



## Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, August 6, 2023

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

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

### The Journey of Forgiveness: Healing Through Letting Go (author unknown)

Forgiveness is a transformative act that holds the power to bring both freedom and healing. Throughout our lives, we often encounter situations that test our capacity to forgive – from minor transgressions to deeper wounds. As we embark on the profound journey of forgiveness, we open ourselves to a path of profound healing and personal growth.

At the heart of forgiveness lies the teachings of Christ, who exemplified forgiveness through His actions and words. Matthew 6:14-15 reminds us, *“For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”* By reflecting on His teachings, we gain insight into the significance of letting go of resentment and grudges. Christ’s ultimate sacrifice on the cross serves as a poignant reminder of the boundless forgiveness that we, too, are called to extend.

Yet, forgiveness is not only about pardoning others; it is also about forgiving ourselves. Psalm 103:10-12 beautifully captures this notion: *“He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.”* Often, we carry the weight of our mistakes and past decisions, hindering our ability to lead joyful and fulfilling lives. Through forgiveness, we release these burdens, allowing ourselves to move forward with renewed purpose and self-compassion.

As we navigate the complexities of forgiveness, we find solace in the stories of those who have experienced its transformative power. The parable of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32 beautifully illustrates the depth of a father’s forgiveness and the restoration it brings. Their experiences serve as beacons of hope, illustrating the profound impact that forgiveness can have on relationships, emotional well-being, and spiritual connection.

### Praise & Prayer Requests

**George Adair family:** please keep them in prayer as they mourn his passing.

**Elisha Wall:** traveling for work; pray for a safe return home.

**Liz Cox:** fractured her left shoulder; pray for ease of pain and quick healing.

**Susan Johnson:** has kidney stones; pray for a quick and easy resolution for her.

**Peter Johnson:** pray for a clear diagnosis of his intestinal issues.

**Cathy Servas:** pray for the doctors to determine what is wrong with her eyes.

**T.J. Hook:** husband of Liz Hook, a co-worker of Rick Mickowski, had an aneurism and is in ICU.

**Marissa Mechling:** preterm birth of twins, one passed away and the other is in the NICU.

**Faye Gillespie:** having some trouble with her vision; pray for quick resolution.

**Ed Maynard:** back at home; pray for his healing and renewed strength.

**Virginia Clark:** double mastectomy is scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup>; please keep the Clark family in prayer.

**Doug Essex:** experiencing hip pain.

**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.

**Kyle Abosch:** pray for him to have strength and wisdom as he goes through some life changes.

**Virginia Clark, Shelley Irwin, Lillie West, Kristin Farraday, Pam Dahlström, Joann Walker:** cancer.

**Remember our members who are homebound or have limited mobility: 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

#### Communion Preparation Needed

We are in need of someone to prepare communion for the month of October. If you would be able to fill this role, please contact Susan Johnson or the church office.

## **Transportation Needed**

Our sister, Angelica Maisuh, is in need of transportation on Sunday mornings. She lives in Newark near UD. If you live in this area, or if you are willing to travel a little out of your way, and can help with this need, please contact the church office as soon as possible. If we have enough volunteers, we can set up a rotation schedule to share this responsibility.

## **Pack Your Own Backpack!**

On Sunday, August 20th, school age students will be able to pack their own backpack with free school supplies. Backpacks will be provided and are also free. If your child's school has provided you with a list of needed supplies, please bring it with you. If you don't have one, we will have a list of items generally asked for in each grade. Join us in the fellowship room after worship to pack your backpack!

## **New Blue Rocks Date – Friday, August 25**

Those who need to exchange tickets from the rained-out game need to see Fern **today**.

## **Sight & Sound – Friday, September 22, 7pm**

Tickets have been reserved for "Moses" at Sight & Sound Theatre in Lancaster, PA. Ticket price is \$77/each. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for those interested in going to the show. Tickets are limited, so claim yours today!

## **Reflect Campus Missions News**

The annual golf tournament to raise funds for Blue Hens for Christ and Reflect Campus Missions will be held on Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Chesapeake Bay Rising Sun Golf Club. Save the date and be looking for more information to come soon.

Also, if you would like to receive the monthly "PrayUD" e-newsletter please register online at:

<https://ReflectMissions.org/pray>

## **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=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWnjd1djNpQT09>

**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; NEW study: "7 Myths about Singleness" led by Rick Mickowski. 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: 113 Contribution: \$3,131 Weekly Average: \$5,174 Weekly Budget: \$5,540**