

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

January 29, 2023

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GOD'S PROMISES: ETERNAL LIFE, A CROWN, AND REST

There is one thing our God has never done—He has never told a lie. Because every promise He has ever made is certain, we can build our lives knowing that He has never told a lie and He cannot tell one (Tit. 1:2)!

Promises are future until He fulfills them. He promised Abraham that his descendants would be oppressed in a foreign land but would come out with great substance. God had promised it, then waited 400 years and fulfilled His promises. He gave them all He promised. (Josh. 21:43-45)

He has promised us eternal life. When we become Christians, God promises us that we will never die (John 11:26). We have eternal life, but it is conditional. We must keep living in Him and believing in Him. Hebrews 10:23 describes it as the “hope of eternal life”. Paul describes hope in these words, “Hope that is seen is not hope, for why does one still hope for what he sees” (Rom. 8:24). Eternal life is promised to us but we must “hold fast....without wavering” (Heb. 10:23). We will receive the promise “after we have done His will” (Heb. 10:36).

He has promised us a crown of life. “Blessed is the man who has endured temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him” (James 1:12). Look at it carefully. We must endure and be approved, then we shall receive the crown.

He has promised us a rest. Hebrews 3 and 4 show how those who left Egypt failed to receive the rest prepared for them since the foundation of the world. Later, David urged the people of his day to seek that rest (Psalm 91). God had the rest prepared but neither Jews of Moses' day nor those of David's day received it. This is why chapter 4 urges us to recognize the promise of rest before us and we must keep believing and keep laboring to enter into it. The rest that remains for us is future. Heaven awaits us. It is ours! It is as certain as the promises of He who cannot lie!

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 to Him!

CONTINUING CONCERNS: Terry Hastings; Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Pat Tucker, Dave Newberry, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Bobby Phillips, Grace Peterson, C.W. Matthews, Ace Himes, Butch and Jenny Womersley and family.

All those battling COVID
On-going personal Bible studies
World turmoil; people of Russia and Ukraine
Our elders and deacons
Cipolla family and their work with children
"Celebrate Recovery"
Carey Terry series of lessons with us

FROM THE COMMUNITY:

Daniel Parker and Barbara Anderson, both with terminal cancer; Mike Lowe, open heart surgery; the Pugh family in the loss of Jamin Pugh and healing and recuperation for his daughters, Gracie and Jayleigh Pugh. Jamin's funeral is today at Laurel High School.

Opportunities for study and worship

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

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| Bible Classes | 9:00 a.m. |
| Worship | 10:00 a.m. |
| Teen Devo | 6:00 p.m. |

Thursday:

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

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| Bible Study at building | 6:30 p.m. |
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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: Now Tuesdays at 7:00

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

JANUARY 29-Feb. 1, Carey Terry Lesson Series "Being Fully Assured That What God Has Promised, He Is Able To Perform" Rom. 4:21

Sunday Jan 29; 9:00 Bible class; 10:00 sermon, **POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL TODAY;** 6:30 sermon; Monday through Wednesday; 6:30 each evening

STATE OF THE CONGREGATION next Sunday.

STAFFING NURSERY; see Rhonda to volunteer

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; David-29th; Bobby-5th Prayer; Christian-29th; Julio-5th Table; Dale-29th; Troy-5th Announcements/Closing prayer; Daniel-5th; John-February Song Leader; Troy-29th; Dave-5th

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).