

November 2012  
Vol. 67 No. 10

# 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!

## What is our FOCUS?

Written by: Ron Bryan, General Superintendent

Some thoughts that I believe are very important to the direction of Iowa Yearly Meeting have been growing stronger in my spirit for the last two weeks, or since the Board on Coordination all committees retreat October 12-13. In the book, *Lead Like Jesus* by Ken Blanchard and Phil Hodges, on page 113 is an outline that explains where I believe we need to refocus our immediate energies. ".....remember that servant leadership involves:

*Setting the purpose or vision*

*Communicating a compelling picture of the future*

*Defining and modeling the values, structure, and behavior you want from people*

*Creating an environment of empowerment*

*Moving to the bottom of the pyramid to support those who are responsible to serve*

*Showing respect for everyone*

*Placing the growth and development of people on par with accomplishing the vision"*

For everyone who may read this article, I would ask these questions:

**What is IAYM's purpose or vision?**

**What is our compelling picture of the future?**

**Can we define or model our core values?**

**Do you feel like we are creating an environment of empowerment?**

**Are our leaders willing to move to the bottom to become the servers?**

**Do we show respect for everyone?**

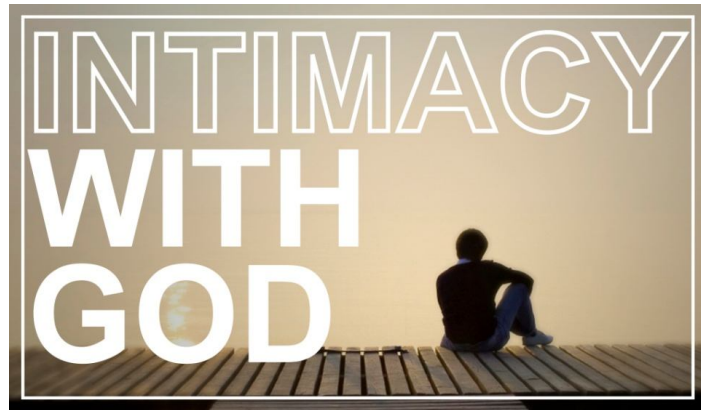
**What is our first priority for development of people?**

Simply stated I have a strong sense that we, as a Christian Church denomination, would be hard pressed in this generation to define our core values, be able to state our vision clearly, or be able to state what our picture of the future actually is. Without a clear vision known by all, I fear that we have transitioned into an organization that works in and through each committee as its own separate entity. It is called working in a silo. Our committees do work and attempt to develop strategies for the good of their purpose; however, the unanswered question is how that fits with our overall vision and strategy does for the Yearly Meeting as a whole. Sometimes it is referred to, yes even yet today, **the BIG PICTURE**.

I believe I have a developed understanding of what our core values are. I also believe I understand our vision statement, "Iowa Yearly Meeting-Spreading like Prairie Grass to Make the Love of Jesus Christ Known in the Heartland and Beyond". However, this statement was developed over fifteen years ago. Is it time to develop together a new unified vision for all to rally around and make a new compelling picture of our future? Can we reaffirm our core values in such a way that they inspire and motivate all the members in all of our churches?

Memorials can now be sent to the IAYM Office

Iowa Yearly Meeting  
PO Box 657  
Oskaloosa, IA 52577



## IAYM Mission Emphasis— November Morgan Martinez

**INTERVARSITY**

**IAYM MISSION FOCUS:**

**MORGAN MARTINEZ & INTERVARSITY  
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP/USA**

**SETTLING DOWN**

In Jeremiah 29, God says to the Israelites who are in exile: "Build houses and settle down...Increase in number there; do not decrease. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you...".

At first being in Atlanta felt much like exile, being in a new place away from everything I knew. I have learned to turn to these verses in Jeremiah 29 in times like these. As we pushed forward, God provided much of what we longed for, including a wonderful church family.

In the midst of all this, I have been discerning what that has meant for my work in college ministry with InterVarsity. Last February I sensed God was calling me in a different direction, so I asked many of you to join me in prayer. God began to show me a passion in my heart growing for urban ministry. That's when my supervisor suggested I consider working with the urban ministry they were planning to start in Atlanta through InterVarsity. =

**ATLANTA INTERURBAN JOURNEY**  
INTERVARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP/USA

I am excited to announce my new position with InterVarsity will be working for InterVarsity's Atlanta InterUrban Journey (AIUJ). The hope of AIUJ is to provide a semester or year long internship in Atlanta where students will work with a nonprofit in their field of study and participate in programming at night and on weekends where we'll talk about what God has to say about their lives and their career. We desire to help students see broken systems and structures in the city and develop in them skills, vision and purpose to see their career as a way to become a world changer through their career after they graduate from college.

