



# The Iowa Friend

October 2007  
Vol. 62 - No. 9

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

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## FDS finally on the move!

Jerry Phillips, Bloomington-Muscatine Friends' pastor, working with Melody Carstens, chair of the Muscatine-Louisa Disaster recovery Committee, has located a project for our local Friends Disaster Service to work on in Fruitland. This is south of Muscatine, IA.

It involves two small single story houses next to each other. One house is owned by a 92 year old mother and the other by her daughter. The mother's house needs sheeting and shingles and the other needs just shingles. The old shingles remaining on each house will need to be torn off before the roofs are re-shingled.

A local lumber yard will provide the materials for one house and the Salvation army will finance the materials needed for the other house.

Now we need volunteers to provide the manpower for these two projects and also to prepare meals for the work crews. Sunday school rooms at Bloomington-Muscatine Friends Church will be available for workers who will need to provide their own sleeping bags and air mattresses or volunteers can bring their own campers, preferably self-contained. I am assuming that campers may be parked in the church parking lot during the week. Meals will be prepared at the church and a shower will be available at the parsonage.

I am hoping that with favorable weather, these two projects (really one) can be completed in one week, Monday through Friday, October 15-19, with workers arriving at the Bloomington-Muscatine Church Sunday afternoon or evening on the 14th so we can get an early start on Monday morning.

**Please respond ASAP to: Dennis White, PO Box 803, Postville, IA 52162  
or by email: [dennis673@centurytel.net](mailto:dennis673@centurytel.net)**

You may also phone 563-864-3858  
or if no answer, 563-379-2744 or  
563-380-6725

Please indicate what work you could do at the work site (such as tearing off shingles, shingling, picking up old shingles off the ground for the dumpster, etc.) or if you could help prepare meals.



# Friendly Flashes

**-a ministry of USFW-**  
Contributed by Linda Burnett

*"I will walk in the Lord's presence  
as I live in this world." Psalm 116:9*

In my Bible reading the past month, this verse keeps coming to my mind. I will walk, present tense, I am now walking with the Lord as I go about my daily routine.

So where did we go this past month. We made trips to the hospital to sit with family during surgery. We made three or four trips taking people to the doctor's office. We have also picked up and delivered medicine or groceries. We took the Faith in Action tags around to business's for our winter clothing drive. Of course we have been to Sunday school, church and Bible study on Sunday's. Just the kind of places you would expect to find God.

God was also present as I walked the dog and waited as Pepe checked out each leaf or clump of grass to see who had been there before him. He is there when I cleared the sidewalk each morning of the dead branches that fell during the night along our morning path. And as I checked my used tire garden to see if I had tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, melons, eggplant or beets. What a bounty God provided for my husband and I from the garden God helped plant. During our walks with the dog God and I smiled on many people. At the hospital one very sad, worried lady actually stopped to look at us and smiled back lighting her whole face. We have pulled a few weeds from my front flower garden, I have not kept up my end on this project so it looks a little shabby.

On the days when I can hardly move because of pain and stiffness God keeps me moving. I remember Paul who said he could be content no matter his situation. I know I live in luxury compared to the hard cold stone, dirt floors of that time. God is present right now as I try to help my neighbor, a young mother and children, who was abandoned Monday with no food, money, job or transportation. If she has to, they will share the empty twin bed in my room, but we can't let them go to the street. She is under God's care as one of His children but it is our hands he uses.

We can't do much but each of us can use God's eyes to view our neighbors, to share what he has so richly given all of us. We have the security of His saving grace, His love and protection. We have a roof over our head, food for our table, even if it is hot dogs and macaroni, a chair to sit on and a bed to lay down and sleep. As USFW women we reach out to help those in need over seas but let us not forget



## THANKSGIVING MISSION'S FOCUS

IAYM Mission's Board

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board has picked Jamaica as our Thanksgiving

mission's project for 2007. Friends United Meeting has ministered in Jamaica for more than 100 years. Evi Sharpless of Iowa Yearly Meeting was the missionary, who first established a relationship between North American Friends and Jamaica in 1881. Since that time, schools, homes for children, and local meetings were established to provide for the physical and spiritual needs of Jamaicans.

Today, there are 78 boys at the Swift-Purscell home and 30 girls at the Lyndale home. The greatest needs at the Swift-Purscell and Lyndale homes are for a remedial teacher to help with homework, remedial curriculum, textbooks for each student at the government schools, and a computer to use for remedial teaching. The goal is to raise \$4,000 in IAYM to complete this project for the children at Swift-Purscell and Lyndale. If we should surpass this goal, the remainder of the money will be used to complete the new cafeteria at the Swift-Purscell Boys Home. A recent hurricane removed part of the roof on the old cafeteria making it unusable. Let's help give these children the chance to learn.

