

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

July 25, 2021

OUR LEADERS:

Elders:

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Shawn Donaway

Deacons:

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Lanny Sowell
Danny Snyder

Benevolence:

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OTHERS WHO HAVE NO HOPE

By Jim Faughn

“But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others who do not have hope” (1 Thess. 4:13 ESV)

The sleep being referred to here is the sleep of death and the use of the word brothers means that these words are addressed to Christians. Does this verse teach us that Christians are not to grieve at all when a loved one passes from this life? Are Christians just to act as though nothing happened and go on with their lives? Does a Christian's confidence in an eternal home make him or her immune to feelings of loss?

The answer to those questions is NO. The sorrow of a Christian is not to be as others who have no hope.

I often get called on in trying times like these. However, I've noticed that many of the situations in which I've found myself can fit into one of two categories.

I've been in situations when people just want a preacher around. Any brand will do. Often, these people are confused. In fact, panic may not be too strong a word. These people want somebody, anybody, that has some sort of religious credentials to calm them and assure them in some way.

The other people I've been with are just as sad and feel their loss just as much as the first group. Through tears they express words that convey their loss to the preacher and one another. While they also appreciate a preacher being with them, their actions and words convey a quiet confidence that the other group does not have. Their confidence does not depend upon the presence of a preacher. Their confidence is in God and His promises.

It is my prayer that all of us could be a part of this second group of people. It is also my prayer that each of us will live our lives in such a way that those who are left behind can have that quiet confidence that is needed so much during very trying times.

Being like Christ John 15:4-5

Pray for the sick:

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

Dave Newberry; continued health concerns

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.

Daniel, Christine and birth of baby.

Nip Hudson, broken rib from fall.

Those of our number who are traveling.

Those attending camp as staff or campers.

Dale and Madison Nelson as they move here and begin their work with us.

Pray for our country and those that are serving!



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.

CANCER AND DEMENTIA seminar continues today with Don and Ron Williams.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL Today, July 25th. Please remain and enjoy some great food and fellowship.

August 1-4 Temperanceville Gospel Meeting with Carey Terry.

August 28 CLOTHING GIVEAWAY. Please wait until after workshop and fellowship meal to bring donations.

GUEST SPEAKER SHAWN JUDGE, Aug. 15 and special contribution for Ganderbrook Christian Camp.

CHALLENGE: Memorize 100 Bible verses by Dec. 31.

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

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).