



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, May 19, 2024

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

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

The Changing Seasons of Our Lives

Just as the natural world goes through cycles of seasons that shape the environment, our lives also experience profound seasons of change and transformation. The book of Ecclesiastes reminds us "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

We all go through seasons of new beginnings - springtime of hope, excitement, and opportunities ripe with possibility. These are fertile grounds for planting seeds of faith that will ultimately bear fruit. We're encouraged to "not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

Then come the summer seasons of life - periods of hard work, thriving activity, and enjoying the rewards of our efforts. Like productive orchards, we're called to "keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life" (Jude 1:21). These can be rich, abundant times of active ministry and bearing spiritual fruit.

The autumns arrive as transitional seasons of releasing certain roles, responsibilities, or situations. Just as trees must shed leaves to prepare for winter, we may feel unsettled as we let go of what once defined us. Yet Isaiah 43:19 reassures "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?" God prunes and refines us for new purposes.

The winter seasons can be lonely and desolate, stripping away our comforts and testing our endurance. Like barren trees with deep roots, we must stay firmly grounded in Christ through life's harshest trials. But take heart - though seasons of difficulty feel deathly, the stripping and pruning readies us for future rebirth and growth.

Through all these changing seasons, we can trust in the immutable nature of God's faithfulness and love, which "endures forever" (Psalm 136). Whatever season you find yourself in currently, take comfort in this truth - no season lasts forever. If you are experiencing a joyful, bountiful time, savor it, but don't make the mistake of thinking it will last indefinitely. Likewise, if you are in a barren, painful winter, have hope that brighter days are coming. By embracing each season with wisdom from the Lord, we are continually shaped and transformed into who He wants us to be.

Domingo Reyes

Praise and Prayer Requests

Patty Conway: pray for Leck, Eli, Noah, Cathy M, Lucas B, Chrissi S and Liam B.

Jacklyn Jones: pray for friend who had an important immigration interview on Wednesday.

Barbara Wallace: Great grandson Waylon F. Wallace was born with a heart condition and will need several surgeries.

Dawn Dorrell: having eye surgery 5/23 and 6/5. Also pray for her estranged 2 children and grandchildren who are non-believers.

Chrissi Steiner: pray for more faith and to put all her concerns to Him. Also, for thanksgiving and gratitude for all the blessings in her life.

Vita Reyes & Family: pray for everyone to follow God and always keep positive even when times are tough.

Kamal & Elisha Wall: pray for health and wisdom.

Sick and Shut In: pray for all members who are battling cancer, covid and other serious medical issues and those who are unable to attend due to illness or 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.

Offer of Thanks

“On behalf of Lee and I and our families, we want to thank you for the love, support, care and cards you have shown to us during mom’s illness and passing. She loved you all!”

Announcements and Events

Small Group/Bible Study Update

The Married Couple small group and Ladies Bible class will be taking a break during the summer season. During this break, we encourage you to take time for yourselves, nurture your relationships, continue studying and enjoy the summer months. We look forward to reconvening for our new sessions in the Fall.

2024 Graduation Recognition

If you have a high school or college graduate, please send their name and the school they are graduating from to the office. The graduation recognition reception will be held in a few weeks, and we would like to make sure all the graduates are celebrated.

Camp Manatawny Summer Camp

Summer camping sessions begin in just a few weeks! Students (grades 1-12) are eligible to attend. The schedule for each session is posted on the bulletin board in the lobby. Camp is a wonderful way for your child to grow in relationship with Jesus while making life-long friends. If you need financial assistance to cover the cost of camp, please speak with Rick Mickowski.

Clothed in Love Clothing Closet Update

Fall and winter items will be moved out of our clothing closet at the end of the month to make room for spring and summer clothes. Stop in and see what is available. See Dawn Grabowski with questions.

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.

Youth – Thursdays @6:30pm at Greenbank – led by Eileen Hence.

SMALL GROUPS

Bear/Glasgow – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 2pm – hosted by George & Sherry Kirkland and Walter & Susan Johnson.

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

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: 142 Contribution: \$5,015 Weekly Average: \$5,445 Weekly Budget: \$5,435