**The Quaker Decision-Making Process**

**ASSUMPTIONS: There is that of God in everyone. Decision-making is a Spirit-led process.**

**REQUIRED:**

* **An open-mindedness and a willingness to change one’s mind;**
* **An understanding that this process takes time;**
* **An understanding that the group is wiser than any one individual;**
* **A willingness to control your emotions;**
* **A willingness to be patient and to use silence.**

**IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER:**

* **Unity is not necessarily unanimity.**
* **No individual has veto power over the group.**
* **A decision may not be made in one session: sometimes an issue has to “season” for a while.**

**THE ROLE OF THE CLERK:**

* **Keep the discussion moving along;**
* **Call for a period of silence when necessary;**
* **Encourage every individual to speak;**
* **Restate the issue often;**
* **Be sure that the “sense of the meeting” is clear to everyone.**

**It is my privilege to work with you on this process.**

**Teacher John**