



# The Iowa Friend

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

December 2004

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

Vol. 59 - No. 11



The picture above is John Moru sharing at New Sharon Friends on a Thursday evening. I am so pleased many of you had the opportunity to hear his testimony and challenge of the work in Turkana, Kenya. We should all continue to pray for that work and the many others who serve the Lord as pastors, missionaries, teachers and medical staff with our brothers and sisters in East Africa. In particular the work at Turkana is supported with approximately \$2,000 a month, which pays for the support of staff for three pre-schools, four other education centers and seven village churches. It has always amazed me that when God's church is obedient to His leadings there is enough support to care for the needs of many. Our part is to do that which God has told us to do. He will bring it together and see it to fruition.



As we enter the Christmas season in the year of 2004, we have much to be thankful for. First, for His love and care given to each of us through the gift of Jesus Christ our Emmanuel. Secondly, for the people who have loved and supported God's work known as the Iowa Yearly Meeting for so many years. Lastly, here in the office we are thankful for the many, many times we get to hear of the victories and joys from the members of this Yearly Meeting, both individually and as churches. Your service to one another and victories received through prayer and support of your Meetings is a constant source of strength to us who serve you from the staff positions.

Finally, let me add, through the generosity of many of you, my trip to Kenya this month has been provided for financially. I do covet your prayers, as I travel and speak to a gathering of Friends' pastors. This gathering is to be a source of encouragement for ministers from six different nations and is estimated to be as high as 500 in attendance. Colin South and I are to speak on December 16, 17, 18 and 19. As we go in the name of our Lord, we are to be sharing out of Paul's exhortation to Timothy, 6:21 "Guard that which has been committed to you". May we all be challenged by this admonition this season.

*Merry Christmas and thank you all.  
Ron & Joyce Bryan*



## "Becoming Your Favorite Church" with H.B. London -- February 4 & 5, 2005

### Pre-Conference

**Friday, February 4, 10:00 a.m.** -- H.B. London will speak at the chapel service at Vennard College. The chapel is located on the top floor of the Administration Building.

### Post-Conference

**Sunday, February 6, 9:00 a.m.** -- H.B. will speak in the meeting for worship at Middle River Friends Church near Carlisle, Iowa. Call 515-989-3319 for more information.

### Local Motels

Red Carpet Inn.....641-673-8641  
Comfort Inn.....641-672-0375  
Rodeway Inn.....641-673-8351

We encourage conference attendees to stay at the Friends friendly Red Carpet Inn. The Inn is located 1 mile north of William Penn University on Hwy 63.

### Books & Tapes

Order and pay for a copy of H.B. London and Neil Wiseman's book, *Becoming Your Favorite Church*, now. Also, order a book for your church library. Each book costs \$12.00. Book orders can be collected at the registration table. If permission is granted, we hope to offer tape recordings of the ministry conference. Order forms will be available at the registration table.

## Friday, February 4, 2005 Student Center -- campus of Vennard College

5:30 p.m. Registration  
6:30 p.m. Ministry Banquet  
Guest Speaker: H.B. London

## Saturday, February 5 College Avenue Friends Church

8:15 a.m. Welcome & Worship  
8:30 a.m. Session 1: With H.B. London  
10:00 a.m. Break  
10:30 a.m. Session 2: With H.B. London  
12:00 noon Lunch at the Church  
1:00 p.m. Session 3: With H.B. London  
2:30 p.m. Dismissal

Save Money!! Register before January 14, 2005

**REGISTRATION ON THE BACK**



## Friendly Flashes

*"Because of God's tender mercy, the light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in the darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace." Luke 1:78-79*

Holiday Greetings! Each year as Christmas arrives we seem to become buried under an avalanche of secular advertising. This makes us, or at least me, so weary that I can lose the joy and wonder of this most holy season.

I think that is why I have started a collection of Christmas books. Each year I seem to find a new one, sometimes two, that I can curl up with and savor the old tale of loves miraculous work as told by a new author. I thought I might share with you a few of my favorites. Some of you may already have these, but if not keep your eyes open for these modern stories about the heart of Christmas.

These are childrens books, but they are also great for adults and have beautiful art work. ONE WINTER NIGHT, Ruth Bell Graham. THE QUILTMAKERS GIFT, Jeff Brumbeau. I have given away many of these as family gifts at Christmas. For adults—TIDINGS OF COMFORT & JOY, T. Davis Bunn. LEGEND OF THE CHRISTMAS PRAYER, Brian Morgan. IF YOU'RE MISSING BABY JESUS, Jean Gietzen. Carol Lynn Pearson has written two books that I love; THE MODERN MAGI and A STRANGER FOR CHRISTMAS. Richard Paul Evans tops my collection with three—THE FIRST GIFT OF CHRISTMAS, THE CHRISTMAS BOX, & THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE.

Each year these stories remind me that some where, some time, someone else wanted us to recognize the true meaning of Christmas so they went about writing modern stories of the power of redemptive love. They too, like us, know that Jesus is the reason for the season.