We encourage a special Thanksgiving offering to be taken for the two orphanages in Jamaica for remedial education, which includes textbooks and the salary for a remedial teacher. Be creative and adapt it to your church. Please pray for the children at Swift-Purscell and Lyndale homes. All donations need to be sent to Bob Watson, 803 Minnesota Street, Glidden IA 51443 and labeled for Jamaica. You, the people of IAYM, have been very supportive of mission projects in the past and as a mission board we say "Thank You!" In Christ's

Love & Service -  
IAYM Mission's Board



Swift-Purscell Boys Home



Lyndale Girls Home



# Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

**Grace Community Friends** have moved!! Their new place of worship is at 106 South Main St. on the Square in Mt. Pleasant. They hosted their grand opening in September! Please pray for their congregation as they settle into their new location and that the Lord would prosper their work there.

Alan Mullikin of **LeGrand Friends** recently went to Haviland Kansas to volunteer with Friends Disaster Service on rebuilding a home in the tornado destroyed town of Greensburg, Kansas. He commented that it was a privilege to give the gift of time to help a family whose home was completely destroyed. And it was an honor to get to know other believers in our Lord as they worked, broke bread and laughed together

**Middle River Friends** noted that Jadon & Audrey are leading the youth in a new small group study. They are gearing up for a Spring Break Mission Trip and rewarding opportunities to serve.

**Lynnville Friend's** USFW will be setting up a "Mitten Tree" beginning in October. These new or gently used mittens, gloves, scarves for children and teens will then be distributed in the local communities to those in need.

**West Branch Friends** reports the following activities at their meeting. Anita Starr (along with Karen Bauer) shared pictures and told of her experiences as part of the Work Team for "Friends Bringing Hope" in Kenya, Africa. A Youth Leadership Workshop was held for their high school youth. Rally Sunday was held to kick off the new year of Sunday School. A park service followed by a picnic was held on Labor Day weekend. And on September 11th, the Peace Pole Celebration was held. There was a time of worship followed by a candlelit walk through town. The walk ended at the Peace Pole in front of the church where a "Song of Peace" closed the celebration.

**Buffalo Friends** Church welcomes Darlene Newby as their new pastor. Darlene comes to Iowa from Western Yearly Meeting but has roots in Iowa. Her parents were married at Buffalo Friends and her father served as pastor at Pleasant Plain Friends.

**College Avenue Friends** is still helping with a project for The Merle and Tami Mann family. Their niece, Brittney, was diagnosed with colon cancer in January of 2006. They are asking for letters, postcards, and greetings to be sent to her - with a goal of getting something from every county in Iowa! Please pass this on to friends and family and send the cards to: Brittney Mann, 2102 South First Ave., Marshalltown, IA 50158

## IAYM Annual Golf Outing

Some 24 individuals were able to attend this year's IAYM Golf Outing at Camp Quaker Heights. It was a time to relax and fellowship with Friends old and new. During the outing, Lowell Vander Ploeg of Grinnell shot a "hole-in-one". The group assembled on Friday evening with a dinner followed by a message from the event's speaker and a quick round of miniature golf. The main event followed on Saturday morning at the nearby golf course at Pine Lake. Many thanks to Anthony Niewisma for organizing the event and to Linda Garrison and her staff for their excellent hospitality at Camp!



Lowell and his Hole-in-one" ball.



This foursome of Jennifer Smith and her dad Ron, Wes Blanchard and Alan Smith enjoyed a beautiful day of golf.

## Iowa Yearly Meeting's Memorials

A new person has been designated to receive memorials. Please send your memorial information and pictures to:

Marie Moffitt  
15529 Kennedy St.  
Indianola, IA 50125

## Plan a Christian Education workshop at a time that works for you!

Iowa Yearly Meeting Christian Education Committee has purchased three videos in the Smart Teacher series. Each video comes with a reproducible listening guide and discussion questions. So choose the topic and the time that works for you then follow the simple steps below and have your own Christian Education Workshop--or schedule one with a neighboring church.

1. Schedule a time when your Sunday School teachers, mid-week children's workers and Christian Education Committee can meet together.
2. Order the video (or two videos) that would best meet your needs from Charlotte Stangeland: 414 N. 2nd St. Oskaloosa, IA 52577; 641-676-1532; or [kindra@mahaska.org](mailto:kindra@mahaska.org)
3. When the video arrives, make copies of the listening guide.
4. View the video together at the scheduled time and discuss it using the discussion guide. The videos are 30 minutes each. Allow about 30 minutes more per video for discussion.
5. Within one week after your scheduled workshop, return the video (the return envelope will be sent with the video).

All three videos focus on teaching children. They are produced by Gospel Light but are relevant no matter what curricular materials you are using. Choose your video from the topics below:

### 1. No Higher Calling

This is an inspirational video will encourage your teachers to embrace the importance of teaching children of all ages about God and His amazing love.

