

The Iowa Friend

Standing on the Shoulders of the Giants

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.....

And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.”

Hebrews 11:1-3 NIV

These verses speak to all of and about us. What will be our legacy, one of faith or one of uncertainty? In 2013 we celebrated the 150th year since Iowa Yearly Meeting was organized. This year, 2014, we want to look to the future and develop a clear picture of where we are going. We all stand upon the shoulders of those who have gone before us, so the question that remains is what will be our legacy?

This year's annual sessions plans include new ideas and things we have been doing will be changed or rearranged. Instead of a number of small workshops we will do two large group presentations with multiple presenters. Also in place of the workshops we desire to hold what is called a **World Café style meeting**. More will be revealed about this meeting time in the next few months, but I am excited about the prospect of what this can mean for all of us. It has been 19 years (approved in 1995) since we developed a working vision statement for the Yearly Meeting. It was in 2001 or 12 years ago that IAYM approved the current operational priorities. With the fact that knowledge itself is doubling now every eight years and with the rapidly changing technological advances that are influencing our every waking moment, it feels appropriate that we deliberately meet together for planning. By together it is intended to bring people from teenagers to octogenarians to the same table, at the same time for the same purpose. Then it is the desire of planning to allow open and creative conversation from table to table to see what God is saying through our people of all ages. That makes me get excited to just think about it.

Another major event would be to hold Meals from the Heartland event, with the children thru the most advanced in age and wisdom to share together in assembling meals to feed people that are in poverty or starving. This will require funds being raised in advance and coordination with William Penn and the sponsoring group. William Penn is already on board, and we could assemble 20,000 meals in two hours on Saturday morning if we put our hands to the same task.

There are some additional changes in the planning stage which includes hearing messages from several of our own thirty something age pastors rather than an outside speaker. Remember we are trying to plan for our future and to encourage and develop future leadership. Stay tuned for next month's announcements. Please mark your calendars for **July 30-August 2** of this year to keep it open and available.

~Ron Bryan, General Superintendent



Winter Family Banquet

Hosted by the Quaker Men of Iowa

Saturday, February 22nd @ Noon
There is still time to register!!!



This year feature speaker/music will be by Phil & Pam Morgan. They are from Kansas City.

We will end the banquet with our 3rd annual PIE AUCTION...by Joe and Kerry Hadley



Garrison Memorial Scramble
April 26, 2014
Oakland Acres Golf Club
(www.oaklandacresgolfclub.com)

Mesquakie Friends Missions Update

About this time last year, the Iowa Yearly Meeting and the Mesquakie Friends Board gave me the opportunity to become director at the Mes-



quakie Friends Church. First, I was hired as the interim pastor for three months. Then in May of 2013, I was hired fulltime as the pastor and director. Thank you to the Iowa Yearly Meeting and the Mesquakie Friends Board for allowing me to continue to serve as the Pastor/ and Director.

The Wednesday night services we are seeing anywhere from 30 to 60 children. We still pre-prepare a meal for them and have classes after-wards. There are a few more adults attending and helping. We have been introducing more worship to the kids. The projector has been a real blessing for both services.

The Sunday morning services are gradually increasing in numbers, along with this in-crease, I am seeing the commitment to Christ and the ministry at Mesquakie Friends.

On the Mesquakie Settlement there is a growing interest in the Mesquakie Friends ministry, I would call it an "awareness." This is true for the surrounding communities as well. Keep us in your prayers.

Thank You for your support to this ministry.

Christmas 2013— We have received more than enough funds for the gifts for the children. The gifts consisted of items such as; bags, nail polish, perfume, jewelry, hats, dolls, remote control cars, Legos, and other thing. The gifts were distributed among the children during our Christmas program. We had a total of 71 people attend which included parents. A total of 90 gifts were purchased and we had more than enough funds from donations! With what is left over, we have permission to bless the church with new chairs to better accommodate the people who come. We would like to thank all of you for your prayers and support for the Mesquakie Friends outreach and those who donated for our 2013 Christmas.

Deneen Ahumada Pastor/Director

IAYM Missions Emphasis Nathan and Brianna Martin— Cambodia Mission

God's Blessings

This year of Home Assignment gives the Martin family time to be renewed, to reflect on how God is moving in Cambodia and the opportunity to share their experiences.

It has also been a time to share in the blessings of watching



family back home develop a strong bond with their two sons, Caleb and Jonah. This can be bittersweet because before now Caleb did not know any life aside from Cambodia. When they return, he may not understand the reason why play days with grandparents have stopped or

why he cannot see his cousin Chase who is his same age and his partner in adventure.

Reverse culture shock comes at random times as they re-adjust back to the U.S. The amount of gifts at Christmas or birthdays, and generally the amount of material stuff we as Americans go through, has been surprising when coming from an environment where people consume so little. The pace of life can also feel like whiplash with the rush of events and the limited time given to answer questions and develop relationships. Unlike Cambodia, meeting people here does not occur by just walking around the neighborhood and being invited in to see why you are here or for a bite to eat.



Many questions are stirring for the Martins as they prepare for visits with churches. How can one help our culture relate to a place where time does not matter and sitting on your porch talking to the people who walk by is the delight of the day? How do you encourage and bring passion to churches, to become prayer warriors and recognize the necessity to pray for seeds that have been planted to grow and not be snatched away? How can each of us see the urgency to intercede for the lives of those Satan has deceived, to pray that Cambodians might move from hoping in a better life in their next reincarnation, to hoping in Jesus Christ for a new life both today and forever?

