

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

September 3, 2013
Volume 5 Number 32

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(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

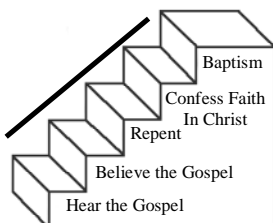
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Timeline

Don Hatch

Detestable wickedness marks the world. Efforts to improve this have largely failed. Mankind lives without hope unless they are in Jesus (Eph 2:11-23). As efforts are made to banish crime, improve the surroundings with humanism directing mankind, the decline is worsening. The casting off of moral and spiritual guidelines is gaining a favorable prominence in the market place of ideas. **Among the means** used to improve mankind are slums being torn down, better housing, parks being developed, playgrounds placed in strategic locations, higher minimum wage sought, job training, rehabilitation of educational drop outs, psychiatric aid to readjust those who have diminished their lives with recreational drugs socially acceptable and legal are but a few of the new precursors of a decadent society. There are efforts to enlarge the police systems, establish new laws which will favor the victims as opposed to the criminals and a government which controls every aspect of public and private lives. **Totalitarianism** is the tendency for government control to take one from the cradle to the grave, taking away all sense of personal responsibility and initiative. The possibilities are to miss mankind's greatest need which is more than social reforms. What is needed more than anything else is for man to be reconciled to God, submit to His moral principles and a healthy weight placed upon personal responsibilities.

Relieving human misery is the notion that happiness is brought about by *activities from without and not an inward change*. "Improve the environment and man's inner condition will change" is the slogan of our times. But the inner man is never considered. The removal of the **sense of guilt** is not sufficient. There must be a **removal of sin** itself. The urge to do contrary to God and His holy law must be removed. A plenipotentiary [an agent, such as an ambassador, fully authorized to represent] taking action under the oversight of God must be accomplished in the heart of mankind, gradually transforming and *acting from within*. We are ambassadors for Christ (2 Cor 5:11-20). The working of God upon a soul is more resplendent than all external events mankind can invent. Those who are dead in sin can be made alive (Eph 2:1-23).

God's sovereign love demonstrates His willingness to redeem individuals from sin (Eph 1:3-14). God's grace enhances man's commitment to devote his life to his Benefactor. All of mankind, being drawn to the Father

through the Son, demonstrates the "breaking down of the middle wall of partition" wherein male, female, Jew, Gentile, Barbarian, Scythian, bond or free are one in Christ (Eph 2:11-23; Col 3:5-11). No social experiment is equal to spiritual renewal. A new day will dawn on those who surrender themselves to Christ and the influence of the Bible. Bible centered virtues must have a commanding presence in society if there is to be any real change (Eph 4:1-5:21). Those with darkened understanding are alienated from God becoming more hardened in their hearts toward that which is holy. Works of lasciviousness, uncleanness and greediness are manifested in life dragging one down to corruption and deceit. Those who steal, lie, and fill themselves with anger wax worse and worse. Those who imitate God, as beloved children, walk virtuously and with dignity. Fornicators, covetous and those deceiving mankind with vain words are in "darkness". Being well-pleasing to God will also make mankind well-pleasing to each other.

The true solution to detestable wickedness is the work of the church showing the way out of fellowship with the devil (Eph 2:1-11; 3:1-12). The church must sing her mighty chorus of faith in Christ, practice her vows of virtue and overcome the unrealistic teachings of agnosticism, atheism, worldliness and clamor whose overtones are so strong in our society. United in love and service the church walks in purity and imitates God (Eph 5:1-5). Thus, the church firmly united bids farewell to the ways of Satan embracing holiness and wholesomeness. Her warfare makes use of weapons of the Spirit and does battle with the nemesis of righteousness (Eph 6:10-2).

The church's work is never futile in her employment to produce in the heart and mind of others a will to be pure and holy. Her lofty ideals, universal scope, singleness of mind, heart, and will reflect a glorious renewal worthy of emulating. The church exists for the purpose of serving as an agent for salvation, redemption and reconciliation of mankind to God through the Lord Jesus Christ. Joined in praise to God the wisdom from above is displayed and shown to be of more value than any human scheme.

