

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.

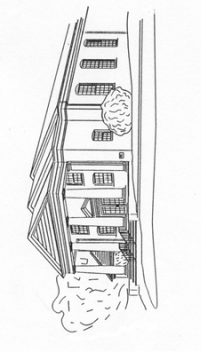
— *Ephesians 1:16-17 (ESV)*

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.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

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Cynthia Pierce, Youth Director
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Asheboro Friends Meeting

A Meditation from Levi T. Pennington — February 15, 2024

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

But now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

— 1 Corinthians 13:13
(Read 1 Corinthians 12:31 and 13:1-13)

The work of God is so great and so many-sided that no one, however versatile, can even so much as touch every aspect of it. And so God has appointed spiritual gifts and graces, talents and capacities, powers and prerogatives to his followers as his wisdom has seen fit. The Corinthians were very proud of some of these spiritual gifts, and Paul is here seeking to help them to the best use of these gifts. There are a few outstanding truths about these spiritual gifts:

FIRST, every Christian has some spiritual gift or gifts. Paul gives a long list of them, but there are many others. If you have not discovered your spiritual gift, get to searching for it. It's there—maybe several of them. But there is sure to be at least one.

SECOND, spiritual gifts are conferred not merely for your own advantage but for the help of others. Always bear in mind that Christianity is a thoroughly altruistic religion. Anything that is selfish is by that much less than Christian.

THIRD, spiritual gifts are for use, not merely for ornament. And because they are living gifts they must be exercised or they will die. There are men who were once given a gift which they refused to use, and now that gift is as dead as the dodo.

FOURTH, the best spiritual gift is love, and all Christians may and must have that. Better than the gift of faith or hope, better than the gift of tongues or prophecy, better than power or wealth or fame is love, for it is the most God-like, since "God is love".

Let's find our spiritual gifts and exercise them, especially the gift of love. This sin-cursed, war-torn world could be loved into a suburb of heaven if all Christians would love as they should.

Reprinted from Quaker Meditations, edited by Cecil E. Haworth, printed in 1944, reprinted in 1989.

Levi T. Pennington was for thirty years President of Pacific College (now Pacific University), Newberg, Oregon, and perennially a minister of the Gospel among Friends and in wider circles.

Cover photograph: *Dandelion on February 15, 2024*

the hospital. Without a doubt, the dispensary has become fully functional and provides vital maternal health care and other community health services.

In the spirit of reaching unreached communities, Felix Lekuyie and the pastors within Samburu Friends Mission have been mapping the Samburu East community and have earmarked a place called Wamba where they plan to make several visits before they plant a Quaker church. The Wamba area is populated with the Rendille community, who are nomadic pastoralists and practice traditional religion.

At their board meeting, Samburu Friends Mission identified some of the joys, prayer concerns, and challenges they are facing. These include:

Joys:

- They successfully held a prayer gathering at the Loosuk Empowerment Centre, welcoming God's presence in this project.
- In October, Director Lekuyie received a diploma from Friends Theological College and in November his family received a bundle of joy. The child was born at the Friends Loltulelei Dispensary. Blessings on the Lekuyie family.
- New board members, who represent the broader Samburu community, including Baragoi, have been commissioned. Even as they are getting to understand their roles in the mission, they look forward to a training for board members that will be held in the new year. Pray for wisdom and guidance for the board.

Concerns:

- As they reach out to the Wamba-Rendille Community, they need goodwill, prayers, and guidance through this process.
- The Samburu community still experiences banditry attacks. Even though the long rains have come and the Samburu expect pasture to grow again in the coming months, there is still the need of long-term intervention on the banditry issue, which might take the form of introducing a boy child education program, or having an Alternatives to Violence Program re-introduced.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

A Danny & Joy Coggins — February 16
B David Pierce — February 19
B Seth Coggins — February 21
B Adam West — February 21
B Becky Craven — February 26

CUOC for February:

Black Eye Peas

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



December Financial Report:

Income:	\$ 6,808.00
Expenses:	\$ 9,363.16
Gen Fund Balance:	\$ 34,084.34

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.

The Church is the Church only when it exists for others—not dominating, but helping and serving. It must tell men of every calling what it means to live for Christ, to exist for others.

~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Prayer Focus: Samburu Friends Mission

Samburu County is a county in northern Kenya, in the former Rift Valley Province, where the Samburu, Turkana, and many other people groups live. It stretches north from the Wuaso Ng'iro River to the south of Lake Turkana. According to the 2019 census, the county has a population of 310,327.



The Samburu people are nomadic pastoralists who keep cattle, sheep, goats, camels, and donkeys, when the climate will support them. Recently, huge swaths of collectively held rangeland in the Samburu region have been privatized, leading to extreme disruption of grazing and migration patterns. This, in turn, has led to an increase in violent conflict with neighboring communities. Education and literacy training for the Samburu are crucial at this time, as capable leadership is needed in negotiating these conflicts, and only 6% of Samburu adults have a secondary school education.

