

**2017 Yearly Meeting Preview:** Yearly Meeting Sessions at Quaker Haven will be held July 27-29. Registration for this year's event has been strong. Please pray that God will show us His glory as we gather for our 197<sup>th</sup> session.

**Amboy Friends** sent a missions team of 15 to work on a Christian School in Belize. The English speaking country of 350,000 people is approximately 70% young people making it fertile for the Gospel. It was a great time of work, fellowship, and relationship building. The team is grateful for all of the support and prayers that were provided to them. God is on the move! Also, Amboy Friends held a church retreat at Quaker Haven last weekend which included a great time of fellowship and doing some painting and clean-up for the camp. They were spiritually fed and challenged by pastor Jack Holliday to grow more "intimate with Jesus" and "acquire a stronger desire to reach the lost souls in our world."

**Bethel Friends** has called Doug Haag (Karen) to serve as their pastor beginning September 1. Doug is coming from Wilmington Yearly Meeting where he has served as their Executive Secretary. Also, 17 adults and 3 children recently met at Quaker Haven enjoying games, devotions, and good fellowship.

**Iglesia Amigos** will hold their annual Festival de Amigos, August 26. They invite the Hispanic community in Indianapolis to a day of food, fun, and fellowship in this annual outreach event. They need help to make this happen so if you can help, please contact Katy Moran at 317-450-4712 or [pastor.katy.moran@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.katy.moran@gmail.com)

**Knightstown Friends** will host **John Moru**, Kenyan Friend, for their Sunday morning message, July 30. **Cheryl Rath's barbershop quartet, "WRAPsody,"** will bring special music for their morning worship on Sunday, August 6.

**Maple Run Friends** will hold its annual Bob Buroker Memorial Golf Scramble for missions on Saturday, August 5 at Arbor Trace Golf Course. The day starts with a pork chop dinner at noon, followed by a putting contest. The shot gun start begins at 2 pm. 100% of all proceeds go to support their mission programs including many local programs. The cost is \$50 per person

and includes lunch. There will be beverages on the course, cart, and door prizes for all players. There are also prizes for longest drive and putt as well as closest to the pin. A new feature is the par three-hole in one contest sponsored by Dixon Golf. They will be on hand passing out free golf balls along with a special hole where you can qualify to win a \$1,000,000 prize and a trip to the Fiesta Bowl. Free putters and wedges and a lot of other special items will also be available. Please call Don Thompson to get registered for the day of fun and service at 765-661-2946. Hole sponsorship is only \$25.

**Upland Friends pastor, Curt Blasiman**, will leave for Africa, July 27 (returning, August 27) to teach Old Testament Text and Systematic Theology at Rwanda Friends Theological College at Cyangugu (southern part of the country) under the auspices of Evangelical Friends Missions. He will be there for two weeks then he will head north to Musanze where he will teach the same two courses for another two weeks. In the early 90s, Curt lived in Musanze where he taught math. This allowed Paul Thornburg to be released to pastor. This was shortly before the war in Rwanda, a time when Curt had to flee for his life twice.

**Wabash Friends** recently enjoyed having John Moru, leader of Turkana Friends Mission. Under John's leadership, the mission has established 11 churches, six schools, and has dug a well that provides much-needed water in the region. They have also planted a church within a nearby refugee camp, with plans to plant even more churches. Also at Wabash Friends, Lauren Reynolds will be heading up their Children's Ministry while Amy Cortez begins maternity leave. Lauren is a graduate of Indiana Wesleyan University with a B.S. in Christian Education. She currently works at Compass Rose Academy as the Enrollment Coordinator. She grew up going to Amboy Friends, where she is still a member and helps with their worship team.



**A big THANK YOU** goes out to anyone who supported, counseled, served, and prayed for our camps at Quaker Haven this summer. In total, we had 530 campers, and we gave them the opportunity to have Christ REWIRE

their lives! Please be sure to ask those from your church, whether they were campers, counselors, or staffers to tell you their favorite 2017 camp story. Also, please keep praying that God would allow the love, grace, and truth that was experienced at camp to now flow into our IYM churches and their communities! May the amazing things that happened at camp be a beginning for what God will do next!

