

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

January 17, 2017
Volume 9 Number 3

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

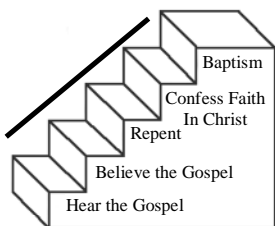
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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? 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 1st 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 a 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 (2Thes 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 led the disciples astray. Jesus did 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 upon 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 Movement 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 toward the truth. The church cannot be restructured to fit culture, traditions of men or 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 Bible focuses on doctrine. Individuals who strove to please God did so in all things great or small. Unity of the Spirit stresses a bond of peace (Eph 4:1-11). The things in the Bible were written to teach us patience and comfort stressing hope (Eph 15:5). Joshua emphasized that there failed not aught of God's word (Josh 21:43-45). God blesses the faithfully obedient.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

We all know the 'Parable of the Talents' found in Matthew 25:14-30. I find a close correlation with the Belt Line Rd. congregation and the man who increased his five talents:

This congregation purchased some property for \$750 on Gilbert Rd. in 1958. We paid the Trigg family (Vera Gleghorn remembers them) a \$300 down payment and then paid the remaining monies in monthly payments. The purpose of the land was to be used by others as a place of worship. We had asked them to join our congregation but they desired to worship as a separate entity. We helped them buy material and build a house of worship. They utilized the building for over fifty-six years rent free and then they had to abandon it. So we sold the property for \$157,000. God has blessed us financially in 2016 because of good things that were done in the name of Christ many years ago. We were blessed by the joy of giving them a place of worship and blessed again when we sold the property. Our original aim was not to make a lot of money, but to help others who wished to have a simple building to worship in. God has truly blessed Belt Line to rule over many greater projects than this. We do not know the future, but we know who holds the future.

²⁰“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ ²¹His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’”

Our hearts are saddened by the passing of our sister, Frances Tipton Sunday morning. Our prayers are with the family and her loved ones. Services are pending at this time.

Revelation 22:12-14

¹²“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to everyone according to his work.

¹³I am the Alpha and the Omega, *the* Beginning and *the* End, the First and the Last.”

¹⁴Blessed *are* those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.

New King James Version (NKJV)

Richard Renfro

Facts About The Bible

The Bible was written over 1600 years of human history, spanned 60 generations, 40 writers from every walk of life including kings, peasants, fishermen, poets, statesmen, scholars, military generals, cupbearers, tax collectors, Rabbi, herdsman, political leaders. It was written in different places: wilderness, dungeon, while traveling, during rigors of military campaigns, palace and in peace. It has sorrow, joy, life, despair, death and hope in its pages. The languages were Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek and scattered words from other languages. It does not shy away from controversial subjects. It speaks to hundreds of subjects with incessant harmony from Genesis to Revelation. Like the human body can only be explained properly when referenced to as a whole, so also the Bible is explained only by the whole. No other book has been more influence on the Western world than the Bible. Its survival throughout the ages compared with other ancient writings is evidence of providence. The Bible has, unlike other books, had the most vicious attaches from burning it to outlawing it in the Roman Government, the modern Communism dominated countries and the Moslem world. This does not prove the Bible is true but that it stands alone among other books. Thousands of time the death knell for the Bible has been sounded, the funeral plans made, tombstones etched and committals pondered but somehow they never get the corpse to stay put. The Bible is loved by millions and studied by millions each day. It has caused a river of books to be written about it- Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Lexicons, Atlases, Histories, commentaries, Language studies, Biographies, Devotional books, Christian Evidence, Apologetics and the list goes on. It was the first religious book to be taken and read in outer space. It is also the most expensive book sold- the Gutenberg Latin Vulgate was sold for thousands of dollars and the Codex Sinaiticus for even more.

