

September
2012 Vol. 67

The Iowa Friend

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

Celebrating our
150th Year!

The Year of 2013

150 years for Iowa Yearly Meeting

from our General Superintendent—Ron Bryan

Jeremiah 6:16, "This is what the Lord says: Stand the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls." NIV

We come together as a Yearly Meeting to reflect over the previous 150 years of official recognition, although our first Quakers arrived here 25 years before the date of 1863. From a people seeking a new place to live, to establish churches and communities and to escape some of the expected coming of conflict surrounding the ownership of people of color, as was referred to at that time. A people who wanted to become founders on the new frontier. A people who brought their faith and practice of that faith with them.

They came; they settled and established a state that quickly became the jumping off place for further explorations and establishment of other Meetings for Worship and other Yearly Meetings, such as Oregon, California and Nebraska.

People from Iowa were also instrumental in the establishment of mission frontiers in Cuba, Jamaica and Kenya as well as works in Oklahoma and Kansas amongst the Native American Indians.

We are making plans to celebrate our sesquicentennial in August of 2013. Plans are underway to develop some historical writings for remembrance in each Friends Church. We are also seeking to develop a CD that can be shown in each Monthly Meeting at the end of the annual session of 2013. We hope that everyone will take an interest and help us to come together for this special event. Yes, we will take time to look back to the ancient paths, we will seek to walk in that spirit, but we will also seek to walk into the future in that same spirit.

This year and in the very immediate future, we are planning meetings to evaluate the future of our Youth and Young Adult ministries and also the ongoing and ever-growing ministries of Camp Quaker Heights. So I would ask that the entire Yearly Meeting be in prayer and discernment as to where God is leading us as a group for the future in all of our outreach ministries. If you are called upon for advice and counsel, please keep in mind that we are striving to see where we as a Yearly Meeting are being led in all our outreach ministries. We have reorganized and redirected ourselves in the past so let us see what new and fresh wind of the Holy Spirit is revealing God's will at this time, of standing at the crossroads and seeking the right direction.

IAYM September Mission's Emphasis
Peace Curriculum Project

UPDATE ON PEACE CURRICULUM

When the writers for the Peace Curriculum began their work about four years ago, they never thought it would be years before it reached the classroom but we trust God's timing. At this time, we are ready to pilot Standards (Grades) 1 & 2 as soon as we get KIE (Kenya Institute of Education) approval. Join us in prayer for this approval to come.

Praise God that

100 high schools are already using the secondary peace curriculum
Kenyan primary teachers faithfully continue their interest for the curriculum

Zadock Malesi has joined the African Ministries Office as Education Secretary who, among other things, will promote the peace curriculum in the schools.

The SEEDS crop is looking good and for the excellent people on the SEEDS board who are supervising this project.

Pray for

The Kenya teachers involved that they will not grow weary and discouraged but will take the initiative to promote the curriculum positively.

Relationships to be developed with the people who can move the curriculum forward to the KIE and get their acceptance for approval.

People who can make a difference that they will grasp the value and importance of teaching peacemaking at this young age.

Eloise Hockett as she travels for ten weeks starting in September to follow up with the high schools and perhaps help get things moving for the primary curriculum.

The SEEDS crop to do well this year and make a profit.

The writers to continue with revisions for the remaining standards (grades) so it will be ready as soon as possible once approval is obtained from the KIE

Quakerdale Marriage Enrichment Retreat **Wolfe Ranch Life Enrichment Center** **in Marshalltown, Iowa**

The two day retreat will provide an opportunity for husbands and wives to get away from the daily hustle and bustle of life and spend quality time together as a couple. Through Christian perspective and various disciplines of psychology the following areas will be discussed: Communication Killers, Conflict Management, Personality Difference, Teamwork for Marriage, Rebuilding Trust, Improving Problem Solving, Seasons of Marriage.

The retreat will begin at 6:00 pm on Friday, Oct. 26th and close at 5:30 pm on Sat., Oct. 27th. Cost: \$150 per couple (overnight stay), \$120 per couple (commuting)

Register by contacting Mindy Hadley:
mhadley@quakerdale.org or 641-497-5294.