What will I be doing? My job will start out focused on project development, assisting the AIUJ director in visioning and planning to get the project off the ground. Once all the plans are in place, I will continue in a supportive role working with the students that are a part of the program. =

**Because of Your Support...**

A new job means a new budget and continued prayer support! None of this would be possible without your support. Thank you!

**New Budget: \$50,200**  
**Currently Raised: \$13,050**  
**Needed: \$37,150**

Please pray with me for God's provision and see the back for how you can partner in this mission with me.



Mario and I celebrating our 1st anniversary

A Concert of Prayer is a solid block of time spent with the Lord, and with others in seeking Him in prayer. It is a time to slow our pace of life and focus on the Lord for a set period and to commune with Him through prayer, scripture, and singing. The whole of Iowa Yearly Meeting will be participating in a Concert of Prayer at the same time on November 11. Expect this to be a powerful time of intimacy with Jesus. In preparation for this time, please pray for this Concert of Prayer.



Services will be held from  
6:30—8:30 pm

November 11th, 2012

Contact your local meeting for  
your area meeting location!



# Scholarships Opportunities

## Trustees Scholarship

Applications are now being taken for a \$500 college scholarship to be distributed in the 2nd semester of the 2013-2014 academic school year (January of 2013). College students within Iowa Yearly Meeting are encouraged to seek an application through the Yearly Meeting Office. Deadline for this scholarship is January 1st, 2013. A recipient will be determined at Spring Body 2013.

### Make inquiries to:

**IAYM, PO Box 657 Oskaloosa, IA 52577  
(641) 673-9717 or email [iaym@mahaska.org](mailto:iaym@mahaska.org)**

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board announces that scholarship funds are available for adults and youth within Iowa Yearly Meeting for short term mission trips. Guidelines for this opportunity are available at the yearly meeting office and can be found on the IAYM website. The maximum amount for each scholarship is \$150. Deadlines for Applications are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. Contact the Yearly Meeting office for more information!

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2013-14 academic school year. People within Iowa Yearly Meeting who want to pursue an education at a Christian college or an accredited college or seminary to prepare for full time mission's work with a Friend's organization may contact the Mission's Board to receive an application. For the 2013-2014 scholarship, please contact Mary Glenn Hadley, IAYM Mission's Board, 611 South R St. #6, Indiana, IA 50125 or call 515-961-0606. The deadline is March 1, 2013.

### Garrison Scholarship for Christian Ministries

Purpose: To encourage individuals from IAYM to pursue a degree in Christian Ministries. Must be an active member at a church in IAYM who apply in the spring prior to enrolling as a half-time or full-time student. Currently maintaining a GPA of 2.5 or better, pursuing a degree in a field related to Christian Ministries. More than one applicant may be selected each year. Applications and references must be submitted to the Yearly Meeting office and postmark dated by **May 31, 2013**. Contact the office for more information!!

## FUM Ministry of the Month

October 2012

### Turkana Friends Mission

The ministry of Turkana Friends Mission (TFM) in the northwest corner of Kenya continues to grow. Originally established to care for orphans and to provide technical training and job skills to youth, the mission now includes 13 Friends' churches, three primary schools and six nursery schools. Every year TFM increases by two or three new churches within the region.

Although studies indicate girl-education is one of the most important factors in stemming the tide of poverty, girls in Turkana often drop out of school by the age of 12. TFM, through the generosity of FUM, has committed to provide a full high school scholarship to every Turkana girl in a Friends church or school who manages to pass her primary school exam. Since 2006, through the Girl Child Education Program, more than 40 girls have done so.

Two years ago, a group of Congolese refugees living within one of the largest refugee camps (Kakuma) requested assistance to establish a Friends church within their camp. Today Kakuma Refugee Camp Friends Church is a thriving multi-ethnic, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual ministry of refugees to refugees.

