

Order of Worship		A Warm Welcome	
8:00 AM: <i>Song Leader: Charles Hamilton</i> 778 Be with Me, Lord <i>Call to Worship: Steve Jones</i> 74 Praise the Lord 176 Lamb of God <i>Bread: Jeff Watson</i> <i>Fruit of the Vine: Alan Sandlin</i> <i>Giving: Wayne Dellinger</i> 381 Years I Spent in Vanity <i>Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:1-10</i> <i>Dimitri Sandlin</i> 560 Living by Faith <i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i> 918 Out of My Bondage <i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i> 777 Father, Hear the Prayer We Offer <i>Closing Prayer: Wayne Dellinger</i> <i>Usher 1: Kellen Gibson</i> <i>Usher 2: LeRoy Bell</i> <i>Projectionist: TBD</i> <i>Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise.</i>	10:30 AM: <i>Song Leader: Bruce Robins</i> 731 Take Time to Be Holy <i>Call to Worship: Alan Bobo</i> 549 There is Sunshine in My Soul 611 Heavenly Sunlight 568 Savior Teach Me (PFL) <i>Bread: Rodney Philyaw</i> <i>Fruit of the Vine: Steve Koziol</i> <i>Giving: Jerry Prestridge</i> — Here I am to Worship <i>Scripture Reading: Ephesians 5:1-10</i> <i>Kerry Clark</i> 290 Shine, Jesus, Shine <i>Sermon: Ricky Cook</i> 674 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus <i>Prayer Requests/Announcements</i> 1016 This Little Light of Mine <i>Closing Prayer: Jerry Prestridge</i> <i>Usher 1: Bob Ozomah</i> <i>Usher 2: Michael Ozomah</i> <i>Projectionist: TBD</i> <i>Our songs today are from Songs of Faith and Praise, Praise for the Lord and the Supplement.</i>	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 give it to one of the ushers. - Communion cups are available in the foyer. <u>The cups will be picked up by the ushers after communion.</u>	
		Serving Next Week: September 13th	
		8:00 Service	
		Brother of the Month	Steve Jones
		Song Leader	Kevin Caldwell
		Call To Worship	Shaun Holt
		Bread	Reggie Oliver
		Fruit of the Vine	Kevin Taylor
		Giving	John Jones
		Scripture Reader	Teddy Williams
		Closing Prayer	John Jones
		Usher 1	Bob Ozomah
		Usher 2	Kevin Hogg
		Projectionist	Byron Vaughan
		10:30 Service	
		Brother of the Month	Jerry Prestridge
		Song Leader	Carl Wamble
		Call to Worship	Vaughn Harvey
		Bread	Neal Wilkins
		Fruit of the Vine	Kevin Nash
		Giving	Demetrius Morris
		Scripture Reader	Henry Jenkins
		Closing Prayer	Demetrius Morris
		Usher 1	Cornelius Morris
		Usher 2	Joe Ford
		Projectionist	Bruce Robins
Sunday Evening Worship	We would like the men scheduled to serve in the worship service meet in the copier room at 7:45 and 10:15 to prepare for the service.		
Song Leader: Rodney Philyaw			
Call to Worship: Vaughn Harvey			
Scripture Reader: Joe Ford		Wednesday, September 16th	
Lord’s Supper: Bruce Robins		Song Leader David Hopkins	
Closing Prayer: Vaughn Harvey		Devotional Leader Shaun Holt	
Projectionist: Antoine Johnson		Closing Prayer Jesse Frerot	
	Projectionist Kevin Caldwell		

Laurel church
of Christ

September 13, 2026

Sunday:
Worship: 8:00 am, 10:30 am,
Spanish service 12:15 pm
Bible Classes: 9:30 am
Spanish Bible Classes: 11:00

Wednesday:
Bible Classes: 7 pm

Shepherds:
elders@laurelchurch.net
Kerry Clark: 240-278-6006
Bernard Foster: 410-782-9091
Vaughn Harvey: 443-902-5460
Steve Thornton: 301-362-6785
Michael Wilkins: 410-480-4365

Ministers:
Ricky Cook - 443-521-4307
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Jesse Frerot - 318-477-9038
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Manuel Martinez - 201-667-1391
Manuel.Martinez@laurelchurch.net

Deacons:
Chen Colunga Del Meadows
Chris Forand Jerry Prestridge
Joe Ford Bob Ozomah
Emagii Graves Bruce Robins
Antoine Johnson Palmer Young
Steve Jones

Secretary: Susan Ray
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When the Going Gets Tough

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.” *Galatians 6:9*

The words of the apostle Paul cited above declare to us that life can be a grind. The truth of this is seen in the fact that we take vacations, mental health days, and even need time to decompress. Spiritual concerns are no less taxing than secular ones. Consider the context in which the above word of encouragement was made. Paul wrote to the Galatians encouraging them to keep pressing on despite the spiritual struggles they were facing (e.g. – *Galatians 1:7; 4:9; 5:7, 16*). Paul was no stranger to the daily grind of life – *2 Corinthians 11:28* “besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.”

The nature of our present estate is such that we all experience the daily pressures and concerns of life (e.g. – family, jobs, health, etc.). Add to this the fact that we are combatants in a spiritual war which is waged daily – *Ephesians 6:10-18; Luke 9:23*. We are not the first to experience the fact that the pressures of life can be intimidating. It is for this very reason that the above exhortation was made. It was relevant for the Galatian Christians of the first century and it is still relevant for the children of God in our present time.

However, let us not neglect to consider all that the apostle declared. He states the rigors of the reality of life, but he also gives us the motive and rationale for staying the course. While we are combatants in the struggle the battle belongs to the Lord – *1 Samuel 17:47; 2 Chronicles 20:15*. Paul was fully persuaded of God’s faithfulness, providence, and power – *2 Timothy 1:12* “For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.” The struggle is great, but our God is greater. To God be the glory! Amen!

Because He lives,
Ricky Cook