

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- Ivan Stewart

Song Leader-Les Tucker

Lord's Supper Leader-Dale Bishop

Sermon - Sam Dilbeck

Closing Prayer & Dismissal by section-Ernest Kite

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.



June 14, 2020

Systemic Racism Sam Dilbeck

Not since 9/11 has the United States been as unified as when George Floyd died in Minneapolis. Nearly everyone from national leaders down recognized the excessive use of force and called for changes. Sadly, that unity quickly crumbled.

The division wasn't over the horror of watching a man die at the hands of an over-aggressive officer, but the protesting, rioting, and looting that followed. The charge of "white privilege" and "racists cops" came ringing through the land. Floyd's death was chalked up as just another incident of "systemic racism." But, does Floyd's death really point to systemic racism?

In his book, *The Descent of Man*, Charles Darwin argues that the European white race is more highly evolved than the black race (he calls them "savage" race), and therefore is superior. Darwin expected very little from black people, holding them to a low standard. Racism believes black people do not have the same mental capacity for learning as white people. It says black people are naturally more aggressive, or naturally bent toward a life of violence and crime. None of these prejudices are true, but Darwinism gave credence to many racist ideas, some of which are still believed today.

"Systemic racism" requires a system—a system of laws, rules, social contracts, or goals that embrace prejudices based on skin tone. Right now, the accusation of systemic racism is made against the United States of America. Many point out that some of America's founding fathers owned slaves. Therefore, the US is a racist system. However, not every father owned slaves,

and in fact how slaves were treated was a sticking point at the first constitutional convention. Some of the founding fathers favored abolition, so a compromise was struck with slave holders in order to ratify the constitution. In the intervening years, equality of all humans has been written into the fabric of our laws from the Declaration to the Reconstruction Amendments to the Civil Rights Acts. Today, the laws governing the American system protect equal rights for all people. Far from systemic racism, our nation has systemic anti-racism!

Some say the police system is racist. Yet, the police enforce the laws of cities and states. For the police system to have systemic racism, it must have rules forcing it to police one race and leave other races unpoliced. Again, there are not rules like these. Some see how George Floyd was treated and claim it proves racism in the Minneapolis Police Department. Yet, all the officers involved were immediately fired and within a few days of investigation were arrested and charged by the Minneapolis Police Department. Racism would have excused the officers for killing a black man—which did not happen.

Some may say the workforce shows systemic racism. However, the system governing the workforce demands equality, and forbids race-based hiring (except in the case of affirmative action, which favors racial minority hiring). Anyone who feels they have been discriminated against in hiring has recourse through the government and other agencies.

None of the systems in the United States favor one race over another. “All men are created equal” is still a fundamental pillar of America. The idea of systemic racism is simply false. But what about Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin, Freddie Gray, Eric Garner, Philando Castile, George Floyd and others? Doesn’t this form a pattern of racially motivated police involved killing? No. It may reveal some individually racist police officers, but it does not reveal a system based on or lead by racism.

Saying there isn’t systemic racism does not mean racism doesn’t exist today. Next week, we will examine racism and race reconciliation.

Announcements

Prayer List

Jim Hazlet had a successful Pacemaker implant procedure. Please pray for his continued recovery.

Prayers for the **Jensen family**. Jennifer’s father passed away last week after battling cancer.

On Going Prayers

Eleanor Jatko recovery from a stroke.

KD’s supervisor’s wife is suffering from chemo related nerve damage.

Sherry’s aunt, Jackie, has started chemo for breast cancer.

Penny Anderson, Tim Parker’s daughter- seizures.

Carma Dunham— recovery from a broken hip

Shirley Adams is battling cancer.

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

Jane Hanavan with her heart issues.

Sam Sims stroke recovery

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

Lorraine Spencer- declining health

Jim & Monte Hazlet’s- health

Dawn Lell— surgery recovery

News and Notes

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 20	Bill & Ann Adams	Anniversary
June 20	Mark & Naomi Thacker	Anniversary
June 20	Naomi Thacker	Birthday



Jim and Monte Hazlet are looking for a person to hire to help them out on a regular basis. If anyone is looking for such a position or knows of anyone who is please see Jim or Monte.

Men to Serve

How wonderful to have a Men to Serve list again. The list for June and July has been completed. If you are unable to serve please let Mark Thacker know.



The plan is to have **Virtual Kamp Koinonia** this summer July 12 – 18. Restrictions are becoming less restrictive. This may very well mean that by July 12, we might be able to occasionally gather face-to-face throughout the week for some devotionals, games, or other Koinonia activities at local congregations.

However, we will also be doing a lot of things through live streaming online. Since not everyone will have access to a good internet connection, it would be a huge help if each congregation lets us know if they can serve as a “hotspot” for good internet service. We could then tell campers where they can set up to be a part of Koinonia each day.

If you are able and willing to provide this, please let us know. Then we can post which congregations will be serving as these Kamp “hotspots.” Bret Carter