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## INDIANA YEARLY MEETING

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### Indiana Yearly Meeting Outgoing Epistle of 2018

The Indiana Yearly Meeting held its 198<sup>th</sup> session at Quaker Haven Camp, Dewart Lake, Indiana, for the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. Sessions were held from 7<sup>th</sup> month, 26<sup>th</sup> thru the 28<sup>th</sup> at the campground near Syracuse, Indiana. The average attendance at business sessions was 138, worship services 168, mission luncheon 218, and RSVP's for Feast of Faith 239.

For the most part, the Lord blessed us with wonderful weather to enjoy our time together. Days were in the 70's, sunsets beautiful, and evenings in the 60's.

The theme this year was "WHERE Love GROWS". The main text was from Ephesians 4:16 NIV.

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Doug Shoemaker, our IYM Superintendent, was the key speaker with Mike Haemmerle serving as the Worship Leader. This year we focused on creating environments that empower churches and individuals to be disciples and make disciples – environments where love grows. Love grows naturally – like a seed in the ground, or like yeast in dough – if we provide the right climate. Everybody has a contribution to make in creating this environment.

We continue to be blessed as God moves within Indiana Yearly Meeting. The presence of the Holy Spirit has been felt strongly here in the business meeting, worship services, and times of fellowship.

Financially, we have been blessed again.

1. The budget revenue for 2019 not only has been funded but exceeded and funds have begun coming in for the 2020 budget.
2. Stewardship & Finance Committee announces that program assessment for 2020 will remain as follows: \$50 per each member and active attender for worship.
3. Stewardship & Finance Committee reports that the financial goal of the assessments for 2017 have been met. The mission goals have also been met.

The following ministers have been approved for recording at our 2018 session.

1. Doug Haag from Bethel Friends
2. Martin Wells from Jericho Friends

A comprehensive review of our *Faith & Practice* was approved, changing much of it back to the original language with a stronger Christian sentiment. The Nominating Committee implemented changes in committee structure which would increase the size of committees to an average of 12 members.

Mission luncheon speakers were Pastor Mac and Bernie McDonald from Mesquakie Friends, Tama, Iowa. Funds raised will go to support the Mesquakie Indian Mission Center.

This year Worship Groups, Riley Friends of Greenfield, Indiana, and African Friends of Louisville, Kentucky, were approved. Georgetown Friends of Georgetown, Illinois, was recognized as a full monthly meeting.

We welcomed the following visitors to Indiana Yearly Meeting.

1. Coming from other yearly meetings were: Baltimore Yearly Meeting, Northwest Yearly Meeting, and Evangelical Friends Church International
2. Other affiliated Friends included: Barclay College and Friends United Meeting

As our sessions concluded we learned of the tragic deaths of a daughter and granddaughter of one of our former pastors and approved a minute of sympathy and support for this family.

As this yearly meeting closes, we praise God for His faithfulness. Without Him there would be no reason for our existence. We look forward to sharing what has been done for us this upcoming year, as we return next year to Quaker Haven Camp.

Indiana Yearly Meeting