

IYM Sessions Preview: Yearly Meeting sessions at Quaker Haven, July 26-28, includes programming for all ages. The youth (grades 7-12) will again participate in a leadership program led by Brockie Follette, director of Kaleo Academy. A program for K-6th grade children will be provided under the leadership of Renee Boyer (Wabash) while nursery and preschool-aged children will be lovingly cared for. Parents can enjoy yearly meeting programming knowing that a well-planned and well-staffed program has been prepared.

Bear Creek Friends recently sent \$2,752 to the Randolph County Pregnancy Care Center's Baby Bottle Boomerang campaign, which included contributions from individuals and a \$1000 match from the monthly meeting. On "IYM Sunday," the meeting collected \$2,395 for IYM, to which the monthly meeting added a \$1,000 match. Bear Creek is currently finishing a four-week membership course for new members. "Christian Fundamentals," an eight-week Sunday School class, will follow, focused on newcomers and new believers.

Bethel Friends will host Scott Snyder's "Saxopraise" ministry on May 5 at 7pm. Friends are invited to come and enjoy an evening of worship. Their garden plot has been plowed and soon will be planted. The harvest will be shared with the surrounding community. Bethel Friends is also serving an evening meal and sharing a message at evening worship, May 3, at the Grant County Rescue Mission.

Georgetown Friends, in Georgetown Illinois, has called Ben Skinner to begin as pastor in July. Ben will be graduating from Barclay College in May. He and his wife, Audrey, will be welcoming their first child in June. Ben will follow John Myers who will be returning to Indiana.

Riley Friends will participate with their neighbors, The Greenfield Fire Territory, in a festival, "Firefighters Against Cancer Pumper Pull," a fund-raiser for the Firefighters Cancer Support Network and the American Cancer Society. This will be held Saturday, April 28, 1-8 pm.

Westland Friends will join Walnut Ridge Friends, Sunday, April 29, for breakfast and combined worship. Pastor Paul Bravard & Markus Dennis will share the message.

Manantial de Vida invites you to a dinner of tacos, rice, refried beans, and other Hispanic delights to be held May 19, 5-7 pm at **Maple Run Friends**. A free-will offering will be taken.

Pastoral Openings: Please pray for Spencerville Friends, Van Wert First Friends, and Little Blue River Friends who are all considering who

will be their next pastor. Please contact the yearly meeting office if you have interest in any of these ministry opportunities.

New Committee Nominations are being made by the IYM Nominating Committee and will become effective immediately following yearly meeting sessions in July. Thank you to the many Friends who have already agreed to serve on yearly meeting committees.

April 15, IYM Sunday, has come and gone. What an opportunity to share what IYM is and does in our lives, our churches, and our communities. The Advancement Committee looks forward to hearing about the celebration from all of those Monthly Meetings who chose to participate. As of Tuesday, April 24, IYM has received \$66,900 toward meeting the goal of \$102,000 in voluntary contributions for the 2019 operating budget. As yet, not all of the funds have been reported from IYM Sunday. As anticipation grows, thank you for your generous contribution.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! – Now is the time to enroll in FMT fall courses.

- Orientation to Online Learning (July 30-Aug 12 *required of all new Barclay students*)
- Introduction to Friends Theology (Aug 13-Sept 23)
- Introduction to Church History (Sept 24-Nov 4)
- Introduction to Evangelism, Missions, and Church Growth (Nov 5-Dec 16)

Because Barclay's admission procedure takes several weeks, now is the time to begin your application. Visit <https://www.barclaycollege.edu/undergraduate/online/certificate/friends-ministry-training/index.html> to get more information and begin the online application process. Contact Paul Cochrane paul.cochrane@barclaycollege.edu, or Doug Shoemaker doug@iym.org if you have questions.

White's Greenhouse & Garden Center, part of White's "Growing Teens for Life" ministry, is now open and has annuals, seasonals, perennials, flowers, herbs, and vegetables for sale. Support the kids and get all your spring gardening needs now through June 1 Monday – Friday from 9-5, Saturday 9-12:30. Call 260-569-4780 with questions.

