

## Greenbank Weekly Newsletter – Friday, November 13, 2020

**Do you know someone in need? Contact the church office, and we will find a way to assist.**  
[office@greenbankcoc.org](mailto:office@greenbankcoc.org) or 302-994-3800. **Office hours: Wednesday Only, 9:00am-3:00pm**  
Email and phone messages will be accessed remotely throughout the week.

### **Reflection: Putting Christ First** by Joel Stephen Williams

An old Chinese woman with bound feet, balancing herself on a cane, listened to a missionary tell about Jesus. She was very interested in this new story, but she wondered if it was true. She did not trust the foreign missionary's word all by itself, so she asked a Chinese woman who was a Christian. "Yes, it is true," she was told. "I will come and see you and tell you more."

The next day, the woman arrived with a Bible and told her more of the story. The old Chinese woman believed. She was now in the conversion process, but that conversion meant the changing of many allegiances. She knew that she must put Christ first and renounce her idols and false gods. As she struggled with this, one night she had a dream, which was but a reflection of the internal struggle already going on in her heart. In her dream, the idols on the shelves of her room began to shake. A light fell across the floor and a figure entered the room. The idols began climbing down off the shelves. The old woman asked her idols: "Where are you going?" They replied: "When Jesus comes, we have to get out."

There are some things in life to which we can have dual allegiances. We can have more than one child and love every single one of them completely. We may love two or three types of dessert equally as our favorite. But other allegiances are different, being exclusive in nature. They will allow no competitors, no equals, and no partial loyalties.

As a young nation, the Israelites were told: "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have not other gods before me" (Ex. 20:2; Deut. 5:6). Similarly, Jesus stressed the futility of dual allegiances: "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters" (Mt. 12:30). "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Mt. 10:37). We give honor to whom honor is due, but first honor goes to God.

### **Lifting in Prayer**

**Mattis family:** Sherrie's mother, Connie Dowds, passed away last week

**Kristin Farraday:** diagnosed with Covid-19

**LaKeisha Smith & family** as she continues to recover from Covid-19

**Country of Honduras:** much damage from hurricane Eta

**Many of our members have lost loved ones recently. Please keep all grieving families lifted in prayer.**

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

**Our Nation:** May election results be resolved quickly and peacefully.

The most recent requests are listed above. If you have an item for prayer or praise, please email it to [office@greenbankcoc.org](mailto: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](http://www.greenbankcoc.org).

### **11/15 Worship Leaders**

Song Leader – Sedric Willis

Scripture Reading & Prayer – Doug Mattis

Communion & Offering – Boyd Reed

Sermon – Domingo Reyes

Closing Comments & Prayer – Doug Mattis

## **Announcements**

### **Ladies and Young Ladies Classes - Tomorrow**

Our ladies and young ladies' classes will meet via Zoom on Saturday, November 14 at 11:00 a.m. The ladies' class will cover Chapter 2 of our book *Honorable and Dishonorable Women of the Bible*. The links to sign up for class and to purchase the book if you still need one are below in the information about our online Bible studies.

### **Mozambique Mission Month**

For many years we have provided support through a special collection for Chad and Amy Westerholm who serve as missionaries to the Mekua-Metto people. Their most recent work has included translating the bible into the native language. The New Testament is complete and has been sent off for printing. The more urgent need currently is caring for an influx of refugees from areas of fighting to the north.

Clarification for donations: There are two separate funds for refugee relief and the general mission fund for the Westerholms. Separate checks need to be written for each. Please indicate in the memo line whether your donation is for "Westerholm" or "refugee relief."

### **GriefShare Surviving the Holidays**

Our holiday seminar will be Saturday, November 21, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. via Zoom. Please register on GriefShare.org or let one of our leaders know you want to participate. There is a \$5 fee for the workbook.

### **Housing Need**

A Christian sister is looking for a 1-2 bedroom apartment or house to rent. If you know of anything that is available, please contact the church office and we will put you in contact with her.

### **Phased Return to In Person Worship**

We will occasionally be shuffling the group of attendees so you can see more people. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we do the best we can during this unprecedented time. Strict protocols of wearing masks, maintaining healthy physical distance, no physical contact (hugs, handshakes, etc.), good hand washing/sanitizing practice, etc. remain in place. Those who are not feeling well or who have been in recent contact with anyone who is unwell are asked not to attend. ***Online streaming of our service will continue for those not physically attending.***

## **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](http://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>

**Ladies & Young Ladies Classes:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Online using the Zoom platform.

Register for class here: : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0845AFAE2EA6FB6-ladies>

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 4<sup>th</sup>.) Purchase it here: [https://www.amazon.com/s?k=honorable+and+dishonorable+women+in+the+bible&rh=n%3A154606011&ref=nb\\_sb\\_noss](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=honorable+and+dishonorable+women+in+the+bible&rh=n%3A154606011&ref=nb_sb_noss)

## **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](http://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: \$6,194**

**Weekly Average: \$4,273**