

## Greenbank Weekly Newsletter – Friday, November 20, 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: Actions Speak Louder Than Words** by John L. Davis (edited)

The saying “actions speak louder than words” certainly holds true in the context of the life of a Christian. God does not want empty words from us or elegant testimonies. God wants us to live out our faith according to the example of His Son.

In Matthew 21:28-31, Jesus tells the parable of the “Two Sons” saying, “*What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went. Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go. ‘Which of the two did what his father wanted?’*”

In this passage from Matthew’s gospel, Jesus is addressing the chief priests and the elders – but today, because the Bible is a living text, he instructs us as well. The lesson from this text is that what we do – how we act – is more significant than what we say. It is often easier to profess our faith with our mouths than to live it out in the world, but how we act matters most.

In the parable, the second son tells the father that he will do what the father asks, but he does not follow through with his promise. It is the first son, who at first refuses the request from his father, but he has a change of heart and does the work – it is that son who acts according to his father’s will.

Reflecting on this text gives us the challenge to consider how we act and reconcile with our Christian values. Are there things about our lifestyle that we should change? Do we sometimes fail to act according to the things we profess each week at church? If the answer is “yes,” then those are the things that God may be calling us to address. The example of the first son shows us that it is never too late to have a change of heart and follow the model that has been given to us by Jesus. Our discernment of God’s will is a continuous process. It can take a substantial amount of time and effort to “get it right,” but God is patient with us.

This week ask God to show you the things in your life that need adjustment. Ask him to show you those things you may have been refusing to do until now. Let your prayer be, “Thy will be done.” Ask God to show you the actions that will speak the loudest in your family, in your community, at your work or your church. Just be prepared for the answer to those prayers and be ready to take action to accompany your “yes” to God. And in everything, may you glorify the Lord by your life.

### **11/22 Worship Leaders**

Song Leader – Walter Johnson  
Scripture Reading & Prayer – Jim Friederichsen  
Communion & Offering – Marc Brasfield  
Sermon – Domingo Reyes  
Closing Comments & Prayer – Jim Friederichsen

### **Lifting in Prayer**

**Bobbie and Dave Cross** have Covid-19

**Leo Miller**, Wilma Blue’s brother, has Covid-19

**Jamie Jones** will have back surgery on Wednesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>

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

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

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

**Greenbank church:** Pray that all who attend our worship services remain healthy.

**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).

## **Announcements**

### **Office Hours Thanksgiving Week**

Lisa will be in the office Monday, 11/23, 9am-3pm and on Tuesday, 11/24, 9am-12pm. If you have items to be included in next week's newsletter, please submit them no later than 9am Tuesday morning.

### **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."

### **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**

The state of Delaware has put a cap of 50 people on indoor public gatherings. We will adjust our list of worship attendees to stay within this recommendation. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we do our best to navigate this difficult situation. 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: \$3,984 Weekly Average: \$4,266**