

**Rural Friends** has called Becca Clouse (Bill) to serve as their pastor.

**Congratulations to Dwight Elliott**, pastor of Amboy Friends, who recently received his Bachelor of Science degree in Biblical Studies from Indiana Wesleyan University.

**Congratulations to James and Bryan Hogan**, pastor of Greensboro Friends, on the birth of a new daughter, Penelope Rose, born August 7.

**Dewart Lake Community Friends** is participating in a "40 Days of Purpose" campaign, along with other churches in the Syracuse area. This community effort has real potential to be a positive witness to the unity of the Body of Christ, energize churches with sound biblical teaching, and help churches reach the lost.

**Hinkle Creek Friends** had wonderful revival services with Gary Wright and the SOS Renewal Band this past week. Many made new strides in their walk with the Lord.

**Knightstown Friends** invites you to a Homecoming Celebration on Sunday, September 22 at 10:30 am for worship. A lunch will be provided. Please RSVP by September 16 to 765-345-2371 or [knightstown.friends@yahoo.com](mailto:knightstown.friends@yahoo.com) or leave a message with your name and the number of people coming. You can also visit their booth at the Knightstown Fall Fest on the square on September 7&8—free games, cotton candy and water. Knightstown Friends gathers to respond to the ever-present leading of Christ's Spirit as revealed through the Bible. They seek to minister within the meeting, community, and God's world by encouraging spiritual growth of individuals.

**Long Lake Friends** will host Michael and Linda Reed, Sunday, September 1, 10 am, as they share special music and testimonies about God's faithfulness. They are Faith Tech graduates, Bible teachers, missionaries, and friends of Long Lake pastor Tom White. In 1994, Tom and his wife helped to open

two Faith Tech Bible schools in India and taught the Word Series. Michael Reed followed them in India by teaching the second series, training pastors and Christian leaders so they could teach their own people God's Word.

**Westfield Friends** sent a team of eight people to Kenya this summer, led by youth pastor, Katy Palmer. They built relationships with Kisumu Friends Church and explored ways the two churches could partner together in ministry. They were also able to visit and celebrate with Friends at Lugulu Mission which was started 100 years ago by Jefferson and Helen Ford who were from Westfield Friends. God provided abundantly and there were extra unused funds left from their trip so the team decided to give this toward a project at a school for special needs children and to develop a scholarship fund to send leaders at the Poroko Friends Church (a new outreach ministry for Kisumu Friends Church and Westfield Friends Church) for leadership training at Friends Theological College.

**Jeff Beals of Westfield Friends** announces that a work trip is being planned to Kickapoo Friends Center (McCloud, OK) for the week of October 7-12. If you are interested, please contact him by email or by phone at 317-460-4844 or [j.l.beals@att.net](mailto:j.l.beals@att.net).

**Westland Friends** is glad to welcome Paul Bravard as their new pastor. As a teenager, he attended Sheridan Friends. He received the call to be a minister while attending Quaker Haven but chose not to heed this call for 25 years. In the meantime, Paul went to college, got a job in the high tech field as a network administrator, married, and had three children. Then God's call on his life became more insistent and he entered seminary to answer the call of ministry, now his "true passion." He is now looking forward to that journey at Westland.

**MEI Day - Sunday September 15** Please pray for IYM and how the MEI (Ministerial Excellence Initiative) can find ways to "enhance meeting vitality and pastoral wellbeing." All of the meetings will receive a bulletin insert with information on specific prayer requests.

**Thank you to those who have given special service to their local meetings:** When a member of your church senses a call into ministry and demonstrates spiritual gifts of ministry the IYM M&O has the blessing of overseeing a process that affirms these gifts and calling, provides mentorship and training, and results in these gifts of ministry being "Recorded." The M&O also seeks to support those Friends who may not have a calling to public ministry but have **given special service in their local church**. At yearly meeting sessions last month thirteen Friends were recognized with Certificates of Recognition: Larry Butcher (Hinkle Creek), Jim Cabe (Maple Run), Dane Carter (Anderson), Jerry Dain (Dewart Lake), Helen Davison (Bethel), Howard Lee (Westfield), Sally LeMaster (Portland), Scott Nicholson (Arba), Robert Phillips (Jonesboro), Donna Lee Reed (Little Blue River), Diana Taylor (Jericho), Mary Lou Fisher (deceased – Upland), and Arlene Tschiegg (deceased – Sycamore).

**Do you wish to continue receiving The Communicator? We will be revising our distribution list for this newsletter and beginning next month Friends from meetings who have left IYM will no longer receive the Communicator unless a request is received by the office to keep your name on the list. Anyone can view current additions of the Communicator that are regularly posted on the yearly meeting website: [www.ivm.org](http://www.ivm.org) To make a request to continue receiving the Communicator please email Rowena Holliday at [ivminfo@ivm.org](mailto:ivminfo@ivm.org) or call (800) 292-5238.**

Good Morning,

What would you say are the priorities of your church? Early Friends would likely have identified “publishing the truth” or some similar sentiment as a priority. Investing heavily in erecting and maintaining elaborate steeple-houses was unimportant to them; in fact they reacted negatively to churches that were building-centered. The first Quakers also reacted negatively to a pastoral system that created a financial burden to pay the wages of ministers who too-often treated ministry as a vocational choice rather than a calling from God.

The IYM statistical report published for yearly meeting sessions revealed some interesting insights into our current priorities. On average 68% of our church expenses are related to supporting our pastors and maintaining our buildings. In spite of what we may identify as our priorities, how we spend our finances indicate that buildings and pastoral staff are most important to us. I’m not suggesting that either are unimportant, but I can’t help but wonder what is being neglected.

Several years ago I heard of a church that set a goal to intentionally

devote 50% of their budget to world missions. Such a commitment spoke clearly about that church’s priorities. I’m a huge advocate of seeing that Friends called into public ministry are generously supported and that our buildings reflect the sense that something of importance takes place here. At the same time I would caution us against focusing on keeping a building heated and a pastor on staff at the expense of pouring time, energy and resources into publishing the truth! What are our priorities? Does the way we spend money verify what we identify as important to us?  
—Doug Shoemaker

## Communicator

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August 28, 2013

### IYM Upcoming Calendar

8/30-9/2 *Family Camp, Quaker Haven*  
9/3 9:30 am; *Westfield Area Pastors; Hinkle Creek Friends*  
9/9&10 *USFW Fall Retreat, Quaker Haven*  
9/10 11 am; *Investment Board; Muncie Red Lobster*  
9/11 10:30 am; *Van Wert Area Pastors; Lynn Friends*  
9/11 4 pm; *Triennial Host Committee; Conf. Call*  
9/15 *MEI Day*  
9/21 9:30 am; *Financial Workgroup; IYM office*  
9/22 *Van Wert Quarterly Meeting; Spencerville Friends, 4 pm*  
9/23 6:30 pm; *Executive Committee; IYM Office*  
9/25 9:30 am; *Marion Area Pastors; Fairmount Friends*  
9/30 6:30 pm; *Program Committee, IYM office*

Family Camp—August 30-September 2—Quaker Haven  
Dave Phillips. speaker. Bob and Nancy Cline, directors.  
If you plan to attend, go to Quaker Haven’s website to register:  
[www.quakerhaven.com](http://www.quakerhaven.com)

Thank you for the offers to host upcoming meetings of Representative Council which is now scheduled for Nov 9, 2013 at South Marion, Apr 12, 2014 at Westfield, Nov 15, 2014 at Lynn