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# The Iowa Friend

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December 2011 Vol. 66 No. 11

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

*By Ron Bryan—General Superintendent*

Happy holidays, merry Xmas or Merry Christmas. Christmas trees or holiday trees, that is the great and powerful question, right? Santa Claus or no Santa Claus, gifts, family gatherings, food and carol singing, that is what we debate, anticipate or expect nowadays, right?

I hope in the midst of this turbulent season and period of history in the world and in America, we don't forget, Christ the Risen Savior. We are all stressed about something and many more than usual, because of the unemployment, and challenges to our families and to our faith. However, do we really think it is worse than ever before in the history of mankind?

Or do we believe in an all knowing and all encompassing God who burst forth in the history of mankind some 2,000 years ago by sending a baby through a miraculous birth, who grew and became a man who was truly God man and willing to be obedient even unto death on a cross in order to make way open for all of us to have a true personal relationship with our living Savior.

The Angels sang of glory and thanks, we should not forget to do likewise. And in the season of extreme political correctness let us not shy or shrink away from telling others why we have hope!!! This is an eternal hope, and can be known by letting the Spirit speak to us and by inviting that Spirit of Jesus Christ into our heart and soul.

As I write this I think, 'boy I have said this and written this before the readers will think I am redundant' but I am feeling and thinking that it is as important right now as ever before. Is the Spirit of Christ actively transforming us in and through our heart? Are we open to an ever-growing renewing of our mind that is being transformed and becoming more Christ like every day? Have I succumbed to the notion that if it is offensive to someone to tell them about my Hope, then I should just remain silent and avoid the conditions and hurts of this world? Or what should I say to the ever spiraling downward condition of humanity, when God is left out?

Let us give thanks, let us sing praises to our Immanuel, and be not afraid of what the judges or people might say or do to us. Jesus Christ paid it all; shall we not give Him our all in response?

# December FUM Ministry of the Month\* Kaimosi Hospital

When Friends United Meeting agreed to take over the management responsibility of Kaimosi Hospital in 2006, we knew it was a step in faith. Even though the hospital had been held in high esteem in its earlier history, the prior two decades had been rough and the hospital was on the verge of closing. East Africa Yearly Meeting turned to FUM for help. After all, the hospital is very much needed in this densely populated area of Kenya and is a great opportunity for Friends to answer Jesus' call to care for the "least of these" (Matthew 25) in His name.

The General Board agreed to a subsidy of \$50,000 a year for the hospital. They also appointed a Task Force to monitor progress and present regular reports. So far, you have succeeded in meeting this commitment, but the need is still great! You may make donations to: (1) the Hospital General Fund for medicines, utilities, etc.; (2) Adopt-A-Nurse which helps pay salaries; (3) Eden



Grace who participates on the hospital management team and travels regularly to Kaimosi Hospital from the Africa Ministries Office.

We thank God for the many Friends who have responded with prayers and financial help since 2006, resulting in on-time payment of salaries and much needed hospital repairs and equipment, and the faithfulness of some staff members who have continued working in the good times and those more challenging.

*\*Each month through December 2012, we will focus on a different ministry of Friends United Meeting. This "Ministry of the Month" corresponds with the FUM wall calendar that is available for \$15 from [www.fum.org/](http://www.fum.org/)*

Send to: Friends United Meeting, 101 Quaker Hill Drive, Richmond IN 47374

(765) 962-7573 • [info@fum.org](mailto:info@fum.org) • Secure online credit card donations can be made at [www.fum.org](http://www.fum.org)

## Transitions

FCNL has announced a leadership transition. Diane Randall will be the 4th Executive Secretary since 1943. She is an active member at Hartford Friends Meeting and active in New England Yearly Meeting.

Colin Saxton (of Northwest Yearly Meeting) will begin his duties as the General Secretary of FUM on January 1st of 2012. Please pray for his family as they make this transition.

FWCC announced Robin Mohr as the new Executive Secretary. Robin is a member of the San Francisco Monthly Meeting of Friends of Pacific Yearly Meeting. She has worked professionally in organizational fund-raising since 1999 and has been the director of development of the California Resource and Referral Network since 2008. She graduated from Georgetown University with a Bachelor of Science of Foreign Service and a concentration in Regional Studies in Latin America. She has lived in Mexico and Colombia and speaks fluent Spanish.

The new General Superintendent at Northwest Yearly Meeting will be Becky Ankeny. Becky, a member of Newberg Friends, has served many years at [George Fox University](http://www.georgefox.edu) and NWYM in a number of leadership capacities.