Deaths:

Arthur L. Williams, age 86, of Marshalltown, IA passed away on July 3, 2012 following lengthy illnesses of diabetes and cancer. Arthur Leslie Williams was born at home September 29, 1925, near Whittier in Linn County, IA, to John P. and Edna (Willits) Williams. He was the middle child between 2 older siblings, Robert and Margaret, and younger siblings, Virginia and Howard. Art was educated in the area of his birth, at Springville Consolidated School through his sophomore year, and graduated from Olney Friends School in Barnesville, OH. He also attended William Penn College and Coe College.

On June 25, 1949, Art married Donna Joan Parsons in a double wedding at First Friends Church in Marshalltown. Three children were born to this union: Marlene, Shirley and Gregory. Together, they designed and built their own home in Center Point, IA.

Art was employed with Le Febure Corporation, then as a Linn County Deputy Recorder, was appointed Linn County Assessor in 1972, and retired from the office of the Cedar Rapids City Assessor in 1987. In his leisure time, Art enjoyed ornithology, fishing, and woodworking. He assisted in Building the Cedar Rapids Friends Church, and continued many home remodeling projects. Since 1990, Art & Donna have wintered at Palm Shadows RV Park in Donna, TX.

Art is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Donna Williams. His daughter Marlene (Dennis) Reece of New Providence; 5 grandchildren, and 5 great-grandchildren. Also his brother, Robert (Maxine) Williams of Whittier, IA; sister Margaret Stevens of Bartlesville, OK.

Preceding Art in death were his parents, John P. and Edna Williams; children Gregory Allen Williams (age 3) and Shirley E. Scoville (age 52); sister Virginia Lemmermann and brother Howard Williams.



USFW Fall Retreat

Hosted by Motor Friends USFW

14350 240th Ave. Milo, IA 50166

September 22, 2012

9:30 am—2:45 pm (registration 9:30—10 am)

Cost: \$10 Deadline for registration September 17

Speaker: Marilla Robbins—Middle River Friends
Sharing About Her Spiritual Journey

Offering: Freedom Village—Des Moines
(Des Moines' Friends Church West Outreach)

2012-13 Theme: Showers of Blessing

Theme Emphases: My Blessings Journal
Baskets of Blessings Auction

Contact Charlotte Mosher at cmmosher13@yahoo.com
Or the Yearly Meeting office for more information

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Brenda Cox Report of African Visit

I left for Kenya on February 20 with a team from Friends Bringing Hope (FBH). The team was made up of Karen Bauer, Stan Bauer, Carol Wells, Sue McCracken and I. We had 2 weeks of work planned.

We built 3 houses, visited schools and paid fees for 25 students and visited many widows groups. One of the goals of FBH is to help these groups become self-sustaining. There are many different ways these groups are using to reach that goal. Some are raising poultry, goats and cows. Others are planting vegetables in large quantities, planting fruit and avocado trees. A few of the groups are sewing. One group, Makhele widows, is growing and selling maize to get enough money for a sewing machine. If they have a good crop this year, I am sure they will have a sewing machine when we visit them next year. The Nyasi widows have a small dress shop. Woolson USFW gave a sewing machine, fabric and sewing notions to the Vutzlilli widows. A project we started with a few groups last year was a fire briquette machine. They use paper, sawdust and water to form a paste that you put on the machine to press out the water and it makes two round briquettes at a time. They dry them in the sun and use them to cook with instead of wood or charcoal. Not only does it save money but they can sell them at market and use the money for other needs. This project was offered and accepted by five other groups. We were able to be there for the training on use of the machine for the Bumbo widows. The money for this machine was also provided by Woolson USFW.

Building houses is always a rewarding project. This year we had a class from FTC go along to build one house. The last home we built was for Karen Akinyi. The thatch roof on the house she was living in was rotting and falling apart. She had plastic hung on the inside to try to keep the rains out. She said over and over again what a miracle it

was for her to receive this house.

The FBH team left for the US on March 8th. Karen and I remained behind to visit more groups and some schools. Karen left for home on the 21st of March. I continued to be busy, visiting people, paying some more school fees and visiting the Kaimosi Friends Primary School. I set up a relationship with class 2 there and second grade in the Pekin School District (Packwood).

I was privileged to attend the USFW Kenya Triennial. The Triennial lasted three days and there were about 650 women from Kenya, Turkana, Uganda, the US and Canada.

I went to Turkana before the World Gathering of Friends. We were there five very hot days. We visited churches, schools and Camp Kakuma, the largest refugee camp. We have a church there, led by a pastor from Congo.

