



# The Iowa Friend

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

January 2009

Vol. 64 - No. 1

## Quaker Men's Banquet February 28, 2009

**Location:** William Penn University  
Chief Mahaska Room  
in the Student Union

**Ticket price:** \$10 per person in advance  
\$12 at the door

**send reservations to:**

Charles Nichols  
1743 Main St. Rd  
State Center, IA 50247

**Speaker:**

**Dr. Tom Clegg**  
President of  
CoachNet

"Eternity in Their Hearts"



**Special Music by "Press On"**



## An Update of Cuba Yearly Meeting

Terri Johns of FUM and Linda Garrison visited Cuba Yearly Meeting the first week of December 2008 to deliver funds for hurricane relief, assess needs after hurricane Ike, and discuss possibilities for the FUM work team which travels to Cuba at the end of January.

The Cubans were nearly overwhelmed during the 2008 hurricane season, but the visitors were equally taken by both the damage of the storms and the tremendous efforts of the Cuban people following the devastation. In bedraggled, falling-down cities, one was hard-pressed to discern what was storm damage and what was the result of decades of difficult times. The Quakers have used funds to purchase building supplies, mattresses, food, and clothes, sharing with those inside the churches, and the neighbors in the towns and villages. The sound of hammers was unending, and the scrape of shovels mixing cement signaled that rebuilding was underway on nearly every block.

Story after story was told as folks recounted how they evacuated to Quaker meeting houses and structures, built as part of work team efforts, because the government deemed these buildings sturdy. The horrors people discovered in the 45 minutes of calm while the eye of the storm passed over were only surpassed when the all clear was heard, and they could emerge to inspect what remained of their homes and lives. Cubans deemed Ike "The Lumberjack" because so many trees were toppled. In coastal communities hardest hit, tons of rock and debris from the sea had to be removed merely to make navigating through the area possible.

The Cubans have survived and indeed have moved forward. An FUM work team departs January 27 from Miami for a 2-week stay in the cities of Holguin and Gibara, with visits to monthly meetings. Joining the work team from Iowa are Jerry and Patti Phillips, Pastors of Bloomington/Muscatine. And Steven and Eileen Ellsworth, also of Muscatine. Pray for these 4 participants and the others joining from across FUM. Linda Garrison, who will serve as team leader, reports that the group will continue on the Yearly Meeting structure being built in Holguin, and on further repairs of the facility in Gibara.

## Pastor's Short Course February 26-28th

Special speaker is Dr. Tom Clegg  
registrations available from the  
Yearly Meeting Office

**\*\*Special Note: Friday Evening service is  
open to the public**

**Service begins at 7 pm at College Avenue Friends**

# Friendly Flashes

- a Ministry of USFW of Iowa -

Our USFW books this year ask us to look deep within and ask God to search our hearts and lives to see what changes each one of us needs to make to become more like Christ. If you want to grow in your Spiritual life, these books will definitely help you achieve that!!

One of my first choices to achieve this would be to read **Having a Mary Spirit by Joanna Weaver.** In this book, the author reflects on the stories of the Biblical Marys and others that we can use as a catalyst for change in our own lives. She once again touches the hearts of women as she shares her own personal testimony of how God is working to change her from "the inside out". Just as she thinks she has finally "matured" to perfection, God shows her another area of her life that she needs to work on. She refers to the Flesh woman that wants her own way. This is interesting to read and causes one to look at ourselves – how much do we want to live by our "flesh" instead of by God's Holy Spirit??? This book is insightful and causes one to look deep within and ask God to search our hearts and lives to see what changes each one of us needs to make to become more like Christ. If you want to grow in your Spiritual life, this book will definitely help you reflect/act on exactly what needs to be done to achieve that!! A ladies' Bible study in my home is using this book for our study now. A study guide is furnished in the back of the book so that each individual knows which chapters to read, answer the questions, and be ready for group discussion when you meet. I believe you will find that each individual will change "from the inside out" through this study.

If you just want to sit back and enjoy a good read while the snow comes down, then pick up

**BRYSON CITY SEASONS By Walt Larimore, MD.**

This wonderful book is a sequel to the book many of us read last year – Bryson City Tales. I shared with the International Literature chairman that many of you wanted the sequels to the books, so they accommodated us by bringing this one in this year. The author continues sharing the stories of his medical practice in the foothills of the North Carolina Smoky Mountains and the interesting adventures abound! I bought it last year after reading the first one, and thoroughly enjoyed it. By the way, there is a 3rd sequel called Bryson City Secrets which I enjoyed also. (Note: On our way to FUM Triennial last July, we "toured" Bryson City to see the area referred to in the book – quite interesting.) So, sit back this winter and enjoy the many wonderful books suggested by USFWI for your spiritual growth and enjoyment.

