At the heart of our Meeting is a centering, silent worship, essential to holding us together. A pattern of quiet devotion, holding people in the Light, personal introductions, sharing what did not rise to the level of vocal ministry, and announcements enriches our experience. The opportunity to accompany one another, going through hardship and loss, being present in frailty and end-of-life deepens our common journey. Meeting for worship with attention to business models growing non-hierarchical, spirit-led decision making. We are listening more fully, learning from our different perspectives with greater patience and tolerance.

We have become more cohesive. We connect with one another in new, monthly education programs, committees, occasions like Friendly Eights, working groups, spiritual nurture, service, advocacy and special events. One-on-one visits are treasured. We support one another in discerning new purposes and meaning that recognize both our personal strengths and limits.

We visit other Meetings, invite friends to experience our unique life and share our Quaker resources and practices with others. We do public witness at the local, state and national levels and serve in the homeless shelter. Through the Peace and Social Concerns committee we have focused our Carbon Tithing program on a community bio-char effort to capture carbon and continue to support a yearly Social Justice Camp. We welcomed the community to join us in a new FCNL Advocacy Team. We celebrate a new Restorative Justice ministry in the Meeting. We share art by members and attenders through a rotating art exhibit on a wall of the meetinghouse.

Our spiritual nurture groups are safe places to share and find support. We have added a new Men’s Group to the mix. We are active with clearness, anchor and care committees. The Way of the Spirit program continues to be a valuable asset to our Meeting as we develop our individual and collective way.

In meeting for worship with attention to business, we find our way forward with more of us participating and with a sense of the Spirit as the key ingredient. We explore revised advices and queries the first Sunday of each month in worship sharing. We continue an active peace witness that draws others to our Meeting. We have been encouraging new leadings in our outreach efforts and look forward to exploring fresh ways to build relationships with our community and neighbors.

Attendance is growing, nourished by an active hospitality team. Through ministries of care cards and care committees, we offer support to our members and attenders. We recognize that there is more we can do to open our Meeting to others, reach out, nurture newcomers and make the ways into our life together clearer. Our nominating committee, working to discern people’s gifts and nurturing our
strengths has helped set a new tone in our Meeting. We don’t do everything, but what we do is increasingly done well.

God is kind and with us. We feel the Light spreading, growing brighter like the sun inside a house just beginning to break through on a cloudy day. We are like roses opening our hearts to give beauty to the world by the encouragement of the Light upon our being. We are herons, patient, able to aim deep with strong wing to soar high. We are trees, providing environment for others to thrive—some of us old growth, fully grown; some young, still determinedly seeking light; some fallen, serving as nurse logs for new life. We are like a sailing ship with canvas set to catch the holy winds, Friends at the helm to see that we don’t luff or go into irons. We are a refuge for rebalance when the wheels of our lives go wobbly. We are both quiet and also on occasion, loud.