

1 **Friends Church of North Carolina**
2 **Minutes of Second Annual Gathering**
3 **Held: August 2 – 4, 2019**
4 **Location: Quaker Lake Camp, Climax, North Carolina**

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6 **Friday evening, August 2nd, 2019- 7:00 p.m.** The Second Annual Gathering of Friends
7 Church of North Carolina opened by meeting for worship in the main lodge of Quaker Lake
8 Camp. Presiding Clerk, Roger Greene welcomed those present. Pastor David Hobson provided
9 piano music and Dylan Misenheimer led the congregation in singing the hymn, “God Will Take
10 Care of You.” Greene offered prayer for the gathering. Tommy Sluder offered a prayer of
11 thanksgiving and blessing for the offering received, which would be directed to the Jamaica
12 project.

13 Ben Hurley, his daughter, Amy, and his brother, Chuck, provided special music, singing
14 two hymns: “O Come Angel Band” and “Come Home” with Chuck accompanying them on the
15 guitar. Amy sang, “O Come Angel Band” without accompaniment.

16 Rusty Parsons, pastor of Archdale Friends, brought a message using scriptures from
17 Nahum 1:7, Matthew 13:44-46, Psalm 34, and Romans 12:2. He asked, “Do your desires lead
18 you to Jesus?” One of his illustrations was the experience of Dorothy Pittman, a missionary to
19 Africa who later pastored in New Salem, Indiana. She was traveling with natives in Africa when
20 their jeep broke down and they had to walk to the next village. As they walked lions began
21 closing in around them, stalking them. Pittman and the natives finally knelt to the ground and
22 began praying to God. When they looked up the lions were gone. Later, after sharing this
23 event in a service stateside, a lady from the audience approached her about the story. They
24 discovered the date and time the lions stalked was a time when the lady had awakened and
25 felt led to pray for two hours for Dorothy. Throughout his message, Parsons posed questions
26 we need to ask ourselves: *What sacrifices have you made for Jesus? How much do you want*
27 *what God wants? What is your spiritual like-o-meter ? Do you trust Jesus? Do you like God?* He
28 reminded us that we can’t be half-committed; we must deny self, take up the cross, and follow
29 Jesus.

30 **Saturday morning, July 3, 2019 -9:30 a.m.** *Presiding Clerk, Roger Greene* called the
31 FCNC business session to order. He presented a devotion using Matthew 22:35-39. We are to
32 love God first and our neighbors as ourselves. We say we worship a God Who can do all things,
33 but we don’t act like we believe it. He cited Frances Chan’s definition of God: God is love. His
34 love is crazy, relentless, and all powerful. He is the God of the universe who loves us with a
35 radical, self-sacrificing, unconditional love. Greene said that a typical response is to go to
36 church, sing a few hymns, and try not to cuss. We need to fall so in love with God that our
37 whole life changes and we are willing to do anything to have His love. Our relationship with

1 God should be like it was for us the first time we fell in love... ready to do anything to be with
2 that person. If we felt that way about the Lord, it wouldn't be so hard to get people to serve on
3 committees, or get people to go to Jamaica or MOWA; and we wouldn't hear people complain
4 about giving 17 cents per day to support our yearly meeting. He referenced Mitch See's
5 devotion on the porch, of how Mary told the servants to "do what He tells you to do." Greene
6 closed with the thought, "If each of us did this, how many of our problems would be solved?"
7 Open worship followed with Gerald Pike closing with prayer.

8 Roll Call: Each quarterly meeting was represented with 86 representatives from 19
9 Monthly Meetings.

10 Regrets: Beverly Jessup, Lee Van Hughes, Billy and Viola Britt.

11 Guests Recognized: Kelly Kellum (FUM), Bill Eagles (NCFE), Kindra Bradley (Quaker
12 House), and Carmen Farlow (High Point Friends Meeting).

