To Friends everywhere:

Bozeman Worship Group (BWG) is a small group of Friends and attenders in a rapidly growing city and region of Montana. Our numbers have dwindled of late. At times this year we have had as many as 13 people at meeting. Other times as few as 1 or none. Our meeting for worship is often deep and meaningful. But right now we are struggling to maintain the critical mass required to be attractive to newcomers.

A brief review. In June, one person from our group spent 3 ½ weeks in Guatemala delivering medical supplies to Mayan villages in the highlands around Nebaj. Summer MGOF was important to us and we continue to value our state wide Quaker relationships and a deepening understanding of the damage of white privilege. In October two of our group went to the SOA watch in Tucson. In November we again gathered supplies for immigrant families in Missoula. December found our annual potluck well attended (20) with better roads than last year.

During the winter there seemed to be a slowing of activity although Winter MGOF was again important to our members. One older member had a series of mishaps which has made mobility difficult and recovery slow. Another older couple are making the move from their home to a retirement facility. A couple who have been backbones of the worship group are both in the process of retiring and starting to imagine a new way of life. We have two delightful young women who are sisters, one of whom has just entered her teens. Others of us have experienced changes in work, relationship and interests. One person has continued to develop her art. Two of our number are part of the Bozeman FCNL advocacy team and many of us continue involvement in music. And a couple spent two months in Tucson learning about and seeking to be useful in border issues. Another individual moved to Billings to be nearer family.

Meanwhile we have tried to support a small worship group effort in Big Sky where a small group of interested folks is meeting two times a month. Our sojourning Friends continue to be important to us. The MGOF men’s group meets a couple times a year, well attended and valued.

To sum up our state of the meeting, we are a small group, richly endowed with creative, intelligent participants who speak truth and witness in their lives while seeking spiritual nurture and quiet in our worship. We remain open to leadings of Spirit.