

The Iowa Friend

Iowa Yearly Meeting: Spreading Like Prairie Grass to Make the Love of Jesus Christ Known in the Heartland and Beyond

May 2002

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 57 - No. 5



Spiritual Life

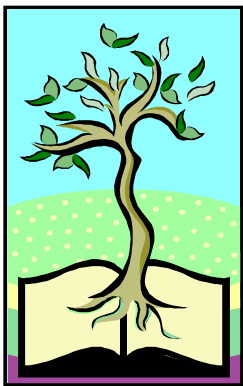
ROOT STRENGTH: Interdependence

Kelly Kellum, Pastor Association President

A few weeks ago I asked the group gathered for mid-week Bible Study to think of a sacred place. After a few moments of silence the group shared about the places they imagined. One member said that standing among redwood trees of the Pacific Northwest was her sacred place. The striking beauty and enormity of these majestic trees are awe-inspiring.

I have to be honest, aside from a few pictures in magazines, I have never seen redwood trees before. I do not know much about them. I know they are huge and tower above the others trees in the forest. I also know that redwood trees never grow alone. They always grow along side other redwood trees. The reason for this is because the root system of a single tree is incapable of keeping the tree upright. In fact, for their size, the roots do not grow very deep. As redwood trees grow beside each other, their roots grow out laterally, becoming entwined in a way that makes them strong for one other. Their interconnected roots give them the support they need to stand.

Like these mammoth trees, Christians are never intended to grow alone. They are called to be part of a fellowship – the church. In this fellowship, Christians are interdependent upon other Christians for health and growth. Wendy M. Wright states, "Our growth in Christ is a communal venture!"



This is a lovely thought, but the application is frightening. It requires a tremendous amount of mutual trust. My spiritual health and growth as a disciple of Christ is interdependent upon you, and vice-versa. When I became part of the fellowship of College Avenue Friends church I am trusting that you will help me remain strong in faith, and the way you do this is by remaining strong in your faith. Whatever spiritual cultivation you do has a positive affect on me. When I neglect my spiritual well being, that has an affect on you. In a profound way, because of Christ,

Christian lives are intertwined with each other. While the term interdependence is not found in the Bible, it is a biblical concept. 1 Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul used the metaphor of the human body to illustrate this concept.

I am blessed to be part of the fellowship of College Avenue Friends Church. The root strength of our fellowship is our devotion to God and our interdependence to each other.



Ric Garrison discusses the upcoming "Emerging Leaders Conference" with Charles Sander & Mike Moyer at Spring Body.

Reflections on the Emerging Leadership Conference

In a society where all are ministers, some yet are called to "designated" ministries. Friends United Meeting, an organization representing approximately half of the Society of Friends, invited those recognized by monthly meetings as emerging leadership to meet in Richmond, Indiana in late March to share their paths and ministry passions.

A diverse geographic group, Friends came from the west coast, the open spaces in Iowa and Kansas, the cities and campuses of N. Carolina, Illinois, Texas, Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, New York and the breathtaking scenic beauty of Nova Scotia, Canada. Perhaps a third were women. A wide range of ages were present with the 20-35 year old range in the majority.

A typical group of conference activities were planned: worship, speakers, sharing groups and workshops, but at the first worship session it was apparent that it wasn't going to be just any conference. The Holy Spirit was strongly present and the time together precious, healing, and directive for the future. Conference leadership spoke directly to the concerns of this group. Open worship times were rich with God's presence, word and prophesy.

Friends United Meeting staff were alert to discern and accepted a charge from this group to nurture emerging leaders by providing both spaces for similar groups to come together to network, worship, learn and share and mentors/mentorship training within the attendee's yearly meetings. There is a need for Friends to pray for the continuing emergence and wholesome growth to maturity of these God called leaders. Their ministries will serve both the Society of Friends and peoples of the world in a magnificent array of ministry roles.



FRIENDLY FLASHES

By now we are outside enjoying our gardens, flowers or vegetables. Working in the soil is a delight to the senses and the soul. If you are like me, your garden contains many plants that bring memories of your mother, grandmother and their gardens. Just one of the many precious gifts they have passed on to us.

Acts 2:46 says in part, "They worshipped together...and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the good will of all the people."

This describes the experience of the 123 women, who gathered on April 6 to fellowship and enjoy the witness of Joanna Weaver. Joanna shared with us the insights to an intimate relationship with the Lord that she gained in the writing of her book, *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*. It was a day of learning, laughing, and discovery. If others were touched as I was, our journey has just begun.

