

December 2012  
Vol. 67 No. 11

# 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!

## Intimacy with God

*Intimacy with God brings Purity...Intimacy with God brings Unity...Intimacy with God brings Power*

Acts 1:3-8 "After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So when they met together, they asked him, 'Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them: 'It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'"

May I ask all the members of Iowa Yearly Meeting, have we fully received His Power, are we completely in Unity with Him and with each other, can we with all one voice say that we have attained complete Purity with Him? Or perhaps can we say with certainty that all of us have completed such a level of Intimacy with God that we can say without a doubt that we, as the Church of God, have obtained perfection?

This is the theme and challenge that we have adopted for the year of 2013. This is the theme of our Concerts of Prayer across the Yearly Meeting for 2013. We have begun this journey on November 11<sup>th</sup> throughout our membership in various locations. This was one of the most uplifting reports to reach my office in recent years. How we came together, with different people in leadership and we prayed with one purpose, to achieve Intimacy with God. This was a powerful experience for the many who participated.

As we move forward, we do so in a year of transitions. We will have new leaders at Mesquakie Friends, new leaders at Camp Quaker Heights, and new leadership for the Youth and Young Adults. This is a large step and a major undertaking, so we shall all need to draw close to God and close to one another to hear His voice and guidance.

With this transition comes the realization that we will also so farewell to people who have served in leadership for many years. Ric and Linda Garrison and family arrived here in 1995. Linda has served in two pastorates in that time period and served as the Camp Quaker Heights Administrator for the last 6 ½ years. During those years we have been through major renovations of all our buildings and facilities. We have seen growth with stability in the usage and budgeting process that 18 years ago was facing a very uncertain future. We have received the largest one time anonymous gift ever received for any part of Iowa Yearly Meeting. This is enabling us to take another large step in a new direction for the future of ministries within Iowa Yearly Meeting. We need to say thank you for the entire family that arrived 18 years ago and have grown up in our midst. We will want to pray for the next ministry pursuit for Linda and her children.

*By Ron Bryan, General Superintendent*

# IAYM Mission Emphasis December

## *Ramallah Friends School*

The 2011-2012 School year was another year that brought pride and joy to our community with many accomplishments as well as some challenges. All ninety graduates matriculated to colleges and universities locally and abroad.

A new principal, Dr Hendrik Taatgen, was recruited for Friends Girls School (FGS). He is working hard on changing the mindset of teachers to rely less on rote methods of teaching and to developing the thinking and research skills of the students. His new ideas and initiatives are quickly taking root.

Having received accreditation from the International Baccalaureate Organization to administer the Middle Years Program (MYP) Friends Boys School (FBS) could now be referred to as an "IB World School". This is a very significant development in the school history as a leading school in Palestine. This accomplishment took place following years of preparation and hard work of a very dedicated team of teachers and administrators.

The 2010 ASHA grant provided for completing the refurbishment and expansion of the outdoor basketball courts and a new large water well to be constructed under the large field, as well as the creation of new residence apartments for international staff.

A new ASHA grant will go towards building a new classroom building allowing the school to create a separate Middle School, decrease the number of students in each classroom (from 30 to 25) and move 6<sup>th</sup> grade from the Lower School (FGS) to the Upper School Campus (FBS). This work is still in the planning stage.

For the first time in history our Model UN Club single handedly organized the first Palestinian Model UN inviting students from schools all over the West Bank with around 100 students participating.

As in every year, the school welcomed many visitors. Westtown School and Friends Seminary sent students and faculty which were all hosted with our school families. The FUM workgroup led by Jane and Max Carter had yet another excellent visit of services, listening and witness.

For the second year, our summer camp *Go Palestine* had another successful year with over 45 students (50% recruited internationally) participating in a life-changing experience of service, cultural and political immersion. More can be read on [www.summerinpalestine.org](http://www.summerinpalestine.org) and our SAT/college prep Academy also concluded a second year of astounding success this summer benefitting over eighty of our students.

The IAYM Mission Board encourages your support for the Ramallah Friends Schools and Joyce Ajlouny, Director (Field Staff for FUM) by your prayers and financially as you are able.) Please send any contributions through our Treasurer, Dorothy Taylor, IAYM Missions Treasurer, 1121 Parkway Drive, Apt. 1, Boone, IA 50036.

## FUM Ministry of the Month

November 2012

### Ramallah Friends Girl School

When Friends began educating girls in 1869, it was the start of a long commitment that continues amidst political and military strife. Students AFGS (now the co-ed primary school) are a mix of Christiana and Muslim children. While learning Quaker values, they are challenged with rigorous and creative learning experiences under the directorship of Joyce Ajlouny. Your donations help pay teachers and provide scholarships.



December 2012

### Friends Church Peace Team

In response to the post-election violence in 2008, the Friends Church Peace Team was organized to provide humanitarian aid and trauma counseling for immediate victims. Since then, members of the team have worked to bring displaced people back home, and to develop peace-building skills in school children and young men. Now, the team asks for your prayers and support to insure a peaceful election in 2012.

Gathered  
in Christ  
in Community  
for Mission

Friends  
United Meeting

# 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)

## 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!!

## Missions Scholarship

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, Indianapolis, IA 50125 or call 515-961-0606. The deadline is March 1, 2013.

