

Des Moines Valley Friends Meeting

FRIENDLY LINE

December 2024



The Joy of Kwanzaa

by Billie Wade

Maulana Ron Karenga, an African American activist and author, founded Kwanzaa in 1966 to unite and empower Black Americans in the aftermath of the Watts Rebellion that began August 11, 1965, and ended six days later. The rebellion was the escalation of a routine traffic stop of two Black stepbrothers.

Kwanzaa, an African American/Pan African celebration of Black culture, family, history, values, and community, is rooted in the Swahili language phrase “matunda ya kwanza” which means “first fruits.” The African American Cultural Center estimates the week-long celebration is now observed the world over by thirty million people, including approximately two and a half percent of the United States population, Canada, France, Brazil, and the Caribbean.

I heard of Kwanzaa when I was growing up, but my family, nor any other family in my neighborhood, was not involved. The celebration never came up in conversations. In 2020, I was curious to find out what Kwanzaa was all about. I attended a Detroit, Michigan, Kwanzaa celebration virtually in 2020 and 2021 and partially in 2023.

The celebration is often seen as a replacement for Christmas. However, there is no overlap between the two as Kwanzaa begins December 26 and ends January 1 each year. Many African American/Pan African people celebrate both.

Another misconception is Kwanzaa is an alternative to organized religion. While Kwanzaa is not associated with any religion, nor is it a religion on its own, the synergy of family, community, celebration, and ritual create a spiritual atmosphere.

The seven principles of Kwanzaa, one for each day, are: 1. Umoja (Unity); 2. Kujichagulia (Self-determination); 3) Ujima (Collective work and responsibility); 4) Ujamaa (Cooperative economics); 5) Nia (Purpose); 6) Kuumba (Creativity), and 7) Imani (Faith). Specific practices accompany each day. Children play a major role in the community and in the family, so they are especially included in each day’s activities.

Some people ask if white people can celebrate Kwanzaa, to which some Black people say, “Yes.” Others say white people can observe a celebration but cannot take part. I am of the mind that prohibits white people entirely. So much of
(continued on page 3)

Friendly Line from January 1976 reflects on bombing

(attached at the end of this newsletter)

Friends, this account of the December 1975 bombing of Friends House and the Meeting House is one I'd not seen before.

It includes a number of important details and reflections. Please take a moment to read it. As we ponder whether or how to commemorate the 50th anniversary of this event, I hope we can consider the courage it took for Friends then -- and now -- to continue our work for peace and justice.

-- contributed by Jon Krieg, who has worked for many years for the American Friends Service Committee’s Midwest Office



Friends show off their new DMVF t-shirt design at the Thanksgiving potluck. Thanks to Katie Jacoby for the t-shirts, a project of the Outreach Committee! Thanks to Andrea and Jack Holvick for the fall table decorations that helped make the day special.

**Des Moines Valley Friends
MEETING FOR WORSHIP
WITH ATTENTION TO
BUSINESS, 10/13/2024**

Notes recorded by Addison
Williamson.

The meeting began with a
moment of silence.

Announcements

- Mikel Johnson's death and announcement of visitation (today) and funeral (tomorrow)
- Fatma sent info about an Indigenous film fest taking place on 10/14 at the Varsity theatre at 6:30
- 10/19: All-day gathering "Paying for war, working for peace." At First United Methodist. 8:30AM-5:00PM.

**Ministry and Counsel
Committee**

- Matches the Meeting agenda notes.
- Deborah noted that overnight stays and use of showers require approval by Friends House board. Fred inquired if there were any issues with insurance. Jim D-K confirmed there were none. We are grateful to Billie for her work on the documentation.
- Re clearness committee for Logan and Corey.

Deborah reminded us that Logan & Corey are different people and expressed hope that they write their own letters for membership and be given the opportunity to express their separate feelings in separate committees (regardless of the committee makeup). Jim D-K responded that this is not

what the committee came up with and expressed that clearness committees have been organized for couples in the past. Catherine says that the committee asked what Corey and Logan's preference was and recalled that they asked they be on the same committee as a couple.

