

Asheboro Community Bible Study

The 2024-2025 Study began at Asheboro Friends Meeting on September 9, 2024. You can choose between Monday nights at 7:00 PM or Tuesday mornings at 10:45 AM.

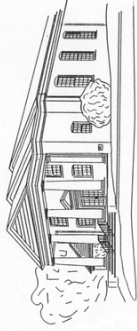
So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

— *Matthew 1:17 (ESV)*

We are studying the Gospel of Matthew. Registration is open and the cost is \$35.00 per 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

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

December 4, 2024

NOEL

by John Ronald Reuel Tolkien

*Grim was the world and grey last night:
The moon and stars were fled,
The hall was dark without song or light,
The fires were fallen dead.
The wind in the trees was like to the sea,
And over the mountains' teeth
It whistled bitter-cold and free,
As a sword leapt from its sheath.*

*The lord of snows upreared his head;
His mantle long and pale
Upon the bitter blast was spread
And hung o'er hill and dale.
The world was blind, the boughs were bent,
All ways and paths were wild:
Then the veil of cloud apart was rent,
And here was born a Child.*

*The ancient dome of heaven sheer
Was pricked with distant light;
A star came shining white and clear
Alone above the night.
In the dale of dark in that hour of birth
One voice on a sudden sang:
Then all the bells in Heaven and Earth
Together at midnight rang.*

magazine of Our Lady's School in Oxford. It is about the Virgin Mary and the birth of Christ. It is titled "Noel."

In Noel, Tolkien describes the world before and after the birth of Christ. He begins his poem with a description of the cold and darkness we experience during the winter Advent weeks leading up to Christmas. Suddenly a light shines forth. The Virgin Mary sings and the bells of heaven ring in rejoicing because God came to the earth.

Cover painting by Guido da Siena, Tempera on wood, 36x48 cm, Musée du Louvre, Paris, 1270's

*Mary sang in this world below:
They heard her song arise
O'er mist and over mountain snow
To the walls of Paradise,
And the tongue of many bells was stirred
in Heaven's towers to ring
When the voice of mortal maid was heard,
That was mother of Heaven's King.
Glad is the world and fair this night
With stars about its head,
And the hall is filled with laughter and light,
And fires are burning red.
The bells of Paradise now ring
With bells of Christendom,
And Gloria, Gloria we will sing
That God on earth is come.*

J.R.R. Tolkien is best known for his long works of epic fantasy, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. In these books he showed his skill in both narrative storytelling and poetry. In each of his books, he included many short works of song and poetry. Tolkien's devout Catholic faith is well known, but he did not write very much that was explicitly Christian. In 2013, however, one of Tolkien's lost Christian poems was found in a

Birthdays & Anniversaries

B Esther Underwood — December 8

B Carol Bullins — December 15

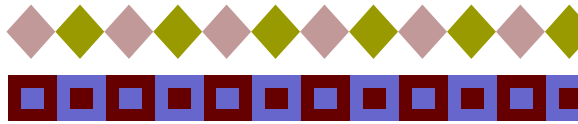
CUOC for December

Canned Chicken & Dumplings

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.

October Financial Report:

Income:	\$ 8,598.14
Expenses:	\$ 10,695.80
Gen Fund Balance:	\$ 17,691.07



Excerpt:

God Welcomes Our Merrymaking

"I feel like the curmudgeonly Ebenezer Scrooge from Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Then I remember the scene of Bob Cratchit's family scrimping to splurge on a Christmas dinner of goose, potatoes, and pudding. Tiny Tim, the crippled son of Scrooge's underpaid clerk, offers a heartfelt blessing: "God bless us, every one!" Without help, Tim will likely die for want of treatment the family cannot afford, the Ghost of Christmas Present informs Scrooge. The vision of that deprived yet happy family pricks the conscience of the miserly Scrooge.

"In his book of sermons titled The Magnificent Defeat, Frederick Buechner mentions two qualities of childlikeness. First, children have no fixed preconceptions of reality. If someone tells them that the mossy patch under the lilac bush is a magic place, or that opening a certain wardrobe will lead to Narnia, they'll surely test the theory.

"Second, children know how to receive a gift without worrying about whether they deserve it or if it indebts them to the giver. They simply receive it, joyfully tearing into the wrapping paper despite the solemn faces around them.

"Somehow, even amid the secularized trappings that drown out the truth of Christmas, we have not lost a sense of celebration. On a dark night in Palestine, the sky itself burst into song, and shepherds ran to locate its origin. Before long, astrologers would endure a camel journey from Persia in order to present gifts fit for a king—only to find a baby.

"That celebration, too, took place against a background of tragedy that left mothers crying for their slaughtered infants and Jesus' family fleeing as refugees. Some three decades later, a woman poured very expensive perfume on Jesus' head (Mt 26). A "waste" declared Judas—the disciples' Scrooge—for she could have sold it and given the proceeds to the poor.

"In what has become one of the most misinterpreted passages in the Bible, Jesus responded, "Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial" (vv. 10–12 NIV).

"No one could accuse Jesus of insensitivity to the poor and marginalized. He spent his life among them, and this very event took place in the home of a social outcast, Simon the Leper. Yet Jesus acknowledged that when something extraordinary graces our benighted planet, it calls for celebration.

"Maybe I had it right as a thirteen-month-old, grinning with delight while the adults around me grimaced in grief. "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven," said Jesus (Mt 18:3 NIV). He knew better than anyone that his brief sojourn would not solve the injustice, sickness, poverty, and violence of planet Earth . . .

