

1  
2 **RESOLUTION TO 2019 VIRLINA DISTRICT CONFERENCE**  
3

4 WHEREAS a critical shortage of Church of the Brethren ministers exists, and  
5

6 WHEREAS a substantial number of ministers will retire from active pastorates in Virilina  
7 congregations within the next decade, and  
8

9 WHEREAS a greater number of candidates for pastoral placement and other vital ministries  
10 must be called by our congregations, and  
11

12 WHEREAS a greater openness to recognize and call forth the God-created gifts of all  
13 persons, regardless of ethnicity and gender, to the set-apart ministries of the church is  
14 needed if we are to address our leadership crisis, and  
15

16 WHEREAS the Commission on Ministry has sponsored six "Calling the Called" workshop  
17 series since 1996 to aid and encourage congregations and individuals to call persons to the  
18 set-apart ministry, and  
19

20 WHEREAS a seventh series, jointly sponsored by the Virilina and Shenandoah Districts of  
21 the Church of the Brethren is planned at the Brethren Woods Camp and Retreat Center on  
22 April 17-18, 2020, and  
23

24 WHEREAS it is hoped that many persons will explore the call to ministry in the next few  
25 years,  
26

27 BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Virilina District Board – Church of the Brethren, meeting at the  
28 Christiansburg Church of the Brethren on September 21, 2019 recommends to the 2019  
29 Virilina District Conference that the "Calling the Called" process be commended to the  
30 congregations of Virilina District for their support and participation.  
31

32 Chairperson – Tony R. Robertson

33 Secretary – David K. Shumate