



THE IOWA FRIEND

Since 2020, the world has changed drastically, and the economy has challenged the survival of many good organizations. In that span of time, each year it seems that all signs point to a year-end loss for Iowa Yearly Meeting, too. But many of you, faithful and generous partners in ministry, step in to ensure that we not only survive, but that we continue to thrive in our mission and calling. As we enter the final quarter of 2024, I wanted to take a moment to thank those that continually partner in the ministry of Iowa Yearly Meeting. Your prayers, service, generosity, and willingness to be part of the One Church vision are what makes our kingdom impact in Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and beyond possible.

This year has been especially fruitful and rich as we have been able to accomplish several notable things. The year kicked off with a large contingent of young leaders and seasoned mentors attending the Friends Leadership Summit in Houston, TX. In March we held a well-attended workshop at Riverside Friends which provided momentum leading into our Spring Body Business Meeting the following day. Over spring break a team of 9 spent several days serving Friends churches in Coahuila, Mexico. And summer doesn't officially start until our camps at Camp Quaker Heights are in full swing! July saw over a hundred friends from across IAYM gather in Oskaloosa for a rich time of fellowship, worship, and business. Now fall is buzzing as our staff partners with churches in various stages of growth, restructuring, pastoral searches, and leadership

development. We are looking forward to Pastors and Spouses Retreat in late October, a young adult retreat in November, and several more opportunities to worship with and serve alongside of many of you as you serve your communities in the name of Jesus.

It is our deep desire to continue to serve each of our churches and ministries at a high level, and we have some exciting things in store for 2025! That said, we need your help! As we look toward the end of the year, we are well behind the ratable giving needed to meet our administrative budget, which is what makes much of our ministry possible. If you are looking for a Christ-centered organization to partner with, we'd humbly ask that you consider Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends. If you are passionate about church health, leadership development, pastoral support, discipleship, evangelism, missions, and taking the Good News out to the dark and broken places in our neighborhoods, cities, and world, then this is the place to give!

Will you help us end 2024 on a high and hit the ground running in 2025?

You can contribute in two ways:

- Contributions may be mailed to: IAYM c/o Quakerdale Business Service, PO Box 8, New Providence, IA 50206.
- Online donations can be made by visiting iaym.org and clicking the "Donate" tab in the top banner.

I continue to be humbled and amazed by the ways God works in our little stream and I am convinced that the best is yet to come! Thank you for being part of the One Church dream. We are better together!

With Gratitude,
Manny Garcia
General Superintendent
Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

December 3, 2024 is an opportunity for people around the world to use their individual power of generosity to support their communities.

GIVING TUESDAY

If you are looking for a Gospel-centered organization to bless this Giving Tuesday, please consider partnering with IAYM.

Thank you for being part of IAYM – One Church!

****Your contributions to Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends are also tax deductible, so this is a great way to add to your charitable giving for the year.**



May God bless you and yours
abundantly this season!

*Happy Thanksgiving
and
Merry Christmas
from
Iowa Yearly Meeting*

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Office will be closed
November 28-29 and December 25- January 2



Quaker Heights



Mesquakie



IAYM Office

STAFF YEAR-END GIFTS

Did you know, for the first time since 2022, we are fully staffed at the Yearly Meeting office, Camp Quaker Heights, and Mesquakie Friends?

The IAYM Pastor's Association would like to continue their tradition of blessing the Yearly Meeting staff during the holidays. If you would like to contribute, please send your gift to:

Wes Blanchard (Pastor's Assoc. Treasurer)
12172 150th Ave. Indianola, IA 50125
or via Paypal at wesblanch@msn.com
or via Venmo to @WesBlanch

Gifts are requested to be sent by December 14th

Checks can be made out to IYM Pastor's Association

PASTORS AND SPOUSES RETREAT RECAP

The last weekend in October, many of our IAYM pastors and several spouses were able to gather at the beautiful Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, NE for a time of Sabbath rest and renewal during our annual Fall Pastor & Spouse Retreat. Jesse and Abby Penna of Mid-America Yearly Meeting facilitated the time by inviting participants to reflect on their pastoral stories and share how God called each of them and worked through them in their respective ministry journeys. Everence representative, Lyle Miller was also present and treated everyone to a wonderful meal followed by a laughter filled experience at a local escape room. I also want to thank Josiah White's Quakerdale Foundation and Quakerdale Farms for blessing our pastors and spouses by providing funding and items for gift bags. It is an absolute joy to work alongside of the dedicated men and women that God has called to serve our churches and ministries in Iowa Yearly Meeting. As I listened to them share their stories, I was moved by the variety of ways in which God calls each of us and how nothing that happens in our lives is wasted. God has used the security of those who grew up in Christian homes, the resilience of those who came from extreme brokenness, the strength of those who have had to overcome adversity, and the wisdom of those who have had to learn from decisions that came with severe consequences. When we offer who we are to God, he redeems each part of our story and weaves it into His good and beautiful narrative of reconciliation and redemption. Thank you to all the churches who blessed your pastors by releasing them for this much needed time of rest. I pray that they have returned to you with their cups overflowing.



