



The Iowa Friend

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

September 2005

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TRUSTING GOD WITH LIVES WIDE OPEN

The 2005 Ministry Conference convened August 12 and 13 at Camp Quaker Heights. This was our first time at camp for annual sessions and it was wonderful! The lodge, chapel and facilities were filled with happy people. We sold out the motels in Eldora and a few had to travel to Grundy Center and Iowa Falls to find rooms. Because of the Friends United Meeting Triennial in Des Moines during July, we held an abbreviated version of our annual sessions.

We shortened the business schedule, which allowed each committee to report, but all held to a tight time frame. Amazingly, we completed all of our reports on time and are now moving forward into the new year. Work not completed that remains this year is the statistical report and the discipline committee report. Not enough churches had sent their membership reports in time to finish them.

The two more formal highlights of the Ministry Conference were the Recording Service, held at Quakerdale on Friday evening, and the Commemoration Service Saturday morning at Camp. The Superintendent's address served as the recording service message. Following the service, a celebration of the recording for Charlotte Stangeland (Marshalltown Friends) and Roy Gongwer (Middle River Friends) was held. Cake, ice cream and refreshments were served with the help of Quakerdale, Marshalltown and Middle River Friends. We extended our appreciation for their service to all of us in making this celebration a special time for all who attended. On Saturday morning we enjoyed a picture presentation of the 57-year history of Camp Quaker Heights and the commemoration of Quaker Men as founders. A plaque was placed on a large stone at the entrance of Camp.

We had wonderful meals together, held several committee meetings and enjoyed the many and varied aspects of the camp grounds. Words of appreciation were extended to Ric and Linda Garrison and family for their work and service to the Yearly Meeting. We also recognized the many years of service given by Stan Bauer as Clerk of Iowa Yearly Meeting and welcomed our new clerk, John Rains. We also would like to thank Daryl Coffin and Nancy Ritchie for the children's program and Anthony Nieuwsma for leading the teens. Appreciation is also expressed for Daneta Lopez's work in coordinating and making the Ministry Conference a success.



Donna Packer, with her mother, Gertrude Keen, accepting the Social Concerns award on behalf of Gertrude's late husband, Dale.



Priscilla Makhino, of Kenya, and Ethel Watson visit during the conference.

On Friday evening, Charlotte Stangeland (with corsage) and Roy Gongwer (third from right) received their Certificate of Recording from Nedra Jane Smith (in front of microphone), IAYM Ministry and Counsel President.





Friendly Flashes

"A good deed is never lost; he who sows courtesy reaps friendship, and he who plants kindness gathers love."

While I have been home recuperating from knee replacement, I have been remembering some of what I saw while on the route. I always tried to avoid hitting any animals. In my 16 years, I ended with a pretty good record. Only three times was I unable to avoid the animals. Birds were another matter, it seemed as if they just flew into the front of the car.

In the fall, the power lines were always covered with a flock of small birds, waiting to swoop down and eat whatever had spilled out of a wagon onto the road. They were so intent on gathering up all that they could, it was impossible to avoid hitting at least one. One day as I looked back, I saw that one bird had not taken off in time. The others went to the fallen bird and nudged it carefully. They tried to lift its wings. They appeared to talk to the bird as though to encourage it to get up. I had stopped to watch this and finally saw a slightly larger bird come over and check out the situation. After a moment it herded the birds away.

I was reminded of the verse that says not a sparrow falls but that God notices. I felt as though I had witnessed that acknowledgment. We have a tendency to assume that we humans are the only ones with feelings, the only one of God's creation that feels love or the emotional pain of loss. When we lived on the farm, we had a black cat that seemed to be a few rocks shy of a load. The other cats took care of him feeding him, their fresh catch, grooming him after meals and at bedtime. He became the special companion of our mama cat Misha. They were inseparable, except when she went hunting and at night when she stayed outside and he came inside. One morning when I let him out, he raced around the side of the house instead of waiting for Misha to feed him. Misha had died in the night and he was sitting by her, grooming her. When I removed her, he followed me a ways and then as she was laid to rest, he went back to where she died. For three days, he would not budge from that spot. He cried, he wailed, he walked in circles around that spot. Nothing could tempt him to come inside. Just as I was getting worried that he would soon die, one of the other cats came and sat beside him. They sat there for several hours side by side then the other cat began to groom him. After awhile they both came up on the porch and layed down for a nap.

Now I know some of you are thinking, "she has way too much time on her hands," but Galations 6,7,9 says " whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap..... and let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." We are all a part of God's great creation, but remember we were created LAST and we were given dominion over all that God had made. God is love and He loves all that he created. Sometimes we are so busy rushing from one place to another that we miss the quiet moments or the actions of our animals. These moments are there because of God, they serve to remind us of the spiritual nature of all of life. When we miss that, our lives are only two dimensional and I for one want a 3-D life. I want to constantly be aware of God's presence in every thing around me. So slow down just a little, put on your 3-D glasses and take a look at life as God sees it.

