

# Laurel Church of Christ

## Family Focus

February 18, 2024

### 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@outlook.com

Phone: 302-875-7748

www.laurelcoc.org

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

### TIME TO RUN—Cory Waddell

We humans face temptations daily as part of the human experience. Sin rears its ugly head attempting to throw us off course. When that happens, we are all faced with a key decision on what to do. We can either face it head on or flee from it. At first glance, most would probably advocate for standing strong. To flee is to show cowardice. Only the weak run! The problem with such an outlook is that it is rarely successful. You see, as a general rule, sin is stronger, but not faster.

Consider the mighty man Samson (Judges 13-16). As a called judge of God's people, Samson had a unique relationship with the Lord, being endowed with super strength as he maintained his Nazirite vow. Yet the Bible makes clear Samson also struggled with sexual purity. The book of Judges records multiple relationships outside of wedlock, the most famous of which is with Delilah. How is it that such a man of God was so prone to this sin? I would suggest it stemmed from Samson's desire to face temptation head-on instead of running from it. Time and again he found himself in her bed, having lost the arm wrestling match with temptation. Sin was stronger than Samson.

Now consider a separate figure who faced a sexual temptation. In Genesis 39 the young man Joseph found himself propositioned by his boss's wife over and over, yet without giving in. This seduction came to a head when, alone in the house, she tried to force herself upon him. Yet Joseph's response was very different from that of Samson. Instead of staying put and trying to fight off the temptation, Joseph ran, leaving his outer cloak behind. Even with false imprisonment, this choice to flee temptation was the winning action on Joseph's part. He understood that sin was not faster than he could run.

Hopefully the applications are easy to see. Many times we find ourselves succumbing to sin because we have too much faith in our own strength to say no. The best way to avoid temptation is to go the opposite direction. In head-to-head matches with temptation, sin is usually stronger, but not faster.

**Be still, and know that I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth! Psa. 46:10**

**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  
Sue Banks (Jean's niece)  
Brenda Pepper; continued prayers; making progress  
Butch and Jenny's daughter, Robin  
Julia's Dad, Haines; broken hip surgery went well  
Charles Fooks (Jean's brother)  
Noah Donahoe's niece, Lottie; doing better, stable.  
Dave (Shane's friend); cancer  
Expectant mothers to be: Lauren (Ellis) James-3/15; Elizabeth Hudson-June; Jess Hudson-July.

## Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at:  
[www.laurelcoc.org](http://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

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

**WOMEN'S STUDIES**— Apostle Paul study has concluded on Fridays at Cathy's but study will continue with "The Good News"; coffee and fellowship 10:30, study at 11:00. Ladies' Tuesday evening Zoom study at 7:00 pm .

**THANKS TO GINGER** for heading up the Secret Sisters the past few months and the delightful luncheon yesterday at JoJo's.

**REQUESTING MOVING HELP;** Dan and Christina, Mar. 2. Contact Dan if you can help out.

**POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL** next Sunday, Feb. 25th.

### **MEN TO SERVE;**

Welcome/Scripture; 2/18-Lanny; 2/25-Danny  
Prayer; 2/18-Joe; 2/25-Vinny  
Table; 2/18-Daniel ; 2/25-Philip  
Song Leader; 2/18-Troy; 2/25-David  
Announcements/Closing prayer; 2/18-3/17-Shawn

## 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).