



The Iowa Friend

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

May 2010 Vol. 65 - No. 5

CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS NEWS



By the time this newsletter reaches your mailbox our workday will have been completed. However, the bathhouse work has started! Here are a few pictures of the work in progress. It is a bit like building a puzzle but is going together well! Thanks to those who were able to come in to help with the installation. It is exciting to see the bathhouse work get done. Thanks to ALL who donated to this project! It will be a blessing to campers for YEARS to come.



A BIG Thank You to the over 60 volunteers who descended upon our campgrounds last Saturday. It was a perfect day to clean, pick up sticks, pull weeds, plant flowers, paint and finish some construction projects as well as begin the work on the new office addition at Tall Oaks Lodge. The work done on all the buildings looks amazing. It will be a great year to camp at Camp Quaker Heights!

The IAYM Missions Board would like to emphasize prayer for our missionaries and their families.



Prayers for Missionaries & Their Families

by Heather Kaiser

Support: Father, supply _____'s financial needs fully. Lead others to contribute even before they are asked. Stir up individuals and congregations to be zealous for _____'s well-being, to rejoice and mourn with them, to encourage them while they are in the field, and to refresh them when they are on home leave. (Phil. 4:19; 2 Cor. 7:6-7)

Peace: God of all peace, remind _____ not to worry but to commit all their concerns to You. Comfort them when they're homesick. Help them to rejoice in You whatever their circumstances. (Phil. 4:4-7, 11)

As we think of our Spring gardens ~ May this be our guide:

Plant 3 Rows of Peas:

1. Peas of mind
2. Peas of heart
3. Peas of soul

Plant 4 Rows of Squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant 4 Rows of Lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce love one another

No garden is with out Turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

To conclude our garden we must have Thyme:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends
4. Thyme to Pray for: Soaring Eagles Camp, Quaker Heights Camp, Barbers in Belize, and All our African Friends.

Let us water with patience and cultivate with love - we are told "We reap what we sow"!

Friendly Flashes

- a Ministry of USFW of Iowa -

Jesus, A Refugee *by: Karen Mendenhall*

We don't often dwell on the second part of Matthew Chapter 2. We talk a lot about the Wise Men who came from afar with their gifts for the Christ child. We revel in their worship of the new born king. But we don't spend much time reflecting that Jesus and his parents became refugees fleeing to a foreign land to escape the hatred and persecution of King Herod. Nor does the Bible say much about how long they were in Egypt, but scholars speculate that Jesus and his parents stayed in Egypt from one year to seven.

As a Family Advocate with Drake University Head Start, I serve many refugee families. Their lives are not easy. Many of them are far from their family and friends. They are isolated by language and customs. But they have come here to find a better place to raise their families. They have been driven out of their home lands by war and hopeless poverty. They, like Jesus parents, are doing their best to provide a safe environment for their children to thrive.

This year I have worked with Iraqi families, Sudanese, Somalian, Vietnamese, Kenyan, Liberian and more Latin American families than I can recount. As a home visitor, I do not always feel my help is welcomed. But my refugee families are grateful for the help that they receive, and their hospitality is exemplary.

A couple of months ago, I went to the home of an Iraqi family whose child was recently accepted into the Home Based Head Start program. I was treated as an honored guest. A meal had been prepared to share with me. The apartment was spotless. Everyone was dressed in their best clothing. I had already eaten, and it is against Head Start policy for a number of reasons to eat meals with our clients. But I could see clearly, that it would be rude and unkind to not accept their hospitality. Therefore, I sat at their table and set aside my agenda to return their welcome.

I have thought a lot about the way we in the United States receive refugees. Many see new people as a threat to their jobs, neighborhood and sense of security. As a result, the refugees or immigrants are treated as intruders. Is this how the Egyptians treated Jesus and his parents, or were they honored as welcome guests who were bringing a great gift to the world?

One thing that many in the United States seem to forget is that all of us came here as a refugee or immigrant. Only the Native Americans were already here.

Hospitality and generosity are at the core of Christian love. Hebrews 13:1&2 tells us, "Keep on loving each other as sisters and brothers. Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have entertained angels."

In today's economy people from other countries are not the only refugees. There are people displaced by Katrina, and there are many people who have lost their jobs and are moving around the U.S. seeking jobs. Funds are being cut to help all of these people.

I encourage us all to reach out and get to know the refugees in our community; welcoming them as joyfully as we would welcome Jesus and his parents. In so doing we are welcoming God's presence.

Meeting Moments & Vital Signs

Marshalltown Friends

The church has had on ongoing ministry on Wednesday nights. This is entitled **"GIFT" - Ministry for the Whole Family...** in a contemporary, informal style. They will be concluding their GIFT service on May 19th. There will be a cookout at the fire pit for dinner. This will be followed by a concert with :

Mitch McVicker

Performing songs from his new Album **"Always Believe"** - music for all ages.

The concert will begin at 7:00 pm. There will be a free will offering to support Mitch's ministry.