From Turkana I went to the World Gathering of Friends at Kabaurak University, near Nakuru. It had 850 friends in attendance from all over the world. The thing I enjoyed the most was my Thread Group. It was a group of around 15 people that met each day for an hour. We discussed various topics ranging from where we grew up, when we found the Lord, to how we worship and what we believe. It was a very diverse group, but we began to feel like a family, loving despite the differences. There were many challenges for me during the Gathering and I learned a lot. My prayer is that God will use what I learned to make me more effective in my ministry to others.

Thank you to those who helped make this trip a reality. May God bless each of you, for without your support and prayers it would not have been possible. You are truly my partners.

From Chuck Mylander, Former Director of EFM

It's time for me to say "thank you" and "good-bye" as your EFM Director. Thank you is easy because I'm so grateful for all of you-your prayers, your support, your friendship. This has quite possibly been the most interesting and most fruitful decade of my life. I'm a blessed man because of friends on our ten mission fields and six Friends regions/Yearly Meetings in the United States. What a blessing to me. The Lord has been so faithful and I am so grateful.

Good-bye is more difficult for all the same reasons that I say "thank you." I will miss our staff, missionaries, Board members, and supporters. I'm thrilled with our new Directors who will begin October 1, namely Dan Cammack (Director) and Matt Macy (Associate Director).

Thank you for being a partner on our Email Prayer Focus. As I leave I would like to highlight a few ongoing prayer ideas that you might put with your Bible or prayer folder or anywhere you pray.

- Pray specifically for Dan and Matt, our new Directors. Some of you might want to serve on a smaller intercessory team for one or both of them. If so, Dan Cammack's email is dancammack@aol.com and Matt Macy's is Matt@FriendsYouth.com. Let them know. If any of you would like to become, or continue, as my personal intercessor or prayer team member, my new email is chuckmylander@gmail.com. I would love to put you on my new list.

- Ask the Lord to send new missionaries, especially long-term missionaries. We rejoice that we just received applications from a young couple who feel called to Southeast Asia. "Pray out" many more.
- Pray for donors, large and small. Everyone counts and we would not close the year in the black without small donors. Do not neglect, however, to pray for major donors also who will give generously and move EFM forward.
- Pray for people who will effectively talk up EFM and mobilize other people to take part. Pray also for gifted communicators who will keep the vision of making disciples of every nation, language, tribe, and people burning in the hearts of our people.
- Pray for churches to "spiritually own" (some may call it adopt or partner or sponsor) a mission field and invest their resources and strengths in it.
- Pray for your own family members including children or grandchildren and ask God to call the right ones to become missionaries.
- Praise the Lord for hearing your prayer, and leading His people better than they know.

P.S. Pray that God will get the glory, the nations will get the gospel, the generations will get the blessing, the church will get the partnership, and we will get the joy!



Join the world-wide community of Friends for a season of listening, prayer and discernment from **October 10–November 18**

Iowa Yearly Meeting

CONCERTS OF PRAYER

Sunday, November 11 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Remembering our Spiritual Trails

150th Anniversary of Iowa Yearly Meeting

Our 1st Yearly Meeting was at Spring Creek Meeting House near Oskaloosa held on the 10th day of the 9th month of 1863.

“At Iowa Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, opened and held at Spring Creek, near Oskaloosa, in Mahaska County, Iowa, on the 10th day of the 9th month, 1863, with the unity and pursuant to the judgment and direction of Indiana Yearly Meeting, from which it was set off, with the concurrence of London, Dublin, New England, New York, Baltimore, Ohio and Western Yearly Meetings, (that of North Carolina also agreeing thereto, though their Epistle giving this information was not received by Indiana at the same time with those from the other Yearly Meetings.)”

~1863 minute book page 1~

First Steps in Iowa

First Friends Home: Isaac Pidgeon from South Carolina built his log cabin on the banks of the Little Cedar Creek in the fall of 1835 about a mile and ½ south of where the town of Salem is now located. This was the first known Friends home in Iowa.

First Friends Settlement: In 1836 several Friends families came from Indiana to establish a settlement on the Black Hawk Purchase, north of the Pidgeon home, where Aaron Street, Isaac Pidgeon and Peter Boyer (all Friends) had laid out a townsite which they called Salem. Such comprised the first Iowa Friends community.

First Friends Meeting: Salem Monthly Meeting of Friends was established on October 8, 1938 in Salem, Henry County, Iowa Territory. This was the first Friends meeting established west of the Mississippi River, and it continues to exist today.

