

CELEBRATION CIRCLE SELF-ASSESSMENT IN SPIRITUAL GROWTH 2023

1. Is our mission group developing servant leaders who can teach, preach, invite others to worship, care for members' needs, etc.?

We invite Seekers, either directly or through coordinators outside the CC mission group, to fill several roles in worship each week, including preaching, offering the Peace and Justice prayer, leading music, reading the lections, giving the Children's Word, and leading the Gathering Circle. In addition, each Sunday the liturgist invites the sharing of reflections at the end of worship.

2. How has our mission group done so during the past several years? What are some examples of our mission group activities that have fostered this?

We are scheduled to offer a class for the SCG on Worship. We are open to collaborating, and often do collaborate, with other groups and individuals, for example, the Racial and Ethnic Justice Ministry group.

3. Does our mission group have one or more ways to check on the spiritual health of its members? Does it have one or more ways to assess how time/energy/and money are expended through Seekers that reflect mission group members' spiritual health?

For checking on the spiritual health of our CC members, during our weekly meeting each of us shares about how our spiritual life, and life in general, is going. Recently we decided to loosen the rule of no cross-talk, mainly to allow for greater spiritual support among our members. Also, each of us writes a weekly spiritual report to Peter, our group's spiritual companion. Peter reports to Deborah.

How we spend time and energy through Seekers is integral to all the work of our mission group, so we discuss it all the time. We don't discuss how we spend our money through Seekers, and if individuals choose to include that in their spiritual reports, that is between them and their spiritual companion.

4. What trends of spiritual growth has your mission group noted that might inform School for Christian Growth classes or other activities at Seekers?

A big trend in our mission group's experience is exhaustion. We also note that the energy coming from the Racial and Ethnic Justice Ministry group is informing and encouraging our spiritual growth.

In Seekers in general, we notice a trend toward *not* understanding the concept of authority at the point of call – something that has been referred to as the “Jackie McMaken disease” because she first identified it: “You don't volunteer someone else to do something you want done but aren't willing to do yourself.”

Perhaps we notice these trends more than other groups might, because the work of Celebration Circle is so public. It all affects our spiritual health.

5. Who in your mission group tends the spiritual development of its members?

We all tend to the spiritual development of each of us, and we consider it an important part of our spiritual mission. Peter is our designated spiritual companion.

If you have questions, feel free to contact one or more of the SLT (Trish Nemore, Margreta Silverstone, Jacqie Wallen, and Dave Lloyd).