

Greenbank Weekly Newsletter – Friday, July 31, 2020

Do you know anyone in need? Please contact the church office, and we will find a way to assist.

Contact info: office@greenbankcoc.org or 302-994-3800. Office hours: Monday Only, 9:00am-3:00pm

Email and phone messages will be accessed remotely throughout the week.

Reflection – Life Lessons from Judas Iscariot by Rory Irwin

I must admit, I have a hard time with the story of Judas. It's hard for me to understand why Jesus chose him. It is difficult to understand why someone that lived with Jesus, and saw His ministry up close and personal, would betray Him. The following points tell what I know about Judas and the type of man he was.

- 1) **Judas was a thief:** John 12:6 *“He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the moneybag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.”*
- 2) **Satan entered Judas:** John 13:27 *“As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered him. So, Jesus told him, ‘What you are about to do, do quickly.’”*
- 3) **Judas betrayed Jesus:** Matthew 26:48 *“Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them; ‘The one I kiss is the man; arrest him.’”*

I always felt I had to despise Judas, but Jesus called Judas “friend” and accepted him into his inner circle. Then Judas betrayed Him with a kiss. What kind of person would do that? The reality is, I am that kind of person. So, if I despise Judas, logically, I must despise myself. Honestly, Judas and I are the same, we are both sinners. *“If we claim to be without sin, we deceived ourselves and the truth is not in us”* (John 1:8). What I have come to understand is that Judas, like any of us, was a sinner, and like many of us sometimes we have a hard time believing God can and will forgive us of our sins.

After studying more about Judas, I am reminded that Judas also:

- 1) ... was an apostle (Matthew 10:4)
- 2) ... preached the coming kingdom to Israel (Matthew 10:5-7)
- 3) ... regretted betraying an innocent person (Matthew 27:3-4) *“Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, ‘I have sinned in that I have betrayed innocent blood.’”*

Yes, Judas was a sinner, but he was not unredeemable. That is what Judas' death teaches me. I am a sinner, but God's grace is sufficient to remove my sin if I am willing to ask Him for forgiveness.

Colossians 1:21-22 “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now He has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in His sight, without blemish and free from accusation.”

I encourage all of us to remember that it was Judas who would not allow himself to be reconciled with God. Jesus loved Judas and died on the cross for him just as much as He died for you and for me. Where I differ from Judas is that I believe with my whole heart that God forgives me. I do not have a life without God in it. Yes, I am still a sinner, but God has bought and redeemed me with the blood of Christ.

Prayer & Praise

Reyes family: Pray for safe travel and a blessed time of remembering their father & grandfather, Malaquias Reyes, at the funeral in Georgia this weekend.

Wyndi Walker: recovering from gallbladder surgery

Penny Price: still experiencing nerve pain after having shingles a few months ago

Dustin Lackford: seeing a surgeon on Aug. 3 to schedule hernia repair

Carla Bartschi: going through a difficult time

Greenbank church: Continue to pray for one another. May we be an example of love and unity to our community. Remember our church leadership as they make decisions about reopening for services

Essential Workers: Doctors, nurses, law enforcement, firefighters, paramedics, postal & transit, grocers, etc.

Our Government Leaders who are working to find a balance of restrictions and cautious reopening.

The most recent requests are listed above. If you have an item for prayer or praise, please email it to office@greenbankcoc.org for inclusion in our weekly list. To view previous prayer requests and those on our ongoing lists, please visit the Weekly Bulletins page on our website www.greenbankcoc.org.

8/2 Worship Leaders

Song Leader & Opening Prayer – Sedric Willis

Scripture Reading & Prayer – Tim Tucker

Communion & Offering – Ed Greenwood

Sermon – Paul King

Closing Comments & Prayer – Paul King

Announcements

Anuncio importante para nuestros miembros españoles: No hay servicio en español el domingo 2 de agosto. Por favor, únete a nosotros a las 10:30 am.

Camp Manatawny Virtual Camp 2020: There are a couple of weeks left of virtual camp. Have you participated? It is a great way to experience some of the Bible teaching and activities Camp has to offer. No sunscreen or bug spray needed! Now through August 15th watch The Sunday Show with Manatawny Mark at 5pm; Campfire Sing-along is every Tuesday at 8:30pm; and on Saturdays a video will be posted of the photos and videos submitted for the weekly challenge (given on The Sunday Show.) You can participate in Virtual Camp on Camp Manatawny's Facebook page or YouTube channel.

DCCMF 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament: This event promotes the mission of reaching college students by the Blue Hens for Christ and Reflect Campus Missions/DCCMF ministries. We have consulted with the folks at Chesapeake Bay Golf Club, and we believe we are able to present a very personal, and fun, golf outing that you will enjoy. It will be a “virtual” tournament that will provide social distancing that you can control and yet allow you to enjoy a day of golf while maintaining the continuity of DCCMF's golf outing. The event will be held September 16-30. Visit the website <https://www.dccmf.org/golf-outing> for more information and to register. If you would like to be an event sponsor, there is a link on the website for that as well. Contact Walter Johnson if you have any questions.

GriefShare: Our Spring/Summer session has been well attended via Zoom. We are thankful for GriefShare International and their outstanding support, training, and guidance during this unprecedented time. Many thanks to Mike, Judy, and Sherrie for their leadership, and we are pleased to announce the addition of Fern Davis to the leadership team. The fall session will begin on September 14. Anyone who would like to participate in the fall session can register here: <https://www.griefshare.org/groups/116833>.

Online Bible Studies

Wednesdays @ 7PM: Facebook Live <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>

Gospel of John: Boyd Reed continues to post weekly passages along with questions to prompt discussion. You can access the lessons at any time convenient for you, read other's comments, and post questions or comments you have for each lesson. Access the lessons here:

<https://classroom.google.com/c/NjUyNzlyMTI2MTda> **Class code: 7s2upmd**

Worship with Us Online

Sunday Mornings 9:00 a.m. Spanish service 10:30 a.m. English service @ 10:30 a.m.

1) **Facebook Live:** <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>

2) **Greenbank website:** www.greenbankcoc.org Click on the Facebook Live tab on the menu bar at the top of the page. PLEASE NOTE: You do NOT need to have a Facebook account to view the live feed through our website.

3) **Conference call:** If you do not have internet access, you can dial in on your phone to connect.
(301) 715-8592 Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992

Options for Giving

We appreciate those who are able to maintain regular giving. Ways to contribute:

1) **Write a check** and mail to 511 Greenbank Road, Wilmington, DE 19808, or hold all checks until we begin meeting again.

2) **Cash givers** can set aside your contributions and bring them when we begin meeting again.

3) **Online giving:** A PayPal option has been set up on our website www.greenbankcoc.org. Click on the "Donate" button and follow the instructions. (Note: there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)

Last Week's Contribution: \$2,231

Weekly Average: \$4,138