

Friends Church of North Carolina
Annual Sessions
August 12-13, 2022
Quaker Lake Camp

Friday, August 12, 2022 - 3:00 PM

The Fifth Annual Sessions of Friends Church of North Carolina met on the beautiful campus of Quaker Lake Camp in Climax, NC. After many weeks of sweltering hot weather, evening and morning rain brought welcoming pleasant temperatures and sunshine for our two -day sessions.

Presiding Clerk, Brenda McKinney opened the business session by reading the opening minute. "As we gather to celebrate 350 years of Quakers in North Carolina, may we be mindful of our rich heritage, yet always focus on what lies ahead and the vision and purpose Christ calls His church to be." The theme for the 2022 Annual Sessions was "Be Thou My Vision," based on the scripture, Philippians 3:14. David Hobson was called upon to have our opening prayer thanking God for the high calling in Christ Jesus to be with His people. As we celebrate 350 years as the recipients of His grace as Quakers in North Carolina asking God to convict us in our comfort and inspire us to a new vision of what it means to bear witness to His kingdom and to salt this world with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The Clerk welcomed visitors, David Mabry, Katie Moran, Bob and Hope Carter and our special guests, Kenyan Friends from Baltimore.

Agenda: Clerk, Brenda asked for approval of the proposed agenda. This was **approved**.

Roll Call: Mary Anna McCullen, Recording Clerk, conducted the roll call of Meetings present. There were 45 members and 10 visitors present for the Friday afternoon session.

Minutes: Clerk, Brenda stated that the minutes of the FCNC Mid-Year Gathering held at Marlboro Friends on March 18-19, 2022, were posted on our website on April 15th for all to review. She asked if anyone had questions, concerns or comments. There were none and these minutes were **approved**.

Clerk, Brenda announced that she had contacted several members and asked them to serve on the following committees and she proposed these members to serve during these sessions.

New Business Committee: Janet Robbins and Michael Fulp, Jr.

Editing Committee: Geraldine Brannon

Reading Clerk: David Hobson

These were **approved**.

Ministry & Counsel Report: Mike Fulp, Sr., Clerk, reported from the FCNC Recording Committee that they have met eight times since the 2021 Annual Sessions. Two of the faithful members, Brent McKinney and Jake Penley have rotated off of the committee. Tommy Sluder joined the committee in September and Kevin Smitherman in April.

Sterling Brown has completed all the requirements for recording as a minister of the gospel in FCNC. He was approved at the Ministry & Counsel session earlier this afternoon and will be recorded in our Annual Sessions recording ceremony this evening. Vallie Chilton and James

Moore have been approved to go under the care of the Recording Committee upon recommendation of Western Quarter.

Brian Gullion has requested to be released from the care of the Recording Committee and this was approved by the Ministry & Counsel. Eric Morrison met with the Recording Committee in May and discussed his family responsibilities, workload and his call to ministry. Together, they agreed he should take a break and meet with the committee in May, 2023 to discuss his continued work with the FCNC Recording Committee. A written report submitted by Etta Florence Winslow, FCNC Recording Committee Clerk is attached to these minutes.

Mike reported that it has reached a point that Friends Church of North Carolina can no longer find members of Monthly Meetings Ministry and Counsel that have the time available to fill the positions of clerks and committee members of FCNC Ministry and Counsel. Therefore we recommend the following: Friends Church of North Carolina Ministry and Counsel would recommend for your consideration, that we request Monthly Meetings share member names that have served on Ministry and Counsel in the past. These friends would confidently be members with time and abilities to assist with the work of Ministry and Counsel. It is also recommended that each Quarterly Meeting designate one member serve on the Nominating Committee for Ministry and Counsel of FCNC. The following are positions that need to be filled by FCNC Ministry and Counsel:

- Presiding Clerk,
- Assistant Presiding Clerk
- Recording Clerk
- Assistant Recording Clerk
- Recording Committee - (Members 6) 2 members appointed each year
- Revitalization Committee – (Members 6) 2 members appointed each year
- Nominating Committee – (Members 4) appointed by Quarterly Meeting each year

Mike reported from the Revitalization Committee of FCNC that on October 1, 2022, FCNC Representative Body will be held at Forbush Friends Meeting. There will be a short business session starting at 9:00 a.m. followed by a workshop at 10:00 a.m. There will be a morning and afternoon session, both different, with lunch between sessions. Sponsored by the Revitalization Committee, Dr. Darryl Bodie, retired Director of Doctoral Studies at Carolina Graduate School of Divinity, will be our facilitator. The topic will be, “Revitalization through Evangelism.” This is your save-the-date reminder, please come if you can. These reports and recommendations were **approved**. Copies are attached to these minutes.

