



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, June 5, 2022

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

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

“Our Small Shells” A Lesson from the Simple Crab – by Samuel Mills

If not for God’s Word, the human race may have been forced to learn their virtues from God’s other creations. For instance, we may have learned faithfulness from a dog, perseverance from an ant, and creativity from the spider.

Thankfully, we have God’s Word, but we can still learn from His creation, even the simple crab. A crab does not grow like other animals. Although their body grows throughout their lifespan, their outer shell stops growing when it reaches a certain size. As the crab continues to grow, it is forced to find a bigger and better home.

Why is it so natural for the crab to move on to something new yet it is so difficult for humans? To continue growing, we must often step out of whatever is keeping us from continuing our growth.

An excellent example of how difficult it is to leave our small shells is when the Children of Israel, though living in captivity and misery, were at first hesitant to leave the land of Egypt. Even after departing, many of them wanted to go back. The Israelites were afraid of the unknown and apprehensive about how these changes would affect their future.

Growth in following Christ often requires us to leave something very dear and meaningful behind (Matt. 19:29). The Israelites were required to have enough faith and determination to follow God regardless of the consequences. If not careful, we may find ourselves clinging to a stressful situation such as a job or personal relationship that is no longer working and, just like the Israelites, the fear of the unknown.

Perhaps we can learn to bravely climb out of our small shells and into the hands of the Holy Spirit and allow Him to guide, comfort, and lead us on the path of His choosing. The One who knows the number of hairs on your head and every sparrow that falls has a progressive, and often changing, plan for your life. Those who bravely step out in faith will find that His paths are always the most rewarding.

Regardless of your age or position in life, with Christ it is always just the beginning. By letting go of the old and following His guidance, you can discover a fresh new life filled with unique experiences, and not restraints.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Ed Elrod Family: our dear brother, Ed, passed away on Thursday; keep his family in prayer as they grieve.

Brasefield Family: Marc’s grandmother, Eleanor, passed away last week; pray for this family, too, as they grieve.

Paul King: continue prayers for improved health.

Layla Rahman: 11-year-old undergoing chemotherapy; pray her arm will not need to be amputated.

War in Ukraine: pray for a peaceful resolution to be desired and pursued; pray for all who have been displaced.

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

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.

Announcements and Events

Children’s Church - TODAY

All children ages 3 through 3rd grade are invited to meet in the yellow room downstairs during today’s sermon.

Men’s Leadership Class – Saturday, June 11

The second meeting of this men’s study will be held this Saturday. All men are welcome. Class begins at 9:30 a.m.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday, June 18

There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for those who plan to attend the men's breakfast. We need you to sign up so we can let our chef know how many to prepare for. All men and boys are welcome and are encouraged to invite others as well. See Mike Barker or David Register for more information.

Serving at Greenbank

As a follow-up to the Ministry Sunday we had a few weeks ago you will soon be receiving a document that lists all of our ministry areas, who leads each ministry, and the type of work each ministry entails. It is our hope that this will help you see where you can use your skills and talents to serve the Lord while serving the Greenbank church and surrounding community. Keep an eye on your "snail mail" for this information in the coming days.

SUNDAY MEETING TIMES

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

In-Person Worship Services – 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 (hybrid class) – Wednesdays @ 7pm – The Greek of the New Testament led by George Kirkland.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98664842526?pwd=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpQTog>

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 Paul King.

Young Ladies – 3rd Saturday each month @ 11am on Zoom led by Eileen Hence. Contact Eileen for the Zoom link.

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=bVNsUnlkSnRXNlkyUiguaVWyNG5kZz09>

Married Couples – 1st Tuesday each month @ 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 – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm – in person and on Zoom. Meeting ID: 876 7070 2282 Passcode: 263755

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydz09>

Teens – 1st Friday each month @ 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: 139 Contribution: \$4,497 Weekly Average: \$5,203