



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

December 15, 2014  
Volume 6 Number 47

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

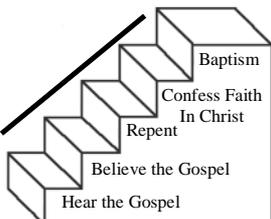
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

#### 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)



## Season's Greetings



Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

MAY THE NEW YEAR BE FILLED WITH BLESSINGS AND JOY

Don & Joann Hatch

## FAMILY CARE

### A Message from Our Shepherds

Last week we again asked the question, "Can a Christian feel secure about his or her salvation?" We said there were three attitudes about salvation and they were undeserved security, unjustified doubts and blessed assurance. We talked about the first two already so let's discuss blessed security or assurance.

The Holy Spirit, knowing of the unjustified doubts that Christians tend to harbor sometimes, addressed this question through the apostle John when he said in **John 3:19-21** "*And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.*" Note that this passage speaks of our heart (conscience) as sometimes having doubts about our salvation in contrast to God who justifies us. Doubt, guilt and failure are never far from any of us. Sometimes our misgivings are the result of our own actions or inactions. What we must all realize and remember that God understands everything. His word and His truth are greater than our feelings or our conscience. We may rest ourselves in His love for us and live in that love and by that love. We will not excuse ourselves of any sin, but neither will we needlessly accuse ourselves.

The Christian who tends to accuse himself too much needs to listen to the following statements of the word of that God who is "greater" than the Christians' accusing heart. **John 5:24** "*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.*" **John 10:27-28** "*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*" **1 John 5:13** "*These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.*" **Romans 8:37-39** "*Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*"

In concluding our thoughts nothing about our material/physical life is certain. Our riches can be destroyed by fire or depression and our physical bodies ruined by disease or accident. However, in the spiritual realm, as long as we continue to "hear" and "follow" Christ (**John 10:27**), **nothing** can ever "separate us from the love of God" **Rom. 8:38**.

Everyone have a great year and let us make 2015 the best year ever for the cause of Christ. **Jerry McKey**

"Hear my cry, O God; Attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I call unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: Lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For thou hast been a refuge for me, A strong tower from the enemy... .." (Psm 61:1-5).

## Mystery

Scripture describes God as knowing all things, even that which the human mind can never know or find out unassisted. He sees the secret intentions of human hearts and comprehends the unfathomable mysteries of creation (Psalm 139:1-4, 23; Matthew 6:4; Romans 2:16; 1 Corinthians 4:5; 14:25; Hebrews 4:13; Job 38-39). He understands the meaning of human history. He understands history because events which comprise history correspond with His intentions. God willed and it happened. He did so to accomplish His eternal purpose (Dan 2:37; 5:21; Romans 11:25-36). On the other hand humans, because of limitations, remained unaware of God's purpose until He chose to reveal it (Daniel 2:27, 30; Mark 4:10-12; Luke 19:41-44). God's response to humans was to reveal His purpose. When God's purpose is revealed the Bible frequently refers to it as a "**Mystery**".

The content of the divine mystery is seen in the Old and New Testaments. In Daniel, the term mystery appears (**raz** in Aramaic and is always translated  $\mu\psi\sigma\tau\epsilon\rho\iota\omicron\nu$  -Greek) referring to God's understanding of the symbols in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Those stood for the rise and fall of empires and an eventual establishment of God's eternal kingdom (Daniel 2:44; Revelation 1:20). The details and nature of God's eternal kingdom remained sketchy in the days of Daniel. The mystery of God's purpose gained greater specificity in Jesus' parables revealing the "mystery of the kingdom of God" (Mark 4:11; Matthew 13:11; Luke 8:10). Paul identifies the divine "mystery" as the revelation of God in Christ (Colossians 2:2; 4:3). He equated the divine mystery with Christ's atoning death on the cross (1 Corinthians 2:1-5). It was God's plan, through Christ's atoning death, to include Gentiles among His chosen people (Ephesians 2:11-22). Moreover, it was the reconciliation of all things to God (Ephesians 1:9-10; 2 Corinthians 5:18). Thus, God described the divine mystery in general terms as eventually establishing an eternal kingdom, more specifically, the constitution of a new people, from among Jews and Gentiles (Ephesians 1:9-10; 3:5-12; Colossians 1:26-27).

The New Testament denotes, not a mysterious thing, but that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension was made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God to those whom he inspired by the Holy Spirit. In the ordinary sense a "mystery" implies knowledge withheld. It is however, scripturally defined as truth revealed. Hence, the term signifies a truth revealed, manifested, preached and understood. The definition is best illustrated by "...the mystery which hath been hid from all ages and generations: but now hath been manifested to His saints" (Colossians 1:26).

Understanding of the divine mystery illustrates God's character. His character is omniscience (all knowing). After God revealed the "mystery" of the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream to Daniel, Daniel thanked God for his **wisdom and power** saying, God "knows what lies in darkness" (Daniel 2:20-23).

Divine "mystery" emphasizes God's grace. Stark contrast is seen between the biblical use of the term "mystery" and its use in a technical term in the ancient Hellenistic, mysterious religions. In such cults the term signified the **esoteric** (mysterious) knowledge where initiates were instructed, with threats of severe ... **continued on third page ...**

# Family News:

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

## GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

**December 21, 2014**

*Front foyer:* Don & Anne  
Herriage

*Back foyer:* Bobby & Brenda  
England

**December 28, 2014**

*Front foyer:* Richard & Carolyn  
Renfro

*Back foyer:* Nancy Pond & Fay  
Yeldell

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## Sermon Titles

**December 21, 2014**

a.m: "Theistic Evolution"

Scripture: John 8:31-37

p.m: "Theistic Evolution"

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-24

**December 28, 2014**

a.m: "Evil And The God Of  
Love"

Scripture: Romans 5:12-16

p.m: "Evil And The God Of  
Love"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

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## Contribution Counters For December

Glen Kelly & Purman Cofer

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## Communion Preparation For December

Bobby & Brenda England

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## 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, Charlene  
Carroll, Don and Margaret Lewis,  
Frances Tipton, Linda Head

### *Homebound Members:*

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary  
Walker, Gearldean Jones

### *Recovering at Home:*

.**Mary Elaina** was sick this week.

