

Homewood Friends Monthly Meeting

Ministry and Counsel Committee

Annual Report 2017

1. What are the ways we spent our time?

Ministry and Counsel members met together for regular meetings for eleven out of twelve months, and held some special extra meetings with subgroups. We spent a significant amount of our time in 2017 working on care for members and on conflict resolution. We ran two Inquirers' Series in the evenings for new attenders. We created and implemented a sexual harassment policy. Members of the committee worked on deepening spiritual sense during worship. We held a special meeting to discern the Spiritual State of the Meeting. We began a new practice of having Welcome cards available in the Meeting Room and established a process for responding to people who filled the cards out. We joyfully oversaw two marriages and clearness committees.

2. Describe the spiritual state of the committee:

Our committee meetings are conducted in a spirit of love and care for our community. We begin each meeting with a period of silent worship which helps ready us to take up our work with loving attention. Our meeting clerk makes sure to make time for members to check in with each other before we begin work. Our meetings conclude with silent worship.

3. What are our committee's major challenges?

We are a small committee doing the work of ministry, pastoral care, and outreach. We are hopeful that the Outreach Team will move toward becoming a committee so that we can focus on providing pastoral care among our membership.

4. What are the strengths of our committee?

Our committee members exhibit love for each other and the Meeting. We show up. The committee is made up of a group of seasoned Friends; we are hoping to welcome newer and younger Homewood Friends onto the committee.

Committee members in 2017 were: George Amoss, Sarah Bur, Rich Bruning, who clerked our meetings faithfully, Meade Eggleston, who left in December when she moved to Virginia, Kevin-Douglas Olive, Heather Ravlin, Sarah Szanton, and Ann Walker Kennedy