13 Appointments: 1. **Representatives APPROVED Rita Mintmier as the Reading Clerk.**
14 2. **Representatives approved the creation of a new Business Committee with members being**
15 **Etta Florence Winslow, Brent McKinney, and George Walker.**

16 Minutes: **Representatives APPROVED minutes of the April 6, 2019 FCNC Midyear**
17 **Gathering and minutes of the June 8, 2019 Called Meeting of Representative Body, subject to**
18 **changes if typing errors should be found.**

19 Missions Reports: *Beth Saunders* thanked everyone for supporting Missions Sunday
20 with offerings totaling around \$5000. She shared highlights from Matamoros's Vacation Bible
21 School; from Meg Williams's Youth for Christ work with middle school and high school youth;
22 from Jonathan Spainhour (YWAM), who recently taught Bible classes in the Philippines and
23 Hawaii, and will be teaching in Vancouver, Oregon, and Norway during August, September, and
24 October respectively; and that Bob and Hope Carter have been reaching out to disabled
25 children, providing education about "Biblical Issues in HIV and AIDS", and held a camp for HIV-
26 infected teenagers. Saunders reminded everyone of the silent auction and thanked all for their
27 support of missions.

28 *Brent McKinney* reported on the Pastor Support Program for Jamaica dedicated to
29 supporting and training pastors, assisted by the Swift Purcell fund-raising project. The project
30 began with 11 FCNC Meetings pledging to give \$50 per month to support Jamaica Meetings.
31 Nine of those Meetings continued their support this year(2019). This year, improvements to
32 the infrastructure have been made to the Belfield Meeting. During the summer while 26 visitors
33 from camp were there to worship, the floor joist broke. Now the roof needs repair and the
34 floor joist. That will cost about \$4000. Brent also reported on the Quaker Life Camp held at
35 Jamaica during the summer. The 88 bunks were filled by 61 campers, 4 counselors, and 4
36 cooks. All cooks, 14 counselors, and about 50% of the campers from 2018 returned for 2019's
37 camp. Each morning was filled with devotions, music, Bible lessons, and recreation time which

1 included a variety of crafts and games, then lunch. In the afternoon the children were taught
2 about the miracles of God by planting seeds and watching them sprout and grow. Many
3 friendships and lasting memories were made. Camper evaluations noted the great food,
4 getting to learn about Jesus, the Bible lessons and studies, getting to play with friends, the “In
5 the Wild” theme, enjoying the crafts and games, and art. Brent invited anyone who could to
6 attend and participate. He said that going is a two-way street; volunteers go to serve and come
7 back blessed. He added that over the last 28 years, between 400 and 500 North Carolina folks
8 have participated in the Jamaica endeavors.

9 Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC): *Brenda McKinney* reported that the AOC
10 met with Mike Wall on June 28, presented the contract, and he agreed to serve for six months
11 as FCNC’s Part-time Superintendent. After reviewing several Mission Statements, AOC decided
12 on “To Know God and To Make Him Known.” It is now on the website. **Friends APPROVED**
13 **adopting the mission statement, “To Know God and To Make Him Known.”** The AOC is
14 working on a vision statement which will reveal what we aspire to be and do.

15 Finance Committee : *Jimmy Spaulding* referred everyone to a copy of the budget
16 included in representatives’ packets. As of August 1, 64% of Meetings’ Obligations had been
17 collected, with three Meetings having paid in full and 17 Meetings having met their obligations
18 to date. He announced Budget Day will be held September 14, and recommended that the
19 committee chairpersons or representatives be present to answer questions regarding budget
20 requests. The Finance Committee is seeking sponsors to support the Social Media Coordinator
21 and the Superintendent positions for 2020, so financial obligations can remain the same.
22 Spaulding recounted a few years ago obligations were \$118 per member and are now down to
23 \$62 per member. Since then the pastors’ pension program has been dropped. Meetings need
24 to remember to take care of their pastors.

25 Outreach Commission: *Mike Wall* recognized the members of the Outreach Commission
26 and praised their service. The Outreach Commission has been covering five areas: Church
27 Extension, Christian Vocations, Evangelism, Friends Campus Ministry (FCM), and the Small
28 Church Assistance Program.

29 *Eric Morrison* reported FCM Board members will continue to serve another year. The
30 finances are in the black, and they are considering how to reach community college students.
31 *Carrie Ritter* reported she has begun visiting Friends Meetings on Sunday mornings to share
32 about FCM work. Two interns, Dylan Misenheimer and John Andrews, share in work of FCM at
33 NC State. She asked members to let her know where their students are attending college and
34 provided her contact information: 336-466-1197, or calineber@ncsu.edu .

