



## What is That Work or Mission? ... by Tom Showalter

In the 2018 Yearly Meeting message, I shared the following quote:

*When it is functioning properly, the Church of Jesus Christ is the hope of the world. It is the only organization that has ever existed that is capable of healing broken lives, pointing people to God, and fulfilling the deepest longings of our souls. It is in the Church that the rejected find acceptance, the sinners receive forgiveness, and the lonely experience love.*

The Church, God's Body with Jesus Christ as the Head, is to carry on the work that has been entrusted to it: **What is that work or mission?** Scriptural Truths about Our Mission:

Great Commission

*"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go (as you are going) and make disciples of all nations"*

Act 1:8

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*

2 Cor. 5

*17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 20 We are therefore Christ's ambassadors...*

In our 2018 Yearly Meeting Ministry Conference, we adopted a mission statement for IAYM which reads:

***The Body of IAYM exists to exalt Jesus Christ by becoming fruitful disciple-makers and expressing God's love by serving all people (John 15:1-17).***

Those of us who claim to be followers of Jesus should display something vastly different from the rest of the world's ways: 2 Corinthians 5:17: "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone and the new has come." If we are a new creation, then our behavior should show that. Programs don't cut it, good pastors cannot bear all that responsibility. There are people in our lives, who don't know Jesus, but need Jesus and His help. Our attempts to persuade them, invite them, talk to them, and convince them has had limited results.

We have an amazing heritage as Friends. My simplistic summary of the rich history of Friends is this: I see a people who simply saw needs in their world and met them with the light of Jesus. Friends' founder, George Fox once said, "Christ has come to teach people himself."

A term often used by early Friends was that of "Seeker" or "Seekers of Truth." George Fox was seeking

something he could not find in organized religion. He and many at that time saw the spiritual bankruptcy in the established Church and many other people were trying to find God in some other way and the established Church of the day was not helping. It was into this environment and at this time in Fox's life that he wrote:

"But as I had forsaken the priests ... for I saw there was none among them all that could speak to my condition. (Ever been there?) When all my hopes in them and in all men were gone, so that I had nothing outwardly to help me, nor could I tell what to do, then, oh, then, I heard a voice which said, "There is one, even Christ Jesus, that can speak to thy condition;" and when I heard it, my heart did leap for joy."

"These (early) Friends were concerned to find again the life and power of the early Church" as seen in the book of Acts. The movement grew rapidly and by the time Fox died in 1691 (70 years old), there were between 40 and 50 thousand Friends in England. They had a mission: to be light in darkness and impact those with whom they encountered with God's love for the purpose of their salvation.

"A God-Centered Church" (Blackaby)

●"Our world does not need to see good people doing good things for God. The world needs to see God doing what only He can do through His people. Is the world encountering God in the way we serve Him?" (p.284).

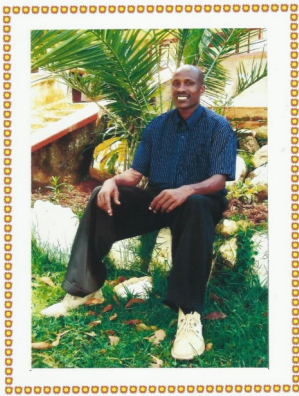
●"When people look at your life or your church, do they see the difference God makes?" (p.297).

●"In all this there is the Lord standing at the door of each church. He is knocking, but He is on the outside. He is begging for someone to hear Him, open the door, and welcome Him to the spiritual table in the church. It seems that He is looking for one. Could you be that one for your church?"

Let me ask you: Do you have family members who have strayed from the Lord or who have never acknowledged their need for Jesus? Do you see your community torn apart from violence, drugs, alcohol, abuse, etc., etc.? Are you aware of marriages and families who struggle for survival? Do you know people who have been diagnosed with cancer or other terminal disease and they and their family struggle to make sense of it? That sounds like mission work to me! How about you?

# UPDATED 2019 EASTER OFFERING

by Nancy Stevens—Mission's Board



The IAYM Mission Board had earlier announced the Easter Offering was going for motorbikes for Tanzania pastors. Ron Bryan has just returned from Kenya and Tanzania. He found they have recently received enough funds from a private donor to buy three new motorbikes. Therefore, the