Building the Friends Church in Samburu involves building communities, not building buildings. As early Friends knew, it is the body of Christ that matters, not the building in which Christ is housed. Worship is often shared under a tree with indigenous songs, spirited dancing, and readings from the Bible.

Current priorities of the Mission include evangelism, church planting, discipleship, a medical clinic, girl-child education, nursery and primary schools, women's self-help groups, peace building, adult literacy, and, in partnership with Friends Theological College, pastors' training.

The Friends Mission in Samburu was started in 1995 by Friends from Turkana Friends Mission. Felix Lekuyie is the present director of the Samburu Friends Mission, under the leadership of the Samburu Friends Mission Board. The Samburu Friends Mission held their first board meeting with new board members and the new director on 4 November 2023. This was the first meeting of the board since the previous director, Daniel Lentirangoi, accepted employment by the Kenyan government as a teacher. In addition to the director and nine board members, representatives from Friends United Meeting's Africa Ministries Office—Programme Officer Getry Agizah and communications specialist Kate Gunza—were also in attendance. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Jacob Lolmoodoni, who was killed through bandit attacks. Jacob had represented the youth on the mission board.

Over the past year, Samburu Friends Mission has had remarkable facelift projects within the mission headquarters at Loltulelei. Mission Director Felix Lekuyie has been allocated an office within the mission headquarters where he is able to receive guests, hold sit-down meetings with the mission staff, and have close coordination of the progress of the Loltulelei dispensary, since they are on the same compound.

Through funding from Friends United Meeting, the dispensary also received improvements. They were able to build a soak pit/septic drain field, pit latrine, and acquire a water tank where they can harvest water for use in

Asheboro Friends Prayer List February 15, 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
 Rusty Parsons
 Rusty Parsons

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

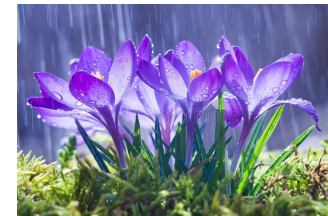
Friends

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



February



FUM Plans Billy Britt Fund Event in February

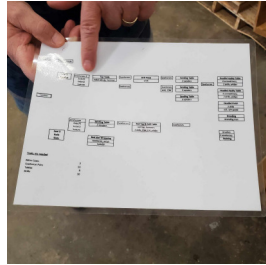
Friends United Meeting is hosting a planned giving event in North Carolina to promote the Billy Britt Fund on February 17, 2024. FUM established the Billy Britt Fund in 2021 to continue the legacy of former North Carolina Yearly Meeting Superintendent Billy Britt through financial support for the North American Ministries of FUM. The gathering will be held at 3:00 p.m. at Friends Homes Guilford, in Greensboro. Friends who attend will learn more about Billy's legacy, as well gain a deeper understanding of FUM's North American Ministries priorities. Participants will also receive helpful information about how to align estate plans with charitable intentions.



Billy's family speaks to attendees at the Billy Britt Fund kickoff event held in November, 2021, at High Point Friends.



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

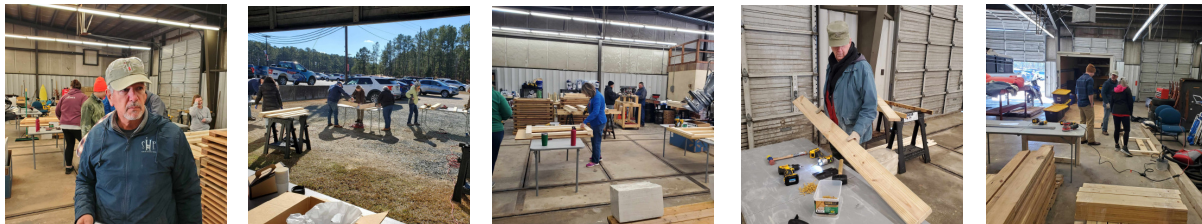


Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) is a volunteer-driven nonprofit dedicated to building and delivering hand-made, fully furnished beds to children in need. SHP's mission is to tackle childhood bedlessness, which we estimate to affect nearly 3% of the population.

Asheboro Friends actively supports the Neighbors Helping Neighbors ministry of CUOC. We are exploring the opportunity to partner with SHP and perhaps build a local chapter of SHP in Asheboro and Randolph County.

We went to Carthage in Moore County on Saturday, January 20 to participate in a build and learn more! Below are some photographs from the bed build. We constructed twenty beds for children. Sanding, cutting, drilling, assembling headboards, and assembling bedrails was completed in less than two hours.

Please be in prayer how we 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.

