

## Worship Sharing 7-18-23

“Community is implicit in our very name—the Religious Society of Friends. Though each of us has our own personal understanding of, and relationship with, God or Spirit or the divine, it’s important for us to come together in worship, to share messages and insights with each other. Being a community is more than just everyone showing up in the same space at the same time, though; it’s about learning to set aside personal differences and act as a unified force for good.”

Quaker.org

“The Quaker Meeting is meant to be a blessed community – a living testimony to a social order that embodies God’s peace, justice, love, compassion, and joy, and is an example and invitation to a better way of life. Like our other testimonies, community can be a prophetic call to the rest of society.”

SEYM Faith and Practice, pg. 76

“We dedicate ourselves to let the living waters flow through us – where we live, regionally, and in wider world fellowship. We dedicate ourselves to building the peace that passeth all understanding, to the repair of the world, opening our lives to the Light to guide us in each small step.”

The Kabarak Call for Peace and Ecojustice, FWCC, 2012

And so, I find it well to come  
For deeper rest to this still room  
For here the habit of the soul  
Feels less the outer world’s control:  
The strength of mutual purpose pleads  
More earnestly our common needs:  
And from the silence multiplied  
By these still forms on either side,  
The world that time and sense have known  
Falls off and leaves us God alone.

-- John Greenleaf Whittier

### Queries

How do these quotes speak to you?

In what sense have you found community among Friends?

How is community important to your spiritual path?