

Pacific Yearly Meeting
Eldering Sub-Committee
Report to Annual Session (AS) 2023

The Eldering Subcommittee consists of Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Bishop, Elaine Emily, Paul Harris, Chamba Cooke, Valerie Nutman, Sandy Kewman, Dinah Bachrach (continuing with us from her new home in Washington State), Robin Durant (liaison from Ministry Committee), and Nancy Wilkinson, clerk. We have met monthly over the past year to support the spiritual deepening of our Yearly Meeting. The committee coordinates and supports those taking eldering roles, both during Annual Session and for those whose service is year-round.

In addition to individual matching and support, we find our work expanding organically in encouraging the development of eldering skills. Two members have developed a basic Eldering workshop. This 90 minute workshop has been presented via Zoom to six meetings; we hope to be invited to present to other meetings in the coming year.

In addition, we presented an extended workshop, “An Invitation to 21st Century Quaker Eldering” at the 2023 Friends General Conference Gathering. The workshop draws extensively from the new book by Elaine Emily and Mary Kay Glazer, *An Invitation to Quaker Eldering*. We are experiencing an increase in conversations coming our way regarding the role of eldering in spiritual nurture and accompaniment.

We see interconnection with the work of the Racial Justice Subcommittee as we offer support for efforts to speak truth with love and find truth in love.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the spiritual needs of Pacific Yearly Meeting and the Religious Society of Friends.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Wilkinson
Clerk, Eldering Subcommittee of the Ministry Committee of Pacific Yearly Meeting.