

## **Friends discussed the state of the meeting at on Sunday, March 12, 2023.**

Those in attendance described the meeting as small, but faithful and caring.

Some small outreach ventures, such as participation in the Lights on Stillwater Expo in August have been sustained, but the meeting has not otherwise engaged in direct outreach. With our small size and older community, we have not found other ways to reach the student population of Oklahoma State, although we continue to believe we could offer a home for those seeking a spiritual alternative and particularly for those who have been ostracized by homophobic and transphobic religious institutions.

Although it has not been systematic (in the sense of following a curriculum or ongoing subject matter), religious education has been meaningful, and some members spoke directly of the chanting led by the clerk. We feel able to listen to one another and are able to discuss divergent views without quarreling; and the meeting has not felt pressed by any one viewpoint. We could set aside some religious education time for sharing our spiritual paths or engaging in worship sharing, which would serve both religious education and community building.

Although we spoke of a strong sense of community, we also noted that sometimes it can be difficult to know when to reach out if people don't make their needs clear. The struggle to minister to one another while respecting privacy can be challenging. We have discussed bringing back our Quaker women's lunch practice, and sharing lunch after meeting—as we often do—has provided a way to get to know one another in a light-hearted way.

Meeting for Business and the financial affairs of the meeting have been conducted in good order and with complete transparency. The meeting appears able to distinguish between individual leadings and a calling for the meeting as a whole.

Vocal ministry remains consistently meaningful, usually coming near the end of meeting or in the part of meeting designated for afterthoughts. We often find that our messages reflect shared concerns.

Those longtime members of the meeting have been deeply enriched by the presence of two new attenders, as Florence and Adam add to depth of the worship experience and share their lives with others in the meeting. We said goodbye to Carson, who had attended meeting for some time before moving to Kansas City. His presence in the community was treasured.