

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

May 4, 2015
Volume 7 Number 18

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

Web site:
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(Sept.–Apr.)
Class meets at 10 a.m.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

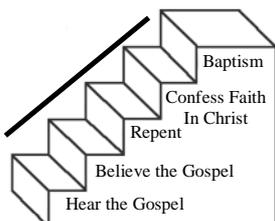
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Abstain

Don Hatch

Abstinence as a form of self-denial is found in the remote antiquity, among most ancient people. It can be defined as a willpower which consists of habitual denial of inordinate desires of the flesh. It seeks to cultivate a life of spirituality. In its most *extreme forms*, it bids men to stifle and suppress all physical wants, rather than to subordinate them in the interest of a higher end or purpose. The underlying idea is that the body is the foe of the spirit, and that the progressive removal of the natural desires and inclinations by means of fasting, celibacy, voluntary poverty is a way to perfection. (*Notes from: ISBE*). Christianity is not to go to extremes but rather self-control and submission to the will of God. Sequestering one's self from the world is not Christianity. We live in the world but are not of the world. It is not our master. We must not be worldly. We seek to live lives in a holy manner (1 Pet 1:13-24). Self-pride in abstaining from certain things can bring forth an egotistical frame of mind. Seasons when various items are abstained from is not based upon Bible teachings. We were bought with a price and the body belongs to the Lord (1 Cor 3:16-19).

Intrinsic sins are lawlessness (1 Jn 3:4). Self-control abstains from everything contrary to the will of God and His word. Evil is that which is wrong under any circumstance. **Situational ethics** is a system of ethics that evaluates acts in light of their situational context rather than by the application of moral absolutes. The intemperate and self-indulgent do not want to be judged by moral and religious values. To them religion is depressing and a spiteful value system. Falsely practiced by some in religion is the belief that all things giving pleasure is wrong. To them receiving pleasure from life is intemperate and self-indulgent. Some would take all laughter out of the Christian's life. Joy to them is frivolous and beneath the spiritual life.

A thing is not wrong in and of itself. If it brings joy in the Lord it fulfills the object of Christianity (Phil 4:4-7). Perusing pleasure is known as **hedonism** (*Pursuit or devotion to pleasure, ethical doctrine. Holding that behavior is motivated by the desire for*

pleasure and avoidance of pain). Making pleasure the purpose of life cannot justify itself because it is uncontrolled. Christians are responsible not to willfully sin. Controlling temper is abstaining from evil. Sinning in **moderation** is still sin (Eph 4:26). The sins of the tongue like tale-bearing, backbiting, gossip and slander manifest a lack of self-control. Giving way to such practices is just as much a breach of purity as harboring evil thoughts about another person. Those things which are not wrong in themselves must be considered. The responsibility of a Christian to seriously recognize when to exercise abstaining from a certain practice is important. An example would be eating something offered to an idol. Such is not evil unless it violates someone's conscience (1 Cor 8:1-13). Harming another person by causing them to return to a sinful practice of worshiping of an idol is wrong. Paul abstained from eating meat under such circumstances.

Each individual must seek the good of his neighbor even when an item can lawfully be eaten he will abstain (Rom 14:20, 21). Everything we do that is lawful must not nullify our influence for Christ. We commend ourselves by allowing others to see Christ living in us. We are not sufficient within ourselves but our confidence is in Christ who makes us sufficient to be living epistles known and read of all. We are New Testament Christians. We have hope and boldness of speech believing that the word of the Lord is sharper than a two edged sword which is able to discern good and evil (2 Cor 3:-1-8; Heb 4:11-14).

Mastery of all appetites is obviously the way an individual follows the Lord. The moral courage and true adherence to the knowledge of God makes a servant have genuine faithfulness. But sensual greed displays moral cowardice and will lead to failure. When mind, soul, heart and will are harmonious with God there is self-control. As a Christian gains control he allows Christ to be the Master of life. This does not destroy the Christian's free will, but rather affirms and channels it toward spiritual purity.

Presenting the body a "living sacrifice" manifests that there must be a full surrender, fashioning again the activities of life and renewing the mind. Proving the good, acceptable and perfect will of God is the best life (Rom 12:1-5). True knowledge of Christ is indispensable and a prerequisite of purity of mind, action and practice of holiness by abstaining from all **appearance of evil** (1 Thes 5:22). Avoiding a behavior of any kind which appears to be evil takes courage, will-power and spiritual strength.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Just about every TV / RADIO news and newspaper report tells us about challenges before us, and those facing us in the future. We need to follow the path and attitude that Joshua advised, and keep the choice he and his family chose. Josh 24:15.. "And if it seems evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

It seems the people of old faced some of the same situations we are challenged with today. Only a few among many people chose to serve God. Joshua and his family didn't choose to be like others about them. He took a firm stand and said "as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD". We must follow this good example!

