West Branch Friends Meeting c/o William Thorp 178 Nellie's Road Grampian, PA 16838

Dear West Branch Friends,

We are profoundly saddened to receive your letter stating your meeting's intention to disaffiliate from Baltimore Yearly Meeting. We know you have gone into deep discernment over this matter and respect that your body of Friends have united in the understanding that the direction where God leads you as a body and where God leads BYM as a body differs greatly at this time.

Still, when Friends bodies separate for any reason, this is cause for all of us to grieve. And we do and will mourn your absence in our Yearly Meeting. We pray as we all proceed in our Spirit-led work that Way might open for us to work together again in time, perhaps if not through the same affiliated bodies, then under the wider umbrella that covers the myriad souls who make up the Society of Friends around the world.

May Divine love continue to lead you in your community and in the wider world.

Yours in the Light,

(Steph Bean, Interim Meeting Clerk)

(Meg Meyer, Yearly Meeting Clerk)

And

(Ministry and Pastoral Care Committee)