

Blue River Church of Christ

January 3, 2010

BLUE RIVER

Church of Christ

Contact Information

221 NE Woods Chapel Rd
Lee's Summit, MO 64064
816-373-7448
office@bluerivercofc.org
www.bluerivercofc.org
Office Hours: 9 am to 2 pm
Mon. – Thurs.

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Study 9 am
Morning Worship 10 am
Evening Worship 6 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7 pm

Elders

Earl Fultz
Russ Simmons
Jan Sullivan

Deacons

Gary Bledsoe, Worship
Ben Church, Missions
David Foster, Grounds
Darren Herrmann, Stewardship
Mike Peerson, Evangelism

Pulpit Minister

Darin Kennedy

Statistics for Dec 20, 2009:	Attendance	205
	Contribution	\$3,573.63

Downtown Church of Christ Pantry

Bar soap, deodorant, lotion, baby wipes, dishwashing liquid, laundry detergent, toilet paper, applesauce, jello, canned milk, popcorn, coats, hats, gloves, & scarves for women, men & children.

(Please leave all donations in the office.)

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.

"No Sunday evening services at the building tonight"

"...the hope is that the absence, abrasion, and distance that occur between God and human persons are provisionally overcome in cultic worship, and are finally overcome in the full restoration of creation, wherein the human person may appear in the presence of YHWH naked, defenseless, unashamed, and unafraid."

—Walter Brueggemann

An Unsettling God: The Heart of the Hebrew Bible, pp. 86-87

In the context of the above quotation, Brueggemann is describing the Old Testament writers' hope for drawing close to God in personal relationship, and how that is designed to occur in the instructions for priest-led worship ("cultic worship") in the temple. It made me think of our own worship assembly today and our purposes for gathering.

1) By coming to worship, we recognize the "distance" between God and people. Every area of our life has indications that we are not completely "with" God. From the diseases we fight to the frustrations we feel, from the difficulty of work

Order of Worship

Welcome Darin Kennedy

Prayer Dallas Herrmann

Scripture Howard Petersen
John 14:1-14

"He Keeps Me Singing"
"There's A Stirring"
#768 "Jesus, Let Us Come to..."
#767 "In the Hour of Trial"

Lord's Supper Ben Church, Presiding

The Bread
The Cup
"How Great Is Our God"

Giving
"What the Lord Has Done In..."
#1012 "Go Tell It on the..."
"This Little Light of Mine"

Power Kids
Lesson Darin Kennedy
"The Case for Christ: Who Could Have Imagined?"

Invitation
#147 "I Stand Amazed"
Shepherd's Prayer Earl Fultz

Final Reading I Corinthians 1:9

Songs led by:
Gary Bledsoe & Bob Scifers

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In Need of Prayers

Please pray for the following: **Louise Pulliam** has returned to the Villages at Jackson Creek for rehabilitation, 3980 Jackson Drive, Independence, MO 64057; **Wilma Edwards** is recovering from surgery; **Beverly Campbell** has been diagnosed with macular degeneration in both eyes; our deepest sympathy and prayers are with **Bill Fuhr** in the death of his brother.

Upcoming Events

Teen Bible Study

January 4 (Monday) The Bible study/devo will be held at the Church's house for the month of January from 7 to 9:00 PM. Come and invite your friends!

5th Sunday Unity Service

January 31 (Sunday evening) We will worship with area congregations at the Downtown Church of Christ at 6:00 PM.

Inclement Weather Procedures

As the snow and ice season is upon us, please note the service cancelation procedures. Sunday morning and all-Sunday service cancelations will be made through the "One Call Now" phone call early Sunday morning. Sunday night only cancelations will be announced in the morning service. If the Lee's Summit School District cancels school on a Wednesday, the Wednesday evening service will be canceled unless you are contacted otherwise.

Birthdays: Dec. 27 – Jan. 9

Matthew Cook 12/27

Hunter Hoagland & Virginia Fuhr 12/30

Jennifer Traylor & Kimberly Traylor 1/1

Evelyn Brown 1/2

Fran Stevens 1/3

Jason Beeding, Karen Whetstone, Laura Phillips 1/6

Leroy Shafer, Marlyn Strobe, Steve Roehl, &

Sue Roberts 1/8

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to our fractured relationships at home, from the distracted heart to the unavoidable sin, it is obvious that we are not enjoying the full blessings that should come in a life completely wrapped up in God. We come not saying, "I feel good today. I want to go to church"; instead, the more accurate statement is, "It's been hard, and I need to know that it gets better than this."

2) Worship is to "provisionally overcome" that distance. The acts of singing, prayer, sermon, and Supper are not simply stuff to do. These acts are designed by God and fortified with promise by His Word to bring us closer to Him. We should know Him better, not just know *about* Him better. These acts will always be imperfect in some way. Songs won't always sound right, the sermon won't always knock your socks off, we can be distracted during the Supper, and even Paul tells us that "we do not know what we ought to pray for" (Rom. 8:26). However, in their imperfection, they are opportunities for communion with God and should be approached and enacted with such expectation.

3) Worship anticipates the time when the distance is "finally overcome." We Christians understand, in a deeper sense than the material Brueggemann is describing, that a time is coming when we will "know fully" even as we are "fully known" (1 Cor. 13:12). When we worship, we anticipate the heavenly presence of God, seeing Him face-to-face. You might say that we are practicing for such a powerful presence, and in the awkwardness of practice, sometimes we hear the faintest chords of perfection and indescribable beauty. We return for more.

—Darin Kennedy

Sunday Morning Nursery Attendants

Jan. 3

Susan Foster & John Jones

Jan. 10

Jessica House & Jessica Herrington

Wednesday Night Nursery Attendants

Jan. 6

Ashley Christensen & Liz Church

