

# Friend To Friend



HONEY CREEK - NEW PROVIDENCE FRIENDS CHURCH FEBRUARY, 2011



*“Love the **LORD** your  
God with all your heart and  
with all your soul and with  
all your strength.”*

*Deuteronomy 6:5, NIV*

“Love has nothing  
to do  
with what  
you are expecting  
to get,  
it’s what you are  
expected  
to give ---which is  
everything.”

--- Vittorio Alfieri

## Three “Home-town kids” are now serving in far-off lands

*Judy (Tatum) Davis, Dan Whitehead and Alan McDonald each grew up in New Providence and each was actively involved as kids in Honey Creek - New Providence Friends Church. Each of the three is now serving God and their fellow man in a foreign country.*

### Judy Davis

Judy Davis returned on January 24, 2011, to Kenya, Africa, to work at the Kaimosi Friends Mission Hospital. Since 2007, Judy has used her nursing and administrative abilities in Kenya for two or three months a year in volunteer service at the hospital. Although her Nursing License in Kenya qualifies Judy primarily for psychiatric nursing, she gets involved in administrative duties, goes on hospital rounds, and treats patients as requested by hospital staff.

Judy’s sisters, Nancy Stevens and Deb Moyer also donated time at the hospital one summer.

Water from a tank on the hospital roof, a very inadequate sewer system, and electricity which is available only part of the time, contribute to the hospital’s inefficiencies.

Judy has developed an “Adopt A Nurse” program to raise funds for more adequate nursing staff at the Kaimosi Hospital. Churches, mission groups, and individuals throughout the United States have been helping to raise money for nurses’ salaries.

There are other ways people have become involved in helping with the hospital’s mission. People are knitting tiny caps for newborn babies, purchasing used or new layettes, and giving toward structural improvements at the hospital.

Judy recently reported that soon after her arrival back in Africa a van loaded with people returning home from a funeral was involved in a traffic accident, which resulted in some deaths and an influx of

patients in the small hospital. Because of a storm, the hospital was without electricity. The entire staff was involved in treating patients without the aid of good lighting. One of Judy’s responsibilities included holding a pen light so a nurse could suture an injury.

You may follow Judy’s experiences by locating her blog at [nursejudydavis@gmail.com](mailto:nursejudydavis@gmail.com).

### Dan Whitehead

Dan Whitehead is a pilot serving Christ for (MAF) Mission Aviation Fellowship in the South American country of Ecuador. Dan and his wife have served in Nicaragua and Venezuela before locating in Shell, Ecuador.

Flying was “in Dan’s blood” at an early age. Before graduating from New Providence High School in 1977, Dan took flying lessons and did solo flights at age sixteen. Instructions continued while he was at Central College in Pella, majoring in music.

After working five years with Continental Singers, Dan sensed God’s call into aviation missions. He studied at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago and took two years of maintenance and flight training in Tennessee.

In 1989 Dan and Tracey Small were married. They are the parents of Jake, who is now a student at Iowa State University, Nick, a junior at a boarding school in Quito, Ecuador, and Lydia in the sixth grade. (See story by Nick on page 4, written last year for a class assignment.)

MAF outreach in Ecuador focuses primarily on medical flights into mountaneous jungle villages to provide transportation for those needing care or medical supplies.

Dan has been the Program Mgr., caring for the budget, personnel issues, instructing pilots, overseeing maintenance, and piloting flights.

Currently MAF is going through a transition period as flight service in Ecuador is becoming more nationalized. The Whitehead’s covet prayer support as decisions are being made effecting MAF outreach in Ecuador.

### Alan McDonald

Alan McDonald, son of Tom and Marlene McDonald, has been a Peace Corps volunteer in eastern Panama since August, 2008. Recently, he decided to extend his service one more year in the Central American jungle village of 150 people, in hopes of completing some water and sanitation projects.

The community Alan serves is one of extreme poverty. When Alan arrived there in 2008, the community banded together to build a house for Alan; on stilts and with a thatched roof. There is no electricity in the village except the amount produced by a few privately owned generators; water is available only in the rainy season, May through December.

Alan taught English in the community school this year. He kept a “boa” in his house for a week until he was alerted that it was actually a venomous viper.

When Alan arrived in the village



“Home -town kids”  
continued

there were only six latrines for the sixty homes. Due to the high water table in the area, traditional outhouses fill up with water in the rainy season creating a hazard for the entire community. Alan has built four model composting latrines in different parts of the community. Those units contain waste above ground while the composting destroys all pathogens. Alan’s goal is to build composting latrines for everyone interested within the next year.

Before Alan arrived in Panama, the government had helped build an aqueduct for the community. However, the aqueduct dries up in the dry season. Last year pooled resources expanded the aqueduct to include a water source that provides water year around. Alan’s goal is to provide safe drinking water year around for the entire community by adding inexpensive filtering units.

These goals will not be possible to accomplish in the next year without outside assistance. The community has agreed to furnish close to 50% of the materials and labor for the project.

