

“Who are Quakers?
What do they Believe?”

The origin of Quakers (the official name is the *Religious Society of Friends*) is linked to a gathering of about a thousand people in June, 1652, at Firbank Fell, England.

Here George Fox first preached his message that “*Christ has come to teach his people himself*”, without need of specific rituals, buildings, creeds, priests or ministers. Quakerism has since spread around the world.

Quakers’ faith is one of first-hand experience of God. Spiritual life does not depend on doctrines, the observance of rites, sacraments or obedience to authority.

For Quakers, God is present in us at all times, and divine revelation is continuous and infinite. Quakerism is a living faith, a faith made real in the hearts of all people through the inward light of God.

Although rooted in the Christian tradition, Quakers are open to a wide variety of religious teachings and experience. Seekers from all backgrounds are welcome to come and worship with us.

THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY QUAKERS

The Annapolis Valley Quaker Meeting, (formerly the Wolfville Quaker Meeting) has members and attenders from Windsor to Berwick. It started as a small worship group in the 1970’s.

Since the mid-1980’s it has been a fully functioning Quaker Meeting, and is active in regional and national Quaker organizations.

We meet at the Just Us Coffee Roastery Meeting Room located in Hortonville, NS (near Exit 10 of the 101) at 10:30am each Sunday morning. On the fourth Sunday of the month, the Meeting is often followed by Pot Luck lunch

All are welcome to join us for worship. You don’t need to call in advance. If you need child care during Meeting, please call a day or two ahead so we can meet your needs.

All members and attenders are encouraged to join us for our monthly Meeting for Business (check the on-line schedule for time) where the ongoing work of the Meeting is discerned and planned.

We look forward to meeting you! Feel free to call or email us if you want more information.

Annapolis Valley Quaker Meeting

(Religious Society of Friends)

“*A Simple Faith - An Active Witness*”
Join us for Meeting for Worship

Just Us Coffee Roastery
Meeting Room
Exit 10, Hwy. 101
Hortonville, NS

10:30 am on Sundays

On the fourth Sunday of the month, the Meeting is followed by Pot Luck lunch.
(Check our web site for schedule updates.)

All are welcome!

Phone: 902-679-3743

<http://annapolisvalley.quaker.ca>
info@annapolisvalley.quaker.ca

The Individual Journey

“When I discovered the Quakers, I felt my whole life became integrated for the first time”

Quakers stress the need for each of us to listen to our own Inner Guide, believing that God is present in every individual at all times. Quakers refer to the direct experience of God as the Inner Light, or the Light Within.

This Inner Light is the experience of God revealed to us, working in our lives and hearts. In addition to spiritual growth, this can lead us to community and to social action.

Quaker Meeting for Worship

– A Unique Experience

The weekly Meeting for Worship is the heart of our community. Quakers worship primarily in silence, with no set program or structure. This allows our relationship with God to build.

Quakers have no ministers or priests, but within the silent waiting for God, members of the Meeting often feel moved to speak. This ministry, where an insight or spiritual experience is shared, enlightens others and brings the Meeting closer together.

The Quaker Community

“I found a strong sense of community and special friendships with Quakers.”

Seeking to discern God's will for our lives, and to follow that leading faithfully, can be a challenging task, and difficult if not impossible to do alone, without support and guidance from fellow seekers.

Quakers have never chosen to live apart from the mainstream culture, but Quaker Meetings do seek to build a caring spiritual community.

We support one another through times of personal struggle, or when there is need to come to clarity on a new stage or direction in life. Working together to build a more just world also brings us closer as a group.

Decisions are made, not by majority rule, but by seeking unity together to discern what God requires of us.

Similar to the secular process of consensus used by many community groups, Quaker process can be used to support individuals, give direction to the Meeting, and to focus our work for social justice in the wider world.

Quaker Beliefs in Action

“Quakers don't just talk the talk, they walk the walk.”

The 1947 Nobel Peace Prize was given to Quaker service organizations in recognition of their work for reconciliation and humanitarian efforts following World War II.

The Peace Testimony is central to Quaker belief. Our deep opposition to war has led us to the role of peacemaker, and the work towards non-violent solutions to conflict.

Believing in the equality of all races and nations, and the equality of women and men, Quakers actively strive to create such a world.

Quakers seek to live with a conscious awareness of their place in the world. Within the complexity of modern life, we strive to live in a simple enough manner to enable us to hear our Inner Guide.

We seek to rectify the economic and the environmental imbalance in the world, and to share the world's resources fairly and sustainably.

See <http://www.cfsc.quaker.ca> for information on Quaker service work in Canada and around the world.