The answer to these questions: THE HOLY SPIRIT

This Easter we are asking churches to set aside their Easter offering to be a blessing for the Martin Family in their travels to speaking engagements and how God is working in Cambodia. There will be a bulletin insert posted on the IAYM website.

Pray for the Martins in all their travels and interactions with us



that the HOLY SPIRIT will anoint them daily and will stir our hearts to where God is moving. For us as an entire church to have our eyes open and be the true body of Christ. And please pray so that Cambodians can see the support and love Nathan and Brianna have and know that it can only come from the Jesus they have been talking about.



USFW Spring Fling

April 26th at Oskaloosa

The speaker will be
Brianna Martin -
Cambodia mission

Make plans to come and enjoy
speaking, pictures, music, etc.

Winter Ideas to "Live Love" Year 2

The "Live Love" project is to give practical examples of how we can show genuine love and compassion to those around us in an effort to live out the goal of loving God and loving others.

February 16th is "Do a Grouch a Favor Day"

Everyone is a grouch at one time or another. Some people seem to be grouches all of the time. Others are just occasionally when influenced by events in their lives, the weather, etc. Look around for someone who is in a grouchy mood today. Then give a smile, share some encouragement, offer assistance, a gift card for ice cream, whatever you feel will cheer up their day.

Cards of Thanks

Write a letter to the people who have made a difference in your life. Tell them about how they helped you get where you are, and why you are thankful for their support.

Valentines

You know those funny cards that come 24 to a box? Bring cheer to someone's day by mailing or secretly handing them out, but keep it to yourself whom it's from.

Whole Church Challenge

Valentine meal for Widows and Widowers

There's nothing that says Valentine's Day has to be limited only to couples. It is a hard holiday for many. Plan a meal at your church inviting those in your community who are without a 'valentine'. Have your kids or youth decorate and provide the music & games.

Create a Kindness Blog or Facebook Page:

Church members and friends could post the random acts of kindness they do and those they experience to encourage your congregation to continue to 'live love' together in Christian fellowship.

"LIVE LOVE" Ideas Especially for Kids

Make Encouraging Goodies for Sunday School teachers/staff;

1. Giving hugs & kisses because we love you!
2. Starbursts to give you a burst of energy.
3. You are an important piece of this church. (Reece's Pieces)
4. Giving you a cup of hot cheer because we love your warm smiles. (Hot Cocoa)

Scholarships Opportunities

The Iowa Yearly Meeting Mission's Board is offering a college scholarship of up to \$1000 for the 2014-15 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 2014-2015 scholarship, please contact
Mary Glenn Hadley, IAYM Mission's Board,
611 South R St. #6, Indianola, IA 50125
or call 515-961-0606.

The deadline is March 1, 2014.

IOWA UNITED SOCIETY OF FRIENDS WOMEN William Penn University Scholarship Fund Guidelines

Following are guidelines for the selection of candidates for Iowa United Society of Friends Women William Penn University Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee shall consider applications for scholarships and make decisions as to recipients.

- The amount of the scholarship will be determined by need of the applicant and by funds available.
- The candidate shall be a participating member of Iowa Yearly Meeting.
- A candidate from Iowa Yearly Meeting shall have successfully completed secondary education requirements and shall have been accepted by William Penn University.
- **Applications must be received by April 14, 2014.**
- To be considered for a scholarship for the succeeding academic year, recipients must submit a request to the committee each year.
- Scholarships shall only be awarded for a maximum of four (4) academic years.

Contact the Yearly Meeting office for more information!

THE IOWA FRIEND

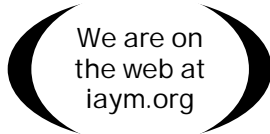
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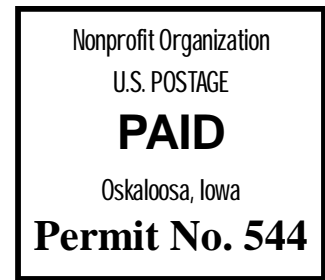
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**Iowa Yearly Meeting
Schedule—2014**

February

2/22 QuakerMen Family Banquet @ WPU

March

3/1 BOC 9:30 am at College Ave. Friends

3/7-8 Blizzard Blast for Jr.High youth
@ Marshalltown Friends

3/15 Spring Body 9:30 @ Grinnell Friends

3/28-30 Winter Retreat Jr/Sr. High in DSM/Earlham

April

4/26 Garrison Golf

Summer Quaker Camps (2014)

Little Fry (k-2nd) June 6-8

Elementary (3-6th) June 15-19

Jr/Sr High (7th-12) June 22-27

Young Adult Weekender May 30-June 1

Triennial at FUM June 11-15

**Yearly Meeting 2014
July 30th—August 2
at William Penn University**



- 5th-8th Grade Overnight
- pizza, worship, games, and much more!!
- e-mail me @ kris@blfchurch.org for more info
- \$25 per person by March 3, any registrations received after March 3 will include a \$5 late fee!
- You may also register the day of the event for \$30.

Links to on-line registrations for all youth events will be posted on the Yearly Meeting Facebook & IAYM Youth Facebook Pages.



Jr/Sr High Retreat...March 28-30...@Earlham Friends
SAVE THE DATE!