*Ethel Watson*  
*USFW Iowa Literature*

## Friends Disaster Service Work Opportunities!

Calling all carpenters, plumbers, electricians and wannabes. Once again, Iowa Yearly Meeting has the opportunity to cooperate with Eastern Region FDS in repairing hurricane and storm damaged homes in Texas and Indiana. This is an opportunity to not only help people who have suffered severe damage to their homes and lives, but also to meet and work with Friends from other parts of the country in a common rebuilding task. The usual procedure is to travel to the work site on Saturday and/or Sunday, work Monday through Friday, and then start home Saturday morning

**TRIP ONE** - 1042 miles from Oskaloosa. 16-17 hours estimated driving time.

Could you organize a volunteer trip to League City, TX, to help hurricane victims for one or more weeks from February 1 - 27th of 2009. We will be working to rehab damaged houses under the supervision of our Texas Director, Tom Hoke. Jim Moore and Jim Secaur will oversee the first two weeks. Bob Winn will be on the scene the second two weeks to culminate our presence in Texas.

Volunteers are asked to consider a \$10.00 per day per person donation to help with food expenses. FDS provides all food, drink and snack requirements for its volunteers. Our shower trailer with a washer/dryer unit and our tool trailer will accompany us. Housing will be at the League City Friends Church. You will need to bring personal hygiene items, casual and work clothes, a pillow and bedding as well as a cot or vinyl mattress.

**Work weeks are:**

**February 1 - 6, 8 - 13, 15 - 20, and 22 - 27**

**TRIP TWO** - 490 miles from Oskaloosa. 7-8 hours estimated driving time.

From March 29 - April 17th of 2009 our focus again turns to Columbus, IN. Last fall we successfully completed over 2,100 man hours in three weeks of work there and 15 families were able to return to their homes. More than 5000 houses and businesses near Columbus were flooded in the storms early last spring. There is still much to be done.

The Sandcreek-Azalia Friends Church 12 miles south will be our "bunkhouse". Pastor C. G. White and his entire congregation were most hospitable during our last stay and has invited us to return. United Way has a huge list of needy addresses in Columbus, IN.

**Work weeks are:**

**March 29 - April 3, April 5 - 10, and 12 - 17**

**If you want to be involved in either or both of the above projects, write Dennis White , Box 803, Postville, IA 52162; email - dennis673@centurytel.net; or phone - 563-864-3858 or cell phone 563-379-2744**

# Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

## **Grinnell First Friends - Todd Follette, Pastor** (an article submitted by Brockie Follette)

### ***"The Lemonade Stand"***

This past August I took my 11 year old daughter, Christa, to the Missions Banquet at Iowa Yearly Meeting. The speaker for the banquet was Judy Davis who was going to be sharing about her work at the Kaimosi Hospital in Kenya, Africa. Since my husband and I had been working on building an awareness of missions in Christa's life through exposure to different missionaries around the world, I thought she might enjoy an upclose and personal view from Judy.

After the banquet was over, we started our 30 minute drive back home. I looked in the rear view mirror at Christa. She was quiet, but I could see the "wheels" in her head turning. She announced, "You know, my friends and I haven't done our lemonade stand yet this summer." (this was a tradition that she started with her friends Kate & Catherine a couple of years ago - money raised would be given to charity. Last year they raised \$14 for Hospice) She continues with her verbal processing, "Do you think we could have the money from our lemonade stand go towards the Kaimosi Hospital?" I told her I thought it was a good idea and encouraged her to start organizing the venture with her friends when we returned home.

And organize she did!!! The next thing I knew the lemonade stand had turned into a lemonade/smoothie/snowcone/craft stand. She was busy every day making homemade cards, earrings and bracelets. She also asked if we could put the time, date and place of the lemonade stand in the Sunday bulletin for our church so people could drop by. The following Sunday when the announcement ran, Christa already had \$18 of donations from church attendees who wouldn't be able to come by the stand during the week. She was very excited about the amount since it exceeded the total money earned from last year's stand. She was also contacted by a friend of ours who runs a quilt shop. She offered finished quilted items that could no longer be displayed in the store to be sold at the stand. I was amazed as I started watching the seed of Christa's idea grow bigger and bigger.

The day of operation came and the stand was selling smoothies, snowcones and crafts like hotcakes! The girls eyes really lit up when someone gave them a \$100 donation. They could hardly contain their pre-teen squeals. In the end a total of \$384 was raised! I couldn't believe my ears. Christa pulled out a handout she had received from the missions banquet telling what the monthly salary would be for a nurse at the Kaimosi Hospital. The girls were thrilled when they realized the earnings from the stand could pay for 2 months salary of a nurse.

