

FCNC YM Message as read and approved on 8/5/2018 at Quaker Lake

We send greetings from the Friends Church of North Carolina (FCNC) Yearly Meeting. This is the first Yearly Meeting of this group following the NCYM-FUM reorganization approved August 2016 and effective January 1, 2018.

Gathering at the beautiful campgrounds of Quaker Lake in southern Guilford County, program committee chairperson Terry Venable welcomed all present. Yearly Meeting clerk Roger Greene reminded those present that Yearly Meeting was a “meeting for worship with attention to business”. The agenda for the sessions was approved as were those recommended for the Editing committee, New Business committee and Reading Clerk. With this business done we entered into worship by singing “Higher Ground”, led by Ginger Holt and Ginger Osborne on the piano. It was approved to combine the offerings from each of the worship services and divide the sum evenly between Quaker Lake, MOWA-Choctaw, and Friends Campus ministry. We were then centered into worship with Jenny Gullion singing “It Is Well with My Soul”, “Beneath the Cross”, and “Tis A Gift to be Simple”. Tommy Sluder, associate pastor at Centre Friends, delivered a message based on Psalm 23 and he challenged us to be open to change. We have nothing to fear with Jesus as our shepherd guiding us.

On Saturday Marcus Wall lead the “Morning Praise by the Lake”. The Representative Body business session convened with roll call followed by reports from committees. It was good to learn that Roger Greene will be continuing as our clerk through 2019. Each committee chairperson presented plans that are under consideration for moving forward into 2019. As we are moving through this first year of FCNC we are building the foundation for a strong Yearly Meeting. From Ministry and Counsel we are pleased to approve the recording of George Strickland from Goldsboro Friends. Also we have five new friends being place under the care of the Recording Committee. We heard and saw all of the wonderful work being done at Quaker Lake. Summer Camp has ended and plans are in motion for the fall activities. The Outreach Commission and Missions committee are working on ways to grow Gods’ kingdom here on Earth.

After business was completed for the day, Saturday afternoon offered time to explore Quaker Lake facilities, the walking paths, pool and other activities. After dinner, the competitive intergenerational “Game On” was enjoyed by all. This was followed by vespers music with help from some of the Quaker Lake staff and an intergenerational worship time led by Michael Fulp, Jr. His message was “What is the body of Christ supposed to do?” His main scripture was Colossians Chapter 1: 21-29. It’s time to go back to the basics. There was a special time of celebration for the recording of George Strickland and the retirement of Jake Penley. Saturday evening’s worship concluded with refreshments and fireworks by the lake.

Sunday morning began with “Morning Praise by the Lake” led by Sterling Brown. Randy Quate led the Bible Study, focusing on Genesis chapter 16 and 21:8-21, “The God Who Sees Me”. Southern Quarter led the Memorial recognition of those members who had died in the previous year. Ben Hurley, pastor at Bethel Meeting, led the worship hour using the text: various scripture from Philippians and referring to a Philippian Prescription.

. After lunch we had a closing business session. After the reading and approval of this FCNC Yearly Meeting message which is to be sent to other Yearly Meetings and Quaker groups, the clerk read the closing minute adjourning this first session of Friends Church of North Carolina.