



The Iowa Friend

November 2007
Vol. 62 - No. 10

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



We had a great time in Fruitland! There were nine who came for all three days, nine for two days, and ten for one day. We accomplished the task of tearing off the shingles on two adjacent houses, repairing rotted areas, and re-shingling the roofs in three days in spite of weather that was not perfect. All of the materials were provided by Builders World, The Salvation Army, and the United Way. Melody Carstens, Chair of the Louisa-Muscatine Disaster Relief Committee had been working since the day of the Tornado on June 1, 2007 to get these two roofs repaired. Several groups/organizations agreed to

do the work, but then backed out. Friends Disaster Service, when contacted through the efforts of Pastor Jerry Phillips of Bloomington-Muscatine Church made the commitment and followed through.

Twenty eight individuals from Friends churches across the eastern half of Iowa volunteered for one to three days to complete this project. What a joy it was to work and eat together with other Friends to repair tornado damage for two families we didn't know until we got there, and who didn't know us. The reporters for tv stations WHBF and KWOC and the reporter for the Muscatine Journal were most impressed that we came from across Iowa and from a variety of occupations. Keith Mardock, Hesper pastor, consented to be the site manager, but it was amazing how people would arrive, see what needed to be done, and pitch right in to do it.



Connie Hill and her mother, Bernice Stropes

I want to especially thank Keith Mardock for accepting the site manager responsibility, Jerry and Patty Phillips for making their shower in the parsonage available and the Bloomington-Muscatine Meeting for allowing us to use their kitchen and fellowship hall for meals and Sunday School rooms for bedrooms. We were also surprised and appreciative when the United Way contacted us stated they were paying for all our food and refreshment expenses.. We presented each of them with a Bible with a written inscription inside from FDS.

Dennis White,
Iowa Coordinator



Friendly Flashes

-a ministry of USFW-

Recently, at the USFW Fall Retreat held at Motor Friends near Milo, Iowa, Francis and Eugene Wolfley recounted their history with the FUM work in Jamaica, and a very broad account of the years of FUM's work on that Caribbean island. They shared of lively meetings, struggling churches, bell choirs, the need for strong leadership, and an uncertain future, yet one still full of hope. Many of their heartfelt concerns mirror those of IAYM meetings, and indeed, USFW circles.

The Wolfleys recounted name after name, Jamaican believers—mostly women—thoroughly invested in the evangelistic efforts on the island. These faithful are facing the challenge of ministering, evangelizing instead of fossilizing.

How can the women in attendance respond to such information? First, we need to share these stories in local societies. In such a way, we should realize that we can continue to work together this marvelous tapestry. Secondly, we can find some common threads in that work of weaving. Our own history here in Iowa contains records of both lively meetings and struggling churches—the same can be said of USFW chapters. Yet in vibrancy and time of difficulty, we still live and move and have our being in the same One in whom Jamaican believers have placed their hope.

I've felt, since coming to Iowa in the mid-90's, that one of the strongest threads that binds us, meeting-to-meeting, society-to-society, even across Yearly Meetings are stories such as these, be they from a distant "overseas mission" point, or a start-up down the road. The telling of such stories are modern-day psalms as we remember times of trouble and on the same hand, moments of conviction of our God's hand in our history. Our history, our tapestry is one.

Submitted by Linda Garrison,
USFW Vice President, 2004-2007



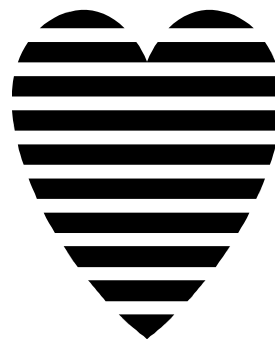
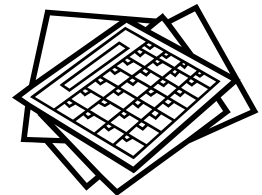
Camp Corner

****Have you...** gotten information about the kitchen expansion? Send gifts for this effort to "IAYM, PO Boc 657, Oskaloosa, IA 52577...Designate your contribution for the building project on the memo line of the check.



****Have you...** begun to look through old photographs for pictures of camp experiences for our 60th Anniversary display? Scan and email to campqhi@adiis.net, or mail a copy of the photo to camp.