It is amazing what god can do with a 11 year old and a 30 minute drive home. Kid of reminds me of a storey about a young boy with a few fish and some loves of Bread.

## **College Avenue Friends - Tom Palmer, Pastor**

Dear Friends,

As some of you are aware we have undertaken many renovations to College Avenue Friends (CAF) Church over the past few years. These efforts have helped us make CAF Church more comfortable, energy efficient, and structurally sound. With these renovations we have replaced items that have much sentimental value. One such item is the stained glass windows and hardware. In an effort to fund our projects we have sold many of these windows to church members, friends, and family. I want to apologize that I have not communicated the availability of these windows earlier. Fortunately, we still have several windows, of different sizes, available. If you are interested in purchasing a window, please feel free to contact me at (641) 676-1656.

Thank you. Mike Fogle, Restore and Grow Committee

## **West Branch Friends - Ruthie Tippin, Pastor**

A history of the Springdale Cabin at Camp Quaker Heights recently appeared in the meeting's newsletter. (This cabin sits behind the boy's cabin area) It is listed as one of the oldest structures on sight and was built in memory of Genevieve Millett (sister of Ray and Roscoe Millett of West Branch Friends) who died of a brain tumor in 1950 at the age of 36. Her uncle, Tom Davis, and many others from West Branch did a lot of the construction of the cabin. Today, the cabin is being updated for continued use at the camp (thanks to Keith Mardock of Hesper Friends).

## **Deaths:**

**Sadie Vernon** (founder of the Belize Girls School and then Belize Boys School) passed away at the end of November of 2008.

"God does work in mysterious ways because four of us from the USFWI board were already planning on leaving the Thursday before her services for a five day visit in Belize. We were able to represent USFWI at the service.

One of the projects for USFWI's United Thank Offering is for Sadie's Retirement Fund. Sadie was very instrumental in getting Friends work in Belize. She accomplished so many things as she tried to improve conditions and opportunities for so many people. We have been privileged to know her and work with her."

Mary Glenn Hadley  
President/Presiding Clerk, USFWI

**Reminder: Memorials are to be sent to:**  
**Marie Moffitt**  
**15529 Kennedy St.**  
**Indianola, IA 51025**



# WPU Campus Ministry News

*"Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel...Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. Tychicus, the dear brother and faithful servant in the Lord, will tell you everything, so that you also may know how I am and what I am doing. I am sending him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are, and that he may encourage you. Ephesians 6:19-23"*

Many years have been up and down, but this has been a steady year in campus ministry at William Penn University. Campus ministry freshmen interns have been consistent servants who have helped in set up, music, speaking, planning, and counseling other students. They have initiated new programs and helped other programs stabilize.

Chapel has seen a collection of students, faculty and staff sharing their faith stories. Our evening meeting has had different discussions ranging from alcohol abuse to leadership settled on the Upside down Kingdom of God. There was always some fun along the way. (Note the blue hair at the Halloween meeting pictured below)

Those that know me know how I love music and this year the worship team took many forms. Our worship team was student led and The



Restoration Rock band was developed for other events which included classic rock and roll and blue grass music, all centered on Jesus.

Like Paul and Tychicus above, I would love to travel with WPU students to your churches and share our music and testimonies with you. I would love to have still more interns to administer the office, lead bible studies, start up a Habitat for Humanity chapter, chaplain sports teams and more. **May we all fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel in 2009!**



## Teacher Training Workshop Motor Friends Church

**FOR WHO:** Any one interested in teaching, leading a small group, or improving there personal study skills

**WHEN:** Sunday February 1st

**TIME:** 2 pm - 7 pm

**SUPPER:** provided for freewill donation

**CONTACT:** Angie Gentry 515-238-5844

**REQUEST:** if possible please RSVP to Angie Gentry by Sunday January 25th so that we can get an approximate count for Supper

## Free Falling

Little did I know the few weeks ago when I wrote that what kind of changes God had in store for us. Vennard College recently announced that it would close the end of this semester. Meaning, after December Sam and I would not be employed. Those were not the "changes" we were anticipating. However, the LORD has very gently reminded me of a dear moment in my childhood.

"Becky," He said, "Do you remember when your daddy would put you up on a ledge and with great anticipation you would leap into his loving embrace? You never once questioned if he would catch you or worried if he would falter."