If you missed this special meeting you may want to contact one of the board members to purchase a cassette tape for \$5.00. You will be blessed as you seek to walk according to our Father's will and learn to sit at His feet as Mary did. We are all too adept at the busyness of Martha and need to bring the balance of a "Mary" heart.

During the last business meeting, Thank You's were given to Joanna for her inspiring message and to all the ladies who contributed to making the day such a great success. We had a large number of first time attendees, who we hope will become an integral part of USFW of Iowa. The board is now full, Pat Coffin, Geraldine Smith and Delores Jones have agreed to stay for another term. Kay Hoffman of Indianola will be taking Sherry Kernen's place as secretary of Peace & Social Concerns in August. I came on board as the new Friendly Flashes editor, so I ask you to keep us all in prayer as we seek to serve the Lord and the women of Iowa. Judy Maeder gave a short video presentation on Ramallah, and offered the prayer and blessing of the offering. We received \$855 to be forwarded to FUM for use in Ramallah. Praise God and continue to keep this area in prayer.

Start making plans to join us at Annual Sessions. The banquet will be at noon on August 3. Tickets will be \$12, but please don't let that keep you away. That is just \$4 a month between now and then, so put it aside and plan to join us.

As we listen to the unsettling news both nationally and locally, we realize how we need to be in a right relationship with our Lord. We, as women of IAYM, are called to worship and pray together, to hold one another as we strive to do our Father's will. Warmer weather is upon us. Let's take time to make use of Joanna's list of Creative Quiet Times. Take a walk with God, get into His word, restore your body and soul. See his beauty all around us and give thanks for our mothers.

"Beloved Lord, Almighty God, through the rays of the sun, through the waves of the air, through the all pervading life space, purify and revive us and I pray lead us body, heart, and soul." By Hazrat Inayat Khan.

Blessings to all, Linda Burnett



Missions

Jamaica is a land not far from Iowa and yet its missions are quite different than our meetings. **Dwaine Williams** is the current manager of the Lyndale Girls Home and Swift-Purscell Boys Home. **Dwaine, Becky, and daughter Sarita** have served in Jamaica for 3 years. Becky and Sarita are involved in a remedial reading program with the students. Sarita, age 16, is also being home-schooled by her parents.

Being the manager of both schools has been an extra challenge. The Boys School had been without a superintendent for over a year. A large praise is the addition of Donald Stewart as the new Boys School Superintendent. He has been a youth pastor and his Christian family sets a good example for the boys. The Williams' ask for prayers for Don, as there is still much for him to learn.

There are currently 21 boys in the boys home and 29 girls in the Lyndale Girls Home. The children are at risk children since they have not had a good home life. There is usually no money or contact from their families, although encouraged. Students attend the Highgate Friends Church. Regular times for chapel are held in the homes. The youth program on Friday nights is led by Mandy Goode and Sarita. Dwaine leads a Bible Study on Wednesday nights.

The children live in dorms but attend public schools in the area. These classes are for boys and girls. Public school is free with the exception of books, uniforms, lunch money, special exams, transportation, and school supplies. Children's Services (referral agency where the home students come from) sends a stipend for each child. This does not cover all the costs, so additional funding is needed. Money is needed for the school fund, maintenance costs, sponsoring children, and special projects. Checks can be sent to Bob Watson, Iowa Yearly Meeting Missions Board Treasurer, 803 Minnesota St., Glidden, IA 51443.

(The Williams' request your prayers. A permanent replacement for them is needed by the end of this summer. Their term will be finished in August.)

The newest connection to Jamaica are former pastors from Iowa, **Eugene and Frances Wolfley** who serve as pastors at Worthington Friends in Jamaica. They also do extensive evangelistic work, are currently helping to establish a recording procedure for Jamaica Yearly Meeting, discipling a couple who desire to be recorded, and are making provisions to host groups and work teams.

Missionaries LOVE to receive communications from you! Interest and questions about their work is also encouraging.

