

This learning pack comprises three sets of 90-minute study sessions based on three aspects of the Yearly Meeting Gathering theme:

Creating Community: Creating Connections

Set One is intended for use before and immediately after YMG, Sets Two and Three over as many months afterwards as you wish. The three sets of sessions explore between them the various dimensions of the life of a meeting that need to be addressed in order to build and sustain healthy and enriching communities. Meetings can select sessions that best meet their needs and circumstances.

Introductory Session

Set One: Creating Inward Connections

7 sessions

1. Living our values
2. Meeting for worship for business
3. Roles, responsibilities and service
4. Addressing conflict
5. Renewing our vision
6. Discernment and Quaker decision-making
7. Debriefing after Yearly Meeting Gathering

Set Two: Creating Community

5 sessions

8. Sharing our spiritual journeying
9. Working meaningfully together
10. Learning from one another
11. Celebrating together
12. Exploring and expressing friendship

Set Three: Creating Outward Connections

5 sessions

13. Nurturing a shared vision
14. Building and demonstrating the alternative
15. Celebrating, praying and praising others
16. Speaking out
17. Carrying out symbolic and practical action

Concluding Session

As a member of a study group using these sessions, you are asked:

- to work in a spirit of being willing to listen to others, to consider another's experience and to be willing to share something of yourself, and to hold these things in confidence between you
- to endeavour to cooperate with others in the group and with the learning processes, and to uphold your facilitator
- to attend as many of the sessions agreed by the group as possible

There is no preparation to do before sessions, though it will always be useful to have read sections relevant to the session topic in *Quaker faith & practice* (3rd edition). Where there are biblical references the version used is the NRSV.

At the end of your course of sessions as a group, please take some time to tell us about your experience, either through the process offered in the Concluding Session or by using the Feedback forms included in the pack.