



The Iowa Friend

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

May 2009

Vol. 64 - No. 5

PASTOR TO THE PASTORS *from Ron Bryan*

Phil 1:3 *I thank my God every time I remember you.*

Phil 1:7 *It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me.*

I want to take a moment and share an insight with all of the Yearly Meeting about my feelings (emotions) that are attached to my view of being a pastor. In a book sent to me for reading titled "Who Stole My Church?" by Gordon McDonald there is a short section I will share with you. Mostly I want to share it because he is speaking remarkably clear and it coincides with my personal view of what it means to be a pastor of a small or medium sized church today. Some of his words of choice parallel my personal experience and observations, particularly over the last fifteen years. One of his key words I know I have used frequently since 1986 when I moved from pastoring at Pleasant Plain to LeGrand. Both of which I consider to have been productive and rewarding periods in my life. It is my view of someone who has a 'pastors heart' but it also reveals some of the emotional aspects of pastoring or 'investing' our souls in the lives of God's church and we as pastors do this because we see it as a calling from God. Here is a quote from this book:

I should preface this section by saying it came as a result of a time of turmoil in a church and the result was 15 long time members leaving the church.

"Are there any words that a pastor dreads more than 'leaving the church'? There must be, but I can't think of them right now. *Leaving!* I tend to associate the word with defeat or failure—mine. OK, there's probably a sense of hurt pride too. Add to that the second-guessing and the self-doubt that goes on. What could have been done differently or better?

Some are going to ask, Why the fuss over fifteen people?

The truth is, speaking as a pastor; you give your heart to the people of a congregation if this work is indeed a calling. You invest in them, think about them constantly, and try to find ways to build Christ into their lives. You exalt in their spiritual development. You share their difficult moments. And you rejoice when good things happen to them.

I think Paul was trying to say this when he wrote to Philippians: 'I thank my God every time I remember you.....It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart.'

Mirembe:

Connecting Through Curriculum

June 19-20, 2009

*FAMILY RETREAT SPONSORED BY
BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION*

AT

*Marshalltown Friends Church
2409 South Sixth St.
Marshalltown, Iowa*

Registration:

*\$15 per family if registered by June 5th
\$25 per family for registrations received after
June 5*

Registration includes meals.

*Free camping is available, including showers,
but no electricity*

Contact

*Charlotte Stangeland
641-676-1532 or kindra@mahaska.org*



Friendly Flashes

- a Ministry of USFW of Iowa -

A seed was planted at USFWI Triennial 2007. Eden Grace, Friends United Meeting field staff serving in the FUM office in Kisumu, Kenya had brought what quilters refer to as "fat quarters" of brightly colored Kenyan fabric to sell to help raise funds for her support. I do not quilt but I have a friend who does and purchased a few for her. On the drive home realizing Eden had quite a few left over, the thought came to me that if I could find some women back home who would want to make a quilt or two for missions, Eden might be willing to contribute the remaining fat quarters for that project.

Two quilt projects grew from that seed. One queen size quilt went to the 2008 FUM Triennial in NC to be auctioned for the support of Eden Grace. The other is the queen size quilt pictured here that was a group project of women from the USFW societies in the Bangor-Honey Creek Quarterly meeting.

Peggy Martin of the Bangor society opened her home many days during the fall, winter and spring where two to five at a time from the Bangor, Hartland, LeGrand, Liberty, Marshalltown and Honey Creek-New Providence societies/churches came to cut, pin, sew and laugh together as this labor of love came to fruition. It was fun to watch the colorful fabrics coming together to make this beautiful quilt that was displayed at Iowa Yearly Meeting last August, then put on E-Bay for auction but not bringing the minimum price was taken to USFW Fall Retreat at Camp Quaker Heights and sold at silent auction.

The proceeds from this sale went to support the Adopt A Nurse project at the Kaimosi Friends Hospital in Kenya where Nurse Judy Davis (raised in the New Providence Friends meeting now Honey Creek-New Providence) does volunteer work each winter.

It was great to have a small part in this combined effort as it came to completion by the loving labor of so many to the glory of our Lord.