35 *Mike Wall* reported on other areas under Outreach Commission. Christian Vocations
36 funds are available for ministerial students. Only one application was received last year. He
37 said the FOCUS Conference message was that churches must be more missional, and
38 encouraged each church to use the Game Plan books and workbooks to develop a plan that fits

1 their local community. The conference may still be viewed live stream on the FCNC website.
2 Church Extension is considering the possibility of planting a Hispanic Church at Harmony Grove
3 in 2020. Small Church Assistance Program assisted six Monthly Meetings. He asked that this
4 program be moved from Outreach Commission.

5 *Roger Greene*, in responding to Wall's request, said previous minutes called for 2019
6 Annual Gathering representatives to review and consider continuing the Small Church
7 Assistance Program. Previously each Meeting was asked to give a special January offering of at
8 least \$1 per member to fund the program. *Mike Fulp, Sr.*, Ministry & Counsel chairman, said
9 AOC has asked FCNC Ministry & Counsel to accept the work of this program, or to form a group
10 to take on the work.

11 **Representatives APPROVED: 1. FCNC will continue with the Small Church Assistance**
12 **Program. 2. The Small Church Assistance Program and its funds shall be moved from**
13 **Outreach Commission to FCNC Ministry & Counsel. The M&C or its designee committee will**
14 **handle the work and control the funds of the Small Church Assistance Program. 3. FCNC will**
15 **continue the special January offering of at least \$1 per member per meeting until such time a**
16 **different decision is made.**

17 *Mike Wall* thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as Outreach Commission
18 chairman.

19 Technology and Communications Committee: *Jimmy Spaulding* and *Marcus Wall*
20 reported that last year they had great help from outside resources. Though original approval
21 was for a five-member committee, it grew to seven members, thanks to volunteers coming
22 aboard. They previewed the new website, a work still in progress. Eventually, it will include a
23 picture of every FCNC Meeting, the FOCUS logo and message, and a map showing location of
24 every FCNC Meeting in North Carolina. The purpose of the website is to let those who don't
25 know us learn who we are. Their vision statement: FCNC uses social media to communicate
26 inclusively while also growing our audience, to promote our uniquely Quaker values to the
27 world; to support our member meetings; to amplify the impact of our missions, to facilitate
28 Christian education; and to cultivate a broader fellowship. They warned folks to be careful
29 about putting personal information on the web due to security concerns. The committee asked
30 that the representatives approve including the two volunteers as members of the committee
31 and then reminded everyone of the four workshops available during the afternoon. **The Body**
32 **APPROVED the Communications and Technology Committee be Jimmy Spaulding, Marcus and**
33 **Laura Wall, Paul Routh, Jacob and Jessica Brintle, and Joy Britt.**

34 Christian Education Committee – *Paul Routh* shared pictures from a Young Friends event
35 held in November of 2018. This event is held yearly on the 3rd weekend of November, usually at
36 Quaker Lake. This year's 35 participants went to Archdale and helped pack "meals for a day" for
37 distribution. Sixty-one young friends met in March of this year at Boone for another event. The
38 committee is already planning for coming events. *Eric Morrison* reported that 25 adults and

1 youth from White Plains, Branon, and Forbush Friends Meetings went to MOWA during the
2 summer to hold VBS. Thirty-seven children attended, with three giving their lives to the Lord.
3 MOWA VBS will be held the third week of June in 2020.

4 Committee on Clerks: *Mary Anna Mc Cullen* was named the new clerk for this
5 committee by quarterly meeting representatives, after Mike Fulp was released to serve as clerk
6 of FCNC M&C. She reported the Committee on Clerks recommended the following people as
7 FCNC clerks for 2020. Their terms would become effective January 1, 2020. **The nominees,**
8 **Presiding Clerk, Brenda Mc Kinney; Assistant Presiding Clerk, Roger Holt; Recording Clerk,**
9 **Gloria Simmons; Assistant Recording Clerk, Walter Shore, were introduced individually and**
10 **each was APPROVED as presented.**

11 *Roger Greene* acknowledged the arrival of late arrivals and requested they see Gloria
12 Simmons during the break to update the Roll Call.

