

**Randy Thornburg** has resigned as pastor of Bethel Friends.

**Charlottesville Friends** was featured as a front-page article in the *Greenfield Reporter* for their annual soup suppers that contribute to those in need in their community at Christmas-time. This tradition has continued for over 30 years and in latter years has brought in over \$2000 each year.

**Dewart Lake Friends** wrapped up McDonalds Monday 2016 with fun, cookie decorating and a nativity dinner theater for the kids ages 2-12, with the kids playing the parts of the characters. Pastor Cara wrapped up a 6.5 year seminary journey graduating with her M.Div and the deepest sense of appreciation for the opportunity of this soul forming and educational journey. On Christmas Eve, Dewart Lake Friends partnered with two other local congregations to bring a Christmas Carol service to the community, continuing to demonstrate unity in being part of God's bigger mission together as the people of God.

**Farmland Friends** is looking for a gifted and called person for the part-time position of Worship Pastor. Interested persons should send resumes to [conj2@aol.com](mailto:conj2@aol.com).

**Wabash Friends** will sponsor a Marriage Retreat which will be held at Shipshewana, February 17-18. For more information, visit [www.wabashfriendscounseling.com](http://www.wabashfriendscounseling.com). Over 20 attenders of Wabash Friends rang the bell for the Salvation Army during the Christmas season. Papanie Turay will visit Wabash Friends, January 15, and share his experiences in Africa as a young man struggling to survive on the streets, and eventually leading a Good News Club for other street kids. The church will send a team to Kenya the first week of June 2017 to assist in an eye camp at Kaptama Health Center.

**Standard Mileage Rates** for 2017 have been announced by the IRS. Beginning on January 1, 2017, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be **53.5 cents per mile** for business miles driven, down from **54 cents** for 2016.

**2016 Assessment Payments** will be received through January 13. If your meeting has remaining payments to be applied toward 2016 assessments please send them to the IYM office by then.

**2016 Statistical Reports** have been mailed to monthly meeting statistical secretaries. Please complete and return your reports to the IYM office by January 31. Report forms can also be found at [www.iym.org](http://www.iym.org).

**New Blinds** were recently installed in the IYM office. Thank you to Susan Kirkpatrick Dennis, Rowena Holliday, and Kris Shoemaker who selected the blinds on behalf of the IYM Trustees. Stop by the office to take a look and visit with your staff. The yearly meeting office is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.



#### **Youth Event Reminders:**

Don't forget about the **Youth Invasion** at Carmel Friends on January 15 and **Winter Sneak** at Quaker Haven on February 3-5. Go to [iym.org](http://iym.org) (youth ministries tab) and [ghcyouthprogramming.com](http://ghcyouthprogramming.com) for details. **Youth/Children's Workers Dinner** will be held on January 23, 6:30 pm. All paid and volunteer Youth and Children's Workers are invited to this dinner at Stone Creek Dining Co. in the Hamilton Town Center in Noblesville. The dinner is free to those wonderful folks who serve our young people in our churches. Please RSVP to Pat Byers, [pat@iym.org](mailto:pat@iym.org), by January 18.

**Friends Ministry Training.** The first courses in the IYM/Barclay College Friends Ministry Training program are scheduled to begin soon. These courses will be offered online with opportunity for participants to have bonus face to face interaction with other students and instructors. Old Testament Survey, taught by Paul Cochrane (Wabash Friends), will be offered February 13-March 26. Introduction to Pastoral Ministry, taught by Dave Phillips will run from March 27 through May 8. All students will be required to take a free Orientation to Online Learning class January 30-February 12. More information can be found at [www.iym.org](http://www.iym.org). To apply go to <https://www.barclaycollege.edu/forms/OnlineApply.aspx>.

#### **Opportunities for Pastors:**

**\*\*Mid-Winter Retreat** will be held later this month at Clifty Inn, Madison, Indiana, January 27-29. As of this writing 48 pastors/spouses are registered to attend. Registration deadline was December 31, so contact the IYM office to see if late registration is available.

