

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.

Looking forward to Yearly Meeting Sessions:

Amy Cornell has attended law school as well as Princeton Theological Seminary. She has had a career in law, became a pastor's wife, mother to three children and in 2013 joined **White's RFS** as their chaplain. This summer she will join us at yearly meeting sessions as our featured speaker. "Greatness from God's Perspective" will be our theme from 1 Corinthians 1:26-28. God uses things and people that don't seem so great to accomplish more than we could ever imagine. Don't miss a minute of the 2016 sessions of Indiana Yearly Meeting, July 28-30 at Quaker Haven Camp.

Center Friends recently had a surprise service called "Are you prepared enough?" Without available bibles the congregation was asked to move ahead ten years in time and see if they had enough scripture hidden in their hearts so they could help bring someone to Christ or spread the "Good News."

Dewart Lake Friends will hold their 2nd annual Egg-xtravaganza, March 26, with 1,000 plus eggs hidden on Quaker Haven's camp grounds. They will also decorate eggs, play games and participate in other Easter-themed activities. This event highlights youth and children's ministries to their surrounding community.

Farmland Friends will present an Easter play entitled, "Amazing Love" on Good Friday at 7 pm, and on Easter morning at 10 am. The play re-enacts several scenes from the passion week, including Jesus' death and resurrection.

Shirley Friends will join with six other community churches for a Good Friday service, March 25. This worship

service has been held every year for 17 years and also meets during the Thanksgiving season.

Walnut Ridge Friends invites you to an afternoon and evening Praise-Fest, Sunday, April 10, 6:30 pm followed by a coffee fellowship. Also, you are invited to bring a special song or scripture or reading to share during worship. There will be afternoon choir practices for junior high through adults, a pastors' ensemble practice (all pastors invited), a former and future Ambassadors practice, and a children's practice. For more information, contact Shirley Lukens at Metmission@aol.com or pastor Mark Dennis. Knowing your special numbers and choir participants will help them plan.

Westland Friends will hold its 4th "He is Risen Balloon Launch" on Easter which also includes the worship service, a breakfast, and an Easter egg hunt. They have received responses from each balloon launch, one in West Virginia about two weeks after. This venture symbolizes that Christ has Risen—go out and spread the Good News.



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. Please let the youth in your church or neighborhood know about this. 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 websites and mailed with \$5 to Farmland Friends Church,

80311 W St Rd 32, PO Box 275, Farmland IN, 47340.

Pat Byers will speak at the Barclay College Chapel in Haviland, Kansas, on April 12 and building relationships with both Barclay faculty and ministerial students while there.

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.

Attention Pastors—Upcoming Summit, April 19 at 9 am at Maple Run Friends. "Prayer Ministries" will be led by *Jeff Nagell*.

You are invited to a leadership huddle to become aware of ministries for IYM congregations that can build bridges to unchurched people in your community. This is sponsored by R.E.N.E.W. Leadership Blitz and will be presented on April 3, 4-6 pm at Arba Friends. For more information, contact Carol Wright at 317-513-9052 or cwright@worldrenewal.org, or Paul Hamrick at 419-771-9378. This is offered at no charge by IYM, New Hope Ministries, and World Renewal international.

Good Morning,

When I was in college my school annually had a "Spiritual Life Emphasis Week." I would sarcastically question what we emphasized the other 51 weeks of the year. Well, this is being written during "Holy Week" but we Quakers would be quick to point out that every week, every day, and every moment is holy and should be celebrated. Even so, Friends can rightfully join with all Christians in gratefully remembering the events of the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry culminating in his death on Good Friday and resurrection on Easter morning.

With laser focus Jesus set His sights on

coming to Jerusalem on this week, and nothing would dissuade him from his mission. Aren't we glad he wasn't sidetracked or distracted! I wish I always had such a clear sense of purpose. I'm way too prone to drift into the convenient and comfortable. Fulfilling God's purposes aren't always comfortable or convenient, though.

Most churches or even denominations start out with a strong clear sense of purpose, but over time many drift away from it. It's seldom a blowout. More often it's a slow leak, but the re-

sults are the same; distraction that dilutes passion.

Our Executive Committee has recently tried to articulate our understanding of God's purpose for Indiana Yearly Meeting in this day. We understand our purpose to be, "Creating environments that empower churches and individuals to be disciples of Jesus Christ and to make disciples of Jesus Christ." At the next meeting of Representative Council on April 16 we will have an opportunity to affirm this wording. Let's move forward with purpose in every step.

-Doug Shoemaker

Communicator

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March 23, 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*
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 at IYM office, 6:30 pm*

He
Is
Risen!