

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

February 17, 2015
Volume 7 Number 7

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

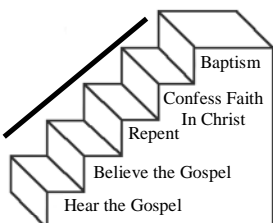
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



A Manner Of Life

Don Hatch

The New Testament informs us that for each blessing from God, through His precious Son, we are spiritually enhanced. Spiritual growth is a prominent teaching in the New Testament. Growing in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ develops a Christian personality. Diligence in doing the will of God is the earnest application of vigor to accomplish, promote or strive for things holy. Scriptures stir up the sincere mind reminding it that the words spoken by prophets foretold of mockers and individuals who walked after their own lusts (2 Pet 3:1-3). God has given enormous events to persuade mankind that all things have not continued unchanged since the creation. One example was the worldwide flood in the days of Noah (2 Pet 3:4-7). The world in which we live was vastly changed because mankind did not seek diligently to follow God. God is not governed by time, He is eternal. God is not slack concerning His promises but is long suffering towards us not willing that any should perish but rather come to repentance (2 Pet 3:8-13). The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night in which the universe will be consumed with fire and completely dissolved. Seeing that such will take place the Christian seeks to have a manner of life befitting the new heaven and earth wherein dwells righteousness.

Knowing that changes will take place the Christian fortifies the inward man making ready. They know that in whatsoever circumstance God will supply every need according to His riches in glory (Phil 4:10-20). Christians can do all things through Christ who strengthens them (Phil 4:13). Vain minds and darkened understanding alienates a soul from its Creator. Christians overcome ignorance, superstition and hardness of heart by learning of Christ (Eph 4:17-24). Renewing the spirit of the mind and putting on the new man which was created in righteousness and holiness of the truth is because of imitating Christ (Phil 3:17-11; Eph 5:1, 2). The things which accompany salvation constrain the child of God to show the fullness of hope not being sluggish, but in faith and patience (Heb 6:9-12). Presenting a life of faithfulness to the world sets forth an example of cooperation with God allowing His grace consciously, zealously and diligently to be manifested.

While God is working in Christians both to will and work for His good pleasure all things are to be done without murmuring or questioning (Phil 3:12-18). Children of God seek to be blameless and harmless in a crooked and perverse generation by being a light (Phil 3:15; Mat 5:14-16). Christians know that Jesus was resurrected and hope to be resurrected to be with Him in eternity, therefore preparing themselves by laying hold of the goal before them (Phil 3:11-16).

The Christian life has joy, peace, love and blessings. Careful consideration of the New Testament will also bring awareness that the “striving to enter in by the narrow door” is most striking. The word “strive” [ἀγωνίζομαι-agonize] indicates that Christians are to be submissive to the will of God. The effort, constant care and vigilance are a small price to pay for the reward which is to be given. Each must exercise unto holiness (1 Tim 4:7). The word **exercise** is to be gymnastic [γυμναζο- put forth strenuous effort]. It is like an athlete in training for victory in the “games of life”. Christians are in collusion with the pattern of God for life now and to come. There must be a spiritual victory. Each redeems the time presenting themselves approved unto God, not ashamed but handling the word of God aright (2 Tim 2:15).

Putting first things foremost is testified to by scripture. It is essential that a diligent effort be put forth to overcome a “slack hand” (Prov 10:4). Spiritual affairs are pressed to the front in the life of a Christian and all other is secondary. It is a solemn matter of putting first things first. It would be tragic not to carefully, earnestly and strenuously seek for the “bread of life which abides unto eternal life” (Jn 6:27). **Paradoxically** the worldly person demonstrates astuteness and diligence in pursuit of earthly treasures and oddly some Christians put forth little effort in the quest for heavenly treasures. Jesus said, “...the sons of this world are for their generation wiser than the sons of light” (Lk 16:1-13).

Diligent living has a purpose. Striving for the goal of the high calling of Christ sets the heart, soul and will to building a Christian life. Intelligent planning created our world and such will build a Christian life. The result of planning and having a purpose in life is like a well written history. It is not a jumbled disjointed group of words, but rather scripted and attentively directed each step of the way. The Christian is never accidentally formed. No one aimlessly enters into the life of holiness. The Christian life must be committed to Christ because of purposefulness and resoluteness in wanting to become like Christ. People do not intend to become derelicts on the sea of time, they just drift away.

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

Inheritance (Greek κληρονομοῦο) means to receive as one's own, to obtain goods provided by someone else, such as a birthright or gifts from a benefactor. The legal reception for such gifts is through the process of being an heir. Others claiming to be heirs, making demands or claims upon gifts from the benefactor, must prove legitimacy. Hence, illegitimate claimants cannot expect to obtain that which rightfully belongs only to an heir. There must be incontestable proof that a person is an heir. In receive an irrevocable gift it is emphasized that a special relationship between the benefactor and the recipients must exist.