Alan has applied for a donor-based grant through the Peace Corps to build thirty latrines and to complete the aqueduct. He is now seeking thirty donations of \$100 each for materials to build composting latrines. In addition he needs two generous donors that can donate \$1,000 to purchase the water storage tanks necessary to complete the aqueduct system. The community is responsible for the water transport and installation of the tanks.

To learn more about Alan and these projects, go to Alan’s Blog --- <http://alanmcd.blogspot.com>



### *Elsie Minear’s 90th Birthday February 24*

*Thank you, Elsie, for all the blessings you bring  
into the lives of your many friends.*

*You are greatly loved!*

*We wish you God’s special blessings on  
your birthday.*

#### **February Birthdays**

- 6. Denise Schwandt
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11. Jeff Speicher
- 12. Zach Gourley
- 13. Landon Brown
- 14. Ben Daleske
- 15. Walt Jackson  
Chris Reece
- 16.
- 17.
- 18. Kari McCracken
- 19. Kevin Burkett
- 20. Arlene Brandt
- 21.
- 22. Bob Crabb
- 23.
- 24. Elsie Minear  
Alan McDonald
- 25.
- 26. Andrew Minear



Comgratulations  
To:

**Sophie Cook  
and  
Emma Nichols**

for being selected at  
District Speech Contest  
for qualification at  
State Speech Contest  
in Decorah February 5.

To:

**Derek Brown**

for being selected  
the 2011 Iowa Premier Youth  
Ambassador  
at the Iowa Pork Congress.

Derek will serve as one of three  
youth representatives from Iowa  
for the pork industry at various  
promotional events throughout  
2011.

Nick Whitehead

*(Article written at age 16)*

I am a missionary kid, not out of choice but just because it happened that way. I'm not one of those MK's who can't tell you where "home" is nor one that speaks a few different languages fluently. I'm pretty much just a normal American, who by choice of his parents and the guidance of God, ended up in Ecuador.

So, yeah, after a while being a missionary kid isn't all that cool. Maybe when you're little, it was all like, "Look at me, I've played with monkeys in my backyard and eaten grasshoppers and liked them!" But once you get older you realize that there are millions of kids with similar experiences and not just kids who are overseas.

Sure it's awesome those first few trips back to the states where you amaze people with your Spanish speaking skills or are the only one willing to eat the ant on the ground for a buck but, after a while, that wears away and it's just kind of like, "I'm exactly like everyone else." Not in the sense that we all do everything the same, but that ALL of us have a unique story, experience, or adventure.

I've been an MK my whole life and I will be honest when I say that I have felt like my life and my experiences are more fulfilling than some people's, but I can also honestly say that there are so many times that I wish I could just be in the U.S. living a normal American life.

As we visit churches, we see people looking at us saying, "Wow, what a crazy life you guys live. You live in such a unique place and you've experienced so much." I could say the exact same thing to them. I mean it is true that I'm down here visiting villages where the people were once killers and run around naked, but up there people walk into Wal-Mart and come out sucking on a bottle of Mountain Dew and a Slim Jim. To

## WE ARE ONE

me that's exciting. It's not everyday that I get to go to a ballpark and enjoy that classic game I love; nor do I get the chance to step outside on a winter morning into a pile of snow.

There are also many who accuse us of having lives of poverty, discrimination, and lesser things. They assure us that the life we live is nothing compared to theirs. But I ask them, "Will you ever have the chance to hold a sloth in your arms or feed a monkey a lollipop as it rests on your shoulder? Will you ever sit in a burning hot church building for three hours, yet feel God's love more than you ever have before? Will you enter an orphanage full of kids and leave knowing they have blessed you more than you have blessed them? Will you open your eyes to the wonders of God and this world He's created or will you only focus on your simple, full-of-everything -you-need life? I don't deny that it hurts to wonder how my life COULD have been. Being a MK has not been an experience of suffering but rather one of blessings.

Although I seem to be disappointed in the life I'm stuck with, I must assure you that it's not all bad. A MK must learn to be thankful, proud, and strong. Although there are times I do forget to be grateful, it is hard to ignore the reasons to be. I am thankful for those people that truly do understand and treat me like I am one of their own; those people that don't care about the things I did or the places I've been, but actually care about me; the other kids out there who have lived the same life I have and stood by me; the parents who dragged me with them to Nicaragua, Venezuela, Ecuador, and all over the U.S.; and those people, who through grace and love, give us the money and support to serve Him, the One I am most thankful for.

I am thankful for the countries that allow us to freely work in God's

name. I am thankful for those pets, those houses, those toys, and items that allowed us to feel comfort and peace so far away from what we think of as "home." And it is through the strength of God, the inspiration of these people, and the blessing of those countries that I can feel pride. I am proud of the work my parents have chosen and proud of the love they have for God. I am proud of myself and all the other missionary kids out there who find the best in their situation because there's a time when you just gotta say, "Whether I'm in Chicago, or Somalia, or even Quito, Ecuador, I am exactly who I was meant to be." Life ain't gonna be a stroll around a track. It's gonna be a race through a jungle, with vines tearing at your clothes, holes to fall in, and crazy things chasing you down. You just gotta brush off those vines, climb out of those holes and keep running. You gotta be strong and not let anything or anyone get you down.