****Have you ...**reserved the dates of October 3-5, 2008 for the joint anniversary family camp weekend, celebrating the 125th anniversary of Iowa USFW and camp's 60th anniversary?



****Have you...** considered hosting the camp staff for and "I Love Camp Quaker Heights" event? Along with the annual offering gathered in February, the yearly "I Love CQH" event allows camp staff and meeting members as well as current and former campers a chance to worship together.

****Have you....** considered a fall work day at CQH? While no official day has been called, individuals and groups are urged to come for several hours or a day; there seem to be plenty of leaves in lots of gutters!



Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

Salem Friends will be host their Annual Missions Convention on November 9-11th of 2007. Their selected them will be "What in the world is God doing?". Contact the church for more information if you would like to attend.

Ackworth Friends reports the following news:

September fellowship evening was well attended. Rev. Gary Kinkel, former pastor, told about his experiences in Tanzania where he taught at a seminary for three weeks in the summer. His two teenage daughters accompanied him. He shared some interesting stories about their experiences in a totally different culture. We particularly enjoyed hearing how he was presented a live chicken (a very valuable gift) and had to hold it on the drive back to the seminary over mud roads. Once there, he was informed that he had to kill and eat the chicken. He prevailed upon the seminary cook to fix the chicken which he shared with everyone. We enjoyed light refreshments following his presentation.

October 28 following Worship was our annual farewell dinner for the "Snowbirds" (those of our Meeting who go south for the winter.) It was also Pastor Appreciation Sunday. The Junior Sunday School presented a short program and Dale & Karen were given a gift card for dinner at their favorite restaurant. Our USFW ladies attended the USFW meeting at Motor in October.

Bear Creek Friends reports the following news:

Bear Creek Friends Church is happy to welcome Pastor Chuck Lathrop and his wife Ginny! Coming from Salem Friends, Pastor Chuck and Ginny joined us the first of July - - just in time to take part in community church services in Earlham, Redfield, and Dexter over the next couple of months.

During the summer, Camp Quaker Heights saw a camper and mom enjoying Fry Camp, and our pastor, his wife, and several members attended Yearly Meeting. Pastor Chuck and Ginny returned to CQH for Pastors' Retreat at the end of September.

Those busy summer months ended with our annual neighborhood/community potluck, held on the church grounds on Sat., Aug. 25. We have also reinstated our monthly neighborhood coffees on the second Friday morning of each month.

We finally had time to "officially" welcome the Lathrops to our church family on Sun., Sept. 30 with a potluck dinner and grocery shower. We feel blessed that God has brought us together, and look forward to serving with them in the years ahead!

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

Deaths

Virginia Davis, age 82, died on August 24, 2007 while under the care of Hospice. She was an active member of Marshalltown Friends, the Mary Anna Circle of the church, and served on many funeral and social lunch committees. She had in recent years taken an interest in art and earned many ribbons and awards for her paintings, including Best in Show at the Marshall County Fair 2007. Her husband, William Davis, died just this past June.

Births

Katalin Moffitt was born on September 9th 2007. She is the daughter of Kurt and Cynthia Moffitt of Ackworth Friends.

Weddings

Rachael Goodhue and Leo Simon were married on July 6, 2007 in Brantome, France. Rachael is the daughter of Darrell and Eve Goodhue of Ackworth Friends.

Anniversaries

Don and Shirley Davis will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 2nd. Friends are invited to a celebration on Sunday, November 4th from 3-5 pm at the Bangor Liberty Friends Church (no gifts please).

THANK YOU NOTE from the FDS work at Fruitland....
Your group was the most wonderful group. I really enjoyed meeting each and every one of you! You did a wonderful job on both of the roofs. I know that both homeowners are very appreciative of all of your hard work. You all were the answer to my prayers as I had become very frustrated in finding someone to do these two homes (but was not yet ready to give up). I cannot thank you and all of the Friends for everything that you did. The meals don't even begin to repay all of your hard work and kindness. I am truly amazed at how quickly you were able to get both of these roofs done. Again thanks to all of you for a job well done. You truly exemplify the glory of God at work.
Thanks Melody Carstens

The Quakerdale Board of Trustees are holding a

FAREWELL RECEPTION

honoring

MICHELLE HERMAN

Saturday, December 1, 2007

OPEN HOUSE 1-4 pm

Best Western Regency Inn

3303 South Center Street

Marshalltown, IA

A short program will be held at 2 pm

William Penn Campus Ministry

We had an exciting start to campus ministry this year. We took advantage of the student momentum from last year and had a hip hop dance troupe from Omaha kick off campus ministry programming. The ministry of "Uppercase" broke down racial barriers and all present had a great time that went well past the scheduled meeting. We had good numbers despite the tornado warning earlier that evening keeping students away.

