



The practice of local meetings reporting to their yearly meeting began early in England and was adopted by NEYM in the 18th century. Originally these reports were a response to questions, mainly factual, such as the number of Friends who had been imprisoned for their faith and died there, but there were also spiritual queries for meetings (“How has Truth prospered amongst you? Are Friends in peace and unity?”). NEYM has maintained a version of this tradition through two separate reports: a) the annual statistics report detailing membership changes and attendance at meetings, which is usually handled by the meeting’s Recorder; b) Ministry & Counsel’s State of Society report, which focuses on the spiritual condition of the meeting.

-Faith & Practice



To all the Friends who
participated in a State of Society
process this year:

THANK YOU!

The power of shared silence

"Sharing silence together provides a container for our worship, both individually and as an assembled body."

— Hartford Monthly Meeting

"When we center down, the silence can feel so deep."

— Brunswick Friends Meeting

"People come out of worship looking brighter."

— Mt. Toby Meeting

"The experience of being drawn in comes specifically from sitting together in community — it is qualitatively different from the quiet available at home alone."

— North Shore Friends Meeting

Overarching theme



**Support for leadings:
Witness and ministry to the world
in many forms**

