



## **Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, July 9, 2023**

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

**Contact info: [office@greenbankcoc.org](mailto:office@greenbankcoc.org) or 302-994-3800**

### **When Possessions Become a Prison** by Jay E. Adams

Under the roof in my backyard hangs a hummingbird feeder that I keep filled with sugar water. There are four openings in it from which birds may suck the nectar. Yet, day after day, from early morning until after dusk, the feeder is the source of the bird's private version of Star Wars. One bird chases all the others away.

As I said, there is room for four birds at a time, and fully that number attempt to feed. But the top dog (excuse my use of this metaphor for a hummingbird), who now 'owns' the feeder, will not let them. All day long he sits on the branch of a nearby apricot tree guarding 'his' feeder and defying others to transgress on what he has established as 'his' territory.

This ongoing slice of life confronts us throughout the day as green and red hummers streak across the yard, the king hummer in hot pursuit of an intruder. While the chase is on, others sneak a sip or two, only to be driven off when he returns.

The whole business has become a sort of parable for our family, an example of grace. I bought the feeder; I supply the sugar water. The birds do not earn it; they receive it for FREE. Yet, day after day, they fight over who may enjoy it.

How like the people of God! All we have or are that is worthwhile is the gift of God's pure grace. And yet we can be proud, self-centered, envious, and quarrelsome. Often, we fight over God's good gifts rather than expressing our gratitude in humility and sharing what we have been given with others. Just as I am confronted daily with rivalry in my yard, even so God is confronted daily with rivalry in His.

### **Praise & Prayer Requests**

**Carroll Blue family:** Carroll's brother, Lowell, passed away; pray for the family and for safe travel to the funeral.

**George Adair:** had a stroke last week & his speech has been affected; keep him and the family in prayer.

**Joann Walker:** will have lung cancer surgery on July 16<sup>th</sup>; she is the grandmother of Rylie & Chloe Walker.

**Melinda and Charles Baluk:** both are very ill; they are neighbors of Doug Essex.

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

**Heather & Kyle Abosch:** pray for both to have strength and wisdom as they go through some life changes.

**Virginia Clark:** double mastectomy is planned for the second week of August.

**Ed Maynard:** back at home and continues to recover from this latest health concern.

**Mike & Judy Barker:** prayers for a smooth transition to an independent living facility.

**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](mailto: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](http://www.greenbankcoc.org).

### **Announcements and Events**

#### **June Pantry Report**

In the month of June, we served 201 families made up of 568 adults and 282 children. Since the beginning of the year, we have served 877 different families, many who come to us each month for food. We have picked up 13,885 lbs. of food through the Sister Share Program from area grocery stores. The Food Bank of Delaware has donated 15,401 lbs. of food (a \$11,526.35 value) at no cost to our food pantry.

#### **All-Church Picnic – Saturday, July 29, 4-7pm**

The sign-up sheet is now posted on the bulletin board for the picnic. Please let us know how many people you will be bringing and your choice of side dish or dessert. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided.

**\*Please Note:** We will NOT have a bilingual service or fellowship luncheon on Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **School Supply Ministry**

It's time to begin preparing for our backpack and school supply giveaway. A list of needed items is in the lobby. Please sign-up for which items you can purchase and bring them in by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

## **New Blue Rocks Date**

Our rained out Blue Rocks game has been rescheduled for Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. See Fern Davis to exchange your tickets for the new date.

## **July Birthdays**

1 – Doris Welsh	13 – Marc Brasefield, Montana Clark
2 – Wyndi Walker	14 – Valeria Molina
4 – Joann Garvin, Elisha Wall, Junior Lainez	16 – Ashlin Aguilar-Bonilla
5 – Jim Friederichsen, Marcela Reyes	18 – Alethia Jones
7 – Patti Burke, Pedro Lainez, Profirio Franco	19 – Ludis Reyes
8 – Desmona Newsome	24 – Rick Mickowski
9 – Leivy Reyes, Alex Norman	27 – Yesmin Reyes
10 – Janell Anderson, Luz Moreta	29 – Kelly Naseery, Bill Norman
11 – Linda Friederichsen, Angelo Cox, Carleta Underwood, Rylie Walker	30 – Dave Bower, Emily Gallegos, William Bryant
12 – Wilma Blue	31 – Subhotash Khan

## **July Anniversaries**

21 – Marlin & Marcia Johnson  
31 – Justin & Felicia Connor

## **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](http://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=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpOT09>

**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** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Paul King.

**Young Ladies** – 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays @7pm – hybrid class (in person & Zoom); current study: various topics led by Mark Ray. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydz09>

**Teens** – 1<sup>st</sup> Friday each month @ 7pm in the chapel; led by Domingo Reyes

## **3 Ways to Give**

- 1) **In Person:** Place your offering in the collection plate as it is passed during our service.
- 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](http://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: 133 Contribution: \$6,202 Weekly Average: \$5,349 Weekly Budget: \$5,540**