



LIVE NATIVITY December 10-11

Grinnell Friends Church invites you to enjoy their annual presentation of "Live Nativity." This family friendly experience will transport you back to the birth of our Lord, Jesus. This is an excellent way to celebrate the season and remember just how much God loves each of us (John 3:16). Live Nativity will run from 6pm to 8:30pm on both nights. Don't miss it!



Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends

**Happy Thanksgiving and Merry
Christmas from Iowa Yearly
Meeting!**

**May Christ be abundantly
present in all you do during this
holy-day season.**

The Iowa Yearly Meeting office will be closed
December 24 - January 3

Year End Gifts for Staff

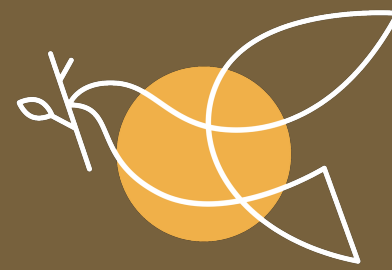
The IAYM Pastor's Association would like to continue their tradition of blessing the Yearly Meeting staff during the holidays. If you would like to contribute, please send your gift to:

Wes Blanchard (Pastor's Assoc. Treasurer)
12172 150th Ave.
Indianola, IA 50125
or via PayPal at wesblanch1@msn.com



Gifts are requested to be sent by December 16th.

The Iowa Yearly Meeting staff are:
Chip and Alicia Daleske, Camp Quaker Heights
Manny Garcia, General Superintendent



The Iowa Friend

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Welcome Our New IAYM Ministry Team Member

We are excited to welcome Sarah Fitch as the newest member of the IAYM Ministry Team. She and her husband, Hunter will be moving to Fremont in January and Sarah will work in our Oskaloosa office to provide ministry, administrative, and communication support as well as serving as the administrative lead for our Youth and Young Adult ministries.

Sarah was born in Cincinnati, Ohio and grew up in Swayzee, IN, before moving to Kansas to go to Barclay College. She will complete her bachelor's degree in bible and theology this December and will obtain a Master of Arts in pastoral ministry in December 2023. Sarah has been a Christian from childhood, but it was in high school where her passion for the Friends movement began to grow. She has a deep love for people and building community. She enjoys going on adventures, conversations over coffee, looking at the sky, and ice cream.

Hunter was born and raised in Norwich, KS. He and Sarah met as students at Barclay College. He will graduate in May with a degree in business administration. Hunter grew up in the Friends church and had been a Christian for as long as he can remember. He has a strong desire for unity and a passion for cultivating relationships. He enjoys being active, being around those he loves, and chocolate.

The Fitch's are thrilled to be starting this new season in Iowa Yearly Meeting. With excitement comes concerns. Hunter is dreading the snow, and Sarah is apprehensive about adjusting to a new rhythm, but they are looking forward to what the Lord has for them in Iowa Yearly Meeting. They are so excited about the work that is happening in IAYM, and through their internship at Pleasant Plain Friends Church this past summer, they were convinced of the Holy Spirit's work within the Yearly Meeting. They look forward to new adventures, building relationships in a new community, and being closer to family.

IAYM THANKSGIVING OFFERING 2022

Camp Quaker Heights holds many memories for IAYM members. That's why the IAYM Mission Board is presenting a Quaker Heights project for the Thanksgiving offering. The Camp needs constant updating and repair to keep up with the times. Three camp workdays were scheduled this year to help with the physical work.

In talking to Chip, the 6 double cabins completed in 2002 need some repairs. The cost of replacing 12 doors @ \$150 each would be \$1,800. The exterior of the cabins also need repainting. An estimated cost of paint would be \$1,000. We would love to see the Thanksgiving offering covering the cost of these two projects.

Also, please start encouraging your young people to attend camp next summer. Also, pray for more campers in the additional camps sponsored in the months following Quaker camps.

Bless IAYM Ministries with a Year End Gift

This year has been financially difficult on many people, families, businesses, and churches. Our gathered community of Friends in Iowa Yearly Meeting was not immune to these hardships, either. Currently, our year-to-date contributions are well below the ratable giving needed to meet our administrative budget. While we often see a generous influx toward the end of the year, all signs are pointing to us finishing in the red for the first time in several years, which may require us to reconsider some of our ministries and future plans.

