

# Communicator

## Committee Day

December 6, 9 am at Upland Friends

**We are pleased to announce that Pat Byers has been called to serve as Indiana Yearly Meeting's new Assistant Superintendent beginning in January.**

*Hello Folks of IYM, my name is Pat Byers, and I am so glad to begin this journey as the Assistant Superintendent of Indiana Yearly Meeting! I feel that God has confirmed this move over and over, and I feel He is ready to do some amazing things with all of us as we move forward in IYM. Here are a few things about me:*

1. I live in Wabash, IN where I attend Wabash Friends
2. I am married to the lovely Sara and we have 4 children (Chaney - 14, Simon - 11, Isaac - 8, Zeke - 4), and we have a niece living with us, named Sydney
3. I grew up in IYM, working with IYM "youth guys": David Bridges, Ronn Oren, and Aaron Hughs
4. I believe this summer will be my 15th year of directing camps at Quaker Haven
5. I love Top Hat 2 Pizza (anyone who's ever been to New Castle will know what I am talking about), Mexican food, and White Chocolate Mochas from Starbucks
6. I am thrilled to be back at home in IYM where my first official day in the office will be January 5th.

*My prayer has been, and will continue to be, that God will shape us as we move, together, toward lives that help others find and follow Jesus. I look forward to meeting new people and re-connecting with folks I may not have seen in a while.* -Pat

**Brock and Alissa Meyer** (Fairmount Friends) welcomed a new daughter, Nora Sage, on November 26. She weighed 7 lb, 15 oz. She is welcomed by her big brother, Judah; and sister, Roni.

**Amboy Friends "Family Advent Nights,"** a two-week special program for every age group, begins with a meal followed by various activities. There are crafts for children, a video discussion about a program called "The Bethlehem Star" for teens and adults, and a Bible study regarding the heavens and the stars. On December 17, they will have a Mobile Planetarium come to give a program about the stars at Christ's birth.

**Bear Creek Friends** recently heard from the directors of the Journey Home, a veterans' shelter in Winchester, during their worship. They also honored six military veterans

during the church service, including pastor Vernon Huffman. This year, the meeting collected and dedicated 150 shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. The same evening, the church hosted a harvest party and children's carnival, attended by 27 children from the church and community.

**Lynn Friends** impressively provided 1100 shoeboxes for the Samaritan Purse ministry this year. They began this ministry four years ago with 32 boxes. They collect one item each month and at the end of the year during a morning worship service, the church body has a packing party and has emphasis on the plight of those in need.

**Maple Run Friends** and their pastor, **John Key**, have been awarded a Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant that will fund a sabbatical leave. This was one of 26 grants to congregations in Indiana. Maple Run has also recently paid off their mortgage on their multipurpose building, "The Fieldhouse."

**Sycamore Friends** recently sent 128 shoeboxes of toys, supplies, and hope to Operation Christmas Child.

**Westfield Friends** will host **Brad Wood**, Director of the Kickapoo Friends Center, on Sunday, December 14, 10:30, sharing about the Center's ministry and the new work training program. Lunch will be served and a free will offering will be taken with all proceeds going to the Kickapoo Friends Center. Also, Westfield will host "A Christmas with Friends" Sunday, December 7, 6 pm, which will include a gathering of Friends in Hamilton County. On the previous day, Saturday, December 6, Westfield Friends will sponsor a live nativity. During the Christmas season they will also hold a young adult progressive dinner, caroling by the Young FriendsZone, plus a candlelight service on Christmas Eve.

**Pledges and payments toward the 2016 budget continue to add up.** We currently have a total of \$27,359.01 (32.2%) pledged and received toward the \$85,000 goal. Please con-

tinue to pray about how you and your meeting can join us in making this a successful effort.

Assessments for the 2014 budget continue on track to meet our budget. As of November 30, we are slightly ahead of the YTD goal. Thank you to the meetings that have paid their assessments for the year (or even over) as six meetings have. If your meeting has not paid any yet or are behind the monthly rate, please consider getting that caught up by the end of December. A big thank you to Arba, Friends Chapel, Lynn, South Marion, and Spencerville that have paid over 100% and Bear Creek, Charlottesville, Hinkle Creek, Jericho, Kennard, Knightstown, Peaceful Valley, Portland, Rural, Shirley, St. Marys, Upland, Van Wert, Vermillion, Walnut Ridge, West River, and White River for having paid 100%. Amboy, Back Creek, Dewart Lake, Fairmount, Farmland, Jonesboro, Liberty, Long Lake, Mooreland and Sycamore are on track with their monthly payments to be 100% by year's end. -Treasurer, Max Smith

**A Pastors Christmas Dinner** will be held on Saturday, December 13, at Marion First Friends beginning at 5 pm. A complimentary meal and an enjoyable program for pastors and their families will be shared. Please make reservations with the IYM office by **December 8.**

**Mid-Winter Retreat** for IYM pastors and spouses will be held January 23-25 at Middlebury, IN. Save the date and be watching for more information soon.

**Winter Sneak** for our youth will be held at Quaker Haven, February 6-8 and will be directed by Brock Sizelove and Cierra Edwards. They will also be speakers along with Bethany Huffman and Lauren Reynolds.

**IYM Sunday:** Each meeting is asked to schedule an IYM Sunday early in 2015. Be watching for more information and contact the IYM office for more details.

