

**Wabash Friends Counseling Center** invites you to the 15th annual Marriage Enrichment Retreat on February 13 -15. Dr. Joe Graham will cover the topic of the motivated marriage: how to reengage or stay engaged in a loving relationship with your spouse. The registration fee is \$85 for the retreat which is hosted at The Hilton, Grand Wayne Center in Fort Wayne. For more information or to register go to [www.wabashfriendscounseling.com](http://www.wabashfriendscounseling.com) or 260-563-8453. Susan Dawes organized a team of ten others from **Wabash Friends**, along with three people from other area churches, which left January 31 for a mission trip to Belize. They are with missionaries Andy and Lisa Stout at Jaguar Creek, a non-profit organization that helps at-risk youth in Belize. They will return on February 8.

**Pastors Mid-Winter Retreat** was enjoyed by 51 participants January 23-25 in northern Indiana. Here are some comments from those who enjoyed the weekend retreat:

*—It was refreshing, new info for us to bring home, Holy Spirit led, and challenging for this new year. Loved the presenters on video, our presenters from IYM, and just thankful to be a part of IYM with such great people. Can't wait to try and implement the teachings into my life.*

*—We had an awesome time and left feeling refreshed and renewed. Essenhaus is amazing! The Summit speakers were awesome, and spending time with the other pastors was the very best part. We met many new people and got to reconnect with some good friends. If your goal was to make the pastors feel loved then I would say it was a success.*

*—I can't imagine a nicer place, better food, or better sessions than what I took part in this past week-end. It was wonderful in every aspect.*

**Betty Ison's Perspective of IYM** (IYM's office secretary) – *Indiana Yearly Meeting is the best place ever to work. Doug, Carol, and Rowena are*

*great to work with and are teaching me so much. Pat is new to the office and is still questionable. ☺ I have enjoyed meeting and becoming acquainted with so many people. I started this position on August 10, 2010, just as a job to keep my computer skills current. It has become so much more. I am blessed by the:*  
*—dedication of the clerks, officers, and committee members*  
*—friendly atmosphere of Friends gathering to have fun and take care of business at sessions*  
*—witnessing a financially struggling church, which is now able to pay 2015 assessments in full*  
*—faith which provides the donations/pledges to the 2016 budget.*

**Quaker Haven Sap Run:** QHC will offer their third Sap Run 5k, March 14! They will collect maple sap to make delicious syrup. Come and compete with friends, work on your personal time, or just walk the one mile "Sap Stroll." Funds raised by this event support youth ministries at Quaker Haven. Race registration opens at 7:30 am and the run begins at 9 am. Following the race, awards will be presented during a pancake breakfast. The fee is \$25 which includes your entry, long sleeved shirt, and breakfast! If you are just coming to enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, breakfast is \$8 for adults / \$5 under age 13. Breakfast will be served from 8:00 to 10:30. For registration go to <http://quakerhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/2015-saprun-regist.pdf>

**The Youth Ministry Grant Initiative (YMGI)** is a program of the Center for Congregations. YMGI is for congregations wanting to develop new and sustainable youth programming opportunities for 6th through 12th graders in their own congregations that reflect the congregation's highest claims and commitments and provide significant formational experiences for

youth. This program includes financial support, as well as a thorough educational component. Congregations throughout Indiana may apply. For details visit <http://centerforcongregations.org/workshop/youth-ministry-grant-initiative-2015>.

*It is wonderful to see the many meetings that are scheduling IYM Sundays to promote the activities of IYM. We learned last year during the sessions for "Shaping the Future of IYM" that many of you were hungry for more information about IYM. This activity offers a great opportunity to learn more about IYM, how it operates, and what it has to offer our meetings and members. Of course, these sessions are also emphasizing how you can join us in funding the IYM budget, particularly the 2016 budget which will be relying upon faith donations to supplement reduced assessments. Wouldn't it be great to someday eliminate assessments, relying on giving from meetings and individuals. I want to thank the Stewardship and Finance Committee and its clerk, Scott Dubois, for organizing and promoting this activity. We currently have received a total of \$43,498.21 cash and pledges, 51.2% of the \$85,000 goal. Please keep praying for this effort and how you can personally contribute.*

*—Max Smith, Treas*

**Friends United Meeting announces** the opening of a new position of Communications Officer in the Africa Ministries Office (Kisumu, Kenya). The job description found at [www.fum.org/jobs](http://www.fum.org/jobs) details the qualifications and duties of this position, which is designated for a North American candidate. For more information and to submit a resume and cover letter, contact Eden Grace, Director of Global Ministries, Friends United Meeting, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond IN 47374 [edeng@fum.org](mailto:edeng@fum.org), 765-962-7573.

Good Morning!

*This is the 4th of a series of letters I'm writing to George Fox, the founder of Quakerism.*

Dear George,

What exactly did you mean when you said, "*Walk cheerfully over all the earth, answering to that of God in every person*"? I got a feel for the context out of which Quakerism was born while reading your works last fall. I need to apologize to you because many who call ourselves Friends today seem to interpret your words through our context instead of yours. That just doesn't seem right.

Surely you didn't intend to imply that we all have a piece of God in us and consequently have no need for repentance, or a new birth. You spoke about those concepts often! Your frequent references to John 1:9 where Jesus was described as "*the true light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world*" turned on the light for me. The Bible clearly teaches that God has granted a light to every person, a light that will lead a person to repentance, to a spiritual birth, to salvation!

But there's more! In your culture, heavily influenced by a view that only

a select few could know God, you voiced the revolutionary truth that **every person** has a light, a spiritual capacity, planted within by God. You proclaimed the good news that this capacity wasn't limited to white Englishmen, but was just as present in women, Jews, Turks, Native Americans, and people of color.

Thanks for teaching us to value all people and to expect that God is already lighting a path in them that leads to Jesus.

-Doug Shoemaker

## Communicator

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February 4, 2015

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

2/6-8 *Winter Sneak for grades 7-12, Quaker Haven*  
2/9 *MEI Steering Committee, IYM office, 6 pm*  
2/10 *Area Pastors Meeting, Westfield Friends, 8:30 am*  
2/10 *Program Committee, IYM office, 7 pm*  
2/18 *Area Pastors Meeting, Back Creek Friends, 8:30 am*  
2/21 *Communications & Publications Committee, Maple Run Friends, 10 am*  
2/24 *Area Pastors Meeting, Jericho Friends, 10:30 am*

**Belize Friends School** has purchased a 21-passenger school bus that was recently imported by a local hotel whose corporate headquarters then determined it wasn't needed. The local manager was hoping to resell it for a profit, but when he learned that Friends would be using it for ministry, he agreed to sell it for just what it cost him. The bus will be a great asset as it will be used for many school functions.

**Attention Statisticians: Statistical Reports were due January 31. If you have not yet sent your report to IYM, it would be very helpful if you could send it as soon as possible. Thank you, Betty**