Another highlight was Evangelist Tom Stamman in our chapel service. Tom had prayer for a number of students, faculty, and staff and will be returning for a larger event on Jan 31st. This time both for chapel and for the first time at an evening service in the Chief Mahaska room. A number of area churches have been having Tom fill their pulpit so we have a goal of filling the room that night.

Student involvement in campus ministry has been diverse. The addition of Prof. Scott Cressley on Saxophone with the chapel band has added a sweet edge to the chapel music. On Tuesday nights there has been much effort into starting an urban gospel choir after the large group campus ministry meeting. Featuring the songs of Kirk Franklin and Israel Houghton, a style of music very different from anything heard in Oskaloosa churches, but is standard where many of our students come from. We are working hard at meeting that need.

The number of students are increasing at our evening large group as different campus ministries work together and build bridges for

students in campus ministry to be involved together. Though many have their different plans and schedules and preferences and plan to keep things that way, we still gather when the schedule provides for it. We will continue doing the things that work and learn from evaluations what needs adjustment.

Since we are focusing our chapel services on the gospel of Luke this year, I decided to focus around the common theme of that book, which is, according to commentators, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Therefore a reoccurring statement for us in campus ministry in "Encouraging and Equipping Followers of Jesus to Seek and to save the lost."



Our group that attended a fall conference in Kansas City.

This summer was a busy one at the New Light of the Lakes Friends Church in Arnolds Park, Iowa. Our big time of the year for Arnolds Park starts with Memorial Day weekend and the great influx of tourists. We grow in size around the lakes from 10,000 to 110,000 overnight.



For the week of the Fourth of July and Labor Day weekend as well as a couple of other times, we hosted a "Saturday Jam Fest on the Grass" with live bands. Bake sales were included along with a jumbo all-beef hot-dog and a soda for \$3.00. Jim and Jesse Howard allowed us the use of their 20X40 tent as donation to the church and gave us shade for those days.

In July we held a Vacation Bible School entitled "The Great Bibleland Dig" and the kids became Bible archaeologists for the week.

In August we went to Sioux Falls, South Dakota to the State Pen to share the Gospel with the inmates at the Jamieson Complex. Along with all the regular happenings, we have been quite busy for the Lord this summer and we just want to give God the glory for all that has been

accomplished here in Arnolds Park at the New Light of the Lakes Friends Church. Thanks to all the members and friends who have helped out!!

Pastor Jerry Mercer

FIRE DESTROYS THE GREAT HOUSE AT SWIFT-PURSCCELL BOY'S HOME IN JAMAICA

On Friday, October 19 thieves broke into the Great House at the Swift-Purscell Boy's Home in Jamaica. They robbed it and then burned it to the ground. The Great House served as the boy's dining hall, library, study rooms, and the offices of the director as well as the office for FEC. Both offices lost all of the files, supplies, furniture, computers, etc. The dining hall had already been damaged by the hurricane so it was not being used. As a result of the fire, there was an electrical short in another small building, which was also destroyed. It is not clear if this was the shop or the sewing center. The kitchen also received some damage but not major. Angella Beharie has said the community has been wonderful and very supportive. She is glad the boys can see that the local people really do care about them.

The IAYM Mission's Board focus for Thanksgiving is very timely for the Swift-Purscell Boy's Home and Lyndale Girl's Home. Bulletin inserts have been sent to mission chairs in each monthly meeting. When the initial goal is reached to provide the children with a remedial teacher, textbooks and a computer, the remainder of the money will be used to help with the expenses of the fire and towards completing the new cafeteria at the Swift-Purscell Boy's Home. Let's help give these children the chance to learn and a place to feed their body, mind, and spirit. 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—Thanksgiving offering.**

As the body of Christ, we accomplish much more together for the Kingdom of God. The IAYM Mission Board wants to say
"Thank You"
for being very supportive of mission projects. God bless you!

