

# The Iowa Friend

*Iowa Yearly Meeting: Spreading Like Prairie Grass to Make the Love of Jesus Christ Known in the Heartland and Beyond*

October 2002

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 57 - No. 9



## Communion Leads to Action

*by Cindy Norman, Youth Ministry Board Presider*

During my trip with the youth to New Orleans, the verse I Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing" took on new meaning.

I had always struggled with the concept of praying continually. At times in my life I had done a better job of tackling that command than at others. But on the whole I think I truly lacked the "how to" rather than the "desire".

I desired to be in continuous communion with God. I knew how important it was to talk with God and listen to him. I had read in a devotional that the correct way to think of prayer is that prayer is like the breath in our lungs and the blood in our hearts. Our blood flows and our breathing continues without ceasing. (Oswald Chambers) I had a clear picture in my mind, but wasn't quite sure how to accomplish the task.

Heidi, our prayer walk instructor, helped me in a practical way put this verse into action. As we walked the streets of the "hood", she explained that it was not a good idea when we prayed to close our eyes and bow our heads. Heidi went on to say that for safety reasons it was important for us to be aware of our surroundings and who was approaching. So the first thing I learned was how to pray while walking and with my eyes open. At first it seemed really strange for me to do that. It actually didn't feel like prayer to me because I had been so conditioned to the actions of bowing my head and closing my eyes. But after several blocks of trying this method, it became more natural. (Though often when someone mentioned a prayer request, my natural reaction was to close my eyes. I'm a slow learner.)

Heidi's other suggestions were even more valuable. She told us to use our senses to help us stay in an attitude of continual prayer. She instructed us to become aware of what we would see, hear, and smell as we walked. We soon heard the sound of a siren so someone began to pray for the emergency vehicle and the persons involved in the accident. As we continued down the street we saw a church, so I prayed for all the believers in the area that

they may have strength to minister to the neighborhood. We smelled an unpleasant odor coming from house, so we prayed for the family in that home. We soon were praying for empty lots – that the buildings erected would be a positive influence on the communities. I found myself praying over empty beer cans that the person that held the can would discover the emptiness in alcohol and the way to relationship with Jesus Christ. We prayed when we saw an empty playground that the children that played on it would be safe. Our senses became a tool for prayer.

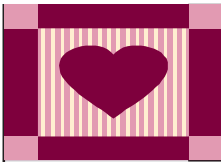
We also interacted with the people in the community. When we met people we would explain that we were on a prayer walk and ask them for any prayer requests. If they were comfortable with praying with us, we would join hands and pray with them. If not we would continue our walk and pray for them as we continued down the street. We prayed for gunshot victims, wayward children, good health, the community, their families, and spiritual growth. Some of them prayed for us and the ministry that we were undertaking.

As we continued our pray walking, a flow seemed to take place. No longer was praying a chore or something that should be done, but rather natural and a privilege. It was an absolutely exhilarating experience. Praying without ceasing had taken on a new meaning for me. I not only desired to be in prayer, but I knew how to facilitate that desire.



*August Yearly Meeting Sessions found us recording Keith Morrison, Phil Does, Cindy Norman and Mike Moyer as ordained of God and prepared for ministry in the Friends Church.*

**SPRING BODY - APRIL 25-27**  
**100th Anniversary of**  
**Sturgeon Bay Friends**



# FRIENDLY FLASHES

## IOWA USFW OFFICERS/SECRETARIES 2002-2003 Term

President – Pat Coffin, #319-986-6078  
1389 272<sup>nd</sup> St, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641

Vice President – Margaret Good, #641-486-5977  
1024 Ingram Ave, Union, IA 50258

Secretary – Helen Hoskins, #641-673-8841  
713 S 13<sup>th</sup> St, #4, Oskaloosa, IA 52577

Treasurer – Irene Ritchie, #319-456-3423  
1895 120<sup>th</sup> St, Richland, IA 52585

Literature – Delores Jones, # 515-834-2529  
1922 105<sup>th</sup> St, Earlham, IA 50072

