

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

December 22, 2024

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CHRISTMAS IS AN OPPORTUNITY

By Lanny Smith

Of all the holidays throughout the year, THIS is one where Jesus simply MUST be dealt with, one way or another. The very name “Christmas” puts the name of Christ right in everyone’s face. Radio stations play carols which tell of His birth. Shopping malls are filled with references to Christmas. And right here, when everyone’s mind is on Jesus, is our golden opportunity to do something positive for the Master!

Throughout the year, Jesus is ignored, but at the end of the year, EVERYBODY must deal with Jesus! The atheist, Muslim, and Jew must decide how to handle the holidays. And they don’t all handle the same way. Some will observe non-religiously, some will pay homage to the traditions of men, some will busy themselves with trying to correct others’ errors, hopefully without sounding obnoxious.

Why not turn this time of year into an opportunity to ask people, “**What are YOU going to do with Jesus?**” You see, He is the one man who changed the world. He built a bridge to Heaven with two boards and three nails. He has so influenced the world that we measure time from His birth. The fact is, Jesus simply cannot be ignored. He is my Lord, my God, and my Savior. He is everything to me! Ultimately, each of us will face Him in judgment.

The bottom line is this: You can deal with Jesus now or deal with Him later, BUT YOU WILL DEAL WITH HIM. If you have been putting Jesus out of your mind and life, why not give Him serious consideration? The evidence is overwhelming that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Please examine all of the prophecies, as well as the eyewitness testimony—all offered by men who gave their lives in His service. We would be glad to help!

**Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth! Psa. 46:10**

Pray for the sick:

CONTINUING CONCERNS: Terry Hastings, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Ruth Banks, Michelle Tucker, Charles Fooks, Goldie Weldon, Pat Tucker, Donna Sponseller.

On-going personal Bible studies

World turmoil; people of Russia, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Cameroon

"Celebrate Recovery"

AIM missionaries, Carolina Aguilar, Miguel Javier Dale and Maddy

Latin American Missions

Wendy Bowman, surgery Dec. 16th

Our Country and world leaders

Thea's brother, Leland Vickers-loss of eyesight due to macular degeneration

Lanny, pray for improved vision from eye surgery Eleanor; pulled muscle and broken pelvis; now at home recuperating

Cheyenne Mathis; headaches caused by a cyst Colleen's sister, Cindy; breathing difficulty

The Donaways welcomed a baby girl on Sunday, Dec. 8, Artemis Lynn, 8 lb 12 oz. Congratulations!!

Travelling safety for all those flying or on the road

CELEBRATE RECOVERY each Monday evening from 6-8 in the FLC.

WOMEN'S STUDIES— Ladies' Bible study at Cathy's will not meet until Jan. 17th and Ladies' Tuesday Zoom will not meet until Jan. 7th.

KID'S GAME NIGHT Due to the busy holidays, the next **Kid's Night** will be Tues. Jan. 14th.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING; meet at the FLC today at 1:30 and we will go from there.

TITUS 2 DISCIPLESHIP for adult women, third Thursdays. Next one is Jan. 16th, 6-8 pm at Courtney Whaley's house. See Maria, Taylor or Courtney if you have questions.

DEC. FELLOWSHIP MEAL will be Dec. 29 with a menu of soup and sandwiches.

FIRST PRINCIPLES CLASS will begin in January and will be taught by Danny Snyder.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; 12/22-Julio; 12/29-Philip Prayer; 12/22-Philip; 12/29-Chad Table; 12/22-Daniel; 12/29-Lanny Song Leader; 12/22-Troy; 12/29-Christian Announcements/Closing prayer; Shawn-Dec.

Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at:
www.laurelcoc.org)

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday:

Women's Zoom Study 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Men's prayer (Shawn's) 7:15 a.m.

Bible Study at building 6:30 p.m.

Friday ladies' study at Cathy's 10:30 a.m.

1st Sat. men's breakfast 8:30

We invite you to attend any of our service times, and we look forward to welcoming you, and pray that you might find a home here with us in Laurel and with God in heaven as His child.

If you need Media help — connections, addresses, or general questions contact: Don Trader or Julio Brennick

WHO WE ARE

The body of Christ in Laurel, Delaware is a family of believers knit together in love (Colossians 2:2), striving to serve God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and carrying the gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:18). We are an autonomous body with Christ only as our head, and elders shepherding the flock of God (Acts 20:28).

We have been entrusted with the gospel (I Thessalonians 2:4) and so it is that we speak. The congregation seeks to uphold the doctrine and practice of the first century church using the only true standard, the Bible, as our guide (2 Peter 1:3). It is our prayer that all would come to a knowledge of the truth and partake in that divine fellowship in the body of Christ, being immersed for the remission of sins, and beginning life anew with Christ as Lord (Acts 2:38, Romans 6:1). Our plea is that we might be one in Christ, and serve the Lord faithfully unto death to receive our crown (Revelation 2:10).