

Highlights from IYM

- *Record attendance! Largest crowds ever since we began meeting at Quaker Haven in 2005
- *Inspiring worship services
- *Encouraging financial reports – over \$120,000 raised for next year’s budget
- *Missions Goals and Program Budget approved for 2019 with a request for the S&F Committee to recommend appropriate additional staff raises at Representative Council
- *Recorded the gifts of ministry of Doug Haag (Bethel) and Martin Wells (Jericho)
- *Approved the comprehensive review of our *Faith & Practice*
- *Welcomed Georgetown Friends (Illinois) as our newest Monthly Meeting
- *Enjoyed the presence of many of our African Friends in Louisville who blessed us with a song
- *Everyone got to sit in on a “staff meeting” to hear of our leaders plans and vision for the future
- *Enjoyed having guests from Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Barclay College, and Kaleo Academy
- *The Missions Luncheon had to be moved to the Activities Center because of a large attendance. Mac & Berny McDonald shared a great report and an offering of \$1,667 was received for Mesquakie Friends in Iowa
- *We heard great reports about the CE curriculum project, the Friends Ministry Training Program, the Leadership Development Program, and the 2018 team that travelled to Kenya & Tanzania,
- *Presentations from Talitha Koum, a recovery house in Greenfield, and Everence Financial Services re: planned giving, were enjoyed
- *An updated endowment study was approved and will be included in the Minute Book
- *Workshops and Worship Groups provided opportunities to learn and connect
- *Attendance at the first meal has gone from 36 in 2014 to 177 in 2018
- *For the first time in memory ALL of the 168 appointments to IYM have been filled
- *An IYM worship band sang praises to God at the Feast of Faith where around 220 attended. Hemlock, Knightstown, and Jericho walked away with this year’s attendance banners.
- *A moving memorial service honored valued Friends who left us in the past year
- *Like Peter on the Mount of Transfiguration – we really didn’t want to leave!

IYM Survey: If you attended yearly meeting, we would love to hear from you. Please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MHQWXV6> and complete the brief survey. This will be a big help as future sessions are planned.

Back Creek Friends has a community program, REFOCUS. It meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 2 pm. They do

crafts, go on field trips, or have speakers. Also at Back Creek, Family LifeCare presented a program about how they can assist families facing health issues, and need help with Hospice, Home Health, Infusion Therapy, Palliative Care, Care Management, Grief support, or Wings of Hope.

Bethel Friends recently held a retreat at Quaker Haven with 29 people attending.

Center Friends had their first VBS in June after a lapse of many years. Sixteen children and 19 workers (ages 20s to 80s) attended with two children surrendering their lives to God. One child’s comment was that they want to do this every year cause it was so much fun—awesome! Also, Center Friends recently had as guest speaker, Melody Mitchell, for “Voice of the Martyrs.”

Farmland Friends will have a night of worship and contemporary Christian music as “Love and the Outcome” (with special guest “Turnaround”) will be in concert on August 12. Doors open at 6 pm, concert starts at 6:30 pm. There will be a free-will offering.

Jericho Friends began celebrating their 200th year on Saturday, July 28, at the recording of their minister, Martin Wells, at IYM sessions. The following day they enjoyed a bonfire and snacks. Other events will be a play about their history, tours, worship in the Jericho woods, and more. All are welcome. Also, Jericho Friends recently had a “Voice of Hope Educational Event” to learn how recovery drug addiction is possible, held a 3-day VBS, their youth group and USFW made and sold sno-cones at their county 4-H fair to support their youth and their mission project, and will celebrate their pastor, Martin Wells’, recording, Sunday, August 5, with a carry-in meal at 6 pm (drinks, meat and table service provided). Gospel duo, Randall and Carolyn Clay, will share music at 7 pm.

Knightstown Friends will hold a Men’s Retreat, August 18, at New Garden Friends (near Fountain City and now used as an event center). Bob Lines, pastor at Cadiz/Kennard Friends, will lead their time together. They plan a tour of the Levi Coffin House and will enjoy Amish food for lunch.

Mooreland Friends is preparing for their 40th year with the ham and bean tent during the Mooreland Free Fair, August 6-11. Also, Mooreland Friends recently sent three youth to Quaker Haven, plus the youth enjoyed a bonfire at the Ross Smedley home. At their

VBS, over 50 children attended to learn about Jesus!