Church and Pastoral Update for the Yearly Meeting

~by Ron Bryan, General Superintendent~

Perhaps this would be a great time to ask for the Yearly Meeting to continue to pray for our churches that are seeking pastoral leadership either right away or in the near future.

HCNP has been interviewing following Arlen and Jean Daleske's resignation after 12 years of service and is in the process of securing a final decision on a candidate.

Salem continues to interview and search for that right combination for their pastorate. In the meantime they have had good pulpit fill from a variety of sources including Matthew Clendening from Fairfield.

Arnolds Park, Light of the Lakes Friends Church, was able to utilize a group of ministers who were taking turns in ministering to more than one church. At the present time they have begun to narrow that focus into making some formal arrangement.

Smyrna Friends is seeking to formalize a relationship with an area pastor to take over after 20 years with Erwin and Ardith Cook serving them.

Sturgeon Bay Friends has put in place a search committee and they are prayerfully seeking someone to come in and relieve Bill and Alice Shepherd who have given wonderful pastoral leadership for over six years having come out of retirement from the Methodist Church.

Fairfield Friends Senior Pastor David Elmore has given his resignation after serving for eleven years. Fairfield has seen considerable growth in attendance under their leadership. David and Lori desire to move to the east coast to be near all of their children and families. Associate Pastor Len Maselli has been named as the interim pastor and we are thankful that he is there to help in that transition.

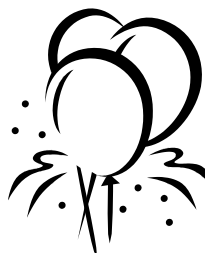
There have been numerous graduation announcements that have come into our office from all over our Yearly Meeting. We are excited to see our youth prepare to step out in a new phase of life. On behalf of the staff of Iowa Yearly Meeting we would



like to extend our

CONGRATULATIONS

to all the graduates. May God's blessings and provisions follow you as you step out in your new adventures!



Mesquakie Friends Center

New Playground Equipment

It is time to work on raising funds to replace the playground equipment. After many years of use by

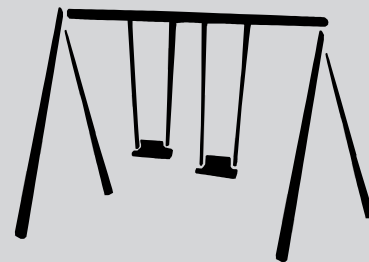
the children the equipment needs to be updated and replaced. The oldest pieces of equipment came with the grounds when it was bought nearly 21 years ago. The next pieces were added about ten years ago. So it is time to replace all the pieces. The new equipment will be designed for use by all ages. Cost for equipment is as follows:

Prime Time	\$37,500
GT Events	2,700
Mulch	1,650
Installation	11,150
Total	\$53,000

A contractor will give a 50% matching gift to help with cost. Therefore, the cost is only \$32,900.

With your contribution and grant monies, we will provide new equipment. The updated equipment will be safer and provide more enjoyment for those using it. Also, it will be much more aesthetically pleasing. To contribute to the new playground equipment, please send gifts to:

Victor White
Mesquakie Friends Center
PO Box 36
Toledo, IA 52342



IAYM MISSION'S FOCUS FOR MAY PEACE CURRICULUM

Following the post-election violence in Kenya in late 2007, John Muhanji, Africa Ministries Representative, came to the United States with a deep burden. Would writers come forward to prepare a peacemaking curriculum for elementary and high school students? George Fox University responded and in collaboration with the Kenya Teachers' Service Commission is preparing materials that will soon be used through all Kenyan High Schools.

In Iowa, Charlotte Stangeland, education professor at William Penn University, felt led to use her expertise in writing peacemaking materials for primary school children. Marlene Pedigo and Mary Glenn Hadley have joined her in writing lessons from 2nd – 8th grade.

In Kenya, Jackson Alwena became the coordinator for this project. In the summer of 2009, Charlotte Stangeland and Sandy Davis met with Kenyan educators to listen and learn together how this curriculum could be put together effectively for use in Kenyan primary schools. The writing has followed the guidelines of the Kenyans. They titled the curriculum Peace in a Community. In the summer of 2010, another meeting is scheduled where the Kenyan educators will edit the material. It will be followed with teacher training for the projected 3000 teachers involved. It is hoped that materials will be available to the 1500 Friends-sponsored primary schools for use by January, 2011. Nine hundred thousand lives could be impacted in one year with this biblically-based peace curriculum.

It has become evident that this material could be used by Friends around the world for Sunday School as well as in the Kenya classrooms. It is available on the Web site link from the FUM home page (www.fum.org) where the Peace in a Community can be downloaded for use.