Submitted by Ann Lee Nichols



Nadine Collins working on the African Fabric Hounds Tooth Quilt otherwise known as the "Out of Africa" quilt made by women in Bangor-Honey Creek Quarterly Meeting to be auctioned for the Adopt-A-Nurse Project at the Kaimosi Friends Hospital in Kenya. And the finish quilt as shown with Ann Lee at last year's Yearly Meeting sessions.

Capital Campaign's Leadership Quilt



After much work by churches and various members of the Yearly Meeting to finish this project.....the Capital Campaign Leadership quilt is done!! A special thank you to Kathy Kessler for hosting a quilting day at her home along with the many Friends that came to work. Also, thank you to Joyce Bryan for setting the blocks and preparing them for quilting.

This is a BIG quilt designed for a queen or King size bed. The original intention for the work was to raise funds for the Capital Campaign. So with that intention in mind: For funds sent in for the campaign from now until August (the completion of the campaign) you will receive a ticket for every dollar given. At the end we will draw a ticket and give this quilt away. You can certainly designate a recipient if you do not want to receive the quilt for yourself.



Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

West Branch Friends - Ruthie Tippin, Pastor

March: There was a Friendship Sunday where members invited someone to Sunday School and church. West Branch was host for the World Day of Prayer. The seven churches in the greater West Branch area were included. We hosted the Spring Body of Representatives. Nearly 90 friends came to the meeting. A delicious lunch was served. The West Branch area Religious Council presented "Awaken", a passion play telling the whole story of God and his creation from the beginning of time til our current day.

April: On Easter Sunday there was a 6:15 sunrise service, an Easter breakfast and an Easter egg hunt following church.

Speakers have included Kim Newlin on FUM Sunday. On Palm Sunday The Barbers shared their amazing story of God's call to Belize. Jim and Kathy Kessler spoke about the blessing of restoring Iowa Native Prairie grasses and flowers to their land. We have enjoyed special music by the children, the choir, a vocal duet and several organ and piano duets. The community chorus, directed by Pastor Ruthie, presented their spring concert "Rivers to the Sea".

May 2nd is the "Everything Sale". Benefits go to the Christian Education Committee. May 9th is the annual Library Tea. Proceeds go to the Library. \$1 from each ticket sold goes to benefit the Boys School in Belize.

USFWI/QMI Triennial 2010

The deadline for the \$100 deposit to attend the USFWI/QMI Triennial in Mombasa, Kenya in 2010 (July 1-5) has been extended to June 1, 2009. Checks should be made out to USFWI and mailed to Adis Beeson, 4305 Beeson Farm Road, Sophia, NC 27350. More information will be in the May/June ADVOCATE.

To our IAYM Churches.....this column/page is for you!!! Please let me know what is happening at your church. There are a few newsletters that come to the office but I know that there is more news out there. Send it to my email (iaym@mahaska.org) or just send a letter! Share your works with the Yearly Meeting!!!

Fairfield Friends - Dave Elmore, Pastor

Fairfield Friends Church tried something a little different this past Easter. They moved their worship service and Easter breakfast across the street to the Fairfield Middle School. They had a separate church service for elementary age students in the school gym. They advertised the Kid's Church as "CSI - Jerusalem", which ended in a candy hunt with "The Biggest Easter Egg Ever"; a six foot Easter egg. The good news of Jesus' resurrection and saving grace was preached in both the adult worship service and the Kid's Church. Church was held at 8:30 with a full breakfast following.



IAYM Mission's Focus

Mission on Campus at Coe College - Morgan Martin



Hello, my name is Morgan Martin, and to echo Paul the apostle's words, I am a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be a priest of the Lord and set apart for the gospel of God - the gospel that only comes through his Son, Jesus Christ.

I grew up in Union, IA, where I attended Bangor Liberty Friends Church. After high school, I attended Central College in Pella, IA where my faith blossomed & grew with the help of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF), an inter-denominational para-church organization, committed to carrying on ministry alongside the church. Wanting to figure out if vocational ministry was something I wanted to do, I worked for IVCF as an intern for one year in Cedar Rapids, IA. Following that year, I decided to take some time to explore other options.