Carol expressed curiosity about "the days of old" and how clearness committees were handled here in the past. Andrea was unsure. Jim D-K and Charlie had their clearness committees together with their respective partners. Deborah responded that when a couple is together, they may be unwilling to share all of their own personal thoughts and feelings in the presence of their partner.

The committee extended the option to Logan and Corey to have separate committees for consideration of their membership. They chose to have their meeting together.

- We thank the M&C committee for their work.

Finance Committee

- Item 3 correction of Billie's name: Billie not Billy
- The end balances were read out.
- Next year there will be no grace period for end of the FY budget—so it is asked that committees be mindful of that.
- Fred suggested that perhaps the \$20 discrepancy was due to the money being placed into the deposit box rather than the donation basket.

- We appreciate all of the work that the Finance committee has done to resolve issues that have come up with the budget this year. Specifically we thank them for their indefatigable work.

**Building and Grounds
Committee**

- The brick work will cost considerably less than what the engineering report suggested.
- Talk to Fred or Charlie about where to set the thermostat. There is still some need for air. Fred thinks 70 is okay for heat at the moment.

Religious Ed Committee (no report)

Friends House Board
(No report)

**Peace & Social Concerns
Committee**

- Billie will be the new convener of this committee in 2025.

Outreach Committee
(No report)

Library Committee

- Plans to purchase Carol's new book from Beavertdale Books.
- Looking at when Scattergood plans to be here and organize the book sale around that time (maybe March or February)
- Book donations can be placed downstairs.

Nominating Committee

- They appreciate the "yes" responses and the new folks willing to help.
- Expect a report for final roster in November and no later than December business meeting.

New items

- Front door issue:

Charlie suggests that people using the meetinghouse not mess with the lock at all. They should always have someone appointed to let people in if they do not have someone knowledgeable on the lock/unlock mechanism.

Discussion ensued about this suggestion and the potential issues with propping the door that could arise. Charlie will price-check a new panic bar or different options for an easier door mechanism. Thanks Charlie!

- School board enlistment:

We were curious about what the action item was for this. Other Business item.

- Action Items and Follow-up:

Following Billie's second hour on Oct. 20 there will be a potluck. The next potluck would be Nov. 17 which will be the Thanksgiving potluck.

Assuming the Christmas program will be on 12/15, we will begin thinking about that.

There are open 2nd hours on November 24 and December 29.

Joy of Kwanzaa

(cont. from page 1)

Black Culture is appropriated by white people and often used against us or publically ridiculed by the media and comedians. We need space where being ourselves is not entertainment for others. That said, I neither judge nor intervene when others allow or even invite white people to celebrate with them. Each group and family is autonomous, and has every right to celebrate as they choose.

I am happy to answer

questions. If I do not know the answer, I will research, then respond to you.

Query #7 for January 5: Home and Family

ADVICE We seek an atmosphere within our homes and within our families which nurtures the many physical, social, spiritual and emotional needs of each of us. This is true whether we live alone or with others.

A family, whatever its composition, is a unique and sometimes fragile bonding of people. At its best, it is concerned with the welfare of the whole and each of its constituents.

Children bring gifts to the families that nurture them. Our children's earliest encounters with the principles of Friends usually occur within our homes. Examples we set are often more effective than verbal guidance. The loving support of the meeting is needed as children learn to understand and practice Quaker principles in their lives.

While we try to make our homes centers of love, we sometimes feel anger and hostility. Part of the challenge of being human is to learn to constructively channel the energy of anger, relying on the Divine Spirit for love and guidance.

Worship in the home can enable us to hold ourselves and one another in the Light. Respect for truth, as each discerns it, is essential to the happiness and spiritual growth of all persons within the home. Clear communication, patience and a sense of humor are vital to family relationships.

We value setting aside time for rest, recreation and creative activities. Offering hospitality can foster mutual bonds of friendship and love and can enrich our own lives and the lives of others.

QUERIES

How can we make our homes places of love and hospitality?

What different expectations do we hold for women and men, boys and girls?

How can we bring more equality into our relationships?

How do we develop and maintain lines of communication?

In what ways do we share our deepest experiences, struggles, concerns and beliefs with our children and others, yet encourage them to develop their potential as the Spirit leads them?

What place do we make in our daily lives for meditation, spiritual renewal and reading of inspiring literature, such as the Bible?

