

Representative Council

Hemlock Friends

Saturday, April 16, 9:30 am

Hemlock is located in Howard County on state road 26, one half mile west of the intersection of IN 26 and IN 19.

Yearly Meeting Sessions:

Worship at our Indiana Yearly Meeting sessions is the most important thing we do. This year, we are blessed to have as our worship leaders, "The Kramers," a musically gifted family from Peoria, IL. The Kramers will also be our featured entertainers for the "Feast of Faith" on Saturday night. You will likely enjoy their music, but more importantly, we believe they will help us experience the presence of Jesus in times of gathered worship. Don't miss our 2016 IYM sessions, July 28-30!

Brian Bassett has been hired as Wabash Friends' new Worship and Connections Pastor. He will start his new role on May 1.

Center Friends recently showed the movie "War Room;" they will hold a revival with Sycamore Friends pastor, Jesse Vore, April 17-20; and they have a monthly prayer breakfast.

Farmland Friends recently gave two presentations of their Easter play entitled, "Amazing Love," with over 600 attending. The play re-enacted several scenes from the passion week, including Jesus' death and resurrection. Also, Farmland will hold "Focused Living," a tool that can make you a wiser follower of Christ, strengthen your local church, and bless IYM, April 29-30. For more information contact Dave Phillips at 260-563-5497 or email to dave@wabashfriends.org.

Hemlock Friends held an Easter breakfast prepared by pastor Rob Schwarze and his wife, Brenda. The congregation appreciated this act of love.

Hinkle Creek Friends recently showed the film, "War Room," and they are ramping up for a youth program led by their new youth leader, Edi Henry. She works with horses and will incorporate them in the program along with the newly purchased acreage around the meetinghouse.

Knightstown Friends will celebrate 140 years of ministry, April 27, with a catered dinner, special video, sharing the past, sharing future ideas, and a birthday cake and ice cream.

Walnut Ridge Friends hosted a Sunday evening Praise-Fest, April 10. Friends churches represented besides Walnut Ridge were Charlottesville, Farmland, Hinkle Creek, Little Blue River, Shirley, and Westland with a dozen pastors attending. Dan and Susie Hunt from Walnut Ridge and their ten grown children sang and told of Dan's miraculous healing from the brink of death. Other vocalists and instrumentalists brought praise to the Lord and to the large crowd with wonderful food and fellowship following.

Westfield Friends will hold a new Sunday School class this summer, "Raising Christ-centered Children," with Judy Dennis, wife of former Bethel Friends pastor, Rod Dennis, teaching.



CE Spotlight:

IYM Christian Education, along with Farmland Friends, is sponsoring a **Youth Lock-In** beginning **Friday, April 22, 9 pm—8 am, Saturday, April 23**. Ben Snyder, pastor of West River Friends, will speak. There will be worship, games, lots of fun activities, snacks, and breakfast. Also, there will be plenty of time for youth to hang out with their friends. The cost is \$5 per person. Contact: Brock Sizelove 765-618-8042 or Pat Byers 260-571-2406 for more information. Registration forms can be downloaded from either iym.org or farmlandfriends.org and mailed with \$5 to Farmland Friends Church, PO Box 275, Farmland IN, 47340.

From IYM Treasurer, Max Smith: Although the 2017 fundraising campaign has slowed, we continue to receive donations and pledges. I am sure God will soon be renewing the urgency around us to meet the goal of \$95,000 to fund the 2017 budget. Now that assessments for 2016 have been reduced, we encourage your meeting to consider donating that reduction amount plus more toward 2017. We currently are at \$48,905.60, 51.48% of the goal. Thank you to all who have contributed or are considering doing so.

John Muhanji of FUM's African Ministries Office in Kenya will be in Indiana from May 16 through June 1 and would be available to speak to churches and interested groups of Friends during that time. Contact the yearly meeting office to schedule him.

