

Membership through New York Yearly Meeting : First Reading Spring 2019

*Changes and additions in Faith and Practice appear in red.

p.111 Membership in a monthly meeting includes[...] Membership through New York Yearly Meeting includes membership to NYYM, FUM and FGC.

p. 112 Monthly and executive meetings and New York Yearly Meeting have the authority to admit individuals to membership in the Religious Society of Friends.

p. 113 Follow SOJOURNING MEMBERSHIP with :

MEMBERSHIP THROUGH NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING.

The prospective member is actively involved in New York Yearly Meeting business, committees, communities, worship, events or sessions. Sometimes life circumstances make it difficult or impossible to regularly attend or join a monthly meeting: reasons include, but are not limited to, those living in remote locations, caregivers, incarcerated persons or those not finding a spiritual home in an adjacent monthly meeting. Those seeking membership should be prepared to give resources of time and/or money and participate in the work of the Yearly Meeting or its committees, task groups, Sessions, and Powell House. A commitment to enter wholeheartedly into the spiritual and corporate activities of the Society and to assume responsibility, as way opens, is expected.

p. 113 APPLICATION FOR MONTHLY MEETING MEMBERSHIP

Replace “overseers” in several places with “ministry and pastoral care”

p. 115 APPLICATION FOR NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING FOR MEMBERSHIP

The prospective Friend should write a letter addressed to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee of New York Yearly Meeting stating the reasons for joining the Religious Society of Friends and why membership under the care of New York Yearly Meeting is sought at this time, rather than monthly meeting membership. The letter should include how the applicant is in unity with Friends testimonies and principles, and how the applicant envisions being involved in New York Yearly Meeting.

A designee of Ministry and Pastoral Care and at least one other Friend, with broad connections to the Yearly Meeting, will consider the application letter and

appoint a Clearness Committee of at least three people. If the applicant is recommended for membership by the Clearness Committee and the Pastoral Care Committee subsequently unites with that recommendation, the Clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care will advise the clerk of Ministry Coordinating Committee and the Yearly Meeting office to record the new Friend as a member. Ministry Coordinating Committee may appoint a welcoming committee.

p.115 TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP

When a **yearly meeting body with the authority for membership** receives a request for transfer from one of its members, **Ministry and Pastoral Care** or the meeting on ministry and counsel should carefully inquire into the condition of the member's religious and temporal affairs. If, on such inquiry, it seems proper to do so, **the meeting or committee should direct its clerk to issue a minute of transfer and promptly forward it to the clerk of Ministry and Pastoral Care (for Yearly Meeting membership) or to the clerk of a monthly meeting.**