South Marion sent a 38lb care package to PFC Dalton Brown who is on the front lines in Afghanistan. Also at South Marion, Dr. John Petty, PHD (pastor) will be teaching a class on Quaker History and Doctrine two Sunday evenings a month.

Focused Living and Apex workshops will again be offered at Wabash Friends. Dave Phillips and Paul Cochran will be facilitating these workshops. The cost is \$40 which includes a workbook, other materials, and a light lunch on Saturdays. Alumni and alumnae may attend at no cost. Focused Living is scheduled for Saturday, September 22, from 8:00 to 4:00. It will also be offered on four consecutive Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:30, September 18 and 25 and October 2 and 9. Apex will be held October 27 from 8:00-4:00. Contact Dave Phillips to register for the workshops or for more information.

Friends Curriculum: Orders are now being taken for the series of 13 lessons designed for the December 2018 – February 2019 quarter. Cost is \$5 per booklet plus postage if applicable.

Committee Day: New committee appointments were approved at yearly meeting and we expect a big crowd at our first “Committee Day” of the year – actually an evening – at South Marion Friends on August 21 beginning at 6:30 pm. Please plan to attend if you are on one of these committees: Evangelism & Outreach, Communications & Publications, Missions, Stewardship & Finance, Christian Education, Christian Service (formerly Peace & Christian Social Concerns), or the IYM Meeting on Ministry & Oversight.

LDP Groups (Leadership Development Program) are forming and we hope that two groups, (one for men, the other for women) will be offered beginning this fall. Contact the yearly meeting office if you are interested in participating or have questions.

Our Sympathy and Prayers are extended to former IYM pastor Allen Collier and Terri, whose daughter and granddaughter tragically lost their lives last week. Expressions of sympathy can be sent to the Colliers at 6335 W Co Rd 850 S, Knightstown, IN 46148. Allen’s mother was also involved in ministry in IYM for years. Notes of sympathy can be sent to Jeanne Collier at Glen Oaks Health Campus, Room 513, 601 W Co Rd 200 S, New Castle, IN 47362

Good Morning!

At yearly meeting, I told those gathered about the restaurant on the moon. Apparently, the food is good but there's just no atmosphere. We spent a lot of time talking about the atmosphere, the environment of our churches, and how we can contribute to creating healthy environments in our congregations. We spent some time talking about baptism the first night, noting that we are called to repentance, humble obedience, and public affirmation. A water ritual is no substitute for these heart responses – that's *the Friends' testimony*. We also noted that Friends who discard the water ritual and lack these heart

responses represent "*the Friends problem*."

"The ABCs of a Healthy Environment" was our topic another night. From Luke 15 we heard the need for *acceptance instead of anger*, the need to see others as *brothers, not bothers*, and the need for *celebration instead of complaint*. The older brother of the prodigal son (like the Pharisees) exhibited the latter rather than the former in stark contrast to Jesus who seemed to relish spending (lots of) time with the unwashed.

The purpose statement of Indiana

Yearly Meeting begins with the words, "Creating environments..." Large crowds gathered last week at Quaker Haven Camp for the 198th session of IYM. There was a buzz in the air and celebration on our hearts as we worshipped together and experienced community at deep levels in an extraordinary environment. One Friend observed, "With decades of IYM sessions to reflect on, the past few days are by far the best I have experienced. I suspect we have not had Yearly Meeting sessions of this sort since the 1800s." Thank you, God. Amen!

-Doug Shoemaker

Communicator

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August 1, 2018

IYM Upcoming Calendar

08/01-03 *National Friends Multiplication Conference, Barclay College*
08/07 *Trustees Meeting, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
08/21 *Committee Day, South Marion Friends, 6:30 pm*
08/31-9/03 *Family Camp, Quaker Haven*
09/06 *Advancement Committee, IYM office, 4 pm*
09/10 *Executive Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*

USFW Fall Retreat - September 10-11 at Quaker Haven Camp - cost \$75. The theme this year is "Great is thy Faithfulness" and the speaker is Kelly Haemmerle who will share her testimony of hope, redemption, and victory through Jesus Christ. Contact Tish Dain for more information: 574-529-5630 jtdain@gmail.com

Quaker Haven upcoming activities: September 8—Golf Scramble; September 13-16—Quilt Camp; October 4-7—Scrapbooking Retreat.