

## *The Fire of Faith*

### **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

### **Email**

info@neoshochurchofchrist.org

### **Website**

www.neoshochurchofchrist.org



When Jesus told people in Jerusalem that he was the Son of God, they intended to stone him. Eluding them, he crossed the Jordan River. When he heard that his friend Lazarus was sick in Bethany, he decided to go see him, even though Bethany was very near Jerusalem where people wanted to kill him (cf. John 10:22-11:7).

Astonished at such a “foolish” desire, the disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you; and you are going there again?” Lazarus died, and Jesus still wanted to go to Bethany. While others questioned their Master’s sanity, one disciple spoke up. “Let us also go, that we may die with him,” said Thomas (cf. John 11:1-16). What faith!

Yet we remember “doubting Thomas,” unable to believe the good news that Jesus was alive. Why could he not believe? For one reason, “Thomas one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came” (John 20:24). When Jesus died the disciples needed each other’s encouragement. Though the others gathered together, Thomas was off somewhere trying to go it alone. All of the disciples were in a state of shock, but none experienced the shipwreck of faith that Thomas did.

This old story is worth repeating: A Christian told others that he could commune with God as well in his home or on a mountainside as he could by assembling with the saints. He was rarely seen on Sundays and never on Wednesdays. One day an elder called on him and was invited to sit by the fireplace. The man anticipated a scolding.

They sat in silence for a long time. Then the elder rose and went to the fireplace. He took the tongs, lifted a single coal from the embers and placed it alone on the hearth. It quickly turned into a black ash while the fire in the fireplace continued to glow and provide heat. The man told the elder, “You needn’t say a word. I’ll be there Sunday!”

Thomas’s fire, though waning, probably could have smoldered a little more strongly had he not withdrawn himself from the other disciples. Thomas is only mentioned twice by name in the New Testament subsequent to his experience with the risen Lord. Both times we find him present with the other disciples. Doubtless, he determined never to let his fire burn so low again.

Satan is working through the winds of everyday life and the rains of trial to extinguish our individual flames. Let’s get together at every opportunity and allow the Lord to keep us “kindled with fire from above!”

*Danny Boggs*



Pam Babb, Betty Ball, Jack Brodie, Fred Bukowich, John Burlingame, Joyce Clarkson, Angela Collett, Pete Conrow, Ed Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Tim Dawkins, Mary Jane Flint, Joe and Teresa Freund, Phyllis Goins, Faye Haight, May Hill, Wilma Hill, Doris Jones, Guy Lewis, Chester Lyons, Bob Murray, Rita Murray, Gary Nielsen, Pat Risley, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Bobbie Tuggle, Margaret Wald, Ruth Ann Wilson, Velda Wood.

- Angela King is recovering at home from surgery.
- Mary Jane Flint will have surgery on Wednesday.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Lynna Saimon in the passing of her sister, Judith MaKaya on Sunday morning. She had recently gone back to the islands.

Lee and family are doing better. Thanks for all the help and all the cards. Love from all of us.

*Lee Crabtree and family*



**Thanks to everyone for giving an extra dollar on Sundays to help someone in need.** Please continue to contribute, pray, and offer candidates to Luke for this benevolent work.



**Remember to read your One Word devotionals and your Bible this week,** and learn what's so important about resurrection. We'll follow up with a lesson on it Sunday night.

**Wedding Shower:** For Madison McDonnell at 2:00 this Sunday, in the fellowship room. She and Alec are registered at Bed, Bath and Beyond, Walmart and Amazon.



**Neosho Christian School:**

- The Benefit Banquet is this Saturday at the Neosho Civic Auditorium. The silent auction begins at 5:00, and dinner provided by Butcher's Block will be served at 6:10. Please RSVP to 451-1941.
- Sweet Onnie's clothing boutique is hosting a pop up boutique in support of the Neosho Christian School new roof fund. 20% of all sales will go toward this fund. It will be held in the Activities Center, Thursday, April 26, from 3:30-7:30. Sweet Onnie's is owned by Andrea Wald.



**This Sunday's Sermons:**

A.M. *The Story of Your Life*  
(Mark 6:14-29, Danny Boggs)  
P.M. *One Word: Resurrection*  
(Luke Yates)



**The Gospel Meeting on the Move** continues tonight through Thursday at 7 p.m. at Seneca, Hillcrest and 26th and Connecticut. Meet at 6:20 if you'd like to ride the bus to Seneca and/or Joplin.

**Ladies' Virtual Retreat:** Join us Saturday, May 5, for the first *Come Fill Your Cup* virtual retreat in the Activities Center. It will start around 1:00. So, plan now...if you are a mom talk to your husband about watching your kids and invest in yourself for the afternoon. No kids, clear your calendar as well and let's spend time together growing closer to the Lord and to each other. We will all bring a dish/finger food to share and snack and study all afternoon. More information is posted on the bulletin board and on the Hillcrest Ladies' Facebook page.

**You can help!** Bring canned chili and fruit juices to stock our pantry to help people in need.



Students, remember **Devo & Donuts** every Tuesday at 7 a.m. In the Activities Center.

**Boys' Retreat:** The boys' campout has been postponed to May 4-6. All boys in grades 5-12 and their dads are invited. Younger boys can come, too, so long as a dad or grandpa comes. Please see Casey Flint for more information.

**Green Valley Bible Camp**



- Work day, Saturday May 5, beginning at 8:00. Tasks include painting bridges, cleaning cabins, removing rubble and old porcelain from the bathhouse remodel, and more.
- Our week is now less than two months away, June 10-16. Register at [greenvalleybiblecamp.com](http://greenvalleybiblecamp.com).

**Take Me Out to the Ballgame!** We're going to a Cardinals v. Nationals game and singing the national anthem in Springdale Friday night, June 8. Tickets are \$9 per person. See Luke for more information and to order your tickets by May 20.

**Lads to Leaders:** Meet after services this Sunday night if you'd like to help plan Lads to Leaders activities for the next year.

**Don't Forget!** We have a fifth Sunday giving opportunity April 29 to help pay for our Activities Center. Through God's grace and your generosity, we recently made a \$50,000 payment, and the balance has shrunk to \$116,000.

MATTHEW AND TAMARA McDONNELL  
REQUEST THE HONOUR OF YOUR COMPANY  
AT THE MARRIAGE OF THEIR DAUGHTER

*Madison Elizabeth*  
TO

*Alec David*

SON OF DAVID AND JULIA FEHRING

SATURDAY, THE NINETEENTH OF MAY  
AT SIX THIRTY IN THE EVENING

THE GAMBREL BARN  
18015 LAWRENCE 1125  
VERONA, MO 65769

RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

RSVP

[WWW.THEKNOT.COM/US/ALEC-AND-MADISON](http://WWW.THEKNOT.COM/US/ALEC-AND-MADISON)  
PLEASE RESPOND ONLINE OR CALL/TEXT 417-389-3848

**PRAYER LEADERS**

**Sunday, April 22**

- AM Opening: Harold Speir
- AM Closing: Aaron Wilson
- PM Opening: Nolan Murray
- PM Closing: Fred Bukowich

**Wednesday, April 25**

- Opening: Jackson Collinsworth
- Closing: Karson Thomas

RECORDS	04-15-18	04-16-17
Bible Study	128	90
AM Worship	180	149
PM Worship	133	NA
Wednesday	118	114
Contribution	\$8,796.00	\$7,006.76
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67