How does our meeting support families of all kinds?

Goodbye to Friends

Cris Douglass

On Monday evening, Nov. 25, **Dick Douglass** shared the sad news of the passing of his spouse, **Cris**. Dick expressed his gratitude to members of our meeting who provided support for them during difficult times. Dick plans a celebration of life for Cris sometime in the spring, an "informal gathering to share stories about Cris and share music she loved."

Friends may contact Dick or send cards at:

1046 20th St
West Des Moines 50265
515-864-1119
Busker110@mchsi.com

Chuck Day

A message from **Chris Day**, son of **Chuck and Kathy Day**:

“Hello all, I want to let you know that my dad passed away peacefully the morning of Nov. 28. He had a long and eventful life, full of caring for the needy, a passion for social justice, and love for his family. We will plan on having his celebration of life at Bear Creek Meeting sometime this coming spring.”

Friends may send condolences to the Day Family at:
5287 Windsor Ct
Pleasant Hill, IA 50327

Also, many friends know that **Marion Love** was like a second daughter to Chuck and Cathy. Friends may reach out to Marion via the address below:

USPS
c/o Polapink
215 Yantz Rd
Red Hook, NY 12571

News of Our Friends

Congratulations, to DMVF Clerk **Carol Roh Spaulding Kruse**, whose new book “Helen Button” launched Nov. 19, with a reading at Beavertdale Books.

Congrats, also, to **David Drake** for his thoughtful editorial in the Oct. 12 Des Moines Register; **How Kamala Harris supporters can maintain sanity after the election.**

Jim Dietz-Kilen is retiring on Dec. 16. According to Catherine, he will not be having a party. Friends may send good wishes to Jim for this major life transition

at:
645 Polk Blvd
Dsm IA 50312

Upcoming Events

Harp Concert, Dec. 7
(Saturday), Elaine Wedeking invites Friends to a harp recital at Wesley Acres at 2:00 p.m. She will perform a due, mixed repertoire program with holiday favorites, with harp teacher Kristin Maahs.

Iowa Peace Network Annual Holiday Open House and Alternative Gift Fair, Dec 7. Do some holiday shopping with Fair Trade items, 1:30 to 4:30 pm. At the Des Moines Mennonite Church; 4001 56th St., Des Moines, 50310. The afternoon will include a presentation by Jeffrey Weiss, 2:30 – 3:30 PM.

The annual Holy Innocents Service will be held Sunday, Dec. 29, at 2:00 PM, at the Des Moines Intentional Eucharistic Community, 3306 University, in Des Moines. DMV Friends cosponsors this event.

Upcoming Hosting List

Dec. 8 – Charlie & Dorothy
Dec. 15 – Deborah & Katie
Dec. 22 – David & Claire
Dec. 29 – Petra & Tyler
Jan 5 – Jim & Catherine
Jan. 12 – Steve & Kari
Jan 19 – Ann & Carol

Thank you to all who support Des Moines Valley Friends in many ways, including through donations, committee service, hosting on first days and care for our community. You are appreciated!

Des Moines Valley Friends

Meeting for Worship: Sundays at 10 a.m., at the Meeting House and by Zoom via email invitation from clerk, Carol Spaulding-Kruse, at

carol.spaulding@drake.edu

Meeting for Worship/Business: Regularly held the second First Day each month at 11:45 a.m.

Upcoming Second Hours:
12/15 – Christmas carols & treats
12/22 – European view of current US politics (Michael Luick-Thrams)

12/29 - Book presentation on (Re)Presenting Racism in Iowa (Petra Lange)

Query Discussions: First Sundays, 11:45 a.m. - Online & in person. Billie Wade, facilitator.

Child Care: If you have a child who would like to be included in Zoom childcare or first day school for older youth, contact Dorothy at dmlifka@yahoo.com.

Building & Grounds: For questions about the building or grounds of the Meeting House, contact Building & Grounds Committee Convenor, Charlie Brown, 515-689-6470.

Hospitality Committee: For questions about housekeeping at the Meeting House, contact Hospitality Committee convenor Charlie Brown, 515-689-6470.

Friendly Line: Send info for January 2025 FL by 12-27 to anny.robinson1@gmail.com.

