

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

April 16, 2023

OUR LEADERS:

Elders:

David Hudson
Shawn Donaway

Deacons:

Dave Hudson
Lanny Sowell
Danny Snyder

Evangelist:

Dale Nelson
501-207-3808
dale.nelson@laurelcoc.com

Benevolence:

Phil Winter

Care Ministry:

Wayne Mathis

Treasurer:

Don Trader

Media Ministry

Don Trader
Julio Brennick

Youth Leader:

Contact us:

1010 S. Central Avenue
Laurel, DE 19956

laurelcoc@laurelcoc.com

Phone: 302-875-7748

www.laurelcoc.org

Send bulletin items to:
dknewwoo@gmail.com or
Text/call 443-521-2401

I WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN (JUST NOT RIGHT NOW)

By Jay Launius, Maud CoC, Maud, TX

The late country music singer Joe Diffie had a hit song back in 1993 entitled "Prop Me Up Beside The Jukebox If I Die". The song expresses the sentiment of a good ole boy who, should he kick the bucket, have his lifeless body posed in the honky tonk that he dearly loves. Even though the song is tongue-in-cheek and supposed to be funny, it's anything but humorous. One line in the chorus goes, "Lord I wanna go to heaven, but I don't wanna go tonight." Sadly, this may very well express the true feelings of many Christians today.

A close examination of oneself may reveal that we love this present world too much and lack the spiritual maturity to truly desire and be looking forward to our heavenly home. The Scriptures warn us about placing too much affection in earthly things because it will dampen our longing for the spiritual. Jesus said we must lay up treasure in heaven, not on the earth (Mt. 6:19-21) because our heart will be where our treasure resides.

Christians may also feel this way about the second coming of Christ. We all say that we're looking forward to His return, just as long as it's not today, next week, or in our lifetime. Our Savior said, "*Blessed are those servants whom the master, when he comes, will find watching.*" (Luke 12:37) If we are not eagerly waiting for Christ to come again, then perhaps we've got some spiritual growth yet to do. Could it be we are so richly blessed with family, friends and material wealth that we have no desire to be with the Lord?

Peter encourages us to be ready and enthusiastic about going to Heaven. "*Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things (the Day of the Lord), be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless, and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation.*" (2 Peter 3:14-15)

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

Terry Hastings; home but needs continued prayer

Dave Newberry; under Hospice care, declining

New Christian brothers, Ashton and Shane.

All of our number that are traveling.

AIM missionaries, Carolina Aguilar, Jose Montiel

Donna Sponseller in death of her brother

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 Fri. at 10:00 (Tai Chi), coffee and fellowship 10:30, study at 11:00.

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.

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; Vinny 16th, Lanny-23rd

Prayer; Philip 16th; Bobby-23rd

Table; Christian 16th; Shawn-23rd

Announcements/Closing prayer; Philip-April

Song Leader; Daniel 16th; Troy-23rd

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

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).