

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

July 2, 2023

OUR LEADERS:

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Shawn Donaway

Deacons:

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FOURTH OF JULY: REMEMBERING AMERICA AS NATION UNDER GOD from Christian Chronicle

America became a free country on July 4, 1776, however, what many may not know-or forget-is that America is also a nation under God founded on Christian principles. 54 of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Christians, 27 held theology degrees, many went on to form Bible societies. They based the Declaration upon a greater foundational belief that God, or as written in the Declaration "Creator" was the source for men's irrevocable rights.

Samuel Adams once said, "Just and true liberty, equal and impartial liberty, in matters spiritual and temporal is a thing that all men are clearly entitled to by the eternal and immutable laws of God and nature, as well as by the laws of nations and all well grounded and municipal laws, which must have their foundation in the former."

Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration also believed "God who gave us life, gave us liberty." Two of the Continental Congress' first actions were to hire military chaplains and to purchase 20,000 Bibles to remedy a national shortage.

Although America was already a free nation during the presidency of George Washington, he suggested that only religion could uphold its morality. During his farewell address he said, "And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

The Pilgrims clearly stated the purpose for their voyage "undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith." The U.S. Supreme Court concluded in 1892 that "this is a religious people, a Christian nation." According to the late Ronald Reagan, "Without God there is no prompting of conscience...without God there is a coarsening of society; without God democracy will not and cannot long endure...If we ever forget that we are one Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

**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, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Bobby Phillips, Ace Himes, Butch and Jenny Womersley and family.

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

AIM missionaries, Carolina Aguilar, Miguel Javier

Dale and Maddy

Ruth Banks; Wicomico Nursing Home; improving

Ty Hudson's bro. in law Michael Cutolo; heart

Upcoming VBS

Wildfires and tornadoes affecting many

All of those traveling

Gloria Torlish

Joe and Donetta Daliessio; motorcycle accident; Joe is home but touch and go with lung.

Jean Newberry; hip replacement July 5th

Latin American Missions

CELEBRATE RECOVERY each Monday evening from 6-8 in the FLC.

WOMEN'S STUDIES— Zoom class Tues. evenings will take a break for the summer. Apostle Paul study Fridays at Cathy's, 10:00 (Tai Chi), coffee and fellowship 10:30, study at 11:00.

VBS HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR JULY 24-28

Let it be known what you're willing to do to help. See Dale, Ginger or Karen. Start inviting friends.

NURSERY ATTENDANTS needed during morning worship. See sign-up sheet.

SING AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL Sunday, August 6, 3:00 pm in the FLC.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Bobby-2nd; Philip-9th

Prayer; Julio-2nd; Shawn-9th

Table; Shawn-2nd; Christian-9th

Announcements/Closing prayer; Vinny-July

Song Leader; Troy-2nd; Daniel-9th



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).