

Application for NURTURING WORSHIP, FAITH, AND FAITHFULNESS program

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

MEETING/CHURCH _____

A. Write a summary (2-4 pages) of your concern or call to help deepen the worship, faith life, or faithfulness of your meeting or faith community, including the blessings and challenges involved. Please include reflections on how your life experience relates to this. Share an experience where you submitted your sense of call or leading to the discernment of an elder, a clearness committee, or other body of your faith community. Tell about a time when counsel from an elder or friend helped you discover and understand a blind spot in your practice or efforts to be faithful.

B. Reflect briefly in writing on the following discernment questions. These questions are meant for your own discernment and to assist with the admission process.

1. Are you able to make the time commitment that this program calls for? (i.e., daily spiritual practice, attendance at all four retreats (three at Woolman Hill and one organized in your region by you and other NWFF participants), reading up to 100 pages per month, preparing two reflection papers, monthly meetings with both a Faithfulness Group and a care/support committee, and finding active ways to nurture your faith community during the term of the course.)
2. Are you willing and able to engage with the teaching team (including elders and mentors) and the other course participants through regular email exchanges and periodic online webinars between retreats?
3. What challenges might there be for you in this form of communication?
4. Are you dealing with personal needs that demand a major part of your attention at this time? (e.g., recent loss, emotional issues, financial or family pressures, professional demands)
5. For your safety/health, are there limitations that might affect your participation in this program?
6. Do you have persons in mind who might serve on your care/support committee?
7. How will you pay for this program?
8. Have other questions arisen in your discernment process to enter into this program?

LETTER OF SUPPORT: Please ask a group of two or more people, preferably from your local faith community, to engage in a clearness process with you and to then write a recommendation for your participation in this program. The clearness process might include addressing some of the questions in section B above. The letter of support should include the group's sense of your gifts and appropriateness for the program at this point in your life, and the names of those participating in the process. The letter of support should be submitted with your application.

If you have concerns or questions about this aspect of the application process, you may contact Circle of Support members Fran Brokaw (fran.brokaw@gmail.com), Janet Hough (janet.hough5@gmail.com), or Allison Randall (allisonjoyful1@netzero.com).

Letter of Support contact person:

NAME _____ E-MAIL _____
PHONE _____ MEETING/CHURCH/CONNECTION TO APPLICANT _____

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**Please submit the above form, your responses to sections A and B,
and the letter of support via e-mail to nwff@woolmanhill.org.**

(If necessary, you may instead send the application via US mail: Margaret Cooley, Woolman Hill Quaker Retreat Center, 107 Keets Road Deerfield MA 01342. Please note that internet access will be an essential component of the program.)

Early application date: May 30, 2017

Priority will be given to NEYM members/attenders who apply by then.
Later applications will be considered until the class is full (ie 24-28 participants).