

## Communicator, January 2, 2013



### Reconfiguration Update

As of January 2, seven meetings have notified IYM that they have chosen “A” or have not chosen “B” and therefore, beginning this month, their participation in Indiana Yearly Meeting will conclude. These meetings will not be responsible for 2013 assessments and their members will cease participation on yearly meeting committees or as yearly meeting officers. These meetings are Englewood, Friends Memorial, Friends of the Light, New Castle, Spiceland, West Richmond, and Williamsburg.

Other meetings may be making this same decision in the coming days, and those who already have announced this decision still have time to reconsider if they wish to continue to be part of Indiana Yearly Meeting.

We value the relationships we have had with Friends from these meetings who will no longer remain in IYM and pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ as they launch out into a new future.

**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—you are invited to attend. 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](mailto:pastorclarky@yahoo.com).

**Farmland Friends** will host a blood drive, January 6, 10 am to 2 pm. Everyone that donates blood will be given a football with a picture in tribute of Colts coach Pagano imprinted on it.

**Wabash Friends Counseling Center** will hold their 13th annual Marriage Retreat, February 15-17 at the Hilton Hotel (Grand Wayne Center) in Ft Wayne. The keynote speaker will be Dr Gary Oliver. He is nationally known, an author, and a therapist, doing marriage retreats for over 30 years. Registration will be \$75 until January 27 and then it will be \$85 after that. For groups of 5 or more it will be \$60 up to January 27 and \$70 after that. You can register online to use a credit card - <http://wabashfriendscounseling.com/marriage.html>. Or call 260-563-8453 to register by phone.

**Westfield Friends Youth** will participate in the 30-Hour Famine, January 25-26. Students will learn about hunger and raise funds to help feed and care for children living in poverty.

**Thank you to each meeting** that has been faithful to pay yearly meeting assessments during 2012! For payments yet to be applied to your 2012 assessment obligations, we need to receive them by January 15, 2013.

**Quakermen Groundhog Retreat**  
Quaker Haven Camp, February 1-2

Greg Hinshaw—speaking on  
Quaker History  
Contact Quaker Haven to register at  
574-834-4193  
[info@quakerhaven.com](mailto:info@quakerhaven.com)

**Winter Sneak “Storyline”**  
Sponsored by IYM and WYM  
Youth Ministries  
Feb 8-10 at Quaker Haven  
(Fri, 7:30 pm—Sun, 12 noon)  
For grades 7-12: Cost \$100  
Folks will share their stories.  
The Awesome Guys Band will be there  
Registration due by Jan 30, 2013

**Deadline to apply for a Ministerial Excellence Initiative (MEI) Grant** is February 1. You can find an application at [www.iym.org](http://www.iym.org).

**Come Away Day Retreat** for members of Ministry & Oversight of meetings and pastors will be held February 9 (at Knightstown Friends) and February 16 (at Sycamore Friends), both at 9 am. Contact Carol Wright for more information: [carol@iym.org](mailto:carol@iym.org).

**It is not too late to Increase the Peace for Kenya.** IYM USFW has received many contributions from meetings and individuals to put us about halfway to our \$5,000 goal of supplying as many peace curriculum resources as possible to Kenyan schools. The election in Kenya is scheduled for March. Now is the time to invest in peace rather than only pick up the pieces if violence should erupt. Make checks to IYM USFW with “Increase the Peace” in the comment line and send your donation right away to: IYM USFW treasurer Tish Dain, 190 EMS D17 Ln, Syracuse IN 46567-8091. Also please remember this effort in your daily prayers. Let God be glorified through our faithfulness.

**White’s Residential & Family Services’** former student, Bill Ballenger and his group “Break the Grey,” shared in chapel in December. At the end of his powerful sharing, Bill called on the students to take a stand for Christ and roughly 15 students publicly stood, prayed a prayer of confession and commitment to Jesus Christ. It was an exciting morning.

**Prayer Request:** Brad and Christine Wood, directors of the Kickapoo Friends Center, asked that you pray for them that they will be able to effectively share the Gospel with their people. And please pray that more Kickapoo will come to know Christ and that He will raise up pastors and missionaries from them.

**The Internal Revenue Service** has issued the 2013 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business purposes. The rate for business miles driven during 2013 will be 56.5 cents per mile for business miles driven.

**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.

Good Morning,

Have you heard about the man who asked a mail-order company to send plans for a birdhouse? Instead of sending him the plans for a birdhouse, they sent him plans for a sailboat. He tried to put it together, but it just wouldn't work. He couldn't figure what kind of bird was going to live in this dumb

birdhouse. So he wrote a letter and sent the parts back. They wrote a letter of apology and added this post script: "If you think it was difficult for you, you should have seen the man who got your plans trying to sail a birdhouse."

I find myself in planning mode as we face a brand new year but several years ago I heard someone suggest that better than "planning" is the concept of "strategic positioning." *Planning* assumes a particular result like a birdhouse or a sailboat. *Strategic positioning* gathers all the necessary resources and depends upon the master architect to put it all together.

A good question for your church as we begin a new year is "What plans do you have for 2013?" An even better question is, "How can we be strategically positioned so that God can activate His plan for us this year?" In Acts 2 we read about disciples who didn't have much of a plan. In fact all their plans and personal agendas had blown up in their faces. But they were strategically positioned in the place God wanted them to be—waiting. Who could have planned what happened next? My prayer is that our churches will be positioned for an Acts 2 experience of God's Spirit in 2013.

*Shoemaker*

-Doug

### ***IYM Upcoming Calendar***

***1/7 Program Committee, IYM office, 10 am***

***1/8 Anderson/Westfield Area Pastors Mtg, Hinkle Creek, 9:30 am***

***1/16 Marion Area Pastors Mtg, Maple Run, 9:30***

***1/19 Executive Committee Retreat, Greg Hinshaw home, 10 am***

***1/24 Van Wert Area Pastors, Peaceful Valley Friends, 10:30 am***