Southern Sudan is the world's newest country, bordering Turkana. John Moru, director of TFM and his wife, Grace, have sensed the Lord calling them to extend their work to this region. TFM is currently supporting this couple to make a series of exploratory visits enabling them to build relationships and discern where God would have them make the greatest impact.

God's presence is certainly transforming many lives through the mission of TFM and the generosity of FUM.

1. May John and Grace Moru follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit in developing vital relationships in the communities of Southern Sudan.
2. May peace and healing continue to transform those who live in the Kakuma refugee camp.
3. Praise God for the leadership and faithfulness of Kakuma Friends Church. May they continue to be guided by the spirit of wisdom especially in their relationships with their Muslim neighbors who are also inhabitants of the camp.
4. Praise God for the overwhelming success of the Girl Child Education Program. May all school girls in Turkana persevere in their educational efforts. May the girls' families, peers and communities encourage these girls to attain their God-given potential
5. May there be a way for Friends to begin offering basic health care ministries in Turkana.
6. May Turkanan Friends, both men and women, who are called into pastoral ministry and who are studying at Friends Theological College (FTC) be anointed and equipped to do the work to which God calls them.
7. May there be increased financial support for TFM as the Lord leads the ministry to grow in its effectiveness.



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

This section is from the 100th yearbook of "Spiritual Trails" Part V "Friends Work for Social Betterment and Peace"

#### Helping the Freedmen

Immediately following the Emancipation Proclamation intense suffering befell the freedmen, especially the elderly, the widows and children. Northern newspapers of that period printed many articles describing the dire circumstances of these needy freedmen of the South. Appeals were made for food, clothing, shoes, boots and money for their relief. The Freedmen's Committee of Mahaska County, Iowa named a leader from each township in the county to direct an intensive drive for the above mentioned items.

True to form, Iowa Friends became concerned about the education of this needy group, both young and old. Consequently, during the first Iowa Yearly Meeting held in September of 1863, a committee on Improving the Conditions of the Freedmen of the South was appointed.

By 1865 David Morgan, General Agent appointed by the committee, had visited the Freedmen's Committees of Indiana and Ohio. As a result the Iowa Yearly Meeting Committee on Freedmen became a coordinate branch with Ohio, Indiana, and Western Yearly Meetings Freedmen's Boards. An early accomplishment of the committee was to open schools for colored children and adults in Indianola and Oskaloosa, Iowa.

By Yearly Meeting of 1886, Isaac T. Gibson, the General Agent, had opened schools in Weston, St. Joseph, Springfield, Sedalia, Columbia, and Mexico in Missouri and one in Atchison, Kansas with a total enrollment of 1,505 children and adults. That year the Yearly Meeting contributed \$2,381.62 with an additional \$2,499.61 coming from other sources.

In 1868 the General Agent, David Morgan, used his influence to get the Missouri law to support the Negro schools in that state which had increased in number again.

In 1869 the Iowa Yearly Meeting Freedmen's Committee's General Agent supervised seven teachers and schools with over 1,000 pupils. As the years passed, support was received from Scotland and England as well as from our own Yearly Meeting. Also, the work spread from Missouri and Kansas into Mississippi and South Carolina. When the need arose, Friends held Normal Schools of three months duration at various places.

In 1880 the school at Sedalia, Missouri had 332 students and four colored teachers. D.W. Bowles served as head teacher there for eight years.

Land was purchased in Parsons, Kansas in 1881 on which a school building was constructed for \$2,000. Hobson Normal Institute was in operation by 1883 under the leadership of D.W. Bowles. The school grew to an enrollment of 88 by 1885 with 7 graduating that year. Hobson Normal Institute continued to guide the people of color both educationally and religiously until 1897 when the Iowa Yearly Meeting Committee on Freedmen decided to sell the property and give the proceeds to assist worthy Negro children attend Southland College.

During the 34 years of efforts to aid in the education of the colored people of the South, Iowa Friends gave freely of their money, possessions, and services as teachers. It is with deepest respect that we review these efforts to prepare the freedom for their rightful place in their world and surroundings.

#### 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.*

# Winter Ideas to "Live Love"

Genuine love and compassion for God and others  
is what attracts people to the Gospel and thus to our church family.

*"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).*

This love must spill over from the walls of our churches and out into the community in significant ways if we are going to make any lasting impact. It seems people don't always remember what they are *told* of God's love, but they never forget what they have *experienced* of God's love. ~ *Conspiracy of Kindness* by Steve Sjogren

**These suggestions can be done as a family, individual or with a small group.**

**You might want to print a few in your church bulletin each week.**

## December

Run an errand or cook a meal for someone who is extra stressed.

