



Where families worship,
serve and raise their
children

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

November 16, 2015
Volume 7 Number 42

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

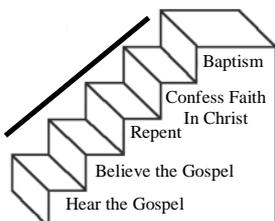
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Some religious people defend gambling saying, “Where does the Bible condemn gambling?” or “Where does the Bible say, “Thou shalt not gamble?” or “You cannot find the explicit word gamble in the Bible.” Can you find the explicit word cocaine or heroin? No, but all must agree their use is wrong. The same holds true for gambling. Here are twenty sound Biblical reasons condemning this grave evil.

(1) Gambling is wrong because it takes and does not give. Gambling Casino operators are not givers, but rather takers. Dr. E.E. Blanche authored a book entitled *The Mathematics of Gambling*. In it he said, “In the long run, nobody can win but the men who own the game. The mathematical laws of chance guarantee the operator from 1.5 per cent to 90 per cent of all money wagered. One can rest assured that their take is far closer to the 90 per cent than to the 1.5 per cent”. An owner of the game, i.e. a Casino operator, does not throw the dice. Why, should he? The mathematical chances of gaining in the process are against even him.

(2) Gambling is wrong because it violates the golden rule, “Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: ...” (Matthew. 7:12).

(3) Gambling is wrong because it is based on the Iron Rule, “might makes right”, get all that you can from others by whatever means available.

(4) Gambling is wrong because it goes against “loving God supremely” (Matthew. 22:37). A person cannot be a devotee of gambling and God at the same time. Both are masters of men. Man cannot serve two masters (Matthew.6:24).

(5) Gambling is wrong because it opposes “love thy neighbor as thyself” (Galatians 5:13-15). Feverishly engaging in trying to win a neighbor’s paycheck, house, car or all his savings violates loving him.

(6) Gambling is wrong because it obstructs the new commandment of Christ instructing that we love one another as he loved us (John 13:33-35).

(7) Gambling has wrong motivations; “covetousness, a greedy desire for gain at another’s expense”, “evil excitement” and “combativeness to be a winner from all others” and is opposed to being “... kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another” (Romans 12:10).

(8) Gambling does not square with a work ethic to earn our daily bread (Genesis 3:19; Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:10, 12). Gambling squelches the desire for honorable toil and promotes false hope of easy gain.

(9) Gambling is wrong because it enslaves. It is like alcohol to the alcoholic. Compulsive, addictive gamblers live tortured lives where no day is a good day without gambling. Why is there a Gamblers Anonymous?

(10) Gambling is wrong because it violates the biblical concept of custodianship of what God has given as requirements to be faithful and honest. The gambler is wasteful and a squanderer.

(11) Gambling is wrong because it sets an evil example (1 Timothy 4:12; Titus 2:7, 8).

(12) Gambling is wrong because it breeds dishonesty, deceit, and immorality. It leads to lying, petty theft, even armed robbery when pay up time arrives and gambling lords show no mercy. It leads to immorality as women pay off their debts by granting illicit favors to their gambling creditors.

(13) Gambling is wrong because our Lord never entered this world of vice. The Savior never threw dice, taught riotousness living, nor practiced gambling.

(14) Gambling is wrong because it destroys marriages and the home. Many gamblers have lost wife, family, job and money because of compulsive gambling.

(15) Gambling is wrong because it destroys mental serenity. The compulsive, addictive gambler is never really at peace with God, others or self.

(16) Gambling is wrong because it is covetousness and selfishness gone to seed. We are warned to take heed, beware of covetousness (Luke 12:15). Covetousness is the very foundation of gambling. It is a form of idolatry (Ephesians 5:3-5; Colossians 3:5).

(17) Gambling is wrong because it tries to make the end justify the means.

(18) Gambling is wrong because it looks to luck and fortune, not to the Lord. Gambling is a rejection of God’s providence in our lives.

(19) Gambling resists the allowing of our light to shine before men in order that God’s good works might be glorified (Matthew.5:16). Gambling is a work of darkness, never a work of light.

(20) Gambling is wrong because it violates the Christian’s charge that we do good to all men especially to those of faith’s household (Galatians 6:10).

