

# The Iowa Friend

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November 2020

## Greetings Friends from Mesquakie Friends!

Hoat Nikon,

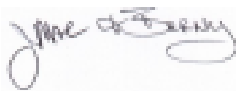
As always, we greet you in the Love of Jesus our Savior, Restorer, Sustainer and Friend. Since our last newsletter we have had to call on His name over and over to help us during these months following the derecho. It is amazing the destruction that can happen in a just few minutes. The damage that was done to property here at Mesquakie Friends was quite extensive but repairable. The trees that were snapped off or uprooted will be replaced with new trees or saplings and shrubs. We praise God that we are safe and we still have a dry home.

The physical and emotional help that we have received locally and from out of afar has been such a gift. These people were living the Gospel, being the hands and feet of Jesus. Instead of water at the well, it was chain saws and cookies. Instead of helping the man laying along the side of the road, they cut a giant tree down that may have fall on our friends house. Their sweet spirits has made this a time to praise God instead of, "whoa is me, boo hoo". They have given us energy to carry on the work when we were tired and struggling to decide which way to turn next because every where we looked we were surrounded by fallen trees and building debris. The Word of God was so real at these times, "Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing." -1 Thessalonians 5:11

The extra help allowed us to carry on our ministry in the midst of the rubble. It was so frustrating to not be able to run off to the Sett and help. Our hearts were being pulled with wanting to help the people we were called to serve but also by being the care takers of these 35 acres and buildings. But when the teams of workers showed up and accomplished so much, it freed us up to do what God sent us here for. These fine teams were willing to lend a hand where ever they were needed. We loved each and every one of them for coming to share their precious time with us and the ministry of Mesquakie friends.

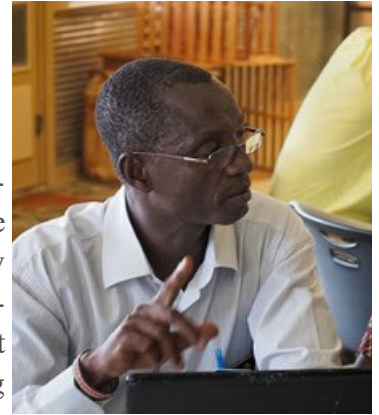
Those who were not able to be onsite sent their help with food for the work teams or financial blessings to be used as needed. Imagine the upfront cost on all of this!!! Whoa! Also, there must been a lot of praying going on, not one trip to the emergency room with all of the heavy equipment and chain saws. That is amazing!!! We just can't thank everyone enough so we pray for God's overwhelming blessings for their sacrifices to the ministry of Mesquakie Friends.

Ketebi Nikon, ketebi! (Thank you friend, thank you!)




## John & Grace Moru, Turkana and Beyond IAYM Missions Board – Jan Palmer

2020 marks 50 years since the founding of Turkana Friends Mission in north-western Kenya. It has grown from one outpost on Lake Turkana to a multi-site community of Friends, including six nursery schools, six primary schools, twenty-nine Village Meetings, and four Monthly Meetings. John Moru Losike, the current Director of the Turkana Mission, estimates there are 1,000 – 2,500 adult members of the Friends Church in Turkana County; much of that growth resulting from eighteen new meetings planted between 2009 and 2019.



John has a diploma in Theology from Friends Theological College, a diploma from AIC Missionary College, and a Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Africa Theology Seminary. John and his wife, Grace, began working with Turkana Friends Mission in 1995 and he leads a staff of twenty-seven, including several theologically trained pastors.

Many of us in Iowa Yearly Meeting have had the privilege of meeting John and hearing him speak. His love for Jesus Christ, his enduring faith, and years of experience serving the people of Turkana have left a deep impression on us. For several years, John and Grace have carried a burden for the people of South Sudan, spending time with them in outreach ministry. John has recently sent an update on their current situation and how they're responding to the pandemic.

*“God has been good to us and we are safe and healthy. We are doing well in our home and ministry. During COVID Grace made masks for the family and provided some to the church members who could not afford to purchase masks. Other ministry challenges during these hard times have been: helping families lacking food, including the evangelists who serve with Turkana Friends Mission but receive no financial support; those who have lost jobs; school challenges for our young girls; and commodity prices rising. We have given a hand of support to those we could not get food for and prayed for all of them.*



*On my faith journey with God, I have come to learn that faithfulness and being obedient are better than knowledge. In my daily life and ministry I trust God and*

*pray for all the world which has been paralyzed by COVID-19.*

*The direction of ministry that the Holy Spirit is showing us is a continuing commitment to the South Sudan vision. When I visited there in August 2019, what I saw was not pleasing – many children are orphans and remain homeless due to political in-fighting.*

*Pray for Turkana Friends Mission leadership transition, whereby I will be handing the baton to the new leaders who will be running the Mission.”*

Please pray for Turkana Friends Mission and those who will be moving into leadership, and for John and Grace as they are freed up to follow their Spirit-directed vision for the people of South Sudan.





This Christmas will be extremely different from our yearly beloved Jesus Birthday Party. Years past we have enjoyed celebrating Jesus with a packed church full of happy children enjoying food, crafts, play, cake, a visit from Santa and the love that only Jesus can provide. Although we have had to adapt, we are planning for something special for the children of the community.



This year has been an extremely hard year for the children in our area, Covid, change at school and derecho has been overwhelming.

We want to bring joy to their Christmas. Your love and support is so appreciated and richly needed. We need your help to bring the message of

Christmas and smiles to the children's faces of the

Meskwaki Nation. If you

would like to help with the Friendly Kidz Christmas Celebration, and specify "Christmas on the Sett" to direct your contribution.

**We can't thank you enough in advance. We remember your generosity in our prayers. Ketebi.**

**Send Gifts to Mesquakie Friends, PO Box 163, Tama, IA 52339**

### Year End Gifts for Staff

Our Iowa Yearly Meeting Pastors Association is giving gifts for staff in December. If you would like to contribute—please send your gift to Wes Blanchard (treasurer for the Pastors Association).

His address is 12172 150th Ave., Indianola, IA 50125 Please send your gift before December 16th.

The staff of our Yearly Meeting are:

**Tom Showalter**—General Superintendent

**Mac & Berny McDonald**—Mesquakie Friends

**Chip & Alicia Daleske**—Camp Quaker Heights

**Mary Thury**—Office Administrator



Dates for the 2021 Quaker Camping season....SAVE THE DATE

Little Fry Camp – June 11-13

Middle School Camp – June 13-17

High School Camp – June 18-23

Elementary Camp – June 24-27

## THE IOWA FRIEND

"The Body of IAYM exists to exalt Jesus Christ by becoming fruitful disciples and expressing God's love by serving all people (John 15:1-17)."

I'm setting you up as a light for the nations so that my salvation becomes global!  
Isa. 49:6b (MSG)



**A Virtual Mission Trip**  
with  
**Kaleo Academy and Evangelical Friends Mission**

**Dec. 28th-30th, 2020**

**3 HOURS FOR 3 NIGHTS WITH  
3 MISSIONARIES IN 3 COUNTRIES**

**An individual or group experience for all ages  
For only \$25**

**Register at: [barclaycollege.edu/virtual-mission](https://barclaycollege.edu/virtual-mission)**

**Registration Open Until Dec. 11th!**

**Contact Katy Moran for more information.**  
[katy.moran@barclaycollege.edu](mailto:katy.moran@barclaycollege.edu)