

To Friends Everywhere;

Indiana Yearly Meeting met in its 197th annual session from 7th Mo. 27 through 29, 2017 at Quaker Haven Camp, near Syracuse, Indiana. Other than some overnight rain and some cloudiness, the Lord blessed us with wonderful weather to enjoy our camp, fellowship, and business meetings.

The theme of our yearly meeting, “Show Me Your Glory,” was taken from Exodus 33:18 “Then Moses said, ‘Now show me your Glory.’” This text was used for our devotional messages, led by Mark Wright, former IYM pastor and founding and senior pastor of Brandywine Community Church.

We continue to be amazed at the way God blesses and moves within Indiana Yearly Meeting. The presence of the Holy Spirit was felt throughout our meetings and worship giving us unity, encouragement and hope. Surely, the Glory of the Lord was felt in this time and place.

We continue to be blessed financially by fully funding our 2018 budget and the Yearly Meeting assessments continue to exceed 100% fulfillment for the fourth year in a row. For the first time in recent memory we did not need to have a minute to remove outstanding unfulfilled assessment balances.

We approved the recording of four ministers of the Gospel during our sessions. Three were first time recordings with one transfer of a pastor to Indiana Yearly Meeting. It is also noted that there are a significant number of pastors either in the recording process or at the start of the pipeline. We approved moving Danville Friends from the status of preparative meeting to full monthly meeting status. It was exciting to note that we increased in numbers in our adult, junior and overall membership of the yearly meeting. Indiana Yearly Meeting is flourishing for which we give God the praise and glory!

The *Faith and Practice* Committee continues its hard work to review *Faith and Practice* to update it to meet the current culture of Indiana Yearly Meeting and improve practicality relative to our current reality. With this in mind, we approved removing the requirement of quarterly meetings but stressing the encouragement of quarterly meetings where they continue to meet and remain active. We also approved adding a section to provide minimum requirements and definition for Coordinating Committees within a monthly meeting.

During one of our business sessions, we were pleased to extend the call of Doug Shoemaker as superintendent and Pat Byers as assistant superintendent through the year 2020. We are blessed by their leadership and grateful that they make their home within Indiana Yearly Meeting.

At the “Feast of Faith,” the annual dinner celebrating the end of our sessions, we enjoyed a well-cooked meal by the staff of Quaker Haven Camp and a musical program by this year’s worship leaders, Zion’s Joy. Zion’s Joy is a large contemporary gospel group based in Indianapolis, Indiana.

We were pleased to welcome visitors from Everence, the New Association of Friends, Barclay College, Georgetown Friends in Illinois, Baltimore Yearly Meeting, John Moru of Turkana, Multiplication Catalyst Ministries, the Louisville Worship Group and other affiliated Friends.

As we close our yearly meeting sessions for another year, it is with great humbleness and thanksgiving to God who is the reason for our existence and the center of all we do. He truly “showed us His Glory” during our gathering here at Quaker Haven and it is with great anticipation and excitement we look forward to what the Lord has in store for our body in the year ahead.

Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends