



The Iowa Friend

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

February 2006

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 61 - No. 2



The work at Tall Oaks Lodge continues. Picture taken at the end of January.

Updates on our Capital Campaign and Tall Oaks

Campaign totals:

Pledges and Cash	\$399,210
Total received	\$278,167
Total pledges outstanding	\$121,043
Cedar Rapids property sale	
Paid in full	\$352,615
Total	\$751,825

	Goal	Received
* CQH	\$300,000	\$193,357
* Mission Priority		
Retired Ministers	\$240,000	5,883
Church Extension	\$360,000	360,947
* IAYM Auxiliary		
Support	\$100,000	2,418
Campaign Goal	\$1,000,000	

Tall Oaks Building Project

Tall Oaks expenditures	\$213,004
On hand for further expenditures	\$ 65,246
Money received to date	\$193,357
Loans received for Tall Oaks	\$ 84,893

Participation in the Capital Campaign:

- * 30 churches and their members have participated
- * 140 households are represented in our campaign pledges and gifts. There are obviously some who have given through their churches that we have not been able to ascertain.

Sunrise hopes to finish their work by the end of the week. Work is continuing on the heat and plumbing. In February, we hope to call a team together next to begin building framing the walls in the basement. We also hope to begin painting the interior next week (main floor) Flooring will begin when the painting of the main floor is complete.

God is good and continues to Bless Iowa Yearly Meeting!

Thank you to the individuals who gave furniture for the guest house. Also to the individuals who gave items to the basement of the chapel. We are still looking for couches and chairs for the chapel basement.

Ron Bryan, General Superintendent
Ric Garrison, Associate Superintendent

FRIENDLY FLASHES

“But my name is honored by people of other nations from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of my name. For my name is great among the nations.”

Malachi 1:11

I have been reading with great interest the updates from Maxine Nash about the fate of the C.P.T. hostages. I feel a mixture of fear for their safety and awe for their courage in living out their faith regardless of any danger or inconvenient to them or their families. The offering they bring is their lives.

Karen and Stan Bauer have lived out their commitment to peace and social concerns by the gifts of cattle given to start a herd and help better the lives in that area. Karen is in Africa now checking on the progress of the herd and of the mission to help widows and orphans. Unfortunate victims of AIDS while the United States has yet to honor the full commitment made to help fund the help that is so desperately needed. This plague is to easy to turn our back on until it affects us. The offering the Bauer's bring is compassion and practical help.

We have become a nation who helps only when it costs us very little and we have to only send money or someone else. There is a movie opening on the 20th of Jan. called “End of the Spear”. This movie should be seen by every Christian. We need to be reminded of what the Christians of 50 years ago were called to do. I was in high school when the opening events that lead to this film took place. I remember being sickened by the brutality that was meted out against those five young missionaries. The film tells the rest of the story. It tells how the families reacted to the deaths of their loved ones at the hands of the Auca Indians. Shortly after the deaths the wife of one victim and the sister of another went to live with the Auca. At the end of two years the homicide rate dropped 90% within the tribe. Mincaye the man who killed Nate Saint was asked if the tribe would help make this movie. After learning of the violence that is now devastating our culture he agreed. Mincaye says this “The foreigners are living as angry and violent as we once did. But they could be living well. We changed. The foreigners can change too.” After 50 years the peace and love those young men died to bring to the Auca is living and strong but it has been eroding away in America for the last 40 years.

What has happened to the outreach of our churches? We have become the silent majority, retreating into our homes and trying to keep the flood waters hate out of our homes. What would Jesus do? Became a wrist band, a bumper sticker instead of the call to action. Malachi was pointing out to the people that they had turned from God and their offerings were not honorable. Is our offering honorable or are we content to just keep the doors open and be faithful in our attendance only?

The greatest commandment is to “love the Lord our God with all our heart, and all our soul, AND love our Neighbor as ourselves” So how do we define love? This is how a group of 4-8 year olds define love.

“When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth” Billy-age 4
“Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen” Bobby-age 7.

“If you want to learn to love better, you should start with friend who you hate” Nikka-age 6.

That is T.W.J.Did. Peace will come when it first has a home in our hearts that is big enough that we see social concerns in the world as our business instead of someone else's.

May peace and grace live in our hearts. Linda B.



IAYM's Quarterly Mission Emphasis Mesquakie Friends Center

About twenty years ago Victor and Brenda White traveled from the Kickapoo Friends Church in Oklahoma to pioneer a church for the Mesquakie Indian Settlement in Tama. Victor and Brenda have remained faithful and steadfast regardless of frustrations and disappointments through the years.

There remains great opposition to the gospel in the Indian Settlement. Add in the racial barriers towards the Indian Settlement and vice versa and it has been a very difficult and demanding ministry for the Whites. A high percentage of youth from the Settlement also drop out of school. However, there has been much preparation in the soil of the people's hearts at the Settlement.

Attendance for children on Wednesday nights varies from 40-50 children with their van ministry. There are approximately 1000 people living in the Mesquakie Settlement that the Whites desire to reach with the gospel message.

Vacation Bible School was accomplished by combining their efforts with Fellowship Baptist Church in the community. It was held at the Mesquakie Friends Center. By working together, Victor and Brenda hope to form more cross-cultural ties in the community.

Another highlight was a missionary, who came to speak from the Rosebud Reserve in Red Elk, South Dakota. She spoke of the perils of casinos and of drugs. However, she explained the hardships of reservation life can be changed in your life if you have Jesus.

Visitors from the Friends United Meeting Triennial in Des Moines were also welcomed by the people from the Mesquakie Friends Center with their traditional dancing and a traditional meal. It has been a busy year but Victor states, “We enjoy it. We're glad the Lord has blessed us with so much activity.”

There are several ways we can be of an encouragement to the ministry at Tama. Brenda's first desire is prayer support. Specific prayer requests are 1) receptive hearts to the gospel, 2) more commitment in people's lives as they are disciplined to become leaders in the church, 3) more cross-cultural ties in the community 4) more workers to assist at the mission and 5) financial support to run the mission.

Remember to lift Victor and Brenda in prayer today as they radiate God's light in the midst of darkness! A note or card of encouragement would also be greatly appreciated.

**Victor & Brenda White
Mesquakie Friends Center
P.O. Box 36
Toledo, Iowa 52342**

**Birthdays
Victor---December 13
Brenda---December 14**

Leadership Training in Action

**funded through our Capital Campaign
Leadership Development**



Report on Seminar : Empowering Missional Leaders In a Changing Ministry World by Dr. Steve Ogne and Dr. Tim Roehl September 12-13 2005

Arlen Daleske and Keith Smith, 2 of our beloved pastors and myself attended this seminar at the Emanuel Christian Center in Blaine, MN. This seminar set to acquaint those in attendance with the need for "missional leaders as coaches and mentors. The church has evolved from a traditional church to the contemporary church and is now transforming into the missional church. These missional leaders would have a personal spiritual formation that are engaged in the local culture in an authentic community. Coaches help people develop their God given potential so that they grow personally and make a valuable contribution to the kingdom of God.

The traditional church is undergoing many changes. This movement can only be enhanced by training ourselves to recognize our spiritual gifts and how they can be applied to the survival of the local church. This program has it's biblical foundation from the apostle Paul's biblical mandate in Ephesians 4:11-12 "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

The seminar was an excellent demonstration to the recognition that there are many coaching and leadership styles." All of the personality patterns are needed in the Body of Christ.. and that we honor each other" Iowa Yearly Meeting would do well to encourage the advancement of this training for our pastors and church leaders.

Roger G. LeBel

STEWARDSHIP UNIVERSITY MARCH 25, 2006

MMA is hosting a Stewardship University event at Iowa Mennonite School, North of Kalona Iowa on Saturday, March 25, 2006. You are invited to attend this day of workshops on topics ranging from personal budgeting to contentment, use of time and use of talents, to a panel discussion of business owners discussing faith and business. Costs for the day are \$39 per person, which includes lunch. Early registration discounts of \$5 are available. Also available are vouchers for a discount of an additional \$10.

If you are interested in attending this event, please contact:

Jeff Swartzentruber at 877.656.4242 or

e-mail Jeff.Swartzentruber@MMAPartners.org

to obtain the enrollment materials, and discount vouchers, and to ask any questions. You can also go on-line to www.MMA-Online.org; click on Education and Resources tab at the top of the page and then look for the blue link to Stewardship University on that Page.

**Iowa Mennonite School's address is:
1421 540th St SW, Kalona, IA 52247**

Thanks!

Jeff Swartzentruber, CPA

Mennonite Foundation Representative &
Vice President MMA Trust Company

Is your church doing an outreach or missions trip? Would you like to get to know others from other churches that are concerned about missions too?

You have 2 good ways to let others know about your church's missions trip plans (as much ahead as possible). This way someone from another meeting could join you and gain the experience of sharing Jesus with others away from their home community.

1) Submit a small paragraph or two in the Iowa Friend via iaym@mahaska.org or 422 West College Ave., Oskaloosa, IA 52577

AND

2) Contact Wilma Kaldenberg who, on the request of the Iowa Yearly Meeting Missions Board, has agreed to put the same information in an e-mail listing called "In Touch". This should get to all the churches and help tell of these opportunities to minister outside the local environment. Use either wlkald@netins.net or send to Box 38, Lynnville, IA 50153

In Him, Donna Hoeksema

From Friends Disaster Service

We wanted to let each of you know that the dates in Wiggins are nearly all full at this point. We do not know if the Secaurs will be having any other dates in the 2nd quarter at this point. The decision has not been made. We will advise as soon as we know more.

***God Bless!
Dan & Nancy Ritchie***

Camp Quaker Heights

campqhi@adiis.net

Director: Ric Garrison 641-939-5977 or
641-751-4400

It's time to be thinking about our summer camp schedule!! The dates for 2006 are:

--K-1st grade April 29-30 Little Fry
--2nd grade (NEW) May 6-7 Tweeners
--3rd-4th grades June 10-14 Fry
--5th-6th grades June 16-18 Fox
--7th-8th grades June 18-22 Jr. High
--9th-12th grades June 16-18 Weekender
 June 25-30 Sr. High

Spring Body of Representatives

Date: March 25th

Location: Ackworth Friends Church

*Lunch will served at the church. Mark your
calendars and make plans to attend*

"A MORE SIMPLE LIFE"

USFW SPRING FLING

SATURDAY, APRIL 1 9:30 AM

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

AT MT. PLEASANT

Scholarship Opportunities

Mission's Scholarship

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2006-2007 academic school year. Persons seeking intentional study in missions at a Christian college or seminary, and who want to pursue education to prepare for full time missions' work with a Friends organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2006-2007 scholarship, please contact Diane Martin, IYM Mission's Chairperson, at 3227 Pheasant Avenue, Rockwell, IA 50469 or e-mail at zoocrew@netins.net.

The deadline to apply is March 15, 2006.

Trustees Scholarship

The Iowa Yearly Meeting's board of trustees is offering a college scholarship of \$500 for the 2006-2007 academic school year. Please contact the Yearly Meeting office to receive an application.

Deadline to apply is March 15, 2006

Quaker Men's Banquet

February 18, 2006

Vennard College - Oskaloosa

Banquet at Noon

Cost: \$10 in advance

\$12 at the door (\$5 children 4-10)

Jess Settles, speaker

FDS will have a silent auction in connection with the banquet, and all proceeds will go toward funding FDS projects. Friends are asked to bring baked goods, crafts, other quality decorative items, and services to share for the auction. Proceeds will go toward work projects. Recently, FDS has been involved with some of the rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina.

Please let Mary Ann Coppinger or Margaret Good know what you'll be providing so we have sufficient tables ready. You can contact Mary Ann or Margaret via email or phone .

-Mary Ann Coppinger djma@kdsi.net 641-672-2892

-Margaret Good goodhome@adiis.net 641-486-5977

Thank you! *Dan & Nancy Ritchie*

Save This Date

July 16, 2006

Bear Creek Friends Church

Celebrating 150 year

Anniversary

More Details in upcoming newsletters

New Sharon Friends
invites you to come celebrate
their 150th Anniversary
June 11th, 2006

The city of New Sharon is also
celebrating 150 years
More details in upcoming newsletters

A Word to You....from Ron Bryan

FIRM TO THE END

Heb 3:6 But Christ was faithful as a Son over his own house; whose house we are, if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end. MKJV

I have noticed a recurring theme in my life and it has affected my personal walk and my calling to serve the Lord as a pastor. Whether it is a pastor to a local congregation or as now, "pastor to the pastors" it remains the same. I believe we all need the reminders, sometimes gentle, sometime very forthright, that we must "hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end".

There are so many different types of mountains and valleys in a lifetime and, I believe, also in the life cycle of a local Meeting. Whether it is the challenge of a Capital Campaign or the normal routine of an annual year's budget. Whether it is the challenge of discerning the meaning of a local meetings attendance or normal routine of finding harmony within a group of believers. Whether it is the challenge of the personal family's struggles or the normal routine of finding a proper rhythm for our own spiritual experience. All of these life experiences present the opportunity and need to have reinforcement for our faith.

We need to have the comfort and counsel that can only be given through relationships. Relationship with God and relationship with other people. Of course it is not always healthy to interact with persons who always agree with or think just like we do. Yet there is a constant need to have spiritual food to nourish our spiritual bodies.

There is a profound need to have accountability to God and to other persons. We need the Holy Scriptures and the Holy Spirit to be fed and to grow. Growing does not end until we leave this physical earth and life. And many biblical scholars will argue that we shall continue to grow in our experience and understanding even after the cessation of our earthly life.

We all need to hold fast to our confidence, hold fast to our hope and hold fast until the end.

Achieving this goal will most likely require the support of others. Working together with Christ, enables us to have joy and to have life in its fullest.

: Meeting Moments :

LeGrand Friends is sponsoring a "Parent's Night Out" on February 18th. This is a fund raiser for their Family Camp Fund for 2006. For a small charge per child the church provides a meal, crafts, and lots of fun for the kids while parents take the night off.

West Branch Friends participated in the Angel Tree program (sponsored by Prison Fellowship Ministry) over the holidays. They sponsored 7 children this year. Brandon & Eleanor Ray hand-delivered the gifts to all the participants. They found the outreach to be a very rewarding experience. In January, the church held its annual Clerks and Counsel retreat. This was a time of discussion regarding the future work and witness of WBFC.

Bangor Liberty Friends Church will be starting a "Friends Beliefs Class" that will last approximately 6 weeks. Ann Nichols will lead the class.

Honey Creek New Providence USFW group had a Soup & Salad Luncheon and Project Day on January 5th. They worked on sewing walker bags, lap robes, and garment protectors.

College Avenue Friends listed "5 New Year's commitments that will change your life" in their last newsletter. They are:

1. Seek reconciliation in any broken relationship
2. Meet God for an extended "State of Your Life" meeting
3. Do something helpful for someone else that you don't want to do
4. Share your story of faith with someone
5. Give God that part of your life that you've never given before.

Attention: All Churches Regarding: Memorial information for Iowa Yearly Meeting

After the passing of a member of your church, please send all memorials directly to:

Shirley Settle
1211 W. State St. #141
Marshalltown, IA 50158
(641) 844-5022

Use a 8x11 sheet of paper and include store, picture, and all data. Your help with this matter is greatly appreciated!!

First Friends Church of Marshalltown
is honored to welcome...

Mitch McVicker

In a Benefit Concert for Kim Lampman
(a member of First Friends)
Sunday March 12 @ 3PM
Marshalltown High School Auditorium
Tickets are \$5.00 at the door

Mitch and his band come to us at the onset of his 2006 tour, bringing award-winning music, personal testimony, and a heart for worship. Mitch McVicker began his journey in music alongside Rich Mullins after graduating from Friends University. He is best known for "My Deliverer" - 1999 Dove Award Song of the Year, "Gospel Rain", New Mexico, and many other songs.

Tickets are also available in advance at:
Marshalltown First Friends Church
2409 S. 6th Street
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-753-7367
e-mail: mfriends@marshallnet.com

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