

2017 Yearly Meeting Preview:

Yearly Meeting brochures are being readied for distribution in mid-May. A promo video for the 2017 sessions can be found on the yearly meeting website, www.iym.org. Sessions will be held July 27-29 at Quaker Haven.

Amboy Friends is preparing for a mission team trip of 15 people to Belize, July 8-15. They will work on local projects and help spread the news of the Gospel.

Bear Creek Friends and their family will host an open house to honor **Vernon and Joan Huffman**, who are observing their sixtieth wedding anniversary and retiring after forty-one years in Friends pastoral ministry, with an open house at the church on Saturday, June 3, from 2 to 5 pm. Vernon pastored at Rural for seven years, Bloomingport for fifteen years, and Bear Creek for the past nineteen years. Everyone is invited to attend.

Bethel Friends Missions Committee sponsored the Ladies Luncheon on April 22 where they enjoyed a time of laughter and worship. Dr. Lena Crouso, Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies at Indiana Wesleyan University, was their speaker.

Charlottesville Friends will hold a revival with Jack Holliday speaking, April 30, 10:30 & 6:00, and May 1-3 at 7 pm.

Hemlock Friends has completed a six-week pre-Easter ladies Bible study of The Death and Resurrection of Jesus. The study was well attended and culminated the week after Easter by joining together for lunch and a trip to the movie "The Case for Christ." Beth Lightfoot led the study.

Little Blue River Friends will host a 5th Sunday combined worship with Walnut Ridge and Westland Friends, Sunday, April 30, 10 am with pastor Markus Dennis speaking. A shared meal will follow. Come join us for a wonderful day of fellowship!

Long Lake Friends has implemented a prayer and unprogrammed worship service each Wednesday evening to prepare their hearts for their weekly Bible study which follows this prayer time.

Mooreland Friends has called **Ross Smedley** to serve as their associate pastor. Ross and his wife Sharese will be coming from Barclay College where they are completing their education.


Wabash Friends is hosting **The Bash**, a county youth event. Multiple youth groups will gather for "The Bash" on Sunday, May 7, from 6 pm to 8 pm. They will have dinner together, games, and live worship. Their speaker will be Aaron McClary. Also, Wabash Friends recently enjoyed a Last Supper Celebration.

Westfield Friends will hold a concert, Sunday, April 30 at 5 pm with "Zion's Joy" and "A Better Day." A freewill offering will be taken.

West River Friends will hold their semi-annual Pork Chop Supper, Saturday May 6, 5 to 7 pm. Please join them for a wonderful meal and evening of fellowship. A freewill offering will be accepted.

Please pray for IYM congregations undergoing pastoral transitions: Back Creek, Bear Creek, Bethel, Little Blue River, Rural, and Van Wert. Candidates interested in openings in IYM churches are urged to contact the yearly meeting office for more information.

The Winchester Quarterly Meeting Representatives will meet Sunday, April 30, 4 pm at Jericho Friends for the purpose of nominating members to IYM committees. Please make sure your meeting is represented and pass along any suggestions for committee appointments.

 **The Youth Invasion** at Randolph Southern had 115 folks in attendance for a wonderful evening of Jesus Christ putting his love on display! The students played, ate, worshipped, and listened. Thanks to Jerimy Stephan and Lynn Friends for hosting!

Pastors Short Course at Quaker Haven will begin with lunch on Monday, July 3 and continue through lunch on Wednesday, July 5. "You've Got What it Takes" will be this year's theme with Doug Shoemaker, Rob Schwarze, Dave Phillips, and Gary Wright serving as speakers. Christopher Cox will lead worship and several great workshops will be presented. Programs for youth and children are planned so the whole family can enjoy this annual event. Please encourage your pastor to attend!

Quaker Haven will have cleanup/fixup Saturdays, May 6, 20, & 27. (No work on Mother's Day weekend!) Why not get a group together and enjoy a meal and a day of improving the camp. Make contact at info@quakerhaven.com.