If I could describe what God has done in my life this past year in one phrase, it would be, "rooting and establishing me in His love and the gospel of his grace." At the end of that journey, I have found a restored passion for ministering to God's people, specifically college students. I am excited to tell you I have accepted a call to be a missionary with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship on the campus of Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA.

The campus at Coe has been very spiritually dry for a long time, but by God's grace & work through InterVarsity, that is starting to change. In two years, active student involvement has grown from 10 students to 40. Students who were not involved in leadership two years ago are now leading bible studies, witnessing to their friends, and developing intimate relationships with the Lord!

InterVarsity staff workers have many different hats they wear on a daily basis. Some of the things I will do, include: planning, organizing and leading student leadership meetings, leading bible studies, GIGs (non-Christian bible studies), building relationships with students, discipling & raising up current and new student leaders, developing partnerships with different churches in the area, recruiting students to go to conferences and missions trips, and organizing our large group worship service.

Much of this isn't possible without people like you being a part of His provision for the ministry on campus. In order to follow God's call to this ministry, I need your support prayerfully & financially. Since college students don't have much income, it befits the Gospel message to be able to minister to them free of charge. It also demonstrates the unity and interdependence of the body of Christ through building partnerships with other believers and churches who support the ministry.

My budget for this year is \$50,275 dollars, and I must raise 75% of this budget by mid-August in order to begin being paid and spend time on campus. Here are some of the ways your church could partner:

- Take a special offering
- Pledge ongoing support to me as a campus missionary
- Connect me to potential individual partners through a ministry presentation at your church.

If you would like to have Morgan speak at your church, please contact her at 641-750-7058 or at morgan.m.martin@gmail.com Please consider supporting Morgan through prayer and financial giving. Send contributions to Bob Watson, IAYM Mission's Treasurer, 803 Minnesota Street, Glidden, IA 51443 and mark it Morgan Martin (InterVarsity). For more information about becoming a monthly supporter, contact Morgan Martin or visit www.intervarsity.org/donate.

IAYM Stewardship Monthly Report

The Stewardship Board decided to include a monthly update of the Yearly Meeting's financial information along with a scripture. This is the month-end report for March:

April Income.....	\$ 13307.31
April Expenses.....	\$ 14562.29

Year to Date Income.	\$50065.18
Year to Date Expenses..	\$53483.45

Through wisdom a house is built, and by understanding it is established; and by knowledge the rooms shall be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

Luke 14:28-30

Have you heard.....the FUM Summer Mission Project is:

"Bikes for Boys in Belize"

"FUM hopes that purchasing bikes for the boys will not only help them get to FBS, but will be a good source of transportation to high school and any future employment they might have. For \$150 a student, we can purchase a bike, helmet, chain, padlock, pump and spare parts. Our goal is to raise \$6,000 for 40 bikes by the end of August 2009.

The next time you get in your car or on the bus to go somewhere, think about how things might be different if you had to make the same trip on foot. Let's give the FBS boys a better future this summer."

-FUM Focus

Young Friends Camps
@
Camp Quaker Heights
June 2009

Registration forms are available at the Yearly Meeting office or can be downloaded from our website in the Youth Ministry section.

Little Fry Camp (K-2)	June 5 - 7th	Cost \$150 (1 adult, 1 child)
Fox Camp (5-6)	June 7 - 11th	Cost \$200
HS Weekender (9-12)	June 12-14th	Cost \$100
Junior High Camp (7-8)	June 14 - 19th	Cost \$250
High School Camp (9-12)	June 21 - 26th	Cost \$250
JH Weekender (7-8)	June 26 - 28th	Cost \$100
Fry Camp (3-4)	June 28 - July 1st	Cost \$150

"The Living Stone and a Chosen People"

