

Committee Day
Saturday, December 8, 9 am
Friends Memorial

Back Creek Friends will host a Financial Peace University class by Dave Ramsey beginning January 13, meeting every Sunday for 10 weeks - the only exception being Super Bowl Sunday. Please order your materials if you will be in attendance. Child care will be provided, and please turn in number of children coming. For more info, please email Jon Clark at: pastorclarky@yahoo.com.

Friends Memorial helped 261 households with food, personal care items, and winter gear in November. Quaker Women offered homemade pumpkin bread for every household. A group of volunteers helped including Iglesias Amigos Friends Youth from Indianapolis, friends from Temple Beth El, the IFYG Youth Group, Ball State students, and friends of Friends.

Greenfield pastor, Stan Banker, not only rang the bell recently for the Salvation Army but played his guitar, Beulah Mae, and sang Christmas carols to the passers-by.

The Mesquakie Friends Board needs your help this Christmas season. They would like to present gifts to approximately 50 Mesquakie children on Wed-nesday, December 19. They need a response by December 12. If you could pledge support in sponsorship of a child or children, you can send \$20 per child to Mesquakie Friends Church, attn: Christmas Child, PO Box 36, Toledo, IA 52342. If you have further questions email to dandc5472@gmail.com or call 641-485-4065.

Beginning in January the IYM office will go to a new schedule. The office will be closed on Fridays and weekends. Normal office hours (8:30 am – 4:30 pm) will be observed Monday through Thursday. Our current secretarial staff includes one full-time and one part-time position. Beginning in January we will transition to one part-time position shared by Rowena Holliday and Betty Ison. Initially Rowena will be working three days per week with Betty working one day.

Iglesia Amigos, in Indianapolis, has been receiving financial support from the IYM Evangelism & Outreach Committee, but that support is decreasing annually and will conclude in the fall of 2015. We are praying that this Hispanic congregation will increasingly be able to provide its own financial support, but it will likely need other outside sources of income to supplement what they can do on their own. Would your meeting be interested in providing ongoing support to this local mission outpost?

IYM will not be scheduling a Mid-Winter Retreat for pastors this year. Pastors and their families are encouraged to plan ahead for Pastors Short Course at Quaker Haven Camp scheduled for July 1-4, 2013. Chuck Mylander, former Superintendent of Southwest Yearly Meeting and recently retired Director of Evangelical Friends Missions, will be this year's speaker.

Thank you to each meeting that has been faithful to pay yearly meeting assessments during 2012! Twenty-six meetings have already paid 100% of their assessment with many more on pace to do so by the end of the year. We need to receive payments to be applied to your 2012 assessment obligations by January 15, 2013.

Attention Pastors and M&O members: A retreat, "Looking Forward Through Our Heritage" is coming in February. More details later.

Lorelei Lacy passed away, December 4 at the age of 96. She attended Anderson First Friends Church. IYM will be receiving a significant gift from her estate to establish an endowment to provide scholarships for Friends with a call to ministry.

Reconfiguration Questions and Answers:

Q. If my meeting has already chosen “B” what do we need to do now?

A. Forty-one meetings have already formally notified the yearly meeting office that they have chosen “B” and will continue to be members of Indiana Yearly Meeting with no further action required.

Q. If my meeting has chosen “A” or “Not B” what do we do now?

A. Your meeting will continue to be obligated for assessments only through 2012, but released from obligations for 2013. Any members of your meeting serving as IYM officers or on IYM committees will continue their service through December 31, 2012, concluding their service after that date. The membership records of meetings who have made a decision to participate in a newly formed yearly meeting or association by May 30, 2013, will be used to calculate a proportional division of assets to be distributed to the new entity by the end of 2013.

Q. What if my meeting has not made a decision yet?

A. All meetings have until May 30, 2013, to choose or change a previous choice and benefit from a proportional division of assets. Meetings needing more time will have until 2013 Annual Session to make a final decision, but the proportional division of assets will be based on decisions as of May 30, 2012. Members of meetings who have yet to make a decision may continue to serve as IYM officers or IYM committee members, but will not be eligible for new appointments during this period.

Q. Will IYM have enough income to continue operations next year?

A. Assessment income will be considerably reduced for 2013; however, a work group appointed by the Executive Committee has been looking at options that will enable the current IYM staff to remain in place.

Friends United Meeting is seeking qualified applicants for the Global Ministries Director position. This full-time, Richmond, Indiana-based staff person will receive a competitive salary, including benefits. Resumes, along with a letter of interest, may be emailed to: Colin Saxton, FUM General Secretary, colinsa@fum.org or sent to him at 101 Quaker Hill Dr, Richmond, IN 47374. A complete job description is available on the FUM website at www.fum.org or by contacting the FUM office at info@fum.org or (765) 962-7573. Applications will be received through January 31, 2013.

Good Morning,

In an article for Leadership Journal, Gordon MacDonald shared the story of a friend who was caught in the middle of a nasty church conflict that had spun out of control. When MacDonald asked his friend how the situation had been resolved, his friend told him that he had been confronted with a piercing piece of advice: "Someone has to show a little dignity in this thing. It really should start with you."

MacDonald's friend took the wisdom to heart, and it worked wonders in the situation. MacDonald went on to describe a fiasco at an airline counter where he had the opportunity to show a little dignity in the midst of an escalating conflict. How we respond to conflict can either accelerate it or temper it.

Some of us are better at handling conflict than others. My natural inclination is to avoid it. I would rather live happily in denial of problems than do the hard work of processing issues needing to be addressed.

Early in my marriage I read a book on relationships with a chapter titled, "How to Have a Fair Fight." That was an entirely new concept to me. I was looking for a chapter on how to avoid the fight altogether.

I'm learning that it is much healthier to manage conflict (with a little dignity), than to avoid it through denial or withdrawal.

Churches need to learn to manage conflict too. The presence of conflict is to be expected, but in Matthew 18 Jesus advised a proactive approach to dealing with the causes of conflict among us. Has your church learned how to have a fair fight?

-Doug Shoemaker

IYM Upcoming Calendar

12/8 Committee Day, Friends Memorial, 9 am

12/10 IYM Program Committee, IYM office, 10 am

12/11 Anderson/Westfield Area Pastors, Anderson Friends, 9:30 am

12/13 Van Wert Area Pastors, Portland Friends, 10:30 am

12/14 Investment Board, Muncie Red Lobster, 11 am

12/19 Marion Area Pastors, Wabash Friends, 9:30 am

The IYM office will be closed between Christmas Eve & New Years Day