

# Blue River Church of Christ

December 30, 2007

# BLUE RIVER Church of Christ

<b>Contact Information</b> 221 NE Woods Chapel Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64064  Ph: 816-373-7448  Email: Office@bluerivercofc.org Website: bluerivercofc.org	<b>Times of Worship</b> Sunday Bible Class 9 am Morning Worship 10 am  Sunday Evening Worship 6 pm  Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7 pm
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**Elders** Earl Fultz  
 Russ Simmons  
 Jan Sullivan

**Deacons** Gary Bledsoe, Worship  
 Ben Church, Missions  
 David Foster, Grounds  
 Jim Green, Building  
 Darren Herrmann, Stewardship  
 John Jones, Education  
 Mike Peerson, Evangelism

**Pulpit Minister** Darin Kennedy

Statistics for December 23, 2007	
Attendance	161
Contribution	\$4,000.15

**BRCC Lodge** This room across from the nursery is dedicated as a quiet spot for individuals or small groups. Please, no food or drinks.

**Prayer Warriors** are waiting to hear from you. This group of caring people will pray for you and your request. Place a note in the "Prayer Warrior" box, or go to the BRCC website and leave a message. You may remain anonymous. Don't carry that burden alone. Let the power of prayer work in your life.

Sunday evening

No Service

While preaching through the gospel of John, I am struck again with the grace of God. The Scripture is full of how God restores relationships, not allowing even our sin to hinder His work. Who could not be drawn to this God who forgives?

Two weeks ago, one could see how even the toughest human needs to be forgiven. I watched the news reports of the Miami Dolphins winning their first game of the season. After losing 13 games to start the year, they were on track to become the second NFL team to lose every game. They watched as the Baltimore Ravens' field goal attempt missed by a little over a foot in overtime. Then they went down to score themselves. To be honest, to watch two hapless teams fight it out was not entertaining football. The reaction at the end of the game was worth seeing though. These big tough men who are playing nothing more than a game had incredible reactions, some with tears in their eyes and some reveling like it was the Super Bowl. The owner of the Dolphins wiped the tears off his face with both hands, as if to say, "The burden is gone! We won't go down as

## Order of Worship

*Welcome*  
 Darin Kennedy

*Opening Prayer*  
 John Wubbenhorst  
 "Hosanna! You're My King"  
 #851 "I'll Fly Away"  
 #895 "I'll Live in Glory"  
 "Days of Elijah"

*Scripture*  
 Psalm 145:1-13  
 Jim Bassford  
 "Beautiful Lamb"  
 #150 "Worthy, The Lamb That Was Slain"  
 #287 "There Is A Redeemer"

*The Lord's Supper*  
*The Bread*  
*The Cup*  
 Ben Church, Presiding  
 #77 "Glorify Thy Name"

*Giving*  
 Power Kids "God Can Use You!"

*Lesson*  
 "One Person's Testimony"  
 John 21:24-25  
 Darin Kennedy

*Invitation*  
 #504 "In Loving-Kindness Jesus Came"

*Shepherd's Prayer*  
 Russ Simmons

*Final Blessing*  
 1 Peter 2:9

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Songs led by Gary Bledsoe & Bob Scifers

## ***In Need of Prayers***

Please remember **Doug Davenport** in your prayers as he is at home recovering from open heart surgery.

## ***New Baby!***

Congratulations to **Troy and Dawn Cook** who are the proud parents of a new son, **Matthew Troy**, born December 27. He was 9 lbs. and 7 ¼ oz. and 19 ½ inches long.

## ***Upcoming Events***

### ***SOFT Group/Youth Group Karaoke Fun***

**January 5** (Saturday afternoon/evening) **Attention** SOFT and youth groups! Bring your pipes and belt out your favorite tunes during an evening of *karaoke* at the Jones' house. The fun will begin at 4:30 pm with dinner to follow. In exchange for some singing lessons, the youth group will treat the SOFT group to pizza and drinks at the party. Each youth group member should bring \$3 for pizza and a two-liter bottle of pop. Please RSVP to **John or Marianne Jones** (795-9381) by Wednesday night.

### ***Youth Group Planning Meeting***

**January 7** (Monday night) There will be a meeting to plan 2008 youth group (7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades) events at the church building, 7 pm. This meeting will not only be for youth group parents, but it will also be for anyone who would like to be involved in planning, participating or hosting youth group events.

## ***LTC News***

### ***Coaches Needed!!!***

We are in need of coaches for the following events: *preconvention-service challenge*; *convention-live Christian drama, puppets, bulletin board, signing for the deaf*, and *scrapbook*. Coaches do not have to have children participating in LTC. If you think you can lend your time and talents to these events, please let **Lisa Bassford** or **Denise Fultz** know.

### ***Bible Video Dramas***

Bible video dramas will be filmed on Sundays, **January 6** and **January 13**, after those morning services. If necessary, January 20 may also need to be used as a filming day. Please talk to **Darin Kennedy** if you have any questions.

**Birthdays: Dec. 30 – Jan. 5**

***Virginia Fuhr and Hunter Hoagland...Today!***

***Kimberly Traylor 1/1 Evelyn Brown 1/2 Fran Stevens 1/3***

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the worst.” Nothing is more burdensome than failure, and nothing is more intoxicating than relief from the burden.

To be forgiven seems to be a basic need of the human heart, a need that draws all of us close to the heart of God. If we are to testify to this God, then we must proclaim the news of His forgiveness and we must act in forgiving ways. If forgiveness becomes central to our life, as it is with God, what will our lives look like?

First, give people the benefit of the doubt. So many people are suspicious, worried that others will take advantage of them if they show weakness. They protect themselves by judging all comments and actions negatively. Granted, many people want to take advantage of others, but the Christian cannot be on constant defense, taking offense at every word said, at every glance of the eye, and at every action made. Do not allow words and actions to define the person. Read between the lines in a positive way. Look and expect good from others. This is the quickest form of forgiveness.

Second, confront sin when it is good for the other person, not only when it is good for you. Most of our confrontation is done when our own feelings get hurt or when we are wronged. Confrontation then becomes justice. Forgiveness may demand some confrontation, but only when it releases the sinner from sin's trap.

Third, tell someone, “You are forgiven.” Do not allow wrongs done to hang over your relationships, a topic to be avoided. If they need to be confronted and relieved, then do it openly. The elephant in the room that no one wants to discuss may turn and trample you both. Eliminate sin and its burden with the authority of the grace of Jesus Christ.

—Darin Kennedy

## ***~Ukraine Bible Camp~***

In January, we will assemble the 2008 mission team based on the skills needed for the Ukraine Bible camp. If you are interested, please pick up the information packet on the back table today, fill out the “Ukraine Interest Worksheet” and turn it into the office by Dec. 31. If you have any questions feel free to contact **Ben Church**.

**\*\*There will be no service this evening.\*\***

## ***Sunday Morning Nursery Attendants***

December 30, Anne Johnston and Bree Johnston  
January 6, Carolyn Endicott and James Bledsoe

## ***Wednesday Night Toddler Class***

January 2, Melanie Scifers and Debbie Peerson