13 Nominating Committee – Geraldine Branon presented a report listing committee’s
14 memberships and the Nominating Committee contact persons for each committee. She
15 reminded everyone that approval was given at Mid-Year Gathering for each committee to
16 select its own chairperson. Two corrections were noted for members to make to their packet
17 materials (Scott Carter under Missions and Jan Dough was omitted from Program Co.).
18 Committee information will be posted on the FCNC website later. **The following slate was**
19 **presented and APPROVED**
20 **Christian Education Co.** : Paul Routh (2020-2022) and Susan Coltrane (2021-2023). **Outreach**
21 **Commission**: Sandra Brown, Larry Griffin, Gloria Simmons, Hugh Spaulding, Michael Fulp, Jr.,
22 Sherry Quinn - second terms (2020 – 2022). Brent Mc Kinney (2019 – 2021) will serve as
23 chairman. **Finance Committee**: David Milikan (2020-2023), Jared Warden and Jimmy Spaulding
24 - second terms (2021-2024). Don Shore (2019-2021) - first term. **Literature Committee**: Larry
25 Marley, David Milikan, Lindsay Shore-Wright, and Darla Anderson - second terms (2020 – 2022).
26 **Missions Committee**: Beth Saunders and Marcus Wall (2018-2020); Doyle Vaughn, David
27 Robinette, and Brent McKinney (2017-2021); Fred Sener, Hollyn Davis, and Scott Carter (2017-
28 2020). **MOWA Representative** for 2020 - Judy Ritter. **USFW Representative** for 2020 - Janet
29 Robbins. **Program Committee**: Robin Williams and David Millikan (2019-2022); Viola Britt,
30 Roger Holt, Brenda McKinney, and Jan Dough - second terms (2020 -2022.)

31 Ministry & Counsel : Mike Fulp, Sr., clerk of M&C, presented, as recommended and
32 approved by Deep Creek Friends Meeting, Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting, and FCNC M&C, the
33 name of Jared Warren for approval as a FCNC Recording Candidate. **Friends APPROVED.** He
34 then presented as recommended by Kernersville Meeting, Yadkin Valley Quarterly Meeting,
35 and FCNC M&C, the name of Jeff Barnes for approval as a FCNC Recording Candidate. **Friends**
36 **APPROVED.** Fulp reported that there are currently five recording candidates still under the
37 care of the Recording Committee.

1 Next Mike Fulp, Sr. presented eight Pastoral Conduct Queries proposed by Ministry &
2 Counsel for approval by FCNC representatives. **Friends APPROVED:1) the queries;2) including**
3 **them in the new FCNC Faith & Practice; and 3)referring them to the Faith & Practice**
4 **Committee to decide where/how to insert them in the new F&P.**

5 Quaker Lake: *Heather Varner* thanked everyone for support of Quaker Lake Camp. She
6 spoke of how blessed she is to work with such a great staff and so many Christians, and to have
7 the opportunity to watch people grow in leadership and in the Lord. Each camp season begins
8 with 24 hours of prayer before camp and 26 hours of prayer at the end of camp. The goal is for
9 kids to leave seeking Christ. The life skills they learn at camp are so valuable. This year's theme
10 was "Worthy." Numbers were up, totaling 55 volunteers and 627 campers. With 106 campers,
11 Senior High camp had no beds to spare. She shared two videos from camp and reviewed the
12 events that occur throughout the year annually. Volunteers are always welcome and help make
13 special events possible. Heather spent 4 summers here while in college and this was her 15th
14 summer as director. She said she believes in Quaker Lake Camp now more than ever!