Committee on Clerks: David Robinette, Clerk, presented the following officers for the new year:

- Presiding Clerk - Roger Holt
- Assistant Presiding Clerk - unfilled
- Recording Clerk – Mary Anna McCullen
- Assistant Record Clerk – Judy Rittter

David asked for Friends help in finding someone to fill the unfilled position. Brenda stated that someone has been asked to fill the position of Assistant Presiding Clerk and is giving it prayerful consideration.

This report was **approved**.

Young Friends Activities Committee: Jared Warden, Clerk, reported that YFAC is planning a Fall Retreat at Quaker Lake, Youth Pastors Retreat, Illuminate at Ridgecrest, Quarterly Meeting

group get-togethers at local meetings, a spring activity, and summer missions trip next July in Pittsburgh with another group. They have great youth pastors who meet for planning meetings, fun and meals. Last year they had more youth gatherings to get to know each other after COVID, focusing on tools needed for life. He expressed thanks for the work of our pastors. This report was **approved**.

FCNC Ministers Association: Tommy Sluder, Clerk, reported that this group was rekindled a couple of years ago and they had a good retreat last February. Ministers are tired and they had a relaxed time with fellowship, and much needed laughter. Meetings should be sending their pastors to these retreats. He expressed a concern with the lack of pastors coming to ministers association events and the need to develop young pastors and quarterly continuing education opportunities. The Minister Association report was **approved**.

Outreach Commission Report: Brent McKinney, Clerk, reported with Paul Routh's technical assistance using a Power Point presentation. A copy of this presentation is attached to these minutes. Brent stated the purpose of the Outreach Commission is as follows: "Under oversight by Representative Body, assist in the organization, spiritual life and financial needs of new meetings, existing meetings and small meetings; give support with grants for a new building, salary for the minister, and program needs; offer financial assistance to students studying in the area of Christian Vocations; promote evangelism effort in local meetings and; be concerned with the growth of the meetings." The Outreach Committee receives application for and administers these funds. Most of the committee's work this year has been accomplished by email. We do have a few applications currently in the pipe line. Application forms may be found on line at the FCNC website or by contacting the Clerk.

The Arlie and Pearl Kemp Estate is the source of most of the Outreach Commission trust funds. They were intended to be used for new meetings, but if no new meetings were being started, these funds could be used for existing meetings. Many of the funds are non-restricted. As of July 31, 2022, the Church Vocations General Fund has increased from \$8,334.20 to \$10,487.30, and the Barker Fund has increased from \$26,597.09 to \$35,255.12. The Church Extension Fund has increased from \$164,207.68 to \$193,459.51. The Evangelism Fund has increased from \$8,147.88 to \$12,816.91. The Revitalization Fund, which is not under the oversight of the Outreach Commission, has decreased from \$9,623.00 to \$7,593.00, because of the good use of their funds. Brent explained the Procedures for Administration of the Church Extension Funds. The Outreach Commission Report was **approved**. A copy of these slides is attached to these minutes.

Superintendent's Report: Mike Wall, FCNC Superintendent, reported that we have three churches without pastors and three churches with interim pastors. His primary focus this year has been to try to stay in touch with pastors and encourage them. He has continued to send out weekly emails with needs, prayers for pastors and ways to find growth and make an impact again. We need to grow God's kingdom, expand our footprint and expand our ministry. The Hispanic ministry in Yadkinville is exploring the possibility of joining FCNC. Ten percent of North Carolina's population is Hispanic and we need to include them. We have invited a group of African Friends from Friends Church Baltimore to join our Annual Sessions this weekend to explore the possibility of joining us. Mike introduced the pastor, Gilbert Imbayi who then introduced those Friends with him; Rose Alnanyi, Hilda Anami, Elizabeth Alnanyi and Angela Longe. Others will be joining us tomorrow.

Mike reminded us of the Intern Program in FCNC led by Terry Linthicum, Coordinator. If you have need of an intern in your meeting or have young Friends who are interested in becoming an intern, contact him.

