

THE IOWA FRIEND

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Ron Bryan, General Superintendent

Listen, Learn and Live Joshua 1:6-7

As the writer of the book of Joshua wrote in these two verses the people of Israel were to be led by Joshua with certain outcomes: **Be strong and courageous, you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to** *also be strong and courageous, being careful to obey not turning away from his instructions, with the result of that they could be successful wherever they would go.*

My suggestion in the form of a question to all is, should we not also listen, learn and live following these same guidelines. We know historically, that as long as the people of Israel obeyed and walked according to the Law and Covenant they were secure. But as we see in the book of Judges, that seven times in the course of that time period the people turned to the right and to the left, worshipped other gods, and fell into big trouble. Only when they were being overrun by foreign armies and starving would they repent and call upon God to save them.

There is nothing in all of the Scriptures to suggest to me that it is anything other than people's disobedience that has brought death, destruction and tyranny to the nations. We are so easily deceived into thinking we are in no need of God, we are more intelligent than God or there is no God, so why not do whatever is pleasing to my flesh?

I for one wish to listen, learn and live a fulfilling life in a safe environment, in a better world. However, we seem to so quickly forget and want to rely upon our own strength and intelligence which causes us to become little mini-gods in our own minds.

We are exhorted to love the Lord our God with all our heart, mind and soul which is supposed to be our first and foremost priority in life. Out of that love relationship will come the joy and fulfillment that is ours to inherit, if it is not true, then why does so much of the world want to obliterate the followers of Jehovah God? The **I am who I am** remains the same, it is our fickle nature that continues to ignore or repudiate the need to Listen, Learn and Live from the Guide and Comforter who has promised to lead all followers. However, lest we quickly forget, only one God and only one way is revealed though the transformed heart found in any true follower of Christ.

ROBERT WAFULA

FRIENDS THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE, KAIMOSI in KENYA

Robert Wafula, is the new appointed Friends Theological College principal at Kaimosi, Kenya. I met with Robert Wafula, staff, faculty and some students on February 24, 2015 on Friends Theological college campus. There is progress since Robert assumed the principal role but there is still more to be done. He has been well received by the college and staff who have supported him in the leadership of the college. Since his arrival, he has made tremendous effort to reach out to the community members and included them in redesigning the leadership goals. The community inclusion has been positive to the growth of the college. Before, the community felt isolated but the bridge between the college and community has provided a sense of belonging and ownership. People feel it is their college, hence a need to support it.

The college enrollment has increased with Robert Wafula's arrival as the principal. Staff and faculty were more than students and the college did not want to lay off anyone, current students' enrolment to staff ratio does not threaten anyone's job. This successful and joyous accomplishment is attributed to the fact that, Robert has built bridges in the community. Before, the community felt isolated from Friends Theological College. The enrollment and recruitment department has set a target of 200 hundred students in the next 2 years by inviting high school students and youth from friends churches to campus for a day visit.

Most of the college students are from friends churches in western part of the Kenya. The academic programs include certificate, diploma and degree. Upon graduation, these students are absorbed in friends' churches and their local churches hire them. They are dedicated to serving their churches that appointed them. There is God's spirit in these young men and women.

Robert Wafula (the principal), the board members, staff and faculty are working very hard for accreditation of the college to a University in order to be competitive with other similar colleges in Kenya. The accreditation is done by ACTERACTEA (an association for Christian theology colleges in Africa). The accreditation process is in progress and it will take approximately 2 1/2 years.

The college needs to meet certain accreditation criteria, one of which is the library as the number one priority. There are several needs such as the renovation of the dining building, qualified faculties with masters degrees and above etc. However, the # 1 priority that is identified is the upgrade of the library as mentioned above.

The library has a total of 15 computers, 8 computers were led by the Friends University, they are the old models that were donated from USA. There is no internet; the cost of internet for a year is ½ million Kenyan Shillings. All computers are used by students for typing only with their own flash disks. I noticed every student that came in, went straight to the 2 flat screen computers. The library needs to provide 40-50 journals online, updated books published by Africans and internet accessibility to all students in order to pass the accreditation. Most students use outside cyber café to write their papers which are very expensive for them.

The principal (Robert Wafula) and the board are working on Dr. Hoeskema and his wife to take a sabbatical leave to go and help set up solar power supply system (Pray for him and others planning to go).

The college has 10 females' cows for milk, 2 male cows for plowing and 5 calves. The milk from the cows is sold outside for income for the college. Besides cattle, the college also has gardening for vegetables and some goats. Both Robert and the students take great pride on farming activities on campus.

I know most of you have worked very hard to get Robert Wafula at Kaimosi, but the challenges facing the college and him are great. For those of you who have computers in your homes or mobile, you know how easy and convenient it is to get things done. Imagine being a student without internet and you are asked to write a paper without library resources.

Let's Pray for Wafula's leadership at Friends Theological College and all those involved in moving the college in the right direction.

By Phena Khanjila Shimaka.



**GARRISON
MEMORIAL
SCRAMBLE**

Scholarship Fund Raiser

4-Person
Best Position Tournament
9:00 AM Shotgun Start

April 25, 2015



**Oakland Acres Golf Club
13476 Hwy 6 E.
Grinnell, Iowa 50112**

**\$200 / team
Includes 18 holes of golf
Cart rental, lunch & prizes**

Camp work day for the spring....

