

First-Time Visitors to Chico Friends Meeting (Quakers)

For those new to the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) or to our type of unprogrammed worship, we welcome you to join us for Meeting for Worship on Sundays from 10:30am until 11:30am and Wednesdays from 6:30pm until 7:00 pm.

Our Meeting for Worship is a wonderful time of prayer and worship for many, yet the silence and absence of structured activity during meeting can be challenging for some. Please arrive prepared to listen patiently in the stillness of our gathering. Pamphlets are available which briefly explain about Meeting for Worship and Quakers in general.

Quaker worship is based on God; waiting on God in silence is at the center of our religious practice. Individuals who feel prompted by God's spirit may rise to speak, pray or sing. Such contributions come out of the silence, and arise from that place where each of us meets God. Anyone so moved may rise to speak during Meeting for Worship. Friends speak briefly and leave time between messages for their meaning to reach deeply into us. Since the purpose of our meetings is the worship of God, spoken messages are offered in the spirit of worship rather than as lectures or discussion. Anyone who wishes to share purely personal problems may find more help in a small meeting for worship especially appointed for seeking clarity and comfort.

Here is a link to a video that may help you better understand Quaker worship:

[What to Expect in Quaker Meeting for Worship.](#)

Your Children are welcome

We offer our Quaker Youth Group for children during Meeting for Worship. Quaker Youth Group begins at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall (following singing for all who are interested, 9:45-10:15am). Children generally attend the last several minutes of the Meeting for Worship. Children may stay for the entire Meeting for Worship if they and their parents/guardians choose.

End of Meeting for Worship

A "clerk" is appointed to close the Meeting for Worship by shaking hands, which normally happens at 11:30. There is then a time for introductions, for the children to share what they have done in Quaker Youth Group, followed by announcements. After announcements, please join us for refreshments and social time in the Fellowship Hall.

Please feel free to ask questions and visit with anyone there. Members of Chico Friends Meeting will be happy to answer your questions. Books, pamphlets and Quaker periodicals may be borrowed from the library. Please let us know if you would like to receive our monthly newsletter.

As a courtesy, please turn off all electronic devices before entering our Meeting House. (If you are a medical professional or required to be "on call" during the service, please set your pagers or cell phones to silent operation mode.)