

May 2015

THE IOWA FRIEND

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

Registration will open June 1st for our 2015 Yearly Meeting Sessions

July 29th thru August 1st, 2015 @ William Penn University

meditate strong
prosperous
good Listen Live
Success Learn live
courage love wise observe and do
confident

Listen

Learn

Live

Joshua 1:6-9



Todd Follette

Keynote



Thursday Highlight

the WorldCafe™

Follow up Large Group session from last year's event! Adrian Halverstadt, Ron Bryan will be leading this session.

IAYM Ministries Workshop

Come hear about Quakerdale, Camp and our Youth & Young Adult Ministries!

Friday Events

Large Group sessions:

***Missions Board Updates

***Christian Education

Education and Church/Child Safety featuring guest speaker from



Young Adult Coffee House at Smokey Row following our evening service!



Arlen Daleske

Speakers

Saturday

Missions Packaging Event

12:30 pm Missions Banquet



Commissioning prayer at FTC graduation

Friends Theological College equips pastoral ministers who will be thoughtful listeners, effective evangelists, dynamic preachers, informed educators, and models of integrity.

— FTC mission statement



Steps to Full Accreditation

After four years as an affiliate, Friends Theological College (FTC) has been granted candidate status by the Association for Christian Theological Education in Africa (ACTEA). This important milestone recognizes the progress the College has made in readiness for the rigors of the accreditation process and sets the clock ticking for the four-year deadline to meet the standards of full accreditation. As FTC's affiliation with the St Paul's University Diploma will end in June 2015, the accreditation process takes on even more importance as a way of assuring the quality of an FTC education.

Five committees with membership drawn from students, faculty, staff, alumni, Board members and yearly meetings are now meeting monthly. In looking at all aspects of FTC, the committees will ask whether the current reality best reflects the institution's objectives (see sidebar). The accreditation process doesn't impose requirements and remedies — it poses probing questions for self-examination, just like Quaker queries.

By early 2016, the five committees should have compiled their reports into one massive Self-Evaluation Report for submission to ACTEA. But the fruits of the conversation will extend far beyond a written document. What will be heard as members of the FTC community agree together to ask God whether the college is as faithful and as effective as it is called to be? How it might do even more for the Kingdom?



Robert Wafula (center) in conversation with FTC faculty and staff

Since arriving at FTC in October 2014, Principal Robert Wafula has made a special effort to strengthen the relationship between the College and Kenyan Friends. His first priority was to meet with the village meetings in the area surrounding Kaimosi. Many FTC students complete their field education by serving as student pastors in these meetings, so the members know the College well. But Wafula realized that they didn't feel they had any meaningful role as stakeholders in the College's success. At a meeting organized by the General Secretary of East Africa Yearly Meeting (the local yearly meeting in Kaimosi), Wafula invited the local meetings to participate in feeding the students at the College. Living in an agricultural environment, the meetings were easily able to see themselves in that role, and began bringing food items to the College on a regular basis. It may not amount to a lot of money, but this support from the local meetings is a tremendous boost to the College.

Refugees

The Monday after Spring Fling I attended an event on refugees at Drake University. The event was hosted by the US Committee on Refugees and Immigrants – USCRI. This organization originated out of the YWCA in 1911. There are more than 20 million refugees in the world today. Refugees are defined as people who have been displaced from their country of origin by war or natural disaster. Often these displaced people live for years in refugee camps before they are offered new homes by other countries.

The primary focus of the event was a movie “The Good Lie”. It tells the story of children who escaped the war in Sudan, and spent 13 years in a refugee camp in Kenya before coming to the United States. “The Good Lie” is an excellent way to gain understanding of the struggles refugees go through in the process of coming to the United States. The Sudanese community in Des Moines was involved in the filming of the movie including one of my former co-workers and his son.

The movie was followed by a panel discussion in which I learned that Iowa will be receiving 650 new refugees in the coming year. Most of them will be sponsored by USCRI, and two hundred through

Catholic Charities. Most refugees arrive with little more than the clothing they are wearing. Therefore USCRI is always seeking donations of household goods: furniture, kitchen items, linens, cleaning supplies and toiletries. Also USCRI is seeking mentors to help refugees adjust to the United States. When they come, refugees have ninety days to become self-supporting. They need a lot of support and information to be successful here. In recent years the largest groups of refugees have come from Myanmar (formerly Burma), and the Middle East.

We are living in an exciting time. This mission field is coming to us. Not necessarily just so we can minister to them. Many of the refugees have gone through far more than we can imagine and have a strong faith that we can learn from. At Spring Fling I learned that there is a group of Sudanese Quakers in Omaha who are seeking fellowship with other Friends. What a rich opportunities we have to welcome these people and help them feel at home.

If you are interested in partnering with refugees in Iowa, contact U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants, 601 Forest Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50314. (515)528-7525.

Karen Mendenhall, Peace and Christian Service Secretary (Iowa USFW)



To refresh your memory, last September the Earlham area received torrential rains which resulted in the Earlham Church basement being flooded with 2 - 3 feet of water. They used sump pumps to pump it out, but the damage had been done. The carpet and walls of two rooms were damaged and moldy. Pastor Kathy Berry appealed to FDS for help.

October 1, 2014 the first group of FDS workers from across the yearly meeting arrived and spent the day filling the dumpster with moldy carpet and the wood panel wainscoting that was still damp along the bottom edge. We left that day with the plan for the concrete and stone walls of the basement to dry out during the winter heating season.

Friday morning, April 10, 2015, workers from Woolson Meeting, Austinville, and Postville arrived to join six from Earlham to finish the plan made in October. The men fastened white wainscoting to the walls of the nursery and food pantry, two women painted the new mop boards and scraped one of the walls in another room preparing it to be painted, and the Earlham ladies prepared a feast for our noon lunch including strawberry shortcake and ice cream. We were short one panel of wainscoting, but Jeff Lorimor assured us it would be no problem for him to get the panel and complete the project.

A special thank you to Tim Parsons and Frosty VanVoorst for sharing their skills and leadership for both days of this FDS project.

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).

Camp Quaker Heights



We 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!

MAY 30th

CAMP QUAKER HEIGHTS MEMOIR

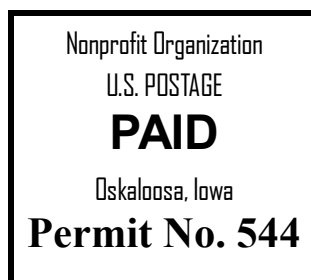
The camp board is gathering camp pictures and 2 sentence descriptions for a camp memoir. Contact camp if you have something to contribute. If you don't have pictures you can still contribute a memory in writing. We will organize it all from there.



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September
9/11-13 Family Camp at CQH

