

*Good Morning!*

“Toto, I don’t think we’re in Kansas anymore.” You probably recognize this quote from Dorothy Gale in the 1939 movie, *The Wizard of Oz*. She, and her little dog too, were swept away in her dreams from the security of their Kansas farmhouse to a land that was totally unfamiliar to them. The entire movie is based on her desire to return home because, after all, “there’s no place like home!” I can relate to Dorothy and Toto, too. It feels like the cultural winds of our day have swept us away to a world that is very different from the one we knew in our youth.

I’ve been reading the Old Testament book of Jeremiah recently, and its message seems especially appropriate for me today. His country was about to be swept away to an unfamiliar land where the Israelites would spend seventy years as exiles. Rather than spending their time lamenting the loss of the home they once knew, Jeremiah encourage God’s people to accept their new normal, stop their whining, and make the best of their new environment (Jer. 29).

I’m tempted to fight the culture of the day, doing everything I can to restore the “home” that was mine 50 years ago. I’m tempted to isolate myself from the culture, treating the church like some underground bunker where we can hunker down and be safe until the storm blows over. But what if God would be calling us to something different? In John 17:15, Jesus prayed we would learn to live faithfully as exiles in a culture that may not feel like home.

*How are we doing?*

*-Doug Shoemaker*

# Communicator

Indiana Yearly Meeting,  
4715 N Wheeling Ave,  
Muncie, IN 47304

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## The Communicator

800-292-5238  
765-284-6900  
Fax: 765-284-8925  
<http://www.iym.org>

**Doug Shoemaker**  
doug@iym.org  
**Pat Byers**  
pat@iym.org  
**Betty Ison**  
iyminfo@iym.org

**April 3, 2019**

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

- 04/06 5 pm; Thank You Event at Taste of Italy, Greenfield
- 04/13 9:30 am; Representative Council at Danville Friends
- 04/14 3 pm; Thank You Event at Grains & Grill, Fairmount
- 04/15 6:30 pm Program Committee Conference Call
- 04/18 6:30 pm; Nominating Committee at IYM Office
- 04/27-28 IYM Weekend
- 04/30 6:30 pm; Trustees at IYM Office
- 05/14 6:30 pm; Committee Night at South Marion Friends

Hemlock Meeting is mourning with their pastors, Rob and Brenda Schwarzee, at the loss of their baby granddaughter, Ella Rose Woods, daughter of their daughter and son-in-law, Stacy & Nate Woods. She was delivered into the arms of Jesus on February 21, 2019 .

**2019 Summer Camp**

**Quaker Haven**

**Early Bird registration due by May 30.**

**Yearly Meeting Preview:** One reason many enjoy attending yearly meeting sessions is the opportunity it provides to enjoy Quaker Haven Camp. This year we are devoting Friday afternoon to a new format that will give you the opportunity to spend as much time as you like by the lakeside. A program emceed by Pat Byers will be presented from the pavilion stage including music, interesting presentations, and more music. Dress casually, come and go as you please, and expect to experience both the best of yearly meeting sessions and the best of Quaker Haven Camp.

**The IYM Advancement Committee** reminds those who have registered for the *thank you* events coming up, Saturday, April 6, 5 pm—Tour of Italy Café, 5 American Legion Pl., Greenfield; and, Sunday, April 14, 3pm—Grains & Grill, 407 W. Washington St., Fairmount. Any questions, please call Damon Seacott at 517-204-5348.

**Representative Council** will hear from a Young Friend about her vision for our future. Expect to hear plans for exciting new missions initiatives. Expect to hear a thoughtful policy being developed by M&O concerning Friends and sacraments. Expect to take home copies of the new *Faith & Practice* approved in 2018. Expect other encouraging action. Every meeting should send a representative, but all IYM Friends are welcome to attend. We will be hosted by Danville Friends, 45 N 200 E, Danville, IN.

**IYM Weekend** will have churches across IYM are planning to use their April 27 or April 28 worship service to feature how God is at work in Indiana Yearly Meeting. Many will be taking special offerings to help us meet our fundraising goal.