Mike announced that recent great joy came into his family with the birth of a new grandchild last Saturday. We need to experience the joy of new birth, especially of a new church.

Mike invited several FCNC pastors, youth pastors and one member to share joy of new happenings that have been started in their churches. They are:

Jeff Barnes, pastor of Kernersville Friends, who talked about marketing your church. He brought examples of ways to improve visibility by church logo rebranding on every piece of communication used, new mission (short) and vision statement, new website, join chamber in your town, new signs on outside and inside of buildings, new outreach packet, rack cards, door hangers etc. and provide a nice gift for first time visitors.

Randy Quate, pastor of Deep Creek Friends, showed wooden nickels with 2 in 22 inscribed on them. He brought extra, so if anyone would like to take some, they are on the table in the back. This is a year long emphasis of lifting up two people in your life to be open and available to the Lord. He encouraged all to share lessons on evangelism, share your testimony and have lessons in your local church to change its culture outward.

Jared Warden, Youth Pastor at Deep Creek and Union Cross Friends, said at first they had separate meetings and activities but after COVID both youth groups joined together for safe work projects and activities. They became more creative in finding ways to do things together. More youth equals more friends, more resources, more facilities, more transportation options, and more volunteers learning to expand flexibility providing for Christ's youth. There will be more budget needs, but don't cut it. It will be challenging, but worth it. Go with God's creativity. Join with another church's youth group to make this happen.

Kyle Widlicka, Youth Pastor at Forbush Friends. Kyle described the program, Impact Yadkin, that started around 2011. Youth groups decided to stop going on mission trips outside the county and work on needs in Yadkin County. Churches got involved of all denominations and they partnered with the schools to change and make an impact. It centered on work/repair projects, construction sites, party in the park, VBS, etc., starting small and then growing with volunteers undertaking projects that people couldn't afford. Overall, there have been 1,150 participants, 26 churches, 72 projects, 6 park events and 1,500 kids affected. This year Forbush kids have been involved with Jr. Highs party in the park, ramp and roof projects of which they have been very proud.

Christine Blamer, a member of Connection Church, described how a persistent prayer meeting affected their church. The group meets 45 minutes before worship service on Sunday mornings. Some are not used to praying in group settings and some people became convicted of sins and have repented. Visitors came and some joined the church. Alcohol Anonymous meets in their church building six days a week, and some attend their worship now. What happens when a church embraces authentic prayer?

Mike Wall continued by challenging people who God is and making them disciples, which is the Biblical command. Do we need to rebrand? Clerk, Brenda thanked all for sharing.

Billy Britt Presentation: Clerk, Brenda welcomed Viola Britt and Joy B. Reavis to the Annual Sessions today and asked them to join her, along with Michael Fulp, Jr. on the podium for a presentation. Michael remembered Billy's excitement about Annual Sessions and his love for North Carolina Yearly Meeting. He has prepared a Minute of Appreciation for Billy Miles Britt which he read as follows and presented to Viola and Joy:

Minute of Appreciation

We the Membership of Friends Church of North Carolina, having through the Spirit's Leading and a collective Discernment, hereby offer this Minute of Appreciation to:

Billy Miles Britt

In recognition of Billy's Faithful Years of Service to the Monthly Meetings of Friends Church of North Carolina, as the Superintendent of North Carolina Yearly Meeting (FUM) and in his Years as a Recorded Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we Acknowledge and Affirm in Truth, Billy's Leadership in Administration, Gifts in Counseling, Care in Encouragement and Mediation, and his Unfaltering Faith as a Friend in and of Christ.

We, the Membership of Friends Church of North Carolina, Commend his Remembrance to all Friends and the wider community, with our Spiritual and Heartfelt Affection and Warmest Gratitude, this Eighth Month, 2022.

In Confirmation of Billy's Spiritual, Intellectual, and Experiential Walk in Faith with the Membership of Friends Church of North Carolina, we set our hand now and always.

Brenda McKinney Clerk, Friends Church of North Carolina

Mary Anna McCullen Recording Clerk

This was **approved** and a copy is attached to these minutes.

Announcements: Clerk, Brenda reminded everyone that Joy Reavis has made a time line of 350 years of Quakers in North Carolina and can be viewed on the stand in the back of the room.

Brenda showed a hard copy of the new edition of "Faith and Practice of Friends Church of North Carolina" that David Milliken has prepared with a Table of Contents and Index and had bound. Three copies will be presented to each meeting and copies are available in the bookroom to purchase for \$7.50 each. Appreciation was expressed to David Milliken for doing this.