First Friends Quarterly Meeting: Salem and Pleasant Plain meetings united in a joint request in 1844 to Western Quarterly Meeting in Indiana to become a Quarterly Meeting. Indiana Yearly Meeting approved the request in 1847. On May 20, 1848 a large company met at Salem for the first Quarterly Meeting session west of the Mississippi. Meetings included were Salem, Cedar Creek, Pleasant Plain, Richland, New Garden, East Grove, Spring River and 3 preparative meetings.

First Friends Yearly Meeting in Iowa: By 1860 45 meetings of Friends existed in Iowa. Iowa Yearly Meeting was set up by Indiana Yearly Meeting, having been authorized to come into being at the Spring Creek Meeting House near Oskaloosa, on September 10, 1863. Five Quarterly Meetings composed the Yearly Meeting: Salem, Pleasant Plain, Red Cedar (Springdale), Western Plain (Bangor), and South River (Ackworth). There were over 1200 in attendance at this first Yearly Meeting, many having come from Indiana, Western,

Baltimore and New York Yearly Meetings to witness the occasion.

First Recorded Minister: “Red Cedar Quarter on the reports informs that, Baraboo Monthly Meeting, with the unity of Red Cedar Quarterly Meeting of ministers and elders has recorded James Stanley a minister of the Gospel.”

First General Superintendent of Iowa Yearly Meeting: John Henry Douglas (1886-1890)

Charles F Coffin made further comment about the opening of Iowa Yearly Meeting: “The Indiana Discipline was adopted and a Meeting for Sufferings and Committees on Education, First-day Schools, Book and Tracts, the People of Color were appointed. A new Quarterly Meeting was set off from Pleasant Plain, called Oskaloosa, and a committee appointed to visit the Monthly Meetings at Winneshiek, in Northern Iowa, Baraboo in Wisconsin, and Minneapolis in Minnesota, on their request, for a Quarterly Meeting.

~quoted from *Spiritual Trails Centennial publication*~
~1963~

REMINDER

The 150th Planning committee needs to get your church history pages in by DECEMBER 1st!

Your meeting's page will be part of the history book project. We are combining information from the 100th & 125th commemorative history publications and adding information up to the present year. Each meeting will have a page to share their history. Meetings that have merged together can have a page for each of the individual meetings. Please send your historical write-up along with any pictures to be included with your page to:

Marvis Smith
fourstarmarv@yahoo.com or
1951 250th St., Milford, IA 51351

Please label all pictures sent in so that they can be returned. Also, pictures of any size can be sent in. We can resize them to fit the format of the page!

Also, please reserve a copy of the publication for yourself, church, or local historical library! Contact Mary at the Yearly Meeting office. Estimated cost of publication will be \$20-\$30.

Peace and Christian Social Concerns Award

Charlotte Mosher, Motor Friends

Charlotte Mosher has been a part of Motor Friends Church for more than 50 yrs. Her service to God has been tremendous. She has been involved in teaching and many administrative tasks. At Motor she was Recording Clerk for 20 years, she was Sunday School and Missions Treasurer for around 40 years. For several years she has been a part of the Funeral Committee and the flower person for the church. Her responsibility was to get flowers for any of our church family who found themselves in need of a hospital stay. She delivered these flowers personally. Also it was her responsibility to have flowers for sanctuary services each Sunday. She did her part in Aid and Missions as well. On the Yearly Meeting level, she was the Recording Clerk for eight years and currently is in her 12th year as a board member and recorder for the Friends Development Board. Currently she is treasurer for USFW of Iowa Yearly Meeting.

Charlotte spent some time as the Farm Bureau Women's Chair and also headed up the County Porkettes. She is currently a board member for the County Farm Bureau organization. For 12 years she was on the local Library board. Even in politics she was active, serving on the County Central Committee and for 12 years as the Treasurer of that group. One highlight was the evening she shared a dinner table with Nancy and Ron Reagan, a time she fondly recalls. She was a leader in 4-H for 40 years and became a judge of 4-H competitions at County Fairs and the Iowa State Fair. She was inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame at the 2010 State Fair. She was also honored by Simpson College in 2010, for receiving her college degree after 30.

She has served in other ways like filling in on the organ in the absence of the organist, or doing the church bulletin when the pastor was gone. As one reviews the life of Charlotte Mosher you wonder how she had the time and energy to devote to her family of 5 and now 16 grandchildren that are very proud of their Grandma. They wish God's best in her life, knowing she will never retire but will continue her service to others.

