



The Iowa Friend

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

March 2006

A Publication of Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends Churches

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Lloyd McDonald, Chuck Nichols, Leonard Grimm of Sunrise Homes, and Ron Bryan at the final payment on Tall Oaks

Final Walk Through at Tall Oaks

This picture celebrates the final walk through with Sunrise Homes on Monday, February 27 at Camp Quaker Heights. It is amazing how this building is coming together under the guidance of Chuck Nichols, Ric Garrison and Lloyd McDonald. This week the flooring is being installed on the main floor. The painting upstairs has been completed. The appliances have been delivered. In the basement the furnaces are working, plumbing is being completed. Walls and wiring are being finished. Insulation and sheetrock is being installed. Stairs are being completed. And the showers and fixtures for the basement bedrooms and facilities are being delivered. Wow! This is happening because of the wonderful response from so many of you for your gifts of money and time. It isn't ready to be occupied, but it is certainly moving in that direction rapidly.

All of this needs to be completed so we can begin to rent this new facility and finish our preparations for another camping year. The dates of the Friends Camps are included in this newsletter so take a moment and jot them down. We hope that all of our churches will work to ensure that no child is denied the opportunity to attend a summer church camp.

Sometime soon we will develop an article that will outline all the work of so many and the leadership that has been provided by our special friends. That list will be long but it is such an important part of making the work of Jesus Christ come to fruition through the Friends of Iowa Yearly Meeting. "Working together with Christ" 2 Co. 6:1 says it all and we are pleased to be a part of this great moment in the history of Friends in Iowa and Wisconsin.

Ron Bryan, Ric Garrison, Mary Thury, Pat Watson

A note of Thanks...

From the Friends Boys School



I want to thank all the good people in Iowa Yearly Meeting for their generous support of our school. The students were surprised to receive the extra uniform as many had only one which needed washed daily and when it rained it didn't dry and they would be forced to wear a damp shirt. I am including a picture of some of the students wearing their new shirts. They really look nice. THANKS so much.

We have ordered some of the new math books but they have not arrived as yet, this is the second time we have ordered as the first one was never delivered, luckily the shipper had insured the order and we are now awaiting the arrival a second time they should arrive this week we hope.

On behalf of the Students, Parents and staff of Friends Boys School thanks for all of your prayers and support.

HIS Servants in Belize
Michael & Kay Cain
Andy & Lisa Stout

Spring Fling

a one day conference sponsored by

Iowa United Society of Friends Women

WHEN: April 1, 2006 9:30am - 3 pm

WHERE: Grace Community Friends Church

@ the Mt. Pleasant Christian School

1505 E. Washington St.

COST: \$10 per person which includes lunch

Registrations must be received by March 25

**Are you...Overwhelmed?...Overwrought?
...Overcommitted?...Overdrawn?**

Come to Spring Fling to learn the PATTERN FOR SIMPLE, ABUNDANT LIVING from conference speaker Nancy Twigg of Knoxville, Tennessee. Welcome a lifestyle that is more simple, yet content. The Bible encourages us in Hebrews 12:1

"...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Nancy Twigg is author of the book: Celebrate Simply: Your Guide to Simpler, More Meaningful Holidays and Special Occasions. She is editor of Counting the Cost, an e-mail newsletter dedicated to simple, frugal and abundant living that has nearly 6,000 subscribers. Nancy's web-site contains a wealth of information on living each day to the fullest through good stewardship of time, money and relationships.

"Many people choose to simplify their lives because they're stressed or deep in debt," Nancy says. "Those are good reasons, but for my husband and me, it's more that a lifestyle choice. It truly is a calling. Simple living can be abundant living," she says. "It's not just saving money, it's about becoming who we feel called to be."

Invite friends to come and enjoy the day with you. May we seek to unclutter our lives and to uncover core values.

Overnight hospitality the night before Spring Fling, is available at the Brazelton Hotel (formerly Ramada), 1200 East Barker in Mt. Pleasant, at discount rates. Greg and Pat Watson are offering a block of rooms at \$25 for one person per room or \$40 for two people in a room. Mention USFW when you call 319-385-0571 to make reservations.

