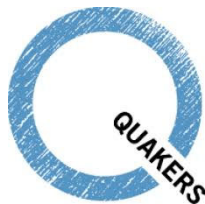


Quakers share a way of life rather than a set of rules or beliefs or creeds. We do not have priests or vicars; we do though have appointed elders and overseers and clerks as well as other roles. These are rotated amongst us on a regular basis.

We seek to experience God or the Divine or the Light directly within ourselves and in our relationships with others and the world about us. We talk about seeing that of God in everyone and holding people in the light as a form of prayer or healing.

These direct encounters with the divine are where Quakers find meaning and purpose. Please ask us any questions or queries you might have and we will try and answer these as best we can. We warmly welcome your presence here with us today and do please come again if you feel this is helpful to you.

For more information: - www.quaker.org.uk



Welcome to Wimbledon Quaker Meeting

40 Spencer Hill Road, London, SW19 4EL

Whether you are here for the first time or are already familiar with the Quaker way of worship you are very welcome today.

The meeting is grounded in quiet stillness and lasts about an hour 10.30-11.30 and everybody contributes in Quaker worship adult or child.

Newcomer or regular participant may feel prompted to speak. This may be through prayerful listening or through speaking which we call giving ministry or simply by being present. There is no requirement to hold particular beliefs in order to take part.

We hope that the guidance in this leaflet will help you participate fully in meeting for worship. This is not a rigid set of rules but rather a reminder of what Quakers have found helpful in practice. Please feel free to ask any questions after meeting for worship.



- Ministry arises from our worship together rather than being pre-prepared though we may occasionally have short prepared readings. You may wish to pick up any of the books on the table and read an extract out loud from any of them. We discourage reading all the way through meeting though as this may be distracting to yourself and others.
- Please allow a generous period of silence (10 minutes or more) at the beginning of meeting for worship.
- Spontaneous contributions from babies and small children are always welcome. Our children if any are present usually stay in meeting for 10 minutes and then go out for their own activities which we call children's meeting. Children are welcome any Sunday.
- Listen to all ministry in an open spirit and try to reach for the intention behind the words. Even if what is offered is not meaningful to you, it may be so for someone else.
- Spoken ministry, inspired by Love, is very welcome. Try not to assume you will never offer it. All of our lives are touched by God or the Divine. Even a few hesitant words from this deep place can be of great service.
- Leave a generous period of silence after a previous spoken ministry so that it can be reflected on by everyone.
- Please only speak once during a meeting to give others an opportunity to speak if they wish to.
- Spoken ministry may build on previous ministry, but please remember it is never a discussion or debate.
- Try to speak audibly and distinctly so that everyone can hear you. We ask if you are able to please can you stand up in front of the entrance door to make hearing easier.
- Meeting has finished at the end of the hour when a nominated Elder shakes hands with those on either side of them we then all do the same.
- We may then have a short period of sharing time when we may choose to say something briefly that we did not feel able to say in meeting itself. Please stand in front of the entrance door as before.
- The clerk then gives notices and tells us which Quaker charity or group we are having a collection for that day and also asks for any other notices from anyone. We also give any visitors an opportunity to introduce themselves if they wish to and to sign our visitor's book.
- We then have refreshments and a chance to talk and get to know each other.