



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)
Established 33 AD

September 10, 2012
Volume 4 Number 34

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606
972/790-3897 (fax)

Web site:
<http://www.beltlinechurch.com>

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.
AM Worship...10:00 a.m.
PM Worship.... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study.... 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday:

Ladies' Bible Class..Sep.-Apr.
*See page 4 for current meeting time.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

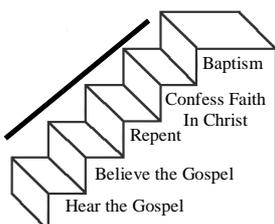
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

CUSTODIANS

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear-Romans 10:17
Believe-John 8:24
Repent-Acts 17:30
Confess-Romans 10:10
Be Baptized-Acts 22:16
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Ecclesiastes-The Duty of Man

Don Hatch

Solomon was called the *Kohelath*, the one who addresses the assembly of God's children. Therein lies the definition of Ecclesiastes. In this time of increasing disbelief, despair and disillusionment there is a timely message from the one who addressed the assembly. This ancient preacher portrays in graphic ways details of absolute vanity when all that is being pursued is hedonism, materialism and carnal pleasures while completely ignoring God and the timelessness of His being. The whole duty of man is unquestionably to be spiritually directed and ardent. The duty of man is constant, fresh and appropriate. Ecclesiastes is as modern as any resource for man to study concerning "...everything under the sun". There should be great appreciation for Solomon's insights concerning human activities. Reeling to and fro, being blown by the winds of change is devastating for unstable rudderless mankind (Jas 3:4, 5; Eph 4:14). There are universal needs for the soul and spirit of mankind which must have an adequate solution to life's bewildering conundrums [riddles]. Is blessedness reachable? Yes!

Countless opinions have been expressed about this masterpiece of literature. Ecclesiastes is classical and traditional. It describes both God and mankind in wise, sensible and perceptive ways [sage answers]. The writer gave acceptable words framed in truth, wisdom and utility. His theme is "... I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven..." (Eccl 1:13; 2:3). Mankind has always had a quest for the fulfilling things of life. Often they strive after the wind and remain unfulfilled, without peace, devoid of happiness, searching in all the wrong places. There are laws of God which govern nature. Nature's God entitles mankind to know the inalienable endowments given by their Creator. The right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness are cornerstones of the course of human events. Mankind is to be governed by moral, spiritual and eternal principles. The eternal King of the universe teaches mankind knowledge and grants wisdom from above (Jas 3:13-16). Because God is wise, mankind should give heed and seek out the orderly life designed by God. It is indeed significant that wisdom from above has been granted unto mere men. Life teaches us

that those who look for blessedness will find it and those who seek it must use the ways of God (Mat 5:1-18). Disillusionment is found in human knowledge. Weariness travels side by side with the sojourner or pilgrim who does not abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul (1 Pet 2:11, 12). Behavior is paramount to realization of spiritual welfare.

No one before Solomon was better facilitated to seek his elusive goals and enjoy the greatest degree of wisdom and knowledge. God pledged him "great wisdom from above" (1 Kg 3:4-9). He became the most famous man for wisdom of all time when doing according to the Word of God (1 Kg 3:12). When the queen of Sheba came to see and hear him she said, "the half was not told me: thy wisdom and prosperity exceeds the fame which I heard" (1 Kg 10:7). Solomon excelled all the children of the East and all the wisdom of Egypt (1 Kg 4:29-31). Fears, dreams, disappointments, triumphs, failures and hopes were all known to Solomon. The only things of Solomon's life which lasted were his teachings from God.

Viewing eternity came too late to Solomon. Worldly wisdom, fame, position, rank or power cannot avail and after forty years as king, titan of industry, military leader and the most prominent person in Israel Solomon knew that death visits all. Only the things done in God's name will last. Solomon learned too late that the meaning of life is not found in fame, personal glory or worldly power. Exaltation comes as a result of humility (Jas 4:10; 1 Tim 6:17-19). Pride is the chief worker of mischief found in men. It brings enmity between man and man and God and man. The high-minded will find that thinking they are something leads to an encounter with God who resists their pride (Rom 12:3; Gal 6:3; Phil 2:3; Jas 4:6-10). For those affected by a pursuit of happiness, through unrestrained indulgences, should review Solomon's experiences with wealth, immoral pleasures and power which led to his downfall more than any others. Solomon, when he was old, allowed his wives to turn his heart after other gods and his heart was not perfect with the Lord his God (1 Kg 11:1-10). Solomon sought contentment in carnal pleasures, only to find that they were vanity (Eccl 2:1).

When individuals become more and more tolerant of immorality they grow soft, accepting gross indulgences without a fight. Essential to society is the understanding that there are "absolute values" which derive themselves from God. We must have a mantra "...love not the world, neither the thing of the world...lust of the eye, lust of the flesh and vainglory" are not of the Father. They pass away, God abides forever. (1 Jn 2:15-18).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

Marvin Weir wrote an article entitled "The Old-Fashioned Gospel." I would like to share it with you.