We grow stronger when we are challenged, when things are difficult, and when we do not surrender to demanding situations. When we are faced with family or financial problems, illness, work assignments or any condition that requires us to take a stand and face reality, we become stronger, and Christians also grow stronger in their trust and faith in God. We have no one else to look to for strength and courage to guide us through trying times except our God. He is faithful to us, and He will never leave us nor forsake us. If there is a separation between us and God, we are the ones that move away from God and cause it.

Our Father in Heaven knows all about us; the Bible tells us that He counts the hairs on our heads (Matthew 10:30). We should never doubt that God is aware of all the daily issues with which we are faced. Most family fathers are pleased to see their children rise to any occasion. Our Father in Heaven is pleased whenever his children rise and face difficult situations and stand uprightly to the challenges of life on a daily basis. We must not give up and take the easy way out, ever!

If we accept our challenges and do our very best, we know that Our God will be pleased with us. When we do His will, keep His commandments, we can know that we have met the ultimate challenge in this world. "But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together when the saints meet! Everyone has a place at Belt Line, everyone that possibly can, should be in attendance. "Have a great week serving God". Keep praying for our sick and shut-ins!
Dean Webb

"...Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ: that, whether I come and see you and be absent, I may hear of your state, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one soul striving for the faith of the gospel..." (Phil 1:27).

Doctrine Is Important

Doctrine denotes the act of teaching and the subject taught. The Biblical use of the term is interesting. In the Old Testament means "what is received" or "the message taught" (Deut 32:2; Job 11:4; Pro 4:2), "what is heard" (Isa 28:9), and "discipline" (Jer 10:8). The disciplines of no-gods, of stone are destitute of moral value like the rock itself. The New Testament uses doctrine as "the art of teaching" (1 Tim 4:13-16; 5:17; 2 Tim 3:10-17), and "what is taught" (Matt 15:9; 2 Tim 4:4). The Lord's church did not develop doctrine. Her doctrine came from the mind of God.

The doctrine of the Pharisees was compact and defined as a body of teaching on fixed traditions, like the Talmud. Handed down from one generation to the next, humanly conceived doctrines were the causes of apostasy. Christ rejected such doctrine (Matt 15:9; 16:12; Mk 7:7).

Christ's teachings were in contrast with Pharisaic teachings. His were developed around personality, character and work. Christ astounded the learned doctors of the law by his teachings of God (Matt 7; 28; 22:23; Mk 1:22, 27; Lk 4:32). It is profitable to trace the doctrine Jesus taught in the Gospel.

The Apostles received the Lord's doctrine with its unique features, then taught and proclaimed it far and wide (Ac 2:42). This doctrine consisted in part as: Jesus was the long awaited Christ (Ac 3:11-26); He lived, died and arose from the grave (Ac 1:22; 2:24, 32); Salvation was by faith in his name (Ac 2:38; 3:16; 4:12). These outstanding features were combined with the typical from the Law, Psalms and Prophets to reveal the doctrine of the New Testament. There is a need to return to the apostolic doctrine in an age of modern thought which teaches the ancient doctrine is valueless. The church grew on the apostolic doctrine with far-reaching results. Those inspired utterances revealed a doctrinal system centered on the life, death, resurrection and mediatorship of Christ.

When the doctrine was systematized it was imposed upon the church as "sound", "good" or "healthy" (1Tim1:10; 4:6; 6:3; 2 Tim 1:13; 4:3; Tit 1:9; 2:1). That body of teaching which was given to the church was accepted and it served as a historical standard. Thus faith became the body of truth "once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3).

Formulas which developed became creeds and were the works of men. They were the imbalance which developed into apostasy. Within religion today there are many formulas of systematized doctrines which overemphasize one or more doctrinal ideas. A necessary rule is that the Bible is our first and last source for all doctrine.

One way to assure ourselves of faithfulness to the apostolic doctrine is to gather all materials on any subject from the Bible. Impartially compare all passages and expressions in their context and this will bring one to the balance of doctrine. All doctrine must ultimately balance with all others. The doctrine of grace must be balanced with election. We must state doctrine in biblical language, describing each in the purest manner possible. Modernists would have us adopt softened words and disregard that doctrine must be combined with practice. **There is an inseparable connection of doctrine and duty; precept and practice.** It is only then that doctrine has its dynamics. Make no subject a matter of faith which is not a matter of revelation. When doctrine is important and necessary, scripture will be found full and clear. **D. Hatch**

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

May 10, 2015

Front foyer: Bobby & Brenda
England

Back foyer: Walt LaHaye &
Myrtle Wade

May 17, 2015

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn
Renfro

Back foyer: Don & Anne Herriage

Sermon Titles

May 10, 2015

a.m: "Predestination"
Scripture: Romans 8:29-30
p.m: "Miracles"
Scripture: Acts 2:22-24

May 17, 2015

a.m: "Sins Ruin Hope"
Scripture: Romans 5:12-16
p.m: "God Is Gracious"
Scripture: Hosea 2:14-20

Contribution Counters For May

John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

Communion Preparation For May

Mary Wise & Donna Davis

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate booklets. Please come help us and enjoy the Christian fellowship.

