



a ministry of prayer and learning devoted to
the School of the Spirit

On Being a Spiritual Nurturer, 2012-2014

OUR APPROACH TO READING

The reading for the *On Being a Spiritual Nurturer* program includes books, pamphlets, and articles. Together they help provide a common grounding for the class and a basis for our learning through experience. Though some pieces can be read for ideas and information, much of the reading should be digested slowly and meditatively. We encourage you to read deeply and thoughtfully, possibly writing your reflections in a journal or sharing with a spiritual friend. The reading experience is intended to be the skeleton of the program and will quietly inform your listening, reflection, study, prayer and writing during the program. *Lectio felix!*

FOUNDATION READINGS

Some of you will no doubt want to start reading now and so we encourage you to do so with the following books. They will provide a common foundation for the class. You may have read them before but you are in a different place now and so different passages may be lifted up to you for your reflection.

- Pink Dandelion, *The Quakers: A Very Short Introduction*. Oxford University Press, USA (2008). (This should not be confused with his 2007 book, *An Introduction to Quakerism*.)
- John Punshon, *Encounter with Silence: Reflections from the Quaker Tradition*. Friends United Press (1987).
- Evelyn Underhill, *The Spiritual Life*. Ariel Press (2000). This is the most recent edition; if you intend to purchase a used copy (published by Morehouse) search for the 1937 or 1955 editions.

BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS TO OBTAIN

The list of books and pamphlets that follows are those that we ask you to have on hand over the next two years. On the list we have also indicated texts which you will need for the first two residencies. In addition, you will have access to our online Digital Library through the SotS website. (Details for secure access to the website will follow.) The Digital Library includes articles, pamphlets, and book chapters. This digital material is copyright protected and we have limited permission by authors and publishers to make them available for *your personal use only*. The material may be stored on your computer's hard drive, in a cloud storage application, or on your own CD or USB flash drive.

Residency reading lists. Reading lists for each residency will be chosen from the list of books and pamphlets below as well as from the Digital Library. On the reading lists for each residency we will distinguish between *Core*, *Topical*, *Perspective*, and *Supplemental* readings. *Core* readings are those taken from books to be read over several residencies. *Topical* readings are those specific to the residency. If you read nothing else, we highly recommend that you read the *Core* and *Topical* readings. *Perspective* readings are intended to broaden the ways in which you may approach a topic, while *Supplementary* readings will help you delve deeper into a topic if you wish.

We have designated in the list below which of the books and pamphlets you will need to obtain for the first and second residencies. Additional articles and other recommended readings may also be posted during the program, as well as suggestions to other media, such as audio and video sources.

The reading list for each residency will be posted to the class page on our website. The reading list for the first residency will be posted shortly.

Bibles. We request that you bring along to each residency your preferred edition of the Bible to have as an important resource. Bibles are also available in the Franciscan Center library and in each room.

Ways to obtain the books and pamphlets. As a reminder, all books can be ordered through the FGC (www.quakerbooks.org) or Pendle Hill bookstores (www.pendlehill.org/bookstore). However, if you are trying to reduce expenditures, significant savings can often be found if you are prepared to purchase a used book. There are many websites which sell used books. Some of these are listed here:

www.amazon.com
www.abebooks.com
www.bookfinder.com

www.alibris.com
www.powells.com

The most economical way to obtain the books is to borrow them. All books can be obtained via interlibrary loan from your public library. Also, search for books in your local college and meeting libraries. If your meeting does not have a book on the reading list, suggest that they purchase it. Many Friends are also very willing to share books from their personal libraries.

BOOKS TO OBTAIN

¹ required from residency 1 ² required from residency 2

Bieber, Nancy. *Decision Making and Spiritual Discernment: The Sacred Art of Finding Your Way*. Skylight Paths, 2010.

¹ Bloom, Anthony. *Beginning to Pray*. Paulist Press, 1982.

