

## Laurel Or Yanny?

### 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



Have you listened to the brief clip that is taking the internet by storm? If you have no idea what I'm talking about the clip is a male voice where some people hear the name "Laurel", while other people hear the name "Yanny" (I'm in the Laurel camp). In humorous fashion people have argued and debated and divided over what this four-second video is saying. One person said, "I'm a Laurel. You will not silence us." Another adamantly wrote, "People who hear 'Yanny' are idiots." One mother tweeted, "Honestly, in 17 years of being a parent, I've never thought less of my kids than I did when they said, 'Yanny.'"

This harmless debate has been somewhat entertaining to follow, yet sadly, members of the church have argued and debated and divided over much less. Whether it be the time of worship service on Sundays, the color of the sign outside, or the way the preacher walks while preaching, Christians have gotten heated over some rather trivial things. Why is it that we sometimes don't get along with each other? What feeds our hearts to be mean spirited and divisive? How do we let our hearts allow us to separate and avoid others over the mundane? I don't have all the answers, but I do know that God wants His people to be unified in what matters and tolerant in what doesn't matter (Ephesians 4:4-6; I Corinthians 1:10; Romans 14:1-9).

Ephesians 4:1-3 reads, "I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, **eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.**" We need to maintain the unity that we have in Christ, whether it be in those items that we are commanded to agree on or those realms of opinions in which we have freedom to disagree in a tolerant manner. What is necessary for that godly unity to be maintained? Paul says that unity takes walking worthily, being humble, being gentle, being patient, and bearing one another in love (vv. 1-2).

We are told thirteen times in twelve verses to love one another (John 13:34; 15:12, 17; Romans 12:10; I Thessalonians 4:9; I Peter 1:22; I John 3:11, 23; 4:7, 11-12; II John 1:5). Love is the key to unity. Without love, godly unity **cannot** exist. Without love we have no motivation to maintain unity. Jesus said, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:34-35). What is one purpose of loving one another? So that all people will know that we are His disciples (v. 35). A little later Jesus prayed, "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (John 17:20-21). What is a purpose of being one? So that the world may believe that the Father sent Jesus (v. 21). Therefore, in merging John 13:34-35 and John 17:20-21 together, a group of loving and unified disciples are much more able to reach out to the lost world as compared to a group of divided disciples who hold grudges against each other.

Like the popular clip of "Laurel or Yanny?" we may disagree with each other over silly things that don't really matter. But just because we may disagree on realms of opinion that doesn't mean that we are incapable of having unity. Philippians 2:14-15 states, "Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world." Unity in division takes love without dispute, which in turn, brightens our lights to those we live amongst. May we all seek to get along with one another more and more every day!

*Luke Yates*

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



Betty Ball, Jack Brodie, John Burlingame, Joyce Clarkson, Angela Collett, Pete Conrow, Ed Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Tim Dawkins, Joe and Teresa Freund, Phyllis Goins, Pete Griffin, Faye Haight, Mae Hill, Wilma Hill, Doris Jones, Angela King, 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.

- Pam Babb is recovering at home following a surgery at Mercy.
- Mary Jane Flint is having surgery today.

We want to thank everyone who prepared food for us while I was having problems with my back. We also appreciate the cards and prayers! May God Bless everyone.

Christian Love,  
*Vera and Wayne*

I wish to thank all of our brothers and sisters for the prayers, and the great cooks for the food. So enjoy our company who come, and thank you for all the get well cards.

*Bette and John Sinden*

**Every "One" Counts:** Thank you to all who have contributed an extra dollar in the offering this past week. Please let Luke know if you have any people who could use some financial help.



**Remember to read your *One Word* devotionals on "marriage" and your Bible this week.**



**This Sunday's Sermons:**

AM: *Behave the Gospel*  
(Galatians 2:11-15, Danny Boggs)  
PM: *One Word: Marriage*  
(Danny Boggs)

**PRAYER LEADERS**

**Sunday, May 27**

- AM Opening: Peter Wald
- AM Closing: Aaron Wilson
- PM Opening: Ethan Murray
- PM Closing: Trace Wilson

**Wednesday, May 30**

- Opening: David Fehring
- Closing: Kaed Thomas



We will deliver *Meals on Wheels* through this Friday from 10-noon. Please sign up at the bulletin board or contact Eldon Morgan if you can help one day or more.

**Green Valley Bible Camp**

- Our week is only 19 days away, June 10-16! Our theme is "Our Identity in Christ." This year friends invited by kids from Hillcrest go free, and one camper will again win \$123.03 for getting someone to come. See Danny for more information. Registration closes at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 3. Register at [greenvalleybiblecamp.com](http://greenvalleybiblecamp.com).
- If you would like to help pay for kids to go to camp, Danny is ready to receive your donations.



GREEN VALLEY BIBLE CAMP, JUNE 10-16, 2018



**We will honor our high school and college graduates June 3:** Elijah Boggs, Jackson Collinsworth, Olivia Garren, Tim Wald, Bethany Bast, Tori Murray and Kathryn Patterson. Stop by the welcome desk Sunday and sign the books we will give them.

**Singing in the Park** will be Sunday, June 3, at 6 p.m. at the north end of Morse Park.

**Gospel Meeting:** The Eastside church of Christ in Monett will host a gospel meeting with Walter Buchanan June 3-6. Weeknight services begin at 7 p.m.

**Show Me State Bible Lectures** will be May 27-June 3 at the Branson church of Christ. A list of speakers and topics is posted on the bulletin board.

**Hostess Groups:** The hostess groups have been revamped, and we now have six groups. If you are not in a group, but would like to participate, please see Becky Cobb or Jessica Boggs. Hostess groups set up, serve and clean up for potlucks, showers and other church wide activities.

You are invited to the homeschool graduation of **Elijah Boggs and Timothy Wald** this Saturday, May 26, in the Activities Center at 11 a.m. Please let Andrea or Jessica know if you can attend. A BBQ lunch will be served.

RECORDS	05-20-18	05-21-17
Bible Study	133	131
AM Worship	180	195
PM Worship	119	133
Wednesday	116	145
Contribution	\$7,941.25	\$9,294.33
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67