

Worship Sharing Readings and Queries

Queries

How do I embrace the call for social witnessing as an act of faithfulness? What sustains me in this work? What experiences can I share as we find and raise our collective voice?

There are many challenges and beauties within the present moment. When thinking about them, what situations require me to be brave and constant? How are we collectively responding to those situations?

In which ways can our action be and remain grounded in the transformative power of love? In which ways are we creating space to listen to the Spirit as we engage in our personal and social transformation?

How are we re-creating our commitment to peace, justice, and earth restoration, and how are we supporting one another in that journey?

Looking forward to the next few years, what are your aspirations for our FCNL community? How do we welcome difference and grow in the Spirit as we experience change? How can we best build a unified, loving, and faithful community? What would help us to advocate even more successfully for a peaceful, loving and just society?

Readings

“An act of love, a voluntary taking on oneself of some of the pain of the world, increases the courage and love and hope of all.”

Dorothy Day

“And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good.”

2 Thessalonians 3:13

“The struggle in these dark times is, as early Quakers said, to ‘mind the oneness’. With this perspective and sense of connection, we can see how anxious attempts to put things right are rooted in the fear and vulnerability that comes from separation. Rather, as we cherish and claim this remarkable creation of which we are part that has lost its sense of itself, we become able to bear witness more powerfully.”

Pamela Haines

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9

“I am fortified by truth, justice and Christ, there is no need for me to fear.”

Bayard Rustin, “Non-violence in Action,” Fellowship, June 2, 1942.

“Our way of life is bound to go against the grain of a society that imagines it can understand the world by ideas and ideologies, and on that basis control it. That very attempt to master and control the world is surely one of the forces in our world that provokes the fear and insecurity and rage that are making themselves felt now. Maybe our testimony will help people to realize that. We have to be brave to live truthfully and honestly in such a world. We have to be humble, faithful, and bold.”

Rex Ambler