

MEMBERSHIP IN THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Membership in the Society of Friends is through a Monthly Meeting. The Monthly Meeting is the spiritual home that provides a base for spiritual life. Membership is not by agreement on a written creed, for the living truth is deeper than words. Membership is an act of accepting a spiritual home and family.

Membership in the Society of Friends is a covenant relationship in which people are bound together by love. It is a commitment to a community that centers itself on the experience of the presence of God, the Spirit, or the Light. In being recorded as a member, one accepts the support and practices of this community for spiritual growth. Membership also involves accepting responsibility for the physical and spiritual activities that maintain the community.

Attendees may ask for membership when they sense that they are "in the right place" and feel a kinship with the meeting. Studying, reflecting, and praying will also be of help in making this decision. Application is made by sending a letter requesting membership to the clerk of the Monthly Meeting. The letter should express why the writer feels called to this step. The letter will be read in the Monthly Meeting for Business, and a clearness committee will be appointed by Ministry and Counsel to explore with the applicant a decision about membership.