

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

October 16, 2022

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PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

By Edd Sterchi, Broadway CoC, Campbellsville, KY

I'm sure you've heard the old riddle about the polar bear when he looked forward was looking south; when he looked back was looking south; when he looked all around was also looking south. Of course, he was standing on the North Pole to make this accurate.

We can make a similar statement in Romans 5:1-11 concerning Jesus Christ. When we look back, we see Jesus Christ having died for our sins. When we look forward, we see Him promising to be with us in heaven forevermore. And when we look all around, we also see that Jesus is here with us. Let's examine these concepts in the passage that Paul wrote through inspiration.

Looking back, we see Jesus:

- "For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (v6)
- "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (v8)

Looking forward, we see Jesus:

- "through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (v2)
- "Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him" (v9)

Looking around, we see Jesus:

- "we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (v1)
- "And not only that, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ through whom we have now received the reconciliation" (v11)

Our past, present and future can all be affected because of Jesus Christ. He transforms every moment of our existence. He brings hope and joy for the day and for every day going forth. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8) Praise Him!

Encourage one another in love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:23-24

Pray for the sick: You may not know some of them, but God knows them and their needs, so let's lift them up.

Terry Hastings, Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Pat Tucker, Dave Newberry; Myra's sister, Connie; continuing health concerns.

On-going personal Bible studies.

World turmoil; people of Ukraine and Russia

Jenny Womersley and family

Goldie Weldon; foot problems

Butch Womersley; health and safety

All our members that are traveling

All those battling COVID

Our elders and deacons

Leaders of our country, cities and states

Amy Mathis in continuing job search

Vinnie asked for prayers for his wife, Sandy

Norma Hudson asked for prayers in her recent diagnosis of Parkinson's.

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.

Teen Devo 6:00 p.m.

Thursday:

Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study at building 6:30 p.m.

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

LADIES' ZOOM: Tuesdays at 7:30

LADIES DAY AT LAUREL OCT. 22 It's almost here!! "Ants in the Picnic of Life" presented by Laura Boyd from Glencoe, AL. Registration at 9:00. Program from 10-2.

TRAP POND CAMP is ongoing this weekend. That is where many are today. We pray they have had a safe, enjoyable and uplifting camp.

CORNHOLE ANYONE? First annual cornhole tournament. Teams and singles. Sunday, Oct. 30 at 1:00 pm. Food and games at Cathy Hudson's house.

POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL October 23.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Lanny 10/16

Prayer; Troy 10/16

Table; Julio 10/16

Announcements/Closing prayer; Shawn-Oct.

Song Leader; Paul 10/16

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).