

Knights town Friends has started a new youth group for 4-12 grades. They are excited to have Risa and Guy Louks as the new leaders. All kids from the surrounding area are welcome to attend the next meeting, December 14, 5-7 at the church. The church will hold its Candlelight Service, December 23, 7 pm

Hinkle Creek Candlelight Service will be December 16, 6:30 pm.

Maple Run Friends has reservation information for a "Best of Israel" tour, March 22-31, 2019 if you are looking ahead for an inspirational trip. About 30 have signed up so contact pastor John Key at john.k.key@gmail.com or 765-661-4034 to join this group. See www.pilgrimtours.com/groups/maplerunisrael.htm.

Mooreland Friends has collected 45 boxes for Samaritan's Purse. Some of their December happenings are: a Christmas Movie Party on Saturday, December 15th for all elementary age kids in the church; caroling on the 9th; a Sunday School class luncheon on December 10th; 11 am at Stacks in New Castle; and the Children's Christmas Pageant, Sunday, December 16th. They are so thankful for their Lead Pastor, Brenda Earley and the Family Ministry Pastor, Ross Smedley and his wife Sharese for all they do for their church.

The Annual Pastors Christmas Dinner will be held Saturday, December 15, beginning at 5 pm. Pastors and spouses are invited to this complimentary catered dinner that will be served at South Mari on Friends Church. The evening will include a catered meal, great fellowship, and an enjoyable program. There is still time to call the yearly meeting office to make your reservations.

Mid-Winter Retreat for pastors and spouses is scheduled for February 15-17 at Hueston Woods Lodge and Conference Center near Oxford, Ohio. Churches are encouraged to release their pastor for the weekend, so he/she can attend.

Pastor reports have been sent out to pastors and recorded ministers and are to be completed and returned to the yearly meeting office by December 8. Check

www.iym.org or email iyminfo@iym.org if you did not receive a copy of the report. Annual ministerial status cards will be mailed to pastors and ministers who send in a completed report.



Spotlight on Youth

Youth Invasion will be held at Knightstown (Hoosier Gym)

January 13, 5-8 pm. Don't miss it!

As a show of love and support to those in your congregation who are **working with teens and children**, we would love to invite them to a FREE dinner on January 8 at Grains and Grill in Fairmount, IN, at 6:30 pm. Please help us by making sure this information gets to the right people in your church, and by encouraging them to come. RSVPs are requested so go to Pat Byers (pat@iym.org) by January 4th.

IYM Sunday will be observed on April 28, 2019. Please mark your church calendar and plan to feature the work and ministries we all share as part of Indiana Yearly Meeting on that day.

Merry Christmas, from the Advancement Sub-committee. We hope this Christmastime is filled with great hope, peace, joy and love to all. Keep on living the abundant life dear friends. Our update for fundraising for the 2020 budget is this: So far in gifts and pledges we have raised over \$28,000. The advancing folks will keep at it! We are so thankful for your kindness, generosity, support, and dedication to the work of IYM. —Damon Seacott

Membership records and meeting minutes should never be destroyed! When you clean out your attic or closets, remember that the IYM archives will carefully catalogue and preserve your records. Drop them off at the yearly meeting office or call for someone to pick them up.

Carmel Friends in Carmel, IN, (Western Yearly Meeting) is accepting applications for a new Senior Pastor. They are a congregation of about 70 people who are invested in outreach and growth. If you have pastoral experience and are willing to serve as a Quaker pastor, please visit <https://>

www.carmelfriends.org/pastor-search/ to learn more and apply. This position opens August/September 2019.

Following is part of a testimony from Stephen Ewoton, one of the Turkana church-planters who was among the first recipients of a "start-up business loan" from IYM, through Turkana Friends Mission. It provides a poignant look at the ongoing impact of the business training and revolving loan fund project initiated by IYM in 2016.

...My family had been living from hand to mouth, basic necessities could not be afforded, children could not attend school due to empty stomachs and lack of cash to buy even the simple basic commodities. Some days could be spent without food...Thanks to Turkana Friends mission...who came up with the idea of providing us with motorbikes. It has lifted me from grass to grace. My family can now feed. Children are able to go to school. They are able to acquire the basic commodities. Sleeping hungry is a thing of the past... When business is good, I am able to save about \$100...When business is down, I am able to save \$50 per month. Life has changed greatly...In terms of church development...I have reached so many distant places that I used not to reach. The motorbike has made that easy. This has enabled me to bring more converts to the church. The Lechuga Friends Church has grown tremendously. The motorbike business has also aided in the creation of a new village church at Nayanaekaton...Also the motorbike is used as an agent of transport in the village. Whenever there is an emergency...the motorbike facilitates all that. The community sees this as a blessing and this promotes their coming to the church... every aspect of life has changed. I see light, people see light, the community sees this light too, and they see hope. Thanks to Turkana Friends Mission and well-wishers. May the spirit of God guide you to unravel more opportunities to help the people and church growth.

Good Morning!

Having spent many of my years in vocational ministry serving young people, I always carry a burden for those who come along side our young people. These are special people who do the hard work of walking into the sometimes uncomfortable... sometimes stressful... sometimes exhausting world of kids and teenagers.

The work these folks do is vitally important! As the Church is figuring out how to navigate and operate within this ever-changing culture, the ones who are working with our young people are on the front lines. They need our encouragement. They need

our support. Please take a moment to write a letter, send a text, or offer a face-to-face word of encouragement to these wonderful people. As they spend time with, and pour into our young people, God is shaping the present *and* future of our churches.

As a 'Thank You' from IYM, all paid and volunteer Children's and Youth Workers are invited to a dinner on January 8th at *Grains and Grill* restaurant in Fairmount, IN. It will be a time of encouragement, sharing of ideas, and sharing of information

regarding upcoming youth and camping events in IYM and at Quaker Haven. The dinner is free to all Children's and Youth-Workers, we just need to know how many are coming. Please RSVP to Pat Byers (pat@iym.org) by January 4th.

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Matthew 19:14
—Pat Byers

Communicator

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December 5, 2018

IYM Upcoming Calendar

- 12/15 *Pastors Christmas Dinner, South Marion Friends, 5 pm*
- 12/17 *Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am*
- 12/17 *Communications & Publications, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
- 12/21—1/1 *IYM office closed*
- 01/05 *Executive Committee Retreat, IYM office, 9:30 am*
- 01/08 *Advancement Committee, IYM office, 4 pm*
- 01/08 *Youth Workers' Dinner, Grains & Grill, Fairmount, 6:30 pm*
- 01/17 *Pastors Toolkit, West River Friends, 10 am*
- 01/21 *Program Committee, Conference Call, 6:30 pm*