

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

February 19, 2023

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CHANGE AND CONTENTMENT

By Luke Bower

A king reigned over a very rich nation. One day he set out to see all the land over which he ruled. After his journey, his feet hurt from the rocky roads on which he had walked. Determined to do something about it, he ordered that all roads in his kingdom be covered with leather. This would cost a fortune and because so many cattle would be butchered for the leather, the people of his kingdom would probably starve. Nevertheless, the king was determined to do something about his hurting feet.

One of his servants overcame his fear of upsetting the king and offered this suggestion: "Instead of covering every road in the country with leather, why don't you just strap a small amount of leather to your feet?" The king was surprised at his servant's boldness but decided to fashion some "shoes" for himself.

The deeper moral of this story is: In order to make this world a happier, better place to live, change yourself—your heart and understanding—not the world.

In Philippians 4:12-13 we read that Paul learned to be content in any situation in which he found himself. *"I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all things through Him who gives me strength."*

As Christians we should learn not to become upset and down about circumstances life throws our way. Instead, we should learn about the strength, understanding, and peace we are offered in Christ Jesus.

You can't always change the things that happen to you, but you can change what you do with those things.

He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises. 2 Peter 1:4

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"
Daniel and Christine; expecting a little one

FROM THE COMMUNITY:

Barbara Anderson, 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; Wesley Collins, heart attack.

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

PAUL BIBLE STUDY will resume at Cathy's on Feb. 24th. Fellowship/coffee at 10:30; 11:00-12:00 Bible study. She has more workbooks if needed.

WOMEN TO WOMEN WORKSHOP Mar. 18th.

MEN'S DAY April 29th. Mark your calendars.

STAFFING NURSERY; see Rhonda to volunteer

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Danny-19th; Dave-26th
Prayer; David-19th; Paul-26th
Table; Lanny-19th; Daniel-26th
Announcements/Closing prayer; John-February
Song Leader; Daniel-19th; Troy-26th

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.
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Wednesday

Men's prayer (Shawn's)	7:30 a.m.
Bible Study at building	6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Men's Bible study (Philip's)	8:30 a.m.
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Friday ladies' Paul study	10:30 a.m.
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We invite you to attend any of our service times, and we look forward to welcoming you, and pray

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).