



FACILITATOR: VIRGINIA SWAIN

## **An Introduction to The Foundations of Reconciliation Leadership:**

***A Methodology to Reconcile Relationships  
and Build Trusting Communities for a Culture of Peace***

*Dedicated to Ian Harrington, dear f/friend, dedicated supporter,  
Reconciliation Leadership (RL) and Elder, Pilot RL Program*

***Thursday, April 25, 2024, 7-9 pm EDT on Zoom***

*Sponsored by the Friends Meeting at Cambridge Peace and Social Justice Committee*

*More Information and Registration: <https://bit.ly/VirginiaSwain>*

**Please bring paper and colored markers for the exercise.**

*The program has reconciliation and our goodness at its core and teaches participants how to deal with conflict to build trust and emotional balance which strengthens a community's ability to discern, work, and act together.*

- In this two-hour workshop, participants will be introduced to the Foundations of Reconciliation Leadership (RL) and an overview of the program that will begin in 2024 with support from New England Yearly Meeting, Lyman, Obadiah Brown and Legacy Future Funds.
- Most of the workshop will be an experiential exercise in which participants engage in imaging/visioning (developed by Quaker Elder and Peacebuilder, Elise Boulding) - one of the key tools of Reconciliation Leadership.

- “Virginia does not see a dichotomy between working locally and globally, between loving one’s country and loving the world, between national citizenship and global citizenship. Nor does she separate her inner journey from her work in the world. They are in unison. Her spiritual path bridges these dichotomies and is grounded in a consciousness of the oneness of life. Again, she quotes Dag Hammarskjöld: ‘Everybody today with part of his [sic] being belongs to one country while with another part has become a citizen of a world which no longer permits national isolation. Seen in this light, there could be no conflict between nationalism and internationalism, between the nation and the world. The question is not either the nation or the world, it is how to serve the world by service to our nation and how to serve the nation by service to our world. (p.74)” Mische, Patricia (2024) “Review of My soul’s journey to redefine leadership,” The Journal of Social Encounters: Vol. 8: Iss. 1, 27283. More of the review here: [https://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1267&context=social\\_encounters](https://digitalcommons.csbsju.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1267&context=social_encounters)
- The Legacy Futures Grant awarded Virginia Swain funding to transform the program she developed to train Reconciliation Leaders during a 30-year leading at the United Nations and offer it to NEYM Quakers as the Reconciliation Leadership Program for NEYM. The program is designed to stabilize and empower Meetings to develop leaders who are led and cleared to develop reconciliation tools, techniques, assumptions and perspectives to heal historic and current challenges. RLs are potential Elders in Monthly and Yearly Meetings willing to offer wisdom, emotional balance and inner peace in troubled times.
- Friends Meeting at Cambridge found Virginia clear to design and implement her Reconciliation Leadership program in the United Nations in the 90s. After 30 years working there, in her 80<sup>th</sup> year, she is gratefully offering the program to the New England Yearly Meeting. Virginia has worked on five continents and was a Peace Corps Volunteer in West Africa. She is the author of two memoirs: ***A Mantle of Roses: A Woman’s Journey Home to Peace*** (Xlibris 2004) and ***My Soul’s Journey to Redefine Leadership A Phoenix Rises from the Ashes of 9/11*** (Xlibris 2017/Audible 2022). To see the accompanying pdf for this second memoir, click [here](#). To read a [review](#), To learn [more](#) about Virginia, go to [www.VirginiaSwain.com](http://www.VirginiaSwain.com) and [www.global-leader.org](http://www.global-leader.org). Virginia is a member of the Global Movement for a Culture of Peace at the United Nations.