



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, November 28, 2021

Office hours are Mon/Wed/Fri 9:00am-3:00pm.

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

Conviction by Mark Finn

JESUS DEFENDED the woman caught in adultery from her stone throwing accusers, saying, “Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her” (John 8:7 paraphrased). It suddenly got very quiet as his words echoed in each accuser’s heart. They felt a “conviction.”

Conviction is a good word we don’t use much anymore, but for Christ-followers, it has meant an acute awareness of our sin. It is when we feel remorse and regret. It is the Holy Spirit letting us know God is not happy with us. This feeling is not a bad thing but a good thing, because it lets us know something is wrong spiritually so we can get it right again.

The sinful woman’s accusers were technically right, but they weren’t concerned with God’s glory. They were using this broken person’s plight to trick Jesus. Most importantly, they were forgetting their own sin and forgetting God’s practice of mercy and grace throughout the scriptures.

This is a very up-to-date story, because in our online world there are so many of us that are quick to accuse, condemn, and berate one another; quick to form a group to attack another. Our modern list of sins has changed, but the spirit of condemnation and anger has not.

But we see hope in this story because everyone there encountered Jesus. On that day, not only was the woman set free to change and leave her sin, but some of those accusers were also given a chance to be set free from condemning others, to look at their own need for grace and forgiveness, and to turn to Christ. Everyone there that day dropped their stone because of a “conviction” in their hearts of their own sin.

Conviction is the first step of repentance; of change. Surely there were some there whose conviction was followed by repentance and following Jesus. That’s how it’s meant to work. The Holy Spirit is trying to help you.

Is there a stone that you need to drop today? Conviction of our sin leads to us drop our stones. That, in turn, leaves our hands free to hold on to Christ.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Hedgepeth Family: keep this family in prayer as they mourn the passing of their mother and our dear sister, Connie.

Holiday Travelers: pray for safety for those who are traveling this week.

Judy Barker: continued healing of broken ankle.

Bob Reece: recovering from an infection.

Lee & Linda Phipps: both are in the hospital with Covid-19.

Mia: 2-year-old having heart surgery on 12/10 at DuPont Children’s Hospital.

Marc Brasefield: deployed to Romania.

Spanish Ministry: pray for encouragement and growth in this new ministry.

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

Greenbank missions: Westerholm (Mozambique), Borfay (Liberia), Agbeta (Ghana), Camp Manatawny, Reflect Campus Missions/BHC. Pray for a new mission work that reflects the interest of our members.

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.

December Birthdays

3 – Christy Mickowski

4 – Joanne Pagano

5 – Giselle Hedgepeth

7 – Adalayah Cooke

10 – Jan Adair

15 – Faye Hatfield, Jim Curcio, Mariany Clark

16 – George Kirkland

17 – Aleah Reyes

20 – Betty Asbell

21 – Penny Pennington

22 – Judy Barker, Mario Sanichar, Riley Schofield

23 – Glenn Hedgepeth

24 – Ada Molina, Diddier Paguada

25 – David Toribio, Edwar Galeano

26 – Karolina Toribio

29 – Nysier Stanford

December Anniversaries

12 – Dilver Serrano & Ludis Reyes
21 – Doug & Sherrie Mattis

27 – Carroll & Wilma Blue
28 – Doyle & Jamie Cox

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Annual Christmas Party for Adults

Our Christmas party will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11 at 7:00pm. This year we will be having desserts and beverages catered. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board. If you plan to attend, please write down your name and how many will be in your party. We need this information to provide a count to the caterer. We will also do our customary gift exchange. Please bring a gift for your own gender: man or woman. Spending limit is no more than \$20. We hope you all will join us for dessert, gift exchange, and fun!

Grief Share

There are a few more weeks of our fall session. We meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. through December 13th. Sessions are held on Zoom. Any who needs grief support is welcome to join at any time. Please register online at www.griefshare.org.

Small Groups

We have five groups that are meeting throughout our area including a singles group and one for ladies that meets virtually. Times and locations are posted on the bulletin board. Small groups are known to strengthen the church. All members are encouraged to participate.

Sunday Meeting Times

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

In-Person Worship Service – English & Spanish @ 10:30 a.m.

The English service is live streamed 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. You do NOT need a Facebook account to view the service through our website.
- 3) **Phone In: (301) 715-8592 Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992**

BIBLE STUDIES

In Person – Wednesdays @ 7pm – John’s Epistles led by George Kirkland.

Online – Wednesdays @ 7pm – Proverbs led by Domingo Reyes. Connect as you would on Sunday.

Spanish (In-Person)– Thursdays @ 6:30 pm – Contact Domingo Reyes for more information.

Ladies – 2nd Saturday each month @ 11am on Zoom – “A Woman Who Doesn’t Quit” led by Crystal Reyes.

Men – 3rd Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Mark Ray.

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: 139

Contribution: \$3,477

Weekly Average: \$4,894