A report from Lisa Scarpelli, Global Ministries Program Assistant for FUM: Thank you for all you've done to support the Belize Friends School! Together, FUM has helped educate thousands of children on the Southside of Belize City. Now, God is working in exciting ways to expand our work into adult education, church planting, and more. New Pastoral Minister for Friends in Belize City is Oscar Mmbali who is currently raising support in preparation to move to Belize in about four months.

The 66th National Day of Prayer will be observed on Thursday, May 4, with the theme, "For Your Great Name's Sake! Hear us...Forgive us...Heal us!" (Daniel 9:19). This annual event was established by an Act of Congress, which encourages Americans to pray for our nation, its people, and its leaders.

Friends United Meeting Triennial will be held in Wichita, Kansas, July 12-16, and they are offering the Stewards Program for young adults (ages 18-27). Meetings are asked to identify young adults who are showing interest in the Friends movement, have leadership potential, and could gain significant benefit from participating in leadership opportunities during the conference. The program will be facilitated by Pat Byers, Assistant Superintendent at Indiana Yearly Meeting. Up to 10 Stewards will be selected. Applications can be found at FUM.org and are due by May 30. To reserve your place now go to <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1877598>.

News from Mesquakie Friends: First, Pastor Mac McDonald with his wife, Berny, send their extreme gratitude to IYM meetings for their support. Also, they are disappointed that they will not be able to attend IYM Sessions in July. They hold you all close in their hearts and in their prayers. The McDonald's have been busy working with youth at Mesquakie Friends through their weekly program, Blizzard Blast 2017, Winterjam 2017, and a Youth & Young Adult Revival. They ask for our prayers for the church for relationships, teens, spiritual warfare, traveling ministry, and finances.

Good Morning!

I recently read that the two most oft-cited reasons for pastor/church conflicts are control issues and people skills (Ministering to Ministers vo. 18). I agree. Some good-hearted men and women just don't have a knack for relating to people, which undermines effective ministry. Likewise, some good-hearted congregation members may keep such a tight grip on what happens (or doesn't happen) in a church that effective ministry is likewise sabotaged.

Another frequent cause of pastor/church conflict is change... - or the lack of it. Many churches hope a new pastor

will help overcome stagnation in attendance, giving, and participation. If there is no change in a few years the rumblings begin. On the other hand, if a pastor leads a congregation to significant growth there are sure to be growing pains that are uncomfortable and, likewise, the rumblings begin.

I miss Frank Vogel. You may remember him as the head coach of the Indiana Pacers for six seasons. He had some good teams, but no championships. In the NBA sometimes it just seems that a team needs a change to make it to the next level and com-

monly this is addressed by changing coaches. Vogel fell victim to this pattern. Rarely does a new person on the bench significantly change what happens on the court. The Pacers just finished a mediocre season under a new coach and were swept in the first round of the playoffs. And rarely does a new person in the pulpit solve all the problems in the pews that may be undermining effective ministry. Having the right pastor is good. Having a leadable church is even better.

-Doug Shoemaker

Communicator

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April 26, 2017

IYM Upcoming Calendar

05/09 *Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee, IYM office, 9:30 am*
05/16 *Committee Day, Upland Friends, 6:30 pm*
05/30 *Trustees, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
06/05 *Executive Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*

Indiana USFW Spring Gathering, Saturday, April 29, 10 am, at Sycamore Friends. Registration starts at 9:30. The gathering will highlight the work at the Belize Friends School with Nancy McCormick speaking. Lunch: \$10. Please send head counts to Pat Shrock, psh613@aol.com. <https://www.facebook.com/events/230275824047188/>

Tom Ison, husband of IYM office secretary, Betty Ison, received a kidney transplant on April 21. Betty reports that he is doing well and hopes to be home later this week. Thank you for your prayers for Tom and his family.

A memorial service for John Punshon will be held at First Friends in Richmond, 2010 Chester Blvd., on Friday, April 28 at 4 pm.