

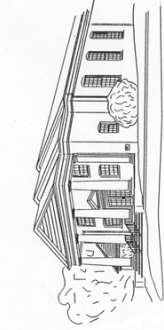
Asheboro Community Bible Study

The 2022-2023 Study began at Asheboro Friends Meeting on September 12, 2022. You can choose between Monday nights at 7:00 PM or Tuesday mornings at 10:45 AM.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

—2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

The study will cover the following books: Job, James, Colossians, 1 & 2 Timothy, & Titus. For more information contact Jay Brownfield at 336-653-9002 or John Nee at 336-681-4645. We began studying the Books of 1 & 2 Timothy, & Titus on January 23, 2023.



Asheboro Friends Meeting

PO Box 987
Asheboro, NC 27204-0987



Asheboro Friends Meeting

East Kivett and Main Streets
Asheboro, North Carolina

Mailing Address
PO Box 987, Asheboro, NC 27204-0987



Pieter Bruegel the Elder, *The Tower of Babel* (1563). Courtesy of Kunsthistorisches Museum Vienna, Picture Gallery ©KHM-Museumsverband.

“I Have Called You Friends”

John 15:15

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Asheboro Friends Meeting
A Message from your Pastor - March 15, 2023

“Silence”

“What silence principally armours us against is Babel: the endless foolish chatter, words used to confound thought, words misused to ward off friendship or attachments, words as occupation. The biblical Babel was a metaphor for the loss of human ability to communicate as a consequence of the rise of different languages, but the foreignness of other tongues is a smokescreen. To express what one means, and to hear what another means: this is a rare thing. Babel is profoundly destructive of our energies, as Bruegel so splendidly shows. This monstrous tower is consuming all who labour on or near it. We have an absolute need for quiet, for the heart’s wordless resting on God.”

—Sister Wendy Beckett, *The Art of Lent: A Painting A Day From Ash Wednesday To Easter*

The preceding paragraph is an excerpt from the book by Sister Wendy Beckett. She was a well-known author and BBC television presenter as well as (paradoxically) being a member of a Roman Catholic sisterhood and living in a convent that maintained a strict code of silence. Her order focused upon academics. She devoted much of each day to solitude and prayer, but set aside two hours to “earn her living.” During those two hours per day (which equates to 730 hours per year) she produced seven BBC television documentaries and wrote dozens of books on art and various other subjects.

When someone discovers that I am a Quaker I am often asked about silent worship. I try as best I can to explain to them that Friends do not worship *in* silence, but instead we worship *from* the silence. Sister Wendy’s quote above “speaks to my condition”, as the early Quakers would say. She says that “*To express what one means, and to hear what another means*” is a rare thing. Even though I had classes in French in high school and German in college I never became fluent in either of those languages. A few years ago I had an epiphany when I realized that in order to converse in another language I could not think in English and translate each word back and forth. Instead I would have to train my brain to function in German or French or whatever other language I wanted to us to communicate.

A few weeks ago at one of our Monday evening CBS Bible study sessions I sat beside my friend Frank Sefcik at the opening exercise. I had gone online and learned how to say “Hello, good evening” in Czech. I surprised Frank by greeting him in his native language. I shall never forget his expression when he heard those words from an unexpected source. He complimented me when he said that I even pronounced them correctly.

Jesus gave us The Great Commission in Matthew 28:16-20 when he told us to spread the Gospel to all nations. In order to do this we must learn to communicate in the various languages of those nations. We will have to step outside our comfort zone to do this. But then I began to think... Do we even do what Christ told us to do in our native language? What could we accomplish if we were to devote two hours each day as Sister Wendy did? How many souls and lives could I touch? How many books could I write? I need to get busy! And I’m not getting any younger...

David Millikan

COVID-19 Vaccine inoculations are available to everyone over age 5. Vaccine booster shots are also available. Go to: www.randolphcountync.gov/Departments/Public-Health/COVID-19 or call the COVID-19 Hotline at 336-318-6227.

We have at home rapid COVID test kits available in the AFM Office. These are free of charge courtesy of the Randolph County Department of Public Health.

Feeding Locals First has a need for gas money to deliver food to the homeless each day. Monetary donations and gas cards will be accepted. Please make checks payable to USFW and designate for “Gas Fund.”

USFW is continuing to collect items for Lydia's Place shelter.

Items needed are:

- Paper products
- Hygiene products
- Laundry & cleaning products
- Diapers & wipes
- New & gently used towels

Please join our effort.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

B Tim Joyce — March 18
B Sheila Huffman — March 23
B Kim Wilson — March 26
B Claire Davidson Beeson — March 29
B Salem Moorefield — March 29
B Sawyer Davidson — March 29
B Keli Underwood — March 30

CUOC for March:

Canned Chicken & Dumplings

January Financial Report:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Income: | \$ 10,767.50 |
| Expenses: | \$ 8,918.16 |
| Gen Fund Balance: | \$ 32,809.95 |

**2023 Triennial:
Thirty Days of Prayer**



Come. Abide. Go.

We are reading with interest about the recent revivals happening on university campuses. This spiritual awakening is growing out of the desires of young people for a deeper intimacy with Christ. So, students are gathering, singing, repenting, and praying; and the Spirit of God is blessing them. Of course, the hallmark of true revival is what happens when the gatherings are over. Great social movements, mission endeavors, and justice campaigns have from similar spiritual awakenings.

During a revival at Cleveland Bible Training School, Arthur Chilson, Willis Hotchkiss, and Edgar Hole captured a vision to establish the Friends Industrial Mission in Kenya. This revival ignited a missionary movement that expanded as schools were established, hospitals built, agricultural programs launched, churches were planted, and generations of Friends in East Africa have grown in knowledge and intimacy with Christ Jesus. Now, Friends in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda are capturing visions of a new Afrocentric missionary movement.

123 years after the Cleveland revival, the global community of Friends is gathering in Kenya for the Triennial sessions of FUM, USFWI, and QMI. Friends are gathering to hear anew the gospel invitation Come, Abide, and Go in Christ’s name. Some of us are praying that the Triennial in Nakuru is the beginning of a new spiritual awakening among Friends. While such revivals cannot be planned, we can prepare by committing ourselves through prayer. On 4 June 2023, we invite the members of FUM to join with Friends across the globe in Thirty Days of Prayer. Each day, FUM will release prayer themes and devotionals based on the triennial theme. We pray for the fresh winds of the Spirit to blow through our community as we respond to Christ’s invitation to Come, Abide, Go.