15 *Rita Mintmier made announcements, blessed the food, and the session was adjourned*
16 *for lunch. (12:09 p.m.) The business session reconvened at 1:02 p.m.*

17 Ministers Association: *Marcus Wall and Mike Fulp, Sr.* reported that FCNC M&C and the
18 Ministers Association is seeking to work with small Meetings and provide pastoral leadership
19 for Meetings. They asked meetings to encourage their pastors to attend M&C and Ministers
20 Association meetings. Ernie Thompkins has been brought in to work with these groups,
21 focusing on four areas: 1. Daily prayer for Meetings or ministry, 2.Exchange information and
22 improve communications, 3. Become a welcoming community, 4. Create a sense of community
23 by providing resources for ministry. These areas are a work in progress and more information
24 will be shared in the future. Fulp said A growing meeting needs a vision to develop strategies
25 and ideas for fulfilling their ministry. There is a significant difference between meetings that
26 have a vision to draw them forward and those who do not. Those who have vision and goals
27 are looking for more. "More" means to try new ideas, and grow God's ministry. These
28 Meetings seem to be focused on making a meaningful difference rather than just surviving. " A
29 ship sitting at dock cannot chart a course, deliver freight, or change lives... Think about each
30 FCNC member committed to pray one minute a day, everyday...multiplied by membership, that
31 would be 50 hours!!" He emphasized that Meetings must develop new leadership, work on
32 their membership, and invest in young families. He added that pastors have engaged and
33 encouraged clerks to engage.

34 Superintendent's Report: *Mike Wall* requested prayer for Archie Creed, Billy Britt, and
35 Frank Scurry. His first month's work was mostly a continuation of Outreach Commission work,
36 as he has continued to work with small struggling churches. He met with pastors in Contentnea
37 Quarter where all the churches are small. He asked that everyone pray for the pastors there.
38 Wall had met with some pastors individually, such as Jeff Barnes, who is now the pastor at
39 Kernersville. At the request of AOC, he had begun the process of preparing to publish a weekly

1 video. He had conversed with four churches which left NCYM. He commented that it would be
2 strengthening for FCNC if they should decide to come back. As the scriptures teach fellowship
3 and unity, he had begun to establish a prayer team by recruiting people from some churches.
4 He will contact them regularly and they will send requests out to people in their church. He
5 would like to see FCNC engaged in united praying about spiritually oriented concerns. Mike
6 encouraged members who are willing to be a contact for their church to sign up to get emails
7 and to recruit people in their home church

8 Mike Wall said he is still learning the job and thanked members for allowing him to do
9 this job, which he felt the Lord wanted him to do. He challenged each person to have a greater
10 view of God. He believes God is trying to improve our view of who He is. He presented a
11 music video by David Crowder, "Run Devil Run." Afterward he asked, "In your church, do you
12 have the devil on the run?", and then referred to James 4:7 and Matthew 16:18. After citing
13 Biblical, God chosen leaders, and some contemporary leaders, He said, "We have to have faith
14 and leave fear behind... Leaders don't give up... Leaders aren't always going the same way as
15 the crowd... We stand in the arms of the King of Kings. How much can you trust Him?... Will you
16 put the devil on the run?"

17 FUM: *Kelly Kellum* reported on the status of his wife Cathy and her mother who were in
18 a serious accident together. He thanked everyone for all prayers on their behalf. He
19 encouraged everyone to begin updating their shots and getting their passports in order, so they
20 could attend the triennial session in Kenya in 2020, a gathering of FUM, USFWI, and Quaker
21 Men. The theme will be "Come, Abide, Go", based on scriptures in John 15 that we are to go,
22 be disciples, and bear fruit. The triennial will feature keynote speakers, individual subthemes
23 for each group, and on Saturday, a special USFW service done Kenyan style. Registration
24 information will come soon.

25 Kellum requested special prayer for Nikki Holland. Missionaries must have raised 100%
26 of their funds before they can go to their field. Nikki's deadline for being funded was to be
27 August 5th. Prior to this day she needed \$23,000. Earlier today a donation of \$10,000 was
28 given. Kelly asked that FCNC members be in prayer that her funding need would be met in
29 time, and invited North Carolina friends' generosity. Kellum then bid us farewell and left our
30 gathering to return to his family. Pastor Ray Luther rose and requested that FCNC Friends
31 observe a moment of prayer for Kelly Kellum to have safe travel and for Kellum's family.

32 Faith & Practice: *Walter Shore* reminded Friends that work on A FCNC Faith & Practice
33 had been going on for over two years. At 2019 Mid-Year Gathering, draft copies were
34 distributed to each Meeting to allow members an opportunity to read and advise of needed
35 corrections or other changes. He reported on the updates made in response to members' input
36 for Part 1 of our new F&P, and drew members attention to the addition of FCNC's legal mailing
37 address on the front cover.