Children & Youth – Judy Maeder, #319-695-5600  
211 South Church, Packwood, IA 52580

Stewardship – Melanie Coulter, #515-789-4378  
3286 G Trail, Earlham, IA 50072

P&CSC – Kay Huffman, #515-961-3809  
1554 Illinois St, Indianola, IA 50125

Christian Service – Geraldine Smith, # 641-534-3054  
PO Box 152, Lacona, IA 50139

Adult Missionary – Betty Arterburn, # 641-753-8692  
208 N 22<sup>nd</sup> St, Marshalltown, IA 50158

Friendly Flashes – Linda Burnett, # 515-758-3914  
PO Box 6, Earlham, IA 50072

*Ephesians 4:7 "However, he has given each one of us a special gift according to the generosity of Christ."*

For those of you who haven't met your Iowa USFW officers yet; we hope you will invite them to your local meeting. Check the list and the phone numbers – encourage them and support them.

I joined the team as your Friendly Flashes editor at Spring Conference. I'm still in the process of finding my way. I was born and raised in Earlham, and yes the town name came from the Quakers who settled this area. I now pastor my home church, Earlham Friends. My husband Jim and I live in the west half of our business, a business started by my grandfather Powers Inman in the 30's. We have one surviving child, a daughter Kim who lives in Des Moines, no grandchildren, 1 garden in what little space I have. I stay active with A.B.C. quilts and drive 100 miles a day on my rural mail route.

God is present with me in each of my activities. How wonderful to have a Savior who cares so intimately and personally for each of us. Pray for your board as they use their gifts. Next month we will introduce you to Kay Huffman, your other new board member. Till we meet – Peace and Grace be with you!

- Linda Burnett



# MEETING MOMENTS

**REAPING THE BLESSINGS** - Greetings from Middle River Friends. We consider it a privilege and honor to have Kevin and Gayle Mortimer and family accept the call to fill our pastoral position. They will join our church family in January 2003.

God continues to bless us as we move forward. Hannah Neufeld with the Jews for Jesus organization presented a program "Christ in the Passover" in March 2002. She shared what the Jews have been doing during Passover since the days of Moses. Her presentation pointed out how the Passover and all it symbolizes points to Jesus.

Easter Sunrise service was lead by Jennifer Phillips, youth pastor, and followed by a delicious breakfast. Roy Gongwer was guest speaker at our regular service, and the church was decorated with memorial lilies given by church members. John and Linda Koester were welcomed into membership. Graduates Megan Grooters, Shannah Nesler, Cami Ibragimova, and Ryan Rice were honored on May 19, 2002.

We have enjoyed several meaningful worship services brought to us by our youth group, under the direction of Jennifer Phillips and Lyle Kolosik. Megan Grooters was guest speaker each time bringing the congregation a challenging message.

Summer camp at Camp Quaker Heights was attended by several of our young people.



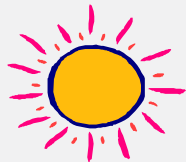
In late July our new nursery was "showered" with a bountiful supply of gifts that helped to decorate the new nursery, provided supplies needed for child care, and new toys and books for the children of the church.

July and August were very busy months as we prepared to move into our new house of worship. Many members of the congregation spent long hours of packing and unpacking. We were blessed to have Vacation Bible School in the new church – with about 30 young people attendance.

Guest speakers for these past months include: Ron Bryan, Keith Morrison, Kevin Mortimer, Marvin Hoeksema, Bill Griggs, Roy Gongwer, Erwin Lopez, Del Coppinger, Larry Kellis, Megan Grooters and Chuck Mylander.

*(Meeting Moments contineud on page 3)*

# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!