She also reminded us to check out the bookroom for other books as well as USFW books.

A Silent Auction for Missions is going on at the back of the room. Be sure to check this out and place your bids.

Paul Routh showed the posters on coming Young Friends events. They are available one for each meeting on your table.

Jake Penley requested special prayer for Ray Lambe who is in Baptist Hospital. Special prayer was also requested for Theron Farlow who has been hospitalized 22 days. Jake Penley offered prayer for both.

4:55 p.m.: Michael Fulp, Jr. offered the blessing for dinner.

6:05 p.m.: Following a delicious dinner, we enjoyed special music by the Kenyan Friends from Baltimore who invited all to join in. They sang He is Lord, He is Lord; Yes You Are The Lord Most High and Blessed Assurance in English and Swahili.

Worship Speaker: Bob Carter, M.D., and his wife, Hope, are Quaker, Kenyan Missionaries working in outreach ministries of the Kijabe AIDS Education and Community Outreach project sponsored by SIM and headquartered at Moffet Bible College in Kenya, East Africa. They are currently home in the U.S. on leave and will be returning in September. Clerk Brenda, introduced Bob as our evening worship speaker. She said that he was one of her modern day heroes and she was so glad he is here to share some of his vision and hope. Bob invited his wife, Hope, to come up and she gave greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ who made it possible for us all to be together. Bob extended greetings from the co-workers in Kenya and also expressed concern during election time in Kenya.

He stated that his quandary today was how to settle on what he should say to part of his spiritual family. He wanted to bring the Lord's word to us and these are some of the things he thinks the Lord would have him affirm to FCNC. The Lord is pleased for his children who love him, have suffered hurt and pain but not fallen away from God. He senses the Lord's pleasure with you and delight in FCNC when he sees you. You are not missing the boat, you have been faithful. What's the future of FCNC? We're living in a world that is indoctrinating the youth to be suspicious of whatever the church is selling, what the church is saying is right or wrong. Doing greater things in Christ's name it will happen. We are the physical presence of Christ in the world. When we start worrying more about the suffering people around us and ask Jesus what to do – then we will experience the light of Christ living within us. We must do greater things in Christ's name and it will then happen. We are the physical presence of Christ in the world today.

Journey Inward, focused on the corporate body of believers and discipleship. Journey Outward, focused on non-believers and bring hope to dark world. Proclamation without demonstration is defamation. Ask the people around the church if it's a loving church.

Ephesians 4: 15-16 tells us that speaking the truth in love to grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ. The whole body is held together with each supporting ligament designed to grow. The body can't properly work if all the connections aren't working correctly. What connection has been lost?

One of the roles of the church is to help its members stay connected to the head – Jesus Christ. Also to strengthen the connection to other members – encouraging, connecting etc. We are surrounded by hurting people in our neighborhoods. Do we help or not? Do people see Jesus in us? Do we reach around the hearts of someone who needs Jesus? People know that they need something, but they don't know what, nor who to ask or see witnessing what they need. The church needs to strengthen the ways their members can reach out helpfully to an anxious hurting world. Where did the connection break? Saturday we will continue with thoughts on connecting with those who are in need of Christ.

Recording Service: At 7:15p.m. the service for the Recording of the Gift of Ministry for Sterling Brown began. A violin and piano duet by Bob Carter and David Hobson of "Give of Your Best to the Master" and "Blessed Assurance" was presented. Etta Florence Winslow, Clerk of the Recording Committee welcomed Sterling Brown, candidate for recording, his family, church family and friends and all present. Rusty Parsons gave the recording message.

The Recording Certificate was presented to Sterling by Brenda McKinney, FCNC Clerk. Sterling, his wife and family, supporting Meeting and friends were recognized. Sterling gave remarks upon his recording. Tommy Sluder gave a prayer and "Blessed Assurance" was sung by those gathered.

A reception hosted by Cedar Square Friends Meeting followed.

8:30 p.m.: The Friday evening session closed.

Saturday, August 13, 2022

The Saturday morning session began with Sterling Brown, newly recorded FCNC minister, led morning worship on the porch overlooking Quaker Lake.