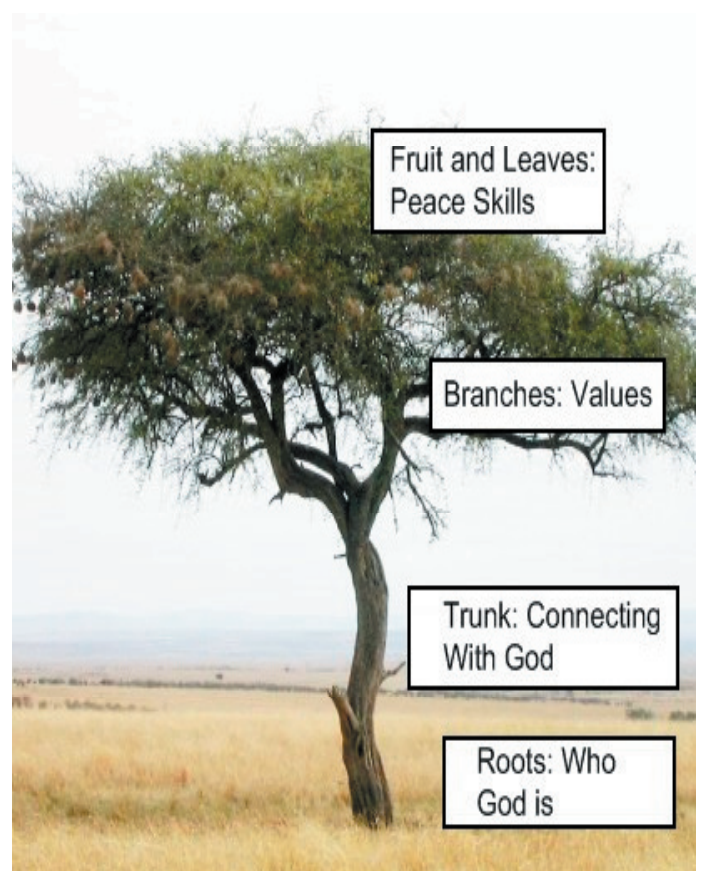
Our heartfelt thanks go to Bill Clendening, who has used his skills to prepare the web site; to Clara Millett who is doing an overall edit of the entire curriculum to assure consistent teaching throughout; to Dana Oswald and Kathy DeVore from William Penn University who are contributing their editing skills for age-appropriate teaching and activities.

Key concepts for the primary curriculum include

- God, the foundation
- Love God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.
- Core Values, which include the Friend's testimonies
- Skills for Peacemaking



Web sites are not so accessible in Kenya, which means the materials must be printed. Funding for the printing and training is anticipated to be \$100,000. Efforts are being made to find grant money to cover this but that has not yet been successful. You can be a part of this project through your contributions and your prayers. Contributions for this project can be mailed to Robert Watson, IAYM Mission Board, 803 Minnesota Street, Glidden, IA 51443. Please mark your donations for Peace Curriculum.



IAYM Youth Ministries

SUMMER MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

For High School &
College Students



Cost: \$500 +
Spending Money

WASHINGTON DC

JULY 18-25

2010 Camp Quaker Heights Summer Camp Schedule and prices

Little Fry - grades K-2	\$150 (1 adult, 1 child; extra \$50 for another Child)
June 25-27	ALL Little Fry participants MUST bring long pants and close-toed shoes
Fry Camp - grades 3-5	\$150 June 27 - 30
Jr. High Camp - grades 6-8	\$250 June 13 - 18
High School Camp - grades 9-12	\$250 June 20 - 25
High School Weekender - grades 9-12	\$100 June 11 - 13
NEW College Weekender - ages 18-25	\$125 June 4 - 6

Forms available online at iaym.org or at the Yearly Meeting Office

Subscription Price (individual)...\$10.00 per year (group)...\$9.50 per year

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THE IOWA FRIEND

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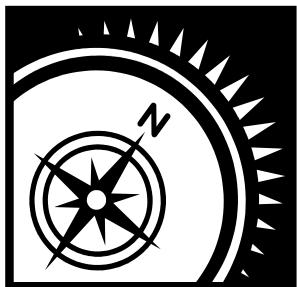
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Change

Service Requested



Trip to Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin

Winnesheik Quarterly Meeting

July 9-11th

Unfortunately we did not receive enough interest in the bus trip to Sturgeon Bay to be able to afford such a travel accommodation. However, there have been 15-17 folks who have indicated they would like to make the trip for the July 9-11 Quarterly Meeting.

So, I want to make sure that all those people who had indicated they wanted to travel on their own, because they were planning to incorporate this into a vacation, would still plan to attend. The rest of those who wanted to travel can coordinate with car pooling or a van to travel together. We need to make the motel reservations so the unused rooms can be released for others to use, then we will coordinate some events for Saturday in and around Sturgeon Bay. There will be a Saturday evening

service and a Sunday morning service for the Quarterly Meeting.

I would like to add that Sturgeon Bay Friends has been working together as well as with a contractor and are planning to have use of their new inside lift by the end of May. This is an exciting addition to their building and they have been receiving support from people in the community as well as their own members.

I need to ask one last time for the names of those who will plan to join us in this excursion. Please call the Yearly Meeting office, 641-673-9717 and let us know who will drive and who wants to ride along. I am looking forward to this time of fellowship and worship.