Laurel Church of Christ Family Focus

December 24, 2023

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THE SHEPHERD KING

By Kate Tompkins

A brighter star lit up the sky than we had ever seen, A sign from Heaven, surely, but whatever could it mean? Nothing to do with us, we thought, we shepherds on the hill, Then on our faces fell, amazed, as it grew brighter still.

The sheep grazed on oblivious as we looked on in fear, A glowing figure in the sky came swooping ever near. What had we done, we mortal men, to bring an angel nigh? Hands over faces, yet we peeked, as we prepared to die.

"Fear not," he said, his voice a chime, "for good news do I bring. In David's town is born this day a Savior, Christ the King." Why unto us, we wondered, 'tis a hillside, not a court. Yet David was a shepherd once, so we were of his sort.

We left the sheep oblivious as we went down the hill. We searched the town and found the babe, I think about it still. That God's own Christ should come, a child, a human such as we, How could we not respond in love, to know such love could be?



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, Pat Tucker, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Ruth Banks, Michelle Tucker **On-going personal Bible studies** World turmoil; people of Russia, Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Guyana, Cameroon Cipolla family "Celebrate Recovery" AIM missionaries, Carolina Aguilar, Miguel Javier Dale and Maddy Latin American Missions Debbie Revel (Cassie's mother, surgery) 27070 Gum Tree Rd, Dagsboro, DE 19939 Coleman family as they care for Kenny's parents Sue Banks (Jean's niece) Brenda Pepper; continued prayers Jenny Womersley, broken wrist Julia's Dad, Haines; upcoming surgery Charles Fooks (Jean's brother) Noah Donahoe's niece, Lottie; heart surgery Dave (Shane's friend); cancer

Those traveling for the holidays

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

WOMEN'S STUDIES – Apostle Paul study Fridays at Cathy's, coffee and fellowship 10:30, study at 11:00. Ladies' Tuesday evening Zoom study at 7:00 pm.

SECRET SISTER REVEAL LUNCHEON Sat. Jan. 20th At JoJo's restaurant, Salisbury, 11:30. RSVP to Ginger. Bring your final gift to luncheon.

NEW YEAR'S EVE GAME NIGHT will be returning on Sunday, Dec. 31 at 6:00 in the FLC. Devotional at 6:00 followed by food, board games and card games as well as the 2nd annual Cornhole Tournament! Bring games, food, snacks for lots of fun as we welcome the new year together.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; 12/24 Danny; 12/31 Dave Prayer; 12/24 David; 12/31 Chad Table; 12/24 Lanny; 12/31 Daniel Song Leader; 12/24 Troy; 12/31 David Announcements/Closing prayer; Christian-Dec.

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)	7:15 a.m.
Bible Study at building	6:30 p.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 that you might find a home here with us in Laurel and with God in heaven as His child.

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).