



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, May 10, 2026

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

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

The Blueprint of Grace: From Eden to the Ark (Rory L. Irwin)

Most people think of "grace" as a New Testament concept, something that arrived only when the Gospels began. But if you look closely at the earliest pages of Scripture, you'll find that grace isn't just a late arrival; it's the very heartbeat of the story from the beginning.

The First Spark: A Promise in the Garden

The trail of grace starts earlier than you might think. Right in the middle of the fallout in Eden, God offered a glimmer of hope. In **Genesis 3:15**, God speaks to the serpent:

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

This is the first hint of the Gospel. Before Adam and Eve even left the Garden, God was already promising a future where sin would not have the final word. It was a declaration that, one day, the price would be paid and the mistake mended.

The First Mention: Noah's Divine Favor

While the *promise* of grace began in Eden, the first time the word is explicitly used is in the story of Noah. **Genesis 6:8** tells us simply: *"But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord."*

In a world drowning in corruption and wickedness, Noah stood out.

The world likely saw Noah as a "crazy man" building a massive ship in a land that had never seen rain. By worldly standards, he wasn't powerful or significant. He became significant only because **God set him apart.**

The Takeaway

Grace isn't a backup plan; it's the original plan. From the shadows of Eden to the deck of the Ark, God has always been in the business of seeking out the faithful and offering a way back.

Noah met God's standard, not the worlds. Today, that same invitation stands: grace isn't about being the most "significant" person in the room—it's about being the person who is willing to walk with God when the rest of the world walks away.

Praise and Prayer Request

Chrissi Parker: continued prayers for LeBron and I, for our marriage, future and finances and gratitude for all of our ongoing blessings in Christ.

Jenn Ring: continued prayers for my sister, Lorri who is battling cancer and prayers as I finish my capstone project and for my graduation from Drexel University.

Elisha Wall: prayers for our brother Hilliard in continued recovery from a stroke, for Charles Gli's mother who is unwell, those sick and shut in and in recovery. Prayers for our growing family and health as well as wisdom in decisions.

Benita Baines: Benita and Myka are traveling to Jackson, TN for my sister Georgia's nursing program graduation.

Patty Conway: George & Sherry, Domingo, Dawn D., Shawn & Tony, Liam, Chrissi & LeBron.

Anna DaCunha: pray for a safe trip to Puerto Rico.

Taylor McPherson: prayers for my mom who is experiencing some financial difficulties and the stress attached to that. Also, prayers that Troy, Denise, Jami, Drew and Lindsey be led to Christ.

Glenda Downs: my son SSGT. Isaac Watkins will be deployed; he serves in the USAF.

Virginia Clark: pray for Jeff Sr's father who is having some challenges after hip surgery.

Joann Garvin: keep in prayer if I should have surgery.

Dawn Dorrell: having tests for medical issues, my daughter Jessica had surgery and is waiting for the pathology report and her husband is waiting to see the surgeon.

Freddie Johnson (former member of First State): had a heart attack and is in a coma.

Phillips Family: pray for Mike's mother who had a stroke last week.

Jan Adair, Betty Asbell, Liz Cox, Linda Crusco, Barbara Davis, Ed & Brenda Jones, Christy Mickowski, Bob & Penny Pennington and all who are sick, 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](http://www.greenbankcoc.org).

Announcements and Events

Sunday Morning Bible Class-May 10 & May 17

Everyone is invited to join our Sunday morning Bible Study classes at 9:30 in the small chapel. Rory L. Irwin will lead the next lesson, titled “The Six Truths About Grace—Exploring the Truth Together.”

Children’s Church

Children ages 3 years to 5th grade are invited to attend Children’s church during today’s sermon.

Greenbank Sowers

The holy quilters have renamed their group and expanded the class to include crocheting, sewing, embroidery, and more. Join us for some relaxing time and learn a new skill every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 11–1 in the sewing room.

Movie Night-Friday May 15th

The fellowship committee is hosting movie night in the small chapel. The movie will be “Soul on Fire” based on the true story of John O’Leary, who survived severe burns after a childhood accident, focusing on his journey of faith, resilience and recovery with the support of his family after surviving burns from a childhood accident. Doors open at 6:30 and the movie begins at 7:00 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Annual Church Picnic-Saturday, May 30th at 12:00

The annual picnic is at Banning Regional Park-Banning Pavilion, 102 Middleboro Rd, Wilmington, DE. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and drinks will be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert and feel free to invite a friend.

Greenbank Monthly Food Drive

May’s donation item is canned vegetables, preferably low sodium or no added salt. Thanks to all who donated in the month of April. We donated 48 boxes of pasta, 7 bags of rice and 9 jars of sauce.

Building Renovation Special Collection

Thanks to your generosity, we have raised \$14,250 toward the building renovations. Updates so far include new basement flooring, fresh paint in the fellowship hall, upgraded kitchen appliances, and replaced light fixtures in multiple classrooms. We appreciate the efforts of the building committee, volunteers, and contractors who are continuing to improve our building.

Camp Manatawny Summer Camps

Summer camping sessions begin in June. Camp gives your child a chance to deepen their relationship with Jesus while making life-long friends. Financial aid applications are due by June 1. Brochures are available at the welcome table or visit www.manatawny.org to register.

Sunday Meeting Times

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

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

Community – Wednesdays @ 10 am – led by Domingo Reyes.

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 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

Greenbank – 2nd & 4th Sundays @ 12:30 pm in the building after services– hosted by Kamal Wall

North Wilmington – 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 2pm – led by Mark Ray.

Married Couples – 1st Tuesday each month @ 7pm in the small chapel– led by Domingo & Crystal 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: using our website, www.greenbankcoc.org, go to “Give” at the top of the page, scan the QR code or select “give online”. (Note: with PayPal there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)



Last Week: Attendance: 130 Contribution: \$8,461 Weekly Average: \$5,581 Weekly Budget: \$5,600