

Asheboro Community Bible Study

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

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him.

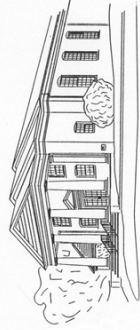
— *Ephesians 1:16-17 (ESV)*

The study of the book of Ephesians began on February 5. 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.cbclass.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

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Cynthia Pierce, Youth Director
Church Phone: 336-625-3803
Pastor's Study: 336-629-2858
Pastor Cell Phone: 336-689-4275
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Asheboro Friends Meeting

Grand Canyon by Parker J. Palmer — March 1, 2024

*They say the layered earth rose up
ancient rock leviathan
trailing ages in its wake
lifting earthmass toward the sun
and coursing water cut the rock away
to leave these many-storied walls
exposé of ages gone
around this breathless emptiness
more wondrous far
than earth had ever known
My life has risen layered too
each day each year in turn has left
its fossil life and sediments
evidence of lived and unlived hours
the tedium the anguish yes the joy*

*that some heart-deep vitality
keeps pressing upward
toward the day I die
And Spirit cuts like water through it all
carving out this emptiness
so inner eye can see
the rise and reach of canyon walls within
walls whose very color, texture, form
redeem in beauty all my life has been
the darkness and the light, the false, the true
while deep below the living waters run
cutting deeper through my parts
to resurrect my grave-bound heart
Making, always making, all things new*

— Parker J. Palmer

Today (February 28) I turn 85. As I thought about what poem to post, “Grand Canyon” kept coming back to me—maybe because those ancient rocks make me feel young! But there’s more...

Seen thru jaded eyes, the layers that make up the Canyon’s walls are nothing more than the town dumps of epochs long-gone, the compacted debris of ancient history. But look at that debris today! It’s been redeemed in beauty by the river that cut through it, polished it, and exposed it to the light of day...

Our lives rise on layers of personal history laid down over a long string of yesterdays. At times, looking back on that “debris” can bring us to grief about losses we suffered, mistakes we made, joys that are no more. But a river runs thru our lives, too—a river of love and light that, if we let it, will refigure every layer of our story, “making, always making, all things new.”

Like most folks of a certain age, I have days when the past feels like dead weight and new life seems out of reach. But that’s not because life has passed me by—it’s because I’ve stepped out of the stream of life.

So today’s Memo to Self is, “Get back into the river!” Read a good book, write a poem, tell someone you love them, lift up a person in need, crank some tunes, make someone laugh, say NO to fascism and YES to democracy, go for a walk in the woods.

To quote my old friend Heraclitus (we went to kindergarten together), “You never step into the same stream twice.” Stay in the flow and learn again and again that life is evergreen...

On each of my 10-day rafting trips thru the glories of the Grand Canyon, there was a guide who would greet each day exclaiming, “Another day in the ditch!” At 85, I’m grateful to have another day in the ditch with all of you, and what a magnificent ditch it is!

Parker Jay Palmer is an American Quaker author, poet, educator, and activist who focuses on issues in education, community, leadership, spirituality and social change. He describes himself thusly:

POETRY + PROSE + POLITICS: Pro-democracy, Pro-civil discourse, Pro-decency
[Palmer’s 10 books are available at tiny.cc/qocmuz AND <http://tiny.cc/5rcmuz>.]

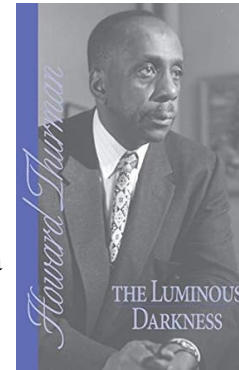
Cover Photograph courtesy of Parker J. Palmer

Excerpt:

“Men would not need to stretch themselves out of shape in order to love”

“I am confident that my own call to the religious vocation cannot be separated from the slowly emerging disclosure that my religious experience makes it possible for me to experience myself as a human being and thus keep a very real psychological distance between myself and the hostilities of my environment. Through the years it has driven me more and more to seek to make as a normal part of my relations with men the experiencing of them as human beings. When this happens love has essential materials with which to work. And contrary to the general religious teaching, men would not need to stretch themselves out of shape in order to love. On the contrary, a man comes into possession of himself more completely when he is free to love another.”

An excerpt from *The Luminous Darkness*, by Howard Thurman. *The Luminous Darkness* is available in FUM’s Online Bookstore. You can browse our entire collection of Howard Thurman’s writings there.



