



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, January 14, 2024

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

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

An Empty Chair by Wayne Burger

In the Bible, King David's empty seat at King Saul's feast signified his absence (1 Samuel 20:18, 24-27). Jonathan explained David's vacant chair to his father Saul (1 Samuel 20:29). Though David had good reasons to miss the feast, his chair being empty meant passing up a chance to dine with the king. This illustrates that our own empty seats at the Lord's table, whether in worship or Bible study, send a message.

When we or our children skip Bible classes on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, teachers have prepared lessons but chairs sit empty. Though life is busy, these absences leave a vacuum in our spiritual lives and our children's. Studies show children tend to attend even less than parents who only occasionally attend. But children are more likely to be dedicated church members as adults when their parents actively participated.

So, what do our empty chairs say? They communicate: something else is more important than studying God's Word; the messages shared are not relevant to life; our presence is not needed to encourage others; we don't appreciate the teacher's preparation efforts. Conversely, occupied chairs say positive things. The chair will speak whether occupied or empty.

What will your chair say this Wednesday evening or Sunday? Will it signify your commitment to spiritual growth, or your apathy? Our chairs impact our lives and our children's. Let us be found studying God's Word together whenever possible, rather than leaving empty seats.

Praise and Prayer Requests

Ingrid Calvo: prayers for the Garcia Calvo family. Pray for wisdom and strength for Ingrid as she learns how to live for God and overcome obstacles.

Deborah Sanichar: pray for Caroline Kennedy who is not feeling well.

Shirley Grapes: pray her financial aid goes through for her medication.

Anna DaCunha: keep son Antony in prayer as he is going through a hard time in his life.

Linda and Bob Crusco: both having general health issues. Continue to pray for Linda as she cares for Bob.

Dawn Grabowski: pray for wisdom and guidance as she begins serving the church in her new role.

Elisha Wall: pray for family health, and wisdom in spiritual outreach and growth.

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

Jan Adair, Bob & Linda Crusco, Agnes Ignudo, Christy Mickowski, Bob & Penny Pennington: all are homebound or have limited mobility.

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

Guest Speaker

Casey Coston (UD Campus Minister) will be joining us this Sunday to deliver the lesson and provide information on the works of The Blue Hens for Christ.

Children's Church

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

Annual Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held immediately after service on January 21st. All members are asked to attend.

Church Anniversary Celebration

We will be celebrating our 5th anniversary as Greenbank Church of Christ on January 28, 2024. Please join us as we gather to praise God for all the work He has done through the ministry of our church. Our celebration will include a Bilingual worship service followed by a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall where we can enjoy good food and fellowship. We hope to see you there!

Winterfest – February 16-18, 2024

All registration forms and payments must be given to Lisa Reed today. The cost of the trip is \$200. If you need to make smaller payments, speak with Lisa Reed to work out a payment schedule. Financial assistance is available for anyone who needs it. If you have any questions, please ask!

Babysitter Training-First Aid & CPR February 19, 2024

This class will provide young people who babysit with the necessary knowledge and skills to responsibly care for children and infants. Greenbank youth More information will be provided soon. If you have any questions, contact Anna DaCunha.

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 at a later date – 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 – on hold until further notice

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: 139 Contribution: \$4,907 Weekly Average: \$4,907 Weekly Budget: \$5,540