



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, June 25, 2023

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

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

Doing Your Best by Joel Stephen Williams

Many years ago, in a textile factory there was a sign on the wall which read: "If your threads get tangled, send for the foreman." One woman who was fairly new was a diligent worker, but her threads got tangled one day. She tried to disentangle them, but her efforts only made matters worse. Finally, she gave up and called the foreman. He came and looked for a few moments and then asked: "You have been trying to untangle them yourself, haven't you?" "Yes," she replied. "Why didn't you send for me, according to the instruction?" She shrugged her shoulders and said: "I did my best." With much tact, yet, with great insight, he quietly said: "Remember that doing your best is sending for me."

How often in life have we tried to straighten out our own messes, only to make things worse, and certainly not to solve things? We think that a little more human effort, a bit more human wisdom, and a touch of human ingenuity are the solution. But mankind in general, and individuals in particular, tends to make the same mistakes over and over again. Bad habits remain in place. Errors are repeated. We may even excuse our conduct by saying: "I did my best." Then God gently, yet firmly, reminds us: "Doing your best is calling for me."

Paul did the best that he could, but it was not good enough. He mused: "*I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.... I want to do what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.... Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?*" (Rom. 7:15-24). But Paul had learned that to call on the name of Jesus was the best he could do and the solution to his problem (Rom. 10:9-13).

Despite our best intentions, we often find ourselves entangled in the messes of life, repeating the same mistakes, and struggling to find lasting solutions. However, there is hope. Like the apostle Paul, we can humbly acknowledge our weaknesses and turn to the ultimate source of help and redemption: Jesus Christ. Calling on His name and surrendering to His guidance is the best we can do, for in Him we find the wisdom, strength, and deliverance we desperately need. Let us remember that true transformation and lasting solutions come not from our human striving alone, but from the power of God working in and through us.

Congratulations College Graduates!

Adriana Moreta – Adriana graduated from Widener University with a Bachelor's degree in Health and Human Services/Social Work with a minor in French. She has already begun graduate studies to work toward becoming a therapist and, eventually, a doctor.

Prisilla Sanichar – Prisilla graduated from the Delaware Skills Center LPN program. She is currently looking for employment and will be applying to several RN programs to continue her education.

Elton Okley – Elton graduated with a Master of Science in Statistics from the University of Delaware. He is employed by JP Morgan Chase & Co. and works on the Wilmington Riverfront.

Congratulations to all our graduates! We wish them all the best and God's blessings in the next chapter of their lives!

Praise & Prayer Requests

PRaise! Alijah Brasefield is home from the hospital! Please keep this sweet, young family in your prayers as they adjust to caring for him at home.

Richard Lewis family: continue to remember Mary and the family in prayer as they mourn Richard's passing.

Paul King & family: pray for Paul who is having some health concerns; also pray for family who are having struggles.

Virginia Clark: cancer has been found in both breasts, but all other scans are clear, so there has not been any metastatic growth; surgery is being planned for the second week of August.

Pam Dahlström: surgery tomorrow, 6/26, to remove another tumor, then will have three more rounds of chemo.

Dave Bower asks for prayers for his daughter, Katie, who will deliver a baby any day; also pray for the Lewis family.

Ed Maynard: still in the hospital while fluid on his lungs is being slowly cleared.

Mike & Judy Barker: prayers for a smooth transition to an independent living facility on July 1st.

Virginia Clark, 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

Children's Church Meets Today

Children ages 3 years old through 3rd grade will meet downstairs in the yellow room during the sermon. This will be our last meeting until the fall. Have a happy summer!

Service Dog in Training

On Sunday you may see a young dog in our assembly. This is a service dog in training to be a guide dog for the blind. She is a working dog and not a pet. We have been asked to act as if she is not even here. No one should approach the dog to pet it or play with it. Please inform your children. Thank you for your cooperation.

Temporary Change in Office Hours

This week, the office will be open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9am-3pm, and closed on Friday. All items for the newsletter or next Sunday's service will need to be submitted by 9am Thursday, June 29. The office will also be closed on Monday, July 3 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Regular office hours will resume on Wednesday, July 5.

Special Contributions for The Wall Project

With grateful hearts the elders would like to thank those who have made donations to offset the expense of fixing our exterior front wall. To date we have collected about \$9,600 toward the repair. For those who would still like to make a donation, envelopes will remain in the back of the auditorium for cash, and checks can be made out to Greenbank Church of Christ with "The Wall" written in the memo.

SAVE THE DATE – ALL-CHURCH PICNIC

We are holding our annual picnic a little earlier than usual this year. Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 29, 4-7 p.m. at Brandywine Springs Park – Rudy Williams pavilion. More information is coming soon! *Note: the picnic will replace the potluck meal that would usually be held on Sunday, July 30.

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

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

Ladies – on summer break; will resume in October – led by Crystal Reyes.

Men – 3rd Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Paul King.

Young Ladies – 3rd Saturday each month @ 11am at Greenbank led by Eileen Hence.

SMALL GROUPS

Bear/Glasgow – on summer break – hosted by George & Sherry Kirkland and Walter & Susan Johnson.

Married Couples – on summer break – led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes.

Singles – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm – hybrid class (in person & Zoom); current study: various topics led by Mark Ray. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydzog>

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: 148 Contribution: \$4,182 Weekly Average: \$5,371 Weekly Budget: \$5,540