Ask everyone you meet "How are you, today?" or just say, "Hi, have a nice day!"

Have a family baking day, then take the cookies to people you haven't seen in a while.

Invite a senior citizen who doesn't have family living near to join you for holiday activities like decorating the house or baking goodies for Christmas.

Take a pizza to a hospital waiting room for anxious family members.

Look for opportunities to open the door or give up your seat for someone.

**We encourage these suggestions to be a whole church challenge.**

**Following are ideas to pick from and use during December, January & February.**

Parents' Night Out: Adults and youth volunteer to keep children at church while parents go out for an evening. This not only benefits parents but allows others to get to know children of the church better. Provide pizza, crafts, board games and a G-rated video.

For Random Acts. Create a card: "While you were gone we fed your parking meter to show you God's love in a practical way. If there is more that we can help you with, please call us at \_\_\_\_\_(your church name & phone number)". Or change it to read that you left quarters in the grocery carts, change in the phone, or vender machine, etc.

Super Bowl Party: Host a community party at church on February 3<sup>rd</sup> that is both kid and adult friendly. Ask everyone to bring cans of soup for your local food box or shelter and take a few minutes during half time for a representative to share about that ministry.

Reach Out and Touch: Choose a month and those who want to participate submit their names. People are matched up secretly. Weekly during the month they anonymously connect with their secret pal. It could be as simple as a card and as extravagant as a delivered meal, restaurant gift card, or a 'movie-pack' (microwave popcorn, M & M's, and a DVD). At the end of the month all is revealed.

Game night for all ages: Be sure to include multigenerational games. There is nothing like the younger ones getting together for fun with the older generation. A blessing to both. Provide drinks and have everyone bring their favorite snack to share.

Fruit Giveaway: People really like fresh fruit, and they readily take it. Put an orange, an apple, and a banana in a bag with a connection card saying you are sharing the 'fruit of God's love'. Hand them out in a mall area or go door to door in your neighborhood.

If our faith in God doesn't cause us to do anything different in our lives, then our faith is not a living faith. Bring your faith to life by putting it into action!

If these spark other ideas that work for you and your church, let us know and we'll pass them on to encourage others. May you feel God's blessings as you strive to live God's love in your family and community.

**THE IOWA FRIEND**

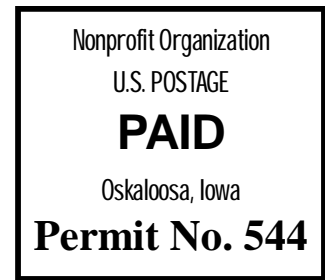
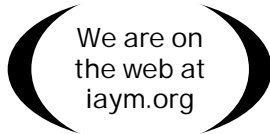
**P.O. Box 657**

**Oskaloosa, IA 52577**

phone (641) 673-9717

e-mail iaym@mahaska.org

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Change

Service Requested

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

**Iowa Yearly Meeting Schedule**

**October 10—November 18** FUM 40 Days of Prayer

**November 2012**

11/11 IAYM All Church Concert of Prayer

**December 2012**

12/1 Church History Pages due for 150th book

**January 2013**

1/11-12 Tentative Young Adults retreat

**March 2013**

3/9/13 BOC at Grinnell

3/23/13 Spring Body at Quakerdale

**April 2013**

4/6/13 USFW Spring Fling at West Branch

**July 31-August 3, 2013**

150th Yearly Meeting and Celebration  
At William Penn University

**HELP WANTED**

I have not had any volunteers yet!....Please contact me if you are interest!!

Our 150th Publication Committee needs some folks to work on updating information on our history for the updated "Spiritual Trails" publication.

Areas that need updated are:

- Camp Quaker Heights
- Quaker Men and Friends Disaster Service
- USFW
- Missions works
- Quakerdale
- William Penn University
- Young Friends Programming
- Mesquakie Friends Center

Also, do have some pictures to share for the book? Pictures of folks who have/are serving in missions? Pictures from various gatherings in the Yearly Meeting?

Please contact Mary Thury at the Yearly Meeting office if you can help in any of these areas. All pictures will be scanned and returned to sender or they can be sent in electronically via email.