

Blue River Church of Christ

Contact Information

221 NE Woods Chapel Rd
Lee's Summit, MO 64064
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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.

Elders Earl Fultz Russ Simmons
John Owen

Deacons David Blankenship Aaron Palmer
David Foster Sean Turner
Darren Herrmann Paul Walker
Jack Hudkins

Pulpit Minister Darin Kennedy
dkennedy@bluerivercofc.org

Family Life Minister Shane Hall
shall@bluerivercofc.org

Statistics for December 3, 2017 Attendance	93 + 134 = 227
Contribution	\$11,043.56
Weekly Average Contribution Needed to Meet Budget	\$5,989
Average Actual Year to Date Weekly Giving	\$6,016

Downtown Church of Christ Food for Life

They have need for: Ramen noodles, pasta and rice meals, peanut butter, jelly, Kool-Aid, canned or packaged tuna, canned chicken, Vienna sausages, Jell-O, cornbread mix, snack bars, diet drink packets, pork & beans, oatmeal, taco seasoning, gravy mix, spaghetti mix, tomato sauce, canned fruit, small packs of instant potatoes. 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.

December 10, 2017

BLUE RIVER

Church of Christ

Order of Worship

8:30

Prayer Sean Turner

#121 "Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing"

Lord's Supper

Jerry Brown

The Bread
The Cup

Giving

#537 "Here We Are but Straying Pilgrims"
#538 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"
#539 "Higher Ground"

Scripture

Steve Etter
Psalm 145

"Wonderful, Merciful Savior"
#123 "The Steadfast Love of the Lord"

Power Kids Dismissed

Lesson

Darin Kennedy
"Keep It Simple:
Slow to Anger"

#477 "There Is a Place of Quiet Rest"

Shepherd's Prayer Russ Simmons

Final Plea Joel 2:13

Songs Led By Shane Hall

10:45

#517 "Heaven Came Down"
#778 "Be with Me, Lord"

Prayer Vint Hall

Scripture Ben Church
Psalm 145

#514 "Redeemed"

Lord's Supper

Alan Olas

The Bread
The Cup

Giving

#705 "A Common Love"

Power Kids Dismissed

Lesson

Darin Kennedy
"Keep It Simple:
Slow to Anger"

#662 "All to Jesus I Surrender"

Shepherd's Prayer John Owen

Final Plea Joel 2:13

Songs Led By Gary Hasty

Prayer List

Sharon Self's mother, **Beulah Vaughn**, fell and broke her hip. **Ron McCleary's** mom has a broken hip and will need surgery. Jacob and Bethany Spillman and kids are moving to Germany for 3 years. **Susan Foster** is recovering from foot surgery. Continued prayers for **Denise Fultz**, **Liz Church's** sister, Carol, and her stepson Russell, **Hannah Guntert**, **Sherril Segoe**, **Barbara John**, **Betty Williams**, **Stephen Couture's** brother (Jonathan), **Frank Stewart's** son (Bill), **Vickie Sullivan**, **Faye Sullivan**, **Tony Pollard**, **Liddy Miller**, **Donna Kerns**, **Roman Martin**, **Howard Petersen**, **Holly Hadley**, **Buddy Self**, **Lena Bramlett**, **Doris Buys**, **Dave & Marie Nash**, **Gary & Beverly Campbell**, **Keith & Jurhee Bench**, **Evelyn Campbell**, **Bruce Keeton**, **Jane Weatherbee**, and **Liz Church**.

Winter Classes Start Today

Auditorium – **Earl Fultz** is teaching “**Godly Living in a Hostile Culture: The Letters of Peter.**”

Adult Classroom – **Darin Kennedy** is teaching through **The Gospel of Matthew.**

Visit from the Lee's Summit School District

Wednesday, December 13 (7:00) – Community Liaisons will present how they work with the community as well as our Backsnack Program. There will be a time for Q&A. Please join us as they enlighten us about the children's needs.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, December 15 (6:00-9:00) – Location: church building. Please sign up on the main bulletin board to reserve a spot for your kids and to volunteer if you are able.

Youth Christmas Party

Saturday, December 16 (5:00-9:00) – Location: **The Palmers' house**: 445 Lasley Branch Court, Raymore, MO 64083. Girls bring drinks, and the boys bring chips. RSVP by Wednesday the 13th.

Ladies Holiday Party

Monday, December 18 (5:30-???) – Location: **The Gunterts' house**: 2607 Magnolia Ave, Liberty, MO 64068. Bring an ornament to exchange and a dish to share. RSVP by Sunday the 17th.

Today's Morning Nursery Attendants

1st Service – Sherry & Cara Owen

2nd Service – Darlene Pollard

The Preacher's Post – *Darin Kennedy*

When the biblical writers speak of heaven, they do not talk in distant terms, as I believe we do today. Heaven, for us, seems so far away that we can treat it as “pie-in-the-sky” feeling, but basically irrelevant for today: “Let's just muddle through this life now until we finally get to the good stuff.” The faithful have not seen it as so separated from our earthly life.

If God is seated on a throne in heaven, that is so He can help at any time. God's presence in heaven has never implied distance, but readiness. When Solomon dedicated the newly built temple to the Lord in 1 Kings 8, he acknowledged that the temple could not be God's home because He is too big for such a place to “contain” Him. But from where God is, He can hear and respond and forgive.

In Psalm 11:4, the writer says, “The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord is on his heavenly throne. He observes everyone on earth; his eyes examine them.” Heaven is a place of vigilance for God, not of escape nor of negligence.

In Habakkuk, the prophet longs to see some response of God toward what he considers to be injustice. God responds with a description of His plan to bring justice upon His enemies in His own good time. Habakkuk concludes God's response with a statement of complete trust: “The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him” (Habakkuk 2:20). He is not talking about the temple in Jerusalem, but something far greater. If the Lord is in heaven, then He is at the ready for something amazing to occur.

When Jesus was about to leave his disciples, according to his physical presence in their midst, he gave them comfort that he would “go and prepare a place” for them (John 14:3) and that he was “going to the Father” (14:28). That physical distance would not decrease the power available to them; matter of fact, his going to be with the Father would increase the resources available to them: “...my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name” (16:23).

In the same way, in Hebrews, because Jesus “sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven” (Hebrews 1:3), he is the atoning sacrifice, the compassionate high priest, and the perfecter of faith. Jesus went to the place of more availability rather than staying with us here and being limited by the physical dimensions of time and space.

Heaven inspires not only because we look forward to being there, but also because RIGHT NOW God works from there for us.