

**A Letter from Jane Cranston, member of First Presbyterian Church, Iowa City, Iowa, USA**



For fifteen years, I have been teaching at the University of Iowa in the College of Education. Ed and I have a son, Tom, and daughter, Sarah, who are in college. Tom is majoring in Graphic Design and Sarah is studying to be a teacher. My husband works in the higher education market for Dell, Inc. We enjoy living in the country where our house is by a small lake. My favorite pastime is hiking around Coralville Lake and in the nearby woods. When Veeda Javaid visited the First Presbyterian Church in Iowa City for the first time in 1999, she stayed with us for a week. We became friends and she told us about life in Pakistan and the challenges facing the schools operated by the Presbyterian Education Board in Pakistan. We have visited with her each time she has come back and, over the years, she has sent us news about PEB.

For a long time, I have thought that it would be good to have a formal network of people who take a special interest in the PEB schools so that we could share information and experiences. After the completion of the construction of the dormitory at the Christian Girls School in Pasrur, I decided to try to organize a group of people to work together to raise money for boarding school scholarships for girls. We had our first meeting on July 31, 2007. By the first of September, we had raised money for twenty scholarships, which met the goal of providing fifty boarding school scholarships for the Academic Year 2007-2008.

The purpose of the Friends of Pasrur is to continue to raise money for boarding school scholarships for Christian girls who live in the villages around Pasrur. We are just a fledging group, but we have high hopes. The members of the Friends of Pasrur will be provided fellowship, news about our adopted school in Pasrur, and the privilege of contributing to a worthy cause.