1 Peter 2:4-10

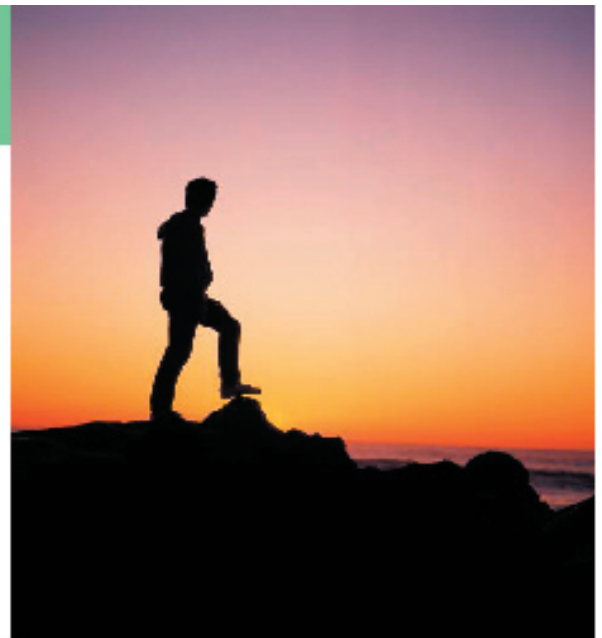
*Iowa Yearly Meeting's
Annual Sessions*

Thursday, July 30th through

Sunday, August 2nd

to be held at William Penn University

*Come enjoy a revised format for our Annual Sessions.
Here is a basic layout of what 2009 session will be:*



	Thursday July 30, 2009	Friday July 31, 2009	Saturday August 1, 2009	Sunday August 2, 2009
Morning	Board Meetings Registration	Bible Hour with Mike Moyer Body of Representatives	Bible Hour with **EFM Representative Quakermen & USFW Meetings	Continental breakfast and Worship at College Avenue Speaker: Ron Bryan
Afternoon	Body of Representatives meeting	Workshops—tentative *Quakerdale *EFM representative *Friends Bringing Hope *Cuba Work Trip *Kaimosi Hospital	Noon Missions Banquet Eirena Diana Escalona Gonzalez — Speaker From Cuba Yearly Meeting Free time with Golf outing and swimming	
Evening	Worship at CAF "Concert of Prayer" Led by: Mary Glen Hadley	Worship at CAF Featuring **EFM Representative	Catered picnic and worship at Edmundson Park	

THE IOWA FRIEND

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Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Oskaloosa, Iowa
Permit No. 544

Change

Service Requested

MESQUAKIE FRIENDS CENTER NEWS

Camp Soaring Eagles

Once again it's time for Camp Soaring Eagles! It will be held starting June 22, 2009, 10:00 o'clock through June 26. It is for Mesquakie Tribe, but we will be inviting tribes from the Midwest. It is hoped that they can come so that it will be an even larger group. Jay Mule from Ardmore, OK will be the Camp Pastor and Victor White & Junior Pratt will be the stand by, old campers. The week will be filled with Bible teaching followed by assistance by the camp counselors in small groups. Other activities in the afternoon will be bowling, tubing down the Iowa River, attending a local water park, making cardboard boats for racing, spending time at a local beach, hiking, fishing, and going for walks, going for a swimming party at a water theme park, playing basketball, and putting a summer picnic for the community followed by a POW-WOW.

There is a need for several items again this year. We will need youth scholarships to assist campers through you or your church name, adult counselors who don't mind roughing it, paper products (bowls, cups napkins, toilet tissues, and paper towels), recreational activity fees for swimming, tubing, etc, disposable eating utensils, craft supplies, food, prizes for the different activities, and T-shirts.

Volunteers needed to help side the residence of the White's

It has already been decided to install the four double paned windows on the north side of the house and put the heater in the bathroom on the north side. This has been done. However, the big part is left to be done. It was decided that we should go ahead and fix up the outside of the house. We got an estimate for the siding, overhang, and soffits. We need volunteers to help install the siding and overhangs and soffits on the side of the house. Therefore, please let us know if you can help by spending the necessary time by June 15. It is estimated that this will not take over two to three days and we wanted to have it be done by the middle of July. We hope you can help us by making this a special event.

Please contact Victor White, 1898 - 350th Street, Tama, IA 52339 or call them by phone at 641-484-2329

to help with either of these projects!