

Vernon Huffman has announced his retirement as pastor of Bear Creek Friends, effective, June 30, after nineteen years of ministry there. Vernon has been a pastor in Indiana Yearly Meeting since 1975, previously serving Rural and Bloomington Friends.

Iglesia Amigos had a great time celebrating Jesus' birthday with the kids from the church in December. A big thank you to World Renewal, Knightstown Friends, and Walnut Ridge Friends for partnering with them for this celebration!

Manantial De Vida, a Friends Church plant, has been working tirelessly to remodel their church from a warehouse into a sanctuary and fellowship hall. They will prepare an Hispanic dinner with several dishes served cafeteria style at **Maple Run Friends Church** on January 21 from 5 to 7pm, all for a free-will donation. What better way to encourage, support, and build a vibrant church than by eating?

Wabash Friends summer VBS will use Group's **Maker Fun Factory** curriculum. Sharing VBS materials and resources was discussed at the Youth Workers' Round-table this summer at IYM Sessions. If anyone would be interested in sharing this theme and curriculum with Wabash Friends, please contact Amy Cortez (Wabash Friends Children's Pastor) at amy@wabashfriends.org. Also, Wabash Friends will host Dr. Tony Wheeler on Sunday, February 5, speaking at each service and Sunday School. He is professor at Barclay College in both the undergraduate and graduate degree programs and is the Director of the Master of Arts in Family Ministries Master's Program.

Walnut Ridge Friends invites you to an evening of Holy Spirit-inspired praise and worship on Sunday evening, February 19 at 5 pm. If you feel called to participate, contact Pastor Markus Dennis at 253-381-1358 or Shirley Lukens at metmission@aol.com. Following the service there will be food & fellowship.

Little Blue River, Walnut Ridge, and Westland Friends meet together once a month for bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Twenty-six attended the first gathering.

Westland and Walnut Ridge Friends will co-host a worship service on Sunday, January 29, 10:30 am, at Westland Friends with Pastor Hubert Nolen giving the message and presenting Hope Center Indy. There will be a light meal following the service. At 2 pm Hubert and his son, David, will give a one-hour tour of the Center.



CE News

Winter Sneak: Please do not let money be a reason to not go to Winter Sneak, February 3-5. Scholarships are available. Go to the Youth Ministries tab at IYM.org to find a scholarship application. Also, if you or your church would be willing to donate snacks for Winter Sneak, please contact Pat Byers in the IYM office. We could use your help. **Youth Invasion:** 78 teens and adults invaded Carmel Friends on Sunday, January 15, for an amazing evening of worship, fun, and teaching. Thanks so much to all who attended and helped to make the event happen. The next Invasion is being hosted by Lynn Friends at Randolph Southern High School on April 23. Stay tuned for more details. **Children's Workers Dinner:** All paid and volunteer Youth and Children's Workers are invited to this dinner at Stone Creek Dining Co. in the Hamilton Town Center in Noblesville, January 23, 6:30 pm. The dinner is free to those wonderful folks who serve our young people in our churches. Please RSVP to Pat Byers, pat@iym.org, by January 18.

From IYM Treasurer, Max Smith: With the start of the 2017, we continue to move forward with the 2018 budget fundraising campaign. We currently have \$27,818.34 in donations and pledges, 27.3% of the \$102,000 goal. Although we are behind at the same point last year, there is plenty of time to reach our goal. Additional information will continue to be sent to meetings for IYM Sunday activities and we pray all meetings will make this a special day to concentrate on Indiana Yearly Meeting, an opportunity for all to learn more about the value of belonging to IYM and the opportunity to join all of us in supporting IYM prayerfully and financially.

It's time to issue a W-2 to your pastor. In an effort to combat fraud, recent legislation revised the filing deadline for Form W-2 and certain types of Form 1099. Until now, employers had until January 31 to provide employee copies, and until February 28 for paper filings. Beginning with 2016 forms, employers will now have one filing deadline for all Federal W-2s, January 31.

