

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 - 81
Sunday pm - 27
Wednesday - weather closure
Contribution- \$4,165.25

Sunday Schedule Morning

Welcome	Ron Jensen
Song Leader	Ron Jensen
Opening Prayer.....	Kevin Dunham
Lord's Supper Leader.....	Jeff Oaks
Assistant.....	Paul Nikolai
Assistant	Kaden Dunham
Assistant.....	Dale Bishop
Assistant.....	Chris Warner
Scripture Reading.....	Jim Learned

Hosea 6:1-3

Lesson.....	Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer & Dismissal.....	Coby Mendoza

Sunday Evening

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

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



March 13, 2022

Spiritual but not Religious – pt. 3 Sam Dilbeck

[Please review the two previous articles introducing this subject and beginning a review of some of the prevailing ideas of the SBNRs. This final installment picks up with the review.—sd]

Another stereotype SBNRs cringe over is the belief that churches demand commitment to things that have no meaning. This idea is largely based upon the rituals associated with worship. Some of this criticism is justified when churches introduce man-centered rites without biblical support or become so tradition bound that even biblical acts of worship and service fall dead and lifeless before the Creator.

In describing his choice of atheism, Theodore Dalrymple credits a similar reaction to rituals that have no meaning. He tells of being a boy in an English school assembly after being told that during prayers all eyes must be shut, or God would leave the assembly. Dalrymple noted, “I wanted to test this hypothesis. Surely, if I opened my eyes suddenly, I would glimpse the fleeing God? What I saw instead, it turned out, was the headmaster, Mr. Clinton, intoning the prayer with one eye closed and the other open.” Spirituals also looked for glimpses of God, but did not see him in their assumption of naturalism, earthly life without supernatural import. Not all rites are meaningless or lifeless. Some are quite important in reconnecting to God.

New Testament Christianity recognizes the supernatural significance and meaning of earthly life. As Paul declared, “I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:14, cf. Matt. 6:19-21, Col. 3:1-2). God still rules in the affairs of men (Dan. 4:35), and he still expects obedience to his ways. Church life has meaning...eternal meaning.

Finally, spirituals react against the perception that churches demand commitment to “disagreeable codes of conduct.” Relativism abolishes truth and moral standards, replacing it with a “have it your way religion.” The exclusivity of Christianity seems arrogant in light of other cultures. And a list of moral behaviors cramps personal style. Instead, they feel their way into a personally tailored righteousness as unique as their fingerprints. Some accept lying, others reject it. However, God sets rules. In fact, his own son obeyed those rules to become the Savior of the world (Heb. 5:8-9). God alone has the authority to establish right and wrong—a privilege he acted upon (Isa. 45:19). No matter how “disagreeable” we find God’s rules, we do not have the right to ignore, disregard, or change them.

Some argue that the impact of SBNRs is not as great as has been depicted. Anecdotally, however, more and more people are rejecting the doctrines of traditional religions. They may retain their affiliation outwardly, but inwardly they have parted ways with the distinctive doctrines of their denominations. This is true even within the church. While the church has fared better than denominations at keeping twenty-somethings and thirty-somethings, it has experienced conflict with those who are spiritual but not religious. Christians also encounter spirituals in evangelism, as many prospects take refuge under the SBNR tent.

Understanding the mindset of the postmodern culture that cultivates the spiritual but not religious is the first step to breaking down the barriers keeping them at bay. We must develop methods of evangelism that disarm spirituals by tearing down the common stereotypes and introduce them to unadulterated biblical Christianity. We must train teens and young adults to spot atheistic worldviews and instill in them the biblical worldview. And we must be the church of the New Testament. “Authenticity” purportedly drives emergents and spirituals, though they often leave this undefined. But Jesus calls us to an authentic transformation leading to practiced Christianity, not merely moralism. Our Christianity must be ordered, structured, and directed at accomplishing the church’s mission to grow, share, teach, and evangelize.

Announcements

Prayers

Linda Shelton’s daughter, Angie, who had been in a serious car accident, is now recovering at home in Fort Morgan.

Joe Baker, Kristi Dunham’s father, is in need of prayers for his health.

Elmo Wilson is at home on hospice care. Prayers for him and Ruth as they walk this difficult part of life together.

Continued Prayers

Eleanor Jatko– health problems

Bill Woloridge, the Austin’s friend—cancer

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

News and Notes



Bible Classes

Since COVID, our Bible classes have suffered in attendance. However, classes have always been a tremendous benefit to the church. Classes are where subjects are explored on a deeper level and ideas are shared between Christians. With this in mind, we want to reintroduce everyone to this wonderful resource. On **April 3**, the Brighton Church of Christ will host a Family Bible Class Day. Everyone is encouraged to attend Bible classes that morning and experience their benefit. Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor’s kids, and yourself to class on that day. Then make it your new habit.

Help for Ukraine



For anyone interested in helping Ukrainian refugees and others impacted by Russia’s war on Ukraine, the Dalraida Church of Christ in Montgomery, AL has ties to many churches in Ukraine. They had supply routes in place long before the invasion and are still able to use those supply lines to help with the suffering caused by Russia. They are packing buckets full of supplies that will be shipped to families in need, especially refugee families. They are requesting aid in two ways. First, people can get the list of items needed to fill a bucket from their website (dalraida.org/helpukraine), purchase the items, and send the bucket to Alabama. Second, they can send money to Alabama to let people there shop and fill the buckets. The church hopes to send another shipment later this week, but the effort is ongoing for now. See the website to send donations or for more information.



Ladies Visitation Group

Any ladies who are interested in joining a “Ladies’ Visitation Group” can talk to Julie Dilbeck. We would like to provide opportunities for ladies (2 together) to go visit church members who want to receive visitors.

Birthdays and Anniversaries		
March 14	Ron Jensen	Birthday
March 14	Linda Sanchez	Birthday
March 19	Les and Sharla Tucker	Anniversary

