

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

April 24, 2017  
Volume 9 Number 17

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.... 7:00 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

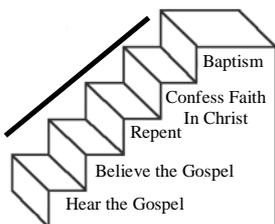
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

### 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)



## People Without A Pattern?

Don Hatch

A **structureless church** would look like what? Structureless is an adjective meaning without structure, organization, arrangement or formless. What would it take to restructure a church? Should it be structured after traditions of men? Are God's people without a pattern for the New Testament church? Is the New Testament an authority for the structure of the church? If no authority can be found there will be fellowship without bounds! Can the New Testament church be restored according to the 1<sup>st</sup> century biblical concept yet not restoring her shortcomings? The New Testament church must be an exact reproduction of the true church in each succeeding generation. She must have a **backward** look to the faith and **inward** look at herself with an **outward** look to see the fields white unto harvest (Jude 3; 1 Cor 16:13; Jn 4:35; Matt 28:19; Gal 6:10). There must be a detailed outline for the house of God "...whose house are we" (Heb 3:1-19). If there are no standards for organization, doctrine and worship, no one could tell which religious body is in or out of Christ. This would allow the inclusion of all rituals, rites and actions in whatsoever vague way one would want them to be applied. No one could know what is scriptural or unscriptural.

**We build together** upon Christ and his word. No other foundation can any man lay (1 Cor 3:11). When we see every man making laws unto himself and packaging them in vague scriptures it would be well to reread Judges and note the consequences of every man doing that which was right in his own sight (Jud 24:25). Continuance in steadfastness comes by abiding in the apostolic doctrine (Acts 2:42). The Apostles taught that if one did not have Christ's teachings he did not have God (2 Jn 9). Passion for unity with the many must not outweigh Biblical truth.

**To have fellowship common** conclusion must be reached that there is authority for what we do. Christ preserves us only when abiding in a covenant agreement with Him. Once a covenant [testament] is established and ratified, by the death of the testator, no one can change it (Gal 3:15-22). Being one with Christ means that we have fellowship with each other (2 Cor 6:14-18). This limits fellowship to those who have put on Christ Jesus in baptism (Gal 3:27). Because there is only one baptism, we have

fellowship with those who have been immersed in water for the remission of sins in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38, 47). It must be insisted upon that those who desire unity must conform to Jesus' rules of faith and conduct. Disorderliness destroys unity (2 Thes 3:6, 14, 15). Wickedness is never tolerated in unity (1 Cor 5:11-13). Factiousness is not unity (Tit 3:10, 11). Causing divisions cannot be called unity (Rom 16:17, 18). Going onward and abiding not in the teachings of Christ cannot be called unity (2 Jn 9-11). It is the supreme devotion to God and His word that develops unity and fellowship. Unity adamantly sought by Jesus was prayed for and insisted upon (Jn 17). Obviously there have been false teachers who lead the disciples astray. Jesus does not recognize them, nor should we (Mat 7:15-23).

**The corollaries of fellowship** are love and obedience. Those who seek God are concerned about being in His kingdom and will love the brotherhood (1 Pet 2:17; Matt 6:33). The identity of discipleship is love (Jn 13:31-35; 1 Jn 4:11). This love insists on keeping God's commandments (1 Jn 5:3). The imperative of obedience is inescapable. We cannot have fellowship without regard for doctrinal purity. Any disregard would be fallacious and anti-scriptural. A mere federation of churches is not unity. Just because one has some things in common does not foster fellowship. Mutual tolerance and allowance of manmade doctrine is not fellowship.

**History vindicates those** who use only the scriptures for what they practice. The complete cycle of misapplying scriptures to words and deeds can be seen countless times in the Protestant Reformation. The difference between leaving apostasy and searching for truth and leaving the truth to apply apostate practices is clearly seen. The battles of the Restoration and victories won were too costly to allow them to be cast off as an old garment. It would be a shallow token to compromise who and what the church of Christ is for something less than what Christ requires. History will record our attitude towards the truth. The church cannot be restructured to fit culture, traditions of men nor fellowship without bounds. There are patterns that we find in scripture that will bring about a reproduction of the true church in each generation. We are not a people without a pattern.

**The truthfulness of the Bible** can be proven in much the same way that we prove a case to a jury. A defendant has the responsibility of presenting patterns within of Christianity. Working within the rules of evidence and procedure, one must present logical and reasonable arguments. The Bible presents patterns and forms for the obedience to God. The truth of the gospel is right and is to be obeyed. There are spiritual patterns.

## How Must I Worship So As To Please God?

**REGULARLY**— “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some; but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as you see the Day approaching” (Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42). God is not pleased when we let weeks go by without worshipping him.

**GIVING GLORY TO GOD IN THE CHURCH THROUGH CHRIST**— “to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:21). All worship must be directed to God through Christ and in His name [by His authority] (Ephesians 2:18; Colossians 3:17).

