

Asheboro Community Bible Study

The 2023-2024 Study began at Asheboro Friends Meeting on September 11, 2023. You can choose between Monday nights at 7:00 PM or Tuesday mornings at 10:45 AM.

In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

— *Psalms 18:6 (ESV)*

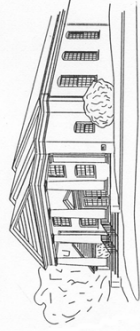
The study will cover the following books: Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, & Ephesians. Registration is now open and the cost is \$35.00 for each adult.

For more information contact Jay Brownfield at 336-653-9002 or visit the website at <https://asheboroeve.cbssclass.org/>.

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



"I Have Called You Friends"

John 15:15

David Millikan, Pastor
Cynthia Pierce, Youth Director
Church Phone: 336-625-3803
Pastor's Study: 336-629-2858
Pastor Cell Phone: 336-689-4275
Youth Director: (H) 336-629-6430 (C) 336-953-2675
Email: asheborofriends@yahoo.com
Website: www.asheborofriends.org



Asheboro Friends Meeting

A Message from your Pastor

Advent Thoughts

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace
there will be no end,
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,
to establish it and to uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time forth and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

— *Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)*

Advent is defined in the Oxford Languages Dictionary as “the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event”. As Christians we believe that there is nothing or no one more notable or important than Jesus Christ. We begin the Season of Advent on Sunday, December 3 and conclude on Christmas Eve. The name is derived from the Latin *adventus* “coming; arrival”, translating Greek *parousia* from the New Testament, which originally referred to the Second Coming. The Season of Advent in the Christian Liturgical calendar is the time we anticipate the coming of Christ from three distinct perspectives: the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the receiving of Christ in the heart of a believer, and the eschatological Second Coming.

Many individuals and families have Advent calendars with a box or window that is opened each day in anticipation of Christmas. Often there will be a piece of chocolate or some other treat to enjoy as each one is opened. At Asheboro Friends, as in many other places of Christian worship, we will light the candles of the Advent Wreath. Our Advent wreath is pictured on another page of this newsletter along with the symbolic meaning of each of the candles.

I would challenge each and every one of us, myself included, to reflect each day upon how we are preparing to receive Christ into our lives *today*. We must go beyond the symbolism and make Christ’s presence in our lives a real and living presence. If Christ has come into my heart then the world will see beyond doubt that I am a new creation, and everyone will see Christ through me.

Cover painting: *The Light of the World* by William Holman Hunt, 1851–1854

Birthdays & Anniversaries

B Linda Moody — December 3

B Esther Underwood — December 8

B Carol Bullins — December 15

CUOC for December:

Canned Chicken & Dumplings

Feeding Locals First Christmas wish list:

Christmas cards, candy, pens, markers, colored pencils, puzzle books, drawing tablets, small notebooks, playing cards, gloves, socks, toboggans, hand warmers.

Please purchase soon or you can give a monetary donation to USFW and they will buy the items needed.

October Financial Report:

Income:	\$ 10,304.68
Expenses:	\$ 9,667.68
Gen Fund Balance:	\$ 39,211.94

Giving to Asheboro Friends Meeting is now available online through our website at www.asheborofriends.org. Anyone can support the ministries of Asheboro Friends Meeting by simply clicking on the “Give to AFM” icon. Online giving is supported by our partnership with Tithe.ly. Click and you will be directed to the Tithe.ly site where you can follow the simple instructions. You can also go to our website from your smart phone by scanning the QR code located on the front cover of this newsletter.

USFW Bereavement Fund A donation towards food was made to the Lois Richardson family from the USFW Bereavement Fund. Those wishing to keep the fund active should make checks to USFW or put cash in an envelope marked USFW and place in the Sunday offering.

*God does not call the qualified,
He qualifies the called.*

Excerpt: The light of the world

“Jesus has not come on a fact-finding mission; instead, he comes with an invitation. Come home, Jesus says, come and rediscover your long-lost family, your older sibling, Jesus, and your father, God.

