

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

December 11, 2022

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AND IT CAME TO PASS...

By Steve Higginbotham, Karns COC, Knoxville, TN

An older man once sat in a class in a Bible college. That day the professor asked his students to share a verse that means a great deal to them. They offered many great verses, rich with theological implications. When the class finished, the professor asked the visiting man if he would like to share his favorite verse. He agreed and said, "My favorite verses in the Bible are the ones that begin with the phrase 'and it came to pass.'" A few snickers could be heard among the prideful students so the elderly man added an additional comment.

He said, "Young men, allow me to explain why I answered as I did. You see, when I was 32, our firstborn son was killed by a drunk driver. At the age of 45, our daughter came home on a break from college, sat her mother and me down, and proceeded to tell us why she no longer believed in God. She told us that God was merely an invention of man intended to be a crutch for the psychologically weak, and that she wanted no part of it. We found this to be more painful than the death of our son. At the age of 55, I lost my job. Due to my age at the time, I couldn't find a job. Consequently, we lost our home, and for six months we were forced to live in our car. Then at the age of 63, we discovered that my wife had cancer. For three years we fought that cancer as hard as we could, but my wife eventually died. So you see, young men, the events that have taken place in my life have caused me to appreciate and love the verses that begin with the words "and it came to pass," for they are a reminder to me that the horrible circumstances in which we sometimes find ourselves don't "come to stay", they "come to pass."

After the man finished, you could have heard a pin drop. The class was no longer snickering because they had learned a valuable lesson. You'll have many things "come to pass" in your life, but thank God they won't "come to stay!"

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

Pray for the sick: You may not know some of them, but God knows them and their needs, so let's lift them up.

Terry Hastings, Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Pat Tucker, Dave Newberry; Myra's sister, Connie; Norma Hudson, Bobby Phillips, continuing health concerns.

On-going personal Bible studies.

World turmoil; people of Ukraine and Russia

Jenny Womersley and family

Goldie Weldon; foot problems

Butch Womersley; health and safety

All our members that are traveling

All those battling COVID

Our elders and deacons

Leaders of our country, cities and states

Cipolla family in their work with children.

'Celebrate Recovery'

Ace Himes

LADIES' ZOOM: Now Tuesdays at 7:00

CELEBRATE RECOVERY will continue each Monday evening from 6-9 in the FLC. Meal at 6, meeting 7-9.

The congregation is sponsoring a family for Christmas. Please have the wrapped gifts here next Sunday, the 18th, labeled with a name. See Philip or Thea to help.

Christmas Caroling will be Dec. 18th. Meet at the FLC at 3:00.

EVENTS AND DATES FOR 2023

The new 2023 wall calendar is here. All it needs now are events and dates. Let Diane know when you have something to add to it.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; David-11th; Daniel-18th.

Prayer; Christian-11th; Julio-18th.

Table; Daniel-11th; Danny-18th.

Announcements/Closing prayer; Philip—Dec.
Song Leader; Dave-11th; David-18th

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).