

To Baltimore Meeting (Pastoral Committee)
11th Mo., 1918.
Dear Friends-

The Meeting on Ministry and Oversight of the Yearly Meeting desires that in each Meeting of the Yearly Meeting should be felt the importance of young people taking steps and making decisions for Christ and the Church.

The future of the testimonies of Friends is dependent on getting our convictions over to the next generation. The change from full membership by birth to associate membership is a step in the right direction, but we must get our associate members to be Friends by conviction. Some of the other Churches have confirmation when the minister takes pains to see that the child knows what the Christian religion stands for and what the special beliefs of the Church are, and then he is asked to make a decision. Because we do not have confirmation we must not, therefore, forget that this is an important time to get the young people into active membership with the Church, and the same opportunity of taking a definite stand for Christ should be tactfully given to our associate members, and they should then be urged to become active members which they are more likely to do if we make them feel it is worth while and the qualifications are high; not only to associate members but to others who seem in one way or another attracted to Friends ought we give the opportunity to be Friends.

The Bible School should be used to really teach what the Church stands for. Children have not absorbed in the family what the Church believes as we thought, and therefore, it must be taken up as a Church matter. There might be a class in every Bible School to teach Scriptural truth as we see it. The Bible School experts have provided for this in a course in the Doctrines of the Church which comes after the completion of the Intermediate Course.

Feeling the importance of every child taking a definite stand for Christ and of every member having a loving allegiance to the Church to which he or she belongs, we ask, therefore, that every Meeting seriously consider this question and act in the way and through the channel which it deems will best accomplish this end.

FOR THE MEETING ON MINISTRY AND OVERSIGHT

Margaret T. Carey, Clerk.

Baltimore, December 17, 1918.

To the Pastoral Committee:

The Committee on Members and Attenders report that they have nearly completed a careful revision of the list of members of Baltimore Monthly Meeting and would recommend that arrangements be made whereby typewritten copies of such revised list may be procured for the use of the members of this meeting until a new directory of the Yearly Meeting can be printed.

A revised list of the attenders, numbering about 70 has also been prepared and is hereby appended.

It is proposed by the Committee that this list should also be typewritten in connection with the list of members of the meeting, for the benefit of the members of the Pastoral Committee.

The Pastoral Committee is now asked to consider and advise the best means by which the Members and Attenders of the Meeting may be best looked after by this Meeting.

On behalf of the Committee.

A. H. Herring