Congratulations to Dee Gibson of White's Residential & Family Services for receiving the '**Sagamore of the Wabash Award**' from former Indiana Governor Mike Pence. The term "sagamore" was used by the American Indian Tribes of the north-eastern US to describe a lesser chief or a great man among the tribe to whom the true chief would look for wisdom and advice. It is a personal tribute usually given to those who have rendered a distinguished service to the state or to the governor.

IYM Sunday: Indiana Yearly Meeting has reduced assessment obligations for most meetings and now depends upon voluntary contributions from churches and individuals to fully fund our annual budget. Would your meeting please consider an extra financial gift to IYM in conjunction with your observance of "IYM Sunday." Many churches have taken special offerings on this day. Others have served meals for a free-will offering with proceeds going to IYM. Still others have approved an extra contribution directly from their meeting's general fund. Whatever your meeting can do to help us reach our fundraising goal will be deeply appreciated. For background and more details about our current fundraising effort go to <http://www.iym.org/page/180010756/180103536/2018-Fund-Raising>.

Planning a Super Bowl Party? Many churches reach out to their communities by hosting game day parties. The NFL grants churches permission to show the game as long as they follow a few specific guidelines, which include:

- The game must be shown on equipment your church regularly uses, in a space the church owns.
- Your church cannot charge admission to attend your party.
- Avoid using the logos of the NFL, the Super Bowl, and the participating teams.

The Friends Ministers' Training (FMT) program, a joint venture of Indiana Yearly Meeting and Barclay College, is accepting applications for its inaugural classes beginning in less than a month. These online courses are available for anyone interested in college level training. Contact the yearly meeting office for more information or go to <http://www.iym.org/page/180010756/180104891/Barclay-College--Friends-Ministry-Training>.

Good Morning!

Cartoonist Doug Hall has reported the following from a pulpit committee meeting: "In six years we've had six pastors who were really on fire. We'd like someone lukewarm for a while." Enthusiasm has a form of the Greek word for God, "theos" smack-dab in its middle. It's always seemed natural to me that anyone filled with God would exhibit at least some degree of enthusiasm. Most churches long for more on-fire members and leaders – until they have them.

This week I read the story of Aaron's grandson, Phinehas, stemming the spread of a plague among the Israelites by use of

extreme measures resulting in two fatalities (Numbers 25). God affirmed his actions and is actually quoted as describing Phinehas "as zealous as I am for my honor among them." Does this describe me – zealous for God's honor?

I quickly assumed that a New Testament zeal would be much less violent, but then I remembered the story of Jesus clearing the temple. In the account found in the Gospel of John it reports that Jesus made a whip and cleared out the animals and those selling them in the temple courts, scatter-

ing the coins of the money changers and overturning their tables. John 2:17 then reports, "His disciples remembered that it is written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'"

I don't want to promote anarchy in our churches, but I fear we often value predictability, the routine, and not upsetting anyone far more than we value zeal for God's honor. I'd like to trade in my luke-warmness for a good dose of zeal. I wonder, though, will I still be welcome at church? *-Doug Shoemaker*

Communicator

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January 18, 2017

IYM Upcoming Calendar

1/23 *Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am*
1/23 *Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee, IYM office, 1:30 pm*
1/27-28 *Quaker Men Groundhog Retreat, Quaker Haven, 6:30 pm*
1/27-29 *Pastors Mid-Winter Retreat, Clifty Inn, Madison, IN*
2/3-5 *Winter Sneak, Quaker Haven*
2/7 *IYM Bicentennial Committee, IYM office, 6 pm (rescheduled)*
3/4 *Committee Day, Upland Friends, 9 am*
3/12 *IYM Sunday*

Farmland Friends is seeking a Worship Pastor. This is a part-time position. Applicant must have a heart for worship, musical ability, work well with others, be self-motivated, organized, and energetic. If interested, please send resume to conjd2@aol.com with subject line "worship pastor."