



QUAKER SPIRIT

Rooted in the Divine

RESPONSES TO VERY FIRST E-MAIL OF INITIAL SYNOPSIS FOR QUAKER SPIRIT

Speaking as an individual, I was excited to receive these thoughts and comments. I agree entirely: the spiritual life must be the grounding, the source, for all that Quakers do. I am enthusiastic about a Gathering, whatever form that may take. Please keep me on your address list, Stephen,

Margaret.

Very interested personally, Stephen. I picked this up as part of my work as email admin and will pass it on to the Steering Group. I am also copying in Jane Pearson of Swarthmoor Hall who I think will be interested too. Hope that is okay to widen the spread a bit?

Susie

I see where you are coming from! My own preference too is more towards the internal or mystic possibilities of Quakerism

How to get the balance right between inward and outward activity individually and as a Meeting and as a Society? Your suggestion I think is that we as a Society have become too outward. You look at Friends House particularly in that regard. I have some sympathy with that view. Perhaps Friends House is becoming McDonaldised! Are we becoming McQuakers?!

I don't know where your initiative will go or what the official response will be, but your request for more mysticism among Quakers makes a welcome change in my view from some of the issues generating heat weekly in the pages of the Friend.

David

Hi Stephen, I think this is a great idea. I am so much in agreement with all you say about the busyness of Quakers and the constant pressure to take on yet one more piece of practical work. It can all be very stressful. We are in need of renewing our spiritual connection. I hope the gathering will take place. Thank you for taking the initiative.

Angela



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Dear Stephen, Thank you for getting in touch. A spiritually focused gathering sounds like a wonderful idea. I feel sure that our practitioners would be interested and perhaps, during the gathering, we could run a session. Many thanks.

Angie

Dear Stephen,

I am delighted to receive this and commend the project. I hope you get the positive feedback you deserve.

Ian

Greetings Stephen,

Thank you for including us on the mailing list of the Quaker Spirit concern. I am its contact and we should be very interested in keeping in touch with your developments

Alec.

Hi Stephen, Quaker Spirit is a great initiative. We seem to have got bogged down with worrying about too many campaigns and causes as well as nit-picking about processes -who does what and how it is done. Focusing on our spiritual life can get overlooked with so much busyness. We are like the passengers who neglect to put on our own seat belts and oxygen masks and wonder why we are struggling to help others. If we don't nourish our spirits we tend to have less to offer others. I am in full support of the proposed conference and am glad you contacted others about it.

Frances