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, J.C. and Dessie Ross, Joann Hatch, Don and Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton

Homebound Members:

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones

Recovering at Home:

B.C. Fowler has been sick with asthma. **Grady** is still in therapy. **Beverly McKey** is not feeling well.

There are many dealing with short term health issues. Please remember them in your prayers.

Upcoming Procedures:

Jerry Grantham will start her procedures on her back on Wednesday May 6th.

Nursing Home:

Noma Myers – Northgate Plaza
Dorothy Smith – Avalon
Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

Special Request:

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison have asked for prayers for their daughter **Diedra Sutton**. She had a biopsy last week and they are waiting on the results.

Kent Conner's dad **Bill Conner** was attacked by 3 pit bulldogs. He had to have several stitches and suffered some injuries.

GRADUATION

Samuel Henderson will be graduating May 17th from the University of Dallas. He will attend Norte Dame for his doctorate degree.

THANK YOU NOTES

There are **Thank You Notes** on the bulletin board from **Bobby & Sissy Allen and Bill & Linda Matthews** thanking us for our cards, prayers, love and support.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to **Linda Hogan** on the death of her daughter **Kara Anderson** over the weekend. She is also related to **Mike Batot**. Services were held this morning. If you would like to send Linda a card the address is:

Linda Hogan
1901 Anderson
Irving, Texas 75062

UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Cleaning of the Annex - Planning Meeting

Sunday, May 17th at 5 p.m. will be a meeting in the Annex to review plans for a "Spring Cleaning". Special emphasis will be on clearing out old & unused dishware from both the Annex and the Dish Room. All interested parties are welcome to attend.

Spring Cleaning of the Annex - Work Session

Anyone who is interested in helping with the Spring Cleaning of the Annex is welcome to join the cleanup crew on **Monday, May 18th at 10 a.m.** in the Annex. We should be finished by lunch time.

Last Chance for Dishware at the May 39'ers Dinner – May 18th

"Obsolete" dishware and other items may also be "claimed" at the May 39'ers dinner. All remaining items will be donated to the DAV.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5/18/15 – 39’ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

MAY BIRTHDAY’S

- Vicki Catlin – 5/1
- Cindy Vaughn – 5/2
- Curtis Vaughan – 5/11
- Kati Mimms – 5/13
- Bobby Garrett – 5/14
- Jerry McKey – 5/14
- Janice Daniel – 5/16
- Samantha Howard – 5/20
- Myrtle Wade – 5/21
- Margaret Lewis – 5/27
- Polly Roses – 5/30
- Toby Howard – 5/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- Bobby & Tiffany* Garrett – 5/6
- Don & Anne Herriage – 5/18
- Don & Joann Hatch – 5/19
- Dean & Joy Webb – 5/23
- J.C. & Dessie Ross – 5/31

*If unable to serve on the Lord’s table,
please contact Scot Allen:
(214)724-6400*

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD’S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		5/10/15	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
· Scot Allen	· Bobby England		· Bill Matthews
· Glen Kelly	· Toby Howard		· Jerry Baker
· Dale Cox	· Nathan Allen		
· Walt LaHaye	· Thomas Rathbun		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Samuel Henderson			· Thomas Rathbun
· Don Herriage			Romans 8:29-30
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Richard Renfro
			· Thomas Rathbun
<u>LORD’S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Nathan Allen			· Samuel Henderson
· Henry Seidmeyer			Acts 2:22-24
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
· Robert Taylor			· Jerry Baker
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
· 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	60	65	62	100
A.M. Worship	92	94	103	150
P.M. Worship	50	77	67	80
Wed. Class	60	55	57	85
Contribution	\$4231	\$7395	\$5555	\$5098

MISSIONS

- Glen Tattersall** – Australia
- Roland & Rose Moshen** – France
- Gary & Nadya Workman** – Ukraine
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma** – Australia
- Willie & Del Gley** – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- David & Paula Tarbet** – New Milford, CT
- Wil & Telanda Sadler** – Military Missions
- Wayne Jackson** – Christian Courier on the Web
- Christ’s Haven Children’s Home** – Keller, TX
- Foster’s Home for Children** – Stephenville, TX
- Ted Lingren** – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Rohan & Sandra Jones** – Cape Town, South Africa
- Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory** – Wotutu, Cameroon
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution**
- Terry & Pam Laurence** – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
- Mike Batot** – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX
- Carlos Tario** – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX
- Daniel Garza** – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX
- Dennis & Beth Johnson** – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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