

***NORTH CAROLINA YEARLY MEETING***  
***of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)***

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TO: Pastors and Clerks  
FROM: NCYM Visioning Committee  
SUBJECT: Update on NCYM Strategic Plan  
DATE: July 26, 2007

We are writing to update you on the progress of the Visioning Committee and to put forward our plan for the "next step." But first we want to thank you for giving us feedback as we continue to labor in search of a guiding Vision, Core Values and measurable Success Factors for our Yearly Meeting. We have reviewed all comments received through the date of this letter from individuals, monthly meetings and quarterly meetings, and again, we appreciate your continued support of our work.

You may recall our latest version of a Vision Statement was presented to Representative Body at Mid-Year Gathering; it was approved to be used as a guide for further development of Core Values and Critical Success Factors. A copy is enclosed.

Throughout the spring and summer we have continued to meet frequently and work diligently on the Strategic Plan. Our collective discernment has led us to the following recommendation:

**North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends should focus its attention on a comprehensive study of Faith and Practice including the General Doctrinal Statements of the extract from George Fox's letter to the Governor of Barbados (1671) and the Declaration of Faith issued by the Richmond Conference in 1887 as our Core Values.**

While Faith and Practice is not our creed, it is a historical expression of who we are as a community of faith and is our basis of faith in our life together. We believe this study will help to unite us with a clear Vision for our future.

We envision this study to permeate all areas of our yearly meeting, monthly meetings and quarterly meetings with a variety of study opportunities. We are viewing this time of working together as a time to equip and energize our meetings in their love, message and power of the living Christ. Furthermore, we believe this period of study has the potential to put North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends on a path which will lead to an exciting future whereby we can truly be called "friends."

Friends in Jesus,

The Visioning Team

*MISSION STATEMENT: North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends seeks through the power of the Holy Spirit to equip and energize our meetings to their witness to the love, message and power of the living Christ encouraging Friends to translate our faith into practice.*