



December 16, 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.

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	Joe Ford
John Birus	Eric Gilbey
Steve Brosey	Calvin Hunt
Kerry Clark	Steve Jones
Phillip Cummings	Del Meadows
Chris Forand	Brandon Porter

Secretary: Susan Ray
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He Knows What He's Doing

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." Jeremiah 29:11

One of the facts of the Christian life is that it is an ongoing learning process. Learning is not so much important for the accumulating of knowledge, but for the building of faith. When we allow God to speak to us through His word, internalize it by faith and demonstrate it in obedience, the necessary result is that we will be blessed and God will be glorified. Thus, we are able to discern that learning is not about becoming a theological superior. Rather, it is needful to help us become vessels suited for the Master's purpose and service.

The lessons that God teaches us through His word are both practical and beneficial. One of the things that we need on a daily basis is to be encouraged in the faith. I find Jeremiah 29:11 to be a very encouraging word from our God. Of the lessons to be learned from this declaration of God are a realization and a conclusion. Contextually, this was a low point for the nation of Israel. The chosen of God who had subdued the Promised Land were now captives in Babylon. God spoke to Israel for the purpose of letting them know that in spite of what it looked like, He was working on their behalf for their good.

The realization to which we must come is that while we may not know or understand what God is doing (may I be so bold as to say that at times we don't "like" what God is doing), He knows what He's doing. The power, faithfulness, grace, mercy and love of God are not dependent on our ability to comprehend the manner in which God chooses to work in our lives. He is God all by Himself – Psalm 21:13. We must realize and embrace the fact that because we don't know, doesn't mean that God doesn't know – 2 Corinthians 5:7. In all that God determines and in all that He allows, He knows what He's doing.

The conclusion that we are able to reach is that in day of prosperity and in day of adversity, God is in control. We do not know everything nor are we able to explain everything. God does not reveal to us the exact manner of His working in every event. However, this we have learned, God is faithful – Lamentations 3:22-24. May we be encouraged and take courage in the fact that our Father knows what He's doing. To God be the glory!

In Him,
Ricky Cook

Order of Worship

Welcome to Worship

8:00 AM:

Song Leader: Will Evans

S-82 Let Us Worship
S-99 Worthy Lord

Call to Worship: Michael Wilkins

650 Sent the Light
S-14 Light the Fire
324 Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Assistant 1: Reggie Oliver

Giving: Paul Wharton

Bread: Calvin Mitchell

Fruit of the Vine: Jonathan Anglin

Assistant 2: John Landrum

Assistant 3: Reggie White

781 Thank You, Lord!

Scripture Reading: 2 Tim. 1:1-12
DuBois Murphy

412 Jesus, Hold My Hand

Sermon: Ricky Cook

S-84 Open the Eyes of My Heart

Prayer Requests/Announcements

718 We Shall Assemble

Closing Prayer: Brent Smith

Our songs today are from Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.

Others Serving this morning:

Ushers: (1) Jack Birus,
(2) Ben Anglin

Sunday Evening Worship

Call to Worship: Paul Wharton

Song Leader: Kevin Caldwell

Scripture Reading: Paul Brosey

Speaker: Ricky Cook

Lord's Supper: Del Meadows

Closing Prayer: Bren White

Usher A Phillip Venkatesan

10:30 AM:

Song Leader: Bruce Robins

555 Seek Ye First
543 Wonderful Words of Life

Call to Worship: Wayne Dellinger

429 Oh, to Be Like Thee
568 Jesus, Rose of Sharon

Assistant 1: Charles Pratt

Assistant 2: Emagii Graves

Giving: Del Meadows

Bread: Vaughn Harvey

Fruit of the Vine: Kerry Clark

Assistant 3: LeRoy Bell

Assistant 4: Cory Dockendorf

Assistant 5: John Jones

577 We Bow Down

Scripture Reading: 2 Tim. 1:1-12
Caleb Dockendorf

448 The Greatest Commands

Sermon: Ricky Cook

674 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Prayer Requests/Announcements

694 Servant Song

Closing Prayer: Steve Thornton

Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise.

Others Serving this morning:

Ushers: (1) Alex Ray,
(2) Jeff Ray

Wednesday, December 19th

Devotional Jody Venkatesan

Singing Allen Pratt

Closing Prayer: Farin Crone



Please remember to turn off, mute or set to vibrate all cell phones and electronic devices during services.

Guest Guide:

- Nursery and Training room are upstairs.
- Children's classes are downstairs.
- Looking for a church home? We'd love to tell you about this congregation.
- Please fill out a guest card and drop it in the collection basket.
- Personal sound receivers are available for hearing enhancement in all classes and services in the auditorium. Stop by the sound booth to get one.

Serving Next Week: December 23rd

8:00 AM Service

Brother of the Month	Farin Crone
Call to Worship	Farin Crone
Assist 1	Eric Gilbey
Giving	Bob Ozomah
Bread	Paul Wharton
Fruit of the Vine	Calvin Mitchell
Assist 2	Phillip Cummings
Assist 3	Bryson Gilbey
Scripture Reader	Phillip Venkatesan
Closing Prayer	Kevin Caldwell
Usher 1	John Landrum
Usher 2	Jack Birus

10:30 AM Service

Brother of the Month	Brandon Porter
Call to Worship	Vaughn Harvey
Assist 1	Jason Kane
Assist 2	Desmond Hunt
Giving	Calvin Hunt
Bread	Marvin Blye
Fruit of the Vine	Demetrius Morris
Assist 3	Zane Huckabey
Assist 4	Darius Alexis
Assist 5	Ricky Cook II
Scripture Reader	Steve Koziol
Closing Prayer	Wayne Dellinger
Usher 1	Jeff Ray
Usher 2	Charles Pratt