9:00 a.m.:

Presiding Clerk, Brenda McKinney opened the morning business session reminding all to view and bid on the Missions Silent Auction at the back of the room. She also welcomed the Kenyan Friends from Baltimore, MD, who brought and introduced more of their members with them.

North Carolina Yearly Meeting, Inc.: Don Farlow, Clerk of NCYM, Inc. Board, stated that five years ago NCYM approved a reorganization into two yearly meetings – FCNC and NCFF. NCYM, Inc. was formed to handle several ongoing activities, including cemeteries owned and under the care of NCYM, formerly addressed by the NCYM Cemetery Committee. The purpose of the former NCYM Cemetery Committee was to provide care for Friends cemeteries no longer under the care of active meetings. These include Quaker Cemeteries located in northeastern NC, Davie County, NC (Dutchman's Creek), Newberry County, SC (Bush River), four cemeteries in Wayne County, NC (Hollowell-Massey, Woodland, Bethany and Pearson-Edgerton) and Old Quaker Graveyard in VA (now under care of local church).

Cemetery Care Funds and expenses for 2021 were listed:

- NCYM Trust Fund for Cemetery Care on 6/30/21 = \$212,915,
- Funds held by Pasquotank County Clerk of Court for Symond's Creek = \$15,094,
- 4% NCYM TF payout for 2021 Cemetery Care = \$6,817, 2021
- Cemetery Care Expenses w/Liability Ins.* = \$5,860,
- Cemetery Care Fund balance 12/31/21 = \$6,998,
- 4% NCYM TF payout for 2022 Cemetery Care= \$7,396.

*This includes actual care for five cemeteries. Care for the other four is currently provided by volunteers or families.

The challenge and concerns that the NCYM, Inc. Board has are:

- Will meetings, or quarters accept responsibility for the care?
- Will funeral homes accept for minimal care. (One in Wayne County has in exchange of offering burial sites at low cost for families unable to purchase more expensive burial sites.)
- Let nature take its course,
- If this continues to be the responsibility of NCYM, Inc., will portion of "undesignated trust funds" income have to be used for cemetery care?

Don asked FCNC to take this under consideration and provide feedback by June 30, 2023.

Don Farlow reported that a three-year rotation will be started in January, 2023, after the initial five-year start period. Mary Anna McCullen was recognized for her service for five years on the NCYM, Inc. Board, but does not wish to continue. Appreciation was expressed to her for her service.

The names of the current members of the NCYM, Inc. Board are: Bill Davis, Terri Harris (replacing Ken Hill who left NC), Quinn Jordan, Frank Massey, Carolyn McPherson, Carl Semmler, David Briles, Don Farlow, Mary Anna McCullen, Judy Ritter, Kevin Smitherman and Kay Coltrane (replacing Gwen Taylor who passed away). The proposed new board member to replace Mary Anna is Julie Hatchel, a lifelong member of Centre Friends and she formerly served on the Reorganization Committee of NCYM in 2017. She is very active at Centre Friends and is an attorney holding degrees from Campbell Law School. FCNC Clerk asked for approval for Julie to serve on this board beginning in January, 2023. This was **approved**.

The NCYM, Inc. Board Proposed Rotation to begin January 1, 2023 is as follows:

Class of 2023

Bill Davis (NCFF)
Frank Massey (NCFF)
Judy Ritter (FCNC)
Don Farlow (FCNC)

Class of 2024

Carl Semmler (NCFF)
Quinn Jordan (NCFF)
David Briles (FCNC)
Kevin Smitherman (FCNC)

Class of 2025

Terri Harris (NCFF)
Carolyn McPherson (NCFF)
Kay Coltrane (FCNC)
Julie Hatchel (FCNC)

This board rotation was **approved**.

Don announced that the Annual Meeting of the NCYM, Inc. with all invited to attend, will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at Quaker Lake Camp. A copy of these slides are attached to these minutes.

Clerk, Brenda announced that the Administrative Oversight Committee will need to discuss what to do about our cemetery responsibilities, get feedback to Quarter representatives and bring recommendation to Representative Body.

Colin Saxton, North American FUM Ministries Director: Colin reported that believing God is calling us to more faithful work in the U.S. and Canada, Friends United Meeting has launched the Billy M. Britt Fund for North American Ministries. We are grateful to the Britt family for allowing us to use his good name in a way to renew our commitment to this work. These funds will be used to support education and support of ministers and to help strengthen leaders and

meetings. A video was shown on the Billy M. Britt Fund. Colin also brought information on the Everence programs that are available on stewardship in your meetings. A table in the back of the room offers information for you to take.