Taken from West Branch Newsletter  
By Roscoe Millett

One day recently as I approached West Branch, I noticed a crew of men working at a large roadside sign. It is the type of sign that might advertise such things as farm chemicals or machinery. The men were removing the old ad in preparation for a new message. The signboard is located in a low spot on the road. The next time I was by, the new sign was in place but I could hardly tell what the message was. There are ten or twelve small pictures in dark colors without much contrast and even at 35 MPH, it is difficult to see. The pictures are of various nationalities of people around the world in a prayer mode. The main caption, which is in bold print, but at the very bottom of the sign, A WORLD DAY OF PRAYER IS A WORLD AT PEACE, is also very difficult to see because of the guardrail along the highway. It is a nice message but I feel the impact will be lost due to the location. There is no indication who is sponsoring it, but it gives an 800#. When I got home I called and got to talk with a very pleasant-sounding young lady in Massachusetts. I complimented her for the sign's message and then told her that I felt much of the impact was lost because of the location. I also asked who was sponsoring it. She said it was the Catholic Church and that the local sign company has control over the locations of signs. So she offered to send me some cards and literature, hopefully showing the pictures on the billboard. I'll share them so as to avoid a traffic jam on Hoover Highway East!



Todd Follette shown here with Anthony Nieuwsma was the speaker at the August Golf Retreat.



## PEACE & CHRISTIAN SOCIAL CONCERNS

The members present at the yearly meeting's P&CSC meeting of September 8<sup>th</sup> felt that they should set forth their position about the dangerous Iraq situation which appears to be moving down the road to war. That statement is:

*"As regards a war with Iraq, our country does not have the support of the European nations. In the past, they have been our friends. Now the European nations are cautioning that we should not have a preemptive strike against Iraq. They suggest that we follow the United Nations approach.*

*"Iraq has not attacked us. For us to attack them without provocation or direct attack is wrong. It is wrong for us to make the first strike. We have never done that. Our country has not established that Iraq is behind the terrorist attacks. The cost of a preemptive attack against Iraq would be very high in lives, funds, and loss of respect for the United States."*

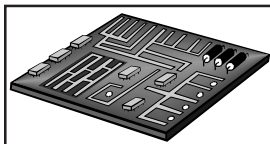
*"We encourage individual Friends to email, mail or call their federal representatives and the White House itself with their support for peace. Let us reaffirm our testimony as peace-makers for Christ."*

Signed by Don Coffin, Del Coppinger, Paul Knupp, Mary Lou Mikel, Gladys Nicholls.

The P&CSC Board continues to encourage Friends to be involved in prison ministries, whether at the state or local levels. We are specifically taught by Jesus in the Bible to visit those who are in prison with the encouraging word of the Gospel. We do not know of all Iowa Friends who have done this recently, but some good role models we do know about are visitors to the Newton facility: Pete and Marilyn Schuler of Lynnvilleville, Jim Hoeksema of Lynnvilleville, Erwin Lopez of Oskaloosa, Del Coppinger of Oskaloosa. Visiting the Eldora facility was Arlen Daleske of New Providence. Visiting the Mitchellville facility were Gladys Nicholls, Armetta Keeney, and Ruth Wilson of Ackworth. We don't have to go there to preach "at" prisoners, but we can go and be friendly to them in the name of Jesus, and the Holy Spirit can use the visit to touch the hearts of persons unreached for the Savior.

Our Board also encourages Friends to contact their state representatives and the Governor to inform them that private agencies such as Quakerdale do 90-95% of the face-to-face work of counseling families suffering from child abuse, neglect, and family violence. The Iowa Department of Human Services hires the private agencies to do this difficult but important work with vulnerable children and families. State government cuts don't just cut state administrators. They have an even greater impact on the private agencies who provide direct service to vulnerable children. Prevention is a better investment than incarceration. Almost 3 out of every 4 youth that receive private services show improvement. The state can choose to spend its dollars to ensure Iowans grow up to become productive citizens in the workforce. Confirmed cases of child abuse have increased 30% the past two years with the big cuts in state spending for human services. Tell your state representative that this will result in magnified social problems in the future. More state funds must go to human service, and more of those funds must be designated for private agencies like Quakerdale, where the face-to-face treatment happens.

