

SCYM Queries for Yearly Meeting 2010

Worship: How does the spirit illuminate your meeting's worship? How do you encourage ministry and seek to deepen the spiritual life of the meeting and of individual Friends?

Meeting Community: How does your meeting's community reflect its corporate spiritual strivings? How do Friends care for one another in times of spiritual or material need? What role do children play in the meeting community?

Religious Education: How has study deepened your faith and your understanding of what it means to be a Quaker? How have you explored issues of faith with newcomers, seasoned Friends, and children?

Testimonies: How have you, as a meeting, witnessed to Friends testimonies? How has your meeting stood, by faith, against injustice and helped those in need?

Decision Making: How is the good order of Friends used among you? How does the Light illuminate your meetings for worship with attention to business? How does your meeting deal in love with the inevitable differences that arise from diverse leadings and points of view on issues of faith and practical matters?

Intervisitation and Outreach: How has intervisitation and involvement with Friends outside your meeting affected your meeting's spiritual growth? How have you reached out to seekers and the community around you?

Membership Changes: How has your membership changed? How has this affected the life of your meeting? Among other changes, please state information on births and adoptions for the Minute of Thanksgiving; the child's name, birth and/or adoption date, parents' names, and grandparents' names (if they are SCYM Friends or if this information would be of interest to SCYM Friends). If you like, please include a brief statement about the child's life, spirit, or personality to give Friends a better understanding of the life we are celebrating in the minute.

Concerns: Does your meeting have concerns that have not been adequately explored in answering the queries above? How have these concerns affected your meeting's spiritual and community life?

SCYM 50 Year Jubilee Queries: How has SCYM has been a force in your spiritual journey or the spiritual Journey of your meeting? Are there memories of yearly meeting sessions, etc. that you would like to share?

Letter about the Process in 2010

Dear Friends:

It's time again for your Meeting to complete its State of the Meeting report. Each year, our committee sends queries to each monthly meeting (below). The monthly meetings use their answers to these queries to put together individual state of the meeting reports that are then compiled into a State of the Yearly Meeting Report.

For the next two years SCYM will be celebrating its 50-year jubilee under the theme *SCYM: 50 Years Minding the Light*. In keeping with this theme, we will use the queries this year to help us determine where we are now, a part of understanding our history and moving into our jubilee year and the future.

At YM sessions we will also use a different format for presenting the results of the queries from monthly meetings. In the past, M&C members read one SOM letter per business session during YM. This year, we will ask members of the respective monthly meetings to read the responses to the queries in a special session. Instead of going meeting by meeting, we will go query by query, with monthly members reading their meetings' responses to each query. **Therefore, please answer each query individually, as opposed to an interwoven narrative.**

Note there are two additional new Queries:

- How has SCYM has been a force in your spiritual journey or the spiritual journey of your meeting?
- Are there memories of yearly meeting sessions, etc. that you would like to share?

Also, on the Change in Membership query, please include total membership plus categories your Meeting uses for membership, including an explanation of those categories.