

Where Next on My (Spiritual) Journey?

Our lives are a journey. From birth to the present, we each have had many experiences, made some significant choices, and likely had turns in our life that we didn't control. In all likelihood, there have been joys and sorrows, struggles and openings. Where has your journey taken you? Were there times when you felt the Spirit nearby? How much do you yearn to be close to the Spirit? This year's LEYM Spiritual Formation Program will invite Friends to review their life journey and to consider the spiritual experiences one has had, as well as the spiritual areas that one wants to pursue in the coming year.

Do you...

seek a deeper spiritual experience?

If you wish to deepen your spiritual life you are invited to join the LEYM Spiritual Formation Program for 2025-2026. It kicks off with an opening retreat in September 2025 and ends with a closing retreat in May 2026. Through the retreats and participation in a local group that meets regularly throughout the 9 months, participants create a close faith community for spiritual growth, mutual support, and encouragement. These groups provide a structured, supportive place in which each member can discern the leadings of the divine and prepare to follow.

Dates:

- ❖ Sept 12-14, 2025 – kickoff retreat (at Weber Retreat Ctr - Adrian, MI)
- ❖ Jan 2026 – mid-year check-in (Saturday afternoon on Zoom)
- ❖ May 2026 – day retreat (site TBD)

Space limited, register early

Sept Retreat Costs*

(per person)

If registered by August 20, 2025:

- \$180 – Double room & meals
- \$220 – Single room & meals

Registration After Aug 20th

- \$200 – Double room & meals
- \$240 – Single room & meals

No one turned away for financial barriers

More Details:

- During the September retreat, there will be small group, large group, & individual exercises to explore our journeys together.
- We will also explore individual and corporate aspects of Quaker spiritual formation, including:
 - ❖ meeting for worship,
 - ❖ spiritual mentors,
 - ❖ the role of elders
 - ❖ discernment in our spiritual formation



Michael Wajda

Facilitator for 2025-2026

Michael Wajda is a member of Goshen Friends Meeting (Philadelphia YM) who is currently sojourning at Bennington, VT Friends Meeting (New England YM). He is an active Friend who has traveled widely among Friends, leading retreats, giving talks, and helping to strengthen the spiritual life of meetings and Friends.

Michael delivered the 2006 plenary address at LEYM, *Expectant Listening: Finding God's Thread of Guidance*, which has been published as a Pendle Hill Pamphlet. Currently, Michael and another Friend in New England Yearly Meeting are convening full days of extended worship around the yearly meeting. Michael also serves as clerk of the Steering Committee for the Quaker Call to Protect Democracy.

- During the fall retreat groups form. Together they decide their meeting schedule & frequency as well as their group format throughout the 9-month duration of the program.
- Some groups select spiritual readings for the year from a selection of books available for purchase at the retreat.
- Other groups may choose a format that provides opportunities for each person to share where they are on their spiritual path and how their spiritual practice is going.
- Some groups have formats that do both.

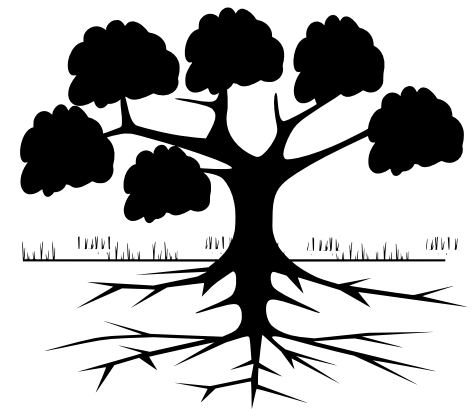
For more information or to register for the spiritual formation program go to the leym.org website



Spiritual Formation Program

2025 - 2026

Lake Erie Yearly Meeting



For more information:

Contact: Sally Weaver Sommer,
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website: leym.org/spiritual-formation-program-description