Peace and grace,
Linda Burnett



Discipline Committee

THE IAYM DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR INPUT

The IAYM Discipline Committee will be meeting to review your responses to the proposed revisions that were presented at the 2005 Spring Body of Representatives meeting in Arnolds Park as well as the 2004 Ministry Conference.

Your Monthly Meeting Clerk should have received a copy of the proposed revisions. If you have not received those revisions, please contact the IAYM office for a copy. We have received responses from three monthly meetings. Please take care of this important business as soon as possible. The recommendation is that these proposals be reviewed by Ministry and Counsel Clerks, Monthly Meeting Clerks, Pastors, and IAYM Representatives as a minimum representation from your monthly meeting. These suggested changes in the proposed revision should be approved by your monthly meeting.

Your responses should be sent to Mary Ann Coppinger, 2160 Forrest Ave, Oskaloosa, IA 52577, or email: djma@kdsi.net, no later than December 1, 2005. Please respond even if you have reviewed the proposed revisions and approve of them.

Thank You
Mary Ann Coppinger, Chairperson



Trustees Scholarship

Erica Palmer, daughter of Tom and Jan Palmer, of Salem Friends, is the recipient of the 2005 Trustees Scholarship of \$500.

Erica is a senior at North Park University in Chicago, Illinois, majoring in Psychology and Spanish. Most recently, Erica volunteered at the Chicago Fellowship of Friends for 2 years, before becoming part of the staff there.

Erica grew up in the Friends church and spent many summers at Camp Quaker Heights.

Congratulations, Erica, and best wishes in your future endeavors!

GOD'S BEST FRIEND

A dog had followed his owner to school. His owner was a fourth grader at a public elementary school. However, when the bell rang, the dog sidled inside the building and made it all the way to the child's classroom before a teacher noticed and shoo'ed him outside, closing the door behind him. The dog sat down, whimpered and stared at the closed doors. Then God appeared beside the dog, patted his head, and said, "Don't feel bad fella'....they won't let ME in either."





VITAL SIGNS

Doyle E. Heston, 70, died Friday evening, July 29, 2005. Services were held at the Fairfield Friends Church with Pastors Dave Elmore and Todd Follette officiating. Doyle was an active member of Fairfield Friends Church and in his spare time coached Little League. Doyle enjoyed volunteering and helping those in need. He was an avid Atlanta Braves fan, but received the most enjoyment attending his grandchildren's activities. Surviving Doyle is his wife, Sue, daughter, Sherri and Bob McReynolds of Fairfield, sons Phillip and Cathy Heston of Whitefish Bay, WI, Mark and Jill Heston of Ankeny, IA and Matthew and Tammy Heston of Knoxville, IA. Doyle was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Kenneth and Richard.

Richard L. Mortimer was called to his heavenly home on March 13, 2005. His wife Vicki, five children, eleven grandchildren, two brothers and one sister survive him. He retired from General Motors in 1983 to his boyhood home in Valton, Wisconsin, where he was a faithful member of the Valton Friends Church. Richard's personal relationship with the Lord and his deep abiding faith sustained him through many years of illness. He was faithful to pray and quick to laugh, and he looked forward to the day that he would enter heaven. Welcome home Richard, we will miss your prayers and laughter.



MEETING MOMENTS

Ackworth Friends have had a busy summer. The Baking Bettys met with the at-risk girls in May and made cookies for the Triennial. Some of our members planted yellow and red flowers in hopes they would bloom by July 13!

In June we shared a carry-in meal after worship and then packed 425 welcome bags for Triennial. The ladies continued to bake and freeze cookies -- again for Triennial. Many from our Meeting helped with Triennial in various ways: Host Committee, flower arrangements, assisting with registration, making badges, signs, banners, driving for the Pioneer Tour, etc. Twelve members attended some or all of the sessions.

Our pastor's daughter, Angela Dorrell was married on July 31 at Grinnell Friends.

Bible School was held in June. The theme this year was "Fruits of the Spirit."

Are you wrinkled with burden?
Come to the church for a face-lift.



Give Stock or Mutual Funds

By Jeffrey Swartzentruber of Mennonite Foundation (MMA)

You have decided to make a gift to one of your favored charities. Your natural instinct is to write a check, but you also own stock in several companies plus a number of shares ~~in a mutual fund~~ *Which one makes the best gift?* Most of us take the easiest route and give cash. It is easy to get to, convenient to write a check, and creates no issues for the church or institution we want to help.