“This is the paradox that [painter] Holman Hunt depicts: here is the light of the world, but he is standing outside a closed door, knocking and waiting. There are few places from which all light can be wholly excluded, but this forbidding door has no keyhole, no chinks through which the waiting light can filter. It has the power to withstand the light completely, unless it is opened.

“Hunt’s text for the painting was Revelation 3:20: ‘Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you and eat with you, and you with me.’ We are reminded of the encounters between Jesus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1–10) or the woman at the well (John 4:1–42) or the boy with the loaves and the fishes (John 6:1–14). First, people are encouraged to give out of their own resources, and then their own poor stocks are replenished from the limitless resources of God’s generosity.

“Holman Hunt’s picture is full of symbolism, all of it taking us more deeply into Advent reflection. There are three light sources in the painting, but they all cluster around Jesus. Behind him is the dawn light, struggling to make its way through the dark woods, toward that central figure. Then there is the lantern that Jesus is carrying, a bright, homely light to welcome wandering travelers. And finally, there is the light that shines around Jesus’ head, his own inner brightness, from which the other lights take their meaning. Behind Jesus are threatening, twisted trees, shedding rotting fruit to the ground. They are the tree that Adam and Eve ate from, and the tree on which Jesus died, and all our long family trees, waiting to be lit up and filled with life again. The lantern that Jesus is holding throws a reddish light back on to his cloak, which makes it look similar to the wood of the door. After all, Jesus said that he is the door or the gateway (John 10:7). So here we have two doorways, facing each other, as we wait to see whether one will open to the other.”

Excerpt from *The Art of Advent: A Painting a Day from Advent to Epiphany*, by Jane Williams, available from the FUM online bookstore.

The Season of Advent

The promise for Israel and the promise for the church
is Jesus Christ;
He has come, and He will come again.
This is the essence of Advent.



First Sunday	Hope	December 3
Second Sunday	Love	December 10
Third Sunday	Joy	December 17
Fourth Sunday	Peace	December 24
Candlelight Service	Christ	December 24

Would you and your family like to participate in the Lighting of the Advent candles during these services? If so please contact David Millikan or Cynthia Pierce..

Just in Time for Christmas! Fast Eddie's Fine Swine Boston Butts Sale



This People's Choice and Grandmaster Pit Champion is partnering with Christians United Outreach Center for an event you do not want to miss out on!

**Pit Cooked Boston Butt,
whole \$45 each, includes sauce.**

You can pre order at 336 625-1500 ext. 222 or on the CUOC website.

All orders not prepaid will must be picked up by 4:30 or may be sold to people on a wait list.

**Touch Free Drive-Thru Pickup
Pre Order and Pickup Saturday, December 16
From 3 pm to 5 pm
930 S. Fayetteville Street, Asheboro**

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-7



Asheboro Friends Prayer List December 1, 2023

Members

Becky Boone
Carol Bullins
Jackie & Pat Cole
Becky Craven
Amy Fogleman
Ava Grace Fogleman
Sheila Huffman
Linda Lanier
Helen Marley
Fred Ownsbey
Mary Ella Pugh
Family of Lois Richardson
Family of Doyle Vaughn
Danny West
Jan Winslow



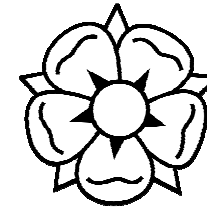
Friends

Julia Barnes
Alice Beasley
Logan Brooks (surgery)
Suzanne Brown
Barbara Bullin
Larry Byrd
Ethan Clarke (cancer)
Eddie Coggins (dialysis/kidney transplant)
Betty Cox
Gwen Davis
Family of Wayne Dunn
Theron Farlow
Vickie Frye (cancer)
Ruby Gainey
Treva Gallimore
Janet & Warren Godwin
Doris Hughes
Bill Ivey
Roger Hatchel (cancer)
David Horne
Frank Horton
Pat Hussey
Doris Jacobs
Michael Jacobs