Find us online at:
<https://www.desmoinesvalleyfriends.org/>

Check out our Facebook group for members/attenders. To be added, email Jan Falb, at jfalb0326@yahoo.com.

The Friendly Line

DES MOINES VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING
4211 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50312
MEETING FOR WORSHIP: Every Sunday, 10 a.m.
ADULT & CHILDREN'S GROUPS: 11:30 a.m.
MEETING FOR BUSINESS: Second Sunday each month, 11:30 a.m. followed by potluck dinner

January 1976

MEETING Jan. 11 Dobyns	Feb. 1-8 Gerstenberger	Feb. 29-Mar. 7 Lamb
HOSTS: Jan. 18-25 Day	Feb. 15-22 Hutchison	Mar. 14-21 Lambert

MEETING FOR WORSHIP AND BUSINESS MEETING will both be held in the basement of the Meeting House, Sun., Jan. 11, and we'll be able to meet there from now on. Enter SOUTH basement door. Instead of a potluck dinner, Friends will have a bowl of soup after business meeting. The soup will be prepared by several Friends. Bring fruit or cookies if you wish.

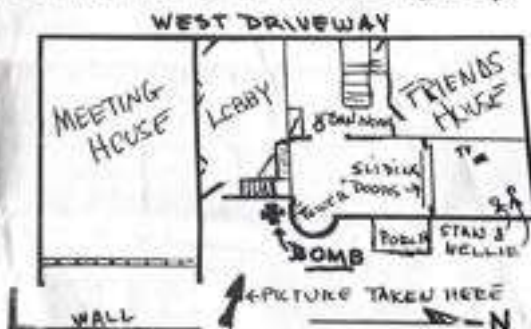
ADULT CLASS SCHEDULE: Jan. 18--Discussion about Junior ROTC curriculum; Jan. 25--Alice Brown will talk about the burial association of the Ames Meeting; Feb. 1--Martha Gerstenberger and friends.

COMING EVENTS: Precinct caucuses for both Republican and Democratic parties will be held at 8 p.m., Mon., Jan. 19. Watch for location of your caucus in the newspapers next week. Iowa is in the limelight because we have the first caucuses in the nation.

Des Moines Area Religious Council is sponsoring a series of adult and teacher education mini courses for the religious community. Tuesday courses will be Jan. 13, 20 & 27; Thursday courses Jan. 15, 22 & 29. Some will be held at Dowling High School, West Des Moines, and some at the Science Classroom Building of Grand View College. A course entitled "Living in the Global Village" will be taught by Dan Clark, Iowa AFSC Peace Education Secretary, Thursdays at Grand View. Fee for each course is \$6. For more information, call Gary Pence at Grand View, 265-4232.

THE BOMBING OF THE AFSC-MEETING HOUSE COMPLEX

Most of us seem to have weathered the bombing of our Meeting House and the AFSC offices with a minimum of trauma. What seemed like an almost incomprehensible act at the time now seems somewhat more comprehensible when we think of the fear and hate which is aroused in some individuals when their oversimplified values seem threatened. They seek persons or groups they can identify and reach on whom they can place the blame and take revenge. Couple this with the growing proliferation of weapons and explosives and the spread of indiscriminate bombing as a technique of violent reaction, and it is not hard to see how it might



Arrow at bottom of sketch shows where photo at left was taken. X shows about where bomb was placed. Small circles show where Stan and Nellie Atherton were seated and where Dan Nash was working. The bomb thus smashed three walls--part of the north wall of the Meeting House, the east wall of the Meeting House lobby and the southeast corner of Friends House, in the "tower" area.

happen, particularly when some types of minds classify all those they disagree with as "enemies." Merely deploring injustice and suffering seldom gets violent reaction. It is when groups such as the Quaker-oriented AFSC actually do something about injustices and suffering inflicted on powerless and oppressed groups that violent fear and hate may be stirred up.

