

The Fetzer Institute's Efforts to Build a Spiritually-Grounded Community

International Association of Management, Spirituality & Religion Conference

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“I am sure that as you listen, you will hear the ring of truth, first and foremost trying to create a community of freedom within the Foundation (Institute)...”



Welcome & Introductions



Today's PDW

- Opening Contemplative Offering
- Building & Nurturing a Spiritually Grounded Community – A Community of Freedom
- What have we learned?
- Individual Reflection & Small Group Discussions
- Gallery Walk
- Q&A
- Closing Contemplative Offering



Opening Contemplative Offering

Building & Nurturing a Spiritually Grounded Community





Introduction of John E. Fetzer Institute

Mission Statement

**Helping build the spiritual foundation
for a loving world.**

Long-Term Goal

Our goal is to help catalyze and support a broad-scale, spiritually grounded transformation from an ego-centered way of being grounded in separation and fear to an all-centered way of being grounded in oneness and love, with the result that a critical mass of persons around the world embrace love as the guiding principle and animating force for living in sacred relationship with Spirit, self, others, and the natural world.

Guiding Purpose

To awaken into and serve Spirit for the transformation of self and society, based upon the principles of wholeness of reality, freedom of spirit, and unconditional love, and the integration of the inner life of mind and spirit with the outer life of service and action.



Introduction of Community of Freedom/Community of Freedom Gatherings

History of Community of Freedom

Community of Freedom Purpose Statement:

To create a community of freedom that supports us individually and as a community in living into our Guiding Purpose, which is to awaken into and serve Spirit for the transformation of self and society.

Community of Freedom Gatherings

- **Weekly**
- **3-Hour Gatherings**
- **Full Community**
- **Contemplative Offerings**

Community of Freedom Gatherings – Two Areas of Focus

1. Full Community

- Board meeting COFGs: including Fetzer's current programmatic priority – Healing the Heart of Democracy
- Team-Building: engaging in difficult conversations
- Learning about our 25-year program history
- Way of deepening into our Guiding Purpose
- Exploring spiritual traditions & religions
- Exploring four Fetzer core values
- Engaging in suites of contemplative practices

Community of
Freedom
Gatherings –
Two Areas of
Focus

2. Individual & Group Spiritual Exploration

Community of Freedom Gatherings – Support Structure

1. COFG Planning Committee
2. COFG Working Groups
 - Contemplative Practices
 - Learning
 - Library
 - Materials
 - Onboarding
 - Website

What have we
learned about
building &
nurturing a
spiritually-
grounded
community?





Shared Leadership



Lived understanding of how our
Community of Freedom supports
and ties back to mission &
purpose



Honoring diversity across all
spectrums & learning from
feedback



Invitational Nature of Practice



Creating Safe Spaces

Individual Reflection & Small Group Discussions

1. In your efforts to build spiritually-grounded community within a workplace, what has worked?
2. What has been challenging, or a barrier?
3. What guidance would you offer to help others build spiritually grounded community within diverse workplaces?
4. In today's society, why do you think it's important to build and nurture spiritually grounded community within workplaces?
5. What questions do you have about building spiritually grounded community within a workplace, especially a spiritually diverse workplace?



Gallery Walk



Questions?



Closing Contemplative Offering



Thank you!

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