

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

April 9, 2023

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DO WE NEED EASTER?

By Jay Launius, Maud CoC, Maud, TX

As with any of the “religious holidays”, it is an interesting study to look into the origins of special days and compare them to the inspired scriptures. The traditional Easter Sunday is the day in which believers in Jesus Christ worldwide commemorate His resurrection from the dead. It is a traditional religious holiday instituted by practices adopted well after the 1st century church was established as recorded in the book of Acts. When Googling the origin of Easter, the following answer is given:

“Easter actually originated as an ancient pagan celebration of the spring equinox. In Christianity, the day was dedicated to observing the resurrection of Jesus Christ, celebrated around the time of the Jewish Passover.”

According to Britannica.com, the earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration comes from the 2nd century, though the celebration of Jesus’ resurrection probably occurred earlier. The online encyclopedia goes on to say that the date of observance and its traditions have been steeped in controversy throughout the centuries.

The truth is, the only place you’ll find Easter in the Bible is in Acts 12:4 (KJV). It has been said that King James used the word in that instance to support the observance of the holiday. So do we need Easter? Romans 14:1-5 allows Christians who follow the “perfect law of liberty” to decide whether to keep a particular day as special if it is given in thanks to the Lord. Thus, we practice a religion that is not rigid with physical rituals, like feasts or holidays. We are however, encouraged to remember the sacrifice and resurrection, in hope of Christ’s return.

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, 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

Doris Mathis; mending from clavicle surgery

Terry Hastings; home but needs continued prayer

Dave Newberry; placed under Hospice care.

New Christian brothers, Ashton and Shane.

All of our number that are traveling.

FROM THE COMMUNITY:

Pugh family. Eleanor's friend Jim Edwards. Ruth Banks (Jean's sister) in Encompass after COVID.

Jimmy Caruso, injured leg at work.

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

PAUL BIBLE STUDY will not meet this week.

MEN'S DAY April 29th with speaker Dan Campbell on "*God's Promises to Noah, Joseph and Israel*". April's Potluck meal will be April 30.

EASTER EGG HUNT TODAY for all the children. Remain after services and see what you can find!

NEW WOMEN TO WOMEN MINISTRY: NURSERY

The new page is posted on bulletin board. Let Cathy know if you wish to serve on this committee so she can add your name before new notebooks are ready on April 16th.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Christian-9th; Vinny 16th
Prayer; Lanny-9th; Philip 16th
Table; Danny-9th; Christian 16th
Announcements/Closing prayer; Philip-April
Song Leader; Troy-9th; Daniel 16th



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).

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.

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