**\*\*"A Vision for Multiplication"** will be the theme of a one-day Pastors Summit scheduled for March 14 at Knightstown Friends. Bob Vajko will be guest speaker.

**\*\*Pastors Short Course** dates have been altered. This year Short Course will begin with lunch on Monday, July 3 and conclude with lunch on Wednesday, July 5. "You've Got What it Takes" will be this year's theme.

#### **An Opportunity for Your Church:**

Several IYM churches enjoyed the ministry of Dr. Tony Wheeler last fall. Tony will be in central Indiana, February 2-17, and can be scheduled to speak or lead a seminar in your church. For more information please contact Shane Brown at [shane.brown@barclaycollege.edu](mailto:shane.brown@barclaycollege.edu).

**IYM Sunday is March 12!** Each meeting is asked to observe "IYM Sunday" on March 12. Please mark your calendars and plan to use this day to share the good news about what God is doing in IYM. Be watching for literature, presentation outlines, and even a video that can be used to help members and attenders of your congregation to learn more about your yearly meeting.

**Men's Groundhog Retreat** (presented by Quaker Men) will be held at Quaker Haven, January 27-28. Registration will start at 5:30 pm, dinner at 6:30 pm. Cost is \$60. To make reservations, call 574-834-4193 or email to [contact@quakerhaven.com](mailto:contact@quakerhaven.com). Work projects will be available before and after the retreat. For more information go to [www.quakerhaven.com](http://www.quakerhaven.com).

#### **Get this on your 2017 calendar now.**

**Yearly Meeting Sessions** will be held at Quaker Haven Camp, July 27-30. Mark Wright, the founding pastor of Brandywine Community Church and a former pastor in IYM, will be the featured speaker. "Show Me Your Glory" from Exodus 33:18 will be our theme.

#### **Our Sympathy to the Families of**

**E. Stanley Banker**, passed away on December 24, 2016. He pastored several churches in IYM including Upland, South Marion, Greenfield, and Portland. He was the father of former IYM pastor J. Stanley Banker. Funeral services were held December 28 in Marion.

**Vera Harper**, wife of Vic Harper, former president and long-time board member at White's Residential, passed away on December 28. Services were at Sycamore Friends on December 31. Vera would have been 99 in January. Vic's home address is 212 E. Main, Greentown, IN 46936.

Good Morning!

A recent study by Microsoft of 2,000 consumers discovered that the average human attention span has gone down. In 2000 it was 12 seconds, but now people generally lose concentration after eight seconds, meaning that we now rank behind goldfish who scientists think have a 9-second attention span. I'll try to finish this thought quickly while you're still with me. I believe the enemy uses this to undermine lots of things including my prayer life! How about you?

I'd like to invite you to join me in what I'm calling the "Prayer Dare." I sense that God has challenged me to not

settle for eight second snippets of communication with Him. Between now and Easter my goal is to learn to maximize this spiritual discipline that the Bible begs us to embrace. Are you with me?

For what should we be praying? In 1 John 5:14-15 we are told that if we ask anything according to God's will our prayer is heard and we can expect the prayer to be answered affirmatively. So, I think I'm going to lay down my lengthy list of things that would make my life easier and ask

God how He would like me to pray; ...and then be quiet for more than eight seconds to listen. I understand this might be dangerous. It could result in me praying more for people that I don't especially like. It might interrupt future plans and could really mess up the status quo of my church.

So – would you like to join me? I dare you to carve out some time to listen for God's will and then pray for it. *-Doug Shoemaker*

## Communicator

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January 4, 2017

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

1/9 Program Committee Conference Call, 6:30 pm  
1/14 IYM Executive Committee Retreat, Wabash Friends, 9:30 am  
1/16 Recording Committee, IYM office, 6 pm  
1/23 Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am  
1/27-29 Pastors Mid-Winter Retreat, Clifty Inn, Madison, IN  
2/2 IYM Bicentennial Committee, IYM office, 6 pm  
3/4 Committee Day, Upland Friends, 9 am