Offering: Clerk Brenda, announced that our FCNC Annual Sessions offering is being taken for the Billy M. Britt Fund and a bowl has been placed on the table at the front exit door to place your offerings in. She also announced that Gilbert has arrived and he brings new Kenyan Friends who have arrived from Baltimore. They were introduced.

10 Minute Break

Missions Committee: Scott Carter, Clerk, reported that the handout in your packet describes updates on the missions projects supported by FCNC, as well as their budget and a report of the money spent through July, 2022. A copy is attached to these minutes. He said that the work in Matamoros, Mexico is still going great after 150 years, which was celebrated last year. NC Quakers have been involved in this work for which we should rejoice. Scott thanked everyone for their support and interest.

Brent McKinney reported on a recent trip to Jamaica. He said VBS was started in 1992 and they didn't go for the last few years due to COVID for VBS and camp. He visited several times during those difficult years and maintained a connection with Friends there. He has worked on getting the pews shipped from NC to Jamaica, but has experienced constant delays and they are still in his shed at home waiting to be shipped. He has called Jamaica and found four past VBS leaders willing to help with a traveling VBS and housing worked out. While there he visited Cascade, Belfield, Highgate and other locations. There is continued interest and we hope to return to a full-scale VBS and other activities in 2023. Repairs are still needed at Belfield and Dover Meetings. It really makes a difference in peoples lives there. Brent showed slides photos taken while he visited.

These Missions reports were **approved**.

Roll Call: Mary Anna McCullen, Recording Clerk, conducted a roll call with 52 members and 14 visitors present for the Saturday morning session.

Administrative Oversight Committee: Michael Fulp, Jr., representing the AOC, made the following recommendation. After consideration, a committee from the AOC made up of Mike Wall, David Briles and Michael Fulp, Jr., made the recommendation that Friends Church of Baltimore, a group of Kenyan Friends who have settled in the Baltimore, MD area and formed a Friends Church, be invited to begin the process to become affiliated with FCNC. This was approved by the AOC and this recommendation is brought to the FCNC in session today for approval. Michael read a letter from Friends Church Baltimore requesting that they become affiliated with FCNC to become their primary yearly meeting for the purpose of the advancement of the Body of Christ.. The letter was signed by Hilda Anami, Presiding Clerk. The original copy of this letter is attached to these minutes. Michael gave an overview of the process, stating there needs to be a local meeting and quarterly meeting to sponsor them. Friends **approved** the beginning of the process for Kenyan Friends to become affiliated with Friends Church of North Carolina.

Communications/Technology Committee: Jimmy Spaulding, Clerk, reported that the committee is active and Jenny Gullion is working hard to produce a FCNC newsletter each month. Information is needed to be sent from your meetings. Regrets were extended from

Jenny Gullion, who could not be here today as well as Marcus and Laura Wall and Jacob and Jessica Brintle. Both the Walls and Brintles have new babies. Paul Routh projected the FCNC website giving directions as how to sign on, sign up for the newsletter and navigate through the site. This report was **approved**.

Barclay College: Katy Moran, Director of the Kaleo Academy and David Mabry, with the Graduate Ministry Studies program made a presentation. Katy reported that God is using the Friends Church at Barclay College. She has spoken at three yearly meetings this summer and feels that Barclay College is doing something. She showed a video describing the Kaleo Academy and what is going on there. David Mabry described his journey in ministry. He posed the question, "Do you have people in your communities like sheep without a shepherd – distressed, downcast and worried, feeling lost? Is there compassion?" Barclay College has a graduate program to help pastors and meetings to equip persons for ministry and help them through nine different tracks. A table at the back of the room offers information about these programs and more. He and Katy are both available to answer questions.

Friends Campus Ministry: Beulah Gullion, Coordinator of Friends Campus Ministries, reported that FCM is trying to make space on different NC campuses and is trying to help students feel at home and keep in touch with their Christ centered Quaker roots. Kristin Misenheimer, reported that this is her third year as campus pastor and intern at Raleigh/NCSU. They have eight to ten persons meeting weekly and she has hosted at her apartment with meal, fellowship and Bible study on Wednesday night. Beulah reported about five students from Greensboro College and Guilford are meeting weekly. ASU at Boone was started last year and sponsored by Yadkin Valley Quarter. COVID has affected them and it is hard to keep the intern busy. Wilmington is starting this year with a new intern. Thanks to Cedar Square for their support. They are planning a Fall Beach Retreat and Winter Retreat. Look for information on this in the FCNC newsletter. There is a flyer in your handout packet with information on FCM. It is a challenging time for young adults.