On the other hand, a gift of an appreciated stock or mutual fund may be a better choice. If you have a publicly traded stock or mutual fund that you have held for a year or more, you may decide that a gift of that type of asset may benefit you more than a gift of cash. Here is why:

- You will receive an itemized charitable tax deduction at the market value of your stock or mutual fund shares on the date of transfer.
- If you convert the stock or mutual fund shares to cash, you will have to pay capital gains tax. You can avoid the tax by giving the stock or mutual fund shares to charity.
- This type of gift may also reduce the size of your estate, should you have taxable estate issues.

Why don't more of us give stock, if we have it? There are many reasons.

- You may not be aware that you can avoid paying capital gains tax.
- The charity may not be equipped to handle the gift. This is not a reflection on the charity's commitment to their mission. It may simply be a recognition that their focus is on running the charity efficiently, and not setting up the infrastructure to handle the gift.
- The selling costs related to turning the gift may be high for the charity.
- The stock may be held in certificate form requiring re-registration or re-titling to the name of the charity.

MMA can help you overcome these issues. We help you set up a charitable gift fund into which your gift of stock or mutual fund shares can be made, and we issue a charitable receipt to you. We sell your assets, turning them into cash. Then you recommend where you would like the charitable gift to be made. Because we do this very frequently, our systems are in place with banks, brokers, and mutual fund companies. And, we are able to sell the asset at lower sales fees due to that system and the volume we see.

By using a charitable gift fund, you control the timing of the gift to best fit your circumstances. For example, you may want to take advantage of a charitable tax deduction this year, but wait until next year to actually disburse the gift to charity. We encourage you to complete the gift by the end of the first week of December. That way, the value can be established and proper credit can be given while avoiding an end-of-year snafu for yourself, your broker, and us. Contact me if you are interested, or if you have questions about the process or types of stocks.

By the way, if you pledged to the Capital Campaign of IAYM, gifts of stock and mutual fund shares may be an excellent way to fulfill that pledge!

The Iowa Friend (USPS 582-120)

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Wm Penn Campus Ministries

WANTED - Campus Ministries is in need of a used drum set and P.A. Equipment that could be donated to the University. If you have any of these



items and would like to give them to the Campus Ministry Program, please call Spencer Thury, Campus Minister of Wm. Penn at 641-673-1088.



PASTORS RETREAT

October 2 - 5, 2005

Cost: \$35 for pastors, \$20 for spouses
(cost includes meals)

Where: Camp Quaker Heights



Note: Registration begins at 5:00 pm Sunday. If you plan to attend only the Sunday evening meal, cost is \$7.50.

Guest Speaker: JoeRohr, of Friendswood Friends Church, Friendswood, Texas.

CELEBRATING THE TRANSFORMED LIFE!

And we, who with unvailed faces all reflect the Lord's glory are being transformed into his likeness with ever increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit." II Corinthians 3:1

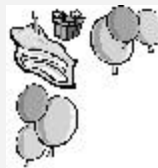
Sunday evening after dinner, Ron Bryan will address the pastors and spouses.

Joe Rohr will speak Monday and Tuesday morning and Monday and Tuesday evening. Afternoons will be free to do what you choose.

Wednesday morning, Ric Garrison will bring us an update on camp. We will end our time together before noon.

Brochures will be mailed the first week in September.

Please address your questions to: Arlen Daleske, HCNP Friends, PO Box 563, New Providence, IA 50206
Email: hcnp@juno.com --- Phone: 641-497-5333



CELEBRATION

Le Grand Friends Church

150th Anniversary

October 9, 2005

9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Come join us for this special day.

MUSIC SPEAKING SHARING

All are welcome!



Schedule of events include:

9:30 am - There will be an informal time of greeting, coffee, donuts, etc. A history display will be set up for all to view. Tours of the new addition will be given. Kids will be having their regular Sunday Schol classes.

10:30 am to 12:30 pm - The morning worship service will be shared from four past ministers: Lewis Savage, Charles Neifert, Ron Bryan, and Phil Does. A time of unprogrammed worship will also be included.

12:30 pm - Please join us for a potluck dinner. Out-of-town friends need not bring any food, just come and be our guest! All others are asked to bring a main dish and a side dish to share. A 150th Anniversary Cake will be provided, as well as a table service and beverage.

2:00 pm to 3:30 pm - We will have a historical walk through the life and music of Le Grand Friends Church. Please bring your stories and memories to share during this time. Special recognition will be given to those who have traveled the farthest, been members the longest, etc.



**WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO COME
AND CELEBRATE WITH US ON THIS
SPECIAL OCCASION!**

We would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with the FUM Triennial Sessions that were held in Des Moines in July.



We appreciate all of you!

Darrel & Eve Goodhue, Co-chairs - Host Committee

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