

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

October 31, 2021

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COMMITTED FOR THE LONG RUN

By Alan Smith

Unable to attend the funeral after his uncle Charlie died, a man who lived far away called his brother and told him. "Do something nice for Uncle Charlie and send me the bill."

Later, he got a bill for \$200 which he paid. The next month he got another bill for \$200 which he also paid, figuring it was some incidental expense. But, when the bills for \$200 kept arriving every month, he finally called his brother again to find out what was going on. "Well," said the brother, "You said to do something nice for Uncle Charlie, so I rented him a tuxedo."

The story made me think about how we are often willing to give, even sacrifice great amounts, and we are happy to do so once or twice. But we don't want it to become something we have to do for the rest of our lives. We're happy to have friends or family stay in our homes for a short while, but we don't want lit to go on for years and years. We'll agree to teach a Bible class for a quarter or two, but we don't want to be stuck in the class for the rest of our life. We'll take a mission trip and live in squalid conditions for a week or two, but would never dream of moving there permanently.

Unfortunately, we sometimes are tempted to have the same attitude when it comes to serving Christ. We're willing to give up everything for Christ, at least for a little while. But for our whole lives? Always seeking to put others first? Always willing to forgive? Always willing to suffer and sacrifice for the cause of Christ?

We need to be reminded that Christianity is not a sprint, it's a long distance marathon, and we must be willing to commit ourselves to run the race to the very end. Be forewarned—it can be tiring. But "let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Galatians 6:9

Being like Christ John 15:4-5

Pray for the sick:

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

Pat Tucker, eye issues; Michelle Tucker, heel issues.

Vinnie Odo; injured in a fall in his shop.

Sandi Holt; liver biopsy in Baltimore on Nov. 15.

Sympathy to Bobby Phillips in the loss of his nephew, Jacob Wilkins.

Schools, students and teachers as they try to carry on amidst COVID.

Winter's neighbors battling COVID; 3 are home, one passed away.

Delmar Nursing Home.

Penni's sister Peggy with COVID.

Thea's friend Cindy's husband Dwight; back surg.

On-going personal Bible studies.

Congratulations to Cipolla's expecting a little one

Our country, her leaders, those serving.



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

Bus Trip: Ginger is getting together a bus trip to *Sight and Sound* to see *David*. If there is enough interest the trip will be Mar. 19, 3:00 show. The cost is \$115 per person, plus cost of stopping for dinner. Let Ginger know ASAP if interested. The bus will leave from the FLC at 10:00

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.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ends at 2:00 am Sunday, Nov. 7. Turn clocks back one hour.

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

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).