The Old Testament is rich in its usage of the word "inheritance". Jewish inheritance laws were specific and complete (Num 27:8-11). Hence, many of these teachings became typical for the New Testament.

What is the New Testament inheritance? Throughout the New Testament, a striking promise for believers is simply "the inheritance" (Acts 20:32; 26:18; Eph 1:14, 18; Col 3:24). Generally, the promise refers to receiving eternal life (Jn 3:16; 1 Jn 5:13). The believer's inheritance is described more specifically as an eternal and joyful existence with God. Believers are promised "an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven" (1 Pet 1:4). It is a guarantee for those belonging to God's family.

In the New Testament Christ provides all spiritual blessings as a part of a Christian's inheritance (Eph 1:3-13). It is required that the heirs be able to prove that they are a son or daughter of God (2 Cor 6:14-7:2; Rom 8:1-17; Eph 3:1-14). All lawful children of God are heirs, joint-heirs, co-inheritors having a seal of their inheritance (2 Cor 1:21, 22; Gal 3:23-29; Acts 2:38, 39; Eph 1:12-15).

One is lawfully a child of God when begotten again by the incorruptible seed, the word of God (1 Pet 1:13-25). Jesus said, one cannot justly claim to be an heir and live a fictitious life (Mat 7:21-23). Moreover, Jesus demonstrated that those who had been heirs and faulted on their relationship are no longer children of God, but by word and practice offspring of vipers (the devil) (Jn 8:31-59).

Hebrews states that one can become profane like Esau, selling his birthright and falling short of the glory of God (Heb 12:14-17). If Esau was profane for selling his birthright, how much greater if the church sells her birthright, allowing false claimants to go unchallenged?

Galatians 4:1-7 places significance on the relationship one has with God. God's children are born into His family (Jn 3:1-15; Jas 1:18; 1 Cor 4:15; 1 Pet 1:13-25). Adoption identifies the dignity of a relationship that believers have with God through Christ. Adoption means putting one into a position of a child by the new birth. Paul states that this relationship was the preplanned will of God through redemption (Eph 1:3-13). The Bible teaches one must be in Christ to be free from sin (Rom 8:1, 2). In this relationship one becomes a joint-heir with Christ and child of God. Therefore, it is clear that for this relationship to exist one must be in Christ (Rom 8:12-18; Gal 3:23-29). No one outside of Christ can make a legitimate claim of being an heir. Only those who have been baptized into Christ (Gal 3:27) are in Christ, thus heirs. All claimants must go through this process or be denied the inheritance.

The concept of a believer's inheritance highlights the dignity of a family relationship with Christ in the church. No higher position or greater wealth can be acquired by an individual than by becoming an heir of God through faithful obedience in Christ.

The Bible is clear. It was written to set forth the ways and means for inheriting eternal life. At the judgment, the righteous

will inherit a realm prepared for them (Mat 25:34), while the wicked will be eternally damned (Mat 25:46). The finality of the separation of those outside of the family of God is clearly seen. Inheritance is a high and holy privilege. **Don Hatch**

Providence

The providence of God for mankind is exercised through His wisdom, omnipresence and goodness. Providence demonstrates an overall plan of God moving towards a season of **Eschatology** (time of the end). This doctrine was manifested in Old and New Testament teachings. The Old Testament exhibited providence in mysteries, the New Testament reveals it. Two elements are basic in this doctrine, God **bestows blessings** and there is a requirement of **seeking God and His righteousness**.

The Old Testament is a history providing essential information and elements of how the Divine will is exercised over the natural and spiritual order of the world. Earliest records conclude that maintenance of the natural and spiritual realm is due to the will of God (Genesis 1-3; Hebrews 1:1-14). Forming man from the dust of the earth God **provided a garden** and after mankind's fall God **provided the promise of salvation**. God guarded mankind throughout history and appointed them boundaries for the godly life. When man goes beyond these limits the goodness of God is replaced by severity (i.e. Behold then the goodness and severity of God: towards them that fell, severity; but towards thee, God's goodness ...) Romans 11:1-24). Chastisement is meant to yield peaceable fruits (Hebrews 12:1-15). Evidence demonstrates that God's divine protection rests on those who choose to obey His will (Psalms 91; 105; Hosea 11:1-15; Job 14:5) by keeping them from evil perils and nourishing them (Numbers 11; Exodus 13-16; Psalms 91; 105-107). **If the hearts of men harden against** God there is an element of His providence which provides for His judgment. In punishment He can further harden the hearts of the disobedient and allow evil thoughts to grow (Exodus 8:3; 2 Samuel 24:1; Romans 1:18-27; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-11). Yet, **when the volition (will) of man changes** from disobedience to repentance and faithful obedience, such replace wrath with graciousness. It is obvious to students of the Bible that any prosperity of the wicked is only transitory, while the blessings upon the godly are ultimate and enduring. Thus, the Old Testament is a tutor to bring us to faith in Christ and gives reason for living godly lives (Galatians 3:1-29).