Register for Spring Fling by sending your name, address and \$10 to Linda Hourihan, 109 N. Adams, Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641 or purchase your ticket from the USFW chairman in your church. Checks should be made out to Iowa USFW.

Eveyln Cook

Capital Campaign The Wonders Continue

To say that I believe the members of the Friends family are exceptional would be an understatement. The opportunities I've had to speak at the different churches, to meet with small groups and to visit with others on a one on one basis has shown me that there truly is a desire to grow the Friends family.

The other night I was at an event, not related to the IAYM Capital Campaign, when the question was asked of me, "what do you do?" I stated that I was the Capital Campaign Director for the Iowa Yearly Meeting which is the Evangelical Friends group of Iowa and Wisconsin. The people at my table were professors, a physician, a music teacher and a couple who didn't say much. As soon as I stated what I did, the lady of the couple said "What capital campaign?" I told her (and the rest of the table) about the Capital Campaign and that the areas of the campaign are Leadership, Missions and Camp Quaker Heights. As I was telling them of the great opportunities facing the IAYM, she drew out her checkbook and wrote out a check to the capital campaign. I asked her why, she said that she had been raised near New Providence and had been a Quaker until marriage when she joined the Mennonite church. But, her heart is still with the Friends and she wanted to be a part of the growth.

Wow, how heartwarming is that? It also showed me that no matter where we are, no matter who we are with, the opportunity to share the vision of the capital campaign is there.

I have spoken at some meetings that truly didn't know what the Iowa Yearly Meeting Capital Campaign was for, or, why we need one. I have spoken at meetings where everyone present is involved with some aspect of IAYM and supports it fully. I have asked for opportunities to speak at some meetings where the request was ignored or denied with comments such as "there isn't any interest." I pray that the attitude changes, that those that don't think there is any interest come to realize that without the growth of the Capital Campaign the goals of the Yearly Meeting can not be met!

Pat Watson

Camp Dates 2006 for Quaker Heights

March 17-19	Juggling Retreat
April 29-30	Little Fry
May 5-6	Tweeners Camp
June 8-10	Fry Camp
June 10-14	Fox Camp
June 16-18	Weekender
June 18-22	Jr. High Camp
June 25-30	High School Camp

• Meeting Moments •

Motor Friends had a family Bowling day on Sunday, February 19th. Pizza and pop were provided by the Christian Education committee. They also had a meeting to explore putting an addition onto the church.

Marshalltown Friends hosted a Progressive Dinner for the adults on Sunday, February 26th. They visited 3 homes for Appetizers, Salads and Main Course and finished at the Church for desserts provided by the youth. They began a new adult Bible study in February called "A Fragile Stone", written by renowned singer/songwriter and author, Michael Card.

West Branch Friend's USFW sponsored Valentine Boxes for their college friends. They were encouraged to fill boxes with goodies to send some joy to the students. The women also had a program entitled "Children Left Behind by the AIDS Invasion". The program was written by Hope Carter and was presented by Tanya English.

Honey Creek - New Providence USFW had Leela Prince, formerly of India and now a resident of New Providence, as a guest speaker in February. She is currently a pastor in Gifford. On February 5th, they had a "Souper Bowl of Caring". The Jr. High Sunday School class collected funds for Friends Disaster Service and canned food for the Hardin County Food Pantry. The Friendly Fellowship pack Love Boxes for their college youth.

Lynnville Friends sent 12 people representing Lynnville Friends Church and community to work and share God's love in Texas and Mexico at the end of February thru March 4th on an outreach/mission's trip. The church's USFW and helpers also reported 96 quilts that were assembled and tied during January and February. These quilts will be distributed to those who are less fortunate and in need.

Fairfield Friends will be having a special service on March 26th. "America: Did You Know?" will be performed during both morning services. It is a portrayal of John Adams as he boldly makes known that the United States of America, from its conception, was founded on Christian principles and such principles were intended to guide our everyday behavior.