- Del Coppinger



## STEWARDSHIP CHIP

2002 IAYM BUDGET - \$ 142,138.00  
RECEIVED AS OF September 19th - \$100,709.23





# Missions

Elaine McDonald of Honey Creek New Providence Friends Church is instructing the sons and daughters of European Missionaries at the Black Forest Academy in southwest Germany. Elaine is the daughter of Tom and Marlene McDonald, and the granddaughter of former Iowa pastors, Francis and Dorothy Ross, and Lloyd and Martha McDonald of New Providence. She has made a two-year commitment to the Academy and is under the Gospel Missionary Union with headquarters in Kansas City, MO.



A 2002 graduate of Drake University with a degree in music education, Elaine began teaching in August. Her responsibilities for the year include junior high choir, high school choir, music appreciation, and teaching private voice lessons to 20 students. She is also working with two student worship bands for chapel services. Her students are the sons and daughters of missionaries on assignment in 52 countries of Europe, North Africa, and Asia. Although her teaching is in English, Elaine expects to communicate in German throughout much of daily life.

Black Forest Academy, in the picturesque village of Kandern, Germany, just 15 minutes from Switzerland via automobile, has an enrollment of approximately 340 students, grades one through 12. Roughly 200 of the students are in the residential boarding program.

The mission statement of BFA includes the following: "Black Forest Academy is a school primarily for missionary children, providing a quality, international Christian education that equips its students to influence their world through biblical thought, character and action." It is operated by a board of directors consisting of representatives from the following mission organizations: Janz Team Ministries, Campus Crusade for Christ, CB International, Christian and Missionary Alliance, Evangelical Free Church Mission, Gospel Missionary Union, Greater Europe Mission, OC International, International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, TEAM, UFM International and Wycliffe Bible Translators. The administrators, faculty, residence and support staff are missionaries.

Elaine greatly appreciates prayer support and communications from her friends in Iowa Yearly Meeting. Her address is: Elaine McDonald, Ida Preusch Strasse 7, 79400 Kandern, Germany. Her email address is: elainemcd@hotmail.com



## Apartment available to a Retired Missionary or Minister

Quakerdale has constructed on it's New Providence campus, a duplex, one apartment of which is to be available for rental to a retired minister or missionary. The occupant and rental to be determined by a committee of the Yearly Meeting Ministry and Counsel. The expected income of the tenant will be taken into account in determining the rent, not to exceed 20% of expected income.

Total cost of the apartment was \$40,000, of which \$15,000 has been paid by the Yearly Meeting. There are no interest or taxes due or to be paid by the Yearly Meeting. Quakerdale will receive the rent payment which will be used for general maintenance as needed. The occupant will pay utilities as determined by supplier of services.

Once the apartment has been rented to a retired missionary or minister, it will not be available for a new occupant until it is no longer wanted by the tenant or spouse or they become unable to care for their own needs.

If you or someone you know is interested, contact the Iowa Yearly Meeting Office, (641) 673-9717 or Michelle Herman at Quakerdale (641) 497-5294 for more information.

## The Prodigal Son

Feeling footloose and frisky, a featherbrained fellow forced his fond father to fork over the farthings and flew far to foreign fields and frittered his fortune, feasting fabulously with faithless friends.

Fleeced by his fellows in folly and facing famines he found himself a feed flinger in a filthy farm. Fairly famishing, he fain would have filled his frame with foraged food from fodder fragments. "Foey, my father's flunkies fare far finer!"

The frazzled fugitive forlornly fumbled, frankly facing facts. He fled forthwith to his family. Falling at his father's feet, he forlornly fumbled. "Father, I've flunked and fruitlessly forfeited family favor."

The farsighted father, forestalling further flinching, frantically flagged the flunkies to fetch a fatling from the flock and fix a feast.

The fugitive's faultfinding brother frowned on fickle forgiveness of the former folderol.

But the faithful father figured, "Filial fidelity is fine, but the fugitive is found! What forbids fervent festivity? Let flags be unfurled! Let fanfares flair!"