This report was **approved**.

FWCC: Clerk, Brenda, reported that Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas will have their 2023 meeting in North Carolina. Rausie Hobson is Chairperson of the Convocations Committee. See the letter in your packet for information.

Quaker Lake Camp: Heather Varner, Quaker Lake Camp Director, on line and was projected on the screen, as she is moving her oldest son back to college at ASU today and she could not be with us. She expressed thanks for the many blessings of camp this summer at Quaker Lake. She reported that the Quaker Lake Board will begin their rotation in January, 2023, after the first five years. They have eleven members of the board; five from FCNC and NCFE each, and three at-large members. Current QLC Board members serving are eligible to continue serving to establish a three-year rotation. All have been actively engaged in the board meetings and the work of Quaker Lake Camp. No interruption of QLC Board service is required. The proposed QLC Board rotation effective January 1, 2023, are as follows:

Class of 2023

Tommy Hylton (FCNC/Marlboro)

Brian Wooten (FCNC/Forush)

Martha Farlow (NCFE/Jamestown)

Class of 2024

Jay Osborne (FCNC/Centre)
Rita Mintmier (FCNC/Cedar Square)
Tyler Surratt (At Large/Marlboro)
Laura Altizer (NCFE/Jamestown)

Class of 2025

David Robinette(FCNC/Centre)
Joyce Wolford (At Large/FCNC)
Beth Joyce (At Large/NCFE)
Tim Terrell (NCFE/Springfield)

These members of the rotation of QLC Board were **approved**. Copy of slide is attached to these minutes.

The Quaker Lake Foundation is working on closing the funding gap.

We had 600 campers this summer and we were able to be open and more normal. This was Heather's 18th year as Director at QLC. She announced that the Pumpkin Festival will be held on October 15, 2023, and many volunteers are needed. The Candle Light service will be on December 11, 2023. The 2022 Quaker Camp Lip Dub was shown on video. She stated that their publicity budget was limited, so watch for bloopers.

Junior Young Friends: The children attending Annual Sessions on Saturday were brought in to the session and introduced.

11:58 p.m.: Lunch was announced with three possible for dining locations on this beautiful day. The choices were: inside, porch and picnic tables overlooking the lake. Be sure to bring your trash back inside.

1:05 PM FCNC Annual Sessions reconvened: Bob and Hope Carter continued their message in our worship time. Bob expressed appreciation for the enthusiastic reports and speakers we have heard this weekend. Meetings are declining and growing in age while the earth's population is growing. While most Quaker meetings are rural, population is moving into the cities. Is message unclear or not up to date in old wineskins; are we not communicating clearly? Today, communication is online, etc. as younger persons prefer. Are we declining because we don't know how to communicate effectively? Are we aware of the real needs of the people we are wanting to connect with? Do the unchurched see in the church more rules, regulations and rejection rather than love? Churches won't grow while giving rejection. The day of white/Anglo-Saxon Quakerism is past. Christ, Himself, is still seeing the lost, the hurting and those who are the body of Christ.

Are we pursuing a vision for ministry as commanded in the book of Matthew, "Go and make disciples of all nations?" Missions is at the heart and soul of Jesus., "Wooing souls to Jesus Christ." Who are we "wooing?" Who is God calling us to gather? Do we have a plan for reaching those people?

Bob invited Hope Carter to share statistics about people around North Carolina. She asked, "Who is out there and what are their needs?" She shared these statistics on people in NC: 22% of people are under the age of 18, 17% are over the age of 65, only 62% of NC's population is white, 10% Hispanic, 22% black and 6% other. This is changing. The town of

Siler City is 46% Hispanic. Twelve percent of homes speak a language other than English and 9% of population is disabled. She quoted other statistics that are facing us, such as 40.5% of children are from single parent households and only 50% of married partners are living together. Although the divorce rate has dropped from 5.1% to 2.8% in 2020 other children come from homes outside of marriage. Only 50% of homes are headed by married couples. Other factors affecting children's lives are drug use, exposure to pornography, firearms available, feeling sad and hopeless leading to thoughts of suicide including 9.7% of these teenagers. One in nine children are neither in school nor working. What are they doing? Drugs, alcohol, violence, gangs – anything to be accepted. Have we prayed over the need of those who are hurting? God has given us His spirit. How does He want us to experience love in our community?