.**Grady Flower** has had a MRI.  
He is waiting on results.

.**Alex Mayer** and **Curtis  
Vaughan** both have the flu.

.**Tandy Garrett** was sick this  
week.

.**Virginia Stull** is now at home.

### *Hospital:*

None at the present time.

### *Nursing Home:*

Billie Myers – Northgate Plaza

Dorothy Smith – Avalon

Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

### *Military:*

Chris and Abigail Mathews

### *Special Requests:*

**Aubie Ruth**, brother-in-law of  
**Joann Hatch** is unable to take  
nourishment. He is very weak  
and the doctors say they can't do  
anymore for him. **Donna**, her  
sister is doing well. Please keep  
this family in your prayers.

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## LADIES CLASS

Our Tuesday Ladies Class is  
suspended until January 2015.

**Happy Holidays!**

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This week is our final bulletin for  
the year 2014. Our next bulletin  
will go out on January 5, 2015.

## THANK YOU

**Lautricia Williams** wants to  
thank everyone for their prayers  
on behalf of her daughter. The  
tests came back good.

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**Elsie Nanny** sends her love and  
wishes she could be with us.  
Please remember her and all of  
our shut-ins in your thoughts and  
prayers.

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**Continued from second page .....**  
punishment, not revealed to the  
uninitiated. The Bible emphasizes  
God's desire has been that all might  
come to know the truth which can set  
mankind free (John 8:32; Ephesians  
1:13). Emphasized is God's gracious  
willingness to reveal the mystery of  
his purposes to all.

The mystery of God comes to a  
climax in the New Testament.  
Although predicted in the Scriptures,  
kept for long ages (Rom 16:25-26),  
hidden for generations (Colossians  
1:26; Ephesians 3:5-11) it was  
revealed to prophets, apostles and  
believers (Ephesians 3:1-12; 1 Peter  
1:10-12). In magnificent language the  
Bible speaks of the gift of the grace  
which God gave according to his  
effective power.

The biblical idea of "mystery"  
reminds Christians that God held the  
course of human events, shaping  
them to work for salvation of his  
people in a gracious, redemptive  
purpose and revealed in divers  
portions and in divers manners to  
prophets, apostles and to all willing  
to hear. The calling of the Gentiles  
into the church of Christ designated  
a truth undiscoverable except by  
revelation, long hid, now made  
manifest in the completed Scriptures  
(Ephesians 1:9,10; 3:8-11;  
Colossians 1:25-27).

Christianity is not a mystery, but  
rather, a fulfillment of God's  
redemptive plan of salvation, fulfilled  
in Christ and His church. **Don Hatch**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S**

Grady Fowler – 12/1  
 Ann Bruce – 12/5  
 Lotah Franklin – 12/6  
 Virginia Stull – 12/6  
 Max Melton – 12/7  
 Brent Howard – 12/10  
 Crystal Morris – 12/13  
 Elizabeth Garrison – 12/13  
 Linda Matthews – 12/17  
 Kim Mayer – 12/20  
 Pam Harpster – 12/23  
 Carol Lee – 12/24  
 Kent Conner – 12/27  
 Brenda England – 12/29  
 Lovetta Smith – 12/31

**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

Bill\* & Carolyn Montgomery – 12/22  
 Scott & Kassie Price – 12/30  
 David & Judy Odom – 12/31

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

**BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST**

(USPS 110820) published weekly except the first 3 weeks of July and the last 2 weeks of December at 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061. Periodicals postage paid at Irving, Texas.

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Belt Line Rd. Church of Christ, 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**

<b><u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u></b>		<b>12/21/14</b>	<b><u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u></b>
<b><u>Front Table</u></b>	<b><u>Rear Table</u></b>		· Jerry McKey · Don Herriage · John Mayer
· Richard Renfro	· Ethan Howard		
· Brandon Howard	· Brent Howard		
· Purman Cofer	· Curtis Vaughn		
· Glen Kelly	· Robert Taylor		
· John Mayer			
· Henry Seidmeyer			
<b><u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u></b>			<b><u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u></b>
· Nathan Allen			· Bill Matthews John 8:31-37
· Thomas Rathbun			
<b><u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u></b>			<b><u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u></b>
· Robert Taylor			· Ken Lee · Darrell Allen
<b><u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u></b>			<b><u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u></b>
· Jerry Baker			· Thomas Rathbun Matthew 1:18-24
			<b><u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u></b>
			· Jerry McKey – Denzil Myers

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

	<b><u>Last Week</u></b>	<b><u>This Week</u></b>	<b><u>YTD Avg.</u></b>	<b><u>Goal</u></b>
<b>Sun. Class</b>	75	64	67	100
<b>A.M. Worship</b>	113	100	112	150
<b>P.M. Worship</b>	69	65	64	80
<b>Wed. Class</b>	60	67	69	85
<b>Contribution</b>	\$6545	\$5476	\$5051	\$5331

**MISSIONS**

Haiti – Printing  
 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  
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon  
 Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution  
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo  
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
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 AT IRVING, TEXAS**