



April 8, 2018

**Sunday:**

Worship: 8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm

Bible Classes: 9:30 am

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes: 7 pm

**Shepherds:**

elders@laurelchurch.net

Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460

Allen Pratt: 410-730-1075

Steve Thornton: 301-362-6785

Jody Venkatesan: 301-483-8390

Michael Wilkins: 410-480-4365

**Ministers:**

Ricky Cook

443-521-4307

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Office Hours on Monday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Ian Drucker

301-471-5502

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Office Hours on Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bren White

301-676-5420

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Office Hours on Wednesday, 12-6 p.m.

Tim Wood

308-765-8941

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**Deacons:**

Kwesi Asiedu

Eric Gilbey

John Birus

Calvin Hunt

Steve Brosey

Steve Jones

Kerry Clark

Del Meadows

Phillip Cummings

Brandon Porter

Chris Forand

Jason Tate

Joe Ford

**Secretary:** Susan Ray

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## Strength and Courage To Stand

The letter to the Hebrews is one of both rebuke (e.g. – *Heb 5:11-14*) and encouragement (e.g. – *Heb 10:21-25*). It is easy to offer a critical analysis of someone else's life and deeds, especially when one does not have to walk in another's shoes. Even a casual reading of the New Testament allows us to appreciate that we do not face the level of persecution that many first century Christians did. That is not to say that our lives are devoid of troubles and trials. Yet, when we appreciate the tone of the Hebrew letter, we are led to the conclusion that persecutions and troubles are not a reason to quit. To the contrary, they are a reason to redouble our faith in and service to God.



The Hebrew writer calls for his audience to remember the time when they had shown faithfulness in the face of hostility (*Heb 10:32-34*). There was a time when they were willing to share (joyfully) in the sufferings of others. It is likely that this had been some considerable time in the past. However, the Hebrew writer calls for them to remember that time and not give up in the face of their present distress. Surely these Christians came to the realization that it is easier to say than it is to do.

How does one stand firm and keep a sure grip on the promises of God in the face of troubles and trials? Assuredly this requires more than going through the motions of ritualism. If standing firm and keeping a sure grip on the promises of God in the face of persecutions, troubles and trials is easy, how does one explain the volume of exhortation and encouragement found in scripture? The fact of the matter is that this is a challenge. To be sure it is one of the most challenging endeavors one may undertake. Thus, the constant need for the reminder that the grace of God makes us able – *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* *Philippians 4:13*

Standing firm in the face of adversity is difficult to do. Many are overwhelmed by the cares, concerns and pressures of this life. The good news is that God makes us more than able to withstand these things. How? He has given us the sure hope of something better than what we have right now – *2 Corinthians 5:1*. He has told us that this present world is not our true home. We are but travelers on our way home – *Philippians 3:20*. When we give greater priority and consideration to the spiritual over the secular, the lion's share of the battle of life is already won – *2 Corinthians 4:16-18*. Yes, we are able to stand firm and keep a sure grip on the promises of God because Jesus is the Solid Rock. All Glory to God!

In Him,  
Ricky Cook

# Order of Worship

Order of Worship		Leaders	Location	Time	
<b>8:00 AM:</b>	<b>10:30 AM:</b>				
<p><i>Song Leader: Marty Findley</i></p> <p><b>797 Lord, We Come Before Thee Now</b></p> <p><i>Call to Worship: Farin Crone</i></p> <p><b>75 I Sing the Mighty Power of God</b></p> <p><b>77 Glorify Thy Name</b></p> <p><b>337 Hallelujah! What a Savior</b></p> <p><i>Assistant 1: Phillip Venkatesan</i>  <i>Giving: Jody Venkatesan</i>  <i>Bread: Jeff Watson</i>  <i>Fruit of the Vine: Steve Brosey</i>  <i>Assistant 2: Shaun Holt</i>  <i>Assistant 3: Reggie Oliver</i></p> <p><b>393 The Lord's My Shepherd</b></p> <p><i>Scripture Reading: Heb. 10:32-39</i>  <i>Brent Smith</i></p> <p><b>429 Oh, to Be Like Thee</b></p> <p><i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i></p> <p><b>71 As the Deer</b></p> <p><i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i></p> <p><b>410 He Leadeth Me</b></p> <p><i>Closing Prayer: Phillip Cummings</i></p> <p><i>Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise.</i></p>	<p><i>Song Leader: Chuck Morris</i></p> <p>— <b>I Love the Lord Messiah</b></p> <p>— <b>Blessed Be the Name of the Lord</b></p> <p><i>Call to Worship: Allen Pratt</i></p> <p>— <b>More</b></p> <p><b>859 He Paid a Debt</b></p> <p><i>Assistant 1: Neal Wilkins</i>  <i>Assistant 2: Ross Thian</i>  <i>Giving: Dan Hager</i>  <i>Bread: Kwesi Asiedu</i>  <i>Fruit of the Vine: Zane Huckabey</i>  <i>Assistant 3: Emagii Graves</i>  <i>Assistant 4: Ivens Jeans</i>  <i>Assistant 5: Bolajao Ajao</i></p> <p><b>874 Jesus is Lord</b></p> <p><i>Scripture Reading: Heb. 10:32-39</i>  <i>Ian Huckabey</i></p> <p><b>400 Living by Faith</b></p> <p><i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i></p> <p><b>179 God is Calling the Prodigal</b></p> <p><i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i></p> <p><b>780 Won't It Be Wonderful There</b></p> <p><i>Closing Prayer: Steve Thornton</i></p> <p><i>Our songs today are from Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.</i></p>	<p><i>Brandon Porter, Jason Kane &amp; Chuck Morris</i></p>	<p>Church Building</p>	<p>1:30 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Del Meadows &amp; Joe Ford</i></p>	<p>Hunt 7242 Albion Way Hanover, 21076</p>	<p>1:30 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Farin Crone</i></p>	<p>Church Building</p>	<p>6 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Bren White &amp; Allen Pratt</i></p>	<p>Panera Bread Laurel Town Center</p>	<p>1 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Ricky Cook</i></p>	<p>Church Building</p>	<p>12:30 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Paul Wharton (No Kids)</i></p>	<p>Lorien Nursing Home</p>	<p>2:30 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Steve Brosey &amp; Marty Findley</i></p>	<p>Brosey 1116 Severn Pines Way Severn, 21144</p>	<p>11:30 AM</p>	
		<p><i>Teens</i></p>	<p>Church Building</p>	<p>1:30 PM</p>	
		<p><i>Brent Smith &amp; Jack Birus (No Kids)</i></p>	<p>Smith 1609 Cheston Lane Apt. M Hanover, 21076</p>	<p>5 PM</p>	
<p><b>Others Serving this morning:</b></p> <p>Ushers: (1) Ben Anglin, (2) Jack Birus</p>	<p><b>Others Serving this morning:</b></p> <p>Ushers: (1) Caleb Dockendorf, (2) Khari Gardener</p>				
 <p><i>Where Faith Meets Life!</i></p>	<b>Wednesday, April 11th</b>				
	<p><b>Devotional</b></p>	<p>Bren White</p>			
	<p><b>Singing</b></p>	<p>John Landrum</p>	<p><i>Ben Anglin &amp; Jonathan Anglin</i></p>	<p>TBA</p>	
	<p><b>Closing Prayer:</b></p>	<p>Steve Brosey</p>			
	 <p><i>Please remember to turn off, mute or set to vibrate all cell phones and electronic devices during services.</i></p>		<p><i>Calvin Mitchell, John Jones &amp; A.J. Johnson</i></p>	<p>Lorien Nursing Home</p>	<p>2:30 PM</p>