

**Committee Night  
Tuesday, May 17, 6:30 pm  
Upland Friends**

**Bob Lines** has been called by Cadiz Friends to serve as interim pastor. Bob is now serving as pastor at both Kennard and Cadiz.

**Jon Clark**, Back Creek Friends pastor, will have his final day of ministry there, May 22. Jon has served this meeting since 2011. You are invited to the carry-in dinner following worship in appreciation of the years Jon and his family have dedicated to Back Creek. Sunday school is at 9:30 am and worship at 10:30 am.

**South Marion Friends** is participating in the RENEW Program and they have completed 30 Days of Prayer led by Carol Wright. A Sunday evening Praise Service was held in April, and Gary Wright will hold the Sunday morning service, May 22. Also, South Marion Friends is studying *Vanishing Grace* by Philip Yancey and pastor John Petty is leading Sunday evening services.

**Wabash Friends Peter's Team** recently held a spaghetti dinner raising nearly \$3,000 which will go towards short-term missionaries and families attending Family Retreat at Quaker Haven.

**Walnut Ridge Friends** will be featured in a PBS documentary series, "Hoosiers: The Story of Indiana" that will be broadcast state-wide this summer on Indiana Public Television stations. A preview screening is being held at the Glick Indiana History Center in Indianapolis this week. Be watching for this series on your local stations.

**Pastors are invited** to a conversation with John Muhanji, director of the FUM Africa Ministries Office. He will be visiting two locations on Tuesday, May 24; Jericho Friends beginning at 9:30 am and Fairmount Friends at 2 pm. Other interested Friends are welcome to attend.

**Pastors Short Course** registrations for 2016 are now being accepted. Dave Williams, Superintendent of Mid-America Yearly Meeting, will be this year's speaker. Worship leaders will be Alissa Meyer, Gary and Carol Wright, Keith and Robin Huffman, and Randy Thornburg. Workshops will be led by Hope Brown, Dave Phillips, and Paul Hamrick. This year's Short Course will begin on Tuesday evening, July 5 and conclude with lunch on Thursday, July 7. Cost is \$50 for individuals or \$75 for the whole family

**State of Society Report requests** have been sent out. Has your meeting regularly taken time to consider questions related to your spiritual health? The Yearly Meeting Ministry and Oversight encourages each church to carefully and thoughtfully create a report and submit it to the IYM office by June 1.

**Kickapoo Friends Center** was recently blessed with workers from Sycamore, Wabash, and Westfield Friends Churches. They did various maintenance work, delivered meals, and had fellowship with the people there at the Center.

**Western Yearly Meeting** is seeking candidates for Christian Education Director with full-time work and salary, including benefits. This person is to be a Christian who loves all ages—adults, youth and children and is willing to travel, and play a major role in directing camps. An application and job description can be found at [westernyearlymeeting@spacespace.com](mailto:westernyearlymeeting@spacespace.com). Applications are due by May 16.

**The Friends United Meeting Summer Mission Project** is helping Friends Theological College in Kenya, Africa, with their electrical power system. They have frequent power blackouts sometimes lasting throughout the day and night hampering students from getting their work done. FUM needs assistance in raising \$20,000 for this Solar Power project.

**Congratulations!**

**Carlos Moran**, pastor of Iglesia Amigos, and **Katy Palmer**, former youth pastor in IYM, were united in marriage on Saturday, May 7, in a service held at Quaker Haven Camp. Carlos and Katy met at a Pastors Short Course at Quaker Haven!

**Our Sympathy to the family of Elsie Kilmer**

Elsie is the wife of former IYM pastor, Mervin Kilmer. She passed away, May 5, and her funeral service was held at the Knightstown Friends Church where she was a member.

Good Morning,

“Why Kids Don’t Need a Megachurch” is the title of a recent article in Christianity Today. In it Amy Julia Becker quotes statistics from the Hartford Institute for Religion Research including one that counts 177,000 U.S. churches - about 60% of U.S. Protestant congregations - having fewer than 100 attendees each week. The median number of Sunday morning worshippers is 75. In Indiana Yearly Meeting the median number of Sunday worshippers is closer to 35 with 89% of our congregations averaging fewer than 100 in weekly attendance.

Most of our churches would like to be

larger and growing (as long as it doesn’t change our church!) and the model of first century Christianity would seem to indicate that numerical growth should be the norm, not the exception. I hope disciples are being made and added to your church regularly, but even churches that struggle to grow can have tremendous impact.

I have a special place in my heart for small churches. That’s where I grew up. I knew people 70 years older than me and counted them as my friends. I remember heartfelt testimonies, and

homegrown music. I wasn’t shipped off to the children’s program; I was part of the church! All my Sunday School teachers were ordinary people with work and families to tend to. Little did they know that their meager efforts were making a mega-impact on my life.

I’m glad for large churches that have lots to offer. God uses them. But if you don’t attend a megachurch, don’t hang your head. Just because your church isn’t big doesn’t mean that big things aren’t happening in your church!

-Doug Shoemaker

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May 11, 2016

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

- 5/15 *IYM Sunday, Westfield Friends*
- 5/17 *Committee Night, Upland Friends, 6:30 pm*
- 5/19 *Faith & Practice Review Comm., IYM office, 6:30 pm*
- 5/22 *IYM Sunday, Fairmount Friends*
- 5/23 *Program Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
- 5/24 *Pastors Meeting with John Muhanji, Jericho Friends, 9:30 am*
- 5/24 *Pastors Meeting with John Muhanji, Fairmount Friends, 2 pm*
- 5/29 *IYM Sunday, Jericho Friends*
- 6/05 *IYM Sunday, Amboy Friends*
- 6/13 *Executive Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
- 6/20 *Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am*
- 6/28 *Work Group on Pastoral Training, IYM office, 5 pm*