If you are looking for a Gospel-centered organization to bless with your year end giving, we humbly ask that you consider Iowa Yearly Meeting. As a community, we seek to partner with our churches, support our pastors, train leaders, organize opportunities for discipleship and service, and to do more together than we can alone, all for the sake of the Gospel.

Thank you for being part of IAYM - One Church!



WHY INDIA?

By Pastor J. Gerry Wilson / Friends Community Church-Sturgeon Bay

To answer the question ‘Why India?’ I need to take you back to our beginning. The year was 1980 and I started Pastoral ministry at the Friends Church in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, a member church of Iowa Yearly Meeting. Three years into my first pastorate, I was Recorded as a Friends Minister at IAYM Annual Sessions in 1983. Four years later, after an amazing and fruitful ministry at Sturgeon Bay, the Lord called me to resign in order to answer His call to Arcadia Friends Community Church in Southern California, a member church of Friends Church Southwest Yearly Meeting. Within a year, my wife Kay, answered her own call to ministry, joined our Pastoral staff, and over the years pursued her theological studies, was Recorded and eventually earned her Doctor of Ministry degree in Spiritual Formation.

As we ministered side by side, the Lord developed in us a vision and deep love for International Missions. This led to over 20 years of Mission work in Mexico, along with mission trips to India, Nepal, Rwanda, Indonesia, Cambodia, Guatemala, Honduras, and Alaska. After our first visit to India in 1998, we had no idea the Lord would open wide a door to return to India, not just once, but for a five year stretch.

In 2015, we were invited by ‘Hope for People, International’, to join their team, in Mori, India, at Riverside Christian School and Hospital, located in the south eastern tip of India, in the State of Andra Pradesh. We were tasked with the responsibility of beginning a new outreach among Indian Pastors and their wives, leading what has become an Annual Pastors Conference. In addition, we were asked to do evangelistic work among the churches through community wide ‘open air’ preaching services, to offer leadership and teaching for the Annual Teachers Conference, and to serve alongside the Medical team of Nurses that came each year to conduct medical camps, providing much needed medical services at Riversides Hospital, as well as many outlying villages and local churches.

While in India in 2019, the Lord gave us clear direction that it was time to retire from full time pastoral ministry, and prepare ourselves for His ‘reassignment’, back in Sturgeon Bay, where we first started in ministry 40 years earlier. With great sadness, we informed the Indian Pastors, their wives and Leaders of Riverside School and Hospital that 2020 would be our 6th and final year to minister in India. And then COVID hit and everything came to a screeching halt. We did not return in 2020. In 2021 we retired and

moved to Sturgeon Bay and quickly engaged in our ‘reassignment’ at Friends Community Church, supporting Pastor Nancy Bontempo and the congregation in many different ways.

Once again, in 2021, no teams were able to travel to India. Finally, in June of 2022 another team was able to travel and minister among our Indian brothers and sisters in Christ. Having settled into our new season of life and ‘reassignment’ of ministry in Sturgeon Bay at Friends Community Church, we were greatly blessed when ‘Hope for People’ reached out to invite us to return once more, in June of 2023, to wrap up our ministry and transition out, as we pass the baton of leadership to those who will continue the work we began in 2015.

Needless to say, we are excited, a bit overwhelmed by what we will need to do to get ready and be prepared to hand off a ministry that is so very dear to our hearts. One thing we need are Partners who will support us in Prayer, and if the Lord leads, with needed finances. We need to raise \$2,000 to cover some of our travel expenses, as well as onsite ministry expenses for the Pastor’s and Teacher’s Conferences. If you would like to partner with us in Prayer, please contact us at my email, gwilsonsb@yahoo.com, or my cell 626-826-4982. Any financial gifts should be made out to Friends Community Church-Sturgeon Bay, designated to the ‘Wilson’s India’, and mailed to the church at 204 W. Maple Street, Sturgeon Bay, WI, 54235. We will be sure to send regular email updates to all who join our team in Prayer and/or Financial support. Thanks for taking time to read our story. We hope we’ve answered the question of ‘Why India?’

