

DRAFT

Friends Church of North Carolina Yearly Meeting Recording Committee Annual Report June 19, 2020

The Recording Committee of FCNC has the responsibility for training and recording of the spiritual gifts of those individuals approved by Representative Body and placed under the care of the committee. The year began, at the end of the 2019 annual sessions, with seven (7) candidates; two new candidates were approved during last year's annual sessions and five candidates were approved the previous year. The two new candidates are Jeff Barnes (Kernersville Friends) and Jared Warden (Deep Creek Friends).

The committee members serving on the FCNC Yearly Meeting Recording Committee for 2019-20 were Etta Florence Winslow, Archie Creed, Mike Fulp, Brent McKinney, Jake Penley, and Hugh Spaulding. With the exception of one meeting cancelled due to the coronavirus-19, the committee met monthly to conduct the business of the committee and to meet the needs of the candidates. And some committee members met one-on-one with candidates when their schedules did not allow them to meet with the committee at scheduled times.

Sadly the committee lost pastor Archie Creed on April 6, 2020 due to an extended battle with cancer. Even while Archie was taking treatments, he continued to meet with the committee and was an inspiration to other members of the committee and the candidates. And when he was in the hospital, Archie had nurses and other staff who would visit him whereby he shared the gospel message. Archie gave his life to preaching and saving lost souls. He was a strong and faithful supporter of our yearly meeting. Although he was a soft-spoken man, he was a giant working for the Kingdom.

During this past year the committee has met at least once with each candidate and six of the seven candidates have now submitted personal data information, college transcripts, if required, and have completed background checks and psychological examinations. The current status of each candidate under the care of the committee and their ministry activities is as follows: (1) Tommy Sluder is the pastor at Centre Friends Meeting; he has a fulltime job with the Guilford County Sheriff's Department, a family and has submitted reports on Weddings, Funerals, Ministry and Counsel, Friendly Procedures, and "Unforeseen Joy." (2) Brian Gullion is the interim pastor at White Plains Friends; he is involved with the youth program, has a fulltime job and a family of wife and 7 children. Brian is pursuing his recording as "Accepted Pastoral Supply." Brian and his family are deeply involved in ministry at White Plains Friends and our yearly meeting. Last summer the family, except Beulah who continues to work at Quaker Lake Camp, went to MOWA for Vacation Bible School and the next oldest daughter, Annie, went to Jamaica last year for Quaker Life Camp and is enrolled at Kentucky Bible College. Brian's wife, Jenny, is the Social Media Coordinator for our yearly meeting. (3) Gloria Simmons is speaking whenever and wherever she is called to fill-in. She has spoken at Goldsboro Friends, Cane Creek Friends, Mar Mac Friends, Liberty Friends and Winthrop Friends. Gloria has submitted book reports on six of the required readings and is about halfway through the required recording process.

(4) Mitch See has been serving as associate pastor at Forbush Friends; however, Mitch is scheduled to become the fulltime pastor at Forbush Friends beginning July 1st. Mitch went with about 30 youth to MOWA last summer to conduct VBS. Mitch has submitted reports on some of the required readings and is pursuing his recording as “Accepted Pastoral Supply.” (5) Eric Morrison is pastoring at Branon Friends; he has a fulltime job and a family. He led the group to MOWA for VBS last summer for the third consecutive year. (6) Jared Warden is married and has a fulltime job in a law office in Winston-Salem. He is serving as youth pastor at Deep Creek Friends. (7) Jeff Barnes retired from the public school system as a classroom teacher and sports coach and is serving as pastor at Kernersville Friends. When Jeff met with the recording committee and after being approved by representative body last year, he informed the members of the committee that he “planned to complete the requirements for recording within the year.” Now, it is one year later, and we are pleased to inform you that Jeff has done just that. Jeff has completed all of the requirements for recording including submittal of summary papers and the exit interview.

In summary, the Recording Committee is pleased to report that all candidates are actively engaged in ministry and are making significant progress towards meeting the requirements to have their spiritual gifts recorded among Friends. **Therefore, it is recommended that all candidates remain under the care of the Recording Committee for at least one more year.**

And furthermore, for one candidate, having satisfactorily completed all of the requirements for recording, the Recording Committee recommends to Ministry and Counsel that Jeff Barnes be recorded by the Friends Church of North Carolina Yearly Meeting as a Minister of Pastoral Ministry of the Gospel.

As we come to the end of the year, members of the recording committee are looking forward to the coming year. Presently, we are reviewing some writings to update the existing reading list. While Fox’s Journal and Barclay’s Apology will always be staples on the list of training requirements, other writings are desired to include today’s challenges and opportunities to serve others. Also, we have been discussing the possibility of holding a one-day training session on pastoral counseling and/or pastoral ethics and may extend the invitation list beyond the current candidates.

As we go forward, all are encouraged to pray for our pastors, our present and future recording candidates, and for one another. We have been blessed by many people who have answered God’s call to ministry. And to those who have served so faithfully, we give thanks. Let us continue to encourage one another to answer His call to use our gifts for the Glory of the Kingdom.

Brent McKinney, Chairperson