**"In calling for peace, we are going against the violence of our prevalent culture and long standing institutions. It can seem like we are always saying "no," which can be very draining. At the same time, we must be planting the seeds of hope and building a new society from within the shell of the old. God is our source of strength as we live on hope's edge"**

- Patti McKee, Iowa Peace Network

We are reaping the blessings the Lord has poured out since the inception of the vision of the new church to the actual first service on August 4, 2002. A thankful congregation praised the Lord and look forward to His leading as the future of unfolds to the next generations. Our Community Welcoming Service and Open House took place August 18<sup>th</sup> with over 200 people in attendance at worship service, and another 150 additional visitors for our open house. This celebration was the beginning of a new chapter for Middle River – a celebration for our future generations. Psalms 78:4 – *“We will not hide them from their children; we will tell the next generation of the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power and the wonders he has done.”*

**75 ATTEND LEGRAND FAMILY CAMP** - LeGrand Friends held their 1st annual Family Camp July 26-28 at Camp Quaker Heights. 75 people spent the weekend fellowshiping and enjoying activities such as: cardboard boat races, carpetball, softball throw contest, golf outing, swimming, miniature golf, 3-on-3 basketball, paddle boating and canoeing.



One hundred members gathered on Sunday morning for outdoor worship where there was singing, open sharing, special music, and a challenging devotional message by Tom Mitchell. Plans are underway for the second annual LeGrand Friends Family Camp July 18-20, 2003.

During camp, we found out that three of the original men who scouted the campground were from our church (two are still living). A graphic description of the “hopeless” state of the original land made us thankful for the progress made over time, as well as the foresight of these men. (Sort of like Caleb and Joshua spying out the Promised Land!) On the heels of Family Camp, we bid a sad farewell to Phil and Kris Does and family as Phil was officially recorded at Yearly Meeting, then moved on to become Senior Pastor of New Sharon Friends Church. On Thursday, July 25, 130 people from our church and community gathered for a fun – and memory-filled going away party.

Bug Safari” Bible School, where kids catch the buzz about God’s love, ran August 5-9, with an average attendance of 82 kids and adults daily. On Sunday, August 11, a great crowd of parents gathered for the annual VBS program where they heard first-hand all the Bible points and saw the kids perform the upbeat songs.

Our Senior Youth Group headed to Lake Rathbun August 11-12 for an overnight camping trip. Five of our high schoolers plus leaders Dale and Judy Cecak enjoyed water fun, tenting, picnic food, and fellowship.

To showcase our ministries, we entered a float in LeGrand Pioneer Days’ Grand Parade August 24. Members handed

out bookmarks to parade goers that touted our fall ministry schedule and extended a hearty invitation to join us.

All summer long the kids in Splish Splash Bible Bash Children’s Church have learned water stories in the Bible: from Noah’s Ark and Jonah to Jesus calming the sea and washing the disciples’ feet. Real life application is given through puppetry, snappy songs, and games to make a point. Even snacks reinforce the Bible truth!

An average of eight men have been gathering with Pastor Ron every Tuesday morning this summer to study the book, “Finishing Strong.” By Steve Farrar. This is a challenging and practical guide to living out faith in the second half of life.

We’re ready for fall with an ambitious schedule of Sunday School, Saturday evening Praise and Worship, Pioneer Club, Family Chuck Wagon Meals, as well as a special 911 service and two special monthly meetings to discuss important topics before our church.

**THE POLAR EXPEDITION** - A number of interesting events have transpired at Motor during this past spring and summer. On March 17<sup>th</sup>, Keith and Nancy Smith reported on their experiences as part of a Jamaican Missions work team in late February. They displayed various artifacts & shared Jamaican food with the congregation during our informal session. A carload of ladies from Motor attended the USFW spring conference at Lynnville on April 8<sup>th</sup>. In May Keith spent several days fishing with a group of fellow pastors in the Boundary waters of Canada. Deborah Suess was our guest pastor on May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Our youth and several adults attended and assisted with the various sessions at CQH; Reed & Dixie McCormick, Kollin & Kathy Miller and Vance & Mary Jo Ohnemus attended the Little Fry Camp. Jerret Crowell and Jason Putz attended the Jr. High Camp. Dixie McCormick served as a volunteer. Wes Blanchard was director of the Weekend Camp.

