

**Committee Day**  
**Saturday, December 7, 9 am**  
**Upland Friends**  
**1111 S Main Street**

### **A Letter from Rowena Holliday:**

Dear Friends of Indiana Yearly Meeting, what a ride the Lord has given me! A ride that He and you have blessed me with these many years working in the IYM office. Thank you for your kindness and support through this time of my life! And I thank you for the retirement cards, gifts, and all the kind words you've recently sent me. I treasure them all and will hold them in my heart. Also, I thank all the wonderful people I have worked with (over a dozen) in the office since 1991, I truly enjoyed them all. The laughs have been many and the times of inspiration have added to my life! It's been a great place to work. Thank you again, and I pray God's peaceful presence will be yours throughout this wonderful season. Rowena

**Betty Ison** is now assuming full responsibility of the IYM office secretary position that was previously shared with Rowena Holliday. Betty has been part of the IYM office staff since August 2010 after serving over 34 years in the Bur-sar's office at Ball State University. She is a member of Selma Christ United Methodist Church where she is the recording secretary for the Administrative Board. She and her husband, Tom, have two adult children and four grandchildren. Many in IYM have already met Betty at yearly meeting where she has served as registrar for the last two years. Betty can now be contacted at the [iyminfo@iym.org](mailto:iyminfo@iym.org) email address that was previously monitored by Rowena, who can now be contacted at (jleeholli@hotmail.com).

**Bear Creek Friends** contributed 127 shoe boxes to Operation Christmas Child, including boxes filled by a local middle school Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Bear Creek's efforts are led by Sue Calhoun, who worked for several years at Quaker Hill Bookstore.

**Sycamore Friends:** The E&O and Missions Committees are having a gift wrapping event December 21 at 1:00 p.m. There will be cookies, hot chocolate, and music. At 2:30 p.m. the Missions Committee will go caroling.

**Vermillion Friends** has a men's Bible Group on Thursday at 6:00 pm and a ladies Bible group on Tuesday at 9:30 am.

**An IYM Christmas Gathering for pastors and spouses** will be held December 17, at 6:30 pm at Cadiz Friends. A complimentary meal will be provided. RSVP to the IYM office by December 10 to reserve your spot.

**Pastors Mid-Winter Retreat** brochures have been mailed. "Lead Where You Are" will be this year's theme. Das Dutchman Essenhaus Inn & Conference Center in Middlebury will be the venue for this January 31-February 2 retreat. All IYM pastors and spouses are invited to attend. Registration and payment should be sent to the yearly meeting office by December 31.

**"Shaping the Future of IYM"** sessions are being scheduled in churches across the yearly meeting during the months of January & February. Every church can expect to receive an invitation to a session near you where members of the IYM Financial Workgroup will give a brief overview of where IYM is today and you will be given the opportunity to provide input that will shape the future of our yearly meeting. Sessions are already scheduled at four locations. January 5 at Lynn, January 19 at both Van Wert and Wabash, and January 26 at Maple Run.. A full list of scheduled sessions will be published in the next issue of The Communicator.

**Coaching for Pastors** is available through a generous grant from the IYM Ministry & Oversight and Evangelism & Outreach Committee. DWP Consulting (Dave Phillips) will pro-

vide a free initial consultation and three coaching sessions underwritten by IYM (\$300 value). Four IYM pastors have taken advantage of this opportunity, but other openings are currently available for this program. For more information contact Dave Phillips at (260) 563-5497 or [dave@wabashfriends.org](mailto:dave@wabashfriends.org)

**Quaker Men Groundhog Retreat**, will be January 31-February 1, 2014, at Quaker Haven Camp. Randy Quate, North Carolina YM Supt. is the guest speaker. Cost: **\$60**. Make reservations and checks payable to Quaker Haven.

**FUM**, The Africa Ministries Office (AMO) works with both new and established meetings throughout East Africa for a vital gospel ministry. A few years ago a seeker in Kyele, an area far south of Tanzania, read about Quakers on the internet. The words that he read resonated with his experience of the Living God. He shared his findings with other seekers. Their excitement continued to the point that they contacted the FWCC office in Nairobi who, in turn, contacted the AMO of FUM.

Together, representatives of FUM and FWCC visited these emerging Friends. After the meeting, FWCC asked FUM to nurture this group as their understanding of Quakerism deepened. With the assistance of USFWI, the AMO sponsored three young people to be trained in pastoral ministry at Friends Theological College. The three, Ben, Roster and Jacob, went back to Kyele after graduation and continued to expand the ministry.

**Communicator news items**— please send or email to the IYM office your church newsletters or events/ activities that you would like publicized. In the event of limited space there is the possibility that we will edit the news item.



Good Morning,

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus" -

Philippians 2:5 (NIV)

*Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert* is the title of a book written by Rosaria Butterfield, a pastor's wife who was formerly a respected lesbian professor at Syracuse University. A very lengthy but compelling interview of this Christian author can be viewed online at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQ\\_YI6INTQU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kQ_YI6INTQU)

The story of her conversion and transformation is fascinating, but one obser-

vation she made about her initial steps into the Christian faith is challenging me greatly. It cost her greatly to step into "the church" and as she made the step she was eager to know what others had given up to be there. That's a good question. What have you and I given up to be part of the church?

Fortunately, Rosaria found many Christians who had experienced great loss, giving her courage to stomach the train wreck of a conversion that turned her whole world upside down. If she had come to your church, would she have been encouraged by

the presence of many who had made the great sacrifice that would be required of her to follow Christ?

We usually look in Luke 2 to find the Christmas story, but I've found it in Philippians 2 where we are told that Jesus himself has set the pattern of paying a great price by relinquishing his indescribably high position in order to enter our world and bring us salvation. The writer of Philippians calls on us to embrace the same attitude that Jesus embraced; a very costly obedience indeed!

-Doug Shoemaker

## Communicator

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December 4, 2013

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

12/7 *Committee Day, Upland Friends, 9:00 am*  
12/16 *Investment Board Meeting, Muncie Red Lobster, 11:00 am*  
12/17 *IYM Christmas Gathering for Pastors & Spouses, Cadiz Friends, 6:30 pm*  
12/24 *Office closed*  
1/2 *Office re-opens*  
1/07 *Trustees, IYM Office, 6:30 pm*  
1/14 *Westfield Area Pastors, TBA, 9:30 am*  
1/15 *Marion Area Pastors, TBA, 9:30 am*  
1/16 *Triennial Host Committee, TBA, 6:30 pm*  
1/18 *Executive Committee Retreat, Shoemaker Home, 9:30 am*  
1/31 *Pastors Mid-Winter Retreat, Das Dutchman Essenhaus Inn & Conference Center, Middlebury, IN*  
1/31 *Quaker Men Groundhog Retreat, Quaker Haven*

Indiana USFW's new web site address is [indianausfw.org](http://indianausfw.org).