Dwaine, Becky and Sarita Williams
PO Box 74
Highgate, St. Mary, Jamaica, West Indies
email: dbwilliams@cwjamaica.com



Eugene and Frances Wolfley
Highgate, Jamaica
4 Worthington Avenue
Kingston 5
Jamaica, West Indies phone: 1-876-929-056
email: pew@cwjamaica.com

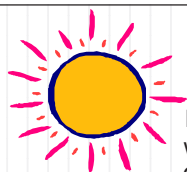
- by Donna Hoeksema, IAYM Missions Board

FRESH LEADERSHIP EMERGING



Danny Phillips and his wife, Robin, have accepted the pastorate of Kilpeck Community Friends church. Danny and Robin are native to eastern Iowa. He has been involved in Christian work most of his life. He has been a Sunday School teacher, a Bible School teacher, involved in Youth for Christ, a youth leader, song leader and Camp Director, a Sunday School Superintendent and a licensed pastor. Danny pastored the Free Methodist Church in Burlington, Iowa for 2 1/2 years and the Church of God in Wapello, Iowa for 4 1/2 years.

Danny and Robin have been married 27 years. They have one daughter, Stacie who is married. Danny had the privilege not only to give his daughter away but also to preside over the ceremony. They have two grandsons; Lane who just turned 3 and Cody who is 15 months old. Danny enjoys playing the guitar, singing, song writing, stock car races and camping.



CUBA TRIP

Recently, out of all the opportunities for world missions, there has been a cry from Cuba for evangelists from Iowa Friends to come and present the gospel.

Cuba Yearly Meeting invites Friends from Iowa Yearly Meeting to their Family Camp August 1-9, 2002. Spend a week in the beautiful coastal town of Gibara, 2 blocks from the Atlantic Ocean. Join Cuban Friends in fun and fellowship.

If you would like to go, please call by June 1, 2002:
Erwin Lopez (641) 673-4744
or
Paul Hemingway (319) 643-7245

Cost: \$1,200 (includes round trip air fare to Toronto.)
Maximum group size 6 people.

*The field and our future is ripe in Cuba....
Is God calling you?*



MEETING MOMENTS

BUSY FRIENDS AT BEAR CREEK - After a quiet January and February, March turned into a busy month at Bear Creek! Pastor Keith attended the Pastor's Retreat in late February at New Mellery Abbey Retreat Center near Dubuque. World Day of Prayer was held at the Worthington United Methodist Church on March 1. Don Applegate, son of member Maudie Applegate, filled the pulpit on March 10 during Keith's absence. Several members attended Spring Body on March 16.

The Easter weekend began with the Earlham Ministerial Association's joint Good Friday service held this year at Worthington Methodist church. Our pastor assisted in the program. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt was held on the church grounds on Saturday afternoon, March 30 and was well attended by children and adults. The Easter Sunrise service was held in town this year at the Earlham Friends Church with Keith providing the message. Our regular Sunday School and church services were held later that morning.

April 6 was the USFW Spring Conference which many of our ladies attended. Del Coppinger and wife, Mary Ann, were our guest speakers on Sunday April 7, and Don Applegate filled the pulpit on April 28.

We thank God for a safe winter and look forward to the blessings of spring and rebirth.

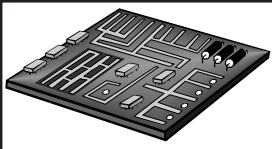
THE LORD CONTINUES TO BLESS KILPECK - We are slowly learning that all works to His glory, in His time not ours. This last year, He has taken us from a time of deep discouragement to praising His name. Loss of pastoral leadership, low attendance and debt allowed thoughts of giving up and closing our church doors.

Without a pastor, we soon realized we could apply funds used for salary and benefits to the FEC loan. The loan was paid off and at Thanksgiving we burnt a symbolic mortgage in thanks to our Heavenly Father. By Thanksgiving our search for a new pastor had been going strong for months, with over fifty resumes reviewed and several candidates interviewed.

Our summer and fall were spent working on the church, parsonage and grounds. The church had been neglected for years and much still needs to be done.

As spring approaches we have been renewed. We believe God has brought our new pastors and us together for His glory and the growth of His church. We have hired Danny and Robin Phillips who live less than ten miles from the front door of the church. Danny led our good Friday Service and Robin was in charge of the Sunrise Service, which included special music. Before our regular worship service, all enjoyed a breakfast and time of fellowship.

Attendances at both worship and Bible study have increased. With God's leading we are looking forward to some type of outreach in the community. This means re-establishing a Sunday School that is necessary to reach families. We face the future with grateful hearts. We thank God for His loving care, gentle guidance, patience and the strength He has given us. We ask for your prayers, as we continue to rebuild and reach out to the families in this area.



