



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, April 3, 2022

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

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

Penciled in the Margins of My Bible by T. Suzanne Eller (edited)

One day a friend commented on how “inked up” my Bible was while pointing to the underlined words, comments, and prayers written beside scriptures. “I don’t write in my Bible in ink,” she said. “I only write in pencil.”

She explained that she’d had a tough childhood. While growing up, there were many people in her life that had let her down. Eventually, she let herself down and it hurt not only her but her children and her marriage.

One day she picked up a Bible and started reading it. To her, many of the scriptures seemed harsh, and she assumed the ones that were hopeful were meant for someone else. As she read, she wrote down comments. She wrote down questions. She penciled in a picture of a broken heart next to one scripture.

Then, over time, those scriptures started to make sense. What once seemed harsh now seemed loving. “God wasn’t trying to take anything away from me. He was trying to give me life,” she said.

The more she read the more she wrote in the margins of her Bible, but always in pencil. Question marks were erased, and comments of gratefulness replaced them. Scriptures that once seemed written for others were claimed as her own. One day, she erased the picture of the broken heart and penciled in an image of a new heart – one that was whole and beautiful.

In Revelation 21:4 we are assured that God “wipes” away old things. That word means “to erase.” He is continually writing in the margins of our lives, erasing tears, and writing in joy. Mourning and sadness ebbs away as He gently writes in hope for tomorrow. What we might see as permanent, God sees written in pencil.

Perhaps today you feel as if nothing can change. Are you willing to invite God into the margins of your life? Your thoughts? Your hurts? Your failures? Your feelings? When you do, change begins. Old things pass away, and we are made new as God rewrites truth into those areas. We become more like Him, discovering that God has so much more for us as He etches His love on our hearts and in our lives.

Change often begins when we show God those places where we still doubt, where we hurt, and where we desire new life. It’s not that He doesn’t see them already, but when we invite Him in, it is a huge step of faith!

Get alone with God. Be as honest as you can. Show Him the raw places. Show Him your doubts. Slowly He will begin to erase them and replace them with His promises and His peace.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Kyle Abosch: pray for strength and peace.

Paul King: continue to pray for fully restored health.

Kathie Book: on IV antibiotics for an infection, pray for healing; also pray for her missing daughter, Adelia.

Evalyn Kline: adjusting to new home in Cleveland, OH and recuperating from a fall; she is Judy Barker’s sister.

Pray for Ukraine: pray for the refugees and vulnerable citizens; pray that God will bring an end to the invasion.

World Leaders: pray for God to guide their decisions and actions.

Greenbank church: Godly guidance for our elders, minister, deacons, and ministry leaders.

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.

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.

April Anniversaries

8 – George & Sherry Kirkland; Mike Anderson & Nancy Lackford

11 – Ed & Giselle Hedgepeth

16 – Kamal & Elisha Wall

22 – Fred & Norma Hughes

26 – Glen & Sue Jones

28 – Jamie & Tina Jones

April Birthdays

3 – Bety Benitez
4 – Cathy Servas
6 – Marlin Johnson, Francisco Paguada, Osdel Bautista
9 – Sue Jones
14 – Yvette Curcio, Izzabella Purdue
17 – Estefani Luna
19 – Susan Regester
20 – Juliana Lozada
21 – Eileen Khan

22 – Isaias Lainez
23 – Denis Ramirez
24 – Norma Hughes
26 – Charles Brummett
27 – Sharon King
28 – Paul King, Erika Grant
29 – Marcia Johnson
30 – Glen Jones

Announcements and Events

Bilingual Worship & Fellowship Luncheon – TODAY

We are excited to combine our Spanish and English services this morning as we worship our awesome God who unites us through His Spirit. All are invited to stay for the potluck fellowship meal that will follow our service.

Children’s Church and Egg Hunt – TODAY

Children’s church will meet for an extended time this Sunday, beginning at 10:45am. Then the children will participate in an egg hunt before joining their parents for lunch.

Greek Bible Study Begins April 6

George Kirkland will begin a new study, the Greek of the New Testament, this Wednesday evening at 7pm. The class will be a hybrid format meeting both in person and virtually. If you are unable to attend in person, you can join using this Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84709609077?pwd=UVlvOVJ4N3dlcHFpUkxPN3pwazRnZz09>
Meeting ID: 847 0960 9077 Passcode: 123321

50th Anniversary Celebration – April 9

The children and grandchildren of George & Sherry Kirkland would like to invite you to a 50th anniversary reception this Saturday, April 9th from 1:00-4:00pm in the Greenbank fellowship room. Please join us to make this a special and memorable day. Please RSVP by email vastkirkland@gmail.com (Jenn Kirkland) or call/text (302) 690-8705 (Jamie Kirkland). No gifts please.

Former members, Cliff & Diane Bates, are also celebrating 50 years of marriage. If you would like to send a card of congratulations, their address is 164 Thornton Ferry Road Apt. A4, Hot Springs, AR 71913.

Men’s Leadership Class

A 5-session training program for future elders and deacons in the Lord’s church is being planned. This group will meet on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m. beginning on May 14th. This training is for men who aspire to be leaders or to better understand biblical leadership. If you are interested in attending, please contact Domingo Reyes via email: minister@greenbankcoc.org or call/text (302) 981-0163. There is also a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the foyer.

LADIES – SAVE THE DATE!

Our Mother/Daughter Luncheon will be held on Saturday, May 21st. All women & girls are welcome and are encouraged to bring your mothers, daughter, daughters-in-law, granddaughters, grandmothers, etc. Be watching for additional information.

Camp Manatawny

Register your child now for summer sessions! Receive a discount when you pay in full by April 30. Contact Rick Mickowski to inquire about “Campship” assistance. Summer sessions are for students who have completed grades 1-12. Register at this link: <https://www.manatawny.org/summercamp>

GriefShare

Our Spring session is underway. Meetings are on Mondays at 6:30pm on Zoom and are open to anyone experiencing grief. Register at any time at www.griefshare.org. If you have questions, contact Mike or Judy Barker.

Small Groups

Connecting with fellow Christians in a smaller setting strengthens the whole church. Meeting times and locations for our small groups are listed below. We would love to have you join us!

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

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

Mid-Week Online – Wednesdays @ 7pm – The Parables of Jesus led by Domingo Reyes. Connect as 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.

SMALL GROUPS

Bear/Glasgow – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 2pm – led by George & Sherry Kirkland

Ladies Online – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 4pm – hosted by Alethia Jones; current study: Bind Us Together

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88051700840?pwd=bVNsUnlkSnRXNlkyUiguaVVyNG5kZz09>

Married Couples – 1st Tuesday @ 7pm in the teen room – led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes; current study: Love and Respect (book by Dr. Emerson Eggerichs)

North Wilmington – every other Sunday after morning worship – hosted by Eileen Khan

Singles (hybrid meeting) – every Tuesday @ 7pm in the blue room – hosted by Mark DaBaldo;

Zoom Meeting ID 817 0171 6780 Passcode 123321

Teens – 1st Friday @ 7pm in the blue room; led by Domingo Reyes

3 Ways to Give

- 1) **In Person:** Place your offering in one of the wooden boxes located in the back of the auditorium.
- 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: 144 Contribution: \$4,948 Weekly Average: \$5,167