

## 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

### Minister

Sam Dilbeck 903-229-8415

### Contacts

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

### Attendance last week:

Sunday am - 88  
Sunday pm - 39  
Wednesday - 32  
Contribution- \$5,040.00

## Sunday Schedule Morning

Welcome ..... Ron Jensen  
Song Leader ..... Ron Jensen  
Opening Prayer.....Marcos Celaya  
Lord's Supper Leader.....Jeff Oaks  
Assistant.....Chris Peterson  
Assistant .....Chris Welsby  
Assistant.....Sam Dunham  
Assistant.....Chris Jatko  
Scripture Reading.....Paul Nikolai

Luke 24:46-49

Lesson..... Sam Dilbeck  
Closing Prayer & Dismissal.....Ronn Eudaley

## Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Ron Jensen  
Opening Prayer.....Marc Moran  
Lord's Supper Leader.....Jeff Oaks  
Lesson.....Sam Dilbeck  
Closing Prayer.....Alan Samuelson

## Wednesday Evening Schedule

Class.....Sam Dilbeck

## Service Times

Sundays:  
Morning classes 9:30 am  
Worship 10:30 am  
Evening worship 6:00 pm  
Wednesdays:  
Evening Bible Study 6:30 pm



# BRIGHTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Brightonchurchofchrist.org ♦ facebook.com/brightoncoc

September 25, 2022

**When Strings Decay (2)**  
**Sam Dilbeck**

Last week's article examined some trends among Millennials and Gen Z when it comes to the church. Specifically, how many from these generations are leaving the church and few are returning. However, lamenting the faults of the recent past are meaningless if churches do not seek ways to fix the issues. This second installment examines some possible actions churches can take to retain or restore those who have left the church.)

How should the church respond? Obviously, the doctrine of the church cannot change. The teaching comes from God, who does not change (Mal. 3:6). Sin is still sin. Jesus is still the only way to heaven. And baptism is still essential to salvation. However, the church has some leeway in how it can adapt to meet the needs of Millennials.

One thing churches can do is adapt to how people communicate. Preaching will always be central to communicating the gospel (Mark 16:15; 1 Cor. 1:18-24; 9:16). However, the church cannot afford to limit its communication to regular services three times a week. People want instant access to their bank, their work, even their friends. They ought to have instant access to their church. Church websites are a good first step, but rich, full, interactive, and regularly updated web content is imperative. Otherwise, the church's website is little more than a dated book.

Another element to retain young adults is to help them connect personally. A lot of communication outside the church happens through email and text messages. When people get off work or out of school they crave human interaction. They meet up with friends to play games and hang out. Millennial sensitive churches recognize this pattern and help Christians connect with other Christians outside the regular worship services through small group ministries that meet the needs of church members—recovery groups for people overcoming addictions, parenting support group, philosophy clubs, or study groups. The church can help through facilitation and organization, but also through offering a location to meet and develop deeper fellowship among adults of all ages.

Churches also need to offer more conduits for Christians to utilize their faith. Of course the church preaches service, benevolence, and evangelism. But, young adults want more than encouragement to do these things, they want opportunities. Many churches have organized mission tours that allow Christians to evangelize. Churches can also establish benevolent ministries that help Christians find those in need and offer help. If Millennials see a disconnect between the message of the pulpit and the methods of the church, they will become disenchanted and disengaged.

The church must also teach. This really is the beginning, middle, and end. Shallow, entertainment-focused teaching initiated the problem and now the church faces a Hosean crisis of ignorance. Families must teach the word at home, and the church can help train parents to do it. Also, the joy of Christianity must be emphasized. Too many churches perpetuate the myth that youth group games are fun and church is boring. Churches counter this by teaching the true joy of Christ—unity and fellowship based on the word (1 John 1:3-4). Instead of prizes and games, youth ministers, parents, and church leaders should demonstrate the excitement of mastering a doctrinal concept, defending the word, or practicing the goals of Christianity. Children and teens need to know the joy of service, the reward of study, and the blessings of faithfulness.

By teaching deeper concepts of the Bible to all ages, the church renews the cords that bind us to God. Then if one rope breaks, there remain two more to keep the heart strong, for “a threefold cord is not easily broken” (Ecc. 4:12). By offering more ways to connect with others, adapting to communication styles of the culture, and by offering the ancient truths of the gospel to a modern world, the church can help people from all generations, including Millennials, fall deeper into God. Wise church leaders can stop string decay.

## Announcements

### Prayers

Jennifer Sandstede’s mother had surgery and her aunt is dealing with an illness. Prayers for both of them.

Chris Jatko is asking for prayers for his **Uncle Ralph Holso**. Ralph has cancer and is undergoing chemo.

**Linda Buck**, a former member of Brighton, has been diagnosed with breast cancer. Prayers as she walks the road to recovery.

Pray that our search for a new preacher will be successful.

### Continued Prayers

Paula Stewart— car accident recovery

Sherry Derbigny’s Uncle, Tommy Barber –health problems

Eleanor Jatko— health problems

Jane Hanavan-heart issues

Sam Sims— health problems

Brett Reitmair’s father, Bernie, heart attack.

David Bryant’s mother— stroke recovery

Sherry Derbigny’s friend, Daisy and family-car accident

## News and Notes

### Social Studies

The next Bible Study and fellowship will be Friday, October 21st at the Dunham’s. 885 Rose Ct. Potluck at 6pm and study at 7pm.

Potluck theme is Breakfast.

Child care will be provided.



### Fall Food Drive

It is time to start gathering items for the food drive. If we all pick up a few items each week there will be plenty for the drive pick up. Please see the list on the table in the foyer to see what they need. The pick up date is October 9th. They always appreciate what is sent.

## *Farewell Potluck*



### Farewell Potluck

**Today** right after morning service is the potluck to wish Sam and Julie the best on their new adventure.

### Young Adults/Teen Fellowship

Saturday, October 22nd at 6pm at the Dunham’s, 885 Rose Ct.

Bring a finger food to share and wear a costume if you’d like to take part in the costume contest. Friends are welcome!

Birthdays and Anniversaries		
September 29	Payton Peterson	Birthday
September 30	Derek Romero	Birthday