VBS was held on July 7-11 with 30 children enrolled. The theme was “The Polar Expedition”. Each child was presented with a New Testament at the opening session. Delores Fortner coordinated the meals provided each evening, and a supper for the students and parents on July 12<sup>th</sup>, when a program was presented. Those who served in teaching capacity were Wes & Lynn Blanchard, Julyn Goodhue, Sherri, Linda & Neulyn Miller, Jody & Cathy Miller, and Kevin Smith. Others who helped in various capacities were; Nancy & Jessica Ball, Marcy Hoch, Neva & Randi McCormick, Judy Michner, Mary Jo Ohnemus, Gayle Onstot, Jenny Putz, Deanna Smith, Keith & Nancy Smith and Marjean Suter. The children’s offering was designated to the Gideons International. Dixie McCormick coordinated the school.

We are happy to welcome Neulyn and Linda Miller and their daughter Sherri as members of Motor Friends.

The men of our church have erected a new picnic shelter on a concrete slab in memory of Dale and Dorothy McGraw. The facilities now include a basketball hoop and baseball/softball backstop. The greater community is invited to use this facility.

Delores Fortner has donated her motor home to the church. It will be a great asset for use on camp or mission trips and other church related activities.

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## VITAL SIGNS

### DEATHS

**Faye Bartholomew, 81**, passed away July 10, 2002 at the Carlisle Care Center in Carlisle, IA. Services were held July 13, 2002 at Middle River Friends Church. Pastor Lawrence Bailey presided at the service. Interment was at Middle River Friends Cemetery. Faye was a longtime member of Middle River Friends and is survived by her husband Jim and a sister Jean Brownell of Santa Monica, CA and a host of friends.

### BIRTHS

**Dennis and Tammy Reeser** are parents of a baby girl, **Samantha** born April 13, 2002. Samantha weighed 11 pounds, 13 ounces.

**Don and Denise DeVore** are proud parents of a baby girl **Desaree Dawn** born April 17, 2002 weighing 9 pounds 9 ounces. She is welcomed home by older sister Danielle.

**Darcy and Marcy Hoch** of Motor Friends are parents of a son, **Kole Brandt**, born March 14, 2002.

### MARRIAGES

**Nicole Lynn Webb and Matthew John Hoeksema** were united in marriage at Middle River Friends Church on July 27, 2002 with Marvin Hoeksema officiating. Matthew is the grandson of Doris and Marvin Hoeksema. A reception followed in the social hall.

## CROWN FINANCIAL SEMINAR

*A personal, Christian financial planning seminar for families.*



**LeGrand Friends Church**

**October 12, 2002**

**8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

This seminar is a must for all Christians who want to live according to God's principles of finance. Thousands of Christian families have been blessed by learning and applying God's "how-to's" for family finances.

The instructor, from Crown Financial Ministries, will answer questions like:

- What is financial freedom?
- Who should keep the books?
- How do you establish financial discipline for children?
- How can you make financial decision – God's way?
- Is insurance necessary?
- And, many more!

Brochures with complete details are available from LeGrand Friends Church. Plan to attend as a couple or a family. Child care will be provided. For a brochure, to register, or for more information, call 641-479-2025.

**Pre-registration required by October 4, 2002.**

**Individual: \$40 - Married couple: \$55**



## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 5	USFW Fall Retreat, CQH
October 5-6	Winneshiek Quarterly Meeting
October 7, 6:00 p.m.	Camp Bd, Grinnell Friends
October 10, 9:00 a.m.	FDF Advisory Board, IAYM Office
October 10, 3:00 p.m.	Search Committee, IAYM Office
October 18-19,	BOC Retreat – CQH
October 24, 6:00 p.m.	YM Planning, IAYM Office
October 26, 9:30 a.m.	Missions Bd @ Mesquakie
November 2, 9:30	Stewardship Bd, IAYM Office
	Christian Ed Bd, IAYM Office

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