

Committee Day, March 2, 9 am, Farmland Friends

Reconfiguration Update

*This week Cadiz and Westland have notified the IYM office of their intent to remain in Indiana Yearly Meeting.

*Bluff Point has notified the IYM office of their choice of “Not B.” As a result their participation in the yearly meeting is ending.

*A recent communication sent to meetings that will no longer be part of IYM indicated that their status as a 501(c)(3) organization will be impacted by reconfiguration. Subsequent information has clarified that meetings will maintain their status even without membership in IYM. However, a yearly meeting is often able to document the 501(c)(3) status of its member meetings who benefit from being part of such an organization.

Hinkle Creek is hosting a Doug Anderson concert on Sunday, February 17 at 3 pm. Doug is one of the vocalists with *Ernie Haase and Signature Sound*. Free admission (free will offering).

Westfield Friends recently participated in a 30-hour famine, raising over \$1100 which will feed three children for one year. During this time, a group was involved in service projects, worship and learned about challenges that many refugees face.

The second IYM “Come-Away Day” Retreat for pastors and M&O members is February 16, 9 am at Sycamore Friends. Please contact the IYM office or Carol Wright (317-513-9052) to register.

All IYM pastors are invited to a one-day “Pastors’ Summit” scheduled for March 7 beginning at 10 am at Farmland Friends. The event will include worship, fellowship, prayer and challenging messages from Jeff Moser, director of the East Central Indiana Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Reserve the date!

Yearly Meeting Sessions will be held at Quaker Haven Camp July 25-28. The Program Committee is busy planning an inspiring and encouraging weekend. We invite member meetings to accept the challenge to send **five members** for the entire weekend. We need every meeting to experience IYM 2013!

The IYM Peace and Christian Social Concerns Committee has been partnering with the IYM United Society of Friends Women (IN-USFW) to raise \$5,000 to help print peace curriculum for 240 Friends church high schools and 1200 Friends primary schools in Kenya. This was done to match the \$5,000 that USFW International has pledged for the peace curriculum project. The \$10,000 aimed at teaching peacemaking skills to students is especially needed right now since elections in Kenya are scheduled for March. In 2007, after Kenyan national elections, the country erupted in shocking violence. Here is what Colin Saxton said about this partnership initiative in a recent email: *Regarding your efforts to raise fund for the peace curriculum...thank you!! I am in Kenya now and the need for this work continues to be pressing. With our new FUM education secretary, Zaddock Malesi, on staff, it feels like we are building the personnel and infrastructure to make sure the curriculum is well implemented. I am really excited about what will occur through the expansion of this ministry.* And here is the great news—IYM & IN-USFW has received and sent to USFWI \$2,742 for the project. Additionally, IYM meetings have sent over \$4,200 directly to FUM. It is truly a blessing to work together as we uphold Christ’s message of love, peace and reconciliation. Heart felt thanks goes to each individual, meeting and organization that contributed to this wonderful, cooperative effort.

In Christ, *Noell Krughoff*, clerk,
IYM PCSC Comm.

Quaker Haven is hosting an M&O Retreat for pastors, clerks and committee members of monthly meetings and yearly meetings (and anyone else interested). The retreat will be presented by the Quaker Haven Foundation, Inc. with support from Indiana and Western Yearly Meetings, April 5-7. Cost is \$100 per person (includes refreshments, lodging, movie, meals, and speakers). Tom Hamm will speak on the historical aspect of this committee. Colin Saxton will discuss the organizational side. Another speaker (TBA) will share on the spirituality side of this committee.

Velinda Landaverde Remírez, Executive Secretary of Iglesias Evangélicas de los Amigos (Evangelical Friends Churches in El Salvador), will be representing El Salvador Yearly Meeting at the Friends World Committee on Consultation Section of the Americas in Morgantown, IN, March 11-17. She is available to speak with Friends in the days following. To arrange a visit by Velinda with your church, please contact Margaret Lechner, Margaret.lechner@gmail.com or 203-661-8516.

Techniques of Counseling class by Barclay College on the Brandywine Community Church campus (Greenfield) will be taught by Paul Romoser, February 16—March 16, Saturdays, 8 to noon. Contact Gary Wright at 317-513-9042 or enroll at www.barclaycollege.edu, Admissions, Advantage, Brandywine Campus. Enrollment is free.

The Youth Ministry Grants Initiative of Indianapolis Center for Congregations is for developing new and sustainable youth programming opportunities. Congregations in Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Marion, Morgan and Shelby counties may apply. Dates are March 5, 6 & 12 and will be held at Geist Christian Church in Indy. For additional details and on-line registration, go to www.centerforcongregations.org.

The address for former IYM pastor Frances Kinsey, who has stage four lung cancer and is starting chemotherapy and radiation this week, is:

Miller's Merry Manor,
Rm 233
8400 Clearvista Place,
Indianapolis, IN 46256

Please pray for Sonia, a member of Iglesia Amigos, who is separated from her family and facing the possibility of deportation.

Iowa Yearly Meeting has a full-time position focused on overseeing and developing youth and young adult ministries, located in Oskaloosa, Iowa. A job description is available at <http://www.iaym.org/opportunities>. Inquiries can be made to Ron Bryan at bryanjr@mahaska.org.

Good Morning,

A man stopped to watch a Little League baseball game. He asked one of the youngsters what the score was. "We're losing 18-0," was the answer. "Well," said the man. "I must say you don't look discouraged." "Discouraged?" the boy said, puzzled. "Why should we be discouraged? We haven't come to bat yet."

The reconfiguration process that our yearly meeting has gone through has left more than a few people discouraged. Some Friends who will no longer be part of Indiana Yearly Meeting are discouraged by what they feel is an unexpected change of address. Some Friends who will continue to be part of the yearly meeting are discouraged by a process that seemed to them to drag on unnecessarily. Other Friends are discouraged that they have been asked to make, what for them is a difficult choice.

Can I offer some good news? While it's true that many Friends are still grieving, there are positive signs for the future. A group of Friends representing several meetings recently met at Richmond First Friends to begin plans for a new association of Friends. Some are reporting exuberance at the possibility

of building something new! Several IYM committees have also met recently, and while genuine sorrow was felt due to some empty chairs around the table, vision for a new spirit of unity has been palpable.

A yearly meeting has many roles, but being an agent of discouragement should not be one of them. I believe that God is up to something good with some great days ahead for Friends. Why should we be discouraged? We haven't come to bat yet.

Doug Shoemaker

Summer Camp Schedule:

- June 9-14 Jr High Camp (7th & 8th grades) - \$280**
- June 14-16 Beginners Camp (K-2nd grades) - \$150**
- June 16-21 Sr High I Camp (9th-12th & 2012 grads) - \$280**
- June 23-28 Adventure Camp (5th & 6th grades) - \$280**
- July 7-12 Sr High II Camp (9th-12th & 2012 grads) - \$280**
- July 21-24 Little Friends Camp (2nd-4th grades) - \$180**

IYM Upcoming Calendar

- 2/16 Come-Away Day Retreat, Sycamore Friends, 9 am*
- 2/19 MEI Steering Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm*
- 2/20 Marion Area Pastors, White's, 9:30 am*
- 2/21 Van Wert Area Pastors, St Mary's Friends, 10:30 am*
- 2/28 Triennial Host Committee, Liberty Friends, 6:30 pm*
- 3/2 Committee Day, Farmland Friends, 9 am*
- 3/4 Executive Committee Meeting, IYM office, 5:30 pm*
- 3/7 Pastors' Summit, Farmland Friends, 10 am*
- 3/11 Nominating Committee Meeting, IYM office, 6:30 pm*