I remembered giggling almost uncontrollably and wanting to jump over and over again. I enjoyed the feeling of free falling into my daddy's strong and waiting arms. The Spirit of God has been reminding me that He is more loving towards me than my earthly father ever was and that He is more than capable to catch me. This realization has helped me to open my eyes wide and see that God is at work even in the free fall. I know my heavenly Father has a plan and I am anticipating His warm embrace.

(editor's note: Sam and Becky are on an accelerated plan to serve in Belize. Their target move date is now April. Any contributions to their support can be sent to our office or to the FUM office at: 101 Quaker Hill Dr., Richmond, IN 47374 please write "Barber Support" on the memo line of your check))

**THE IOWA FRIEND**

**P.O. Box 657**

**Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

phone (641) 673-9717

e-mail [iaym@mahaska.org](mailto:iaym@mahaska.org)

website [www.iaym.org](http://www.iaym.org)

January 2009 Vol. 64 - No. 1

# *The Iowa Friend*

Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**

Oskaloosa, Iowa  
Permit No. 544

Change

Service Requested

---

## 2008 REPORT AND 2009 FORECAST

*By: Ron Bryan, General Superintendent*

I think it is important that we share with all of our members the news from 2008 and what is proposed for 2009.

For the 2008 annual report we will show a definite completion of the year financially in the black. While we were all apprehensive for the last three months, we saw a surge and catch up in giving that was marvelous. I just had the impression everyone was tentative.

From the reports we received in June for our churches membership we saw an increase in membership for 13 of our churches and a decrease for 8, the rest remaining the same, with a few not sending in reports. While we have not reached a conclusion yet about the Pleasant Ridge withdrawal, overall, I see a very positive upswing for our churches. It is wonderful to hear the stories about what God is doing in increased interest and attendance for several of our churches.

The challenge for 2009 will come fairly soon. We are working through the approved plan of adding a part-time Director of Youth during this year. While we ended the year 2008 very well, the 2009 returned pledges indicate an attempt to hold the line in giving to the budget. We were under budget by approximately \$25,000 for 2008 which allowed us to end in the black. However, the cost of the Director of Youth position is estimated at \$25,000-\$30,000. While we could meet this by fulfilling the budget it will be determined by the churches in their giving. So there is the challenge, be cautious and tentative or move forward. The Body of Representatives has said we need to move forward, now the churches will each need to help in making this come to fruition.

# Camp Quaker Heights

## Pastor's Mini-Ministry Retreat

We are eager to host you again for a mini-ministry retreat! We will hold the retreats in Tall Oaks Lodge on the following dates:

Mar. 18-19, 2009

April 8-9, 2009 and

April 17-18, 2009

(please note that the February date was cancelled due to the Pastor's Short Course in Oskaloosa)

The dates set aside fall on different days of the week, and hopefully one will work for you. We will need at least 3 participants at each event, and no more than 8 participants, couples, or teams. Spouses as well as co-laborers in the ministry are welcome. There will be NO CHARGE. Meals are provided, as are linens and towels in each private guest room.

The event will begin with a supper, and end the following day after the noon meal. Folks are invited to come early in the day to enjoy the quiet of the facility. Schedules with specifics will be sent to registered participants a week to 10 days before the retreat, and all guests will be asked to participate in discussions, and plan to wholly participate in the 18-hour event. Please email your chosen date and I'll reserve your spot!

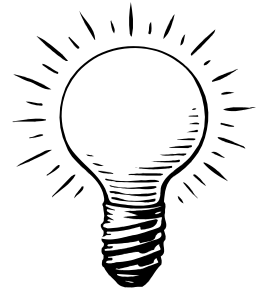
## I Love Camp Quaker Heights



The I CQH visits have been scheduled, but we do ask that you consider how you will encourage your meeting to gather a special offering for camp. In previous years each church collected an offering on a certain day, and we have chosen not to promote it in that manner. However, we DO need these additional gifts to move forward. We regret that we're only able to visit with a handful of churches but are eager to work with you should you have a particular need. Occasionally, we can offer the I CQH program at a different time of the year, should you wish.

*Linda Garrison, Camp Administrator*

## IOWA YEARLY MEETING YOUTH MINISTRIES



### Mid-Winter Outreach Event

**January 9-11, 2009**

Middle River Friends Church  
& Sleepy Hollow sports Park  
for High School and  
college age youth

COST: \$110 please go to [iaym.org](http://iaym.org)  
and look in youth ministry for more  
information and release form

---

## 2009 Young Friends Camps At Camp Quaker Heights June 2009



Little Fry Camp	June 5 - 7th
Fox Camp	June 7 - 11th
HS Weekender	June 12-14th
Junior High Camp	June 14 - 19th
High School Camp	June 21 - 26th
JH Weekender	June 26 - 28th
Fry Camp	June 28 - July 1st