Hospitals & Nursing Homes

Brookdale:
Bryan Bowman
Pat Rutherford
Brookdale, Rock Hill, SC:
Harry Hudson
Sandy Ridge Memory Care:
Linda Moody
Terra Bella:
Hal Powell



Law Enforcement & Services

Jeremy Callicutt
Evan Underwood
Stephen Vaughn
Asheboro Police Department
Asheboro Fire Department
Randolph County Sheriff's Office



Missions

Chosen People Ministries - The Arnolds
Gideon Ministries
HASTEN International
Nikki Holland—Belize
Lydia's Place
Neighbors Helping Neighbors & CUOC
The Friends Center MOWA
Jonathan Spainhour



Ministers & Staff

David Millikan
David Peters
Cynthia Pierce
Mike Wall
Rusty Parsons

Please submit additions to our prayer list:
Email: asheborofriends@yahoo.com
Phone: (336) 625-3803 or (336) 689-4275



Klaussner Employees
Ray Lanbe
Ben Lewis (cancer)
Libby McNeil
Jeremy Moore
Renee Nelson
Tony Norris
Jackie Parks
Linda Poole (cancer)
Family of Larry Reid
Jennifer Ruff (cancer)
Gil Sides
Helen & Richard Small
Pam Thomas
Günther Tlotzek
Phyllis Tysor
Sib Vinson
Dwight & Nancy Walker
Jeff Wilder (cancer)
Dolan Williams
Jasper & JoAnn Winslow



**Our World, Israel & The Ukraine
Asheboro Friends Meeting & Kids Klub
Friends Church of NC &
Contentnea Quarter
Friends Disaster Service
First Responders & Healthcare Workers
All Our Elected Officials
Unspoken Requests
Unsaved Family & Friends**



December Prayer Focus: Ramallah Friends School

The Friends United Meeting Community joins in prayer and solidarity with the families of Hisham Awartani, Kinnan Abdel Hamid, and Tahseen Ahmed, who were shot and injured on Saturday evening in Burlington, Vermont. The three young men of Palestinian decent are recent graduates of Ramallah Friends School. All three are students studying at US universities: Hisham is a student at Brown University, Kinnan studies at Haverford College, and Tahseen attends Trinity College. They were spending the Thanksgiving holiday with Hisham's grandmother.



We are relieved they survived their injuries, and we now pray for their full recovery. As of today, Kinnan has been treated and released from the hospital, Tahseen and Hisham remain in intensive care. Hisham suffered spinal cord injuries and will likely need ongoing rehabilitation.

We pray for the parents and families of these three young men during this challenging time. Several families are traveling from Palestine this week to join their sons.

We pray for justice. We strongly urge the authorities to conduct a thorough investigation, considering the motive for such an egregious attack. While it is not yet determined if the shooter will be charged with a hate crime, it was a hateful crime. The shooting highlights the growing anti-Arab and anti-Semitic violence that is on the rise.

We are grateful to many Friends who are expressing concern and offering support. We are especially grateful to the members of Burlington Friends Meeting and New England Yearly Meeting who are willing and ready to offer compassion and care for our students and their families.

Friends, "let us see what love can do."

In Peace,
Kelly Kellum
General Secretary, Friends United Meeting



How to Support Ramallah Friends School in a Time of War

What can you do? Consider these options:

- Pray: Head of School Rania Maayeh recently told us that, "I no longer pray for peace. I pray for miracles."
- Write: Join the RFS students who have done so, and write a letter to the president and your representatives. Appeal for a ceasefire now: <https://www.fcnl.org/updates/2023-11/calling-ceasefire-advocacy-toolkit>.
- Give: Friends United Meeting is partnering with QUIET (Quaker International Education Trust) and FWCC-EMES (Friends World Committee for Consultation – Europe & Middle East Section) to launch the "Wellbeing Campaign for Ramallah Friends School." These funds will support RFS counseling and financial aid programs. Friends in the US can give at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/rfswellbeing>.

Kids Klub News

Thanksgiving Bags For Asheboro Police Dept November 15, 2023

