

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
Reid Jones	719-469-1609
Ivan Stewart	720-270-1057

Deacons

Kevin Dunham	303-807-5974
Anthony Sandoval	303-815-4045
Mark Thacker	303-655-1982

Minister

Sam Dilbeck	903-229-8415
-------------	--------------

Contact

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

Sunday Morning Men to Serve

Welcome— Ron Jensen

Main Prayer— Chris Peterson

Song Leader— Ron Jensen

Lord's Supper Leader— Dale Bishop

Sermon - Sam Dilbeck

Closing Prayer & Dismissal by section— KD Derbigny

Service Time

Worship 10:30 am

"Zoom" virtual classes:

4th thru 6th Grade Fridays @ 3:00 p.m.

7th thru 12th Grade Fridays @ 6:00 p.m.



Nov. 15, 2020

**Preaching to the Choir
Sam Dilbeck**

Current trends in the American religious culture appear to be bent toward serving the uninitiated, those who live separated from Christ and his fellowship. Religious leaders are slowly recognizing churches catering to the uninitiated, lose their identity. Even the Lord's church has witnessed this troublesome trend.

Nowhere is the trend more apparent than in worship. Congregations around the world have revamped worship to draw in outsiders. Dr. Robert Gundry, denominational theologian, laments this "seeker-sensitive" approach to worship:

The "seeker sensitivity" of evangelicals—their practice of suiting the gospel to the felt needs of people, primarily the bourgeoisie—contributes to their numerical success but can easily sow the seeds of worldliness (broadly conceived). How so? Well, in a society such as ours where people do not feel particularly guilty before God (though in fact they are), seeker-sensitivity—if consistently carried through—will soft-pedal the preaching of salvation from sin, for such preaching would not meet a felt need of people. (Robert H. Gundry, *Jesus the Word According to John the Sectarian: a Paleofundamentalist Manifesto for Contemporary Evangelicalism, Especially Its Elites*, in North America, Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001, pg. 77-78)

While Gundry sees the trend changing the pulpit, it affects more than the message. It causes some in the church to clamor for changes in music, contribution, and prayer styles as well. This results in a greater emphasis on the outward aesthetics of worship, than on the inward connection of worship. Another sign of churches catering to the uninitiated

comes when members use the worship assembly for evangelism. This attitude reveals a misunderstanding of both evangelism and worship that leads to satisfying visitors, rather than edifying members.

We cannot overlook the nobility of these goals which center on converting sinners. Changing worship to appeal to the uninitiated shows an openness to the community. Many see it as “less offensive.” Regardless of the good the intent, the Bible challenges us with a different direction for worship.

Worship is for the initiated—those who are saved. Who has the right to pray to God? Christians (1 Pet. 3:12). Who has the right to partake in the Lord’s Supper? Christians (1 Cor. 11:24-29). Who are called to lay by in store or sing together? Christians. God designed the worship for Christian (Phil 3:3). In the assembly Christians find deeper connection with Jesus. Here the knots of fellowship tighten (Col. 2:2). Christians grow through worship. On the other hand, how can one who rejects the sacrifice of Christ proclaim that death through the Lord’s supper without bringing damnation to himself (1 Cor. 11:29)? How can one sing, “Praise him, praise him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer,” while having never been redeemed?

This seems to put many churches between a rock and a hard place. On one side we desire to welcome visitors. On the other side God seeks true worshipers (John 4:23-24). The Bible helps us navigate a proper understanding of worship and evangelism.

Churches must rethink worship. The assembling of the church must cater to saints not sinners. It must help Christians worship God. Hebrews 10:24-25 reveals both the call and purpose of worship is to impact “one another.” Visitors must be welcomed, but the service must edify the family first and foremost. Focusing the sermon or other parts of worship toward the occasional visitor by dwelling on the milk of the word starves maturing Christians who need meat (1 Pet. 2:2; Heb. 5:12-14).

Churches must rethink evangelism. Jesus said, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19). To evangelize we must leave the church and go meet sinners. This may be one-on-one evangelistic endeavors, small group studies done in the home, or even church wide events designated as outreach projects. The church can also use programs and Bible classes as evangelistic tools. These are great ways to reach out to the uninitiated.

The church needs a dual focus—inward for worship and outward for evangelism. But we cannot blur the lines of direction and purpose. We need two sermons, one for the choir and one for the lost.

Prayers

Jerry Kite’s-He had knee replacement surgery last Thursday. Prayers for a quick recovery.

Raymond Long - Raymond Long's Neurologist appointment went well with positive results for Raymond.

On Going Prayers

Kerry Crill, Rikk's brother, seizures due to a golf-ball-sized mass is in his brain.

Eleanor Jatko recovery from a stroke

Penny Anderson, Tim Parker's daughter- seizures.

Bill Woloridge, the Austin’s friend, with his cancer and treatments.

Jane Hanavan with her heart issues.

John Hart, a co-worker of Kristi- cancer.

Jim & Monte Hazlet’s- health problems and the loss of Jim.

Dawn Lell– health problems

KD’s supervisor wife LaRae Siefert-chemo nerve damage

Sherry Derbigny’s Jackie-breast cancer

Sam Sims-health problems

Joe Martinez-prayer for recovery

News and Notes

Ladies Bible Class

Ladies Bible Class will resume Wednesday, December 2nd, at 10:00 a.m. Looking forward to studying with you all again.



New Members

Bert & Pelham (Pat) Thomas

8995 Cypress Dr.

Thornton CO 80229

303-287-3783

New Cell Phone Number

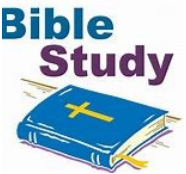
Mark Thacker’s new cell number is 720-840-1681

Wednesdays Night Bible Study

Please join us for a great Bible Class at 6:30 either in-person or streamed from brighton-churchofchrist.org and our facebook page. Sam is teaching 1 Corinthians and this class is well worth your time.

We are considering starting a Wednesday young people's class in-person as well, if we can generate enough interest. Let the elders hear from you if you are interested. areidjones@gmail.com

Perhaps with the vaccine we will all be able to worship and study again in-person before too many more months!



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nov. 15	Raymond Long	Birthday
Nov. 17	Anthony Sandoval	Birthday