"It takes childlike faith to believe in a reality beyond the grim one we know so well, and to keep celebrating regardless. Sometimes a child's eye sees best." — Excerpt from "In a Mad Mad World, God Welcomes Our Merrymaking," by Philip Yancey, in *A Radiant Birth: Advent Readings for a Bright Season*, edited by Leslie Leyland Fields and Paul J. Willis, and available from the FUM Online Bookstore.

BOSTON BUTTS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We're excited to announce that you can now preorder your delicious Boston Butt today! This savory treat comes just in time for your Christmas Dinner! They will be cooked and available for pick up on Saturday, December 21st from 3:00PM- 5:00PM. Contact us at 336-625-1500 ext 105 or online through our website. Click "Give Back", "Sponsor", "purchase" then "other" and put "Boston Butt" in the comment section.

While you're at it, consider joining our team as a Thrift Store Assistant! We have volunteer opportunities available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Help us sort donations, restock the store, and assist our wonderful customers. It's a great way to give back to the community and meet new friends while enjoying a fulfilling experience!

GET INVOLVED TODAY



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.

Our NC-Randolph County chapter had our second Bed Build Day on Saturday, November 16 at 9:00 AM at the Sunset Avenue Church of God. We built 28 beds and all 43 beds are being delivered to kids in Asheboro. Checks may be made to Sleep in Heavenly Peace (indicate NC-Randolph Co chapter in the memo line). Mail to SHP NC-Randolph Co Chapter, PO Box 206, Asheboro, NC 27204. We are also accepting donations of twin size mattresses, twin sheets, twin comforters/quilts, pillows, and pillowcases. Twin size bed-in-a-bag sets are perfect. Bring to Asheboro Friends or to CUOC.

SHP
Giving Tree



DONATIONS

Individual, Businesses and Organizations Donate Bedding and Building Materials



VOLUNTEERS

Individual, Businesses and Organizations team up with local chapters and organize a build day



BUILD DAY

Volunteers from the community build beds together



APPLICATION

Apply to receive a free bed for a kid sleeping on the floor



DELIVERY

Volunteers deliver and set up beds for families in need



NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!

Kids sleep peacefully in hand-built beds of their very own

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!



Asheboro Friends Prayer List December 4, 2024

Members

Becky Boone
Carol Bullins
Jackie & Pat Cole
Susie Dunn
Ava Grace Fogleman
Linda Lanier
Helen Marley
Carol Meiers
Mary Ella Pugh
Esther Underwood
Tina Williams
Vernon Wilson
Hal & Jan Winslow
Brenda Yelverton

Hospitals & Nursing Homes

Brookdale, Rock Hill, SC:
Harry Hudson
Rose Glen Manor Assisted Living:
Becky Craven
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

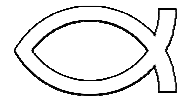
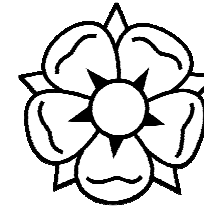
Life in Messiah - The Arnolds
Class Act
CUOC
Gideon Ministries
HASTEN International
Belize Friends Center
Friends Disaster Service
Lydia's Place
Neighbors Helping Neighbors
Sleep in Heavenly Peace
The Friends Center
MOWA
Jonathan Spainhour

Ministers & Staff

David Millikan
David Peters
Cynthia Pierce
Mike Wall

Friends

Linda Bailey
Judy Barnes
Julia Barnes
Alice Beasley
Family of Sara Booth Bennett
Emma Briles
Logan Brooks
Suzanne Brown
Barbara Bullin
Roger Bryant
Ethan Clarke
Eddie Coggins
Betty Cox
Carson Daves
Betty Davis
Gwen Davis
Candie Evavold
Craig Frazier
Angela Frye
Vickie Frye
Ruby Gainey
Treva Gallimore
Family of Alton "Nubby" Hix
Mary Hunt
Tracy Hunt
Pat Hussey
Bill Ivey
Karen Jacobs
Rick Johnson
Ray Lambe
Ben Lewis
Libby McNeil
Jeremy Moore
Renee Nelson
Tony Norris
Family of Don Osborne
Joanne Painter
Linda Poole
Chuck Powers
Kaffy Reynolds
Jennifer Ruff
Family of Eva Smith
Ron & Judy Smith
Darrell Swaney
Pam Thomas
Family of Zack Thornburg
Tanya Trogdon
Family of Earlene Vestal Ward
Andy Walker
Joe Weaver
Dolan Williams
Claude Winslow



Hurricane Helene Victims
Hurricane Milton Victims
Our World,
Israel & The Ukraine
Asheboro Friends Meeting
Kids Klub
Friends Church of NC
Contentnea Quarter
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

KIDS KLUB & G.L.O.W.

Collecting Items



**for folks in
Western NC**



Dish cloths/towels

Bath cloths/towels

Cleaning cloths/rags

Clothing and other items

**New & Used
acceptable**



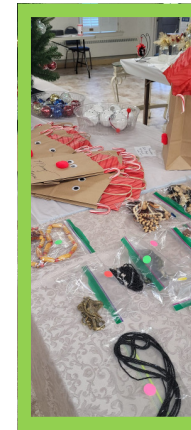
Kids Klub News BAZAAR

NOV. 8-9, 2024

**\$2,238.00 RAISED SO FAR FOR
SAMARITAN'S PURSE**

&

THE INVICTUS PROJECT



CAR WASH

