

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 | Russ Simmons |
| Deacons | David Blankenship David Foster Darren Herrmann Jack Hudkins | Aaron Palmer Sean Turner Paul Walker |
| Pulpit Minister | Darin Kennedy dkennedy@bluerivercofc.org | |
| Family Life Minister | Shane Hall shall@bluerivercofc.org | |

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|---|----------------|
| Statistics for December 17, 2017 Attendance | 97 + 145 = 242 |
| Contribution | \$14,212.94 |
| 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 24, 2017

BLUE RIVER

Church of Christ

Order of Worship

8:30

10:45

Prayer

Ron McCleary

Prayer

Gary Hasty

#1018 "Joy to the World"
#1005 "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"
#1001 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

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#1005 "Beautiful Star of Bethlehem"
#1001 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

#997 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#997 "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

#1028 "O Holy Night!"

#1028 "O Holy Night!"

Lord's Supper

Brian Wahlen

Lord's Supper

Randy Smith

The Bread
The Cup

The Bread
The Cup

Giving

Giving

#1017 "Away in a Manger"

#1017 "Away in a Manger"

#470 "Victory in Jesus"

#470 "Victory in Jesus"

Power Kids Dismissed

Power Kids Dismissed

Lesson

Darin Kennedy
"Keep It Simple:
He Came"

Lesson

Darin Kennedy
"Keep It Simple:
He Came"

"Thank You, Lord"

"Thank You, Lord"

Shepherd's Prayer

John Owen

Shepherd's Prayer

Earl Fultz

Final Praise

Luke 2:14

Final Praise

Luke 2:14

Songs Led By

Shane Hall

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Prayer List

Curtis Eaton's mom, Jean Eaton, passed away on Monday. Please keep the family in your prayers. Continued prayers for **Tracy & Amelia Simmons, Beulah Vaughn, Howard Petersen, Ron McCleary's mom, Susan Foster, 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, Buddy Self, Lena Bramlett, Doris Buys, Dave & Marie Nash, Gary & Beverly Campbell, Keith & Jurhee Bench, Evelyn Campbell, Bruce Keeton, Jane Weatherbee, and Liz Church.**

Notes of Thanksgiving and Praise

"Recent scans indicate my liver lesions have reduced in size, an answer to prayers! My doctor is working on securing new immunotherapy drugs which he believes will be even more effective. Pray these will be available to me. **Liz Church**"

"Chris and Hannah Guntert adopted Gideon Jerel Guntert on Tuesday, December 12th @ 10:15. They would like to thank God for this blessing and their church family for the unending support during this process. **Chris & Hannah Guntert**"

Winter Bible Classes

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.**

Wilshire Nursing Home Ministry

Sunday, December 24 (3:00pm) – Make plans to participate and be a blessing.

Sunday Evening Small Group at the Building

December 24 & 31 – Will not meet due to the upcoming holidays.

Secret Sister Luncheon

Sunday, January 7 (12:00-2:00) – Save the date to join in the "big reveal". If you would like to participate in 2018 please see **Dawn Cook.**

Project Outreach Committee

Sean Turner is starting an Outreach Committee. "The expectation of the group is pretty open, but the idea is to get out into the community and create an environment where people feel connected and can see the light we shine." There is a sign-up sheet and list of planned activities for 2018 on the main bulletin board.

The Preacher's Post – Darin Kennedy

*"For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders."*

—Isaiah 9:6

"...and a little child will lead them."

—Isaiah 11:6

So many things are startling about the birth of Jesus. Obviously, the fact that God became a human being just like us heads the list. Along with that, I am intrigued by Scripture's overwhelming sense of authority given to the child. In contrast to all outer appearances of a soft, cute, cuddly, vulnerable child, born into poverty in a hidden place, is the aura of power surrounding Him.

Luke mentions the name of Caesar Augustus who orders a census to be taken. One has to chuckle a bit to hear Luke speak under his breath, "As if Caesar had anything to do with this." The most powerful man in the world is at the mercy of the will and prophecies of God, and the attention given to this earthly king is nothing compared with the heavenly chorus glorifying this Jewish baby before shepherds.

Matthew chooses Herod in order to draw a contrast. Herod's family had plotted and bought the position of King over Israel, but the wise men from the East bring all that crashing down when they say, "We have come to see the one born King of the Jews." In the quiet of a house in Bethlehem, these wise men bow down to a baby. Herod is the butt of a joke, not one played by the wise men, but one played by God over all those who would claim to have power.

We are challenged to confront the authority of the baby in our own lives today. First, realize and obey the will of God. By all worldly appearances, nothing special was happening in a remote village. Babies are born all the time. However, the gospels show that God's will, a plan prophesied about long ago, was being fulfilled. The gospels also describe an assortment of people, including Joseph, Mary, shepherds, and wise men, who fell into God's plan with humility. To do God's will in spite of its conflict with worldly ways of acting is an act of submission before the child King.

Second, become like Jesus. The one who said, "Unless you become like little children..." was the same one who became a child. To give up status for the position of a servant, to lower oneself out of love, to gently show the tender mercy of God is to act like children of the King. It is one thing to praise the Babe, but a greater acknowledgement of His authority is to follow His example.

Today's Morning Nursery Attendants

1st Service – Kelly & Alex Newbury

2nd Service – Kimberly Kennedy & Lindsey Hall