

THE IOWA FRIEND

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

What is Revival?

by: Tom Showalter, General Superintendent

“If we call upon the Lord, He has promised in His Word to answer, to bring the unsaved to Himself, to pour out His Spirit among us. If we don’t call upon the Lord, He has promised nothing. Nothing at all. It’s as simple as that.” (Cymbala, 1997)

Do we really want REVIVAL?

We say we do...

We claim we do...

We pray for revival...But do we really want to see revival in our midst?

I think many people today are somewhat confused about what revival really is...

To many Christians today, a REVIVAL is merely the series of meetings in which a guest preacher comes to preach with the desired outcome of new converts to Christianity...this however is a description of a revival service.

One definition of revival reads, “To bring back to life or consciences.”

If we were to take this and apply it to the Church today, it would mean a process by which the spiritual life and power of Gods people are once again brought back, or restored to them...

So if we look at the word “revival,” we can determine that the act of revival is to deal with the existing complacency within the church, not the much emphasized and publicized act of attending a revival service...

Friends, it is crucial for us to realize that true revival involves restoring spiritual life and power within the Christians who make up any particular church. We must come to realize that the focus of revival should be to restore health to the stagnant spiritual condition of Christianity within the Church...

Charles Finney once said, “revival is the renewal of the first love of Christians, resulting in the awakening and conversion of sinners to God...” So basically, Finney was saying that when the Church is revived, salvation of the lost will follow....

If we, the Church, were to come before God in our sinful state and fall on our knees before him, if we would confess our sinfulness and turn back to God in true brokenness, if we would come to God in true repentance, then God would forgive us, and cleanse us.. Yes, God would REVIVE US... (“...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land” 2 Chronicles 7:14).

And if God were to revive us, there would be such power in our lives and in our churches that all those around us, including the lost, would see the true transformation in our lives and they would realize that they have a need for that kind of transformation....

So, do we really want to see true revival in our midst?

Lamentations 3:40 (NIV)

40 Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the LORD.

Works Cited

Cymbala, J. (1997). *Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire: What Happens When God's Spirit Invades the Hearts of His People*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House.

Camp Quaker Heights Updates

By: Nancy Stevens, Missions Board

Quaker Heights is well-known around Iowa Yearly Meeting but do you know how Chip and Alicia Daleske became involved with Camp Quaker Heights? Chip attended Camp Quaker Heights from 4th grade through high school except for one year. He also worked there as summer staff for 2 or 3 years. During this time, he remembers thinking this would be the coolest job. How fun to be around kids, Christian camping, and maintaining the campgrounds for a job!



Chip and Alicia rented the house on Camp Quaker Heights in the summer of 2005. Chip was hired as a part-time maintenance and summer staff. Then in 2007 Chip's position changed to part-time maintenance and Director of Youth to help with programming of camp and IAYM Youth activities. He remained in this position until January 2013. Chip was then hired as the Administrator and Alicia as the Administration Assistant of Camp Quaker Heights.

Chip is responsible for maintenance, plowing, hiring staff and working with the Camp board, churches, and volunteers. Alicia works with the books, finances, staff training, insurance, and pay checks. She has also done cooking for groups renting Tall Oaks. She is also the one who encourages some relaxation time for Chip and Staff during peak times. That is one disadvantage to living on the campgrounds , WORK is always right outside the window.

Volunteers are ESSENTIAL to Camp Quaker Heights, especially in the spring when preparing for camp season. Three groups have work days at the campground in the spring; the Iowa Yearly Meeting, the E-NP High School, and Home Educators' Group. Chip said he could not handle it all without volunteers to mow, work on the mini-golf course, and clean-up

grounds and cabins throughout the year.

The individual cabins are used during the camping season through October. While Tall Oaks has a lot of return family groups. He said Word of Mouth has been the best advertising for Tall Oaks. It is exciting to find out that Tall Oaks brought in the highest income this year since opening.