## Iowa Yearly Meeting Schedule

### December 2011

- 12/8 MFC Board Meeting @ 5:30 pm at Mesquakie
- 12/9 Planning Committee meeting 10 am @ Oskaloosa
- 12/24-26 Offices closed for Christmas Holiday
- 12/31—1/2 Offices closed for New Year's holiday
- 12/30—1/1 Midwinter Young Friends Event @ CQH

### January 2012

- 1/7 Stewardship Board Meeting @ 9am in Oskaloosa
- 1/14 Missions Board Meeting @ 9:30 in Grinnell

### February 2012

- 2/8-11 FUM General Board Meetings
- 2/25 QuakerMen Family Banquet at noon @ WPU

### March 2012

- 3/10 Missions Board Meeting @ 9:30 in Grinnell
- 3/17 BOC Meeting @ 9AM in Oskaloosa
- 3/19-21 Beane Lecture and Pastors Short Course @ WPU
- 3/31 Spring Body of Representative @ Motor Friends

### April 2012

- 4/6-8 Offices closed for Easter
- 4/14 USFW Spring Fling @ Marshalltown Friends



### Beane Lecture Series @ WPU

Dr. Paul Anderson, of George Fox Seminary, will be the featured speaker at the 2012 Beane Lecture Series. The date for the lecture has been set for March 19-20, 2012. The annual lecture is held at William Penn University.

### African Style Worship Service in Minneapolis

For several weeks now Spencer Thury and I having been working on the arrangements for group of Iowa Yearly Meeting people, which include Church Extension, Mission and William Penn students, to travel to Minneapolis, MN, December 10-11. It begun as a request from a former Kenyan William Penn Student, Phena Shimaka, to come and help lead an African Friends style worship service. Minneapolis Friends Meeting has demonstrated and given much leadership in planning, organizing and encouraging this event. John Muharji is traveling up from Richmond, Indiana and George & Rose Kamwesa are coming from Columbus, Ohio as well to join our group of 11 from Iowa.

The purpose and desire is to help lead a African style worship service, while possibly initiating a regular worship service similar to the Kenyan type of worship. Minneapolis Friends is wanting to host this gathering and are actively pursuing inviting many Africans beyond Kenya to come and participate. We will gather for a Saturday evening time of worship and speaking as well as a Sunday morning service, both being enhanced by times of food and fellowship. Our William Penn students will be sharing their gifts & talents in music and worship. Please be in prayer for this time because it may become a model for future such gatherings across North America.

## Scholarships Opportunities

### Trustees Scholarship

Applications are now being taken for a \$500 college scholarship to be distributed in the 2nd semester of the 2012-2013 academic school year (January of 2013).

College students within Iowa Yearly Meeting are encouraged to seek an application through the Yearly Meeting Office. Deadline for this scholarship is January 1st, 2012. A recipient will be determined at Spring Body 2012.

#### Make inquiries to:

IAYM, PO Box 657

Oskaloosa, IA 52577

(641) 673-9717 or email at

[iaym@mahaska.org](mailto:iaym@mahaska.org)

Thank You!

### Mission Scholarships From our IAYM Mission Board

Iowa Mission Board Offers Short-Term Mission Scholarships The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board announces that scholarship funds are available for adults and youth within Iowa Yearly Meeting for short term mission trips. Guidelines for this opportunity are available at the yearly meeting office and can be found on the IAYM website. The maximum amount for each scholarship is \$150. Deadlines for Applications are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. Contact the Yearly Meeting office for more information!

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2012-13 academic school year. People within Iowa Yearly Meeting who want to pursue an education at a Christian college or an accredited college or seminary 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 2012-2013 scholarship, please contact Mary Glenn Hadley, IAYM Mission's Board, 611 South R St. #6, Indianola, IA 50125 or call 515-961-0606. The deadline is March 1, 2012.



### Iowa Pastors

### Association

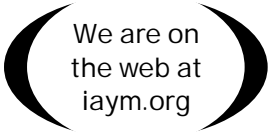
#### Ruthie Tippin, President

What do Mary Thury, Victor and Brenda White, Linda Garrison, Ron Bryan, Spencer Thury, and Chip Daleske all have in common? They all love and serve God, and minister faithfully through the work of Iowa Yearly Meeting. On campus at William Penn, at Camp Quaker Heights, at Mesquakie Friends Center, and through the Main Office, these Friends serve to meet the needs of individuals and churches throughout Iowa Yearly Meeting. This Christmas, consider sending a gift of joy and appreciation to our staff. Checks can be mailed to: Wes Blanchard, Iowa Pastors Association Treasurer, 12172 150<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Indianola, IA 50125. All gifts will be divided equally, as per our testimony of equality. Thank you!



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# MID-WINTER

**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE AGE PEOPLE  
GET ON YOUR WARMEST GEAR AND HEAD TO COH DEC 30-JAN 1  
ARLEN DALESKE ALONG WITH JASON MORAD AND CO. WILL BE  
LEADING WORSHIP...**

**&  
CHIP HAS BEEN THINKING UP CRAZY WAYS TO HAVE FUN IN THE  
SNOW AND ICE AND PLANNING A NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

### **What to Bring:**

- Sleeping Bag & Pillow
- Bibles, Notebooks, Pens, etc.
- Sleds, Skis, Ice Skates, etc.
- Warm Winter Clothes
- Friends!!!

Registration Cost: \$120  
Download registrations at  
[www.iaym.org/youthministries](http://www.iaym.org/youthministries)  
Or the IAYM Youth Facebook  
page

Registration begins at 6pm  
on Dec 30  
Final session ends at 11am  
on Jan 1



Questions?  
Call Chip Daleske at  
319-939-6611  
Or email him at  
[iaymyouth@mahaska.org](mailto:iaymyouth@mahaska.org)