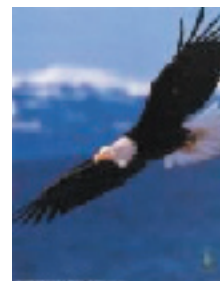
### 2. Discovery Learning

This video teaches how to capture children's attention, make learning fun and build positive classroom relationships for a successful classroom experience that will make a lifelong impact. Seven key ingredients for conducting effective lessons are presented.

### 3. Discipline

Suggestions are given that will help teachers develop a teaching style to prevent disruptive behavior. Then tips are given on what to do when misbehavior does occur.

## Mesquakie Friends Center



The Mesquakie Friends Center board held its second meeting at the Marshalltown Friends Church during September. We wish to thank the members of the church for providing us with their facility, food and refreshments.

We are filled with confidence that the Lord is leading us forward as we finalized the transition from the ACFIA to the Iowa Yearly Meeting. We are working on several ways to make people aware of the changes. We hold Victor and Brenda up in prayer as they make this transition with us.

There are many needs for repair work to be done on the property and the buildings. Doors, windows, well pump, paint, carpentry and concrete work - just to name a few.

A team from Marshalltown friends will be leading work to replace the entry doors to the Multi-purpose building. We appreciate and thank them for their efforts.

There will be a newsletter and brochures in the very near future. We will be sending an announcement to the mailing list that we have inherited from ACFIA.

We pray that people will find it in their hearts to help the Mesquakie Friends Center with finances, labor of supplies. Victor and Brenda have been traveling and sharing our excitement of this transition. A copy of their prayer card is available through the Iowa Yearly Meeting office. Any contributions should be designated for the Mesquakie Friends Center and sent to:

**Iowa Yearly Meeting  
PO Box 657  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

Thank you, *Roger G. LeBel*



## 2nd Annual All Board Retreat

October 19-20, 2007, at Camp Quaker Heights

**Friday:** We will meet for supper followed by an inspirational service

**Saturday:** We will meet again for breakfast and a brief group devotional.

Individual IAYM boards will then break out for meetings followed by lunch. BOC will meet in the afternoon

**Cost of event is underwritten by Church Extension.**

**Those desiring to stay overnight in Tall Oaks Lodge will have an additional fee.**

More Information and a registration form will be in the next edition of the Iowa Friend.

For more information.....contact Steve Santee @ 515-795-2978

### General Superintendent's October Itinerary:

Just to let everyone know what it is in store for the coming weeks - it is that time of year when I am required to attend several annual board meetings.

Sept. 30-Oct. 3: Pastor's retreat at Camp Quaker Heights

October 8-10: travel to Massachusetts

October 11-13: FUM General Board Meeting at Woolman Hill

October 14: travel to Lancaster, PA

October 15: Friends Mutual Health Group Annual Meeting at Lancaster

October 15-17: Superintendents and Secretaries meeting at Pendle Hill

October 17-18: travel back to Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

October 19-20: IAYM All-Boards retreat at CQH

October 22: WPU Board of Trustees Meeting

### The "WOW" Factor

*by Bob Watson*

It takes a lot for me to think "WOW" about "missions". Ethel & I had the pleasure of serving on the mission field for 3 years and have returned to Kenya twelve times over the last 25 years. When you have been there and done that - "WOW" can become "isn't seeing the HAND OF GOD AT WORK a blessing?" What you become accustomed to becomes "normal".

Well, I want you to know that Ethel & I had the opportunity to return to Kenya in June of 2006 with a work team with "Friends Bringing Hope". It was a GREAT "WOW" seeing how, with a little help from FBH, these widow groups were reaching out with the "widow's mite" that they have to help each other. I was so impressed with what they were doing and GOD was blessing their efforts and how they showed the LOVE of CHRIST to each other and to the community around about them.

I want to encourage & challenge each of you: first, to reach out to those around you; second, support missions every way you can; third, start planning for you-yourself to go on a mission work team. If your church is planning/taking a mission trip, let everyone across the Yearly Meeting know, as early as possible, about the opportunity to join you.

Going, seeing, being part of GOD's hand at work is such a blessing. I want every one of you to experience it.



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**Periodical Postage Paid**  
**Not for Profit**  
**Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577**

Subscription Price (individual)...\$10.00 per year (group)...\$9.50 per year

Published monthly except August



**From our Friends at FUM...**  
**Updates on some recent**  
**FUM Projects:**

**Jamaica VBS Project**  
***Funds raised to date: \$ 4,024.20***

**Adopt-a-Nurse Program**  
***Funds raised to date: \$ 11,203.43***

**Mark your calendars..**

## **IMPACT 2007**

**High School**  
**Growth-oriented**  
**Youth Retreat**



**WHEN:** October 27 - 28, 2007  
10:30 AM Saturday - Lunch on Sunday

**WHERE:** Middle River Friends Church

**COST:** \$50 per Person

Includes Skits, Games, Live Worship Music and Broom-ball!! Registration Forms will be coming soon to the churches of Iowa Yearly Meeting.