**The Christian Service Committee of IYM** is hosting Focused Living: a personal growth workshop, led by Paul Cochrane & David Phillips on Saturday, May 4, from 8 am-4 pm. This is an exciting, impactful, and potentially life-changing one day workshop-event! The cost is \$40 and scholarships are available. The workshop will be held at Riley Friends, 20 W. South St., Greenfield, IN 46140. For more information contact Markus Dennis, Committee Clerk, at [Rileyfriendsmeeting@gmail.com](mailto:Rileyfriendsmeeting@gmail.com)

Dave Phillips will be speaking that evening at Riley Friends at 5:00 p.m.

**Speakers Available:** John Muhanji, Director of the FUM African Ministries Office, is available to speak in IYM churches during the month of May. He can be scheduled through the FUM office as can Nikki Holland, Director of Belize Friends Mission, who will be in our area through July. Shawn & Katrina McConaughy, FUM Field Staff in East Africa, are available to speak on July 28. Contact the IYM office if you would like to schedule the McConaughys.

**Is Your Church Struggling?** The IYM Evangelism & Outreach Committee would be glad to hear from churches needing help. There are Friends willing to talk with you and discern steps that might be helpful for your congregation.

**Riley Friends** will host their Good Friday service at noon, April 19, the one-hour service theme is: "Easter: ending with a new beginning," John 15:37. Saturday's Easter Celebration is April 20 at 5pm, the theme is: "Easter: running to the garden," John 20:3-4. Also at Riley Friends "A Baby Shower for Jesus," a Riley Friends Christian Service Committee project, will be collecting items through April for Life Choices Care Center in Greenfield, IN. The following are most needed; formula (Enfamil), bottles, pacifiers, Wipes, diaper bags, clothing (boys and girls, 12-24 mts - can be new or gently used). For more details contact Sheryl Gray at 317-509-3930 or [sherylmgray@gmail.com](mailto:sherylmgray@gmail.com).

**Knightstown Friends** will have a dedication of their new Friends Center, Sunday, April 14, following a pitch-in dinner after worship. Their Good Friday service will be April 19, 7 pm.

**Little Blue River Friends** will host John Muhanji on Sunday, May 12, at 10am.

**Van Wert First Friends** will host Charles and Brenda Jarvis on Palm Sunday, April 14 at 10:30. They will present ministry in word and song. This is a community concert and all are welcome! The Jarvis' are available to minister at other churches—contact number is 330-933-6403.

**IYM Missions Committee** is actively finding ways to invest in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ around the world. Here are the priorities directing their efforts: At IYM we will:

- Seek multiplication of disciples of Jesus Christ until there is *no place left*.
- Pursue healthy partnerships.
- Prioritize training, equipping, and mobilizing of mission partners above support of material projects.
- Seek to use financial resources in a way that preserves local ownership and initiative, and avoids long-term support and dependence.

**Website has been upgraded!** Have you visited [www.iym.org](http://www.iym.org) recently? We are busy updating information to keep it fresh.

**IYM Youth Ministries Updates:** The next Youth Invasion will be held at Amboy Friends on April 14 from 5-8pm. For the teaching time, the summer interns will lead discussion on our *InFocus* Theme passage (Philippians 3:15-16 from *The Message*). Please let Pat Byers know how many you will be bringing by April 10, so we order enough pizza!

**Registration** is LIVE for Quaker Haven Summer Camps at [www.qhcyouthprogramming.com](http://www.qhcyouthprogramming.com) Save \$50 by registering before May 31. All dates and prices (as well as lots of other information) can be found on this site as well! If there are needs for scholarships, an application can be found on the Youth Ministries tab of the [iym.org](http://iym.org) website.

**Congratulations to Kris & Doug Shoemaker** for being recognized as recipients of the Hoosier Homestead Award. They received the award for being the owners of the family farm that has been in the same family for over 100 years. Kris' great grandparents bought and moved to the farm in eastern Howard County in 1908.

**Our deepest sympathy** to the family of Miriam Beeson, wife of the late Wilbur Beeson, who passed away on March 19 at the age of 97. Wilbur & Miriam served in Kenya, Africa, for years as medical missionaries. Miriam had been living in Carmel, IN.