Bob shared four principals for effective ministry: 1. Prayer is essential for vision and foundation for empowerment, 2. Faithfulness for working toward the goal, 3. It isn't the work of Christ, if it doesn't come from the heart of Christ, 4. Ministry is about persons not programs. He asked Hope to share a story to illustrate these principals. Bob asked the questions, "How can FCNC equip and empower their constituent meetings to do this work? Who is your monthly meeting wooing to Christ?" Bob told us to LIVE not preach the gospel. He ended by challenging us to Be Obedient and Christ will provide.

FCNC Memorial Service organized and provided by Southern Quarter. Music was provided by David Hobson and Monica Williams. David Briles gave the memorial message and he and Michael Fulp, Jr., read the memorial names. A printed corrected copy of the written program with names memorialized is attached to these minutes.

WORKSHOP #1 : NC Quakerism & William Edmundson was led by Richard Wilcox, pastor of Somerton Friends Meeting, who described how Quakers migrated from England to Virginia and NC. He described how much suffering was experienced by Quakers in the new world. The first Quaker ministers in the new world were women. He stated that in the Civil and Revolutionary Wars, Somerton Friends Meeting had 40 members and today they still have 40 members; never a huge gathering, never a mega-church, yet did a lot even often being counter-cultural. Quakers were born out of controversy. In celebration of the 350th Anniversary of Quakers in North Carolina Richard invited all to attend a weekend of events at Somerton Meeting on Saturday and Sunday September 24-25, 2022. RSVP to Richard Wilcox or Nancy Daughtry with the number attending if you plan to attend. Contact information is provided on the brochure provided in your packet. A copy is attached to these minutes.

WORKSHIP #2: Don Farlow, a member of Marlboro Friends Meeting, shared the history of Seth W. Laughlin, local Quaker who was drafted as a soldier into the Confederate States of America Army, but refused to serve or pay for someone to serve in his place. He was sent to work in the salt factory near Wilmington, NC where he became ill and was sent home after a few months. He died after several months and is buried in the Marlboro Friends Cemetery and his grave can be viewed there.

5:30 p.m.: Supper was served

6:30 p.m.: Evening Services began with special music provided by Renee Matthews Jones and her relatives, members of Oliver's Chapel AME Zion Church, Staley, NC, who shared a selection of African spirituals and other hymns.

7:30 p.m.: The worship speaker for the evening was Diane Faison-McKinzie, who gave a powerful one-woman play entitled, "The Spirit of Harriet Tubman." Harriet Tubman was a leader of the Underground Railroad, an American Abolitionist and political activist born into slavery in the early 1820's.

A selection of songs and a request for prayer was presented by the Kenyan Friends from Baltimore. Prayer was offered by David Millikan as they begin the process to become affiliated with Friends Church of North Carolina.

A Minute of Appreciation for Brenda McKinney's service as Presiding Clerk of FCNC was read by Monica Williams. Brenda has served FCNC faithfully for three years. This was **approved**.

The FCNC Annual Sessions message, which is to be sent to other Yearly Meetings and Quaker Groups, was read by Judy Ritter and prepared by Friends from Yadkin Valley Quarter, Geraldine Brannon, Brent McKinney and Judy Ritter. This message was **approved**.

Announcements:

FCNC Budget Day – AOC and Finance Committees, August 24, 2022 at Archdale Friends

Representative Body/Workshop, October 1, 2022, at Forbush Friends

Dr. Daryl Bodie will lead workshop on "Revitalization through Evangelism."

Summary of Epistles presented by Contentnea Quarter

NCYM, Inc. 2022 Annual Meeting at Quaker Lake, Saturday, November 5th at 10:00.

The FCNC Treasurer reported that the total amount of offering for the FCNC 2022 Annual sessions offering for the Billy Britt Fund was \$1810.00. The Missions Committee made over \$800.00 from the Silent Auction for Missions

9:00 p.m.: The closing minute was read by Clerk, Brenda McKinney, and the 2022 Friends Church of North Carolina Annual Session was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Brenda McKinney, Presiding Clerk

Mary Anna McCullen, Recording Clerk