

Spiritual Mentorship Program Description



Overview:

FGC is piloting a Spiritual Mentorship Program for youth and young adults interested in developing their spiritual gifts of clerking, discernment, and community leadership. The purpose of the program is to nourish & nurture intergenerational relationships that foster transformation and growth and to provide spiritual accompaniment in our lives as Friends and beyond. This six month program will connect early-growing Seekers with seasoned-and-still-growing Mentors.

This program has been developed by the AYF/HS Clerks Training Working Group, which is a joint working group made up of members from Committee for Nurturing Ministries (CNM) and Long Range Conference Planning Committee (LRCP). The Working Group is charged with creating an Advisory Committee to tend to the program in its first pilot phase.

Participant Expectations:

To participate in this program, we ask that you commit to attending an online discernment session in August/September 2021 and to meet twice a month with your Seeker/Mentor from Fall 2021 to Winter 2022. Each pair will be assigned an Advisory Committee member for support. We will hold optional monthly full group check-in sessions and a Closing Celebration in March 2022.

Program Arc and Timeline:

- **Submit Applications** – *by August 22, 2021*
- **Discernment Sessions** - *late August 2021*
 - Participate in one of two small group Zoom sessions for Seekers and Mentors to discern what you are seeking from the program. The information shared in applications and in the discernment session will help match Seekers and Mentors.
 - *Advisory Committee members will be asked to facilitate one session.*
- **Matching session** - *early September 2021*
 - Advisory Committee will meet to make Seeker-Mentor pairs.
- **Opening Celebration** - *mid September 2021*
 - At this Zoom session, participants will meet their Seeker-Mentor pair and learn about the program structure. The Advisory Committee will provide resources to give structure and guidance to the mentorship relationship.
- **Seeking Sessions** - *September 2021- February 2022*
 - We ask each Seeker-Mentor pair to meet at least twice a month to share in the seeking process. Seeking may include, for instance:
 - Working together to develop a deeper, more spiritually grounded sense of Quaker individual or corporate discernment
 - Exploring how the Light manifests in one's life
 - Seeking clearness on a question or challenge through a shared process
 - Each Advisory Committee member will be assigned several pairs to serve as a support person. Advisory members are encouraged to check-in every few months with their pairs, and a parent/guardian if the Seeker is under age 18.
- **Monthly Check-In Sessions** *September 2021- February 2022*
 - These are optional monthly check-in Zoom sessions where Mentors and Seekers in the program can meet in a larger group to continue conversations from their pairs or seek support as needed.
 - While the space will be facilitated, no instructional content is planned.
 - These sessions serve as a space to share and speak with one another about experiences, including successes, joys, and challenges.
 - If group concerns are shared, we will use this as an opportunity to address them.
 - *Advisory Committee members are asked to facilitate one session during this time period.*



- **Closing Celebration - March 2022**
 - This is a final celebration in March 2022 to reflect on our time together and celebrate the growth and mentorship we've shared.
- **Program Evaluation - March 2022**
 - The HS/AYF Clerks Training Working Group will review program evaluations and assess the pilot program. We invite Participants & Advisory Committee members to share feedback on their experience.

Application:

If you would like to participate in the program as a Seeker and/or Mentor, please complete an application at: <https://tinyurl.com/FGCspiritmentor>

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until August 22, 2021.

Questions:

For questions, please contact Marian Dalke, Gathering Youth Coordinator, at mariand@fgcquaker.org