Indiana's USFW Spring Conference will be held Saturday, April 23, at Westfield Friends with registration and Continental breakfast at 9:30 am, business and singing at 10 am, message by Christine Wood from Kickapoo Friends Center at 10:30 am, and a catered lunch served at noon (cost \$10). It would be most helpful if you would contact Westfield Friends if you are eating lunch there at info@westfieldfriendschurch.org or 317-896-9233. An offering will be taken to support construction of a new parsonage at Kickapoo.

USFW/Quaker Men Triennial Conference, will be held July 7-10, at the Marriott Hotel in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Registration is \$375 per person prior to May 14 which includes all meals. Hotel reservation for one night is \$105. Daily registration is also available. Quaker Men speakers will include Colin Saxton, Tim Hadley, Oscar Lugusa, and Quakers in missions from around the world. The USFW program will feature leaders such as Leunita Mugofwa, Lydia Grapine, and Nancy McCormick, and women from Africa will be sharing in song. Seminars, specialty banquets, diverse activities, business, tours, and exciting programs for adults, children, and youth have been planned (nursery provided). To register and get more information go to www.usfwi.org.

Friends from across Indiana will be gathering in small groups over the next few weeks to discuss the good work of Friends United Meeting and how meetings, churches, families, and individuals can better partner with each other to support FUM's shared work. A portion of each gathering will focus on **Energize, Equip, and Connect: The FUM Campaign**. The three-year, three-million dollar campaign is intended to strengthen FUM's sustainability and enable FUM to launch several new initiatives

Our Sympathy to the Family of Aston Brock, father of former IYM Superintendent, David Brock. Aston was 97 years old and is survived by his wife, Liela and four children. Services will be held this Friday in California where he has resided for many years.

Good Morning,

It just feels as though the blessing of God is upon Indiana Yearly Meeting. I don't want to blame God for our many failures, but I do want to credit Him for the many evidences of His activity among us. What evidence? I'm glad you asked.

Not all of our churches are growing, but there are several who are experiencing significant attendance increases. Statistics show that from 2014 to 2015 six of our churches experienced double-digit percentage increase in attendance. Lynn and Walnut Ridge increased by 14%, Jericho by 17%, Liberty by 42%, Back Creek by 43%, and Center by

47%. Acts 2 reports that the Lord added to [the disciples'] number daily those who were being saved. It's encouraging to see this happening in places in IYM in these days.

We also have nine men participating in a Leadership Development Program and plan to offer a men's group and a women's group beginning later this year. We have the largest number of candidates for recording in recent history and are developing a partnership with Barclay College to provide educational resources for them.

Prior to reconfiguration our financial future was uncertain, but since then we have ended each year "in the black." There isn't room to detail here the many ways God has provided needed funds at just the right time for us. We depend upon voluntary contributions to help us meet our annual budget. Donations have slowed recently, but we are trusting God to prompt individuals and churches to invest in what God is doing in IYM. Thanks for participating in what God is doing here! *-Doug Shoemaker*

Communicator

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April 13, 2016

IYM Upcoming Calendar

4/16 *Representative Council, Hemlock Friends, 9:30 am*
4/19 *Pastors Summit, Maple Run Friends, 9 am*
4/23 *Indiana USFW, Westfield Friends, 9:30 am*
4/25 *FUM Energize, Equip & Connect, Amboy Friends, 6:30 pm*
5/01 *IYM Sunday, Farmland Friends*
5/01 *FUM Energize, Equip & Connect, West River Friends, 4 pm*
5/03 *Work Group on Pastoral Ministry, IYM office, 6 pm*
5/15 *IYM Sunday, Westfield Friends*
5/17 *Committee Night, Upland Friends, 6:30 pm*
5/19 *Faith & Practice Review Comm., IYM office, 6:30 pm*
5/23 *Program Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
5/29 *IYM Sunday, Jericho Friends*

Attention
Pastors:
Upcoming
Summit,
April 19, 9 am
at Maple Run
Friends.
"Prayer Minis-
tries" will be
led by
Jeff Nagell.