The New Testament teaches that God in His providence is continually the same (Hebrews 6:13-20). Within the New Testament we obtain a full view of God as a Father who loves in infinite goodness and as such affectionately watches over mankind. He protects the most humble and in the course of events gave mankind the **ultimate** reason for obedience. **This reason is salvation** through reconciliation found in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:11-19). It is understood that the rain comes upon the just and unjust (God's benefits in the **natural realm**) however, the spiritual **blessings** are reserved in Christ (Ephesians 1:1-13; Galatians 3:27). The mighty optimism of faith is that God will provide for the faithful even in the face of apparent insurmountable odds, a complete and ultimate victory can be won, even over death (1 Corinthians 15:50-58). Christians are "more than conquerors" in Christ. "For I am persuaded, that 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" (Romans 8:38,39). "Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you" (1 Peter 5:6, 7). **Don Hatch**

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

February 22, 2015

Front foyer: Donna Davis & Fay Yeldell

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

March 1, 2015

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Nancy Pond & Myrtle Wade

Sermon Titles

February 22, 2015

a.m: "A Price Paid"

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

p.m: "A New Nation"

Scripture: Exodus 6:1-5

March 1, 2015

a.m: "Message Of Truth"

Scripture: Colossians 2:20-23

p.m: "Words Are Not Cheap"

Scripture: Jude 11:1-5

Contribution Counters For February

Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For February

Brenda Bryant

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, Don and Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton

Homebound Members:

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones

Recovering at Home:

Marinell Zaun has been ill with bronchitis.

Dean Webb has not been feeling well.

Hospital:

None at this time.

Rehab:

Dessie Ross has been moved to the Villages on MacArthur for rehab.

Nursing Home:

Billie Myers – Northgate Plaza

Dorothy Smith – Avalon

Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

Upcoming Procedures:

Mary Martini's biopsy has been delayed until March.

39'ers Breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 28th at **8 a.m.** at the Annex. Our teens are hosting the breakfast. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the front foyer so the teens will know how much food to prepare. The teens always do a wonderful job.

Jerry McKey is starting a new study in the **book of James** next Sunday Morning in the Jr. Auditorium.

CONGRATULATION

Ashlynn Kay Bennett was born on February 11th in Bastrop, Tx. She is the daughter of **Thurston & Shay Bennett**. Grandfather is **Chris Bennett**, Great Grandfather is **David Bennett** and Great-Great Grandmother is **Marjorie Bennett**.

TEACHERS

The new quarter begins on Wednesday night, **March 4th** and Sunday, **March 8th**. If there is anything you need, please contact Don Hatch or the church office.

TEENS

There will be a **Teen Devotional** after Sunday night services on February 22nd at Darrell and Melissa Allen's home.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Worship is the Christian's spiritual vitality. Worship is to the soul what bread is to the body. In periods of praise to God we are renewed and rededicated to high aims and holy purposes. **Worship** tempers us against evils in the time yet to come.

In the difficult business of daily living, **worship** enables us to seek a source of strength outside ourselves. It causes us to be humbled by thoughts of the majesty and immensity of God. **Worship** helps us to keep life in proper focus and saves us from drowning in puddles of pettiness.

Maxie B. Boren

There are new **Gospel Minutes** and **The Spiritual Sword** in both foyers. Please take them home to read.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/24/15 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

2/28/15 – 39'ers – Breakfast – 8 a.m.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S

Robert Ruckman – 2/11
Cathy Taylor – 2/12
Joy Webb – 2/12
Alex Mayer – 2/16
Mary Curtis – 2/17
Carol Partridge – 2/18

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Brandon & Stephanie Howard – 2/28

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

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		2/22/15	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		
· Richard Renfro	· Curtis Vaughan		· Dean Webb
· Henry Seidmeyer	· Ethan Howard		· Richard Renfro
· Brandon Howard	· Brent Howard		· Henry Seidmeyer
· Glen Kelly	· Robert Taylor		
· Samuel Henderson			
· Nathan Allen			
 <u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			 <u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Thomas Rathbun			· Kenny Mayer
· Scot Allen			1 Timothy 2:1-7
 <u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			 <u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
· Thomas Rathbun			· Don Herriage
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			· Darrell Allen
· Jerry Baker			
			 <u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Nathan Allen
			Exodus 6:1-5
			 <u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Jerry McKey

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	63	63	63	100
A.M. Worship	122	104	105	150
P.M. Worship	72	60	66	80
Wed. Class	65	60	63	85
Contribution	\$5844	\$4306	\$5633	\$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
Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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