

From Fancy Gap Friends Fellowship

Friends:

It is with a profound sense of sadness that Fancy Gap Friends Meeting has reached the decision to sever our relationship with NCYM. We have seen a fundamental change within North Carolina Yearly Meeting over the past years, as it has chosen a path that we think has turned the body further and further away from Quakerism in thought, conduct, execution of business, and most grievous, in Spirit. We have remained in relationship with NCYM far beyond our ease and comfort, simply in an attempt to be faithful in waiting, to work for the change that we seek, and to bring what portion of Light we might have to our gathered union. Our attempts have repeatedly met with resistance, either in the form of being completely ignored, to outright hostility.

With this notice we officially withdraw from the body that has for so long filled our business agendas, burdened our hearts, and sapped our energies. Though we regret the necessity of leaving the body of NCYM, we are hope-filled that this act will enable us to return more fully to the work that we are called to do. Way has opened for us to enter a Yearly Meeting of Friends who seek the Spirit in its multiplicity of forms, who are dedicated to Quaker process, and who are not offended by our presence among them.

Though we leave NCYM with disappointment, we leave with clear minds and a sense of hope that, on a different path, we might help create a Yearly Meeting community of unity, joy, and peace once again. Friends, we also wish this for you.

Approved Ninth Month 7th Day, 2014

Signed by the members & associates