

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

March 5, 2023

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Shawn Donaway

Deacons:

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Danny Snyder

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Care Ministry:

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TODAY'S SINS

By Eddie Parrish, Brown Trail CoC

Jewelers display diamonds and pearls on black cloth to create a great contrast and thereby enhance the brightness of the jewels. In the first three chapters of Romans, Paul lays out the black cloth. In chapters 4 and 5 he places the jewels on it. The black cloth is sin. The jewels are the salvation offered in Christ. Consider what Paul wrote about the sins of the Gentile world in Romans 1:18-32, and note how modern these ancient sins are.

The wrath of God is being revealed on all who suppress the truth and consequently live ungodly and unrighteous lives (1:18). Though God had revealed Himself to Gentiles they had largely rejected Him (1:19). The Gentiles chose the path of worshipping the creature rather than the creator (1:21-23).

Therefore, God gave them what they wanted (1:24-25). One example of their degeneration was homosexuality (1:26-27). Paul uses strong words of condemnation for this immoral way of life: degrading passions, unnatural, and indecent acts. In quick fashion, Paul lists several additional sins that characterized those Gentiles who chose idolatry over God (1:28-32).

It was because the Gentiles exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshipped and served the creature rather than the creator (1:25) that God gave them over to the grossest immorality. It is easy to see the same thing in our day. The more people reject the truth about God, the more they embrace depravity (1:28). Look at the list of sins in this section and note how many of them are not just excused, but praised and promoted in our culture. The farther one separates from God, the more likely he will be to embrace ungodliness, unholy behavior (1:32).

“That which has been is that which will be, and that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new under the sun”. (Eccl. 1:9)

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
Wayne and Doris Mathis; car accident, Doris has a broken collarbone and has a lot of pain.
Terry Hastings; home but needs continued prayer
Dave Newberry; new complications
Anthony Cipolla; broken clavicle

FROM THE COMMUNITY:

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; Dotty, 6 yr old mauled by dog.

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.
Friday ladies' Paul study	10:30 a.m.

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

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

PAUL BIBLE STUDY at Cathy's each Fri. morning. Fellowship/coffee at 10:30; 11-12 Bible study.

DST begins Mar. 12. Set your clocks forward one hour.

WOMEN TO WOMEN WORKSHOP Mar. 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the FLC. Bring your notebooks.

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

STAFFING NURSERY; see Rhonda to volunteer

Angels in Heaven and Laurel CoC are rejoicing over the **baptism last Sunday of Ashton Messick**, (comes with Taylor Cannon). Welcome to the family, Ashton! We are so happy for you!

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Lanny-5th
Prayer; Bobby-5th.
Table; Julio-5th.
Announcements/Closing prayer; David-March
Song Leader; Paul-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).