

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	Worship Times Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
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Elders	Earl Fultz John Owen Paul Walker	David Keller Russ Simmons
Deacons	David Blankenship Darren Herrmann Aaron Palmer	David Foster Jack Hudkins Sean Turner
Pulpit Minister	Darin Kennedy dkennedy@bluerivercofc.org	
Family Life Minister	Shane Hall shall@bluerivercofc.org	

Statistics for December 2, 2018 Attendance	77 + 179 = 256
Contribution	\$14,526.14
Weekly Average Contribution Needed to Meet Budget	\$6,867
Average Actual Year to Date Weekly Giving	\$6,745

Downtown Church of Christ Food for Life

They have need for: bar soap, disinfectant wipes, gallon and quart size zip-lock bags, tall kitchen bags for people to put clothing in, spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, jelly, instant potatoes, rice, beans (any kind), variety pack oatmeal, canned fruit, fruit cups, canned chicken, mac and cheese, Jiffy cornbread mix, toilet paper. Please leave all labeled donations in the office.

Prayer Warriors are waiting to hear from you. This group of caring people will pray for you and your request. 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.

BLUE RIVER

Church of Christ

Order of Worship

8:30	10:45
#536 "Higher Ground Medley"	"In the Bleak Midwinter" "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
<i>Prayer</i> Steve Etter	<i>Scripture</i> Aaron Palmer 1 Peter 1:3-9
<i>Scripture</i> Tony Pollard 1 Peter 1:3-9	<i>Prayer</i> Alan Olas
#517 "Heaven Came Down"	"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
<i>Lord's Supper</i> Joe Harber	<i>Lord's Supper</i> Larry Sullivan
<i>The Bread</i> <i>The Cup</i>	<i>The Bread</i> <i>The Cup</i>
<i>Giving</i>	<i>Giving</i>
#467 "We Have an Anchor" #612 "His Yoke Is Easy"	#15 "Step by Step" "In Christ Alone"
<i>Lesson</i> Darin Kennedy "Hopefully: Expectations of Hope"	<i>Lesson</i> Darin Kennedy "Hopefully: Expectations of Hope"
#594 "Live for Jesus"	#1018 "Joy to the World"
<i>Shepherd's Prayer</i> John Owen	<i>Shepherd's Prayer</i> Paul Walker
<i>Final Promise</i> 2 Peter 3:13	<i>Final Promise</i> 2 Peter 3:13
<i>Songs Led By</i> Shane Hall	<i>Songs Led By</i> Ryan Smith

Prayer List

Marie Nash broke her elbow. **Roman Martin** had successful shoulder replacement surgery. Continued prayers for **Susan Foster, Bob Schmitt, Sharon Michael's** mom, Betty. **Earl Weddle, Betty Williams, Donna Kerns, Andy Hester, Buddy Self, Rita Fitzsimmons, Evelyn Campbell, Doris Buys, Dave Nash, Gary & Beverly Campbell, Keith & Jurhee Bench, Bruce Keeton, and Jane Weatherbee.**

Thanks

Ralph and Eloise Staley thank everyone who sent them a card for their 60th anniversary, which was November 22: "Thanks to everyone. The number of cards was a lovely surprise."

New Address

Paul & Tammy Walker's new address is 3212 SW Alice Lane, Lee's Summit, MO 64082.

A New Small Group

Sunday, December 9 (5:00) – **Bill & Marlene Haley** will be hosting a married, adults-only small group at their home.

Prayer Meeting at the Building

Thursday, December 13 (7:00) – Please submit your prayer requests to **Paul Walker**, and attendance is open to all.

Annual Ladies' Christmas Party

December 13 (5:30pm) – Held at the **Guntert's** home. Please bring an ornament to exchange and a dish to share. RSVP to **Hannah Guntert** or **Nancy Sullivan**.

Snack Pack Needs

December – No snacks are needed until after the Christmas break, but feel free to purchase the urgent needed items from the list the schools provided (ex., any color pants sizes 5T-teen for both boys and girls and earbuds). If you need a copy of the list, please see **Samantha Pollard**.

Rachel House

In remembrance of **Liz Church**, we will again be supporting Rachel House. Donation envelopes are on the Christmas tree in the foyer café. Cash, checks, and purchased items can be given to **Sandy Sewell, Sharon Snowden** or **Nancy Sullivan**. If you prefer to purchase items, a list is provided by the tree.

Wilshire Nursing Home

Sunday, December 23 (3:00) – Plan to come, be blessed, and be a blessing.

The Preacher's Post – *Darin Kennedy*

This morning, I am going to begin a class on "Stretchy Prayer: Prayers from the Bible That Stretch Us." We will learn two things about prayer—

First, prayer is formative. We are made into better disciples when we pray. Yes, prayer is a personal expression of where we are now. In our prayers, at least according to biblical examples, we can be very honest, and that includes fear, doubt, and complaints. Our prayers will display our inadequacies to God. Prayer does not work because we say them right. Prayer works God is an amazing listener who loves to hear His people being honest with Him. God has powerfully equipped our prayers, as inadequate as they are, to come before Him by the "groaning" of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8:26).

At the same time that prayer is an honest expression of where we are now, prayer also grows us into more mature disciples. Being in the presence of God, speaking to Him openly and honestly, places us humbly within His loving grasp where He can shape us. Sometimes we will pray directly for the things that will mature us. Sometimes the growth will be more serendipitous, and we may be surprised by opportunities for growth. And honestly sometimes, we will say something that we just heard was good to say in a prayer, and we will grow into what we have said.

Which brings us to the second item we will learn—a larger prayer vocabulary. I do not mean that we will learn big words to impress God; Jesus is very clear that God is not interested at all in such showmanship (Matthew 6:7). I mean we can learn the larger vocabulary of discipleship. Some need to learn the language of thanksgiving; some the language of boldness. Some need to learn the vocabulary of simple trust; some a better list of what to ask for. Some need to learn confession; some need to learn confidence. We can all enlarge our repertoire of words that more fully express our hearts and that draw us more closely to the heart of the Hearer.

I am thankful that the Bible has a large repository of prayers. The prayers exemplify the most honest expressions of the human heart and the most helpful language for maturation. By allowing the Bible to teach us, we open ourselves to a world of encouragement and help. By sharing with one another what God is doing with our prayer lives, we gain confidence to speak. As a praying congregation, we can move from what we need to say to who we need to be.

Today's Morning Nursery Attendants

1st Service

Brenda & Conner Brotherton

2nd Service

Darlene Pollard & Allie Keller