Our buildings can be salvaged and "repaired"--if such a term can be applied such a major reconstruction job--and the work was begun within hours after vestigating police turned the property back to us. Here is a summary of events and how things now stand:

Stanley and Nellie Atherton, both 65, who were living at Friends House and ing for the AFSC, were sitting in their living room at 8:55 p.m. on Dec. 15 Dan Noah, 26, was working in the front area of Friends House when the large bomb exploded. Stan had just commented that he'd better make the rounds on make sure the building was secure for the night. Luckily, he had not yet s ed for the front of the building. Dan Noah was just moving into what turned to be the most dangerous zone but, fortunately, was still a few steps from night have been death when the blast came. Dan was knocked to his knees and covered with dust and debris but unhurt. He crawled quickly to a still-work phone and called police and firemen. Again fortunately, there was no fire, though virtually all the windows in Friends House (all 2-inch plate glass) w shattered, Stan and Nellie were not injured. Nellie had hung new, heavy draperies, which were closed. (She also had just repapered and repainted their living room!)

The bomb (see sketch) was so placed as to vent its force against 3 walls--the north wall of our Meeting House, the east wall of the Meeting House lobby and the southeast corner of Friends House. It blew in the Meeting House wall, smashed some of the chairs inside, ripped out most of the ceiling and allowed the roof trusses (carrying the roof-mounted heating and cooling unit) to sag sharply; it smashed in much of the east wall of the lobby, blowing the east do entirely through the lobby and out (incredibly) through one of the very narrow west windows, smashing a heavy metal coat rack and splintering paneling on the way; the blast blew a large portion of the east and northeast walls of the lobby down the stairs into the basement, leaving that area full of bricks, concrete blocks and other debris; it blew a large hole in the southeast basement wall of Friends House and smashed brick and concrete block and debris into that basement room; it blew in part of the first floor wall of Friends House directly above the bomb and smashed in those beautiful carved windows of the "tower;" it ripped the brick off the "tower," and dropped them and other debris down to fill a 4-foot-deep hole (6 feet square) which it blasted into the ground where it was placed, and the debris was piled deeply over the whole area adjacent to the blast site. Virtually every room in the big old Victorian-style mansion was damaged in some way. Water pipes froze during the zero cold while police held the building, and ruptured. When they thawed, water damaged floors, ceilings, walls and rugs. (The blast also shattered hundreds of windows in two nearby churches, several apartment houses and homes, and even in distant buildings. St. Augustin's Catholic Church lost scores of windows, including many of stained glass, and some doors had to be replaced. Plymouth Congregational Church also lost a great many windows.)

For several days after we got back into the building, people took turns staying there day and night. Our contractor, Bob Fredregill, moved in at once (a superbly helpful, knowledgeable and efficient workman), set up protective spotlights around the building, saved much of the vulnerable plumbing from freezing, soon got heavy plastic over all the blown-out windows and walls, got the heat going, and otherwise got busy salvaging the buildings before further damage resulted.

We had volunteer help from many sources. A group of men from a Mennonite "disaster team" came up from Leon, Ia., and spent a long hard day cleaning up and moving out debris; groups from Earlham, Pullman and Ames and many individuals showed up, and tons of debris were carted to a huge disposal truck. AFSC staff spent untold hours. It was a heart-warming experience even under the horrifying circumstances.

The Meeting House basement has had the glass replaced in the windows (Pullman Friends did that), the furnace that heats it is working, the room is being cleaned up, and we will be meeting there from now on.

It is hoped to have the Meeting House roof furnace working soon, and glass replacement has a top priority. Structural work will be delayed somewhat while insurance adjustments are decided (lawyers are working on that) and rebuilding plans can be drawn so city building permits can be issued. The buildings have been insured for a total of \$120,000 and cost of rebuilding and repair has been very roughly estimated at between \$70,000 and \$100,000. Whatever insurance figure is finally reached, we will need to pay (so we're told) no more than 14% of the repair cost. Of course, the Meeting and the AFSC will have to pay for any improvements, for the guards and for our legal help. Incidentally, AID insur-

has canceled our policy as of Jan. 22 and we are seeking other coverage. persons have sent donations to help us pay for repairs. This is encouraging and reassuring. (Checks should be made out to Friends House Corporation, sent to 4211 Grand, where mail is picked up every day.)

ough it has been more than 3 weeks since the explosion, there has been no word from the U.S. crime laboratory (Treasury Dept.) in Washington as to what they have found in the material picked up and sent to them by Des Moines police. Was it dynamite? Where did it come from? We all wonder who would do this act. Would knowing who did it be helpful? Would that knowledge help feel compassion for such a misguided mind?