Bangor-Liberty noted that the Liberty USFW had a special guest, Marge Nelson, present her program on Underground Railroad Quilts. The church had an All-Church bowling party on February 26th.

A special note of congratulations goes to Wes and Lynn Blanchard of Indianola. They have recently adopted 2 sons from Russia. They are Adam - age 8 and Daniel - age 3.

**FCNL's Young Adult
Spring Lobby Weekend 2006**

March 31-April 3, 2006

for more info: www.fcnl.org/young/ or
1-800-630-1330 x2504

Life Insurance A Gift to Charity?

You are probably living out your faith in your daily life through caring and sharing. You may be in reasonably good health and have either a modest investment portfolio (retirement or otherwise), a comfortable cash flow from your earnings or retirement income, or both.

Have you considered ways to expand the financial resources you may leave behind? One way may be to take out a life insurance policy with one or more charitable beneficiaries. Making an annual or one-time premium payment to assure the policy is completely paid up can guarantee your charitable legacy to the ministries and missions for which you care. This can be accomplished in a number of ways.

First, you may have an existing policy that could be changed to name charity as a total or partial beneficiary? To change beneficiaries simply contact your agent. You may name the charity as a primary beneficiary to receive the entire benefit, or a percent of the benefit, or as a secondary beneficiary to receive the benefit if the primary beneficiary does not survive you. In this instance the life insurance policy is still owned by you and will be part of your estate valuation, but the amount that is paid to a charity is a reduction to your estate's value.

Second, you may wish to have a charity be the owner of a life insurance policy on your life. In this instance you should contact the charity to inquire of their interest in this type of gift. This works best with new life policies rather than existing policies. When the policy gift is made to the charity, the life insurance company notifies the charity annually when the premium is due. In turn, the charity alerts you to make a charitable contribution to them for the premium amount. Should you be unable to make the premium contribution the policy would lapse. Because the charity usually is not able to pay – or does not make a practice of paying the premium if you are unable, they are sometimes hesitant to receive this type of gift.

One of the services Mennonite Foundation provides for persons considering life insurance as a gifting vehicle is to serve as the charitable owner. Working with an MMA counselor or your insurance agent, you choose the life insurance policy that fits, and then work with Mennonite Foundation to assure the ownership interest is perfected. Premium contributions are made by you to Mennonite Foundation, and you name the charities you want to benefit. Charitable gift recommendations can be modified by you at any time. This type of gift can expand your estate's potential and bless many people served by the ministries you choose!

Jeff Swartzentruber serves Iowa and Illinois individuals, families, churches, companies, and institutions in the areas of gift planning, financial and estate planning, and asset management as Mennonite Foundation representative and a vice-president of MMA Trust Company.

605 B Avenue, PO Box 700 Kalona, Iowa 52247-0700
phone 877.656.4242 ext. 11
email at Jeff.Swartzentruber@MMAPartners.org.

Spring Body of Representatives:

*March 25th, 9 am - 3 pm
at Ackworth Friends Church
located on the North Side of Highway 92
Ackworth, IA*

Registration will begin at 9 am

Lunch will be served at the church
cost is \$5.00 per person

Coffee and cookies will also be available
during the meeting session



INTENTIONALLY REBORN a strategy for success

Marty and Pam Waite of Inquest Ministries conducted a weekend seminar at the Light of the Lakes Friends Church on February 10 and 11th. The seminar called Intentionally Reborn was to help the attenders through a process of identifying the core values of this church. From these values they will determine where they want to go as a body.

The weekend, attended by 18 people, was filled with discovery and anticipation for the future of this Arnold's Park Church. Those in attendance were given the DISC profile test. The individual results will enable each individual to know what his or her

strengths are and how they can fit on the team to help build the Kingdom of God.

New pastors Jerry and Vicky Mercer hope this training will bring the existing congregation together to spread God's word in this area. They anticipate a very positive reaction to the message. All of this would include a timeline. The intent of the seminar was to involve everyone in the congregation to form a plan for action.

Roger G. LeBel February 21, 2006

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