MERRY CHRISTmas to all,  
Linda Burnett



## Earlham School of Religion

ESR Access is offering a continuing education course, "Christian Reconciliation: Conflict Resolution in Church and World".

**DATES: January 3-16, 2005**

ESR Access is the distributed education program of Earlham School of Religion. This course is an introductory exploration of the personal, spiritual and practical aspects of conflict resolution. We will use self-assessment instruments to learn our own ways of approaching conflict and how we can become more personally prepared to do conflict resolution informally or seek further training as a mediator. We will examine the biblical teachings on Christian reconciliation to learn how important reconciliation was to the early Church. Finally, we will learn a model of conflict resolution and apply this model in role-play situations.

No prior training or experience in conflict resolution is required and not prior graduate work is needed to enroll for graduate credit. To receive credit, students will need to do daily reading, participate in role-plays, present reports to the class, and complete a book review after the course meeting conclude.

ESR Access is an accredited program leading to the M.Div. or M.A. degrees. Tuition is \$834 per course plus fees (\$35 application, \$90 registration & \$50 technology). Qualified applicants, who are not interested in taking the course for credit but want the education, may audit the course for only \$225 plus fees. Number of auditing students may be limited.

**For further information contact:  
Director of Recruitment and Admissions  
Earlham School of Religion  
Richmond, IN 47374  
(800) 432-1377  
esr@earlham.edu -- esr.earlham.edu**

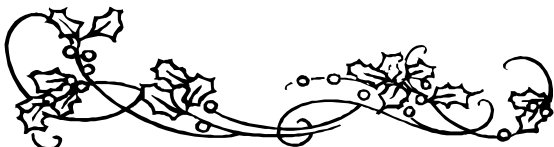
**Registration Deadline: December 20, 2004.**

## USFW SPRING FLING GRINNELL FRIENDS CHURCH

Saturday April 9, 2005  
9:30 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m.

*"The Art of a Merry Heart"*

Mark your calendars and watch  
for further details.



May the Peace and Happiness of  
Christmas be yours today and every  
day throughout the coming New Year.

Merry Christmas!  
Daneta, Ron and Ric



## MEETING MOMENTS

These past months have been a busy and exciting time at Motor Friends. In June, we were happy to welcome a number of new members in to the church family; Mike and Roe Allen, Dawine Halterman, Darcie and Marcie Hocht and Tim McCoy.

Once again, Motor was actively involved in the camping season at Quaker Heights. We had 18 campers and 13 adults who served in various capacities during the camping sessions. The campers and assistants reported on their experiences during the June 27 worship service.

VBS was held July 6-8, with a program on July 9. The theme was "Construction Inc." and the offerings taken were designated for the Warren County Habitat for Humanity. The church rented the swimming pool at Indianola on July 17 for an evening of fellowship. 70 people enjoyed the evening. Ron Bryan spoke briefly at the July 18 worship service while Roy Gongwer, of Middle River Friends, gave the message on August 29th.

Several Motor Friends attended the various sessions of the IAYM Ministry Conference in August. We were pleased to have Wes Blanchard of our congregation, who has entered the recording process, give his candidate presentation. We wish him God's continued blessings.

On September 29 we held our annual Rally Day; on October 10th, we did our fall roadside pickup, followed by lunch and a hayride. The ladies of the church spent an enjoyable day in Perry on October 16th. They toured the historic Hotel Pattee, the Carnegie Library Museum and other points of interest.

Maressa Sharp gave a slide presentation to both the adult and children's Sunday school groups on October 24. She shared her experiences as part of the Child Evangelism movement as she ministered to children in Romania this past summer.

## VITAL SIGNS

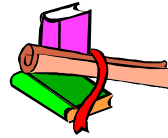
**Tim & Kathy McCoy** are parents of a girl, **Sasha Estelle** born October 18, 2004. Tim and Kathy attend Motor Friends.

**Tim & Angie Gentry** are parents of a girl, **Mae Lee Bell**, born October 31, 2004. Tim and Angie attend Motor Friends.

**Madilyn Janice Eastman**, daughter of **Eric & Mindy Eastman** was born October 22, 2004. Grand parents are Dennis and Rita Eastman, Great Grandparents are Wayne and Lola Parsons; all are members of Woolson Friends.

**Jessica Lueken** and **Phillip Parsons** were married November 6, 2004. Phillip is the son of Tin & Nancy Parsons and the grandson of Wayne and Lola Parsons of Woolson Friends.

**Dorothy Crawford, 89**, died October 29, 2004, in Fairfield. Pastor Dave Elmore officiated at the service with burial at the Friends Cemetery in Pleasant Plain. Dorothy is survived by her five children, 13 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren.