Improvements since 2013 include new pavement, a maintenance shed with solar panels, and a bike shed. The Divine Cabin at the entrance to camp was also purchased, gutted, and renovated.

Chip wrote a grant to receive 20 trees from Trees Forever and Alliant Energy. In the fall of 2015 the Quakerdale Eagles and other volunteers helped plant these around the campground. Two new trees to plant arrive each spring and fall thanks to Alliant Energy. Replacing fluorescent bulbs with LED in the cabins and dining hall is the helping with energy savings. This spring they will do the Chapel and bathhouse lights. Chip's new project is to cut up trees that were downed at Quakerdale to add to the firewood supply sold at camp.

He and Alicia love living at camp! They can stay close to their children, Elizabeth 11 and Joshua born in 2016. They have a large yard for running and playing. Elizabeth has a constant supply of friends around during camping season. Chip has noticed she is taking interest in the scheduling and who will be around that week or weekend. He is also looking forward to the day when Joshua can work around the grounds with him. Chip feels very lucky and privileged to work at Camp Quaker Heights. He loves it and so does his family. One of Chip's dreams is to bring the camp to full potential and see the Quaker Camp programs expand. We look forward to seeing that dream come to fruition.

Allen James Bowman, 94, of Oskaloosa passed away Thursday, January 19, 2017,

He was born J.V. Bowman on June 2, 1922, to J.V. and Sarah Evalina (Evie) Bowman in Butler, Oklahoma. Early on he was called "Allen," and the name stuck. His father was a Friends pastor and evangelist, so Allen and his family moved frequently to various towns in Kansas and Oklahoma during his school years. In 1939, he graduated from high school in Vera, Oklahoma.

He attended the Friends Bible College in Haviland, Kansas for two years. From there, he went to Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky, where his auburn thatch earned him the nickname "Red." There he met his future wife, Martina Cummings. He graduated from Asbury in 1944. He and Martina married in September of 1946.

In 1947, Allen and Martina moved to Alva, Oklahoma, where Allen served as the pastor of the Alva Friends Church. In 1950, the family moved to Wichita, Kansas, where Allen taught at Friends University and pastored the North Wichita Friends Church. In 1959, the family moved to Albany, California. Allen pastored the Berkeley Friends Church while studying for a Masters in Sacred Theology at the Pacific School of Religion.

In 1966, the family moved to Oskaloosa, Iowa, where he taught religious studies and biblical languages at William Penn College. He later became the campus minister as well. He and Martina retired in 1990 and took up traveling, including several trips in the U.S. and Europe.

Allen was actively involved in the College Avenue Friends Church and the Y's Men Club. He was an avid vegetable gardener at the Penn College garden plots and became well known for his popcorn. He had a great love of music, which he shared with his children.

Allen was a dedicated walker which kept him healthy and hale into his 90s. Once he and Martina moved to the Homestead assisted living facility, he often walked a mile (eight laps), usually with family friend and "third son," Tom Palmer.

Allen's family includes his children and their spouses: Bill and Kim Bowman of Lake Forest, California, Julie Bowman and Scott Bates of Evanston, Illinois, and his daughter-in-law, Karla Bowman, of Canal Fulton, Ohio; his four grandchildren: Camille Bates, Evan Bates, Aiden Bowman and Liam Bowman; his sister, Retha Christians, and numerous in-laws, nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Allen is preceded in death by his wife, Martina, his son, David Bowman, his sisters, Burdeen Smith and Bonita Davis, and his brother, Tom Bowman.

50 Days of Prayer for Revival

All the churches of Iowa Yearly Meeting are urged to join in 50 Days of Prayer from February 4 to March 25.

This united prayer effort is sponsored by IAYM Ministry and Counsel.

Daily Prayer – Weekly Small Groups

During the seven weeks following February 4, everyone is encouraged to commit to pray daily for revival. A daily prayer guide, *Pursuing Pentecost*, is available to help guide those prayer times.

The four themes are intimacy with God, purity, unity and power of the Holy Spirit.