Representative Council Highlights

- **Georgetown Friends**, Georgetown Illinois, was accepted as a Preparative Meeting under the Care of Bear Creek Friends.
- **Louisville Friends**, an African congregation in Louisville, Kentucky, was accepted as a worship group in IYM. Most of its members are originally from Burundi and Congo.
- **Riley Friends**, Greenfield, had previously been approved as a worship group by the IYM Executive Committee. Representative Council affirmed their membership in IYM.
- **Edwin and Ruby Katherine Barker's** estate gift to IYM Missions has totaled \$277,425
- **An Endowment Review Committee** was appointed to review an updated study of the IYM Endowment.
- **A Comprehensive Review of Faith & Practice** was previewed and will soon be mailed to monthly meetings for consideration. A copy of the proposed revisions will soon be available for viewing at www.iym.org.
- **The Christian Service Committee** is the new name being proposed for the current Peace & Christian Social Concerns Committee. A new description of the committee is part of the comprehensive F&P review.
- **The 2019 Program Budget and Missions Goals** were previewed. No increase in assessments are being recommended.
- **Tanzania** is a mission field full of exciting possibilities. The Missions Committee is following up a recent visit by IYM Friends there with plans to partner with the Friends Church in this spacious African country.

Indiana Yearly Meeting Friends Disaster Service is willing to help congregations with needed repairs and projects. Is your church in need of some workers with a trailer-full of tools to do some handiwork? Contact Darrell Monroe 317-690-1311 or Don Wimmer 765-384-7429.

Good Morning!

A *Leadership Journal* cartoon by Erik Johnson shows a beleaguered pastor saying, "My last three visitors came in to lay down the law, lay a guilt trip on me, and lay it on the line. I wish I were a lay person!" In the Friends Church we have a different take on laity and ministers. In theory, we recognize what the Bible calls the priesthood of **all** believers, emphasizing that ministry is not the responsibility of a select few. In practice, however, instead of raising the bar and expecting all to identify and embrace ministry, we have lowered the bar by stressing the equality of all. A problem with this tendency is that those with gifts of leadership often find

the Friends Church to be a difficult place to be effective or appreciated.

Another Leadership cartoon by Steve Phelps includes this quote: "I don't know why everyone criticizes our committee. We haven't done a thing!" I recently read about the tunnel built beneath the English Channel by France and Great Britain, "the chunnel." Two massive firms were created to complete the project with equal representation of French and British on both. Someone observed that these two-headed monsters struggled to accomplish anything because equal representation

was valued above results. This reminded me of more than one business meeting I've attended in a Friends church!

What do these people have in common: Moses, Paul, and George Fox? One common trait of each was they were leaders. God leads us but will raise up leaders to accomplish His purposes. Blessed is the church that has gifted leaders and cooperates with their leadership. (1 Thes. 5:12-13)

-Doug Shoemaker

Communicator

Indiana Yearly Meeting,
4715 N Wheeling Ave,
Muncie, IN 47304

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The Communicator

800-292-5238
765-284-6900
Fax: 765-284-8925
<http://www.iym.org>

Doug Shoemaker
doug@iym.org
Pat Byers
pat@iym.org
Betty Ison
iyminfo@iym.org

April 25, 2018

IYM Upcoming Calendar

04/30 Program Committee Conference Call, 6:30 pm
05/08 Advancement Committee, IYM office, 4 pm
05/15 Committee Day, Upland Friends, 6:30 pm
05/29 Trustees, IYM office, 6:30 pm
06/04 Executive Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm
06/18 Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am

It's time to sign up for
Quaker Haven Camps.
Register online at <http://www.qhcyouthprogram.org>

Indiana USFW Spring Gathering will be held April 28, 10 am, at Jericho Friends. Registration and refreshments will be at 9:30. Kelly Haemmerle will speak on the development of leadership among Indiana Friends women. A noon meal will be served (\$10). Reservations are not required, and all are welcomed to join them.

Applications are being received for the Director of Finance and Development for Northwest Yearly Meeting. A job description can be accessed on the NWYM website – nwfriends.org. Please send resumes to Retha McCutchen, retha@nwfriends.org. (503-810-3710)