

# Weekly Newsletter - Sunday, February 23, 2025

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

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

# Loving Our Enemies: The Hardest, Holiest Work

It's easy to love people who love us back. But what about those who hurt us? Disrespect us? Make life difficult? That's where love gets tested.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once preached a sermon called *Loving Your Enemies*, and in it, he laid out a hard truth—love is not about how we feel; it's about what we do. Jesus said in Matthew 5:43-45 that we should love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. That's a radical call, but it's the way of Christ.

King said there are three things we need to do to love like this. First, we must **forgive**—not because the other person deserves it, but because bitterness will eat us alive if we don't. Second, we have to **refuse to add to the cycle of hate**. When we fight hate with hate, we only create more darkness. But when we meet it with love, we shine a light that can't be ignored. Third, we must **see people as God sees them**—broken, yes, but still made in His image.

"Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend," King said. And he was right. Jesus proved it on the cross when He prayed for the very people who nailed Him there. So let's take the hard road, the holy road. Let's love—even when it costs us. Because that's what Jesus did for us.

D. Reves

## **Praise and Prayer Request**

PRAISE! We rejoice with the angels at the news of Chad McPherson's baptism Wednesday evening! Pray for Chad as he begins his new life in Christ.

**Mona Newsome:** Anthony Newsome Sr. is awake and recovering from a heart attack. Thank you for your prayers.

**Virginia Clark:** not feeling well. still getting adjusted to medication.

**Sandra Jones-Henry:** fighting the flu.

**Alethia Jones:** The Moore family for the loss of their mother (Selma, NC).

**Bev Abosch:** continued prayers for my dad, mom and us sisters. **Elisha Wall:** focused priorities, time management and health.

**Deborah Sanichar:** prayers for safe travels for me and my husband to Guyana.

**Patty Conway:** Angel, Cathy Mc, George, Barbara, Liam and Nathan.

Dawn Dorrell: Roxie and Rick Markey.

**Jason Christie:** getting past the PhD finish line.

**Adaliyah Cooke:** prayers for peace, joy and for her and her Mom.

Remember our members who are homebound due to serious illness or have limited mobility and are unable to attend.

**Greenbank church:** Godly guidance for our elders, minister and deacons as they lead our congregation. **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 <a href="mailto:office@greenbankcoc.org">office@greenbankcoc.org</a> 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**

### Children's Church

Children 3 years old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade will meet downstairs during the sermon.

### Biggest Loser Contest-Saturday March 1st.

Summer will be here before you know it! Are you wanting to shed a few pounds? Join the Greenbank Biggest Losers!!! Put your name and email address on the sign-up sheet. Details and rules will be emailed to you.

### Bilingual Service, Fellowship Meal and Song Sunday-March 2nd

Join us for a day of worship, food and fellowship. We will start with our combined worship service at 10:30. Lunch will be a variety of international dishes prepared by some of our members representing their home countries in the Fellowship Hall. We will end the afternoon worshipping in song. We encourage everyone to attend and enjoy this time of fellowship to glorify God and strengthen our congregation.

#### **Grief Share**

A weekly grief support group will meet on Mondays from 6:30-8 pm at the church from March 10 through June 2. Register at griefshare.org. For any questions, contact Fern Davis at <a href="mailto:fspellman2@comcast.net">fspellman2@comcast.net</a>

### Erika Aguilar Baby Shower

Ladies, join us for a baby shower luncheon on Sunday, March 16th, from 12:30-2 PM. More details will follow in the invites. Contact Shelley Irwin with any 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

 $\textbf{Spanish Mid-Week}-Thursdays @ 6:30pm \ at \ Greenbank. \ Contact \ Arturo \ Gallegos \ for \ information.$ 

**Ladies** – 2nd Saturday each month @ 9am -hybrid class (in person & online) via Zoom – led by Crystal Reyes. Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88946018992 or dial in (301) 715-8592. Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992.

**Men** – 3rd Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Mark Ray.

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

#### SMALL GROUPS

**Bear/Newark** – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 2pm – hosted by George Kirkland/Walter Johnson **Greenbank** – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 12:30 pm in the building after services– hosted by Kamal Wall **North Wilmington** – 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 3pm – hosted by Chrissi Steiner.

**Married Couples** – 1st Tuesday each month @ 7pm in the teen room – led by Domingo & Crystal Reyes.

**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: 115 Contribution: \$7,517 Weekly Average: \$5,249 Weekly Budget: \$5,443