

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

October 17, 2021

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A RE-CREATED MASTERPIECE

By David A. Sargent

Recent video footage in a museum in Taiwan reveals a twelve year old wearing a t-shirt and shorts with a drink in his hand touring the museum when he suddenly stumbles over a platform and reaches out his hands to brace his fall. Unfortunately, as he fell, one of his hands punches a fist sized hole in a painting on display.

The painting, an oil on canvas entitled "Flowers" by Italian artist Paolo Porpora, dates back to the 1600's and is worth \$1.5 to 2 million. Fortunately, the organizers did not seek damages from the boy's family. The painting was restored on site and is now back on exhibition.

God has created a masterpiece that has also been marred. God made the world and everything in it, but His highest creation is mankind, for man was created in the image of God. Man is one of God's created masterpieces.

But man has marred God's masterpiece by sinning against the Creator. Our sins have ruined God's masterpiece and we deserve to be cast aside, like a ruined painting.

But the good news is: God is in the restoration business! He loves us so much that He wants to make us whole again, fully restored to fellowship with Him and on display to the world as His beautiful recreation. He restores us in Christ.

Because of His great love for us, God sent us His son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins. Through His blood, we can be cleansed of sin and fully restored. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace. (Eph. 1:7) Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new (2 Cor. 5:17).

To be found in Christ and receive new, eternal life we must place our faith and trust in Jesus, turn from our sins in repentance, confess Jesus before men, and be baptized (Immersed) into Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. Then, as we walk in the light of His Word, the blood of Jesus continues to cleanse us from all sin. Won't you allow God to re-create you in Christ through your trusting obedience?

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)

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.

Winter's neighbors with COVID have been hospitalized.

Delmar Nursing Home.

Any of our number that are traveling.

On going personal Bible studies.

Our country, her leaders, those serving.



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

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.

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

LOOKING AHEAD:

Ladies mark your calendars for the Christmas Tea that will be held in the FLC on Dec. 11th at 12:00. Bring a wrapped ornament to exchange. RSVP to Julie by Dec. 8th.

Christmas caroling will be Sunday the 19th. Meet at the FLC at 4:00.

Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at: www.laurelcc.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).