It became increasingly clear to us that Lower Columbia Worship Group would best be under the care of a monthly meeting based in Washington State. A contingent from Olympia joined with us in August to celebrate the tenth anniversary of our founding. In September we were taken under the care of Olympia Friends Meeting. The subsequent intervisitation continues to enrich our group.

The character of the meeting has changed with the presence of new attenders, the death of one member, and the loss of three attenders. The sense of a Living Presence continues to bring our group together. We continue to maintain a webpage and a Facebook presence as outreach to the general public.

We gather in silent worship each First Day. Although that silence is often deep, vocal ministry is seldom heard. Worship is usually closed with Afterthoughts, an opportunity for Spirit guided conversation. To facilitate participation by tourists, and our own involvement in community events, in June we changed our meeting time from 3:00 PM to 11:00 AM.

The Clerk selects a topic for our monthly discussions, using QuakerSpeak videos and queries from North Pacific Yearly Meeting’s 2018 edition of Faith & Practice as guides. To enhance our awareness of Friends testimonies, we offered each household in the meeting a subscription to Western Friend and a copy of the revised Faith & Practice to supplement the travelling library of Friends literature we’ve maintained since our beginning. By way of spiritual deepening, we began an experiment in Spiritual Story Telling this January, with one person each month invited to speak as led. We hope to deepen our sharing during the coming year.

We pay attention to social issues in our community, discerning our appropriate individual actions. In response to Friends Committee on National Legislation’s invitation, we identified and prioritized our top ten social concerns. Following worship we often have either scheduled or spontaneous shared meals. We have been encouraged by the number of visitors received throughout the last year. They keep us connected to the larger community of Friends.

Approved at Business Meeting Sunday, March 10, 2019.