**IN SPIRIT**— “God is Spirit; and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth” (John 4:24). To worship in spirit means to worship sincerely and earnestly. Our worship must be free from all hypocrisy and pretension (Matthew 6:1–6; 15:8).

**IN TRUTH**— To worship in truth means to worship according to the teaching of God's word (John 17:17; John 4:24; Matthew 15:9).

### GOD'S WORD COMMANDS—

1. Prayer: I Timothy 2:8; Romans 12:12.
2. Lord's Supper: Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 11:23, 27.
3. Bible Study: II Timothy 2:15; Acts 2:42.
4. Contribution: I Corinthians 16:1–2; II Corinthians 9:7.
5. Singing: Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16.

This article was taken from the Mission Printing Website

Have a good week serving the Lord,

Richard Renfro

**Continued from right column...** Those who show good fidelity adorn themselves with doctrine (Tit 2:1-14). We must demonstrate love in any exposure of contending for the faith (Eph 4:14). Let no man deceive us with empty words but walk as children of light (Eph 5:3-14). “...All things when reprov'd are made manifest by light”. We need to look carefully at how we walk, not as unwise but redeeming the time for the days are evil (Eph 5:15-21). It should be our prayer that we can open our mouth with boldness to tell of the gospel and its eternal value. Our aim should be to follow the teachings, conduct and purpose found in the faith. We are made wise unto salvation, completely furnished unto every good work (2 Tim 3:1-17). Let us contend for the faith and be ready to teach!

**Don Hatch**

**Faith persuades** that there is a purpose for what one does. When one can say, “I know him whom I have believed, am persuaded that he is able to guard that which I have committed unto him against that day” there is an acknowledgement of Jesus as Lord, Savior, Giver of life and Bringer of immortality (2 Tim 1:12; 1 Tim 6:11-16; 2 Tim 1:10). Holding to the pattern of sound words, faith and love is consistent with God's plan. This plan was from times eternal, unfolded and accomplished through Christ (2 Tim 1:3-14). There must be a relationship of faith with practice. They cannot be mutually exclusive to each other, practice must arise from faith and faith must lead to practice of faithfulness. The Bible is a collection of truth that exhibits and vindicates a faithful manner of living. Within the Bible, faith is registered, required, received, realized, reproduced and represented. **The faith that fulfills its purpose is prayerful, willing, expectant, obligated, bold and answerable to the oracles of God** (Heb 6:1-5; Rom 10:8-17). Faith causes spiritual equilibrium, moral health, doctrinal unity, blessed fellowship and joy (Rom 12:1-5; Eph 4:1-16; Phil 4:4-7; 2 Cor 6:14-7:2). Faith has a readiness to teach the gospel, produce fruit, distribute to needs, be offered as a sacrifice and meet the Lord (Rom 1:16,17; Gal 5:22-24; Acts 2:43-47; Rom 12:1-5; 1 Thes 4:13-17). Faith believes God (Heb 5:9). Faith's proof is the resurrection of Christ (Rom 1:1-5). Its fruit is good works (2 Cor 9:8; Gal 6:10). Its assurance is forgiveness, reconciliation, hope and the love of God (Rom 5:1-11).

**It is appropriate** for Christians to understand the words of Jude, “Beloved, while I was giving all diligence to write to you of our common salvation, I was constrained to write unto you, exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). There must be a compulsion, obligation, requirement and necessity to strive against difficulties. One must be willing to enter into the contest in order to defend the truth. The affirmation of one's faith is part of the duty of a Christian. Jesus was far from passive about the truth, gospel and need for doctrinal purity. The church must be set for the defense of the confirmation of the Gospel (Phil 1:6). Faithfulness begets brave-hearted, true-hearted, loyal and whole-hearted soldiers for Christ (Eph 6:10-18). The early church's willingness to earnestly contend for the faith showed intense interest in wanting approval of the Lord.

**Faith emphasizes** time and again with the force of genuine confidence that truth is objective, compulsory and attainable, not subjective or relative (2 Pet 1:3; 2 Tim 3:16, 17). Faith states that obedience to the truth brings salvation (Jn 17:17; 8:32; 1 Pet 1:22). Those who fail to obey the truth of the gospel shall undergo punishment and eternal destruction from the face of the Lord (2 Thes 1:3-12; Jn 12:48). Faith teaches the unqualified necessity of knowing and practicing sound doctrine (2 Tim 1:13; 4:1-5; Tit 1:13; 2:1, 7, 8). Faith that is contended for has the right attitude toward and proper respect for the truth. Soundness goes beyond mere knowledge of the truth, there must be unyielding trust and obedience. When one's heart is filled with doubtful disputations, it makes provisions to fulfill the desires of the flesh and not the spirit. Convincing the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century of the need to defend the truth or surrender by default is a colossal task. Showing the tactics of Satan prevents him from gaining a foothold (2 Cor 2:11). Willingness to contend earnestly for the faith without partiality means standing steadfast and unmovable (1 Cor 15:58). Speaking the thing that befits sound doctrine is because there is sound and sober minded reverence coupled with virtuous and soundness of speech. **Continued in left column...**

## FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

### APRIL ASSIGMENTS

#### **GREETERS:**

April 30 – Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England  
Back Foyer – Dale & Katherine Cox

May 7 – Front Foyer – Bill & Linda Matthews  
Back Foyer – Robert & Cathy Taylor

**Communion Preparation:** Dorris & Janie Walker

**Contribution Counters:** Glen Kelly & Nathan Allen

### SERMONS

**April 30** – a.m. “What Shall I Do With Jesus”  
Matthew 27:21-26  
p.m. “Fifth Sunday Singing”

**HAVE YOU INVITED  
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP  
THIS WEEK?**

**Ongoing Health Concerns:** Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don & Margaret Lewis, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Daryl Gerardo David Hawkins, Beverly McKey, Jerry Catlin, Judy King

**Home Bound Members:** Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

**Nursing Homes:** Max Melton – Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation

**Military:** Chris & Abigail Mathews

### EVENTS

**MISSION PRINTING** – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

**Ladies Bible Class** will meet on **Tuesday April 25<sup>th</sup>**. Fellowship at 9:45 and lesson at 10:00. The lesson will be “**History Of The Lord’s Church**”. Ladies make plans to attend and bring a friend.

### PRAYER CONCERNS

**Mike Garrison** had a Pet Scan done Thursday. He will have a procedure done also on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Carolyn Renfro** is not feeling well as her medication is affecting her blood pressure.

**Dolores Ramsey** fell and broke her arm and will be seeing the doctor this week to see if she has to have surgery.

**Mary Elaina Vaughan** will be having further testing on her arm to see what needs to be done.

**Richard Renfro** will be having a Pulmonary test today.

**Jerry Grantham & Dana Hodgkins** have asked for prayers for their friend **Betty Randall**. She fell last week and broke her left arm and damaged her right arm. They did surgery on the left arm and she has had problems since the surgery.

There are many of our number who are struggling with health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers so that they may once again be back at services with us.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Our **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing** will be on **April 30<sup>th</sup>**. There is a sign-up sheet in the front foyer to list your favorite songs.

### THANK YOU

There are Thank You Notes on the bulletin board from **Bobby Allen** and his family, **Vera Gleghorn** and **Marinell Zaun** and also **Virginia Stull**.

A very special **Thank You** to the Teens who helped on Saturday at the Annex and also for doing their annual works for our elderly members at their homes. A job well done.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**4/29/17 – Ladies ½ Day – 9 a.m.**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Glen Kelly – 4/1  
 Rebecca Andrepont – 4/1  
 Mary Wise – 4/2  
 Jerry Grantham – 4/2  
 Vern Lundquist – 4/6  
 Billy Beverly – 4/7  
 Sissy Allen – 4/12  
 Bobby Allen – 4/16  
 Henry Seidmeyer – 4/16  
 Nelda Bell Newton – 4/17  
 Jeanene Heilman – 4/19  
 Alice Worthy – 4/20  
 Thomas Rathbun – 4/21  
 Mary Walker – 4/22  
 Don Hatch – 4/25  
 Faye West – 4/30

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Bobby & Sissy Allen – 4/18

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,  
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:  
 (469) 216-7580*

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**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		4/30/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Richard Renfro Don Herriage Curtis Vaughan
Jerry McKey	Vern Lundquist		P.M. – Ken Lee Darrell Allen
Dean Webb	Bobby England		
Richard Renfro	James Gilliam		
Darrell Allen	Robert Taylor		
John Mayer			
Glen Kelly			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Glen Kelly			A.M. – Jerry Baker Matthew 27:21-26
Thomas Rathbun			P.M. – Dean Webb TBA
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
A.M. – Darrell Allen			Darrell Allen
P.M. – Jerry Baker			

**FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS**

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
<b>Sun. Class</b>	54	53	56	100
<b>A.M. Worship</b>	101	83	87	150
<b>P.M. Worship</b>	57	71	58	80
<b>Wed. Class</b>	65	67	57	85
<b>Contribution</b>	\$5157	\$3503	\$5057	\$5220

**MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED**

Glen Tattersall – Australia  
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France  
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine  
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia  
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa  
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT  
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia  
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa  
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon  
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo  
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

**OTHERS SUPPORTED**

Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas  
 The Truth In Love – Hurst, Texas  
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web  
 Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, Texas  
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, Texas  
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

**STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED**

Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, Texas  
 Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Joseph Harris, Nathan Boyd  
 Southwest School of Bible Studies – Issac Umana

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 1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 AT IRVING, TEXAS**