

SPENCER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in Central Wisconsin

B3942 State Hwy 13, P.O. Box 47, Spencer, WI 54479

SERVICES SCHEDULE: SUNDAY 9 a.m. Bible Classes; 10 a.m. Worship
WEDNESDAY 7 p.m. Bible Classes

Our gospel meeting is quickly approaching! It will begin Oct. 29 and end Nov. 1. More details are forthcoming. Put it on your calendars now!

Our regular October potluck will be moved to the 29th.

CHILI HARVESTFEST - Let's celebrate autumn! Sunday Oct. 8th after worship, we will have a harvestfest at Dan and Rhonda's. Julene will be planning the chili feast part - bring a small pot of chili to be all mixed together - we will need cornbread, drinks and desserts (fall themed). There will be games for the kiddos and of course, fellowship!

THIS & THAT:

*Thanks to Gary & Bev for hosting last night's devo!

*January 14th - Mason and Haylee Norman will be visiting us from Tanzania.

PRAYERS FOR:

*Those on the mend: Deanna, Clayton, Cameron

*Clint and John as they prepare for their mission trip.

*Jeff, Mark R.'s brother

*Those traveling

*Hurricane victims

*Our shut-ins- Jackie, Howard, and Marge

*Our missionaries - Reaves family; the Iversons, the Raos, and the Normans

SERMON TITLE:

At the Throne of Grace

SCRIPTURE READING:

Heb. 4:15-16

EVANGELIST

Rodney Nulph
330-988-7063

RODNEY'S OFFICE HOURS

(Be sure to call BEFORE you stop to be sure he is in)

Tuesday-Friday

8 a.m.-4 p.m.

OUR LEADERSHIP

ELDERS:

Duane Anderson
715-659-2327

Russ Draeger
715-676-3982

Gary Nieman
715-897-2248

DEACONS:

Dan Anderson
715-659-4530

Mark Anderson
715-659-4117

Clint Nieman
715-650-7988

Don Nieman

OUR ATTITUDE

LAST SUNDAY'S OFFERING:\$

BUDGET: \$1961

SERVING	TODAY	NEXT WEEK
SCRIPTURE	Clayton	Ken
ANNOUNCE/PRAYER	Rusty	Gary
SONG LEADER	Dan	Paul
PRESIDING	Ty	Collin
SERVING	Duane	Jim
SERVING	John	Dan
CLOSING PRAYER	Jim	Jim

WHAT ABOUT HAND CLAPPING?

Times are rapidly changing! There was a time in most churches of Christ when the services were focused upon worship that exalted God, and the preaching consisted of reverent instruction from the Scriptures. Thankfully, in some places, it is still that way. On the other hand, drastic changes are underway in hundreds of congregations across this land. Some are becoming “us-focused” in worship instead of “God-focused”. One of the manifestations of “us-focused” worship is the addition of hand-clapping. As near as I can discern, there are two “reasons” why some are involved in hand clapping.

Firstly, there is hand clapping as PERCUSSION. Some advocate and practice hand clapping as an accompaniment to the singing. Before we begin to seek the Scripture, let’s make some observations. The issue is not whether hand clapping sounds good or bad. The issue is not whether someone “likes” it or not. The issue at hand is whether we have any Scriptural authority for hand clapping during the singing. God was crystal clear on what He expects in N.T. worship; “Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19; cf. Colossians 3:16). “Speaking” and “singing” both involve the mouth. I like what one author wrote, “We are not instructed to ‘make sounds’; rather, the command is to sing (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16). Clapping is not singing. Singing is the expression of thoughts by words through melody. Singing is intended to convey ‘understanding’ (1 Corinthians 14:15). There is no ‘instruction,’ analogous to singing, in a mere sound” (Jackson, website). Hand clapping is an **unscriptural addition** to the singing God expects. We could no more please God by beating live skin (hand clapping) than we could beating dead skin (drums). When God said sing that is what He meant!

Secondly, there is hand clapping as PRAISE. Some are incorporating hand clapping as a means to praise some person or action in the assembly. For example, some will clap at the end of a sermon as a means to applaud and praise the speaker. However, God is the One that deserves all praise (Hebrews 13:15), not man! Some argue that hand clapping is merely equal to saying “amen”. However, such is not the case. Amen is a scriptural way to say “so be it” and is used throughout the Bible (John 21:25; Romans 1:25; 15:33; et al), hand clapping is not. The difference between hand clapping and saying amen is this; hand clapping is a way to show approval for the man; while amen is to show approval for the message. There is a serious difference!

True worship has never been, nor will it ever be about man. It is always about the Creator of heaven and earth! As was said in the long ago and will stand through eternity, “Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire” (Hebrews 12:28-29). Amen and amen!

-Rodney-

WORKS CITED

Jackson, Wayne. <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1530-clapping-as-an-accompaniment-to-singing-in-worship>.

WELCOME VISITORS

