

The background is a solid teal color. At the top and bottom, there are decorative elements consisting of stylized, overlapping white clouds with soft, rounded edges. The clouds are arranged in a way that they appear to be floating or layered, creating a sense of depth and a clean, modern aesthetic.

January 14, 2024

Social Isolation and Loneliness

MISSION GROUP QUESTIONS

- In what ways does your current mission group call and current function address the challenge of social isolation and loneliness?
- Within Seekers, what activities or actions have taken place that have had the byproduct of addressing social isolation and loneliness?
- Within the scope of your call, what are ways you might offer additional support?

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

QUESTION 1 - CALL

CELEBRATION CIRCLE

Worshipping God together helps people become part of a community (and combat social isolation and loneliness)

EARTH & SPIRIT

We witness we are never alone when we are in nature. Living with climate change/catastrophe requires building resilient community

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

QUESTION 1 - CALL

EYES TO SEE

We raise awareness about issues that may cause social isolation and loneliness such as mass incarceration and solitary confinement. The Peace & Justice Prayer allows others a place to name their concerns.

LEARNERS & TEACHERS

Spiritual development and growth through the School of Christian Growth builds community. We are using both live classes and Zoom classes as ways to enlarge people's participation. The live classes have re-introduced a communal dinner.

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

QUESTION 1 - CALL

LIVING WATER

By addressing deeper spiritual issues, we allow people to find spiritual resources to look at their own feelings of isolation and loneliness.

TIME & SPACE

Our call is to keep the building filled with abundant life, making it possible for other people to make connections. We make a space for other people so that they don't have to be isolated.

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

QUESTION 1 - FUNCTION

METHOD OF MEETING

Use of Zoom to provide support of inclusion for meetings and activities. Use of In Person when additional support for the work of the group and the needs of members warrent.

STRUCTURE OF MEETING

Worship, prayer and sharing within the mission group time together combats isolation and loneliness. Members of the group help each other address life challenges.

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES
ACTIVITIES / ACTIONS



FRIDAY VIGIL

COFFEE HOUR

GAME NIGHT

SINGALONGS

BOAT TRIPS

HIKES

RIVER CLEAN UP

MARTHA'S MOB

WOMEN'S/MEN'S BREAKFAST

SCG MEALS

CHRISTMAS EVE MEAL

SENIOR PIONEERS

SILENT RETREAT

SPIRITUAL COMPANIONS

ALL SOULS DAY

SUNDAY WORSHIP

CLASSES

OCCASIONAL CHOIR

EASTER BREAKFAST

FRIENDSHIP DINNERS

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

EARTH & SPIRIT

Convene afternoon/days at Dayspring for meditative walks on the land and fellowship.

Convene support groups to support individual efforts to live more simply (ex: reduce plastic, growing native plants, composting, etc).

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

EYES TO SEE

Because we probably spend more time in prayer than most mission groups, we could be more intentional about praying for people whom we know have recently lost loved ones or about whom we know they might be feeling lonely or isolated.

LEARNERS & TEACHERS

Exploring whether offering classes at a different time/day, in case the current schedule is an impediment to some

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT?

LIVING WATER

Frequent phone calls to members who request them.
Personal invitations to those who have not attended classes to join a class offered by a Living Water member.
Offer a class on a book focused on loneliness --one example:
Frederick Buechner's Longing for Home.

TIME & SPACE

We can alert Seekers to events that are happening in the building. In the past we hosted events for building users to get together, but at this point we do not have enough regular users to make that possible.

MISSION GROUP RESPONSES

OTHER THOUGHTS

Might we pay more attention to who is and isn't coming to worship regularly and check in on those absent more than occasionally?

Normalize use of listserv for folks who are lonely to reach out for support/share their experience and develop a team to provide one-on-one /in-person follow up?

How do we encourage lonely people to engage and participate?

Should we have a survey of all Seekers to find out what they might need?