"It was not long ago that a visitor commented that we were "old-fashioned" in the way we approached our worship. I took the remark as a compliment even though further conversation proved it was not meant as such. The "new is better" philosophy is alive and well in the religious world, and more and more those who profess to be members of the Lord's church are subscribing to this view. At least this person knew an "old-fashioned Gospel" and an "old fashioned order of worship" existed! A generation is now arising that will never have been exposed to the "old-fashioned Gospel".

In the worldly realm, innovations may be needed and helpful. There may be a "better way" of doing certain things. But such is not true with Christianity and the Lord's church. There is only one church (Ephesians 4:4; 1:22-23), one Gospel (Galatians 1:6-7), and one power to save souls (Romans 1:16). God's Word is authoritative and complete (2 Timothy 3:16-17) and "settled in heaven" (Psalms 119:89). If one is saved he will be saved the "old-fashioned way"!

Jerry McKey

"Flee for safety, ye children of Benjamin, out of the midst of Jerusalem, and blow the trumpet in Tekoa, and raise up a signal on Beth-haccherem; for evil looketh forth from the north, and a great destruction. The comely and delicate one, the daughter of Zion, will I cut off. Shepherds with their flocks shall come unto her; they shall pitch their tents against her round about; they shall feed every one in his place. Prepare ye war against her; arise, and let us go up at noon. Woe unto us! for the day declineth, for the shadows of the evening are stretched out. Arise, and let us go up by night, and let us destroy her palaces. For thus hath Jehovah of hosts said, Hew ye down trees, and cast up a mound against Jerusalem: this is the city to be visited; she is wholly oppression in the midst of her. As a well casteth forth its waters, so she casteth forth her wickedness: violence and destruction is heard in her; before me continually is sickness and wounds. Be thou instructed, O Jerusalem, lest my soul be alienated from thee; lest I make thee a desolation, a land not inhabited...Therefore I am full of the wrath of Jehovah; I am weary with holding in: pour it out upon the children in the street, and upon the assembly of young men together; for even the husband with the wife shall be taken, the aged with him that is full of days. And their houses shall be turned unto others, their fields and their wives together; for I will stretch out my hand upon the inhabitants of the land, saith Jehovah. For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one dealeth falsely. They have healed also the hurt of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? nay, they were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush: therefore they shall fall among them that fall; at the time that I visit them they shall be cast down, saith Jehovah. Thus saith Jehovah, Stand ye in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way; and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls: but they said, We will not walk therein. And I set watchmen over you, saying, Harken to the sound of the trumpet; but they said, We will not hearken" (Jer 6:1-17).

Eternal Life

"...All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not..." (Jn 1:1-17).

Eternal life is represented as the object and destiny of man (Mat 7:14; 18:8-10). The resurrection from the dead precepts eternal life and therefore comprises the whole future of the disciples of Christ. To them will be granted the full reward and felicity of life (Mat 5:12). The apostles of Christ considered this the supreme well-being of mankind. Results of eternal life are walking in the holiness secured by Jesus, the object of our faith (1 Tim 1:16; Rom 6:22). Saving grace consequently endows the faithful with hope (Rom 5:1-11).

Receiving the crown of righteousness which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give to all who have loved His appearing (2 Tim 4:1-8). Knowing flesh and blood cannot receive the inheritance, the kingdom of God and neither will corruption inherit incorruption. There is a revealed truth [mystery] that all shall be changed from corruptible to incorruptible, from mortal to immortal and death will be swallowed up in victory through the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor 15:50-58). Our birthright is according to God's great mercy unto a living hope, an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled that fades not away, reserved in heaven by the power of God (1 Pet 1:3-12). Enduring temptation, being approved by God and living faithful has the promise of a crown of life (Jas 1:12-18). The soul's abode is called a "rest" [Sabbath] where the crown will be given (Heb 4:9; 12:22). Everlasting life belongs to the redeemed (1 Jn 5:13). Its essences are indissolubly connected with our present life. Sin altered our relationship with God, which led to death, but Jesus' blood washes away the crimson stain and makes us whole again.

Becoming a part of the body of Christ, results in eventually going to glory, wherein He now abides (Rom 6:8; 2 Tim 2:11, 12; Rom 5:17-21; 8:30; Eph 2:5, 6; Jn 17). The foundation of eternal life is becoming more than conquerors through Him that loved us (Rom 8:31-39). Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Being alive in Christ results in peace and life (Rom 8:11). Christ came to destroy death and bring eternal life and immortality to light (2 Tim 1:10). The newness of life derived from Jesus Christ is connected to eternal life (Rom 6:4). Paul considers casting off the mortal body as an exchange for the incorruptible (2 Cor 5:1-10). Eternal life, with its divine attributes, is the ground for communion with Christ now and in eternity (2 Cor 6:14-7:1). The redeemed receive the fullness of divine favor, confirmed by being born from above (Jn 3:1-16; Acts 2:38). Being in the church, the body of Christ, God's eternal purpose gives the redeemed a confident access through faith in Christ to be strengthened in the inward man to the end that all apprehend the breadth, length, height and depth of the love of God which passes all understanding that they might know the fullness of God's blessing of eternal life (Eph 3:1-20).