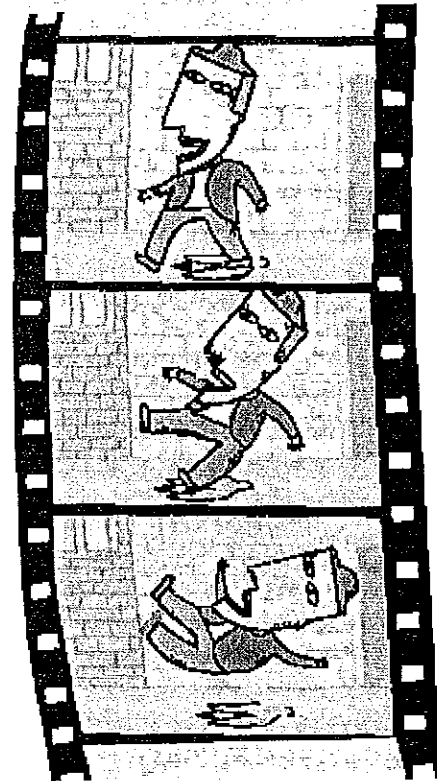
The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission Board announces that scholarship funds are available for adults and youth within Iowa Yearly Meeting for short term mission trips. Guidelines for this opportunity are available at the yearly meeting office and can be found on the IAYM website. The maximum amount for each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

IAYM Youth Ministries  
High School

# Winter Retreat

*Avoiding The Slippery Slope*

December 28-30, 2012  
Middle River Friends Church  
4057 Hwy S23  
Carlisle, IA  
&  
Des Moines Metro Ice  
Sports Facility



**\$100** Covers all meals and  
lodging for the weekend

Items to Bring... Warm clothes, Bible, sleeping bag, pillow, toiletries, and a friend.

# Remembering our Spiritual Trails

## 150th Anniversary of Iowa Yearly Meeting

This section is from the 100th yearbook of "Spiritual Trails" Part VI  
**"Auxiliary Organizations—Evolve Through the Years"**

### **The Work of Women for Missions**

In 1882 consecrated women of Western and Indiana Yearly Meetings came under the burden of foreign missionary work. Organizations to this purpose were formed in a sense of humble prayer.

The next year, 1883, Eliza C. Armstrong, Missionary advocate editor, visited Iowa Yearly Meeting for the purpose of interesting the women in the foreign work. There was good response which resulted in the forming of an historic organization for the furtherance of missionary work.

The 1883 Iowa Yearly Meeting Minutes give record of the Constitution and first appointed officers. It was at these same 1883 sessions that the decision was made by the Yearly Meeting to accept Jamaica as a field of service as recommended by the already formed Missionary Association.

Since Women's Missionary groups were formed at this period of time in most all Yearly Meetings, a triennial conference of Yearly Meeting groups was started in 1884. The fourth conference was held at Wilmington, Ohio in 1896.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Society of Iowa Yearly Meeting undertook a project to support some girls in Ramallah in 1888. They continued this for five years.

The next major project was in Jamaica. In 1894 the WFMS reported having H. Alma Penrose working under their care in the district around Amity Hall in Jamaica. Arthur Swift who had been working under the Home and Foreign Board was engaged by the WFMS to give additional help around Amity Hall.

Thus we note the expanding of missionary responsibility by the women to hire and support missionaries on the field during this time in their history. They did, however, work cooperatively with the Yearly Meeting standing committee called "Home and Foreign Mission Board." The actual oversight of field work and sending missionaries out for service by the WFMS ceased in 1912 when Jamaica was placed in the hands of The American Friends Board of Missions.

Beginning with the 1921 Yearly Meeting minutes, reports of the Women's Missionary Union of Friends in America appear. Also in the same year the Iowa Yearly Meeting Women's Missionary Society, rather than "The Women's Foreign Missionary Society." Then in 1929 the Iowa Yearly Meeting women's organization began to be called "Women's Missionary Union." Then in 1969 the name was changed to the Iowa United Society of Friends Women (USFW).

In 1892 the following questions for missionary candidates were employed:

1. What is thy age, health, and physical strength? Please furnish physician's certificate.
2. Are thy parents living and what are thy family ties?
3. What is and what has been thy employment?
4. What schools hast thou attended and for how long a time?
5. Hast thou studied since leaving school and what hast thou read during the past year?
6. Art thou familiar with the history of the Bible and art thou accustomed to search its passages helpful in Christian work, noting chapter and verse, that thou mayst refer to such passages readily?
7. What dost thou consider the leading truths of Christianity?
8. Give some account of thy conversion and Christian experience.
9. Hast thou been engaged in any Christian service, of what kind and with what results?
10. Dost thou thin that the Holy Spirit has prompted thee to engage in Christian work?
11. If some pleasant remunerative employment should offer, wouldst thou still prefer missionary work?
12. Dost thou acquire a foreign language easily?
13. Hast thou taught, what kind of a school and with what success?
14. Canst thou sing and play a cabinet organ?
15. Canst thou adapt thyself to circumstances in the comforts or discomforts of a missionary life?
16. Would thou agree to give five years as a missionary at \_\_\_\_?

### REMINDER

**The 150th Planning committee needs to get your church history pages in by as soon as possible!**

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.*