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE

by: Ron Bryan, General Superintendent

1Pe 1:25 but the Word of the Lord endures forever. And this is the Word preached as gospel to you.

Mat 24:35 The heaven and the earth shall pass away, but My Words shall not pass away.

Mat 5:18 For truly I say to you, Till the heaven and the earth pass away, not one jot or one tittle shall in any way pass from the Law until all is fulfilled.

Psa 119:160 Your Word is true from the beginning; and every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

I feel like it is necessary for me to state my FAITH.....

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: That Jesus Christ is the Son of God and He dwells within my heart, because I have repented and asked Him to come in and sup with me. Knowing full well He first loved me.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: That by the power of the Holy Spirit sent by God in the name of Jesus Christ this is true.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: That the witness of the saints through the ages is true and accurate. That I can and do know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and God and He has witnessed to my heart that I am a child of God. For nearly two thousand years there has been a true remnant that can testify to their experience and power of God within.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: That the Bible is a fair and accurate recording of how God has chosen to reveal Himself to mankind. That it is a reliable source of the written documentation and when enlightened by the Holy Spirit becomes sharper than a two edged sword and can cut to the very marrow of my soul to reveal my true nature.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: The commentators and theologians that have for generations rightly divided the word to find its source and power did so in faith and were able to live the Christian testimony in its truth without compromise to the world and its deceitfulness.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: In the empirical evidence of the followers of Christ, and I refuse to believe the words of the clever authors today who write as skeptics and followers of the father of lies whose purpose, when revealed, is to cause rebellion and unbelief in all the world.

I CHOOSE TO BELIEVE: By faith through grace, not by works or through the cunningness of mind and words of followers of other religions and particularly the followers of self idolatry who believe they are like gods and can deny the truth of Scripture and Jesus Christ. They choose to taunt God and we all know their day of judgment will come.

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

IN WHOM DO YOU BELIEVE?

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Victor White and Kevin Mortimer are currently preparing to attend the African Ministers Conference to be held in Kenya. They will be leaving the states in December. The Friends Church Kenya all Pastor's Conference to be held at Vahiga High School December 12-16 has requested that North American Friends send speakers to lead services and workshops.

A plea has been sent out to our churches for donations to help with their travel support. They will need around \$2,000 each to attend. Would you, as a subscriber to our Iowa Friend, be able to help in their support?

Any contribution toward this fund can be sent to IAYM, PO Box 657, Oskaloosa, IA 52577 by November 15th.

Thank You for your consideration of this matter!

The Clarence and Lilly Pickett Endowment

Attention please! Newsletter readers are urged to send leadership nominations for the year 2008 Pickett Endowment awards. Do you know a younger committee Quaker potential leader - someone who is considering a short-term service project? Your nomination information will be gratefully received by January 1, 2008. For the nomination form go to <http://pickettendowment.quaker.org/>

The Clarence and Lilly Pickett Endowment for Quaker Leadership, Inc., an independent Iowa Corporation with its principal office at William Penn University. Trustee Michael Moyer is the new Coordinator and can be reached at moyerm@mahaska.org.

Mission Board Scholarship

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2008-2009 academic school year. People within Iowa Yearly Meeting seeking intentional study in missions at a Christian college or seminary and wanting to pursue education to prepare for full time mission's work with a Friend's organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2008-2009 scholarship, please contact

Diane Martin,
Mission's Presider
3227 Pheasant Avenue
Rockwell, IA 50469
or call 641-822-3694

Trustees Scholarship

Applications are currently be taken for a \$500 college scholarship to be distributed in the 2nd semester of the 2008-2009 academic school year (January of 2009).

College students within Iowa Yearly Meeting are encouraged to seek an application through the Yearly Meeting office.

Deadline for this scholarship is January 1st. A recipient will be determined at Spring Body 2008.

Make inquiries to:
IAYM
PO Box 657
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
(641) 673-9717 or email at iaym@mahaska.org

Thank You!