

Blue River Church of Christ

January 11, 2015

BLUE RIVER

Church of Christ

Order of Worship

Contact Information 221 NE Woods Chapel Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64064 816-373-7448 office@bluerivercofc.org www.bluerivercofc.org	Worship Times Sunday Bible Study 9:45 am Morning Worship 8:30, 10:45 am Wednesday Bible Study 7 pm
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8:30

10:45

Elders	Earl Fultz Russ Simmons Jan Sullivan
Deacons	Jim Bassford David Blankenship David Foster Darren Herrmann
Pulpit Minister	Darin Kennedy

Private Reading Mark 1:14-20
#470 "Victory in Jesus"

Prayer Joe Harber
#18 "Faithful Love"
#186 "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"

Lord's Supper
 Brian Wahlen, presiding

The Bread
The Cup

Giving
#869 "We're Marching to Zion"

Scripture Bill Endicott
 Micah 4:1-7
#162 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
#276 "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"

Power Kids Jesus – Grateful

Lesson Darin Kennedy
 "Crazy Talk"
 Mark 1:14-15
#538 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

Shepherd's Prayer Russ Simmons

Final Praise Daniel 4:3

Songs led by Ron McCleary

Private Reading Mark 1:14-20
#470 "Victory in Jesus"

Prayer Jerry John
#18 "Faithful Love"
#186 "Christ, We Do All Adore Thee"

Lord's Supper
 Randy Smith, presiding

The Bread
The Cup

Giving
#869 "We're Marching to Zion"

Scripture Mike Peerson
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#162 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"
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Shepherd's Prayer Earl Fultz

Final Praise Daniel 4:3

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Statistics for January 4, 2015 Attendance	62 + 98 = 160
Contribution	\$4,979.25
Weekly Average Contribution Needed to Meet Budget	\$5,394
Average Actual Year to Date Weekly Giving	\$5,241

Downtown Church of Christ Food for Life

They have need for: Ramen noodles, peanut butter, jelly, kool-aid, canned or packaged tuna, canned chicken, jello, cornbread mix, instant oatmeal, snack bars, fruit cups, green beans, mixed vegetables, muffin mix, cookie mix, children's juice boxes or containers. 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.

In Need of Prayers

Joan Hester passed away at home on Tuesday. Services were held at Blue River on Saturday. Larry Sullivan is recovering from a heart procedure. Vickie Sullivan's mother, Mattie Weiss, is recovering from a heart attack. Gary Campbell and Caleb Walker continue their recovery from earlier surgeries. Robert Hicks needs prayers for multiple health issues that he's currently dealing with. Continue to pray for Donna Kerns, Betty Williams, Michael May, Jan Sullivan, Grover Renick.

Secret Sisters Lunch

January 11 (TODAY) – We will gather in the Fellowship Hall following second service for a soup/sandwich lunch. We will reveal 2014 Secret Sisters and draw names for 2015. All ladies are invited to attend the lunch whether they participate in the program or not.

Educational Workshop

We will be having an Educational Workshop for all current teachers and anyone interested in becoming a part of the Education Ministry on Saturday, January 31, 9 a.m.-noon. More information to follow.

Adult Classes

Auditorium – Larry Sullivan is presenting “Simple Scenes from the Psalms.”

Upstairs Classroom – Earl Fultz's topic is “Fact, Faith, or Fiction? A Study in Christian Evidences.”

Nursery Attendants Needed

One of our wonderful ministries here at Blue River is taking care of children. In addition, taking care of kids in the nursery allows parents to worship and recharge for their important parenting work during the week. If you can help with this ministry, please contact Kelly Sullivan and sign up on her Facebook list.

Birthdays – January 11-17

Nate Mace – January 11

Wes Capell, Darren Herrmann, Ralph Staley, & Jim Strope – January 14

Bill Endicott & Mary Weddle – January 15

John Owen – January 17

The Preacher's Post – *Darin Kennedy*

I have been reading a fascinating book by Everett Ferguson, church history professor at Abilene Christian University, entitled, *Baptism in the Early Church*. Ferguson suggests that one of the peculiarities of Christian baptism was that it was administered by someone else rather than self-washing. Many other religions from Greek mystery religions to traditional mythological worship to Jewish proselytism to more primitive paganism used washing by complete immersion, but they were normally something one did to oneself, such as Naaman's washing in the Jordan River in 2 Kings 5. John the Baptist probably got his title/nickname because he was offering a different type of washing, one that he administered to others. It may have been no more than a hand placed on someone while they bowed forward or knelt down into the water, but it was a presence with words of charging and blessing and welcome.

Two messages might be received from such a peculiarity as *administered* baptism. First, one cannot find forgiveness or salvation for oneself. It can only be granted or graced to someone. Of course, the person doing the baptizing is not the one giving it; that is God's gift to give. But there is a realization that grace must come by God's intrusion upon us. We cannot rescue ourselves from sin or its consequences, but we must rely on God. Baptism in this way is a very passive event, yes done in obedience, but passive in being only a recipient of the forgiveness that comes from being “buried (passive sense) with him through baptism into death” and of eternal life—“just as Christ was raised (passive sense)...we too may live a new life” (Romans 6:4).

The second message is one's inclusion into a body of believers. One does not enter into a purely individual relationship with God, but one enters because of a long line of preachers, teachers, preservers of the word, and examples who were God's ambassadors. One enters into a family where those relationships will continue to display the forgiveness and life and connection to Christ that one began to experience in baptism. One becomes equipped by the Spirit to, in turn, lead others to Christ, to administer the act of forgiveness and life that one had done to oneself.

Baptism is such a wonderful gift of God. It was my joy to have my father administer the gift to me, and it is my honor to administer it to others.