March 21-22, 2025

**Spring Body
and Leadership
Workshop**

In 2023 we made the decision to add a leadership workshop to our Spring Body gathering. The last two years have been well attended and have generated very positive feedback. With that in mind, we want to continue to offer this option and, in 2025 we will expand it to include multiple sessions. We are excited to welcome Chris Vitarelli as our workshop leader next year. He will offer 3 sessions beginning on Friday evening and wrapping up at noon on Saturday. Our Spring Body business meeting will follow lunch.

Chris is the pastor of The Road Community Church, a small multisite church in Southeast Michigan. His book, *Small Church BIG Deal* was published in 2019 after leading the Small Church BIG Deal conference for 5 years. His passion is leadership multiplication and multiplying the ministry of the local church, no matter what size. He has spoken at conferences, to pastor groups and given seminars on small church topics and also spoken at youth summer camps. He can be reached at chrismvitarelli@gmail.com.



SCHOLARSHIPS

KENNETH AND BETTY PALMER SCHOLARSHIP

Kenneth and Betty Palmer Scholarship The purpose of the Kenneth & Betty Palmer Scholarship Endowment is to assist students who are members of the Friends Church and who are involved in graduate studies (Masters or Doctoral program) in preparation for or furthering their ministry. This includes, but is not necessary limited to, pastoral ministry, missionary service, Christian Education and youth ministry. A maximum assistance of \$500 per semester shall be granted to an applicant but final determination will be based on funds available and the number of eligible applicants. Recipients of scholarship assistance shall apply **by May 1, 2025** for the next school year or four months before courses begin. Continuation of scholarship shall be determined by need and by funds available. The maximum anyone can receive under this scholarship program is \$4,000 or eight semesters, whichever first occurs. Applications available through the Yearly Meeting Office.

IOWA USFW WILLIAM PENN UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Following are guidelines for the selection of candidates for Iowa United Society of Friends Women William Penn University 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 Iowa Yearly Meeting shall have successfully completed secondary education requirements and shall have been accepted by William Penn University.
 4. Applications must be received **by March 31st**.
 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.
- For questions, please contact Jacque Wilbur at 515-205-0692 or jacwilbur@gmail.com

IAYM TRUSTEE SCHOLARSHIP

Applications are now being taken for a \$500 college scholarship to be distributed in the 2nd semester of the 2024-2025 academic school year (January of 2025). College students within Iowa Yearly Meeting are encouraged to seek an application through the Yearly Meeting Office. **Deadline for this scholarship is January 31st, 2025, and a recipient will be determined at Spring Body 2025.**

MISSIONS BOARD ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2024-2025 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's clerk, Nancy Stevens (nansteve@gmail.com) to receive an application. **The deadline is March 1, 2025.**

WILLIAM PENN CAMPUS MINISTRY SCHOLARSHIP

The Campus Ministry scholarship is available to students attending WPU full-time. The scholarship is \$15,000 on average a year. A Campus Ministry Scholarship recipient's responsibilities include:

1. Commit to an average of 10 hours per week to campus ministry activities
2. Attend a church of their choice on a consistent weekly basis
3. Maintain a personal devotional life
4. Strive for a minimum GPA of 2.5.

Contact Daniel Thatcher at 641-202-4660 or danielthatcher@wmpenn.edu for more information.

SUMMER CAMP AT CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS

Do you have a passion for IAYM Summer Camps done at Camp Quaker Heights? Many of you were once campers, counselors, or on camp staff, and it was the first place many of us recall experiencing God's presence. Camp is special because it is a designated time we facilitate to allow God to move among our young people. This year we hosted 114 campers, our largest camps in quite a few years! However, we also ended camp \$4,000 in the red.

Due to the rising prices around us, for camp programming to break even we will need to raise the price of camp \$85/day. This would make High School camp \$425 in total.

We are looking for churches and individuals who are willing to partner specifically with camp programming in order to avoid this drastic rise in prices.

You can donate online or by mailing a check to the office. Just make sure to put in the memo line "camp programming"



Camp Dates 2025

HIGH SCHOOL | JUNE 10-15
MIDDLE SCHOOL | JUNE 16-20
LITTLE FRY | JUNE 20-22
ELEMENTARY | JUNE 24-27

GivingTuesday is an opportunity for people around the world to use their individual power of generosity to support their communities.

GIVING TUESDAY

On GivingTuesday – **December 3, 2024** – the whole world comes together to give back in many different ways: through acts of kindness, gifts of voice, time, talent, or treasure.

If you are looking for a Gospel-centered organization to bless with your year end giving, we humbly ask that you consider Iowa Yearly Meeting. As a community, we seek to partner with our churches, support our pastors, train leaders, organize opportunities for discipleship and service, and to do more together than we can alone, all for the sake of the Gospel.

We invite you on this Giving Tuesday to join us on that mission!

Thank you for being part of IAYM – One Church!