

A Place Of Constant Rest

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

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As you can imagine, Glen, John, Danny, and I are saddened that we had to cancel our trip to Honduras this week due to political unrest and violence in the Honduran capital of Tegucigalpa. I'm sure the brethren in Honduras are even more saddened that we will not get to spend precious time with one another. I hope and pray that our spiritual family in Central America will be safe and that the mayhem can stop soon. I ask that you keep them in your prayers, too.

Even though we hate to see so much division and hate and violence and corruption, this unrest is nothing new. As Solomon once wrote, "there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Mankind has experienced unrest ever since Adam and Eve made the willful choice to sin against God (Genesis 3:1-7; Romans 5:12). Violence has occurred (Genesis 4:8; Matthew 27:32-56). Corruption has taken place (I Samuel 8:3; Luke 22:3-6). Sinful division has reared its head many times (I Kings 12:16-24; I Corinthians 1:10-17). Unrest has been a part of life for the vast majority of time that life has existed.

Although unrest is a given while we spin around space on this giant ball, true and permanent rest will come to those who look to the One who created this giant ball. Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and **you will find rest for your souls**. For my yoke is easy, and my burden

is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Hebrews 4:8-11 reads, "For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. So then, **there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God**, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from His. **Let us therefore strive to enter that rest**, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience." Revelation 14:13 says, "And I heard a voice from heaven saying, 'Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' 'Blessed indeed,' says the Spirit, '**that they may rest from their labors**, for their deeds follow them!'"

I long for the day when I can rest from all of my earthly labors and this worldly unrest. But that rest won't magically be granted to me if I do not do the work of a disciple while on this earth. As the beautiful song proclaims, "*We'll work till Jesus comes!*" Are you working till Jesus comes? Are you coming to Jesus (Matthew 11:28)? Are you striving to enter God's rest (Hebrews 4:11)? Are you blessed by God and blessing others through your deeds (Revelation 14:13)? I don't know what is going to transpire in the coming weeks down in Honduras. I don't know what is going to transpire across this world for the remainder of time that God allows this world to exist. But I do know that there is a place of promised and continual rest awaiting the children of God (John 14:1-3). And for that I am thankful.

Luke Yates



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 Haught, May Hill, Wilma Hill, Rick Hyder, Doris Jones, Guy Lewis, Chester Lyons, Pearl McCleary, Max Naramore, Price Naramore, Ron Naramore, Pat Risley, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Bobbie Tuggle, Margaret Wald, Ruth Ann Wilson, Treva Wolgamott, Velda Wood, Sue York.

- **Joyce Clarkson** had back surgery last Friday.
- **Pearl McCleary** in in Mercy Hospital in Joplin following hip surgery.
- **Velda Wood** is in Freeman West Hospital.

Honduras: The trip to Honduras was postponed to a later date due to political unrest following recent elections.

Welcome! Jacob and Chelsey Surridge have come to Hillcrest and would like to work with us and be part of our family. Their address is 505 Watkins, Neosho, MO 64850.



If you took one of the **gift tags to help provide a merry Christmas for a needy local family**, please bring the gift and the tag by Wednesday night.

Thanks to everyone for giving an extra dollar on Sundays to help someone in need. We have helped a family who recently lost their loved one.



Men's Breakfast: This Thursday at 7:00 at Braum's.



Devo and Donuts! Children in 5th-12th grades are invited every Tuesday at 7 a.m. to join us in the new fellowship building.



This Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. *Old Testament Commands and New Testament Christians* (Danny Boggs)
 P.M. *Friend, I Am Doing You No Wrong* (Matt. 20:1-16, Danny Boggs)

Free Wednesday night dinner for college students and young adults at 6 p.m. in the new fellowship building! Come enjoy good food and company. Bring friends!

The Senior Saints will meet this Saturday for lunch.

The ladies' annual Christmas ornament exchange will be Tuesday, December 12, at 6:00 at Keri's house. Bring finger foods and a wrapped ornament or decoration. Thank you!

James 1:27 Project: You can help foster families in our area by bringing new and good used clothing here for children. All sizes are needed: Pajamas, underwear and shoes are especially helpful.

Anyone with at least two years of college credit who would like to **volunteer as a substitute teacher for Neosho Christian Schools** please contact Casey Flint, Lynda Holverson, or Tim Murray.

The church decided to call our new building the Activities Center. When you want to reserve it for an activity, please put it on the calendar in the office.

Fifth Sunday: December has five Sundays, so we get another shot at giving extra to reduce the debt on the Activities Center December 31. Please make prayerful plans.

New Year's Eve: Sunday night, December 31, Caleb Boggs will preach in our 6:00 service, then we'll enjoy all kinds of fun in in the Activities Center until midnight. Watch for details, and plan to spend good time with your fellow Christians.

A Few Notes from the Elders' Meetings: We will begin to provide \$200 a month to assist the church in Miami to air *In Search of the Lord's Way* with Phil Sanders in our area on Sunday mornings. Also, at the end of each month, our giving will be compared to our budget. Whatever exceeds the budgeted needs will be applied to the payment on the Activities Center so that we can eliminate the debt as soon as possible. This will continue until we engage in a new mission work.

For 2018, everyone from seventh grade and up will be provided a **book of devotional studies on ONE WORD important words from the Bible.** The book highlights one word a week with five daily devotional thoughts. On Sunday nights, after we've been thinking about the word individually and intently for a week, we'll think about it together in worship. There's a book at the back of the auditorium with your name on it. Don't miss this opportunity to build your faith and understanding.

PRAYER LEADERS	
Sunday, December 10	Wednesday, December 13
•AM Opening: Luke Yates	•Opening: Alec Fehring
•AM Closing: John Deffenbaugh	•Closing: Danny Boggs
•PM Opening: Mike Kidwell	
•PM Closing: Casey Flint	

RECORDS	12-03-17	12-04-16
Bible Study	132	131
AM Worship	180	180
PM Worship	115	138
Wednesday	148	129
Contribution	\$8,892.00	\$9,064.78
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67