



511 Greenbank Road  
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www.greenbankcoc.org

### The Necessity of Perseverance

Near the end of 1 Peter we read this: *"I have written to you briefly, exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Stand firm in it!"* (5:12) Peter's letter was a sustained exhortation for believers to see the difficulties of the Christian life as normal. The life they had been called to was not one of ease, comfort, or social acceptance. Instead, through *"various kinds of trials,"* their faith was being tested and proved genuine (1 Peter 1:6-7). It was a calling that would require perseverance. Peter assured them that their present experience was what they should expect as followers of Christ and urged them to stay the course: *"Stand firm in it!"*

Jesus was the first to teach about the necessity of perseverance when He said to His disciples, *"You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved"* (Matt. 10:22). This sobering reality and requirement was then conveyed to the readers for nearly every New Testament letter. I encourage you to read these passages for yourself: 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; Galatians 5:1; Ephesians 6:10-13; Philippians 4:1; Colossians 1:22-23; 1 Thessalonians 3:4, 8; 2 Thessalonians 2:15; Hebrews 3:14.

There is much more in the New Testament on the necessity of perseverance. Search for yourself to see how pervasive this theme is in Scripture. Also, don't be disturbed by those who say that salvation by grace is incompatible with calls for diligent effort in enduring, persevering, and keeping the faith. The same grace of God that saves sinners also produces the bravery and steadfast spirit that characterizes true believers.

*"Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. But My righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in Him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul"* (Heb. 10:35-39).

—Daryl Wingerd (edited)

### GATHERING TIMES

**Sunday Bible Classes** 9:30 a.m.  
**Sunday Worship** 10:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday Bible Study** 7:00 p.m.

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### OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY GREENBANK FOOD PANTRY

Thursday Evenings—Doors are open 6:00-7:00 PM  
Volunteer Schedule:

Wednesdays 10:00 AM  
Thursdays 9:30 AM & 5:30 PM  
Fridays 9:00 AM

To volunteer contact: Ed or Sue Maynard  
302-994-3800

## Order of Worship

*Beautiful Gleanings Bring*

**Welcome**

*I Keep Falling in Love With Him*

*Just a Little Talk With Jesus*

**Scripture Reading & Prayer**

*Won't It Be Wonderful There*

**Communion**

**Offering**

*O, I Want to See Him*

**"The Christian's Armor"**

*I'll Be List'ning*

**Closing Prayer**



**Help keep our prayer list current  
by providing regular updates  
on family and friends.**

## PRAYER REQUESTS:

**Domingo Reyes:** reaction to medication; **Mike Anderson:** knee replacement; **Larry Saenz:** bypass surgery; **George Adair:** fractured sternum; **Lillie West:** strength for my family during the holidays; **Mike Barker:** clarity of diagnosis; **Chelsea Brasefield:** healthy, full-term pregnancy; **Alethia Jones:** God's wisdom in making decisions; **Jonathan Mitchell Jr:** health concerns; **Sam Nash:** emotional struggles; **Sharon King:** trouble with her hand; **Lakeisha Smith:** health issues; **Monica Green:** medical problems; **Brian King & family;** **Linda Jones;** **Lucas Kirkland:** clinical trials for Duchenne's MD; **Jeffrey Clark Jr:** transitioning back into society

**SHUT-INS:** Connie Dowds; Agnes Ignudo; Joan Gaynor; George Adair

**LONG-TERM ILLNESS/RECOVERY:** Ed Maynard; Joyce Gamble; Miriam Castro; Marie Difilippo; Dustin Lackford; Michael Mugrage; Felicity Ray; Gwendolyn Brady; Harry Schaeffer; Melissa Griffiths; Janette McGowan; Mike Saylor; Peggy Wetzel; Nadine Henderson; John Arnold; Bud Polk; Evelyn Kline; Emma Green; Gloria Edwards; Daisey Mae Wright

**COLLEGE STUDENTS:** Rachel Johnson, Kyle Cox, Heather Abosch, Brent Tucker, Tatiana Vargas, Kristal Moreta, Mackenzie Naseery, Ethan Reed, Prissila Sanichar, Antonio Sanichar, Adriana Moreta

**MISSIONS/MINISTRIES:** Ghana Bible College, Samuel Agbeta (Nkwanta, Ghana), Delaware Christian Campus Ministry Foundation; Camp Manatawny; Chad & Amy Westerholm (Mozambique); GriefShare

**OUR COUNTRY:** Leaders, Military, Law Enforcement, Firefighters

**OUR ELDERS, DEACONS, & MINISTRY LEADERS**

# GREENBANK NEWS

## CHRISTMAS PARTIES

**Young Youth—TODAY!** This party for our preschool & elementary age children will be held after our morning service. We will enjoy lunch and do some crafts together. All of our young children and their families are welcome to attend.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We will *not* have a 5th Sunday meal on Dec. 29th.

## WINTERFEST—PAYMENT #2 DUE TODAY

If you need to make different arrangements, please speak with Lisa Reed.

## CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Judy Barker will be playing piano before and after the Cantata at St. Mark's United Methodist Church today beginning at 3:40 p.m.

## COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR 2020

Please sign up at the bulletin board for the month(s) next year when you would be able to prepare communion for our worship services. If you have questions, please speak with Susan Johnson.

## ★ IMPORTANT NOTICE

Work is scheduled to begin tomorrow, December 19, on the bridge at the bottom of our hill. Greenbank Road will be closed in this spot through April 2020 or until the work is complete. The only access to the church building during this time will be from Rt. 41-Newport Gap Pike. When leaving, you will have to turn right onto Greenbank Road and right onto Newport-Gap Pike. You cannot turn left onto Newport-Gap Pike.

	<u>12/15/19</u>	<u>In His Service</u>	<u>12/22/19</u>
<u>Last Week</u>	M. Ray	Worship Leader	J. Clark
	B. Reed	Scripture & Prayer	G. Jones
	M. Welsh	Usher	S. Willis
	C. Mason	Communion	G. Kirkland
	M. Anderson	Offering	C. Blue
	M. Dickinson	Pass	A. Gallegos
	R. Irwin	"	M. Welsh
	D. Toribio	"	M. Barton
	R. Lewis	"	R. Cox
<u>Wednesday PM:</u>	Friederichsen	Greeters	L. Winder
<u>2019 Baptisms : 10</u>	Regester	"	B/B Davis
	D. Mattis	Shepherd's Prayer	J. Friederichsen