## Scholarship Opportunities

### Missions Board Scholarship

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2005-2006 academic school year. Persons seeking intentional study in missions at a Christian college or seminary, and want to pursue education to prepare for full time missions' work with a Friends organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2005-2006 scholarship, please contact Diane Martin, IAYM Mission's Presider, at 3227 Pheasant Avenue, Rockwell, IA

### Clarence & Lilly Pickett Fund

The trustees of the Clarence and Lilly Pickett Fund for Quaker Leadership are soliciting nominations of Friends to be awarded leadership grants for year 2005. This fund seeks to support new leadership in the Society of Friends by providing small grants to individuals as they undertake projects that help grow their leadership potential and provide service to others. We depend on active Quaker Leaders, such as yourself, who are acquainted with many other Friends and can help identify for us Friends who are demonstrating leadership potential. A primary purpose of the Pickett Endowment is discovering and nurturing leadership talent throughout our entire Religious Society of Friends. Grants cannot be used to fund educational costs (tuition, books, etc). However, students may apply to assist with long or short term service or research projects which reflect Pickett Fund objectives.

In the interest of orderly procedure and fairness, we must receive nominations by January 15, 2005. Nominee applications must be postmarked not later than February 15. The Trustees then begin careful evaluation of each and every applicant, and will notify them, and you, of final selections around May 1.

For information, visit the Pickett Fund website: [www.quaker.org/pickettfund](http://www.quaker.org/pickettfund). You can submit a nomination online from the website or mail application to: Allen Bowman, William Penn University, 201 Trueblood Ave, Oskaloosa, IA 52577, telephone: (641) 673-4190.

### Trustees Scholarship

Several years ago, IAYM received a generous gift making it possible for a student to receive a \$500 scholarship to assist in their education. The donor providing these funds had a great concern for our Christian young people and their education. The income from this gift is available from year-to-year to the student selected by the Trustees Scholarship Committee.

Applications may be submitted by any Christian student who is planning to attend a recognized college; all other things being equal, special consideration will be given to those planning to attend William Penn University. Those applying must have a recommendation from their local church and fulfill other requirements asked for in the Scholarship Application.

Those wishing to apply should write to Iowa Yearly Meeting Scholarship Fund, PO Box 657, Oskaloosa, IA 52577 for an application.

**Deadline is February 1, 2005.**

**The Iowa Friend (USPS 582-120)**

P.O. Box 657  
 Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
 (641) 673-9717

Email: iaym@kdsi.net  
 Website: www.iaym.org  
 Subscription Price (Individual).....\$10.00 per year  
 Subscription Price (Group).....\$9.50 per year

*Published Monthly Except August*

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to  
 THE IOWA FRIEND  
 P.O. Box 657  
 Oskaloosa, IA 52577

**REGISTRATION FORM-Favorite Church Conf.**

**Banquet:**

Quaker Men Members-Early Registration.....\$5.00 each  
 Other Attendees- Early Registration .....\$ 7.50 each  
 After Registration Deadline.....\$8.50 each

**Conference:**

Early Registration.....\$ 20.00 each  
 After Registration Deadline.....\$25.00 each

**Lunch Tickets:**

Saturday, sack lunch at College Avenue.....\$5.00 each

**Book Order:**

"Becoming Your Favorite Church".....\$12.00 each

**BANQUET**

Price	# Of Attendees	Total \$
\$5.00 ea.	_____	_____
\$7.50 ea.	_____	_____
\$8.50 ea.	_____	_____

**CONFERENCE**

\$20.00 ea.	_____	_____
\$25.00 ea.	_____	_____

**LUNCH TICKETS**

\$5.00 ea.	_____	_____
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**BOOK ORDER**

\$12.00 ea.	_____	_____
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**TOTAL = \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE - JANUARY 14, 2005**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Send registrations and fees to:**

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends, PO Box 657,  
 Oskaloosa, IA 52577

**The Legend of the Christmas Shepherd**

~by Wellington Whittlesey

There's a tender Eastern legend  
 (On a scroll now old and worn),  
 Of a mother and her infant who was in a manger born;  
 As the pages call to mem'ry all the blessings of that day,  
 We may read of a simple shepherd  
 who was called to Spirit's sway.

As the sheep were tired and restless, and the  
 night was growing chill,  
 A majestic light engulfed them as they sat on nearby hill;  
 Fear and terror struck the shepherds when,  
 engulfed by holy light,  
 They perceived their true condition - men  
 who lived in darkest night.

As the angel came upon them fear more stark  
 now gripped their souls,  
 But he spoke such words of comfort as  
 symphonic music rods:  
 In the town that lay beneath them,  
 in a manger, lay a child  
 Who would cleanse their inward spirits,  
 Though they be so crass, defiled;



And the one who tells the story fills our hearts  
 with pure delight,  
 For he tells how all the shepherds found  
 release from sin that night;  
 And in all the years that followed, like an echo - unafraid  
 He repeated angel's message of the child in manger laid.

For the light that shone at Christmas hallows  
 all the glorious worth  
 Of the majesty of heaven bringing peace to men on earth.  
 And the happiness of Gospel can be heard  
 in children's mirth  
 As they gather 'round the symbols that remind  
 of Jesus' birth.

Periodical Postage Paid at Oskaloosa, Iowa