Don Hatch

Family News:

News at Belt Line.
Call in your information to the office at:
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening.

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

September 16, 2012

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Bobby & Brenda England

September 23, 2012

Front foyer: Glen Kelly & Doris Selby

Back foyer: Carol Swinney & Fay Yeldell

Sermon Titles

September 16, 2012

a.m: "Lingering Question"

Scripture: John 6:66-71

p.m: "Christ our Great Example"

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:18-25

September 23, 2012

a.m: "I Thank Thee O Father"

Scripture: Matthew 11:25-30

p.m: "Humiliated"

Scripture: Lam. 1:1-5

Contribution Counters For September

Glen Kelly & Thomas Rathbun

Communion Preparation For September

Bill & Linda Matthews

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet *Sunday* in Rm #116 at 5:15 p.m.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Maxine Prude, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Laquita Baker, Roy & Helen Thomas, Marion Grantham, Carolyn Renfro, Tim Fowler, Marietta Houser, Thomas West, Mary Walker, Nancy Pond

Those In Need Of Prayer

·**Vera Gleghorn** has not been feeling well.

·**Billie Myers** fell and hurt her leg, we are thankful there are no broken bones.

·**Don Herriage** had another shot in his back this week, he is feeling better.

·**Dave and Faye West** have been having some health issues. They are not feeling well.

·**Beverly McKey** is still having problems with her asthma.

·**Ilene Ashworth** will have cataract surgery Tuesday.

·**Laquita Baker** got a good report this week.

·**Lautricia Williams** is having a procedure done today at St. Paul Hospital (U.T. Southwestern).

·**Bobby Garrett's** father has been placed in the Hospice unit of Arlington Memorial Hospital. Please keep this family in your prayers.

·**Tim Fowler** is back in Parkland Hospital. He is having seizures.

NEW STUDY

Henry Seidmeyer will start a new study on Wednesday night, **September 12th**. It will be on Philemon and James.

Don Hatch will start a new study on Sunday morning, **September**

16th. It will be on "The Life and Time of Jesus Christ".

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

Ladies Bible Class will be taught by Fay Yeldell on Tuesday, **September 18th** at 9:30 a.m. Her lesson will be "**Grace: What It Is and What It Demands**". Please plan to attend this wonderful class.

THE BEAR PROGRAM

Stitchers please return completed bears by Sunday, September 16th.

OPEN HOUSE

Christ's Haven For Children will have their Annual Open House on **September 29th**. The time will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. Address is on the bulletin board.

THANK YOU

Friends of Beltline,
Thank you so much for the cards, phone calls, prayers, the love, concern and support you have given us the last few months. We appreciate all of you. May God bless each of you.

**In Christian Love,
Marion & Jerry Grantham**

SYMPATHY

Bill Matthew's Uncle **Johnny Johnston** passed away Wednesday morning in San Antonio. Services will be Monday morning followed by burial at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/17/12 – 39'ers – 6:30 p.m.

9/18/12 – Ladies Class – 9:30 a.m.

UPCOMING SEPT. BIRTHDAY'S

Jane Easter – 9/10
 Fauna Garrett – 9/10
 Hannah Guajardo – 9/12
 Sherry Hodge – 9/13
 J.C. Ross – 9/17
 Marcella Porter – 9/20
 Derrol Allen – 9/21
 Mary Martini – 9/24
 Dessie Ross – 9/26

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Keith & Cindy Vaughn – 9/15
 Vern & Melody Lundquist – 9/22
 David & Faye West – 9/24

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 Please contact Mike Batot at:
 (972)741-2397*

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**LORD'S TABLE/MORNING****Front Table**

·Purman Cofer
 ·Kenny Mayer
 ·Dorris Walker
 ·Nathan Allen
 ·Mike Garrison
 ·James Gilliam

Rear Table

·J.C. Ross
 ·Robert Taylor
 ·Max Melton
 ·Brent Howard

9/16/12 SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

· Jerry McKey
 · Jerry Baker
 · Richard Renfro

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Bill Matthews
 John 6:66-71

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· Don Herriage
 · Clifford Yeldell

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Nathan Allen
 1 Peter 2:18-25

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Darrell Allen

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

·Mike Batot
 ·Scot Allen

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

·Glen Kelly

A.M. SONG LEADER

·Darrell Allen

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	83	91	78	100
A.M. Worship	136	149	147	150
P.M. Worship	74	65	68	80
Wed. Class	75	87	79	85
Ladies Bible Class	n/a	n/a	19	25
Contribution	\$5556	\$6352	\$5239	\$5470

MISSIONS

Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Australia
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
 Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 Dan Keele – Kayenta, AZ – Navajo Nation
 Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST**1202 N. Belt Line Rd. · Irving, TX 75061**

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
 PAID
 AT IRVING, TEXAS**

BELT LINE RD. CHURCH OF CHRIST
 (USPS 110820) published weekly except the
 first 3 weeks of July and the last 2 weeks of
 December at 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving,
 Texas 75061. Periodicals postage paid at
 Irving, Texas.
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
 Belt Line Rd. Church of Christ, 1202 N. Belt
 Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061