

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

October 3, 2021

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GOD IS STILL IN CHARGE

By Bill Brandstatter

It seems things are rather chaotic in this world. Despite dangers, let us always remember God is still in charge. Daniel wrote, "The Most High rules in the kingdom of men." God rules in a spiritual way and with spiritual laws. His kingdom is not of this world (Jn. 18:36).

In II Chron. 7:14 we read, "If my people who are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

The first part of this scripture refers to "God's people". God's people today are Christians. We must humble ourselves. Too many today are proud and puffed up. Too many times we look to man for all the answers of life. God can do things no one else can. James states, "God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble (James 4:6). That is why we should pray and seek His face. Prayer accomplishes a great deal for the faithful (James 5:16).

Then, we need to turn from our wicked ways and be forgiven of our sins. All men everywhere are commanded to repent (Acts 17:30). Forgiveness comes through the blood of Christ (Mt. 26:28). We get into His blood by being baptized (Mt. 26:28; Acts 2:38). Once a person obeys Him, God promises, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (I Jn. 1:9).

If we are Christians, we have the assurance that God hears our prayers (I Jn. 5:14). Let us be intercessors for our government and all men (I Tim. 2:1-4). The world needs saving. Let us be God's instruments in helping to do that. God is still in charge. He is the final judge. We are His people and ones who should carry the gospel message to the world (Acts 8:4). The gospel is powerful and it can save (Rom. 1:16). Let us be ones spreading the gospel message. God will provide the increase (I Cor. 3:6).

Being like Christ John 15:4-5

Pray for the sick:

Faith Fooks, Dave Newberry, Gloria Hurley, Terry Hastings, Kay Murphy, —continuing health concerns.

Eleanor Roulis feeling some better.

Pat Tucker, eye issues.

Alexander Asher (Cassie's son); burned by boiling water .

Butch and Jenny Womersley requested prayers; also daughters Robin Anderson and Kristy Brady Schools, students and teachers as they try to carry on amidst COVID.

Joel received some good news from tests.

Delmar Nursing Home.

Any of our number that are traveling. Praise for a safe trip for the Harding travelers.

Our country and those 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.
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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



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

LADIES' SUMMER ZOOM CLASS that was studying I, II, and III John has concluded that study. Many thanks to Thea and Karen for their hard work in organizing and leading the class. That class will transition to Wed. nights at 6:30 and will be streamed from the live Wed. evening ladies' class in the FLC. We will be studying the 23rd Psalm through Debbie Dupuy's book "The Shepherd's Daughter".

LADIES' DAY, October 23 from 10-2. Registration will begin at 9. Our speaker is Tiffany Brooks and the theme is "Lord, Don't You Care?" See Ginger for ways you can help.

CAMP DELMARVA, October 8-10. Young people get registered and invite your friends.

Work on the challenge to memorize 100 scriptures by Dec. 31.

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).