

The Iowa Friend

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

January 2018

Challenge for the New Year

By: Tom Showalter, General Superintendent

Global warming is either true or it is false. Understand that my opinion on the topic is irrelevant. Either it is factual or not. Often both sides of the debate use “proof” to support their particular perspective and ignore any evidence that disagrees. (**Disclaimer: please do not send me emails, letters, or other communications proving your claims to be true** ☺ I merely seek to make a greater point).

The same can be said regarding evolution and a myriad of other debated topics. The point, however, is to illustrate that opinion is irrelevant and the actualities are the essence.

Proverbs 14:12, “There is a way that appears to be right, but in the end it leads to death.” In other words, appearances can be deceiving and our ways can appear good, right, or worth pursuing, but the end result is not something worth pursuing. Who determines “right”? In Right from Wrong (Word, 1994, p. 17), Josh McDowell describes absolute truth as “that which is true for all people, for all times, for all places. Absolute truth is truth that is objective, universal, and constant.”

When it comes to the standard by which to measure our path, let’s examine these three aspects further: Objective, Constant, and Universal.

Objective: A true standard of right and wrong must be objective; that is, it must exist independently of what you or any other person thinks or feels. Otherwise, right and wrong could change from person-to-person. Your conscience is not an objective standard of right and wrong, because it does not exist independently of you, your opinions, and your feelings.

Constant: A true standard of right and wrong must be constant; that is, it must apply to all people in all places. If it did not, right and wrong may change from culture-to-culture or even from community-to-community.

Universal: A true standard of right and wrong must be universal; that is, it must be un-changing. It does not change with time. Otherwise, right and wrong might be different from generation-to-generation, or even from day-to-day. In the absence of a constant standard of right and wrong, you have no hope of knowing, from one minute to the next, whether an act is right or wrong (based upon McDowell’s Right from Wrong book).

Who we are, what we believe, and the path we pursue is of utmost importance. As we enter 2018, may we continue to pursue truth for the important pursuits of Iowa Yearly Meeting. We cannot merely uphold tradition if there is not a purpose for doing so. We must seek the absolutes and pursue God’s agenda as we move forward.

2018 Challenges For a New Year

As I read the Discipline, I find it crucial to challenge IAYM with these thoughts:

- 1) If you have not done so or have not in quite a while, read The Discipline (in addition to your Bibles, of course). Familiarize yourself with the operation of the local church and the Yearly Meeting. (The Discipline can be found on our website iaym.org under the “About Us” tab)
- 2) Pastors, keep in mind, the contract year is July 1 to June 30. Changes made outside that time frame make it more challenging to find another pastor to fill the vacant role.
- 3) Participation at Yearly Meeting sessions at the end of July is crucial. It is essential that your meeting sends delegates. For every fifty members, one delegate is to be sent along with pastoral staff to represent the interests of the local meeting. It is understood that some of our pastors are bi-vocational and unable to attend, but please make an effort to send representatives from your meeting.

Deeper in the Spirit Workshops

March 24 2 pm

**Surrender, Sanctification
and the Friends Baptism**

April 14 9:30 am

Hearing God

June 16 9:30 am

Open Worship & Friends Communion

September 8 9:30 am

Spiritual Gifts

October 6 9:30 am

Praying with Others for Healing

November 10 9:30 am

Roadblocks to Hearing God

January 12, 2019 9:30 am

Marketplace Ministry

February 9, 2019 9:30 am

Equipping Ministry & Leadership Gifts

Save the Date! February 24, 2018

Unprogrammed Worship

Sponsored by IAYM Ministry and Counsel Board

Friends across Iowa Yearly Meeting are invited to Grinnell Friends Church at 1:00 p.m. for a gathered time of Unprogrammed Worship. This is a follow-up to the 50 Days of Prayer experienced earlier in 2017.

To make this most meaningful, prepare your hearts to experience the presence of the Holy Spirit as we spend time listening to the Spirit and sharing messages He gives that will benefit the body of Christ. How can you prepare? Even now pray that there will be an outpouring of the Spirit at this gathering. In prayer, open your heart to God asking Him to cleanse your heart from sin so you can experience more of Him. Read the Scriptures anticipating God to reveal fresh guidance and understanding and then expect God to bless you when you participate in our day of Unprogrammed Worship.

If you are being nudged that there is more to being a follower of Christ than you are experiencing, consider participating in the scheduled Deeper with the Spirit workshops that are being offered March 2018-February, 2019. The workshops will occur monthly omitting May, July, August and December.

A commitment to attend all of the workshops is appreciated as they build on one another. There will be a book to read prior to each workshop which will prepare you for that workshop. The first workshop will be on Surrender, Sanctification and Friends Baptism. The second will be Hearing God. Be prepared to sign up for the workshops by February 24 so we will know how to plan.