Nellie & Stan Atherton spent Christmas with a son and his family in Texas, and now they have been staying at the Ogdens' (Don & Margaret) and looking for a suitable place to live, hoping to continue working for the AFSC. (Nellie handled material aids and Stan took care of the building.) They found nothing suitable so they felt they wanted to rent, and on a visit to Whittier (their home area), they decided to rent the Oliver Hampton farmhouse just northeast of Whittier and move there. Nellie does not know whether it will be possible to handle material aids from that location and this will be settled later. They have long planned to retire some day to the Whittier area, and this time of disruption seemed like a good time to make the break. They plan to start moving on Monday (Jan. 12) and will return for more of their things when they get the farmhouse ready. (Oliver Hampton is in Costa Rica and it is thought that he plans to stay there permanently.)

On Sunday following the bombing, meeting was held at the Welches', with so many present that it was hard to tell for sure who was there. We sang Christmas carols, accompanied by Alice Brown, piano; Martha Gerstenberger, cello; and Ed Dobyns, guitar. The next 2 Sundays we met at quarters provided by Central Presbyterian Church and the Des Moines Area Religious Council.

Christmas greetings have come from Friends at a distance, bearing news of their families. PAULINE & CECIL HINGSHAW wrote that their son Robert and his family would be with them in Colorado for Christmas, including Robert's daughter, Julia Berg, who planned to fly there from Sweden. After Cecil's recuperation from lobar pneumonia last winter, spring found him able to work in their garden, which was very productive. Cecil still is limited in what he can do and may always have to protect himself against bronchial infections. Robert and family stayed for 6 weeks during the summer, did lots of work on the outside of the house, and they all got in some fishing.

ILMER & JOAN TJOSSEM sent a card with pictures of their son Norm, who teaches history at Oakwood Friends School; of Norm's wife, Judy, who has a new job with William L. Shirer; and of son Brad, who is an expert skier, is assistant manager of a cafeteria/restaurant at Vail, Colo., and has received his B.A. from the University of Denver.

MIKE & MARGARET YARROW, who are now "couple in residence" at Honolulu Friends Meeting after 2 years with the Friends Meeting at Belfast, Northern Ireland, say, "Our duties are many and varied, all the way from putting out the dustbins twice a week to talking with fascinating international travelers." They "pad around in bare feet, go swimming in the ocean, a 15-minute drive, whenever time affords, sleep at night with only a flannel sheet for cover, all in the middle of winter. A stalk of bananas from our own tree hangs on the back porch and if ever Mike has a sudden excess of energy he husks a coconut from our own coconut palm." They say the AFSC is well established as a liberalizing influence in the Islands. The program director "has just made an impact on the city by ferreting out facts, supposed to be secret, about the storage and transport of nuclear bombs on this and other islands." Mike's book is still in process, and he hopes to have mornings off to work at the University.

LEONARD & LORENA JEANNE TINKER report that Leonard will soon begin his 3rd year as executive secretary of the Dayton Region of the AFSC, which (among many other projects) sponsored 3 summer work camps. One in Ohio Appalachia was Leonard's special responsibility. He speaks at Friends Churches and meets with unprogrammed Friends. They have been attending Dayton Area Cooperative Meeting. Lorena has completed the first section of a book about the Dayton Human Rehabilitation Center, where she was staff psychologist last winter. She counsels, writes evaluations for court purposes, works for justice for poor defendants, corresponds with and sometimes visits prisoners. She, Leonard, John & Paul attended Friends General Conference in Berea, Ky. After the AFSC Peace Education Roundup in Colorado, they camped in the Rockies with all the children except John. Ed lives in Des Moines, works with electronic equipment, does hot air ballooning, and serves on the Iowa Area Executive Committee; Bonnie farms near Estacada, Ore., works with an AFSC project in Portland and is active in Pacific Yearly Meeting activities; John lives on the property near Iowa City owned by Dan Clark's parents (whose home was, sadly, destroyed by fire recently), and drives a bus; Mary Beth and a friend opened a store in University City, Mo., selling

reconditioned pianos, and does piano tuning; Hope is a junior at Washington University, St. Louis, and hopes to become a community health doctor; Paul is a freshman at Earlham College, serves on the campus AFSC committee and has been in several plays, one at Earlham.