1 Shore proposed that FCNC is a new organization. The 2012 NCYM F&P was used as a
2 guideline with none of the fundamental truths and beliefs changed. In the past, NCYM had
3 **required** two years to approve new/ revised F&P documents. As a **new organization**, FCNC can
4 decide its own guidelines. He asked that Friends consider adopting our new F&P in one
5 appearance. Friends briefly discussed inserting the Pastoral Queries approved earlier this day.
6 With members satisfied that could be arranged, Judy Ritter of Winthrop Friends proposed that
7 we move forward and waive the two-year approval process stated in the 2012 NCYM F&P.
8 Other Friends voiced agreement. Clerk, Roger Greene presented this proposal to
9 representatives for approval. **1. Friends approved that we waive the two-year approval**
10 **process and allow adoption of the FCNC F&P in one appearance.** Next, Greene presented the
11 proposal that Part 1 be adopted as discussed. **2. Friends approved the adoption of FCNC F&P,**
12 **Part 1 Faith and Life as presented this day, and 3. Friends approved including in the F&P the**
13 **new Pastoral Queries approved earlier this day.**

14 Walter Shore then followed the process of presenting corrections, changes, and updates
15 to the draft for Part 2 Organization and Business Procedures of the FCNC F&P. Tommy Sluder,
16 pastor of Centre Friends asked for clarity regarding dedication of a child and associate
17 membership. Friends agreed that the church is responsible for a child which they have agreed
18 to dedicate and make an associate member; granting a child associate membership does not
19 automatically grant the parent(s) associate membership. Roger Greene then asked if Friends
20 were ready to approve Part 2. **Friends approved the adoption of FCNC F&P, Part 2**
21 **Organization and Business Procedures, as presented this day.**

22 Due to the expense of publication of hard bound copies of documents, it was suggested
23 that each meeting be provided one (1) spiral bound copy and an electronic copy of the F&P
24 instead of publishing hard bound copies. Meetings may copy and distribute as they deem
25 appropriate. A copy will also be available on the FCNC website. Roger Greene asked if friends
26 approved. Friends seemed to approve. Rausie Hobson, having had experience on the
27 Publications Board, fully supported this suggestion. Greene suggested that perhaps F&P
28 committee and the Literature Co. work together on the publication details Positive response led
29 to a proposal for suggested copies to Meetings and the two committees working together to
30 complete the process. **Friends approved for the Faith & Practice Committee and the Literature**
31 **Committee to work together to provide one spiral bound copy and an electronic copy of the**
32 **adopted and approved FCNC F&P to each FCNC Meeting.** This approval ended the business
33 session of this gathering.

34 Rita Mintmier announced that all afternoon events would move up 30 minutes. She
35 reminded Friends of the afternoon events, dinner at 5:30, and the evening fellowship and
36 worship yet to come. She adjourned the Business Session of FCNC Friends at 2:18p.m.

37 Friends reconvened at 5:30 for dinner and the Silent Auction for missions, emceed by
38 Marcus Wall. At 6:30 Heather Varner and the Quaker Lake Camp staff provided Wheel of

1 Fortune with a camp theme, followed by leading Friends in singing camp songs. The evening
2 offering was for Quaker Lake Camp.

3 Roger Greene introduce the speaker, Terry Linthicum, a retired educator and coach,
4 who is active in YFAC activities. He shared some video highlights of some of their past events.
5 and titled his message, "Can I Get a Witness?" in response to what happened as the youth
6 worshipped together, sharing how the Lord had helped them. He said that all their meeting had
7 been good, but after one girl witnessed of how she opened up her heart to the Heavenly Father
8 and He brought her through a tough time, other young people began to speak , and many gave
9 their hearts to Christ. NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF TESTIMONY. Linthicum cited
10 scriptures about witnessing, Psalm 66:16, Isaiah 43:10, 2Corinthians 5:20, and John 9:24-25.
11 Sharing your testimony raises you above the past and reminds one of God's power and glory.
12 It connects you with others who may be in same place you had been. It allows others to see the
13 saving grace of God, and that Christians are not better than others, but are blessed. Showing
14 one's scars to others helps them to see they can be changed, releases hope to others, and it
15 encourages and transform lives. Silence is not always the answer. We need quiet time to pray
16 and listen to God, but to be silent about what God has done for you is to curse His blessings. He
17 expects us to tell others of His saving, healing power.