MISSION BOARD'S ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2018-19 academic school year. **People with in 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 scholarship, please contact the Yearly Meeting office for more information. **The deadline is March 1, 2018**

Iowa United Society of Friends Women (USFW) William Penn University Scholarship Fund

Guidelines

Following are guidelines for the selection of candidates for this scholarship. The Scholarship committee shall consider applications for scholarships and make decisions as to recipients.

- 1.The amount of the scholarship will be determined by need of the applicant and by funds available.
- 2.The candidate shall be a participating member of Iowa Yearly Meeting.
- 3.A candidate from the Yearly Meeting shall have successfully completed secondary education requirements and shall have been accepted by William Penn University.
- 4.Applications must be received by January 31st, 2018**
- 5.To be considered for a scholarship for the succeeding academic year, recipients must submit a request to the committee each year.
- 6.Scholarships shall only be awarded for a maximum of four (4) academic years.

Naomi Ruth Olsen Lock, 99, of Richland, died early Tuesday November 28, 2017, at Sunnybrook Living Care Center, Fairfield. She



was born July 10, 1918, to Forest and Beulah Jensen Olsen of Sturgeon Bay, WI. After graduating from Sturgeon Bay High School in 1936 she felt called to attend God's Bible School in Cincinnati, OH, and graduated with a Christian Workers Diploma in 1945. She was then called to Pastor Hesper Friends Church near Decorah, Iowa. During her 11 years of service there she made many lifelong friends. She was Dorm Mother at William Penn College (1956-59) and then accepted the Pastorate at Woolson Friends Church. During her 22 years of service at Woolson and even after her retirement she was much sought after to officiate at weddings and funerals. She will always be remembered for her lifetime of service to her Lord.

While at Woolson she met and later married Wilfred Lock on August 2, 1961, gaining 2 step children, Lelia Kay & Dennis. Her family meant a lot to her and nothing made her happier than to be with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is survived by her children, Lelia Kay Dvorak (Dr. Bill) of Chicago, IL., Dennis (Kris) Lock of Packwood; 5 grandchildren: David (Shawn) Lock of Packwood, Lisa (Mike) Huff of Montezuma, Dr. Mike (Dr. Jenessa) Lock of Des Moines, Debby(Justin) Williams (serving as missionaries to Uganda), and Dr. Andrew Dvorak (Rachel) of Houston, TX; 16 great-grandchildren: Taylor, Payton, Hunter, Scout, Nahum, Judah, Jeremiah, Zadok, Elijah Lock, Ashlyn & Alayna Huff; Micah, Lexi & Levi Williams; Hannah & Ethan Dvorak. She was preceded in death in 1992 by her husband of 31 years, Wilfred, her brother, Donald Olsen, sister, Hazel Boedeker, and infant grandson, Daniel Lock.

2018 Quaker Men Winter Family Banquet

William Penn University
@ the Musco Technology Center
Saturday, February 17



\$17 in advance (Feb 12th) \$20 at the door

Our speaker: RJ Sumrall

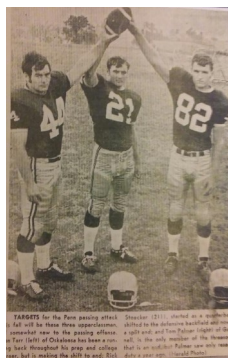
Reserve you tickets with Randall Nichols @
 rcnichols4210@gmail.com OR text/call 515-729-1072

The Quaker Men Winter Family Banquet will be held Saturday, February 17, in Oskaloosa at the Musco Technology Center on the William Penn University campus. Our speaker for the day will be RJ Sumrall of FCA who also serves as a chaplain of the Iowa State University Cyclone Football team. We will begin at 10:00 AM in a session in which Tom Palmer will join RJ for a discussion of FCA work and their experiences serving as chaplains of college football teams. The banquet will follow at 11:30 with RJ speaking afterwards. In addition to the banquet and speakers, don't forget the annual Pie Auction! Bring your homemade pies and share in the fun. As part of the auction, a special treat this year will be a quilt made from squares (triangles, really) created by elementary campers from Camp Quaker Heights. All proceeds will go to mission projects and works supported by QuakerMen.



RJ Sumrall was born on February 22, 1986 in Honolulu, HI and grew up in Orlando, FL where he attended Mt. Avery Missionary Baptist Church. He attended Winter Park High School and participated in track and football. He currently has the most point scored in track in school history. In football, he was awarded a full athletic scholarship to Iowa State University. At Iowa State, RJ was introduced to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, where he got saved on October 5, 2007. RJ came on staff with FCA in September, 2014. He serves coaches and athletes in the Des Moines inner-city schools: Hoover, Lincoln, Roosevelt, North and East. RJ is married to Steff and they have a 4 year old son named Jackson along with twins named Parker and Brecken.

