

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

July 4, 2021

OUR LEADERS:

Elders:

David Hudson
Shawn Donaway

Deacons:

Dave Hudson
Lanny Sowell
Danny Snyder

Benevolence:

Phil Winter

Care Ministry:

Wayne Mathis

Treasurer:

Don Trader

Media Ministry

Don Trader
Julio Brennick

Youth Leader:

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THE BALLAD OF FORT McHENRY

By David Bragg

On the evening of September 13, 1814 an American diplomat found himself stuck on a British vessel watching a fierce bombardment of Baltimore's Fort McHenry. The state of affairs looked grim. As he spent the night detained by the enemy, Francis Scott Key looked out across the waters towards the American fort. But with the dawn of a new day the American cause found new strength. The flag still waved above the fort. That morning, on the back of a letter he happened to find in his pocket, Key began to compose a poem that would be finalized within a week. He called it "The Defense of Fort McHenry".

Over the space of many years the beloved song would grow in popularity as it was sung in patriotic settings and, in 1862, at a major sporting event. The patriotic tune would also be sung to inaugurate the first world series game in 1903. Many attempts were made to have it adopted America's official national anthem, but that would not happen until March 3, 1931 when President Herbert Hoover made "The Star Spangled Banner" America's song.

For Christians of every generation the familiar words penned by Key have special meaning: "the land of the free and the home of the brave". We are citizens of a heavenly kingdom/nation (Phil. 3:20). As such, our freedom is purchased with the precious blood of Jesus (Acts 20:28). Our spiritual liberty demands courage, the willingness to stand up for, and suffer if necessary, for the cause of Christ. It requires to live faithfully in the kingdom of the saved.



Being like Christ John 15:4-5

Pray for the sick:

Faith Fooks (Jean's niece); receiving chemo.

Dave Newberry goes back to Columbus July 6 for another MRI of brain swelling.

Gloria Hurley (Pat Tucker's friend) Crohn's and may need a liver transplant.

Terry Hastings; Cathy's brother-in-law

Robin Anderson and Kristy Brady (Womersley's Daughters)

Pat Tucker, eye issues.

Alexander Asher (Cassie's son); cont. prayers

Kay Murphy, difficulty breathing

Thankfulness for the relief from COVID we are experiencing and that it will continue.

Those of our number who are traveling.



STAY INFORMED by signing up for the informational blasts on the website.

LADIES' SUMMER ZOOM CLASS is studying I, II, and III John Tuesday evenings at 7:00.

SAVE THE DATES: July 23-24-25. Don and Ron Williams will return for a dementia and cancer workshop.

August 1-4 Temperanceville Gospel Meeting with Carey Terry.

August 21 Tentative date for clothing giveaway.

Pray for our country and those that are serving!

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.

Teen Devo 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday:

Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m.

Women's Zoom study 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study at building 6:30 p.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

About us

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).