

Invitation

Welcome everyone. We pray you will be strengthened by your visit with the Brighton Church of Christ. You are not just our guest, but you are welcome and wanted right here. Join our family of imperfect people perfected in by the blood of Jesus. Restrooms are located across the foyer near the front of the auditorium on the upper floor. If you need assistance in any way, ask any member for help.

Mission

The Brighton Church of Christ is a spiritual family with a focus on going to heaven. We are determined to honor God, to strictly follow the teachings of the New Testament, and effectively make that teaching available to the city of Brighton and the surrounding areas.

Leadership

Elders

Ron Jensen	303-655-8498
Ivan Stewart	720-270-1057
Mark Thacker	303-655-1982

Deacons

Kevin Dunham	303-807-5974
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Minister

Sam Dilbeck	903-229-8415
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Contacts

Church Phone: 303.659.1420
Email: info@brightonchurchofchrist.org
Website: brightonchurchofchrist.org
Facebook: facebook.com/brightoncoc

Attendance last week:

Sunday am - 72
Sunday pm - 31
Wednesday - 15
Contribution- \$3,395.00

Sunday Schedule Morning

Welcome	Ron Jensen
Song Leader	Justin Williams
Opening Prayer.....	Jeff Oaks
Lord's Supper Leader.....	
Assistant.....	Alan Samuelson
Assistant	Chris Jatko
Assistant.....	Chris Warner
Assistant.....	Jim Learned
Scripture Reading.....	Paul Nikolai

Matt 6:25-34

Lesson.....	Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer & Dismissal.....	Kevin Dunham

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....	
Opening Prayer.....	Marc Moran
Lord's Supper Leader.....	
Lesson.....	Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer.....	Chris Peterson

Wednesday Evening Schedule

Class.....	Sam Dilbeck
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Service Times

Sundays:

Morning classes 9:30 am

Worship 10:30 am

Evening worship 6:00 pm

Wednesdays:

Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm



May 29, 2022

Liberty Is a Moral Monster Sam Dilbeck

One day, in a park not far away, eight friends were roughhousing when a stranger walked nearby them. The leader of the pack stopped the stranger and said they were going to rob him, but the stranger objected. The ruffians offered the stranger a compromise—they'd vote on it. The stranger believed strongly in a democratic system and agreed to abide by the results. Six voted for robbing the stranger, one voted with the stranger, and one abstained. The Cretans won six to two and the stranger was robbed.

After the Philadelphia Constitutional Convention in 1787 concluded, Benjamin Franklin was reportedly asked, "Do we have a Republic or a Monarchy?" Franklin replied, "A Republic, if you can keep it." Franklin wasn't worried about outside forces overthrowing the Republic. He was concerned about it crumbling from within. His words sound ominous as the Republic we inherited unravels. How do you "keep" a Republic founded on democracy of a self-governing people like the United States of America?

Goethe, the 18th century German philosopher poet, said, "What is the best government? That which teaches us to govern ourselves" (Saunders, T.B., *The Maxims and Reflections of Goethe*, 1893, p. 107). However, this idea was not new; King Solomon wisely said, "Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov 14:34). The 19th century minister, Henry Ward Beecher, interpreted this as, "There is no liberty to men whose passions are stronger than their religious feelings; there is no liberty to men in whom ignorance predominates over knowledge; there is no liberty to men who know not how to govern themselves" (Drysdale, Wm., *Proverbs from Plymouth Pulpit*, 1887, p. 72).

For liberty and democracy to be good for humanity, it must be undergirded by morality. Without a righteous foundation, liberty becomes a moral monster. Like the scene in the park, when the majority seeks evil, democracy becomes evil and destroys nations and governments. John Adams rightly observed, “Public virtue cannot exist in a Nation without private Virtue, and public Virtue is the only Foundation of Republics” (Adams in letter to Mercy Otis Warren, April 16, 1776). For America, this means as society leaves its moral foundation of Godly principles behind, it destroys itself.

In the wake of every tragedy, like the recent school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, immorality renews its threat against self-governance. As people have conversations about the shooter, his motive, and future prevention, there are many who ignore the real problem. Was it the availability of guns? Mental illness? Or something else? The United States has spent decades investing in an immorality and is reaping what it has sown.

