

# Blue River Church of Christ

November 22, 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 a.m.  
Morning Worship 8:30, 10:45 a.m.

##### Wednesday

Bible Study 7 p.m.

#### Elders

Earl Fultz  
Russ Simmons  
Jan Sullivan

#### Deacons

Jim Bassford Jack Hudkins  
David Blankenship John Owen  
David Foster Mike Peerson  
Darren Herrmann

#### Pulpit Minister

Darin Kennedy  
dkennedy@bluerivercofc.org

#### Family Life Minister

Shane Hall  
shall@bluerivercofc.org

Statistics for November 15, 2015 Attendance	83 + 143 = 226
Contribution	\$4,439.42
Weekly Average Contribution Needed to Meet Budget	\$5,250
Average Actual Year to Date Weekly Giving	\$5,365

#### Downtown Church of Christ Food for Life

They have need for: Ramen noodles, pasta meals, peanut butter, kool-aid, canned or packaged tuna, canned chicken, jello, cornbread mix, snack bars, applesauce or fruit cups, green beans, corn, mixed vegetables, bar soap, women's body wash, and tooth paste. 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.

#### 8:30

##### #557 "Rise Up, O Men of God"

*Scripture* Jeff Petersen  
Galatians 5:13-26

##### "In Christ Alone"

*Prayer* Jerry Brown

##### #318 "O Sacred Head"

*Lord's Supper*  
David Blankenship, presiding  
*The Bread*  
*The Cup*

#### Giving

##### #803 "Turn My Heart"

*Power Kids* I Am Thankful

*Lesson* Darin Kennedy  
"The Big 7: Envy"

##### #662 "All to Jesus I Surrender"

*Shepherd's Prayer* Russ Simmons

*Final Confession* Galatians 2:20

##### #615 "He Keeps Me Singing"

*Songs Led By* Roger Cook

#### 10:45

##### #557 "Rise Up, O Men of God"

*Scripture* Gary Hasty  
Galatians 5:13-26

##### "In Christ Alone"

*Prayer* Aaron Palmer

##### #318 "O Sacred Head"

*Lord's Supper*  
Alan Olas, presiding  
*The Bread*  
*The Cup*

#### Giving

##### #803 "Turn My Heart"

*Power Kids* I Am Thankful

*Lesson* Darin Kennedy  
"The Big 7: Envy"

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*Final Confession* Galatians 2:20

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*Songs Led By* Roger Cook

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

**Jerry John** was released from the hospital last week after undergoing tests. **Liz Church** is currently on oral meds with possible radiation to be added to her cancer treatment. **Donna Kerns** is home from Mayo Clinic after a follow-up appointment. Continue to pray for **Steve & Karen Etter, Gary Campbell, Keith Bench, Ralph Staley, Joe Harber, and Grover Renick.**

### ***5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Song Service***

There will be a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Song Service at East Independence Church of Christ on the evening of **November 29**. What a great way to finish your Thanksgiving Weekend! Our own **Shane Hall** will be one of the leaders.

### ***Budget Time***

If you expect to have expenditures in 2016 for church activities that you will be reimbursed for, please communicate those to the Deacon responsible for that area, or get them to **Darren Herrmann** by **November 22**.

### ***Nursing Home Service***

**November 22** (TODAY, 3:00) – Our fourth Sunday service at Wilshire at Lakewood Nursing Home is today.

### ***Small Groups***

The small group at the building now meets at 4:00 on Sunday afternoons.

### ***No Wednesday Classes***

Because of the Thanksgiving week, we will not be having Wednesday classes. If you know of someone visiting, who would not be on our contact list, please let them know.

## **Birthdays – November 22-28**

*Darin Kennedy – November 25*

*Carol Hendrix – November 26*

*Hadyn Hoggatt – November 28*

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

November 22	1 <sup>st</sup> Service	Carolyn Endicott & Brenda Petersen
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Service	Rebecca & Katie Waldron
November 29	1 <sup>st</sup> Service	Brenda & Conner Brotherton
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Service	Cheryl & Allie Mace

## **A Minister's Musings – Shane Hall**

Far too often we find ourselves obsessed with valuing outward, visible things. In other words, we measure our successes by futile products that can perish with time. This can be an especially dangerous course for the church. Many churches are measuring the wrong things. They've become smitten with what someone called the ABC's: Attendance numbers, big Buildings, and collecting Cash. This of course seems very far from where we are here at Blue River. I've not ever heard anyone use this type of language or even express such a desire but it doesn't mean a little warning isn't in order. Making sure our focus and motives stay pure can be a constant battle so let's "examine ourselves" (2 Cor. 13:5).

As a church, our aim is simple, to love the Lord our God with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We should be sensitive to how God measures us and by what rule He does His measuring. The bottom line is that the modern world is confused about what constitutes true success. Not unlike our ancestors, money and fame rule the day. And with little effort (mainly because it is our tendency), Satan sprinkles this attitude throughout the church. Unfortunately, it becomes about the numbers and not about lives. It becomes all about easy-to-measure, visible "things"—not hearts.

Taking a moment to dig into the Gospels will shed some light on the point. What did Jesus measure? What types of things did He see as great successes? Does the way you measure success coincide with His? It likely made people scratch their heads when Jesus told them that those who were poor, crying, and even persecuted were the blessed ones. I'm sure it "blew minds" when he told them to love their enemies. These seem to be the very opposite of what is considered good or successful. Think about the Pharisees of Jesus day. Their idea of success was certainly different than that of Jesus. I mean, it seemed from the outside looking in that these guys had it made. They had a growing power, money, and respect. They even had a good relationship with their corrupt government and were being set in places of great honor. Success!! Right? Nope. Notice this, "*Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat so practice and observe whatever they tell you—but not what they do. For they preach but do not practice'*" (Matt. 23:1-3). Following this, the rest of Matt. 23 chronicles a series of rebukes that should make the hair stand up on the back of your neck. These self-proclaimed "success stories" were not humble enough to be instructors, not compassionate enough to be leaders, not honest enough to be evangelists, and not faithful enough to worship their creator. In fact, according to Jesus, they had "...neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness" (Matt. 23:23).

Kinda scary, huh? Their measuring stick had become completely different than God's! In truth, they had devised their own way of measuring things and they were measuring the wrong things. It just goes to show that while numbers and power may be easy things to measure, they may not be what God is using to measure our success.