18 Terry Linthicum shared a music video, "Can I Get a Witness" by Phillips, Craig, and Dean,
19 based on Matthew 10:20. Stand and testify. Afterward he shared a true story of how his young
20 nephew, Kyle, was seriously injured in a beach accident. He had extensive face damage and
21 doctors feared he would have brain damage. The first attempt to bring him out of a coma was
22 unsuccessful. People united in prayer for Kyle and God worked a miracle. On the eighth day he
23 squeezed his mother's hand, and several days later he walked out of the hospital. His mother
24 witnessed that Kyle lived because of God's power and might and all the prayers for him. She
25 wanted everyone to understand that God saved her son's life. Linthicum reminded us there
26 was no one to speak for Jesus when he suffered. His point was that the youth meetings
27 changed because of testimonies. We cannot be silent. We need to testify! He closed with
28 prayer.

29 Retirement Recognition: Although Jon Reece could not be present, Michael Fulp, Sr.
30 recognized him for his many years of pastoral service in NCYM and FCNC, and for his service on
31 numerous committees through the years. Ray Luther shared that he had been chaperoning
32 Serenity on the night of his third wedding anniversary. Jon found out it was Ray's anniversary,
33 gave him the keys to his car, and sent him home for the night. Ray said that meant a lot to him
34 as a young pastor. He said Jon would not only give you the coat off his back; he would give you
35 the keys to his car.

36 The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m. with Wade Craven having the closing prayer.

37 **Sunday, August 4, 2019. 8:30 a.m.** Praise and worship on the porch was led by Gloria
38 Simmons.

1 *Don Farlow* led the 9:30 Bible Study based on Nahum 1:7. He asked, “Where do we find
2 comfort? Do we delight in the destruction of our enemies? As Christians, who are our
3 enemies?” Don gave historical information regarding the Assyrians. Theirs is the story of the
4 good , the bad, and the ugly. Theirs was a civilization of “firsts,” such as double walled
5 fortresses, invention of keys and locks, multiple temples, an all year, all weather army, and a
6 lot of their annual budget spent on defense and offense. They were fierce and brutal, and
7 fought wars of revenge. One of the reasons Jonah didn’t want to go to Nineveh was because he
8 knew they tortured and killed without conscience, and had been an enemy and threat to Israel.
9 The Ninevites did repent, but their repentance was short lived. Farlow used scriptures from
10 2Kings 14, 2Chronicles 33:11-13, 2Kings 21; 23:25& 26, and Isaiah 10:12-14 & 19 to show that
11 even evil people needed to hear God’s message of hope as well and to be warned of
12 consequences for disobedience to God. The faithful in Judah found comfort in God’s slowness
13 to anger and in His promises. Even in the darkest times, God is working to bring justice and
14 hope.

15 Quaker House :*Kindra Bradley* announced the approaching 50th year anniversary of
16 Quaker House. She shared information on work they do to heal wounds of war and advocate
17 for peace. She said their GI Rights Hotline is manned by experienced counselors who receive an
18 average of 260 calls per month. Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Moral Injury Counseling
19 is facilitated by a licensed clinical social worker. She has been participating with Friends
20 Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) in working to repeal the Authorization for the use of
21 Military Force (AUMF) of 2001 and 2002, as well as in Selective Service hearings.

22 Memorial Worship Service: Representatives of Western Quarter honored departed
23 Friends in worship. The service included opening and closing prayers, scriptures from John
24 11:28-43 and Revelation 14:13, music by the choir, and open worship after the manner of
25 Friends which allowed time for friends in attendance to share personal memories. Forty-five
26 former friends from FCNC were called to remembrance, followed by remembering thirty
27 friends from other Friends Meetings.