STEWARDSHIP CHIP

2002 IAYM BUDGET - \$ 142,138
YEAR-TO-DATE RECEIVED - \$ 45,634
BUDGETED - \$47,379



Branson Cottage at Quakerdale of New Providence honored area pastors at a fall coffee. Enjoying the food and fellowship with residents are (l to r) Herschel and the late Mildred Mendenhall, Arlen Daleske and Dave Holm.



Lewis Savage standing near the organ that was donated to Salem Friends Church in memory of Esther Savagae.

Lewis & Esther Savage pastored many churches in Iowa Yearly Meeting. Wherever they were, Esther let her ministry of music ring out. It was only fitting that a memorial of music be given to Salem Friends Church at Esther's passing. On Sunday April 14, 2002, Lewis presented the re-furbished organ to Salem Church in memory of his partner in ministry, Esther.

CORRECTION

IAYM Staff	Kevin: mortimer@kdsi.net
Email	Ric: campqhi@adiis.net
Addresses	Daneta: iaym@kdsi.net



As of April 3, 2002, \$163,439 has been raised toward the \$250,000 challenge grant to Quakers (\$500,000 will be received from an anonymous Quaker donor when the challenge is met).

CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$4.25 MILLION

\$2,232,434.14

Quakerdale's
Caring For the
Forgotten Child
Campaign Update

The Board of Trustees Campaign, chaired by Clara Millet, exceeded its goal, raising \$104,670 with 100% participation of current Board members.



Daneta Lopez and the youth of College Avenue Friends help spruce up the camp grounds.

"As servants of Christ, each of us is called into His service. Come and experience what God has for you this summer at CQH!" - Ric Garrison



Jennifer Phillips and the youth of Middle River Friends prepare the grounds for the camping season.



THE HOLY SPIRIT DRAWS MEN TO HIM!

106 men came from across the United States; from Carolina to Iowa, to seek the will of the Holy Spirit for their lives. There in Plainfield, Indiana, at "ARISE AND SHINE", a twenty four hour, God honoring, Spirit led, speaker inspired, prayer filled gathering – the Lord showed His continuing desire to pour out his love and grace on a group of humble men, bowed before Him.

We arrived on Friday evening, Gary Septer and Mike Martin (Marshalltown), Neil Martin & Phil Gould, (Bangor), Bill Griggs (Clinton), and Tony Gray & Erwin Lopez (Oskaloosa). It was soon obvious that God had called together this group of men to live the Christ centered life that men of a century before knew well in the American Yearly Meeting of Friends.

"ARE YOU READY FOR CHANGE in your life?" was asked through God's spokesman, Randy Clendenin of North Carolina. As did Isaiah in the year King Uzziah died (Isaiah 6), so we as men before God, saw again the Lord lifted up. We had to say with Isaiah, "I am a man of unclean lips – Now bring the coals from the fire of your spirit and cleanse me that I may say too, 'Here am I, send me.'"

"ARE YOU WALKING BY FAITH?" was the challenge of the three hour Saturday morning meeting under the anointed preaching of Marc Jackson of Stavanger Friends in Iowa. All present searched their hearts to see if there were "strong holds" in their lives, the misuse of time not directed by the Lord, the addiction to things of this earth that clutter and confuse, corrupt and waste away the gift of life. A man from Chicago in the waiting time came forward to confess the strong holds of his life. With much prayer and tears with him, we saw and sensed God's deliverance of this man from the "strong holds" that prevented him from a close walk with Jesus Christ.

"ARE YOU WALKING IN THE POWER OF GOD?" This question was raised up well by Steve Pedigo whose life, itself, always presents this question for consideration. Twenty-five years of walking the Cabrini Green streets of Chicago and presenting Christ to everyone, was another challenge of a lifetime for every man to consider. Small groups of 10 to 12 met to get acquainted, share needs, joys, burdens and then pray for the Lord's touch on each need and situation expressed.

Concluding on a cold rainy day in Plainsfield, Indiana, David Phillips of Wabash, Indiana brought the final focus of the gathering with the question, "IS YOUR WALK GUIDED BY A MISSION, A PURPOSE AND A BALANCE" especially as you live with your family, your local Christian fellowship and among the people of your community? David's presence as a disciple and friend of Jesus Christ with the shared fellowship of God's gift of more than 500 disciples in Wabash County, gathered under his pastoral leadership, impacted our lives likewise.

