

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

December 4, 2022

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READY OR NOT

Tom Moore, College Station, TX

In a cemetery in Hanover, Germany, is a grave covered with huge slabs of granite and marble, fastened with heavy steel clasps. It belongs to a woman who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. Yet she directed in her will that her grave be made so secure that if there were a resurrection, it could not reach her.

In time, however, a seed began to grow and push its way out from beneath the slabs. As the trunk enlarged, the stones were gradually shifted and the steel clasps were wrenched from their sockets.

The dynamic life force in that little seed is only a faint reflection of the tremendous power of God's creative world that someday will call to life the bodies of all who are in their graves. Willing or not, all will be resurrected (John 5:28-29).

A messenger from God revealed this truth to Daniel. As this angelic messenger opened the door to the hallway of time, he revealed to the prophet many things: the rise and fall of various kingdoms, the invasion of the army from the North, and, ultimately, the resurrection of the dead. For those who are prepared—whose names are written in the Book of Life—it is a resurrection to everlasting life. For those unprepared, it is a resurrection to everlasting damnation.

This Old Testament message is also echoed throughout the New Testament. The apostle Paul declared that "the dead in Christ will rise first" (1 Thess. 4:16), while the apostle John saw the dead, who were "judged every man according to their works" (Rev. 20:13).

There is no way you can avoid the resurrection, but you can be ready for it. Make sure that your name is written in the Book of Life. Only a fool fails to prepare for what he knows is coming. Have you believed in Christ (John 3:16), repented of your sins (Luke 13:3), confessed the name of Christ (Romans 10:9-10), and been baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)? If not, prepare for your grave to be opened one day!

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; Norma Hudson, Bobby Phillips, 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

Cipolla family in their work with children.

Launching of 'Celebrate Recovery'

Ace Himes

Several who have a flu like stomach bug.

LADIES' ZOOM: Now Tuesdays at 7:00

CELEBRATE RECOVERY will continue each Monday evening from 6-9 in the FLC. Meal at 6, meeting 7-9.

The congregation is sponsoring a family for Christmas. See Philip or Thea to help.

CHRISTMAS TEA/ORNAMENT EXCHANGE was yesterday. Many thanks to Julie and her crew, Cathy, Jean, Courtney, Emma, Sarah, Marti and maybe others who worked to make this wonderful event happen.

Christmas Caroling will be Dec. 18th. Meet at the FLC at 3:00.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Danny-4th; David-11th

Prayer; John-4th; Christian-11th

Table; Dale-4th; Daniel-11th

Announcements/Closing prayer; Philip—Dec.

Song Leader; Troy-4th; Dave-11th

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

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).