28 Following the memorial service, an offering was taken for MOWA and a hymn was sung
29 by the congregation.

30 Friends Disaster Service: *Walter Shore* reported that at the last meeting Wiley Shore
31 attended, he was planning for the future. In March the team went to Swansboro and worked
32 on four houses. They plan to work on a house in Whiteville in September. He reported the
33 Vacation Bible Schools of Deep Creek and Brannon gave their offerings to Friends Disaster
34 Service in memory and honor of Wiley. He is gone, ... but he is still around.

35 *Roger Greene, FCNC Presiding Clerk* shared thoughts regarding two shooting tragedies
36 in El Paso Texas and Dayton, Ohio over the weekend. He said he felt called to enter law
37 enforcement after observing the attitude and involvement of a Mississippi sheriff in the killing
38 of civil rights leaders during the 60s and 70s. He wanted to make a difference. He read from the

1 F&P and referred to Acts 17 addressing doctrine regarding the dignity of individuals. Recent
2 data reveals that white supremacy is on the increase. Our President talks of brown people
3 being an infestation, tells women of color they should go back where they came from, and
4 speaks of cities where those not white are in majority as places where no human would want to
5 live. He said our President is not the problem, but a symptom of the problem. We are the
6 problem. Think about it. He shared a news story of two pre-school girls playing joyfully
7 together saying they were twins. When they were asked why they called themselves twins
8 since they had different skin, they responded it didn't matter because they had the same souls
9 and loved each other. Greene said this should speak to Quakers.

10 Message: Ray Luther, Marlboro Friends Meeting, brought the Sunday morning message,
11 "A Faithful Response to Change", stemming from Hebrews 52:7 and Romans 10:15. These
12 verses give us hope by telling us to hold on, keep trusting in God, and remain faithful. Change is
13 inevitable. How we respond to change makes all the difference in the world.

14 Ray refers to himself as a "Luddite", because he would like to stay in the past and not be
15 a part of technology. The Luddites were a sect of people who liked to live in the past, opposed
16 the industrial revolution, and disappeared for a time, but their name remained. Change is all
17 around us and change will continue, even if we don't like it. During our lifetimes, changes in the
18 church have been numerous - music has changed, the Bible now has many translations, worship
19 services look different. Early Friends began having revivals when they saw the numbers of
20 youth the Methodist revivals drew, and pastors today present prepared sermons. The purpose
21 for the church hasn't changed! We are to worship, serve, witness, preach, and give hope
22 through Christ. Early Friends would cast us out. They tried to stay "in the box", and when they
23 began reading Friends out of Meetings, memberships started to decline. People in last few
24 years have not been angry about the things God gets angry about. Men make institutions, but,
25 if we are faithful to God our relations will not change. God called us to trust in Him, remain
26 faithful, and let Him deal with evil. We must repent individually and corporately. God wants us
27 to grow. We first have to accept ourselves, realize we need one another (Proverbs 27),
28 embrace our strengths, and celebrate what God has called us to do. We can have a unique
29 influence on the culture and community in which we minister. God still has something for us to
30 do. How we respond will make the difference. If we trust God and are faithful, He will give us all
31 we need.

32 FCNC Choir, accompanied by David Hobson and directed by Walter Shore, shared in
33 worship by singing "Shout Amen!" and "God Is Always With Me."

34 Annual Session Message : *Mary Anna Mc Cullen*, Contentnea Quarterly Meeting, read
35 the draft of the message to be shared. It was suggested that a sentence be added reflecting the
36 service of Jon Reece to NCYM and FCNC. This suggestion was accepted along with two minor
37 word changes. **Friends approved adopting the presented message with noted addition and**
38 **corrections.**

1 Friends Home: *Joy Reavis* shared that her dad, Billy Britt was now in the skilled nursing
2 section of Friends Home recovering from recent sickness. She provided a brief overview of
3 benefits of Friends Home residency and encouraged all to consider Friends Home in their plans
4 for their future lives, and in their wills.

5 Comments of gratitude for all who had participated in making this 2nd Annual Session a
6 success were shared, future meeting dates were offered as reminders, and Friends were
7 adjourned to meet October 12, 2019 at 10:00a.m. at Harmony Grove Meeting.

8 Respectfully submitted:
9 Roger Greene, Presiding Clerk
10 Gloria Simmons, Recording Clerk

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DRAFT