Laurel Church of Christ Family Focus

April 21, 2024

OUR LEADERS:

Elders:

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A FRIEND TO HELP

By Alan Smith

Steve Winger from Lubbock, Texas was taking a difficult class in logic. The professor mercifully told the class that each student would be permitted to bring in a single 8 1/2 by 11 inch sheet of paper with as much information on it as they could put, for help during the test.

On exam day, each student came to class clutching their precious pieces of paper. But Steve walked in with a single blank sheet and a friend who was a senior student and who had an "A" in logic. Steve bent down and placed that single, blank sheet of paper on the floor next to his desk. His expert friend stood on the paper.

The professor noticed the extra body in the room and asked what he was doing. Steve piped up, "You said we could bring in whatever we could fit on a single piece of paper for help on this test; well, this is my help and he can fit on the paper!" He had followed the instructions to the letter and was the only student in that class to score an "A" since he had his expert friend stand alongside him.

That story reminds me of what God has done for us. We are "tested" on a daily basis, but we have two very special blessings to assist us. First of all, God didn't just send us a piece of paper to tell us what we need to know. The jews were given a "cheat sheet" composed of Ten Commandments chiseled in stone, along with hundreds of other commandments penned on scrolls. But God did more than that—He sent His Son to this earth, to stand with us, to live with us, a living, breathing example of what we need to know.

Then when Jesus returned to His Father, He left a Helper with us, a "paraclete: to stand alongside us (no more than that—within us!), supporting us and guiding us. "Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee." (II Cor. 1:21-22) What a tremendous blessing and comfort to those who are in Christ.

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, Pat Tucker, Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Ruth Banks, Michelle Tucker, Haines, Brenda Pepper, Robin Anderson, Charles Fooks, Sherry Winter

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
Expectant mothers to be: Elizabeth Hudson-June;
Jess Hudson-July.
Men's Day Apr. 27th

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

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

women's studies— "The Good News" study is at Cathy's each Fri. morning; coffee and fellowship 10:30, study at 11:00. Ladies' Tuesday evening Zoom study on Hebrews at 7:00 pm.

SAVE THE DATES:

Seaford Spring Sing today, Apr. 21, 2:30-4 Seaford Ladies' Day May 18

LAUREL MEN'S DAY April 27th, 9-2. "Be Still And Know" with speaker Park Linscomb. Lunch to be provided.

NEW OUTREACH MINISTRY; Thea, Philip, Dale, Maddi, Julio, David, and Laurie Fisher from Seaford, have started an outreach ministry at the Rt. 13 Outlet market. If you are interested in helping please talk to one of them.

POTLUCK FELLOWSHIP MEAL April 28th.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; 4/21-David; 4/28-Joe

Prayer; 4/21-Bobby; 4/28Julio Table; 4/21-Dale; 4:28-Shawn

Song Leader; 4/21-Daniel; 4/28-Troy Announcements/Closing prayer; 4/21-5/19

Christian

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).