

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

December 12, 2021

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A CHRISTMAS WISH

By David A Sargent

Let me share with you how I wish the world would celebrate the birth of Christ: When I was a boy in school, we had two holidays: one to celebrate Washington's birthday, the other to celebrate Lincoln's. On those occasions we would study about these men and what they did for our country. We studied about their work and their role as president. But we never studied anything about their births.

I wish the world would celebrate the birth of Jesus the way it celebrates the birth of other men, by concentrating on His life. I wish the world would look more at His accomplishments, teaching, world influence, and death than at the manger scene, the wise men, and the shepherds tending their flocks. In our celebration, let us not lose focus on the man He became, and how His life changed the world. It is of utmost importance for us to understand WHY He came.

Jesus came to save us from sin! (Mt. 1:20-21) That's what makes His birth so special. When our sins rendered us doomed for eternal destruction, Jesus came to rescue us. And in order to save us, Jesus, the sinless Son of God, had to die on the cross for our sins, be buried, and then rise again after three days (I Cor. 15:1-4).

Jesus WILL save those who place their faith and trust in Him (Acts 16:30-31), turn from their sins in repentance (Acts 17:30-31), confess Him before men (Rom. 10:9-10), and are baptized (immersed) in His name for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38). His atoning blood will continue to cleanse those who continue to walk in the light of His word (I John 1:7).

The best way to celebrate the birth of Jesus is to recognize WHY He was born into the world (for our salvation) and to accept His gift on His terms.

Won't you?

Being like Christ John 15:4-5

Pray for the sick:

Faith Fooks, Dave Newberry, Gloria Hurley, Terry Hastings, Kay Murphy, Kristy Brady, Robin Anderson, Natalie Anderson, Pat Tucker, Michelle Tucker, Sandi Holt—continuing health concerns.
Donald Morris (Penni's B-I-L); in Hospice care
Amy Mathis received good news from her test.
Lanny Sowell; tests.
Thea's friend Cindy's brother Dwight; back surg.
On-going personal Bible studies.
Kerri and family—(Dad 's return of brain cancer)
Julio; soon traveling to Peru.
Marissa (Robin Anderson's niece); shock trauma
James McCartney; prostate cancer (has not spread to his bones)
Michael Roulis; vertigo related to migraines
Mary Mussler; by-pass
Rhonda Cipolla and her pregnancy
Danielle Pedri's infant son Jacob (Delmar teacher)
Robin Matthew;s son and D-I-L; COVID/pneumonia
Will Hudson and Claire Rossiter
Ohio Valley Univ. students and staff

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

CHRISTMAS TEA for ladies Dec. 18th at 12:00, FLC. RSVP to Julie. Bring wrapped ornament to exchange.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING will be Sunday the 19th. Meet at the FLC AT 4:00.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL December 26th will be soup and sandwiches. Sign up sheet in the back.

NEW BROTHER—We rejoice that Shawn's friend Bailey was baptized Monday afternoon. We welcome him to our church family.

OUR PARADE ENTRY won a trophy! Thanks to Troy and all those who worked to make that happen.

CROWN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CLASS coming in Feb.

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).