

## Communicator, January 30, 2013

### Reconfiguration Update:

The following meetings have notified the yearly office indicating their intention to remain as members of IYM: Amboy, Anderson, Arba, Back Creek, Bear Creek, Bethel, Carthage, Center, Charlottesville, Dewart Lake, Fairmount, Farmland, Friends Chapel, Hinkle Creek, Jericho, Jonesboro, Kennard, Knightstown, Liberty, Little Blue River, Long Lake, Lynn, Maple Run, Marion First, Mooreland, Peaceful Valley, Portland, Rural, Shirley, South Marion, Spencerville, St. Mary's, Sycamore, Upland, Van Wert, Vermillion, Wabash, Walnut Ridge, West River, Westfield, and White River. We look forward to receiving messages from a few other meetings that are also planning to remain in IYM.

**Bill Bruneau** has announced his resignation as pastor of Farmland Friends.

**Jeff Wolfe** has announced his resignation as pastor of Richmond First Friends.

**Dewart Lake Community Friends** has a ministry to support the local food pantries called "Boatload of Blessings." In 2012, the church collected and distributed a total of 2,116 items including 63 lbs. of ham at Easter and 16 turkeys for Thanksgiving. Quaker Haven Camp also chipped in an additional 311 bread items, making a total of 2,427 food and hygiene items to help those in need! The meeting is also beginning a ten week class on "Making Disciples" which takes a deeper look at what the Great Commission really asks us to do. The class is led by Steve Wilson, the food service manager at Quaker Haven Camp.

**Hinkle Creek Friends** is hosting a Doug Anderson concert on Sunday, February 17th at 3:00pm. Doug is one of the vocalists with Ernie Haas and Signature Sound. Admission is free (free will offering). Please call Mike Haemmerle at 317-691-8146 with any questions.

**The Van Wert area pastors** had the opportunity to meet and pray with Luke Messer as they enjoyed lunch at a Winchester restaurant on January 19. Messer is a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing Indiana's 6th District.

**The upcoming MEI application deadline is February 1.** But don't panic, if you missed getting your paperwork completed, you will have another opportunity as the next deadline is June 1. So start talking with your M&O about the possibility of applying for an MEI grant.

### Quakermen Groundhog Retreat

Quaker Haven Camp, February 1-2

Greg Hinshaw will speak on

Quaker History

Contact Quaker Haven to at 574-834-4193

info@quakerhaven.com

### Winter Sneak "Storyline"

Sponsored by IYM and WYM

Youth Ministries

Feb 8-10 at Quaker Haven

For grades 7-12: Cost \$100

Awesome Guys Band will play.

Registration due by Jan 30, 2013

**The IYM “Come Away Day” Retreats** are just around the corner: February 9 at Knightstown Friends; February 16 at Sycamore Friends. Please contact the IYM office or Carol Wright (317-513-9052) to register. Come spend time with the Lord, your M&O members, and other pastors who seek the presence of the Lord.

**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.

**We are beginning to receive** unsolicited donations from individuals to support the work of Indiana Yearly Meeting. Recently a \$500 contribution was received. We are very grateful for every investment into the important work of IYM!

**We are grateful for the hospitality that Friends Memorial Church** in Muncie has provided for many IYM meetings over the years. Since Friends Memorial is one of the meetings that will no longer remain in IYM, as a result of reconfiguration, we will be scheduling meetings normally held there in other locations. We are pleased to announce these hosts for upcoming events: **Farmland Friends** will host Committee Day on March 2; **Fairmount Friends** will host Representative Council on April 13; and **South Marion Friends** will host Committee Day on May 14.

**The Iglesia Amigos task force** has given oversight to this Hispanic ministry in Indianapolis and has encouraged them to develop a partnership with an existing monthly meeting. Earlier this month **Westfield Friends** approved taking Iglesia Amigos under their care as a Preparative Meeting.

**Indiana Yearly Meeting sessions** will be held at Quaker Haven Camp July 25-28. “Hold Fast to His Promises” will be our theme. Ron and Linda Selleck from High Point, North Carolina will be joining us as our featured speaker (Ron) and worship leader (Linda).

**The IYM Nominating Committee** will soon meet to identify and recommend officers and committee members for IYM leadership. Please pray for this committee as they prepare for this important task.

**Please pray for Frances Kinsey**, former IYM pastor, who has stage four lung cancer. Chemotherapy and radiation will be started this week.

**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](mailto:bryanjr@mahaska.org).

Good Morning,

The IYM Executive Committee met together for a retreat on January 19. One of the highlights was a conversation about the strengths of IYM. Here is a brief summary of that discussion:

1. We enjoy a greater theological unity in IYM now than any of us have ever experienced. We have reaffirmed our high regard for the Bible and the centrality of Jesus Christ, as well as our understanding of yearly meeting authority.
2. Rather than competing visions, we now have a clear sense of mission.
3. We are blessed with committed, biblical leaders and an organization with a rich heritage and the current capacity to continue to serve our constituency well. Valuable programs are already in place to support pastors, minister to youth, and serve as a basis for continuing Hispanic outreach.

While the size of our yearly meeting is decreasing due to reconfiguration, those gathered shared a sense of optimism and hope as we considered the days ahead. Many of us regard the successful reconfiguration of IYM to be a miracle and hope to build on this miracle to move forward.

We will have to learn how to provide important services while operating on a smaller budget, but the Executive Committee is not recommending any sweeping changes at this time. It is encouraging that most of our meetings regularly pay 100% of their annual assessments to IYM, and in 2012 the number of meetings fully supporting IYM actually increased. We expect good days ahead for our yearly meeting as we seek to be in one place, in one accord.

*--Doug Shoemaker*

***IYM Upcoming Calendar***

***1/29 Trustees Meeting, IYM office, 6:30 pm***

***1/31 Triennial Host Committee, Liberty Friends, 6:30 pm***

***1/31 Deadline for Statistical Reports to be sent to IYM office***

***2/1-2 Quakermen Groundhog Retreat, Quaker Haven***

***2/4 Program Committee Meeting, IYM office, 10 am***

***2/8-10 Winter Sneak, Quaker Haven Camp***

***2/11 Nominating Committee, IYM office, 6:30 pm***

***2/12 Westfield/Anderson Area Pastors, Farmland Friends, 9:30 am***

***2/20 Marion Area Pastors, White's, 9:30 am***

***2/21 Van Wert Area Pastors, St Mary's Friends, 10:30 am***