Gambling is a vice and not a virtue. May we all flee and abstain from every form of evil (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

Gambling is prevalent in our society. It is a behavior in which a Christian should not participate. Therefore, when I read the article by **Brother Mitchell, I thought it good to use this in our bulletinDon Hatch**

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Do we choose entertainment or Worship? "THE BIBLE IS RIGHT AND HAS THE ANSWER". There is one body (Eph. 4:4). The body is the Church (Eph. 1:2223); therefore, there is but one Church. The one Church is composed of the saved (Eph. 5:23; Acts 2:47). Now, how can we find the one Church Christ built that constitutes the saved?

Suppose we are sent on a mission to find a man (1) whose name is Don Hatch, a minister of the Gospel. (2) who is 5'-11-3/4" tall, (3) who has black hair, (4) who has brown eyes, and (5) who wears glasses. (6) A minister of the Gospel. How will we know when we have found the right man? Will it not be when we find the man who meets all the identifying features? So it is with the Church. We may know we have found the right Church (the one that Jesus built, and the one we can read about in the Bible) when we find the one that matches in all the identifying features that characterized the early New Testament Church during the days of the apostles as recorded in the New Testament.

These are some of the identifying features of the church described in the New Testament: (1) founded by Christ in Jerusalem about 33 A.D. (Matt.16:18; Acts 2); (2) Christ is the head (Col. 1:18); (3) it has a scriptural designation (Rom. 16:16; 1Cor. 1:2); (4) has no creed or rule of faith except the New Testament (2 John 9-11); (5) has a plea for unity of all Christians (1 Cor. 1:10-13); (6) has the scriptural organization of elders, deacons and members (Phil. 1:1); (7) has the scriptural worship-prayer, singing, giving, taking of the Lord's Supper each Sunday, and teaching (Acts 2:42; Acts 20:7); (8) has the scriptural terms of entrance-faith, repentance, confession, and water baptism (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:9-10); and (9) has the scriptural nature-nondenominational (its conditions of entrance are the conditions of salvation (Acts 2:38-47).

If we will take our Bible and find the identifying characteristics of the church described in the Bible, and go and find the Church that identifies with them. The Church with all the identifying marks of the New Testament Church is the New Testament Church. The Church of Christ is the New Testament Church. We need to encourage everyone we have contact with to make a personal investigation and see for themselves. Our souls depend on it, for the conditions of salvation are the conditions into this one Church.

Have a great week serving God and don't forsake the assemblies of the Belt Line Road congregation! Pray for our sick and Shut-in!

Dean Webb

Amusement

Amusement in this article will have to do with recreation, diversion, play or associated types of pastimes apart from the normal work, home or schooling activities (Proverbs 15:13; 17:22; 21:17). **Amusement** suggests an agreeable occupation of mind, heart and soul in something appealing. A pleasant diversion or some-thing intellectually, physically or morally attractive.

Christian Diversion

As civilizations grow, there are principles common to each stage of growth. These are the primary needs of food, clothing and shelter. When these three have been satisfied and regulated leisure time will then pervade a social setting. Extremes have been seen in the area of leisure time. According to the Stoic philosophy, "Jesus never smiled therefore neither will I!" The Epicureans promoted the philosophy of "eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die!" The safest ground upon which to stand during all involvement in recreation is to "**approve the most excellent**". Amusement will largely depend on individuals and their families.

Civilizations' Shift

Civilizations shift over what is to be considered recreation or amusement. **Don't let civilization set your Christian standards.** There is a danger in spending too much time in amusement to the neglect of **God, family, work and personal, Christian growth.** However, there is a need to spend time in refreshing one's life with laughter and joy.

Some Guidelines To Use

Is it right?

Do godly people generally do it?

Will it interfere with my family, school, or work?

Will it produce good or bad habits?

Will it lead into the places that are questionable?

Will my example and influence be injurious to others?

To be amused will I associate with questionable people?

Will this diminish from proper care for my family?

Will the price of amusement reduce my weekly contribution to the Lord?

Will my family, friends or Christians follow me and sin?

Can I afford the cost of time and money?

Do I have other obligations that should be paid first?

Is this amusement building up or destroying my family?

Do I spend more time being amused than serving God?

Do responsible people have to be amused in this way?

What Questions Should I Ask?

Would the Lord be amused at what I am amused?

Would my actions and deeds during this amusement please Jesus?

Would I be taken to be with the Lord if He came while I was participating in this amusement?

Would the clothing I wear bring praise or reproach upon the name of the Lord?