In order to arrive at the conclusion desired there must be a deepening regard for personal responsibilities and moral choices. A comparison to social reform and spiritual reforms should demonstrate that spiritual reforms are antecedents to social reforms, not the reverse. Holy people respect society, property, the world, others and all the host of concerns manifested in our day. Putting God first, making the world of lesser importance means, "Now unto him that able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations forever and ever. Amen" (Eph 3:20, 21). **Detestable wickedness** covers our world with a dark shroud and destructive agency which must be overcome with good (Rom 12:9-21).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

This month I would like for us to think about the local congregation that you are a part of. As we think about what the congregation does we must first and foremost understand that the local church is part of God's plan. God has a plan and the local congregations are very important in how and what they do to spread the gospel.

Let's first look at the meaning of the word Church. The word "church" is from the Greek word "*ekklesia*"; from *ek*, meaning "out of" and *kaleo*, meaning "to call". Therefore the word "church" means "**the called out.**" The church is that group of people who have been called out of the world (**Rom. 1:5-6; I Cor. 1:2**) by the gospel (**2 Thess. 2:14**) and, upon an obedience to it, have been saved, resulting in their being added to the church. (**Acts 2:36-47**) The Lord's church (this called out body) is not: the Roman Catholic church, nor a Protestant denomination. (**1 Cor. 1:10-13; Eph. 4:1-6; John 17:20-21**) The Lord's church (this called out body) is not a Jewish assembly (**Gal. 3:7, 26-29; 5:4; 6:15, 16; Col. 2:13-17**) The Lord's church (this called out body) is not a material building (**1 Pet. 2:5, 9**) "...you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ..."⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;..." The Lord's church (this called out body) is not a political party. (**Jn. 18:36; Lk. 17:20, 21; Phil. 3:20**) The Lord's church (this called out body) is set forth under various figures as we see below.

- As a family, picturing the love that each member should have for the other members. (**1 Tim. 3:15**) "...but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." (**Heb. 13:1**) "Let brotherly love continue."
- As a bride, picturing the purity of the church (**Rom. 7:4**) "Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another; to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God." and (**Eph. 5:23-33**)
- As a body, picturing the unity of the church (**Eph. 1:22-23; 1 Cor. 12:13-27**)
- As a kingdom, picturing its government (**Matt. 16:18, 19**) & (**Eph. 1:22-23**) "And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." and (**Phil. 1:1**) "Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons..."

Next week we will continue our thoughts about the local church in God's plan. Everyone have a great week.

Jerry McKey

Great Servants of God

Great servants of God are comparatively unknown to most of the world. Looking at their lives should awaken an interest in young and old. Those courageous individuals who made their way in the face of difficulties and danger will challenge and draw out a growing admiration from all. The significant contribution which they gave to the world makes up the history of the Bible. Serious attention paid to their lives helps us understand how God blessed and used their special talents to further godliness in all times, circumstances and cultures.

Political and social conditions contributed to the backgrounds of these worthy servants of Jehovah. Some lived in giant countries with great affluence, others in small obscure surroundings with little wealth. Wherever or whenever they were called they manifested a sense of unlimited opportunities to glorify God in their daily lives. Some had freedom, while others were slaves, but regardless of circumstances their faith was measured by truthfulness, honor, integrity and spiritual beauty. As circumstances change concerning their lives they were distinguished by their character. Supremacy of faith detailed their attitude and disposition. Holy people of God sought to demonstrate this sort of activity of heart, soul and mind as others watched on with awe.

Born in various countries and times gave all different circumstances to face. Family life often was impinged upon by heartless rulers and evil citizens. Their task might have been a lowly shepherd or a regal Prime Minister of a nation. They maintained an irrepressible sense of religious purpose and worship. Certain that neither life nor death could separate them from God fortified their faith. Jealousy over wealth, ease and splendor was not a part of their lives. The names of these ancient servants were: "And what shall I more say? for the time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah; of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, from weakness were made strong, waxed mighty in war, turned to flight armies of aliens. Women received their dead by a resurrection: and others were tortured, not accepting their deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: and others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: they were stoned, they were sawn asunder, they were tempted, they were slain with the sword: they went about in sheepskins, in goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, ill-treated (of whom the world was not worthy), wandering in deserts and mountains and caves, and the holes of the earth. And these all, having had witness borne to them through their faith, received not the promise, God having provided some better thing concerning us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect" (Heb 11:32-40).