A Facebook page is available to allow people across the Yearly Meeting to connect with prayer requests, answers to prayer, or updates on what God is doing in your meeting.

Concluding Meeting

@ LeGrand Friends

The 50 Days of Prayer will conclude with a special revival meeting on Saturday, **March 25**. This holy convocation will be held following Spring Body of Representatives at **approximately 2:00-4:00 p.m.** All churches are encouraged to gather together at this time and hear what the Lord will say to us through a special speaker and gifted musicians.

Steve Pedigo will be the speaker for the March 25 meeting.

Steve and Marlene led an inner-city ministry in Chicago for 30 years and he is currently pastor at Westfield Friends in Indiana. Steve has a masters' degree from Asbury Seminar and Ph.D from North Park Seminary in Chicago. He is passionate about the life transforming power of Jesus Christ.



Why I am a Conscientious Objector

By: James Tower—Christian Social Concerns Committee

I recently watched the Movie Hacksaw Ridge, about Desmond Doss, the first American conscientious objector to win the Congressional Medal of Honor. Despite his religious convictions that killing was wrong—and despite suffering great persecution by his company for refusing to carry a firearm—Doss displayed bravery his fellow soldiers never imagined he possessed as he single-handedly saved 36 wounded men from certain death. In the movie, Doss flashes back to a time he had nearly killed his alcoholic father with a gun after standing up for his mother during domestic violence. Doss had subsequently sworn to God he would never again touch a firearm. Like Doss, my convictions about conscientious objection share roots in traumatic personal experience with violence, but they are also shaped by my faith in Jesus, specifically my convictions about living out his teachings... especially the radical ones like loving one's enemies and praying for those who would persecute me for my service to Jesus.

Like many young boys, I will admit to my swashbuckling fantasies. I have a strategic sort of mind that would lend itself well to warfare, and I suffer from PTSD for abuse suffered as a child. While I admit a natural tendency toward violence, I also know in my heart an earnest struggle not to succumb to its temptations. Despite all of this, I have a sincere desire to take Jesus at his word, to not just dismiss the parts of Christianity that are radical. When I read the sermon on the Mount in Mt 5-7, I can't help but feel convicted that Jesus is right. Those who live by the sword will die by the sword, and Jesus I believe, in disarming Peter, gave an example that we as Christians are not to bear the sword, but are to do as Jesus did and bring healing even to those who attempt to persecute us. When I read about Jesus disarming Peter, I felt God's conviction that he also wanted to disarm me.

It is not my intention to call into question the sincerity of those who have served in the military. I am from a military family, and know many who have signed up for the armed services because they want to make the world a better place. At the same time, the example Jesus alluded to when he said "greater love has no one than this, that one would lay down one's life for one's friends" was the example of the cross, not the sword of a Zealot. When Jesus told his disciples to buy swords in Luke 22, it was a prophetic sign about the nature of Jesus' death pointing to his identity as the Suffering Servant of Isaiah 53, not a proof text for the 2nd Amendment. To force these interpretations back into the bible is to miss what the bible has to say about who Jesus is and what he came to do. Jesus gave his life for us, but he was not willing to kill for us. Moreover, Jesus' vision of liberty was not limited only to freedom for the oppressed from the oppressor. Jesus laid down his life for the oppres-

or too, for the sins of the whole world not just the weak at the mercy of the strong.

Jesus wanted freedom for the oppressor, and the oppressed. He was well acquainted, as an Israelite, with the all too human examples of those who rose up to take power from their oppressors only to become oppressors themselves. Jesus demonstrated a third path, a way to avoid an endless cycle of violence by refusing to contribute toward its continuation. Rather than looking at examples and bravery only through the lens of violence, I think we should also look at those, like Jesus or MLK Jr, who transcended violence and sought peace using the tools of peace. Who strove for God's vision of peace like we see in Micah 4. I think the biblical example of what one should hope and strive for is what we see in the story of the apostle Paul, a religious terrorist coming to know Jesus as Lord and leaving his days of persecution in the name of religion behind him. As Shane Claiborne once said, "If we as Christians believe that terrorists are beyond redemption, we can throw out a third of our New Testament because it was written by a former religious terrorist." Rather than praying only "for our troops" as it were, how about praying God would awaken countless "apostle Pauls" for the Muslim world in our day? That seems to me more the authentic expression of biblical Christianity than the blind patriotic version of civil religion that is often celebrated on a Sunday morning in many churches across our great land.

