



## Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, January 9, 2022

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

Contact info: [office@greenbankcoc.org](mailto:office@greenbankcoc.org) or 302-994-3800

### Healing Through Listening by B. Thomas

Matthew 4:23 – “Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.”

“I could feel her listening with all her heart... and it felt good.” That may be a paraphrase, but those or similar words came from the main character in the movie *Because of Winn-Dixie*.

The little girl (sorry, I don't remember her name) in *Because of Winn-Dixie* was telling a character named Cloe all about herself. She had wanted to tell someone all about herself for a long time and now was her chance. She talked and talked to Cloe and as she emptied her soul to this new friend, she felt good. Read those words again that were spoken as narration during the scene, “I could feel her listening with all her heart... and it felt good.”

It feels good to have people listening to us. Sometimes just a sincere listen from an interested individual is all it takes to heal. Jesus healed. As seen in our verse for today, it was part of his three-fold mission on earth: teaching, preaching the good news, and healing. While I personally don't subscribe to the idea that men can miraculously heal others today like televangelists claim; I do believe that others can be healed emotionally and maybe even physically (lower blood pressure, etc.) by our care, concern, and our listening ears. Look what listening did for that girl in the movie. Cloe listened with all her heart. That's so hard for us to do sometimes. God gave us ears, but we need a bit more to really listen to others. We need hearts full of love and mercy. I think God loves a really great listener.

If we really think about Jesus' three-fold mission of teaching, preaching the good news, and healing, we as the church (Christians) should be continuing his mission. We most likely never think that we can heal others, but we can. Let us all put a little more effort into listening. It will please others and it will please God.

### *Praise & Prayer Requests*

**Kelly & Cameron Thomas and former members, Steve & Debbi Thomas:** Steve's father and Debbi's mother both passed away recently; pray for comfort as they mourn the loss of parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

**Patty Conway:** has come down with Covid-19.

**Mike Barker, Mark DaBaldo, Paul & Sharon King, Sherry Kirkland:** continue to recover from Covid-19.

**Bill Betit Jr:** undergoing radiation treatments on his vocal cords.

**Russell Miller:** home from the hospital and doing well.

**LaKeisha Smith:** medical concerns

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

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

**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](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 and Events*

#### Annual Meeting – Sunday, January 16

Our annual corporate meeting will be held immediately after our worship service on Jan. 16. All members are asked to attend this brief meeting which will be followed by the presentation of the 2022 budget. For

those unable to attend in person, we will livestream the meeting and will monitor the chat for comments and questions.

### **Aid for Tornado Victims**

We will accept contributions for one more week to aid families whose lives were affected by the tornadoes in Kentucky and other states. Make checks payable to Greenbank and put “tornado relief” in the memo. Cash should be put in an envelope with “tornado relief” written on the outside. All funds collected will be sent to the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief Effort.

### **Winterfest**

For those making payments, the next one is due on January 16<sup>th</sup>. If you have not filled out your registration form, please do so ASAP. You cannot go on the trip if we don’t have your signed form. If you would like to sponsor a student to attend Winterfest, speak with Boyd or Lisa Reed.

### **Potluck Fellowship Meal**

Lord willing, we will be able to hold our potluck fellowship meal on January 30<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to this renewed time of church-wide fellowship enjoyed over a shared meal.

### **Grief Share**

Our Spring session begins March 14 and runs through June 13. Each meeting is held on Zoom from 6:30-8:30pm. To join, register online at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). If you have questions, contact Judy or Mike Barker.

### **Small Groups**

Resolve to join a small group in the new year and strengthen your relationship with God and the church. Meeting times and locations for all our groups are posted on the bulletin board near the blue room.

### **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](http://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 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday each month @ 11am** on Zoom – “A Woman Who Doesn’t Quit” led by Crystal Reyes.

**Men – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](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:      Attendance: Virtual      Contribution: \$3,991      Weekly Average: \$3,991**