

## Her name is Norma

### 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



Her name is Norma McCorvey. Just a few years ago she was baptized into Christ. It became a national story, with interviews by ABC News and other media outlets.

Normally the faith response of a single mother in Dallas, Texas does not warrant national attention. She came to Christ bruised and beaten by life's cruelties. Today the Lord Jesus is binding the bruises, and pouring salve on to the wounds, for that is what he does.

In the early 1970's she was pregnant and unmarried. She made the harrowing, heartbreaking decision to end the unborn child's life. Close to fifty million children have perished because their mothers "had the right to choose." For perspective, the Vietnam conflict accounted for 58 thousand deaths, and World War II almost half a million. Please allow that figure to sink in. Fifty million. The most terrifying weapons of war man could devise, designed to tear into the bodies of young men, wielded by yet more young men trained specifically to take those lives, failed to kill as many as have been lost to the surgeon's knife.

No one questions the enormity of the decision for a scared eighteen year old who feels as if she has been abandoned by her family, her sexual partner (where are the men responsible when the decision comes down?) and her church. I am sure that the presence of a child represents a significant inconvenience to the young mother's lifestyle. It's not easy for a once freewheeling young woman to contemplate the burden of motherhood, especially if she faces those responsibilities alone.

And it should be said that the damage was not limited to Norma's unborn child. Norma herself spent the next twenty years beaten and broken by the magnitude of what she had done. Guilt tore away the lining of her soul. Her heartbreak drove her to drugs, drink and a broken family. Yet the same Jesus who forbade her action also sought to forgive her sin!

She rose from a watery grave in a suburban Dallas swimming pool. Then she faced the unblinking lights of the nation's media and the antagonistic questioning of its journalists.

But why did they do this to Norma, whose mistakes, and whose return to her Lord was certainly not unique?

Television anchors implied that she was mentally disturbed, emotionally troubled and that she was being exploited by the religious right. So why did Norma decide to endure the glare of the media, the hostility of its powerful spokespersons?

Because though her given name is Norma, you know her as Jane. Jane Roe, the plaintiff in the landmark 1973 Roe versus Wade decision to legalize abortion. Norma understood that her action then had a national effect; now she wanted her latest decision to begin to reverse that effect.

Now that you know her name is Norma, I want you to know something else, something that transcends politics, "personal" decisions, one's own body, and the body of the dying infant.

I want you to know that whatever you have done, no matter how horrifying, no matter how deep a hole you have dug yourself into, that Jesus Christ can, and what is more, deeply desires to forgive you.

"Come now, let us reason together," says the Lord, "though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).

The Lord forgave Norma; he wants to forgive you, too.

*Stan Mitchell*  
via *Forthright*



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 Haught, Mae Hill, Wilma Hill, Doris Jones, Angela King, Guy Lewis, Chester Lyons, Bob Murray, Rita Murray, Gary Nielen, Pat Risley, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Bobbie Tuggle, Ruth Ann Wilson, Velda Wood.

- Pam Babb is recovering at home following a surgery at Mercy.
- Mary Jane Flint is home recovering from surgery.
- Velda Wood is under Hospice care.

**Sympathy:** We express our heartfelt sympathy to Peter Wald and his family in the passing of his mother, Margaret Wald last Wednesday. Visitation is tonight at Ozark Funeral home in Anderson from 5-7 pm. A graveside service will be held tomorrow at Peace Valley Cemetary, at 10:00 am.

Dear Hillcrest family, The Sojourners will be here June 4-14. Please come support them as they paint, clean carpets, scrub walls etc. They begin their day with a devo and assign jobs for the day. Lunch is provided. They would love to have you come by spend a day with them.

Thank you, NCS staff

**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 "Christians" and your Bible this week.

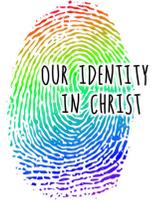


**This Sunday's Sermons:**

AM: *Behave the Gospel, Part 2*  
(Gal. 2:11-14, Danny Boggs)  
PM: Singing in the Park

**Green Valley Bible Camp**

- Our week is only 12 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. this Sunday. 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.
- If you want your child to ride the van to day camp, sign up at the bulletin board. We also need drivers. See Jennifer Daniels for more details.



GREEN VALLEY BIBLE CAMP, JUNE 10-16, 2018



**We will honor our high school and college graduates this Sunday:** 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** is this Sunday at 6 p.m. at the north end of Morse Park. Please bring side dishes, desserts and homemade ice cream. Keri's hostess group will set up and serve.



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



Mike & Anita's

50<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary  
Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 2-4 pm

Fellowship Hall of Hillcrest Church of Christ  
1037 W South St, Neosho MO 64850

**PRAYER LEADERS**

**Sunday, June 3**

- AM Opening: Todd Murray
- AM Closing: Carl Cobb
- PM Opening: Joe Moreno
- PM Closing: Tyler Phillips

**Wednesday, June 6**

- Opening: Sam Collinsworth
- Closing: Bryan Reiboldt

RECORDS	05-27-18	05-28-17
Bible Study	110	158
AM Worship	168	195
PM Worship	90	145
Wednesday	122	131
Contribution	\$6,375.25	\$7,647.70
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67