



Light From The Hill

April, 2018... The Pastor's Corner... Rev. Norman Ramsey

Dear Laurel Hill:

It is hard for us to comprehend the magnitude of Jesus' suffering and death for us. First, it's far removed from us in time. It happened so long ago. Secondly, it's easy to take it for granted. We think we're so familiar with the story; it may not breed contempt in us, but like receiving any of God's precious words, sometimes we're like that thorny soil in Mark, chapter four. Other things seem more immediate and more important.

Some folks are mad at God. They rail against believing in God because of what they perceive as God's lack of action against violence and injustice. They're always looking at the world instead of looking at the One who was sent to give himself for the world.

The Bible warns us about becoming stiff necked people. What does that mean? When all is said and done, it means we won't turn to God to see the remedy for all that goes on in the world: "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life". Instead, we remain focused on the problems in front of us.

The problem with that? It's the exact opposite of what the Scripture tells us to do. The Scripture reminds us that instead of being surrounded by the conflict of the world, we are in truth, surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12: 1 – 2)

Yes, let us fix our eyes upon the One who says, "I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (Revelation 1: 18)

Think on the words of the song, *Risen Indeed*. "But, now, we feel the spark of fire. The women said, He is alive! The One we saw – his life expired. He has become the Risen Christ. Awake my soul to sing of Him who died for me. My Jesus, Savior, Lord, and King is risen, is risen indeed!"

Love you very much,
Norman Ramsey

P.S. Join us during Holy Week for Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 PM and on Easter! Sunrise Service @ 6:30AM, Breakfast @7:15 AM, and then follow regular service times.

START YOUR SPRING CLEANING!!



Our Church Yard Sale is May 19, 2018.

(You may begin bringing your items to church April 29th.)

LAY MINISTERS FOR APRIL, 2018

Praise & Worship: 8:45 A.M.-Sunday School: 9:45 A.M.-Worship: 11:00 A.M.

OUR USHERS

April 1 Kirby Miller, Joe Corley, Randy Welch

April 8 Stuart Walton, Raymond Stevenson, Buddy Whitlow

April 15 Bill Robinson, Gene Russell, George Kaloski

April 22 Craig Pollard, Phil Deane, Ray Alexander

April 29 Peggy & Doug Singlemann, Raymond Stevenson and Agnes Knowles

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

April 1 & 8 Sheree Gostel

April 15 & 22 Stuart and Tricia Walton

April 29 Jeremy and Stephanie Rowan

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

April-Pam Johnson

OUR ACOLYTES

April 1- Eliana Horne

COMMUNION

April-Kathie and Buddy Whitlow

OUR GREETERS

April 1 Bud Funk & Joe Corley

April 8 Linda Kinsey & Jimmy Warren

April 15 Randy & Meade Welch

April 22 Eugene & Shirley Hicks

April 29 Raymond Stevenson & Agnes Knowles

SOUND TECHNICIANS

April 1 & 8-David Duke

April 15 & 22-Doug Singlemann

April 29-Keith Gostel

TELLERS

April 1 Randy Welch and Phil Deane

April 8 Linda Kinsey and Chris Ragland

April 15 Jeremy Rowan and Peggy Singlemann

April 22 Pam Wilson and Lois Miller

April 29 Randy Welch and Jenny Nelson

BIRTHDAYS IN APRIL: Miriam Pendleton, Doug Gottwald, Evelyn Steele, Billie Brockman, Sheree Gostel, Brenda Jennette, Georg Bergemann, Tyrone Franklin, and Lela Hall

Igniting a Fire in Our Heart!



8:45am – Praise & Worship

9:45am – Sunday School

11:00am – Traditional Worship

(Continue collection of books, DVD's, and stuffed animals for the Children's Hospital of Richmond and Pediatric Emergency Room)

April 1, 2018: “Did Not Our Hearts Burn within Us”: Holy Communion (Luke 22: 14 – 30)
(*Sunrise Service- 6:30 AM, Breakfast- 7:15 AM, Praise Service- 8:45 AM*
Sunday School- 9:45 AM, Traditional Service- 11:00 AM)

April 8, 2018: Prepared for Christ's Baptism (Luke 3)

April 15, 2018: Receiving Tongues of Fire (Acts 2: 1 – 21)

April 18 - 22, 2018: Pastor participating in KAIROS
(*Greensville Regional Correctional Center*)

April 22, 2018: Refined by Fire (1 Peter 1: 7) Ed Johnson, preaching

April 29, 2018: Living by the Light of God's Fire (1 Corinthians 3: 13)

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...

SUMMER CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: The Sunday School is in need of a summer teacher for the young children. The current teacher, Angela Ragland, will be on maternity leave. This would run from mid May through the end of August. Please be in prayer about this and if you are interested, please contact Nancy Henry or the church office as soon as possible. Nancy Henry, Sunday School Superintendent

CHURCH YARD SALE
SATURDAY, MAY 19th
LAUREL HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1919 New Market Road
7:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

There will be a **One Time Only** meeting for anyone who is willing to work at the Yard Sale. It will be Tuesday, March 27th at 7:00 p.m. in the church social hall. Please come with any ideas you may have concerning the sale.

Any items that are to be brought for the Yard Sale, please hold on to them until Sunday, April 29th. At that time, the room at the far end of the social hall will be available for items. Before then, the social hall will be in use and we will not have any other space to put them. **Thank you for your cooperation.**

Hope to see you at the Yard Sale. If you have any questions, contact Linda Turner at 795-1275.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONSIDER ONLINE GIVING TO LAUREL HILL.



Thankfully, we can now set up our faithful giving so it happens regularly and automatically.

Go to laurelhillumc.org and click on the Giving tab. Then, set up your account for ONLINE GIVING when you click the Give Now link in the middle of the page.