

So, what about Quakers?

How do Quaker Communities work as
compassionate communities?

July 2023

Community needs to know each other

Look for ways to

Seek to know one another in the things which are eternal, bear the burden of each other's failings and pray for one another. As we enter with tender sympathy into the joys and sorrows of each other's lives, ready to give help and to receive it, our meeting can be a channel for God's love and forgiveness.

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How do we function as a community?

Share out the roles in traditional churches:

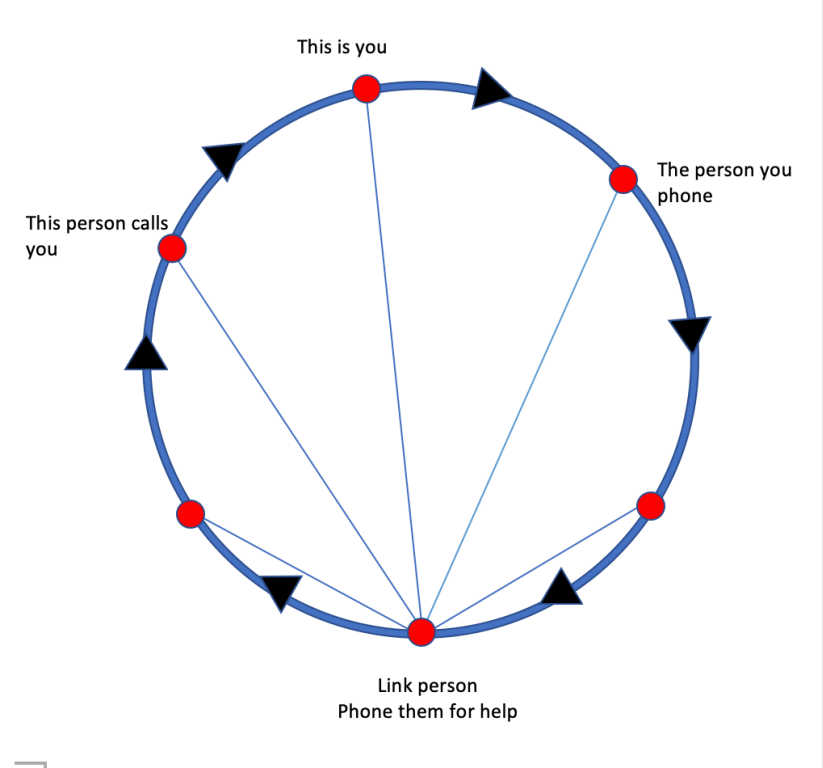
- Clerk
- Treasurer
- Pastoral and Spiritual Care (Overseers and elders)
- Children's committee
- And more....

How do you build a community?

In a million different ways...but could include:

- Natural connections between people
- Giving service in different ways
- Social events
- Study together
- Local, regional and national events
- Celebrate together and come together at times of sadness
- Working together...protests...other community groups

Circles of communication



Practical things that can be considered

These depend on the skills and interests of the individuals within your community but need to complement the support that is available through professional support and other community groups.

People's privacy needs to be respected.

Are you able to contemplate your death and the death of those closest to you? Accepting the fact of death, we are freed to live more fully. In bereavement, give yourself time to grieve. When others mourn, let your love embrace them.

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Practical, emotional, Spiritual...

It needs to respect and honor the person concerned – what do they want? Could include:

- WhatsApp group for person to reach out for help
- Regular contact – popping in or phone calls or both
- What specific needs does the situation need?
- Support at appointments
- Support going through processes
- Financial support

Practical things that Mount Eden Has done

- Create a rota of people to sit with a dying Friend who did not wish to die alone and did not have family
- Hold a Meeting for Worship in the home of someone at the end of their life
- Have annual ways of remembering those who have died
- Offer a memorial meeting for Friends who have a bereavement
- The community comes together for funerals and memorials
- Testimony to the Grace of God in someone's life
- Memory boxes

More specifically related to death and Dying

Series of Workshops looking at death and dying. So far topics we've covered include:

- Exploring our own spirituality around death and dying
- Death Café
- Threshold Choir
- Death Doula
- Ethical and Emotional wills
- Advanced care plans
- Advanced directives
- Communicating to those near death and in coma
- Looking at end of life wishes
- Learning about DNACPR

What are we planning?

A day about grief

A day exploring assisted dying