Establish good standards for entertainment and amusement early in your life. Take time to enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in a godly manner.

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

November 22, 2015

Front foyer: Walt LaHaye &
Doris Selby
Back foyer: Robert & Cathy
Taylor

November 29, 2015

Front foyer: Bill & Linda
Matthews
Back foyer: Mike & Elizabeth
Garrison

MISSION PRINTING

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

Contribution Counters For November

Bobby England & Mike Garrison

Communion Preparation For November

Bill & Linda Matthews

LADIES

Ladies please mark your
calendars for each **Tuesday**
morning for **Ladies Bible Class**.
Class begins at **10 a.m.** in the
Annex. Lesson for **Nov. 17th** will
be "**The Righteous Man**". Please
invite your friends to join us.

There will be no class on **Nov.**
24th as it will be our Thanksgiving
Break.

Sermon Titles

November 22, 2015

a.m: "Shepherd King"
Scripture: Mark 14:27-31
p.m: "I Will Instruct Thee"
Scripture: Psalms 32:8-11

November 29, 2015

a.m: "None Hath Arisen"
Scripture: Deuteronomy 34:9-12
p.m: "Certain God Is Good"
Scripture: Psalms 73:1-7

Nursing Home:

Dorothy Smith – Avalon
Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Elsie Nanney is temporarily at
Avante – room #311 for rehab
after falling several weeks ago.

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, J.C.
and Dessie Ross, Don and
Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton,
Diedra Sutton, Tom Prince,
Ruben Melendez, Tom Head,
David & Faye West, Willie
Alvarenga, Laquita Baker, Robert
Ruckman, Glen Kelly

Homebound Members:

Helen Thomas, Mary Walker,
J.C. & Dessie Ross

Hospital:

Tom Head has been moved to
room # 582 at Baylor, Irving.
Debra Alonzo is in Presbyterian
Dallas, room # 619 for a few days.
She is dealing with a diabetic
wound ulcer.

Donna Ruth, sister-in-law of **Don**
Hatch is in room #1202 Roberts
Bldg. at Baylor, Dallas.

Don Hatch's granddaughter,
Shelby Hatch was involved in a
head-on collision Saturday night.
She was not injured but her car
was totaled.

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

CHRIST'S HAVEN

Grocery bags are available in both
foyers for Christ's Haven. There
are lists attached to each for your
convenience. The bags will be
picked up early on **Tuesday,**
November 24th.

Please bring your bags back no
later than Monday, **November**
23rd.

THANK YOU

There are **Thank You Notes** on
the bulletin board from **Glen**
Kelly and **Mike Batot**.

5th SUNDAY SINGING

Our 5th Sunday Singing will be on
Sunday night **November 29th.**
There is a sheet in the front foyer
for you to list the songs that you
would like to sing at that time.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to
Rodney Grass and his family on
the loss of his mother. Funeral
services were held last Saturday in
Houston. Please keep this family
in your prayers.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/24/15 – No Ladies Bible Class

Wednesday night time change starting on **1/6/16** – will be at **7 p.m.** instead of 7:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Julie Roses – 11/5
- Patsy Swain – 11/6
- Bill Matthews – 11/8
- Doris Selby – 11/13
- Gary Workman – 11/14
- Nancy Pond – 11/15
- Nathan Allen – 11/17
- Katherine Davis – 11/17
- Bobby King – 11/19

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Jerry & Vicki Catlin – 11/9
- Mike & Elizabeth Garrison – 11/12
- Don & Margaret Lewis – 11/23
- Ken & Carol Lee – 11/25

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

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		11/22/15	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
· Don Herriage	· Curtis Vaughan		· Richard Renfro
· Alex Mayer	· Bobby England		· Ken Lee
· Mike Garrison	· James Gilliam		
· Walt LaHaye	· Nathan Allen		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Henry Seidmeyer			· Curtis Vaughan
· Dorris Walker			Mark 14:27-31
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Don Herriage
			· Henry Seidmeyer
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Richard Renfro			· Thomas Rathbun
· Bill Matthews			Psalms 32:8-11
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
· Robert Taylor			· Jerry McKey
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
· Jerry Baker			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	61	54	62	100
A.M. Worship	116	104	103	150
P.M. Worship	68	59	67	80
Wed. Class	53	51	60	85
Contribution	\$13306	\$5313	\$5606	\$5098

MISSIONS

- 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
- 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
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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