



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, April 16, 2023

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

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

The Debt of Love We Owe by J. Blackmer

Have you ever read a familiar passage in the Bible and been struck by a deeper truth? This recently happened to me while reading Romans 13:8, which says, “Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law.” This verse reminds us that our primary debt is not to pay off financial obligations or contractual agreements, but to show love to everyone we meet. This debt of love is one that we will never fully pay off, but we must strive to fulfill it every day.

As Christians, we are called to love all people, just as Christ loved us. This means showing kindness, compassion, and grace to those around us, regardless of their beliefs or backgrounds. Our love should extend to both our friends and our enemies, as Jesus taught us to “love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you” (Matthew 5:44).

We must also remember that our love for others should always be rooted in our love for God. Paul writes in Romans 1:14 that he is indebted to share the gospel with all people because of his love for God and his love for mankind. Likewise, our debt of love to others is motivated by our love for God and our desire to share His message of love and salvation with the world.

So, how can we fulfill this debt of love? It starts with a shift in our focus. Instead of searching for the right person or situation to show love to, we must become the person that shows love in all situations. We must be intentional about seeking out opportunities to show kindness and compassion and be willing to put others’ needs before our own.

Ultimately, our ability to fulfill this debt of love comes from our relationship with God. As John writes in 1 John 4:7, “Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.” When we abide in God’s love and allow His love to flow through us, we are able to love others in a way that is sacrificial, selfless, and truly fulfilling.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Richard Lewis: fell last week and had surgery to repair a hip fracture.

Paul King: released from the hospital, but still undergoing tests.

Bud Polk: pray for him to be pain free as he is in his last days; he is Judy Barker’s brother.

Kamal & Elisha Wall: pray for wisdom in upcoming decisions.

Cathy Servas asks for prayer for her sister, **Ellen**, who is having health difficulties.

Brasefield family: continued prayers for Alijah’s growth, Chelsea’s recovery, and strength for the whole family.

Ed Maynard: taken to Wilmington Hospital for some tests.

Doug Johnson has Parkinson’s Disease and is now in a nursing home; he is Walter Johnson’s brother.

Faye Gillespie has been diagnosed with kidney problems; pray for complete healing.

Shelley Irwin, Lillie West, Kristin Farraday, Pam Dahlström: all are battling cancer.

Remember our members who are homebound or have limited mobility: George & Jan Adair, Bob & Linda Crusco,

Faye Hatfield, Agnes Ignudo, Ed & Sue Maynard, Christy Mickowski, Bob & Penny Pennington.

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

Greenbank missions: Eduar Morales (Oxford, PA), Chad Westerholm (Mozambique), Edmund Borfay (Liberia), Samuel Agbeta (Ghana), Camp Manatawny, Reflect Campus Missions/BHC.

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

Indoor/Outdoor Workday

It’s time to spruce up our building and surrounding property. On Saturday, April 22, we will begin at 9 a.m. to give attention to areas of our property that need a little TLC. There will be tasks for all skill levels. We hope you will join us and enjoy some fellowship as we work together to keep our facility and grounds looking good. If you would like more information, please speak to Kamal Wall.

Young Girls’ Class

This month’s girls’ class will meet in person on Saturday, April 22nd from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Greenbank church building. All young ladies who are currently attending the class, or have attended in the past, are welcome to participate. A jewelry packet will be provided. Please sign up on the sheet posted in the lobby so we can know how to plan. If you have questions, please speak to Eileen Hence.

Youth Leaders Meeting

On Monday, April 24 at 6 p.m. there will be a meeting for the leaders of our children's and youth ministries to discuss and plan future events. Those who need to attend should have received an email. Anyone with questions should speak with Crystal Reyes.

5th Sunday Bilingual Service & Potluck Fellowship

On April 30th we will have a combined worship service with our Hispanic brothers & sisters followed by a potluck fellowship meal. We encourage everyone to attend and enjoy this time of fellowship that will strengthen our congregation. Please bring food to share!

Clothed in Love

Fall and winter items will be moved out of our clothing closet at the end of the month to make room for spring and summer clothes. Please look at what is available and take what you want. If you have any questions, speak to Dawn Grabowski.

Camp Manatawny April Events

Work & Worship Weekend – April 21-23 – Help us clean and make repairs around camp to prepare for our spring and summer events. There is work available for all skill levels, indoors and out. Be sure to register to reserve lodging and to help the Camp prepare for the number of people attending. If you cannot stay overnight, please come up for the day on Saturday. For more information and to register go to www.manatawny.org/workandworship.

Middle/High School Retreat – April 28-29 – “Though You Are Young” – \$45 includes a light dinner on Friday, snacks, all other meals and activities, and lodging. Don't miss out, register soon! www.manatawny.org/jrsrhighretreat.

Greenbank Ladies' Luncheon

Our ladies' luncheon will be on Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sis. Denise Moore Revel will speak on the topic of Beloved Daughter: A Quest to Understand Your Worth & Value in Christ. Our program will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Please arrive early enough to settle in. Lunch will be served immediately after. Sign up at the Welcome Center with your name and those who will be coming with you so we will know how to plan.

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 Meeting ID: 862 5363 5838 Passcode: 123456**

BIBLE STUDIES

English Mid-Week – Wednesdays @ 7pm – Study of 1 Corinthians; hybrid class (in-person & online) Facebook Live or this Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/98664842526?pwd=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpQTog>

Spanish Mid-Week – Thursdays @ 6:30 pm at Greenbank. Contact Domingo Reyes for more information.

Ladies – 2nd Saturday each month @ 11am on Zoom – led by Crystal Reyes. Contact Crystal for the Zoom link.

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 login information.

SMALL GROUPS

Bear/Glasgow – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 2pm – hosted by George & Sherry Kirkland and Walter & Susan Johnson.

Married Couples – 1st Tuesday each month @ 7pm in the chapel – led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes.

Newport – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 12:30pm – hosted by Mike & Judy Barker.

Singles – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm – hybrid class (in person & Zoom); current study – “So, You Want to be Like Christ” Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHhpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydzo9>

Teens – 1st Friday each month @ 7pm in the chapel; 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: 166 Contribution: \$2,025 Weekly Average: \$5,112 Weekly Budget: \$5,540