

## **Greenbank Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, February 28, 2021**

**Office hours: Mondays Only, 9:00am-3:00pm** Contact info: [office@greenbankcoc.org](mailto:office@greenbankcoc.org) or 302-994-3800  
Email and phone messages will be accessed remotely throughout the week.

**If you, or anyone you know, has a need, contact the church office, and we will find a way to assist.**

### **The Value of Patience** – by Glen Elliott (edited)

There is a tree called the Chinese Bamboo Tree which does not demonstrate any appreciable growth for its first four years. Then, in the fifth year, it will shoot up some 50-90 feet into the air. This amazing illustration from the natural world shows the value of patience. Sometimes progress seems unbearably slow. We might be close to giving up. But then, just as our hope is fading, our eyes are opened afresh to the wonderful power of God to keep His promises!

There were those about whom Peter wrote in his second epistle who were mocking God's word, saying, "Where is the promise of His coming?" (2 Peter 3:3). They contended that all things continued as they had from the beginning – that God has never interjected Himself into the affairs of man. Peter reminded them of the cataclysmic events which occurred in the days of Noah when God destroyed the world of the ungodly by means of a world-wide flood. It is in that context that Peter describes the patience of God, saying, "But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day. The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:8-9).

The patience of God is intended to lead us to repentance. Just because the present universe remains even after all these centuries is no indication of a lack of resolve on His part. God will keep His promise. The "day of the Lord will come like a thief, in which the heavens will pass away with a roar and the elements will be destroyed with intense heat, and the earth and its works will be burned up" (2 Pet. 3:10). Because He will come suddenly and without warning, we should "regard the patience of the Lord as salvation" (vs. 15).

God said, "My word which goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:11). God never lies (Hebrews 6:18). We can rest assured in the promise of Christ's return. James used the illustration of a farmer waiting for the produce of the soil as an example of our being patient, saying, "strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near" (James 5:8). We should not expect that an infinite, eternal God should be constrained to operate on our timetable. While we eagerly await His return (Heb. 9:28), we join in the sentiments of the apostle John who prayed, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

### **Lifting in Prayer**

**Mike Barker:** wearing a monitor for three months to capture heart rhythm information.

**Pattie Taylor:** home from the hospital; continue to pray for improved health.

**Nyasia:** looking for housing; also pray for **Joyce Smith** who is helping her.

**Those recovering from damages due to extreme cold temperatures in Texas.**

**Pray for unity in our country and for our leaders to seek God's wisdom and guidance.**

**Greenbank church:** Godly guidance for our elders & minister as they lead our congregation.

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**

#### **Food Pantry**

Many thanks to those who came to help on Thursday night. You were needed and your help is appreciated! We also want to thank and recognize two families who have been a big part of our pantry work. First, we want to thank Anndea Jordan and her five children who have been a tremendous help on Thursday nights for the past few years. The Jordans have recently moved to Oklahoma. We will miss you!

We also want to recognize Tim and Mariann Snyder. They have been an integral part of the pantry from its beginning. They have faithfully served in the pantry's "intake" area to welcome clients, check IDs, verify registrations, and build relationships with the people who come through our doors (or into our parking lot). There are also many things they have done behind the scenes to improve the aesthetics and efficiency of the pantry. Tim and Mariann are moving to Texas to be closer to family. We say to them, "Godspeed. Enjoy (and spoil) your grandchildren! 'Thank you' is not enough to express how deeply blessed and grateful we are to know you and to have worked with you. We love you, and you will be terribly missed."

### **GriefShare**

Our Loss of Spouse seminar is March 1, and our Spring Sessions begin March 15. All sessions are on Mondays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. and remain online using Zoom. To register go to [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). There is a small fee to cover the cost of materials. If you have questions, contact Judy Barker.

### **Sunday Worship Service**

The elders will meet on March 1 to determine a path forward with our worship service. They seek input from members to help guide their decision. Please contact an elder to share your thoughts about re-opening our worship service.

### **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) **Phone In:** 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>

Our book is Honorable and Dishonorable Women of the Bible by Crystal Reyes. It is available on Amazon Kindle.

### **Youth Bible Study**

Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m. on Zoom. We will use Microsoft Teams rooms to communicate with our youth (12-older). Parents of younger children will receive communication through email. If you would like your child/ren to participate, please contact the church office or Crystal Reyes.

### **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** can be dropped off at the building on Mondays between 9-11 a.m. or set aside your contributions and bring them when we begin meeting again.

3) **Online giving:** PayPal 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: \$3,527 Weekly Average: \$4,151**