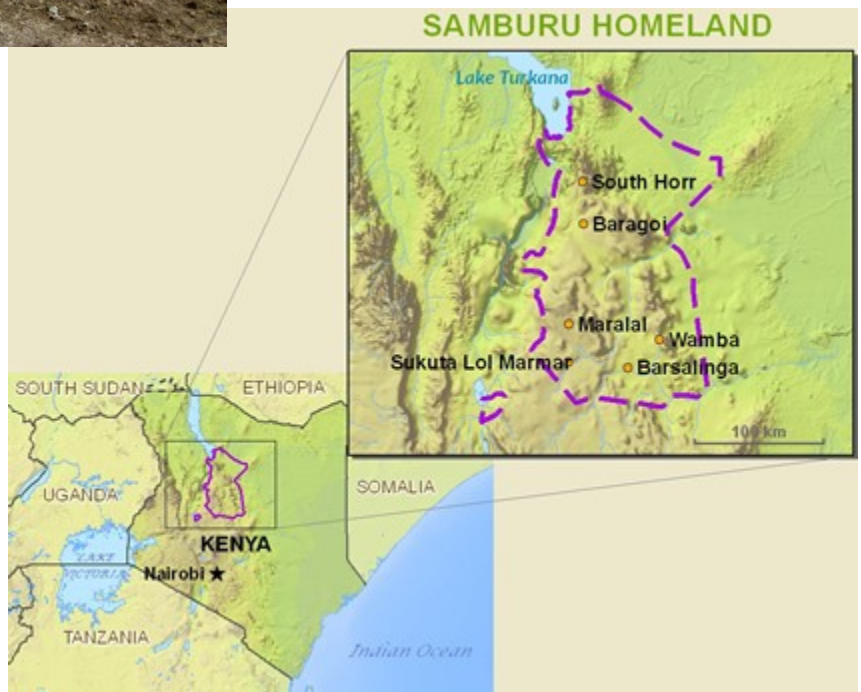


is gone now so there can be no income earned until it is finished. A good estimate of \$8,000 will complete the permanent market site. The IAYM Mission board is willing to do a \$2000 matching fund for this Easter Offering for Samburu.

The reality is if we can help many people get a good start, they will flourish and have to depend on outside help less. This would be in keeping with the original three people who went to Kaimosi in 1902. They had a vision to help people become self-supporting. Please be in prayer for this need and our brothers and sisters in Christ.

people have a more pressing need and are requesting out help.

Earlier this fall there was money given to the Samburu Mission to build a facility that could house seven different stalls. The stalls would be rented for the selling of food and wares. This facility would provide seven local merchants who have done business for years a more permanent market site. The Samburu Mission used pastoral funds to help build this open sided building. However before it was completed, a bad windstorm ripped off the roof and halted the entire project. All the money





## Seminary Scholarship

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends has a limited amount of funds available for **seminary (Masters or Doctoral program) studies**.

These funds are for those planning on entering the Friends ministry as pastors, missionaries, Christian Educator or youth workers. An applicant will need to be a member in good standing of a Friends Church and plan on attending an evangelical institution. Applications should be received by May 1, 2019 for the next school year or four months before courses begin.

For more information or an application, contact  
Iowa Yearly Meeting,  
PO Box 657,  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
or call 641-673-9717.

## GARRISON SCHOLARSHIP FOR CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

If you are thinking about getting formal ministry training, or have a student interested in doing so, please remember we have funding available through the Garrison Scholarship.

We are looking to award three \$1000 scholarships for the fall semester. Applications are due May 15.

Download an application now at

<https://www.iaymyouth.org/training.html>

## Bangor Liberty Friends - Douglas Higgins (January 8, 1953-January 5, 2019).



Doug was a loving husband and father who treasured the time he could spend with them. He was a soccer coach and swimming team treasurer for his daughter and had a dry sense of humor and liked to make his wife laugh- especially when he was in trouble- it softened the moment!

Doug enjoyed time playing golf at Jester Park at Saylorville. Left to cherish his memory are Sarah, his loving wife of 40 years, daughter Anna of Durango, CO, mother Lois of Urbandale, siblings- Rick Higgins of Des Moines, Pat (Carol) Higgins of Altoona, Beth Higgins of Des Moines and Barb (Chris) Hekel of Dallas, TX and his father-in-law Wayne McDonald of rural Clemons as well as the McDonald family he loved so much.



Indianola - Betty Darlene Nyswonger, 93, who passed away Tuesday, February 12, 2019. Betty was born in St. Charles, Iowa, to Floyd and Freda Streeter in 1925. She loved attending country schools and when her dad moved to Milo to purchase a farm, she attended Milo High School, graduating in 1942. In 1944 she

married the love of her life, 'Doc' Nyswonger, just before he was shipped out to help clean up from the war with Japan. she went to work at People's Trust and Savings Bank in Indianola. She served as head of the Savings Department, learned how to implement the new government IRA program.

Although she was a successful career woman, it was her love of family that meant the most to Betty. Family dinners were a must, and every family member received cards and gifts on their birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays. She loved to cook, especially during the Christmas season, where her cookies and fudge were delivered to neighbors and relatives as far away as Texas! Doc and Betty were faithful members of the Indianola Friends Church, serving in many capacities, as well as being dedicated members of Gideon International, making sure Bibles were distributed in the community.