Quakerdale Continues to Serve Children and Families

The Quakerdale Foundation is delighted to share our grant recipients for 2023. All of these non-profits serve children and families and each has a spiritual component woven in their services.

The Foundation takes grant applications from February to April each year and selects grant recipients at the September quarterly meeting to be distributed the next year starting January 1.

2023 Grant Recipients

FUM Belize School	\$10,000
Hope4Healing	\$55,000
Wolfe Ranch	\$66,253
Family Services	\$58,961
Josiah White’s Institute	\$15,000
Renewed Hope	\$10,000
Safe Families for Children	\$30,000
Quakerdale Business Services	\$60,000
Center of Attention	\$10,800

Iowa Yearly Meeting of Friends 2023 Calendar

February 10-11
Winter Jam Y8YA Event

February 25
Quaker Men Family Banquet
William Penn Univeristy

March 10-12
IGNITE Youth Leadership Event

March 25
Spring Body of Representatives
Bloomington–Muscatine
Friends Church

March 28
Beane Lecture/Pastor’s Short Course

April 15
USFW Spring Fling
Woolson Friends Church

April TBD
CGH Spring Work Day

June 9-13
Middle School Camp

June 14-19
High School Camp

June 20-23
Elementary Camp

June 23-25
Little Fry Camp

July 2-8
FUM Triennial
Nakuru, Kenya

July 27-30
Iowa Yearly Meeting
Annual Sessions
William Penn University/
College Avenue Friends Church

September 15-17
Family Camp

October TBD
Fall Pastor’s Retreat

November 3-4
All Boards Retreat

December 28-January 1
Friends Summit
Houston, TX



Shirley Davis, 83, of Clemons, Iowa, went to be with her Lord and Savior on the evening of October 24, 2022 in the comfort of her own home and surrounded by her loving family.

Services for Shirley were held on Saturday, October 29, 2022 at the Bangor Liberty Friends Church.

Memorials may be directed to the family for a later designation. For additional information or to send a condolence please visit www.mitchellfh.com

Shirley Jean Evertsen was born March 3, 1939 to parents Rudy and Dorothy (Adams) Evertsen and Tom and Evelyn Matney in Grinnell, Iowa. Shirley grew up in Marshalltown, Iowa and attended Marshalltown High School where she graduated in 1957. She furthered her education to get her teaching certificate.

On November 2, 1957, she was united in marriage to the love of her life, Donald “Don” Davis in Hudson, Iowa. Together they began a home in Clemons, Iowa and raised their three children. Shirley started out teaching preschool education for those with special needs. Additionally, she worked for a number of years with Consumer Credit Counseling, the American Red Cross as their Director of volunteers, and the Bangor Liberty Friends Church as their secretary. Shirley and Don celebrated 65 years of marriage together.

Shirley was active within the Marshall County community. She was a member of the Marshall County Porketts with the Marshall County Pork Producers, a secretary for the Iowa High School Rodeo Association, and an active member of Bangor Liberty Friends Church. In her free time, Shirley enjoyed sewing, painting, quilting, sitting out on her deck and watching the birds, tending and planting flower gardens, going out on bike rides with her family and doing RAGBRAI. Additionally, she liked to ride horses, go to the rodeos, take rides on the motorcycles, and helping Don with the farming. She was known to do daycare for her children and grandchildren and was an amazing cook.

Shirley is survived by her husband Don; her children, Donny (Ashley) Davis, Scott (Mary) Davis, and Sherry Robison; her grandchildren, Nathan Davis, Megan Davis, Aidan Davis, Lilly Davis, Katie Davis and Jen Davis; her siblings, Gary Evertsen, Michael (Barb) Evertsen, Patricia Peters, Lynda Matney-Lowery, and Dale Matney; alongside numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Rudy and Dorothy Evertsen; her step-brother Warren Matney; brothers-in-law Larry Peters, Bart Lowery; and her sister-in-law Julie Matney.