Rita Davis, Salem Friends

Rita Davis has traveled to Africa taking water purifiers, using her nursing skills and helping in various other ways on missions trips. She organized a sewing group that makes dresses for children in Haiti through the "Dress a Girl Around the World" Program. She has used her leadership skills to help organize a Missions

Convention, and serves as clerk of Missions Committee. Rita also fills in as a Youth Group Leader, Sunday School Teacher, and Small Group Leader. She is currently leading a Quaker beliefs class for High School, Junior High, and Adults.

Peggy Peterson, Marshalltown Friends

Marshalltown Fist Friends Monthly Meeting is pleased to recommend Peggy Peterson to Iowa Yearly Meeting Board on Peace and Social Concerns to be honored by Iowa Yearly Meeting for extending a helping hand to others through community projects. As a Licensed Practical Nurse, Peggy worked for many years at night at the Iowa Veterans Home helping others. Peggy is an active member of the Marshalltown Garden Club. When the new hospice house was built in Marshalltown, Peggy was involved in determining the landscaping plan and in helping choose the trees, bushes and flowers, both annuals and perennials. That was a summer long project and she dug many holes. This summer she is involved with the landscaping of one cottage on the grounds of the Iowa Veterans Home. Through helping with the planning, the purchasing of plants and the digging of holes; Peggy is having fun while providing enjoyment for the veterans and their visitors.

Eric Jones, Lynnville Friends

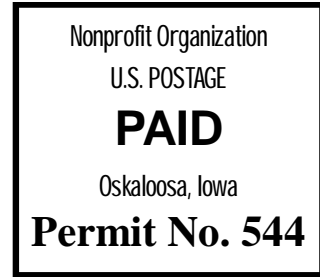
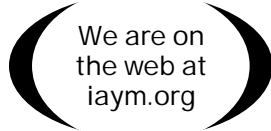
Eric has been playing guitar in the Lynnville Praise Team for the last 12 years. He has been an adult Sunday School teacher for over a decade. Mr. Jones has been representing our church on the golf course for the past 5 years. Eric also enjoys being in the God's Country 89.7 Radio Show Band. He has served on Peace and Christian Social Concerns. Currently Eric has been the monthly reporting clerk for four years. We enjoy his service to Lynnville Friends.

Don Degner, Valton Friends

Don Degner, has faithfully put the wood needs of the Valton Friends Meeting House as his service to the Lord. We relied on wood heat to heat the Church this past winter. Don was always out cutting, hauling, splitting and loading the wood stove all winter long. This spring he took it upon himself to cleanup after all our fall and early winter house tear down, and replacement. He works hard and always with a smile upon his face. His work is long, hard and steady. Many a young man or woman would do well to work with Don, and learn some of his work habits.

THE IOWA FRIEND
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Iowa Yearly Meeting Schedule

September 2012

- 9/7-9 FAMILY CAMP @ CQH
- 9/14-15 Young Friends Visioning Retreat @ CQH
- 9/15 CAF session with Diane Randall (FCNL)
- 9/18 WPU Convocation
- 9/22 USFW Fall Retreat 9:30 am—2:45 pm
@ Motor Friends
Register by 9/17 to Charlotte Mosher

October 2012

- 10/12-13 All Boards Retreat @ CQH
- 10/20 100 Mile Run for Missions—Kip Schuler
- 10/26-27 Marriage Enrichment Retreat @ Wolfe Ranch

October 10—November 18 FUM 40 Days of Prayer

October 30-November 2 National Pastors Conference

November 2012

- 11/11 IAYM All Church Concert of Prayer

December 2012

- 12/1 Church History Pages due for 150th book

FUM Ministry of the Month August 2012 Friends United Press

In 1969, *Quakers on the American Frontier*, by Errol T. Elliott, became the first book to be published by Friends United Press. Since that time this ministry of Friends United Meeting has sought to be a resource for all Quakers through curriculum, devotionals and the publication of relevant books on the Christian Quaker experience.

Throughout the years the ministry of the Press has been committed to be a primary Quaker educational and spiritual resource. Works by authors such as Howard Thurman, Douglas Steele, Joseph John Gurney, Daisy Newman, Michael Birkel and more comprise the vast array of material dedicated to inspire and animate spiritual journeys. The Press encourages book proposals that will benefit, facilitate and motivate Friends into a richer fellowship with Christ.