How long can we tell people they are animals and not expect them to behave like animals? How long can we slaughter pre-born children and not expect people to devalue life? How long can we embrace the cult of self and not expect individuals to think their own good, desires, and thoughts are more important than others? How long can a society embrace narcissism, nihilism, humanism, and materialism, and reasonably expect everyone to seek the community’s good and the welfare of others?

America has worked hard on the priority of the individual and the normalization of immoral behavior. We ignore broken homes and celebrate fatherlessness—the biggest contributing factor to violent crimes. We hypersexualize the culture, leading to more out-of-wedlock births. We sanitize evil and excuse wickedness, pretending they don’t exist. Offenders are mentally ill, misunderstood, or the product of bullying. We have failed to teach people how to cope with disappointment, rejection, or even abuse. And when a product of a corrupt culture lashes out in murder, we act confused, “How could this happen?” It happens because we created a moral monster—liberty without morality.

As America leaves its righteous moorings the looming question is, “Can an immoral America still embrace its foundational liberty?” Armed citizenry and free speech work in a society educated in righteousness with individuals practicing self-control. When we stop personal and social righteousness, the answer to that question is in doubt.

Announcements

Prayers

The Parkers had to cancel their vacation due to Tim's car accident May 17, 2022. The driver who caused the accident turned into oncoming traffic. Tim was treated by EMS on the scene. However, later that evening, he went to the ED for a severe headache and extreme chest pain. Tim was not admitted to the hospital; however, he was in the ED over 10 hours for observation and numerous tests including a CT scan. A heart attack was later ruled out. His chest pain was from the pressure of the deployed air bag. He does have a concussion because his head hit the windshield even though the air bag deployed. Currently, Tim is dealing with head, neck and back pain. Since the accident, he's had emergency services 3 times. Please keep the Parker family in your prayers at this difficult time.

Penny Anderson, Tim Parker's daughter is having a difficult time with seizures since her hospitalization with COVID-19. For a long while her seizures were controlled with medication. Please keep Penny and her husband Dave in your prayers. Thank you.

Chris Welsby is having a back procedure done and prayers for a positive outcome are appreciated.

Continued Prayers

- Elmo Wilson-home hospice care
- Eleanor Jatko– health problems
- Jane Hanavan-heart issues
- KD’s supervisor's wife, LaRae Siefert-chemo nerve damage
- Sam Sims– health problems
- The Wiley family– baby son with health complications
- Kristi Dunham’s father, Joe Baker, health problems
- Brett Reitmair’s father, Bernie, heart attack.

News and Notes

Summer Food Drive

Please see the table in the foyer for a complete list of items they need. When you shop pick up an item or two for them and bring it to the building by **June 12th**. They always appreciate the gift of love. Please make sure the items are not expired.



Vacation Bible School

We are having a Vacation Bible School this year. The dates are Wednesday, July 13th—Friday, July 15th. Plans and progress are already in progress. Please let Mark Thacker know if you will be able to help or bring children. We’ll be better prepared if we have an idea of how many will attend. There is plans for a teen event as the same time.



Summerfest 2022

We have reserved a Summerfest booth this year. We are again in need of volunteers to man the booth. We hand out flyers about Vacation Bible School and answer any questions passers by might have about the church or about Vacation Bible School. If you are able to work for a few hours on **June 4**, 2022 at Carmichael Park please see Mark Thacker.

Free Material from WVBS:

There are some free reference items from World Video Bible School on the desk in the rear of the auditorium, as well as their current catalogue. WVBS offers some valuable resources in print form and a great deal of free online content. Take a moment to become familiar with what they offer and help yourself to the free material.

New Member

Cynthia Nickels
1976 E. 102nd Circle Thornton CO 80229
303-513-1704 lee11297@hotmail.com



Birthdays and Anniversaries		
May 30	Raymond & Meredith Long	Anniversary
June 1	Sam & Julie Dilbeck	Anniversary
June 3	Nolan Peterson	Birthday