

Greenbank Weekly Newsletter – Friday, September 25, 2020

Are you in need? Do you know someone who is? Please contact the church office, and we will find a way to assist. 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: Psalm 90 and Our Declining Years by Mike Barker

The writers of the Old Testament Psalms often utilized contrast to illustrate a major point or theme. Psalm 90 is one such example where the writer effectively contrasts the brevity of a person's life with the Eternity of God. It begins by saying, "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations." Continuing in sequence he says, "Even from everlasting to everlasting, you are God." If this were all the writer penned, it would have illustrated how God inhabits eternity, but humanity does not. "All generations" reminds us of those who lived years before us, those whom we never knew. Yet, God was their dwelling place just as He is ours.

The writer also speaks of the brevity of life by reminding us that the expected "days of a person's life are seventy years, or by reason of strength, eighty years. Yet they quickly pass, and we fly away" (NIV). Solomon observed how fleeting life is in Ecclesiastes 3:1 with his "seasons of time": "A time to be born, and a time to die, a time to plant, and a time to uproot... a time to tear down, and a time to build, a time to mourn, and a time to dance." However, we are reminded that in contrast to this passing world, God is eternal and transcends everything in this life that has ever occurred or will occur. Wisely, the psalmist goes on with the following exhortation: "So teach us to number our days that we might gain a heart of wisdom." The apostle Paul echoes this same thought in Ephesians 5:15-16: "Be careful how you live, not as unwise but as wise, make the most of every opportunity."

As we each come closer to the precipice of our life expectancy, or "the autumn years of our life," we can expect to see declining physical strength, maybe declining health as well. But our hope lies in the promise of a resurrected body, one that is no longer subject to death, one free of disease, one that will live forever. The death of our present body that is sown (planted and buried) in corruption gives rise to our perfect, resurrected, immortal body (1 Corinthians 15:42-44). In 1 Cor. 15:50, Paul declares: "flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, neither does the perishable inherit the imperishable" (NIV).

The promise of our immortal resurrected body is the hope we have during our declining years, the promise that all things will be made new (Revelation 21:5). May we redeem what time we have to gain the heart of wisdom that comes from a life well lived as we anticipate that great day.

9/13 Worship Leaders

Song Leader – Walter Johnson

Scripture Reading & Prayer – Paul King

Communion & Offering – Boyd Reed

Sermon – Domingo Reyes

Closing Comments & Prayer – Paul King

Thank You

Dear church family,

You have blown us away with the love and generosity poured out on us following Dad's passing. Jack and Clarke were about to fight over pie until they found the cheesecake. Thank you so much! Your love is rich!

~ The Gaynor family

Lifting in Prayer

Jamie Jones: back surgery has been postponed; he is undergoing additional testing.

Hickson family: grieving the loss of a loved one.

Dorcas, cousin of the Nyannor family, lost her husband to colon cancer.

Rachel Gonzalez: going through some struggles

Anglea Mitchell: awaiting surgery to have an area of concern removed and tested; Please pray for good results.

Greenbank church: Pray for the health of all who attend our worship services, and for our church leaders who continue to make decisions on how to move forward.

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.

Announcements

Phased Return to In Person Worship

We continue to limit the number of those physically attending our worship service. This allows us to monitor how we are doing to mitigate the virus and will guide the decision on when we will be able to move forward. **Online streaming of our service will continue for those who will not physically attend.**

Ladies and Young Ladies Bible Study Begin October 10th

Our ladies and young ladies classes begin in two weeks. Please sign up to participate in either class at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0845AFAE2EA6FB6-ladies>. Both sessions will be held on Zoom. Log in information will be provided soon. Classes will be held on the second Saturday of each month beginning promptly at 11:00 a.m.

The book for the ladies' class is Honorable and Dishonorable Women of the Bible by Crystal Reyes. It is available on Amazon Kindle for \$2.99. (It will be \$0.99 for 30 days starting October 4th.) Purchase it here: https://www.amazon.com/s?k=honorable+and+dishonorable+women+in+the+bible&rh=n%3A154606011&ref=nb_sb_noss

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

Online Bible Studies

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

Gospel of John: All lessons have been posted for this study. They are still available for you to read, comment on, and ask questions. Use this link: <https://classroom.google.com/c/NjUyNzlyMTI2MTda> Class code: 7s2upmd

Options for Giving

We appreciate those who have been 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: \$1,871

Weekly Average: \$4,075