



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, October 22, 2023

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

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

Bridging Divides: The Ministry of Reconciliation – by J.P. Clarke

In a world marked by division and strife, the ministry of reconciliation, as outlined in 2 Corinthians 5:18-19, stands as a clarion call to every believer. The apostle Paul, through divine inspiration, reminds us of our role: *"All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation."*

This sacred mission is the very essence of our faith, urging us to imitate Christ in healing the fractures that have torn our world asunder. Reconciliation doesn't imply condoning sin but striving to mend broken relationships and offer solace to wounded hearts. It calls for humility, empathy, and a commitment to love our neighbors as ourselves, as directed by Jesus.

Our ministry of reconciliation is expansive, extending beyond our immediate circles to a world yearning for unity and solace. With divisions rooted in politics, race, and society, we can serve as vessels of God's love and understanding, dedicated to dismantling the walls that divide us.

As believers, we are called to be peacemakers, representatives of God's love, and instruments of His grace. By living out the ministry of reconciliation, we embody hope in a fractured world and demonstrate the transformative power of God's love.

Let us not forget Matthew 5:9, which says, *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."*

Additionally, Colossians 3:13 advises us to *"bear with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive."*

So, heed this divine call and strive to heal relationships, bind wounds, and construct bridges. In doing so, we reflect the love of Christ to all who cross our path. In this sacred mission, we become the hands and feet of Christ, offering His love to a world in dire need of reconciliation.

Praise and Prayer Requests

Emily Gallegos was baptized last Sunday! We rejoice with the angels in heaven at the addition of this new Christian to the Lord's kingdom. Please keep Emily in prayer as she begins her life in Christ.

Peggy Rogers family: She passed away last week. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Beverly Abosch's nephew: he has heart failure and has also developed a lesion on his lung.

Heather Abosch's friend: one year old child passed away last week. Pray for this family to have peace.

Virginia Clark: chemo is scheduled to begin on October 27th.

Bob Crusco: home from the rehab facility; continues to have therapy sessions and kidney dialysis.

Thomas DeShields' cousins, Matt & Kai: in Tel Aviv, Israel; pray for their protection.

Jack Gaynor: recovering from knee surgery.

Cathy Servas: Pray for her sister, Ellen, who has developed an infection in an injured hand.

Paul King & family: Continue to pray for Paul's health to improve; also pray for struggling family members.

Virginia Clark, Royalty Fields, Lillie West, Pam Dahlström, Joann Walker: all are battling cancer.

Jan Adair, Bob & Linda Crusco, Faye Hatfield, Agnes Ignudo, Christy Mickowski, Bob & Penny

Pennington: all are homebound or have limited mobility.

GriefShare ministry: pray for the program participants as well as for the leaders.

Greenbank church: Pray for godly wisdom and 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

Office Administrator Job Opening

We want to remind you of the job opening in the church office. Anyone who is interested in the position can request a copy of the job description from the office and should submit a resume no later than Sunday, October 29th. After this date, interviews will be conducted, and the selected person will train with Lisa before the end of the year. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Friederichsen or Walter Johnson.

Children's Church

Children age 3 through 3rd grade will meet downstairs in the yellow room during today's sermon.

Fellowship Luncheon - Sunday, October 29th

If you plan to come to the fellowship meal, please remember to sign up so we will know how much beef stew to prepare. We ask each person attending to bring one can of vegetables – one can per adult and one can per child – to add to the stew. We also ask that you bring additional food to share: salads, breads, and desserts. The sign-up sheet is located at the Welcome Center in the lobby.

Adult CPR & First Aid Training – Saturday, November 4th

A training class is being offered for adults to learn CPR & First Aid for both adults and children. The class will be on Saturday, November 4th from 10am – 12:45pm. A discount will be offered to Greenbank members. Contact the office for the code to enter when you register at <https://tfclifesavers.enrollware.com/enroll?id=8608939>

Food Pantry Report for September

We provided food for 224 families comprised of 861 individuals. Seventy-five of these families were first time visitors, or folks that have not come since before the shutdown in 2020. The Food Bank of Delaware provided us with 9,668 lbs. of food the cost of which was covered by a grant (a value of \$6,089). We collected 13,541 lbs. of food from 9 grocery stores in the Sister Share program. We had 18 volunteers from Greenbank, 14 from Autism Delaware, and six from the community. We thank the Lord for His continued blessings.

Sunday Meeting Times

In-Person Bible Classes @ 9:30 a.m. – including a Spanish-speakers class for adults.

In-Person Worship Services @ 10:30 a.m. – English & Spanish

The English service is livestreamed 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 will need to log in to Facebook to join the live feed.
- 3) **Zoom:** Meeting ID: 862 5363 5838 Passcode: 123456; Phone In: (301) 715-8592

Bible Studies

English Mid-Week – Wednesdays @ 7pm – hybrid class (in person & online) on Facebook Live or Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/98664842526?pwd=Rkp6Z3VYSGZpcjY4cXZWNjd1djNpQT09>

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

Ladies – 2nd Saturday each month @ 9am via Zoom – led by Crystal Reyes. Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88946018992> If you do not have internet access, you can dial in on your phone to connect. (301) 715-8592. Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992

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

Young Ladies – will resume sometime this fall – led by Eileen Hence.

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 teen room– led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes.

North Wilmington – 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 2pm – hosted by Chrissi Steiner.

Singles – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays @ 7pm – hybrid class; “7 Myths about Singleness” led by Rick Mickowski.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87670702282?pwd=Sy8xYTAyZThkRHpqY1hmbzYrZk4ydz09>

Teens – 1st 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. Click on the “Donate” button And follow the instructions. (Note: there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)

Last Week: Attendance: 161 Contribution: \$5,721 Weekly Average: \$5,108 Weekly Budget: \$5,540