministry during worship is not satisfying. They would rather have more silence. Together, we need to wait for Way to Open, for the ways we are called to engage with each other and in the world to heal our earth. We need to be uncomfortable with the way things are.

The dynamism of our worship group reminds us of deep soil, a seed bed. The soil, rich in nutrients, is able to nurture us to have the strength to poke our heads above the ground. Here is energy allowing us to engage in the work we each see fit to do with our unique portion of the Light. Many in our group have gratitude for our spiritual community as it supports each of us in making personal choices. Together our varied gifts and stories of Spirit allow us to perceive new insights, through struggles and joys of being a community. As Seekers, we are expanded in our vision of what is possible.

This past year new people have come and joined us. We have not only appreciated their contributions but feel as a result of these newcomers more alive. Our gathering read and discussed Rex Amblers, "Living in Dark Times" which helped in the education of us all, but especially our new attenders. Still, there have been several strong supporters of the group previously, who have chosen to leave us recently. We miss their presence and gifts.

We have continued to meet in a church library which has made it easier for new comers to join our small group. We have happily accommodate those with children who attend occasionally, and have varied ways to educate ourselves about our Quaker history and thought. Our outreach includes working with other faith groups in our community to provide support for Family Promise, a program providing food and housing for homeless families. Recently some of us gathered several times for worship with a Quaker friend from out of state who was residing at Hospice House.

For our attenders and members who gather faithfully every Sunday, a sacred stillness in Community is provided, ripe with potential. All is sacred.