



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, September 19, 2021

Office hours are Mondays and Wednesdays, 9:00am-3:00pm.

Contact info: office@greenbankcoc.org or 302-994-3800

Growing by T. Levering

Life today is not the same as it was one year ago. (Hooray!!) And it will not be the same one year from now. Someone once said that the only thing that is consistent in life is change. Much like the Kansas weather, if you don't like the way things are, just give it 10 minutes and it'll change.

We tend to plan for tomorrow based upon today. A 30-year-old thinks about his life 30 years into the future based on the realities of today. But he doesn't factor in all the variables that will also change over three decades. His job, income, health, relationships, expenses, family, and friends will change greatly over those 30 years. And so will his plans. If we learned anything from 2020, it is that we have NO idea what tomorrow may bring, but we know it will be different. And that's not always bad.

From my office window, I can see how the trees in our parking lot medians have grown over 21 years. They grew through the seasons and storms of life. As a result, they are taller and stronger. Our created world is constantly changing and hopefully you are too. You are not today who you were 10, 20, or 30 years ago. Hopefully, you're better, wiser, stronger, healthier, and closer to God.

My children are 16 and 10. I have a plethora of pictures of them from the day they were born up to today. Each one is the same person with the same DNA, but also different. My 16-year-old is not the same person he was at 16-months-old. He has grown, matured, and changed. I remember my 10-year-old at age 6, but the 6-year-old is long gone. It's a weird paradox. She is the same person, yet also completely different.

These physical changes are imperceptible on a day-to-day basis, but looking back, we see growth has occurred. We especially see it in children and grandchildren. They change, grow, shift, learn, adapt, and mature as all living things do. We expect it of them.

Spiritual growth is the same. God wants you to grow and change. It has been said, God loves you just as you are, but He refuses to let you stay that way. Don't think so? Ask Peter, John, or Paul. In Christ, you are the same person, yet you will be completely transformed.

How are you growing close to Him these days? Are you reading your Bible? Are you serving others? Are you worshipping regularly? Has your giving increased? Are you sharing Christ with others? Do you pray consistently? How are you connecting to the body of Christ?

Life today is not the same as it was one year ago, and you and I shouldn't be either. Living things change as they grow. Especially growing up in Christ. May we continue to *"...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen."*

Praise & Prayer Requests

Martin family: pray for family healing and softening of hearts to the will of Christ.

LaKeisha Smith: health issues.

Elijah Smith: struggling with life issues.

Dan Brown: hospitalized in Columbia, SC with Covid-19.

Christina Steiner: searching for new job; also pray that her boyfriend, Steve, will seek Christ.

Dale Connor: health concerns.

Mark Rector: health concerns.

Diana Gambia (Ghana): needs surgery to remove a tumor in her abdomen.

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

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

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 and Upcoming Events](#)

Parking Lot Improvements

Our parking lot will be repaved September 27-30. Please avoid coming to the building during that time if possible. We look forward to having a smooth surface very soon.

11th Annual Blue Hens for Christ Golf Classic

The annual golf tournament benefitting Blue Hens for Christ will be held the week of September 20-25 at the Chesapeake Bay Golf Club in Rising Sun, MD. If you choose to play on Saturday, Sept. 25, your package will include a continental breakfast and lunch buffet. Sign-in on Saturday is 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. If you would like to volunteer to help with the tournament, contact Walter Johnson.

Ladies Bible Study

Our fall ladies' class will begin on Oct. 9th at 11:00 a.m. and will meet on the second Saturday of each month through May 2022. This year's class will meet on Zoom. Sister Crystal Reyes will lead our study of the book *A Woman Who Doesn't Quit – Lessons from Ruth* by Nicki Koziarz. Click this link to sign up for class: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0845AFAE2EA6FB6-ladies> . Once you have registered, a link to download the study book and a 30-day devotional book will be provided to you in a confirmation email. The Zoom link for our class meeting will be sent the week before class begins.

Upcoming Events at Camp Manatawny

Men's Retreat – October 1-2

Jr/Sr High Retreat (grades 7-12) – October 29-30

Manatawny 5K and Fun Run – October 30

For more information and to register for an event, go to <https://www.manatawny.org/upcomingevents>

Sunday Meeting Times

In-Person Bible Classes for All Ages @ 9:30 a.m. including a Spanish-speakers class (adults).

In-Person Worship Service @ 10:30 a.m. Also streamed online with 3 ways to connect:

- 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) **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

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – 7PM

In Person – John's Epistles taught by George Kirkland.

Online – Proverbs taught by Domingo Reyes @ <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>

3 Ways to Give

We appreciate those who have been able to maintain regular giving.

- 1) **In Person:** You may give your contribution during our Sunday morning worship service, or drop it off at the office on Monday or Wednesday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- 2) **By Mail:** Send your contribution to 511 Greenbank Road, Wilmington, DE 19808.
- 3) **Online:** PayPal 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: Attendance: 126 Contribution: \$4,855 Weekly Average: \$5,012