Let us no longer be blinded by the dim theology that only in the far seeing vision discovers a millennium, when violence shall no more be heard in the land wasting nor destruction in her borders; but let us behold it now, nigh at the door lending faith and confidence to our hopes, assuring us that even we ourselves shall be instrumental in proclaiming liberty to the captive.

~ Lucretia Mott, 1793-1880

Birthdays & Anniversaries

B Chris Sexton — March 1
B Betty Davis — March 2
B Larry Marley — March 3
B Tim Joyce — March 18

CUOC for March:

Canned Chicken & Dumplings

Feeding Locals First:

Tuna
Oodles of Noodles
Coffee, sugar, creamer packs
Applesauce cups
Pudding cups
Jello cups
Pop tarts
Rice Krispie treats
Nab packs
Canned fruits
Cups of cereal
Mac and cheese cups
Breakfast Bars
Beanee Weenee cans



January Financial Report:

Income:	\$ 12,294.00
Expenses:	\$ 14,753.16
Gen Fund Balance:	\$ 32,850.46

Give to Asheboro Friends Meeting online at www.asheborofriends.org. Support our ministries by clicking on the “Give to AFM” icon supported by our partnership with Tithe.ly and following the simple instructions. Use your smart phone by scanning the QR code located on the front cover of this newsletter.

There is a spirit which I feel that delights to do no evil, nor to revenge any wrong, but delights to endure all things, in hope to enjoy its own in the end.

~ James Nayler, 1616-1660

Ambwere Farm Sustainability Project



Members of the Ambwere Farm committee and other Friends pray over new equipment that was purchased this month for the farm sustainability project, near Kitale, Kenya.

Asheboro Friends Prayer List March 1, 2024



Members

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

Hospitals & Nursing Homes

Brookdale, Rock Hill, SC:
 Harry Hudson
 Rose Glen Manor Assisted Living:
 Becky Craven
 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
 Sleep in Heavenly Peace
 The Friends Center MOWA
 Jonathan Spainhour

Ministers & Staff

David Millikan
 David Peters
 Cynthia Pierce
 Mike Wall

Friends

Julia Barnes
 Alice Beasley
 Family of Dave Bolson
 Logan Brooks
 Suzanne Brown
 Barbara Bullin
 Larry Byrd
 Ethan Clarke (cancer)
 Eddie Coggins (kidney transplant on Feb. 1)
 Betty Cox
 Gwen Davis
 Theron Farlow
 Vickie Frye (cancer)
 Ruby Gainey
 Treva Gallimore
 Janet & Warren Godwin
 Ricky Harris
 Roger Hatchel (cancer)
 David Horne
 Frank Horton
 Family of Doris Hughes
 Pat Hussey
 Bill Ivey
 Rick Johnson
 Karan Kemp
 Family of Jean Kindschi
 Ray Lambe
 Ben Lewis (cancer)
 Twyle Little
 Libby McNeil
 Jeremy Moore
 Renee Nelson
 Tony Norris
 Jackie Parks
 Linda Poole (cancer)
 Loyd Pugh (cancer)
 Kaffy Reynolds
 Jennifer Ruff (cancer)
 Gil Sides
 Family of Richard Small
 Pam Thomas
 Brenda & Donald Tucker
 Joe & Michelle Weaver
 Jeff Wilder (cancer)
 Dolan Williams
 Family of Jasper 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

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



Ladies' Bible Study

DairiO has sponsored a Men's Bible Study on Wednesday mornings for several years. Now a Ladies' Bible Study on Thursday mornings will begin on March 14, 2024 at 8:30 am.

All ladies welcome! There is no charge! Yes, FREE!



Class Act Team Leaders gather in the Fellowship Hall at Asheboro Friends on February 29, 2024.



Fifty-three Class Act Teams have adopted classrooms in the ACS five elementary schools. A team from Asheboro Friends has adopted the kindergarten class of Ilena Beck at Charles W. McCrary Elementary to help support our own Lisa Sexton. Contact Cynthia Pierce to sign up and join our Class Act Team!



NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a volunteer-driven nonprofit dedicated to building and delivering hand-made, fully furnished beds to children in need. SHP's mission is to tackle childhood bedlessness, which we estimate to affect nearly 3% of the population.

Asheboro Friends actively supports the Neighbors Helping Neighbors ministry of CUOC. We have initiated the process to start a local chapter of SHP in Asheboro and Randolph County. Once we are organized and running this is how the process works!



Anyone and everyone of any skill level can be a part of this ministry!

Please be in prayer how you can be a part of this exciting opportunity in our town!

Kids Klub News

God loves us.

We love God.

We share God's love.