April 11th



Camp
Quaker
Heights



CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS MEMOIR

will be having another cookie day on May 30th We will start at 10 am. We will be mixing up cookie dough and then freezing it so we can have fresh cookies all summer long! A great day of fellowship and work!

The camp board is gathering camp pictures and 2 sentence descriptions for a camp memoir. Contact camp if you have something to contribute. If you don't have pictures you can still contribute a memory in writing. We will organize it all from there.

Deaths

IN MEMORY OF LEROY KIVETT

Leroy Kivett had the knack of getting to the “heart” of the matter. And, his philosophy on life was no exception. All things considered, he felt there were just two things in life that were of utmost importance: God and family. Leroy often said that each person has two big decisions in life: 1) whether or not to put faith in God, and 2) what spouse to choose. If a person chooses well in those areas, that person has the most important things in life.

Leroy gained his perspectives from his own life. He came from a very humble background. He had no shoes to wear to school. He often went to bed hungry. But, he didn't use those tough experiences as a crutch. Rather he used them as a springboard to motivate his choices in life and as a lens through which to view others.

In order to break out of the circumstances in which he found himself, Leroy knew he needed an education. So, after graduating high school and honorably serving two years in the U.S. Navy, he went to college in Springfield, Missouri. It was here he met and won the heart of his wife of 64 years, Ann. Following graduation, they moved to Kansas to teach. During their five-year tenure, the couple had their first two children, and Leroy completed his Master's Degree. The latter opened the door for the family to move to LeGrand where Leroy was hired to serve as Principal solely on the basis of a phone interview. After 10 years, he became Superintendent and remained in that position until retirement, 22 years later.

Not only did Leroy believe firmly in the necessity of education, but he also believed deeply in trying to bring out the good in all of the students, especially those who came from difficult situations. Often this meant giving another chance to a student who was “wearing thin on the patience of teachers.” Leroy's background allowed him to identify with those troubled students and extend grace.

Leroy took what had happened to him in life and used it as motivation to benefit others. In that, he was rich in the things that matter most.

A celebration of Leroy's life took place March 25, 2015 with Pastor Alan Mullikin officiating. Leroy was laid to rest in LeGrand Friends Cemetery.

Besides his wife Ann, Leroy leaves behind three children: Mike, LeeAnn, and Mark, as well as their spouses and seven grandchildren—all with a rich family legacy.

IOWA YEARLY MEETING YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT BOARD PRESENTS



A Worship Experience

*A time to listen to the still small voice
A time for discernment
A time of musical worship
A time for multi-sensory worship stations
A time for corporate and personal worship*

**All ages invited.
Attend any or all events.
Bring a friend.**

CHILD CARE WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE UNDER 5TH GRADE.

APRIL 10TH @ 7pm
MIDDLE RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH

APRIL 11TH @ 7pm
HONEY CREEK/NEW PROVIDENCE FRIENDS CHURCH

APRIL 17TH @ 7pm
FIRST FRIENDS GRINNELL

APRIL 18TH @ 7pm
SALEM FRIENDS CHURCH

CONTACT SCOTT BIDDLE FOR MORE INFORMATION.
scott@laym.org or 641-673-9717

Pastoral Job Openings

In Iowa Yearly Meeting

Lynnville Friends, Marshalltown Friends

Bangor-Liberty Friends, Grace Community
Friends, Stuart Friends

Contact our office for more information regarding these job openings.

United Society of Friends Women IOWA YEARLY MEETING

ELIZA ARMSTRONG COX FELLOWSHIP

In the late 1800's while living in Western Yearly Meeting, Eliza (Clark) Armstrong Cox caught a clear vision of the part Quaker women should contribute to the Master's great plan of world evangelization. Through her untiring efforts she initiated the movement which developed into the Women's Missionary Union of Friends in America which is known today as the United Society of Friends Women International (USFWI). The Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship Award was established many years ago as a way to recognize and honor the special efforts of selected women in the local USFW societies.

If you wish to honor a woman in your society who has given outstanding service to USFW, please follow these steps:

Have someone in your society write a one-page biography outlining the contributions of this woman to your local and state USFW and to other missions efforts in your community.

Send \$25.00 through your local treasurer to Iowa USFW Treasurer, Charlotte Mosher, 23385 McKinley St., Milo, IA 50166. If you wish to award a pin to the recipient, please send an additional \$8.00.

Send the biography and a photo of the individual (in color if possible) to Iowa USFW Historian, Jacque Wilbur, 18684 Erbe St., Carlisle, IA 50047. The photo should be small enough to fit on the same page as the biography. Or, the preferred method is to email the article and a digital copy of the photo to Jacque at jacwilbur@gmail.com. **DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2015.**

The biography and photo will be added to the permanent record in the book, "Iowa Recipients of the Eliza Armstrong Cox Fellowship Award". The biography will be read and the pin (optional) will be awarded at the next Iowa USFW Celebration of Service as part of the Iowa Yearly Meeting Ministry Conference.

If you have questions about this process, you may email Jacque at jacwilbur@gmail.com, or call her at 515-989-4129 (home) or 515-205-0692 (cell).

Scholarships Opportunity

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.
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- 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, 2015.**
- 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.

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



September
9/11-13 Family Camp at CQH

April

4/6-8 Pastors Short Course @ Oskaloosa
4/25 Garrison Golf Tournament

