



Greenfield Friends Meeting

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July 15, 2012

Dear Friends of the IYM Realignment Task Force,

Our Monthly Meeting is opposed to any split and /or reconfiguration of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

At our Monthly Meeting of August 2011, we united in choosing to ask IYM to follow "Option #1: Live and Let Live" as presented in the Task Force's report to the yearly meeting. We still believe this is the course of action God asks us to follow.

We ask the Task Force to offer a different option for moving forward that does not involve splitting the yearly meeting, but releases the Meetings who have discerned clearness from God to seek different affiliation. We do not feel clearness for Task Force Models # 4 or #5. Nor did we give approval for them when they were considered in Representative council. We believe this is in keeping with the spirit of the *Faith and Practice* Section 108, Part C, pg. 95 "the Yearly Meeting recognizes the freedom of the Monthly Meetings and the validity of their prophetic voices. Each needs the other in order to be strong and vital, and both need the mediation of Christ and the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

We have gladly abided by a conventional understanding of IYM's current *Faith and Practice* for decades. We have no interest in departing from that commitment. We call upon meetings who consider the *Faith and Practice* to be a binding contract, or to be merely a set of non-binding suggestions, to reconsider these assumptions and their impact upon spiritual community.

Our Monthly Meeting has determined not to allow this to divide us, but instead seeks to remain the loving faith community that we are. Therefore, we choose not to participate in IYM's reconfiguration.

We ask the Yearly Meeting to find another way forward, acting in obedience to the instruction given in Ephesians 4:2,3, "be completely humble and gentle, be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

In God's Love,

Brenda Alyea, Clerk
Greenfield Monthly Meeting of Friends

Lou Ann Miller, Clerk
Ministry and Oversight

"You are my friends if you do what I command." John 15:14