**We appreciate the guest writers who provided articles for *The Communicator* while our superintendent was away.** Thank you Rod Dennis, Brock Meyer, Kelly Haemmerle, Greg Hinshaw, Tim Basford and Max Smith.

\$85,000 Goal for 2016 Program Budget Fundraising



\$27,359.01 as of December 1

Good Morning!

"Westfield, party of three," was called by the restaurant hostess several times as my wife, daughter, and I waited for our names to be called. Finally I approached the hostess and asked if she had a "Shoemaker" on her list. When she said "no" I realized that instead of giving her my name I had given her the name of the church where I was then serving as pastor. Am I the only one who has struggled with confusing *what I do* with *who I am*?

A recent three-month sabbatical has been a wonderful opportunity to clarify

important personal matters. It was good for me to set aside my role of "IYM Superintendent" and enjoy being just a "child of God." I'm reminded that if my identity is primarily based on what I do I'm going to struggle a lot one day if I find myself in a nursing home unable to do much. If my identity, however, is based on who I am in Christ, I'll be okay no matter what the circumstances.

Without the need to travel across IYM on Sunday mornings, I also was reminded of how valuable regularly worshipping with a group of fellow

believers can be. Thank you, Hemlock Friends, for adopting a couple "floating" Quakers and anchoring us well. And thank you, Kris Shoemaker, for reminding me that being your husband is one of the greatest gigs ever!

I also found a new friend during sabbatical. I spent a lot of time with George Fox through his writings and am happier than ever to be part of the spiritual movement he pioneered.

-Doug Shoemaker

## Communicator

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December 3, 2014

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

12/6                    *Committee Day, Upland Friends, 9 am*  
12/9                    *Program Committee Meeting, 7 pm, IYM office*  
12/13                  *IYM Pastors' Christmas Dinner, Marion First, 5 pm*  
12/18                  *Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am*  
12/24 thru 1/4       *IYM office closed*

Bob and Hope Carter are grateful for the ministry support they have been receiving from Friends in IYM. They are now back in the U.S. on "home assignment" until April, and are available to speak to any interested meetings or Quaker Men / USFW groups. They are available most weekdays in January and February, and the Sunday mornings still available are January 18 and 25, and February 1, 8, and 15. Sunday evenings are also available. Contacts: [bob.carter@sim.org](mailto:bob.carter@sim.org) or 717-201-9301.

**Our sympathy and prayers are with Jerry and Teresa Alexander (Walnut Ridge) at the death of Teresa's father, Gilbert Earl Eggman.**

**USED Quaker Haven News:**

\*\*“Spring Break Family Work Retreat,” March 25-April 1. You can volunteer your work during the day and enjoy some evening time around a bonfire, Disc Golf, or a hike through the woods. Food and lodging are included.

\*\*Has your meeting appointed a Quaker Haven Ambassador? This new venture is to enhance communications between Quaker Haven and IYM Friends churches. Please don’t let this opportunity pass your meeting by. For more information, contact Steve@QuakerHaven.com.

\*\*Items needed at Quaker Haven: swings for toddlers, repairs to sail boats, tractor weights, dough sheeter, row boat oars, new discs for Disc Golf, kayaks and paddles, materials for indoor Gaga Ball, forks for the tractor bucket, and renovate a cabin (new wiring and doors). This nearly 90 year ministry has brought many, many into the Kingdom—let’s not forget to support and pray for one of IYM’s great ministries.

**USED Friends United Meeting** will hold its “Chain of Prayer” for 2015, January 1 to May 24. Information has been sent to all IYM meetings for you to sign up for this special prayer time. This year FUM is especially focusing on the idea of being “energized” and they are calling on Friends to make this a primary feature through the 2015 “Chain of Prayer.” They ask that your meeting please return your sign-up sheet by **December 1** to FUM. For more information go to [www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org), [info@fum.org](mailto:info@fum.org) or 765-962-7573.

**USED**

**USED IYM pastors and families** will celebrate Christmas together at Marion First on December 13, 5 pm. A complimentary meal will be provided, hosted by Doug and Kris Shoemaker. Please RSVP the IYM office by **December 8** (800-292-5238 or [iyminfo@iym.org](mailto:iyminfo@iym.org)). Babysitting will be available.

**USED Friends Summit 2014**, a national summit for youth ages 16-25, will be held December 28-January 1 at the Hyatt Regency in San Diego, CA. You are invited into conversations that will draw out passion for the mission of the Kingdom. This summit is sponsored by Evangelical Friends Church-North America. For more information go to [friendssummit.com](http://friendssummit.com), [facebook.com/FriendsSummit2014](https://facebook.com/FriendsSummit2014), or [twitter.com/FriendsSummit](https://twitter.com/FriendsSummit).

**Your Help Needed!**

Would you please consider giving young IYM pastors an early Christmas gift? We need a few babysitters for our Pastors Christmas Party,

December 13, 5 pm, at Marion First Friends.

Please contact Marion First pastor, Dane Leitch, at [daneleitch@gmail.com](mailto:daneleitch@gmail.com) or 765-662-0078 for more details.

Thank you for your generosity of serving the pastors of IYM.

**NOT USED YET Tri-County Quarterly Meeting** will meet, January 11, at Sycamore Friends. There will be a meal at 5:30, and worship and the program will be at 6:30 pm. IYM’s Superintendent, Doug Shoemaker, and our newly appointed Assistant Superintendent/camping Director, Pat Byers, will join them. Tri-County Quarter welcomes everyone to come for this evening with F(f)riends.