*Change, Walk in Faith, Walk in Power and
Walk with a Mission, Purpose and Balance in life.*



Friends Disaster Service

Can it be? IAYM organized into Friends Disaster Service. Dean Johnson reports that some IAYM lay persons have contacted him about, "How can IAYM become organized into FDS?"

In response, Dean will be at Camp Quaker Heights on May 18 to explain how FDS is structured and operates in the local meeting, yearly meeting and with other Yearly Meetings.

Dean states that FDS is not intended to be a mens organization, but that men, women, and responsible youth, all fit in together, to help bring hope, encouragement, and Gods love to disaster victims.

In order to connect with a broader section of IAYM, and maybe those who didn't make it to Camp Quaker Heights, a second planning/organizing meeting is being tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 31, at 7 PM at College Avenue Friends Church.

Remember, men and women both are needed. So plan to come and join in. Tornado season is here. Let's get ready to minister. Should we decide to go for it, FDS will help IAYM acquire a new tandem axle tool trailer.

Yearly Meetings. and areas presently part of FDS are: Eastern Region, Wilmington YM, North Carolina YM, OYM Conservative, Indiana YM, Western YM, Mid America YM, Texas Area, Rocky Mountain MeetingYM, and Friends Church Southwest.

NOTE: An offering will be taken to help with the new roof on the chapel.

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." - Jesus

Matthew 25: 45

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: To look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

James 1:27



Neil Martin, Wes Blanchard & Wayne Tuttle prepare the cabin front with oversight given by Lloyd & Martha McDonald.

Join with Dean Johnson at 7 p.m. on May 31st at College Avenue Friends to learn how you can share the Gospel through disaster relief!

The Iowa Friend (USPS 582-120)

P.O. Box 657, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Website: www.iaym.org Email: iaym@kdsi.net

Telephone: (641) 673-9717

Subscription Price (Individual).....\$10.00 per year

Subscription Price (Group).....\$9.50 per year

Published Monthly Except August

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

THE IOWA FRIEND

P.O. Box 657

Oskaloosa, IA 52577

EXTENDING THE CHURCH

Grace Community & Buffalo Friends Churches

God is alive and well in our meeting. At Grace Community Friends Church in Mt. Pleasant everything we do is a first for us. As acting monthly clerk, Saturday night March 16th I had the privilege of extending the right hand of fellowship to nine new members. They are Mike and Julie Garmoe, Mary Garmoe, Sarah Garmoe, Micah Garmoe, and Abigail Garmoe as an associate member. We also welcomed David Warner and Carlene Phillips, and Brandon Schlarbaum as an associate member.

God has been so good to our new meeting. God is alive and well at Grace Community Friends.

- Jerry Phillips, standing left



We celebrate with young people who for the first time in their lives have decided that Jesus is Lord. We join in support of one another as we continually learn what it means to let Jesus be Lord of our lives.

God is Good! Buffalo Friends Church is becoming a place where people of all ages are discovering this truth.

- Gary & Lynn Scherer, seated right



Has your church bought new hymnals recently and wondered what to do with the good used hymnals? Riverside Friends Church in Mason City needs good used hymnals to replace their hymnals, which are falling apart. Please call Pastor Spencer Thury at 641-424-6094 if you have information on used hymnals. Thank you!



VITAL SIGNS

DEATHS

Mary M. Whitehead, 91, of New Providence died March 25, 2002, in Weslaco, Texas. Mary had lived in New Providence all her life and was a member of the Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church. She was a homemaker and a retired farmer. She had served in Jordan and Indian with American Friends Service Committee. She is survived by two daughters; Mary Louise Lansbarkis and Joanne Snyder; one son, Morris Whitehead; one brother, Dean Morris; nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Maynard Chance died March 17th at Hubbard Care Center.

Mildred Coffin Mendenahll, 83, of New Providence died March 24, 2002 in Ames. Mildred grew near Pleasant Plain, Iowa, attended William Penn College and graduated from there in 1940 with a degree in business and education. Mildred and her husband, Herschel, pastored churches at Woolson and Middle River and also served in the Friends African Mission in Kaimosi, Kenya. Mildred was a member of the Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church. She is survived by her husband, Herschel; one sister, Mabel Irving; one brother, Earl Coffin and a number of nieces and nephews.



Keith Mardock and Ed Hadley were busy making bunk beds at camp clean up day on April 13th.

Periodical Postage Paid at Oskaloosa, Iowa