

Committee Evening
May 14, 6:30 pm at South Marion

Yearly Meeting Minute

On Friday afternoon, July 26, Friends attending Indiana Yearly Meeting will have the opportunity to attend two of four workshops. "Bring New Life to Your Meeting," led by Paul Hamrick, will include stories of new life from Van Wert First Friends and a vision for church growth. "Turn Around Churches," led by Gary Wright, will focus on common characteristics of churches that experience turn-around. "The 70%," led by Jeff Mosier, will be of special interest to those with a passion for reaching young people. "God is at Work in East Africa," led by Judith Ngoya, will include first-hand reports of how God is working among and through Friends in Africa.

Reconfiguration Update

Dublin Friends is the most recent meeting to announce that it plans to leave IYM and join the New Association of Friends. The New Association is now incorporated and has a mailing address of 503 S. Main St. New Castle, IN 47362

Marc and Sheri Davis have announced their resignation from West River Friends.

Amboy Friends is providing meals for several days for their community which has suffered from recent flooding. They will not only provide food but will assess how they can help in the process of getting back on their feet.

Hinkle Creek Friends is hosting Tab Beechler in concert, May 11, 6 pm. There will be a free-will offering, and refreshments will follow the concert. The meeting wishes to recognize their pastor, Robert Stubbs and his wife Paulette for their thirty years of ministry among Friends. They have been an inspiration through their leadership and dedication and the meeting thanks them for their faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Jericho Friends had Camp Sunday with Quaker Haven Director Brandon Dennis and his family. They shared with the meeting about Quaker Haven, and the time was followed with a carry-in meal.

Lynn Friends will hold a "Blessing of the Bikers" in their 10:30 worship service on May 5. This outreach for the community will be followed by a cookout and then a short ride.

Sycamore Friends had a Mother/Daughter Retreat at Quaker Haven, April 12-13.

Need to register at the last minute for Quaker Haven Camp, follow the link below to register on line <https://camps.cui.active.com/rapid/camps/agency?agencyId=283369802>

A brochure describing who we are as IYM was distributed at Representative Council. To order additional quantities of this resource please contact the IYM office or download directly from <http://www.iym.org/home/180010756/180010756/Images/Who%20We%20Are%20Brochure.pdf>.

Dave Phillips is available to provide coaching resources for IYM pastors. Through generous grants from the IYM Ministry & Oversight and Evangelism & Outreach Committee, 3-4 valuable individualized coaching sessions can be provided for interested pastors upon request. Contact Dave at dave@wabashfriends.org.

Is your pastor a candidate for a well-deserved break to enable him/her to step back, refresh and retool for years of future ministry? IYM is pleased to be able to recommend possible short-term or long-term sabbatical options for pastors. Contact Doug Shoemaker doug@iym.org for more information.

The upcoming MEI application deadline is June 1, 2013. Many meetings are working on their new budgets for the pastoral year of 2013/14. This is a wonderful opportunity to start discussion with your

M&O about the possibility of applying for a MEI grant. We offer matching grants up to \$2,500 for needs concerning health care, retirement, and emergency needs. For an application go to IYM's website and click on MEI (Ministerial Excellence Initiative) www.iym.org.

Members of IYM's Ministerial Excellence Initiative (MEI) Steering Committee attended an April 9 meeting hosted by the Lilly Endowment, celebrating the past four years progress of the "Economic Challenges Facing Indiana Pastors" initiative. Jesse Vore of Sycamore Friends was featured in a progress report, distributed throughout the state.

Meetings are invited to nominate a member of your meeting to be honored with a "Certificate of Recognition at IYM Sessions in July. Go to the following, <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PXZJGHH> for an online nomination form or go to the "Reports & Forms" menu on www.iym.org.

IYM Friends Disaster Service needs workers for the week of May 19-24 at Henryville. Contact Don Wimmer at donald.wimmer@gmail.com or call 765-661-0064. There is also a need for "work weeks" during June, July, and August.

FUM North American Ministries Retreat will be held at the Quaker Hill Conference Center, May 3-4. "Unleashing the Power of Your Meeting/Church" will be the focus of workshops. For more information go to info@fum.org.

FUM will host David Zarembka from Kenyan Friends Peace Initiatives on May 14, 7-9 pm. They invite you to join them at their Welcome Center as David gives an update on the peace efforts carried out by Friends during the Kenyan election.

Friends United Meeting is launching a search for the next principal to serve Friends Theological College in Kenya. Their current principal, Ann Riggs, will be concluding her service with FUM in the summer of 2014. For more information contact Colin Saxton at: colinsa@fum.org; (765) 962-7573).

The David M. Leach Scholarship is now available to students in graduate studies, preparing for ministry among evangelically oriented Friends churches and missions. Applications are accepted during April and May to be received before June 1 for the academic year, beginning this fall. You may contact the IYM office for hard copies or we can email a PDF. (iyminfo@iym.org or 800-292-5238).

Please pray for retired IYM pastor Paul Enyart. He is in rehab following a stroke.

Looking Ahead

Van Wert Quarterly Meeting April 28, Portland Friends

Business, 4 pm;

Carry-in meal, 5 pm

Pre-yearly meeting prayer service led by Keith Huffman, 6 pm.

IYM/WYM USFW 42nd Annual Retreat

Quaker Haven, Sept 9-10

Retreat Leader—Wander Baker

Cost \$65

Registration due by August 31.

Good Morning,

A petite mother of a gangly teenager, having difficulty reaching something on the top shelf of her kitchen cabinet, called for assistance from her son saying, "I need your tallness in here." The son quickly complied, retrieved the out-of-reach object, and suggested that in the future she request assistance from "your highness!"

Being vertically challenged, I've seldom received requests requiring my "highness," but that's fine since most folks prefer short preachers. I was surprised last week when visiting my 98-year-old aunt in Pennville. I greeted her with a hug to which she responded, "My, you're getting taller!" Actually, Aunt Ilah is getting shorter, but I enjoyed my few moments of relative height.

While speaking at Portland Friends earlier this month it was great to reconnect with a former member of the meeting who I had not seen for probably thirty years. We reminisced about how big the meetinghouse used to seem to us when we were younger. Now that we are “bigger” the building seems smaller. In a similar way, in one’s childhood we tend to see our parents as “big” but in later years we see them differently. I never saw my father stand any taller, though, than when he was on his knees pouring out his heart to God.

I’m beginning to look at “big” differently. Many of us would like to see our churches grow, but I wonder if we sometimes lack perspective of what it means to be big in God’s kingdom. Jesus showed us how it’s done and reminded us that “The greatest among you will be your servant.” How is that for a church growth strategy?

Doug Shoemaker

IYM Upcoming Calendar

- 4/28 Van Wert Quarterly Meeting, Portland, 4 pm***
- 4/30 IYM Trustees, IYM office, 6:30 pm***
- 5/13 Nominating Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm***
- 5/14 Westfield Pastors Meeting, Westfield Friends, 9:30 am***
- 5/14 Committee Evening, South Marion, 6:30 pm***
- 5/18 Marion Pastors Meeting, Bethel Friends, 9:30 am***
- 5/22 Van Wert Pastors Meeting, Van Wert Friends, 10:30 am***
- 5/27 Office Closed for Memorial Day***