

## Why do you go to worship?

### Elders:

John Deffenbaugh  
Wayne Douthitt  
Glen Honeycutt  
Rick Hyder  
Bill Reiboldt

### Deacons:

Pete Babb  
Carl Cobb  
Alan Cook  
Barry Flint  
Casey Flint  
Josh King  
Mike Kidwell  
Tim Murray  
Bryan Reiboldt  
Jim Scott  
Peter Wald

### Local Evangelists:

Danny Boggs  
Luke Yates

### Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday  
6 p.m. Sunday

### Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday  
7 p.m. Wednesday

### Phone

(417) 451-2724

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www.neoshochurchofchrist.org



In many churches across our great land people go to great lengths to offer something in “worship” that appeals to the masses. Some bring in celebrities to speak. Many offer musical performances to entertain. I heard of one church which even had a WWF wrestling act to perform on Sunday. Often, the speaker offers a dose of stories and anecdotes, sprinkled with occasional Scripture and seasoned with political correctness and a smile. Folks often leave feeling great emotionally while having no clue of what God says about them spiritually. Is this right where churches claim an allegiance to God?

In such churches where is the emphasis? It is not on God but man. It isn't on the spiritual but carnal. Is this what God wants in his church? NO, it isn't; and why not? “...true worshippers shall worship God in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth” (Jn 4:23b-24). Notice what kind of worshiper God seeks! God never accepts just any worship (Mal 1:10; Heb 11:4). We do not come to worship (an act of homage or reverence-Vine) in order to praise each other. We come to worship “Him” (i.e. God). We should not be worshipping in flesh but in spirit. This passage describes a spiritual worship to God, a spiritual being. This isn't about the flesh honoring the flesh. It's about our spirit/soul giving honor and reverence to the Supreme Spirit, the Father of spirits (Heb 12:9).

God asks us to worship him; with “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord” (Eph 5:19), in prayer to God (Eph

5:20), giving money to further *God's work* (1 Cor 16:1-2), partaking of the *Lord's Supper* and listening to *God's word* (Acts 20:7). In offering to God what he wants in spiritual worship, we ourselves do benefit spiritually. As the Hebrews writer observes in Hebrews 10:24-25; the assembling of ourselves together is a way to stimulate one another to love and good deeds and to receive encouragement from one another, just to name a few blessings. We receive God's intended benefit for our souls when we worship God in spirit and truth!

Worshiping and serving God has never been about my fleshly wants or the culture's desires! It's all about the spiritual realm where God is in control and our soul is brought into humble submission to his will (Rom 12:1-2; 1 Pt 5:6-7).

While God has already decided what he wants in worship and how he wants it, man's own desires have always had a tendency to creep in. From the first family until now, men insist on changing what God wants. The instrument, entertainment, and social messages appeal to many. But in worship, I'm not there for my fleshly desires! I am there to feed my soul and commune with my Maker! May we always be glad to leave the trappings of the world outside the worship assembly so we can worship with our spirit the great and awesome Giver of spirits (Eccl 12:7). He deserves our praise and reverence, our focus and attention each Lord's day! *What does God think of people who won't put away their fleshly desires long enough for one hour of worship to their maker and God?* May we come and worship for all the right reasons!

John Deffenbaugh

*His own people, eager to do what is good – Titus 2:14*



Betty Ball, Jack Brodie, Lee Crabtree, Jerry and Louise Faules, Joe and Teresa Freund, Phyllis Goins, Jean Hanger, Faye Haught, May Hill, Wilma Hill, Nolan Murray, Max Naramore, Price Naramore, Mark Strohl, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Richard Tink, Bobbie Tuggle, Robin Van Dorn, Ruth Ann Wilson, Treva Wolgamott, Velda Wood, and Neosho Christian

- Ed Cornell is at Mercy.
- Richard Tink is at Wildwood.

Thank you so much for my Birthday card. I had a great 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

*Gabriel*  
(Childhaven resident)

I want to thank the Hillcrest church of Christ for thinking of me on my birthday.

*Johnathan*  
(Childhaven resident)

Neosho Hillcrest Ladies, Thank you for the invitation to speak at your ladies' seminar. It was a joy to meet you all, to join you all at the brunch and dinner at Becky's and the Friday and Saturday sessions. Thank you for the generous honorarium, the thoughtful gift basket, and most of all, the encouraging comments on my lessons. May we meet again—if not in this life, then the next.

God bless you!  
*Cynthia Guy*

Thank you for providing a refreshing time for my soul! There is no wonder that even compares with the wonderful of God's Word and His loving, obedient people. You ladies are a blessed group, and it was a joy to meet you. Thank you for feeding me, body and soul.

Your sister in Christ  
*Donise Doran*



### This Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. *John 14:1-6--Absolute Favorite*  
(Danny Boggs)  
P.M. *Ancient Truth, Modern Tunes*  
(Danny Boggs)

Vinita church of Christ will host the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual **Golden Agers Rally** this Saturday. See the bulletin board for more details.

**Juice boxes:** We're collecting juice boxes to help with the Bright Futures effort to send needy Neosho children home with nutrition over the weekends. Place your donations in the west nook of the foyer.

The **Hottel Springs Lectureship** begins Sunday and runs through next Wednesday. Please see flier posted on the bulletin board for more details.

**Men's BBQ Night:** Meet at the Hillcrest parking lot at 6:00 next Tuesday, March 21, for a trip to Big Baldy's BBQ in Monett.

**Doorknocking!** We will be doorknocking in the area around Stella in anticipation of our upcoming gospel meeting with Spencer Furby. This will take place on Saturday, March 25th. We will meet at the church building at 1 pm to carpool over there. Please see Luke for more details.

A **work day** is planned at Green Valley Bible Camp Saturday, April 1, beginning at 8:00. Bring tools for outside cleanup.

**Save the Date:** The Neosho Christian School Benefit Banquet will be held Saturday evening, April 22, at Crowder Gymnasium. There will be a silent auction, dinner by Butcher's Block, performance by the NCS choir, and entertainment. Call 451-1941 to reserve a seat.

**Did you give an extra dollar last Sunday?** This week we were able to help a single mother of three who has had to recently take on two jobs. Thank you for your contribution to help this soul! If you know someone who could be similarly helped and encouraged next week, please see Luke or one of the elders.



Our **gospel meeting** is just over two weeks away. Take invitations from the foyer for friends. Plan to join us for lunch that Sunday. The **navy hostess** group will set up, serve and clean up.

#### ASSIGNMENTS

##### Prayers Sunday, March 19

- AM Opening: Nathan Babb
- AM Closing: Wayne Douthitt
- PM Opening: Zane Berner
- PM Closing: Alec Fehring

##### Scripture Reading Sunday, March 19

- Philippians 3:20-21, Carl Thomlinson
- ##### Prayers Wednesday, March 22
- Opening: Stuart Anderson
  - Closing: Fred Bukowich

#### RECORDS

	03-12-17	03-14-16
Bible Study	104	144
AM Worship	162	192
PM Worship	129	118
Wednesday	141	140
Contribution	\$9,743.73	\$6,517.38
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67