**From IYM Treasurer, Max Smith:** As we approach the YM sessions we will be wrapping up the 2018 Budget Fundraising Campaign and launching the 2019 Budget Fundraising Campaign. Please remember that we have been able to lower the assessment rate by focusing more on the fundraising side, asking individuals and meetings to donate beyond their assessments to fund the important programs of IYM. Assessments were lowered from \$75 per member to \$50 per the average of a meetings membership and Sunday morning attendance. As you consider contributions to help wrap up this campaign and consider contributions for the 2019 budget, please keep in mind this process has enabled assessments to be reduced by a third. We look forward to celebrating the success of our 2018 fundraising at the sessions this week. We currently have a total of \$86,288.85 (84.6% of our goal). We look forward to receiving last minute donations that will put us over the top. Thank you to all who have been a part of this campaign.

**Friends Ministry Training** classes provide an opportunity to prepare for ministry among Friends through online courses accredited through Barclay College but primarily taught by instructors from Indiana Yearly Meeting. One FMT student has made this observation about the online courses: It fit MY schedule! Rather than having a set time of the day to be somewhere to learn, I loved the idea of connecting to the "classroom" whenever I had the time. With my full time secular job and pastoral work, I was able to find time to post to the online classroom board. Yet, the weekly schedule of items to be completed each day of the week also helped me to prioritize the required "3 R's"... reading, writing, and responding. The schedule kept me motivated and accountable. *-Bob Lines*

Good Morning!

If you've ever felt indecisive maybe you can relate to this story found in Diane Ackerman's, *A Natural History of Love* (Vintage, 1995). The world's longest engagement was between Octavio Guillen and Adriana Martinez from Mexico. Apparently, Octavio popped the question and Adriana said yes. That was in 1902 when they were both 15-years-old. But one of them couldn't quite decide, so they kept putting off the wedding day. They finally got married in 1969 when they were both 82. It took Octavio and Adriana 67 years to decide to get married.

I'm glad to be part of a yearly meeting that has not been afraid to make decisions. In recent years, we decided that we have a clear Christian identity. We affirmed our historic orthodox beliefs based upon our understanding that Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God and His atoning sacrifice on the cross provides the only way to a relationship with God. We agreed that the Bible is authoritative and inspired of God. We decided that we are responsible to one another and wanted to be part of a Christian fellowship that holds us accountable.

We also decided that we were going to rely less on obligations to finance our yearly meeting and more on voluntary contributions. We've not intended to pressure anyone to give, but we've tried to consistently remind one another of the decision we made to generously supplement assessment obligations with voluntary love gifts to IYM. This week we are concluding our effort to raise \$102,000 for next year's budget. As of today, we have received over \$86,000! We praise God and thank you for such generous support.

-Doug Shoemaker

## Communicator

Indiana Yearly Meeting,  
4715 N Wheeling Ave,  
Muncie, IN 47304

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
MUNCIE, IN 47304  
PERMIT #795

### The Communicator

800-292-5238  
765-284-6900  
Fax: 765-284-8925  
<http://www.iym.org>

Doug Shoemaker  
[doug@iym.org](mailto:doug@iym.org)  
Pat Byers  
[pat@iym.org](mailto:pat@iym.org)  
Betty Ison  
[iyminfo@iym.org](mailto:iyminfo@iym.org)

July 25, 2017

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

7/27-29 *IYM Sessions at Quaker Haven*  
8/21 *Ad Hoc Fundraising Committee, IYM office, 4:30 pm*  
8/22 *Committee Night, Upland Friends, 6:30 pm*  
8/29 *Trustees, IYM office, 6:30 pm*  
9/18 *Executive Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*

The 31st Triennial Gathering of Friends United Meeting recently met at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. Around 250 Friends came from Belize, Canada, Cuba, Kenya, and the United States. Their time together focused on Thomas Kelly's *The Eternal Promise*.