



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, April 30, 2023

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

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

How Much Does It Cost? by Glen Elliott

With rising inflation, we are interested in getting good value for our dollar. How much an item costs is often the determining factor in whether we make the purchase. In the spiritual realm, salvation is offered to everyone without cost. We cannot purchase our redemption. It is enjoyed solely on the basis of Calvary's sacrifice on our behalf.

We should hasten to add that there is a vast difference between trying to purchase or merit salvation and accepting God's grace through faith (Ephesians 2:10). Faith is the means whereby we accept God's grace. Paul tells us that faith is our introduction "into this grace in which we stand" (Romans 5:12). Faith provides access into the grace of God. Keep in mind that biblical faith is active, obedient trust. James warns us that "faith without works is dead" (James 2:26).

How can we tell the difference between works of faith and works that are an attempt to purchase or earn salvation? Works of faith are in accordance with God's word. Faith "comes from hearing and hearing by the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17). It doesn't matter how sincere one might be, if what is done is not in compliance with the word of God it cannot be rendered as an act of faith. Works of faith are also measured by what takes place in the heart. Galatians 5:6 reveals that the kind of faith which pleases the Lord is "faith working through love."

What does it cost to be a Christian? It costs nothing at all. On the other hand, it costs everything. We cannot purchase salvation based on our own righteous deeds. However, following Jesus costs us everything. Salvation cost the Father the life of His only begotten Son (John 3:16; Romans 5:7-8; 1 John 3:16; John 10:17-18). Our salvation is not cheap. It cost Jesus His life. Yet, He gave His life willingly because of His great love for us. We should keep this in mind when asked what we are willing to give for Him.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Bud Polk family: pray for God's peace as they lay their husband, father, grandfather to rest.

Richard & Mary Lewis: both have Covid, pray for healing; Richard continues to rehab after hip surgery.

Ed Maynard: pray that he will regain his strength after his recent hospital stay.

Paul King: continue to pray for healing and strength.

Linda Jones: her brother, Larry Shipp, passed away.

Ana Miller: recovering from major surgery.

Michael & Arielle Dickinson: please pray for a healthy pregnancy and smooth labor & delivery (June '23).

Virginia Clark: diagnosed with breast cancer; appt. with doctor on May 1 to discuss treatment; pray for healing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

April 30 – Bilingual Service & Potluck Fellowship

Today we will have a combined worship service – English & Spanish – followed by a potluck fellowship meal. We encourage everyone to attend and enjoy this time of fellowship that will strengthen our congregation. Everyone is invited to stay for the meal. Please bring food to share!

Greenbank Ladies' Luncheon

Our ladies' luncheon will be on Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We will be blessed to receive words of encouragement from Sis. Denise Moore Revel. We will begin promptly at 10 a.m. Please arrive early enough to settle in before our speaker begins. Lunch will be served immediately following. Sign up TODAY at the Welcome Center or bulletin board with your name and how many will be coming with you so we can plan accordingly. NOTE: Entrance to the event will be through the downstairs fellowship room door.

Congratulations to Adriana Moreta!

Adriana will be graduating from Widener University on May 11 with a Bachelor's degree in Health and Human Services–Social Work and a minor in French. She will begin graduate studies right away to work toward becoming a therapist and, eventually, a doctor.

Camp Manatawny Events in May

Ladies' Retreat – May 5-6 – “A Place of Grace: God's glory and vision” - \$45 includes all meals, program, all activities, and 1-night seasonal cabin lodging; upgraded lodging available at additional cost; Girls 12 and under only \$10.

Register at <https://www.manatawny.org/ladiesretreat>

Family Camp – May 26-29 – If you are not familiar with Camp Manatawny, this is the perfect opportunity to introduce yourself and your family to Camp. Enjoy summer camp activities and re-energize your family's walk with God. The cost is \$130 for a family of 4 – includes summer cabin lodging, meals, and all activities. (\$20 for each additional family member ages 5 and older) Upgraded lodging is available for an additional cost, and there are also options for camping in your own tent or RV. Additional information, a sample schedule, and a link to register can be found here:

<https://www.manatawny.org/familycamp>

Open House – Saturday, May 27 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – If you are unable to attend the full weekend of Family Camp, consider Camp for a Day. During your visit, camp staff will be happy to give you a tour of the camp and answer any questions you may have. Rain or shine! No reservations are required. For more info go to:

<https://www.manatawny.org/openhouse>

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=Rkp6Z3VYSzZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpQTog>

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=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydzo9>

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: 151 Contribution: \$7,498 Weekly Average: \$5,259 Weekly Budget: \$5,540