

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

May 15, 2022

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RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS by Troy Mathis

There are so many things we can do to show our love for one another. Simple things, but ways we can love, encourage and support one another. This list is certainly not all inclusive, but it will give ideas and suggestions of things we can do starting today.

Write someone a letter. Wouldn't it be nice to get something in the mailbox other than an advertisement, solicitation, or bill? We know the apostle Paul wrote at least 13 letters. Peter, James, John, and Jude all wrote letters. Doesn't have to be formal, professional, or theological. Just a short little letter to let someone know that they are being thought of.

Send a card. Use the church directory for birthdays, anniversaries, special occasions. When people suffer a loss of any kind—a pet, job, a loved one—something as simple as a card to let the one suffering know they are being thought of means a lot.

Use the telephone. Call and chat. Text messages work well too.

Make amends. This may not be as easy, but is one of the best things we can do for fellow Christians, our brothers and sisters in Christ. This is so important that Jesus talks about it in the Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew 5, starting in verse 22 Jesus says, "But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment..." Verse 23, "So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. *First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.*" (emphasis mine). Reconciliation takes precedence even over offering our gift of worship.

Pray. The importance of praying for one another cannot be over-emphasized. Paul says in Galatians 6 that we're 'to bear one another's burdens.' James 5:16 'confess your sins to one another and *pray for one another*', that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. Remember Danny Campbell's 30 days of prayer? For the next 30 days, pick one person each day and pray for that person. They will know we are Christians by our love. We can show this love by our acts of kindness and prayer.

Encourage one another in love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:23-24

Pray for the sick: We have many on our prayer list. You may not know some of them, but God knows them and their needs, so let's lift them up.

Faith Fooks, Dave Newberry, Terry Hastings, Kay Murphy, Kristy Brady, Robin Anderson, Natalie Anderson, Pat Tucker, Bobby Phillips, Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Eleanor Roulis, Amy Mathis, all with continuing health concerns.

On-going personal Bible studies.

Carol (Sandi's friend) tongue cancer, on Hospice.

Mothers to be; Courtney, Cadence (Crone) Wright

Ruth Banks (Jean's sister); eyes

World turmoil; people of Ukraine and Russia

Shane (Joel & Tina's Son-in-law) growth on face

Carolynn Foxwell begins new job May 16th

Andy M. (Exec. Director Camp Manatawny); stroke

Pat Tucker's sisters, Rose and Billie Lou; health

Myra's sister Connie

Ginger Trader; healing from oral surgery

Baby Anthony Cipolla for more weight gain

Kaylen Rossiter, COVID

SPRING CLEANUP will be months of May-June.

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY will be June 4th.

A BIG THANK YOU to Julie Snyder for the lovely and delicious breakfast on Mother's Day that was enjoyed by many.

LADIES' ZOOM is ending soon but if you are interested in a summer Zoom class let Thea or Cathy know. Considering "Women of Faith: Encouraging One Another". Begins 1st Tuesday of June.

FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK MEAL for May will be the 29th. We will be honoring our graduates: Jaden Snyder, Jayla, and Taylor Cannon.

MEN TO SERVE:

Welcome/Scripture: Lanny-15th

Prayer: Paul-15th

Table: Julio-15th

Announcements/closing prayer: Philip-May

Song leader: Daniel-15th

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.

Thursday:

Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.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).