So what I'm saying is just because I get to do things you may say are insane, and just because you get to do things I'm jealous of, doesn't mean either one of our lives is better or more important than the other. Life is a struggle, and there's nothing you can do to make it simple. It's not a fight that's gonna be won by sitting around doing nothing about your worries or problems.

So ... make the best of it; look at the joys in life, examine the high points more closely than the low ones; taste every piece of food like it's your last, listen like you never have before, and always be sure to get right back up when you fall down.

If you make the right choices, it will end with an eternity of brilliance. Don't live your life for anybody but God and the hope of eternity. Don't deny your future or the hope it brings, but be smart and make the choice that only you can make for yourself. We all are together as humans. WE ARE ONE.

**Wednesday Night Bible Study**  
for all ages  
6:45 - 7:45 pm  
February 2 and February 16

**USFW**  
**United Society of Friends**  
**Women**

Thursday, February 3 - 1:30  
Program: Jennifer Talbot  
Hostess: Brenda Crabb

**What is the  
Kenya Peace Curriculum?**

The mission Sunday School offering received on February 6, was given in an effort to help with the cost of printing and distribution of the Kenya Peace Curriculum.

The following is a quote from the January-February, 2011, issue of *The Advocate*, published by the United Society of Friends Women International, to explain the Kenya Peace Curriculum.

=====  
"After the violence in Kenya following the presidential election in December of 2007, surveys were given to people in the Displaced Persons Camps to find out what would help prevent future violence. One suggestion was to teach peacemaking skills in the schools so that young people could learn peaceful ways to resolve conflicts. *Peace in a Community* is the response to that need. This material is available for any community to use, but the focus of the curriculum is Class (Grade) 2 through Class (Grade) 8. There is a vision for the curriculum to be used by many different countries in Christian schools and Christian Education classes. The USFWI (United Society of Friends Women International) plans to raise \$5,000 in 2011 to help with the cost of printing and publishing this curriculum for Kenya."



Teacher Appreciation  
Sunday, February 13



**Remember our  
homebound  
members on  
Valentine's Day  
February 14**

**SENIORS**  
**GET TOGETHER**

Tuesday, February, 8 - 10:00 am  
Program:  
**Winter Birds In Your  
Back Yard**  
by Calkins Nature Center

*Bring A Friend*



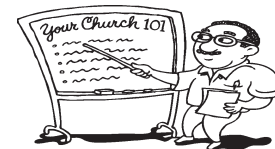
Jr. High Youth  
Wednesday, February 9  
Wednesday, February 23  
at  
The Roundhouse

Sr. High Youth  
Sunday, February 20  
3:30 - 5:30  
at  
The Roundhouse

**YEARLY MEETING  
WINTER  
BANQUET**

Saturday, February 26  
11:30 am  
at William Penn University  
for all ages

Advance tickets - \$10  
Tickets purchased at the door - \$12  
Speakers:  
Lloyd Stangeland & Ron Bryan  
**SEEDS PROGRAM**



**Membership Class**

A Friends Membership course will be offered by Pastor Weber during the months of March and April. If you are interested, please sign-up on the Membership Course list in the church office.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESSES**

**Vera Cutler**  
Grandview Heights Rehab &  
Health Care - Rm #403  
910 Olive St. E  
Marshalltown, IA 50158

**Hannah Gourley**  
(Doing a 3-month internship)

1301 Crossing Place - Apt. 212  
Austin, TX 78741

**Honey Creek - New Providence Friends Church**

614 Cherry Drive  
P.O. Box 563  
New Providence, IA  
**Ph. (641) 497-5333**

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 3

**Justin Weber, Pastor**

**E-mail: [hcnp@heartofiowa.net](mailto:hcnp@heartofiowa.net)  
Church Web Site - [www.hcnp.org](http://www.hcnp.org)**

**Boxholder**



Vera Cutler  
Elsie Minear  
Lillian and Cherokee Elliott  
Dale Schwarck, Bob and Brenda Crabb and families  
Lola Callaway -- Bob Callaway's mother  
Noma Hadley  
Dan Whitehead and family, challenges of MAF ministry  
Alan McDonald, with the Peace Corps in Panama  
Judy (Tatum) Davis  
Quakerdale  
Providential Homes  
Megan Ingledue  
MaryLu Ellis

Those serving our country, including Emely Shore, Caleb Humphrey, and Amy Wall

**Thoughts for Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day, is a time when thoughts turn to love. But what is love? Is it a box of chocolates, or a pretty valentine? Is it a red rose, or maybe a dozen? Is it a peck on the cheek, a fond embrace, or a big bear hug?

Well, sometimes love is known in those ways. But love, real love, is how we relate to God and to one another if life is what it ought to be --- beautiful!

**Apology**

A very embarrassed woman apologized to her pastor because her husband had gotten up and left the sanctuary during the sermon.

"My husband didn't leave because he disagreed with your sermon," she said. "Actually, he's been walking in his sleep since he was a child."