

Seeking Clearness By Iris Graville on February 1, 2015, Friends Journal

"The clearness committee is one process Friends have developed to help people discern when, or even if, the Spirit is leading them. It's like going to your favorite aunt when you're trying to make a decision. She nods slightly as you weigh pros and cons; she responds to your wonderings with gentle questions that unlock the answers inside you."

"We'd requested a clearness committee six years earlier when we contemplated relocating from Seattle to Bellingham. We hoped a possible move to Stehekin might benefit from another round of clearness. One squally fall evening, four Quaker "aunts and uncles" joined Jerry and me in our living room. Wind off Bellingham Bay blew rain sideways across the picture window. Sue, a member of that previous committee, facilitated this one. After about 15 minutes of silent worship, Sue explained the committee's purpose was to support us in listening for inner guidance, not to tell us what to do. She then asked us to explain the decision we were seeking clarity about. Jerry and I took turns describing our plan for a year in Stehekin."

<http://www.friendsjournal.org/seeking-clearness/>