RJ has also served as a chaplain for the Iowa State University Cyclone Football team. His own experience as a wide receiver on ISU teams under Coaches McCarney and Chizek provide a background and connection to the players and coaches there. He is 4th on the career list for receptions and 6th for yardage received in ISU history.



Joining RJ during the 10:00 AM session will be our own Tom Palmer. Retired after 40 years of pastoral service in Iowa Yearly Meeting, Tom works with the FCA program at William Penn University and serves as chaplain to the William Penn football team (#82). He played for the Statesmen during his college days. Tom played tight end during his collegiate days at Penn.



PURSUE INVESTMENT



Happy New Year everyone! I hope you have had a chance to steal some time away to settle into The Spirit over this time of focus on the birth of Jesus, and a time to re: focus on what is to come.

The theme of the Youth and Young Adult Board this year is PURSUIT. **I would like to challenge you to pursue investment.**

- Investing in teens and young adults
- Invest time and energy
- Invest in relationships
- Invest, not in the church of tomorrow, but of today

We have several ways to either jump start some of those relationships or to deepen others.

Iowa Yearly Meeting offers events and programming throughout the year, with several opportunities coming in the next few months. I am asking that you participate in several ways:

1. Invite age appropriate people to the events.
2. Help with some of the finances to go, if you are able.
3. Arrange and provide transportation to and from the event.
4. Participate by going with them.
5. Participate by taking them out for a coke after the event and talking to them about it.

We ask for your participation for several reasons; the first is safety for our students. We want to provide enough adult supervision at each event to be safe in all aspects of life. We ask for 1 adult for every 7 students. The second is an opportunity for you to connect to your students as well as give them another adult they can have spiritual conversations with and receive wisdom from.

The Iowa Yearly Meeting events, in general, are not drop off events for students. They are events for local meetings to bring students to be with them and grow with them. They are an opportunity for connection to adults and leaders from their local

church. The students can come, and we will have other adults, but we want to grow our local churches in their communities, and adults and leaders from there are the most important connection they can have to both the church and Jesus.

These events and programming give you a chance to not have to plan a whole activity, but to come and enjoy just being with them. That is the most important thing you can do at these events. Relationships are built through car trips to the events, at the events, while eating and while walking through spiritual conversations while there and afterwards.

There are several places to get the dates for upcoming events:

- the Iowa Friend monthly newsletter
- the weekly email news "Friend of Friends" (email our office to be added to the list!)
- Our Website IAYM.org and clicking on the Calendar Link and visiting the Youth Ministries page and Young Adult Page. You will register for all the events at IAYM.org/events as well.

And don't forget, camp is just around the corner and we are looking for counselors for each of the camps. Please take a few moments and ask God if He is calling you to invest in this way.

I am also available to come and speak, train and give vision to move in this direction.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at scott@IAYM.org or call the office.

Scott Biddle
Director of Youth and Young Adults
Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends



This is an event for Adult leaders and High School students from each church to attend an event designed for you in Des Moines at Grace church on Friday and Saturday and then a continuation with our Friends Church leaders gathering at the hotel on the Saturday evening and Sunday morning to connect and debrief from the larger retreat.

Info on Ignite: <http://www.ignite-youth.org>

Scott is going to register as a big group to Ignite for the early bird price of \$39 out of the Yearly Meeting Office. He will need both your number of people attending and money in his hand to register you by Jan 28th. Please be thinking about the number of hotel rooms you will need as well to make sure we have enough reserved. We will be staying at AmericInn in Ankeny Friday-Sunday @ \$245/room(both nights)

Contact Scott @ 641.673.9717
or by email Scott@IAYM.org.

EXTENDED
March 9-11
IGNITE

Visit our website at iaym.org
and click on the links for
Young Adult Ministries
or Youth Ministries
To see details of these events!



THE IOWA FRIEND

P.O. Box 657
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
phone (641) 673-9717
e-mail office@iaym.org
January 2018 Vol. 74 - No. 1

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Oskaloosa, Iowa
Permit No. 544

Change
Service Requested

Subscription Price (individual)...\$10.00 per year (group)....\$9.50 per year Published monthly except August

February

- **February 17: Quaker Men's Winter Banquet**
- **February 9-10: Blizzard Blast**
- **February 24:** Unprogrammed Worship/revival @ Grinnell Friends
(please look in the newsletter for more details & schedule!)

March

- **March 3: Board on Coordination (BOC) Meeting**
- **March 24: Spring Body Meeting**

April

April 3-4 Pastor's Short Course @ William Penn University
Guest Speaker Mary Kate Morse

July

- **July 13-19 Youth and Young Adult Board** sponsored
trip to Chicago
- **July 25-28th Yearly Meeting Conference**

September

September 14-16 Family Camp at Camp Quaker Heights

October

October 5-7 Man Camp at Camp Quaker Heights



**UPCOMING
EVENTS**