

## 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

### Contacts

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

### Attendance last week:

Sunday am - 79  
Sunday pm - 31  
Wednesday - 26  
Contribution- \$4,489.00

## Sunday Schedule Morning

Song Leader.....Ron Jensen  
Opening Prayer.....Paul Nikolai  
Lord’s Supper Leader.....Coby Mendoza  
Assistant.....Chris Peterson  
Assistant .....James Slagle  
Assistant.....Sam Dunham  
Assistant.....Kayden Derbigny  
Scripture Reading.....Kaden Dunham

Lesson.....Jonah Mace Stewart  
Closing Prayer.....Kevin Dunham

## Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Ron Jensen  
Opening Prayer.....Ronn Eudaley  
Lord’s Supper Leader.....Mark Thacker  
Lesson.....Ron Jensen  
Closing Prayer.....Marc Moran

## Wednesday Evening Schedule

Class.....Jeff Oaks

## Service Times

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



December 4 , 2022

### Why People Love Christmas Sam Dilbeck

Another holiday season has arrived with lights, glitter, and tinsel in tow. Joy and smiles dot the landscape as people search for the perfect gifts and attend parties and gatherings. Decorations go up, animosity goes down, and for a little while the world seems in harmony. What is it about the holidays that so many love? Throughout the year, other days of celebration are popular, but none of them come close to the popularity of Christmas. I think the holiday season captures the best of the human spirit and puts it on display. From the stories of the real Saint Nicholas to desires of peace, Christmas embodies them all. What many today do not understand, however, is that what they love about the season are daily principles of Christianity that so many reject today. One idea that saturates Christmas is peace. Many people know it from the angelic declaration of Luke 2:14, “And on earth peace.” Through his willing sacrifice Jesus brought peace between humanity and God (Eph 2:13-18). As recipients of the “peace that passes understanding,” Christians are called to “If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all” (Rom 12:18). The spirit of peace that prevails at Christmas ought to prevail all year. Kindness is another important value exalted at Christmas time. Some manuscripts record the angels singing “good will toward men” (Luke 2:14). While the preferred reading is “on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased,” the other reading is popular and therefore, around the holidays, people are nicer and kinder to others—including strangers. They give to charities in a desire to help those less fortunate.

People smile more, open more doors, and give up more for others in a show of good will to their fellow man. This spirit of good will and kindness is what God asks of his people every day (Gal 6:8-10).

Christmas is also the season of joy. Sin defiled and cursed the world (Gen 3:18; Rom 8:20). Yet, when the Savior came the anticipation of redemption brought great joy (Rom 8:19-23). This is the “great joy” announced by the angel to the shepherds (Luke 2:10). Because of this salvation, Christians are called to “Rejoice always” (1 Thes 5:16; Phil 4:4; Rom 5:1-2). Again, the glad tidings and joy of the Christmas season should be shown every day all year long.

One of the biggest traditions of Christmas is the generosity of the season. Some trace gift giving back to the magi bringing gifts to the newborn Jesus in Matthew 2. However, that did not happen as tradition states it, but rather Jesus was probably a toddler since the magi indicated the star appeared two years prior (Matt 2:16). In addition, there is no indication that gifts were ever brought to Jesus to commemorate his birth. And the gifts brought to him as a toddler weren't for his birth, but for his position and death—King and sacrifice. However, the tradition of gift giving survives, and children around the world are thankful. But like other Christmas traditions, generosity ought to define daily Christian living. The Lord said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35; Eph 4:28).

All these traditions are undergirded by love. In fact, all great Christmas traditions are founded on love: family gatherings, generosity, joy, peace, kindness, and remembering others. Love is the common bond of Christmas that ties hearts together across the country and across national boundaries. Love is the hallmark of Christianity every day (Mat 22:34-40; Mark 12:28-34; Luke 10:25-28; 1 John 4:7-8). Christian love reflects the love God has already shown to the world (John 3:16; 15:13; 1 John 4:9-10).

Many people say, “Jesus is the reason for the season.” While this is true, it is not for the reason most people think. Many think it is about his birth, but what makes Christmas the season of Jesus is that it brings together the greatest values of humanity and puts them on display for the whole world to see. And it is Jesus that makes these values so wonderful.

Sadly, by next year, many will have forgotten the values that make the holiday season so glorious. They will turn their backs on the Savior they praised during Christmas. But God will still be there, calling his people to peace, kindness, joy, generosity, and love. Imagine if all people sought to live like Christ all year, it would be Christmas every day.

## Announcements

### Prayers

**Linda Sanchez** is very concerned for her son Nick. He has cancer and more information as to exactly where and what to do won't be available till after Thanksgiving. Prayers for peace of mind during the wait and for the best possible outcome.

Our **Elders** are actively searching for a full time preacher. Pray that the search will be successful.

### Continued Prayers

Harold Price, Sherry Derbigny's Dad-health challenges

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

Chris Jatko's Uncle Ralph Holso-chemo treatment

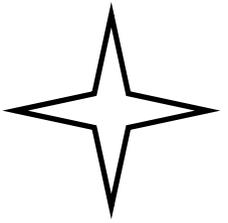
### News and Notes

**There will be no Sunday evening service on December 25th.**

This day is very special to many of our members, especially with family visiting, some traveling from great distances. In this instance, we don't want to make members choose between visiting with their families or attending evening service. Be assured that we believe that our worship services and other meeting times are important and we do not expect to cancel at other times, except when there are safety concerns. (e.g. dangerous snow events)

### Live streaming update

The Elders have decided to stop live streaming our services. However, the entire morning service will continue to be recorded and made available both on YouTube and on Facebook each Sunday afternoon for those who need to use this as a home-worship aid.



### **God's Girls Get Together**

Calling all God's Girls, 5th grade up to young adult: We are getting together Saturday, December 10th at 12:00 pm (noon) to make the Senior Saints gifts. Please bring your favorite Christmas sweet (cookies, candy, chocolate pretzels, etc.), enough for 33 gifts. Lunch will be provided.



### **YOUNG ADULT AND TEEN CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater or other Christmas attire and join us for a fun evening of fellowship.

**Saturday, December 17th 5pm to 8pm at the church building.** Pizza and drinks will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. There will be a dessert contest for the best presentation and best taste for those bringing a dessert. Friends are welcome!

### **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

December 4	Vero Baker	Birthday
December 7	Kaylee Derbigny	Birthday
December 9	Mechelle Bishop	Birthday