She is survived by her daughters, Susan McCracken, Shelley (Dennis) Erickson, and Deb (Tom) Westenberger; She was preceded in death by her husband, Doc Nyswonger; parents, Floyd and Freda Streeter; sister, Shirley Manders and brother, Max Streeter.

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY with FRIENDS RESPONSE TEAM

A recommendation to activate the Friends Response Team and participate in the

**Habitat for Humanity sponsored**

**“Rebuild Marshalltown Blitz Build”**

was approved at our most recent meeting (2/23/2019). The goal of this effort is to repair 30-40 Marshalltown homes over a five day period—**April 23-27 (Tue-Sat)**.

Therefore, the IAYM Friends Response Team board extends a call for participation (men, women, teens)!

Marshalltown Friends (2409 S 6th St) has agreed to host the Friends Response Team and will serve as the gathering, eating and resting place for volunteers.

**Join in this cooperative work....Give one or more days. All types of help/skills can be utilized.**

In order to prepare for this effort, **you are strongly encouraged to indicate in advance your interest/intent to participate by Saturday, April 20.** Please do so by responding to Mike Moyer, IAYM Friends Response Team coordinator...

Email: [moyerm@wmpenn.edu](mailto:moyerm@wmpenn.edu)

Phone: 641-455-3470

Include in your communication the day or days of April 23-27 you plan to participate.

## **Bloom and Become - Created To Flourish Women's Conference!**

Cost is \$70 until the conference. It's not too late to register.

You can register online at:  
[www.fairfieldfriendschurch.org](http://www.fairfieldfriendschurch.org) or mail a check to:  
**Fairfield Friends Church** ATTN: Women's Conference  
1209 S 6th street Fairfield IA 52556

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**Are you staying connected with Iowa Yearly Meeting? We offer several ways of communicating to our Friends!**

**Besides this published newsletter, we offer an e-newsletter that comes directly to your email address. (send me an email and I'll add your email address to our list!) You'll find publications, prayer concerns, promotions, calendar of events « and more.**

**We also communicate through Facebook (Iowa Yearly Meeting) and we have many resources and information/links on our webpage ([iaym.org](http://iaym.org)).**

**Spread the word to your Friends at your local meetings! Let me know if I can assist in getting Promo materials to you for any of our events! Our email address is**

**[office@iaym.org](mailto:office@iaym.org)**

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For Mesquakie Friends—Send Donations to  
PO Box 163, Tama, IA 52339

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**www.  
iaymyouth.  
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Your resource Center  
for Youth Events!

**Grace Church**

**IGNITE.**

Des Moines, IA

March 15-16

For high school students and ministry volunteers. This event will have a little something for everyone.

Cost (walk-in) - \$59 / ticket

(includes Lunch on Saturday!)

***This event sold out the last two years, so get your tickets early!***

## Blizzard Blast

5th—8th Grade Students

**Cost \$30 (chaperones are FREE)**

*Make sure to remember to bring your cash or check (made payable to Iowa Yearly Meeting) to the event.*

**Bring...** athletic clothes, a swimsuit and towel (if you are planning on swimming), and a friend.

**March 8**

6:00pm - Registration (at Marshalltown First Friends Church)

6:00am - Head home (pick up at Marshalltown YMCA)

## IAYM YOUTH WORKERS' DINNERS

**Eat. Encourage. Learn. Pray.**

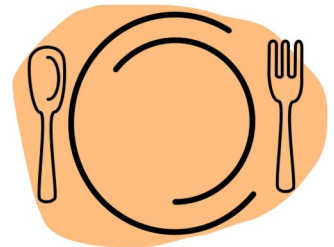
Thursday, April 25, join in one of two locations—Grinnell and Fairfield—as we gather together to encourage one another and learn together.

With teaching from Walt Mueller and the Center for Parent/ Youth Understanding, we will share a meal together and explore the ideas of Marketing and how it influences our students.

This event is **FREE**.

Find out all the information and register at

[www.iaymyouth.org/feast](http://www.iaymyouth.org/feast)



## SUMMER CAMP DATES

<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL</b>
(JUNE 13-18)	(JUNE 13-17)
GRADES 9-12	GRADES 6-8
COST: \$325	COST: \$265
<b>ELEMENTARY</b>	<b>LITTLE FRY</b>
(JUNE 18-21)	(JUNE 21-23)
GRADES 3-5	GRADES K-2
COST: \$205	COST: \$205

Full camp info and registration now available  
[www.iaymyouth.org/camp](http://www.iaymyouth.org/camp)

**REVISED DATES**

# THE IOWA FRIEND

P.O. Box 657  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
phone (641) 673-9717  
e-mail office@iaym.org  
March 2019

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Visit [iaym.org](http://iaym.org) and view our calendar page

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