The truth is, being convicted about being a conscientious objector is not cowardice, any more than Jesus taking up his cross was cowardice. It is not being unwilling to serve our country, it is being unwilling to put our country up on the throne of God, thus saying with our lives in response to a call to service, "I will serve you only this far, until the point my faith starts to conflict." I wholeheartedly support the full participation of Christians in government service, as long as they are willing to bring their Christian values into that service.

That is why I am a conscientious objector. I take very seriously those red words of Jesus in the bible. I take very seriously the impact of violence on my life, and have carefully considered the ways I choose not to let it echo through my little corner of the world. I look at the damage my family has experienced from the aftermath of war: PTSD, addiction, child abuse, divorce on both sides of my family tree... and I say the cycle ends with me through God's grace. Jesus said love our enemies. To me that means others can see me as their enemy, but I have to die to my claim that other people can be enemies of mine. You are free to disagree, to "carry your sword as long as you can" in the words of George Fox to William Penn. But to me, God's love has driven out my fear.

IAYM: Blizzard Blast. '17

Feb 17(6pm)-Feb 18 (6am)

Start at Marshalltown Friends Church and pick-up at YMCA

For more info and to Register online visit IAYM.org/Events.

Want a break from shoveling snow and go swimming in March?

An all night JH event (5th-8th grades) full of fun, games, food, and most importantly, worship. Spend time getting to know new friends, getting together with old friends in a fun safe environment.

Cost is only \$25 per person! Must register online by Feb 12th or \$30 after that. For more information, ask your youth director or e-mail Jacob Pribble or Kris Smitherman.

jacpribble@gmail.com

kris.smitherman@gmail.com

2016 Shenanigans



Derek Robinson
from the band
Tuesday Nights
from William Penn
University

Winter Family Banquet Saturday, February 25

Speaker: Mike Conan
"The Importance of Men's Ministry in the Church"

Free early bird session at 10:00 AM
Banquet @ 11:30 AM
Pie Auction to Follow

Music provided by Fairfield Friends Worship Team

\$17 by Feb. 19 \$20 at the door

**Register @ rcnichols4210@gmail.com
Or text/call 515-729-1072**

Location: Wm. Penn University MTC Atrium,
Oskaloosa, Iowa

Summer Friends Camp @ CQH June 2017

2-4 Young Adult
Weekender

9-11 Little Fry

11-16 Junior/Senior
High Camp

18-22 Elementary
Camp



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UPCOMING EVENTS

SPRING FLING for USFW

SAVE the DATE

Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 10am -
2pm at Lynnville Friends Church. More
information coming soon. Cost is \$10

**2016 Minute Books
Are now available for purchase**

**Contact the office to order your
copy!**

\$12 per book

February

17-18 Jr High Blizzard Blast
25th Winter Banquet hosted by
Quakers of Iowa

March

10-12 Ignite Retreat H.S. & Teen leaders
11 BOC meeting

@ College Avenue Friends Oskaloosa IA

25th Spring Body of Representatives

@ Mesquakie Friends Center Tama, IA

April

29th Spring Fling

Summer Friends Camp @ CQH June 2017

2-4 Young Adult Weekender

9-11 Little Fry

11-16 Jr/Sr High Camp

18-22 Elementary Camp

25-July 1 Kaleo Academy @ Barclay College

July

12-16 FUM Triennials

26-29th Annual Ministry Conference

@ William Penn University—Oskaloosa, IA