Factors which equipped them for their tasks were early training in the ways of godliness, firsthand knowledge of religion and worship. Discipline and time alone with God in prayer gave them the resolve that if they walked through the valley of death they were never alone (Psm 23:1-6). A certainty that their service was in spirit and truth gave them strength to never slack at the task God assigned them. Passionate devotion to God, powerful faith, capacity to be indignant at unrighteousness and an intense desire to please God with word and deed was ever present. **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 8, 2013

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Steven & Sara Grosshuesch

September 15, 2013

Front foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

Back foyer: Bobby & Brenda England

Sermon Titles

September 8, 2013

a.m: "Mustard Seed"

Scripture: Mark 4:30-32

p.m: "Those Who Mourn"

Scripture: Revelation 7:13-17

September 15, 2013

a.m: "Martha, Martha"

Scripture: Luke 10:38-42

p.m: "Meek Shall Inherit"

Scripture: Psalms 37:10-18

Contribution Counters For September

Mike Batot & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For September

Bill & Linda Matthews

MISSION PRINTING

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

SINGING CLASS

The singing class will meet on *Sunday, Sept. 8th* in Room #116 at 5:15 p.m.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Roy & Helen Thomas, Tim Fowler, Marietta Houser, Mary Walker, Billie Myers, Shelia Martin, Jane Easter, Bill Matthews

Those In Need Of Prayer

·**Jerry Baker** is now at home recovering from bypass surgery. Please keep him and **Laquita** in your prayers.

·**Joy Webb** had successful knee surgery last week. She is now at home recovering. Please no visitors for the next 3 weeks. Calls are welcomed.

·**Bill Matthews** was taken to Baylor, Irving ER on Sunday. As of Monday, he has improved so well that he may get to go home today.

·**Kati Mimms** will be having surgery on September 13th. Please remember her in your prayers.

·**Alice Worthy** is home suffering with the shingles. Please keep her in your prayers.

·**Harold Keller** is having his defibrillator replaced today at Baylor, Irving. Please keep him in your prayers.

·There are many others who are suffering with various illnesses. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

SUMMER SERIES

Our speaker on **September 4th** will be **Jeff Jenkins**. His Topic will be "**The Bible Is Historically Correct**". Acts 7:1-53.

LADIES

Keller Church of Christ is having their Ladies Day on Saturday, **September 7th**. If you would like to go, please contact Beverly McKey this week. We will be leaving from the church building at **8 a.m.** if you are planning to go.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will begin Tuesday, **September 10th** at 10:00 a.m. in the annex. The lesson will be on **Romans, Chapter 1** and will be taught by Beverly McKey. Lunch will be provided after the lesson.

CHRIST'S HAVEN

Christ's Haven **Fall Work Day** is Saturday, **Sept. 14th**, 9:00 – 12:00. Wear work clothes; bring gloves and tools with your name on them. Lunch will be provided to those who register online at www.ChristsHaven.org before **September 6th**.

Christ's Haven **Open House** will be on **September 28th** from 10 – 2. You will be given a tour of the campus and lunch will be provided.

NEW ARRIVAL

Justin & Annelise Hardegree are the proud parents of Levi Emerson Hardegree. He was born on August 31st, weighing in at 8 lbs. 7 ozs. and 21-1/2 in. long. Proud grandparents are **Derrol & Kelly Allen**, proud great-grandmother is **Brenda Bryant** and proud great-great-grandmother is **Pansy Yankey**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/10/13 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.
Luncheon to follow class

9/16/13 – 39'ers – 6:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

David West – 9/1
 Jackye Jewett – 9/2
 Marietta Houser – 9/4
 Dean Webb – 9/4
 Brenda Bryant – 9/7
 Katherine Cox – 9/8
 Fauna Garrett – 9/10
 Jane Easter – 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

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom* & Linda Head – 9/7
 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
 ·Scot Allen
 ·Dorris Walker
 ·Bill Paschall
 ·Mike Garrison
 ·Steven Grosssheusch

Rear Table

·Kenny Mayer
 ·Don Herriage
 ·James Gilliam
 ·Thomas Rathbun

9/8/13

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

· Jerry McKey
 · Richard Renfro
 · Dean Webb

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Nathan Allen
 Mark 4:30-32

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· John Mayer
 · Bill Paschall

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Henry Seidmeyer
 Revelation 7:13-17

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Jerry McKey – Steven Grossshuesch

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

· Mike Batot
 · Nathan Allen

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

· Bill Paschall

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	67	59	73	100
A.M. Worship	117	115	131	150
P.M. Worship	65	60	67	80
Wed. Class	71	75	71	85
Contribution	\$5317	\$5505	\$5251	\$5470

MISSIONS

Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Moshen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Roy Conner – Brown Trail Preaching Student
 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
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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