LEE, CHARLOTTE, TINA & SUSIE KLEISS also attended Friends General Conference on their way to Fayetteville, N.C., where they now live. Lee says the girls are homesick for Iowa. They have a 3-bedroom brick house with a fireplace. Charlotte has more volunteer work than she has time for. Nearby Ft. Bragg accounts for a huge percentage of the local population. Lee says that at Simpson and other white liberal arts colleges, she saw the poorly-prepared black students' aspirations "completely smashed." At Fayetteville State, where she's now teaching chemistry, such students are coddled and helped with an extensive tutoring system and paid by an extensive Work Study program, and each faculty member can have several students who type and run errands. She says, "It is hard to keep them productively busy, and even harder to have the needed product in readable shape on time," and wonders whether they are really helping these students to enter the real world.

ROSS & HELEN WILBUR write that Ross was scheduled to retire at the end of 1975, but this was postponed a year. They traveled to Alaska with Jon and Jo Ann (who live in Des Moines), and visited the Hinkshaws when they were in Colorado for a Lutheran Forum on Social Concerns. Helen's community interests include migrants, the rest home for people from the mental hospital, senior citizens, tutoring foreign students, and she "carries the full role of Grandma for the 3 Treadway children who live nearby with Carolyn & Roy" in Princeton Junction, N.J.

GEORGE & LILLIAN WILLOUGHBY are back in Philadelphia after their long trip to Africa, India and the Far East, where they found exploitation of the people everywhere including Japan. They are again in one of the Philadelphia Life Centers, 4609 Spruce St., Philadelphia, PA 19139, where they are "eating low on the food chain, plus producing as directly as possible our food and other material needs. We must change and cut our consumption so that we are free of robbing our brothers and sisters of their rightful heritage."

PAM MEYER wrote that JERRY had just been named a partner and vice president of his public relations firm, and she is still reporting for the Post-Dispatch. A sex discrimination complaint she had brought against the Post in September, 1974, is now being investigated, though the newspaper had since stopped "the vicious treatment we were afforded before the feds came on the scene," following the complaints filed by Pam and 4 other women and some blacks. Last fall the family went to Jamaica, rented a villa on the north coast, where they "feasted on seafood straight out of our wattery backyard and ate a cross-section of marvelous tropical fruits (sans artificial coloring)." In St. Louis, their housekeeper "takes wonderful care of us all and makes the dual role of newspaper reporter and mommy quite manageable for me." The children are all doing well in school, but they missed the St. Louis Meeting's New Year's Eve gathering because Eric had the mumps.

GEORGE & BOBBIE WELCH left in midweek to get George settled into his living quarters in the grad dorms at Indiana U., Bloomington, where George will be for the next 4 months on sabbatical from Drake. Bobbie expects to be there only a few days. George will audit some classes (starting Jan. 12), and do some research and writing. He will be reviewing tax accounting. Bobbie says they hope to see each other at spring vacation time and meanwhile will be "commuting by phone." Indiana is George's home state and he has a brother not too far from Bloomington. We will miss George, and we will be glad to see him in May. We hope he'll be home in time for "spring plowing" on the Welches' Madison County spread. His address: Department of Accounting, Graduate School of Business, Bloomington, IN 47401. DALE ANN WELCH has passed the state merit examination and will be working part time this semester as an intern in the State Department of Environmental Quality. She'll get 3 credits toward her degree in Public Administration and Liberal Arts, and also will be taking 3 or 4 classes at Drake. She is a second-semester junior.

PHILIP CLAMPITT was here visiting Pauline & Beth over New Year's weekend following a conference in Chicago.

THE NEWLIN FAMILY (except for John) spent the holidays skiing at Steamboat Springs, Colo., northwest of Rocky Mountain National Park. John stayed home, because the Hoover basketball coach didn't want his players to ski.

THE HUTCHINSONS drove to Chasmois, Mo., to visit Larry's sisters between Christmas and New Year's. Larry's report on Yearly Meeting was printed in Friends Journal Nov. 1, and in the PUM magazine, Gusker Life, October issue.