¹ Borg, Marcus. *Speaking Christian: Why Christian Words Have Lost Their Meaning and Power -- and How They Can Be Restored*. HarperOne, 2011.

Chittister, Joan. *Wisdom Distilled from the Daily: Living the Rule of St. Benedict Today*. HarperSanFrancisco, reprint ed., 1991.

² Drayton, Brian. *On Living with Concern for Gospel Ministry*. Philadelphia: Quaker Press, 2006.

Gates, Tom. *Opening the Scriptures: Bible Lessons from the 2005 Annual Gathering of Friends*. Quaker Press, 2005.

Kraybill, Donald, et al. *Amish Grace: How Forgiveness Transcended Tragedy*. John Wiley and Sons, 2007. Waiting to hear if Jeff Bach has another recommendation.

May, Gerald. *Dark Night of the Soul*. HarperSanFrancisco, 2004.

May, Gerald. *Will and Spirit. A Contemplative Psychology*. HarperSanFrancisco, reprint ed., 1987.

² Merton, Thomas. *The Wisdom of the Desert*. New Directions, 1970.

Nouwen, Henri with Michael Christensen and Rebecca Laird (eds.). *Spiritual Direction: Wisdom for the Long Walk of Faith*. HarperOne, 2006.

¹ Schmidt, Richard H. *God Seekers: Twenty Centuries of Christian Spiritualities*. William B. Eerdmans, 2008.

² Sigrist, Seraphim. *A Life Together: Wisdom of Community from the Christian East*. Paraclete Press, 2011.

¹ Wilson, Lloyd Lee. *Essays on a Quaker Vision of Gospel Order*. Quaker Press of FGC, 2002.

Reference texts ideally to have at hand (not necessarily to purchase):

¹ Loring, Patricia. *Listening Spirituality. Volume I. Personal Practices Among Friends*. Washington Grove, MD: Openings Press, 1997.

² Loring, Patricia. *Listening Spirituality. Volume II. Corporate Spiritual Practice Among Friends*. Out of print. Available as of August 1, 2009 from <http://www.lulu.com/content/paperback-book/listening-spirituality-vol-II/7327704>

PAMPHLETS TO OBTAIN

¹ required from residency 1 ² required from residency 2

From Pendle Hill:

Birkel, Michael, editor. *The Mind of Christ: Bill Taber on Meeting for Business* (#406).

² Cooper, Wilmer. *Testimony of Integrity* (#296).

Cronk, Sandra. *Gospel Order: A Quaker Understanding of Faithful Church Community* (#297).

Drayton, Brian. *Getting Rooted: Living in the Cross* (#391).

Gates, Tom. *Members One of Another: The Dynamics of Membership in Quaker Meeting* (#371).

Green, Connie McPeak and Grundy, Marty Paxson. *Matthew 18: Wisdom for Living In Community* (#399).

Grundy, Martha Paxson. *Tall Poppies: Supporting Gifts of Ministry and Eldering in Monthly Meeting* (#347).

Lacey, Paul. *Leading and Being Led* (#264).

_____. *The Authority of Our Meetings is the Power of God* (#365).

Larrabee, Margery Mears. *Spirit-Led Eldering: Integral to Our Faith and Practice* (#392).

Martin, Marcelle. *Holding One Another in the Light* (#382).

Morrison, Mary. *The Way of the Cross* (#260).

Palmer, Parker. *A Place Called Community* (#212).

Prevallet, Elaine. *Reflections on Simplicity* (#244).

Pryce, Elaine. *Grief, Forgiveness, & Redemption as a Way of Transformation* (#416).

¹ Punshon, John. *Alternative Christianity* (#245).

Snyder, Daniel. *Quaker Witness as Sacrament* (#397).

¹ Taber, William. *Four Doors to Meeting for Worship* (#306).

Other:

Drayton, Brian. *Unity, Disunity, Diversity*. Beacon Hill Friends House Quaker Issues Series, 2007 (BHFH – 1007).