The Bible contains over 3,566,480 letters, 773,746 words, 31,102 verses, 1,189 chapters and 66 books. The Old Testament contains 39 and the New Testament 27. The average word contains fewer than 5 letters. The word Jehovah occurs 6,855 times, Lord 1,853 times, reverend only once (Ps 111:9). Esther has 10 chapters and neither the word Lord nor God is found in it. The center chapter is also the shortest chapter (Ps 117). The middle verse is Ps 118:8. Job is the middle book of the Old Testament and 2 Thessalonians is the middle of the New Testament. The middle verse of the Old Testament is 2 Chronicles 20:13, the shortest is 1 Chronicles 1:25 and in the New Testament John 11:35 (in the Greek it is 1 Thessalonians 5:16). The middle of the New Testament is between Romans 13 and 14. The longest verse is Esther 8:9 with 90 words and the longest word found in the Bible in Isaiah 8:1 [Mahershalalhashbaz]. All the letter but J are found in Ezra 7:21. Psalm 119 was used to teach the Hebrew alphabet [22 letters]. 19 chapters of 2 Kings and 37 of Isaiah are nearly identical.

The Bible was the first book printed. It was translated from Hebrew to Greek in 270 BC. King James had the Bible published in 1611. The first Bible printed in America was in the Indian language (1663) by John Eliot. The first English Bible was printed in 1782. The first translation made in America was 1808 by Charles Thomson. Alexander Campbell published a “Living Oracles”, a New Testament translation in 1826. Noah Webster translated the Bible in 1833. The Revised Version was in 1885. The American Standard was 1901. Hugo divided the Bible into chapters in 1250 AD. Robert Stephens divided the New Testament into chapters in 1551AD. The entire Bible appeared in chapter and verse in 1560AD in what was known as the “Geneva Bible” [also called the Breeches Bible in Genesis 3:7 used the word breeches for aprons]. The Bible is the most translated book in the world.

Don Hatch

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

JANUARY ASSIGMENTS

GREETERS:

January 22 – Front Foyer – Robert & Cathy Taylor
Back Foyer – Jerry Grantham & Polly Roses

January 29 – Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England
Back Foyer – Bill & Linda Matthews

Communion Preparation: Jerry McKey

Contribution Counters: John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

SERMONS

January 22 – a.m. “Keep Clean”
Psalms 8:1-2
p.m. “David Tarbet Report”
TBA

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

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don & Margaret Lewis, Deidra Sutton, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Glen Kelly, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Alice Worthy, Sissy Allen

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

Nursing Homes: Elsie Nanny – Avante

Max Melton – Northgate Plaza

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.

Starting Tuesday, **January 17th** the **Ladies Bible Class** will be at 10:00 a.m. in the annex. The study will be **“Dealing With The Adversities Of Life”**. This will be a six week study lead by **Jeanene Heilman**. The first lesson will be **“Why Do Adversities Come?”** Ladies please make plans to attend and be sure to bring your Bibles. This should be an exciting study!

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

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Frances Tipton** as she passed away on Sunday morning. Services are pending at this time. Please keep the family in your prayers.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Hospital:

Jane Easter is in Baylor Irving.

Debbie Estes mom, **Linda Brudi** is also in Baylor Irving. She has had a light stroke.

Jerry Grantham & Dana Hodgkins have requested prayers for their 12 year old cousin **Lana Peterson**. She is in ICU at Children’s Medical Center in Dallas.

Upcoming Procedures:

Mike Garrison will have a stress test on Thursday.

Special Prayer Requests:

Latricia Williams daughter, **Trisi** will be having tests this week and is still struggling with problems from her recent surgery.

Jerry LaBar – friend of the Garrison’s has cancer.

Krystalyn – friend of Brenda England has cancer.

Carolyn Sullivan (former member) is now home recovering from her recent hospital stay.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Don Hancock – 1/1
 Ken Lee – 1/2
 Linda Head – 1/3
 Scot Allen – 1/3
 Debra Alonzo – 1/4
 Christal Fielder – 1/5
 Helen Thomas – 1/10
 Bobby Bowen – 1/11
 Dale Cox – 1/14
 Carolyn Montgomery – 1/24
 Nellie Melvin – 1/24
 Lautricia Williams – 1/25
 Don Lewis – 1/27
 Debbie Estes – 1/28
 Jessica Chester – 1/28
 Dorris Walker – 1/29
 Kayla Allen – 1/30
 Judy Odom – 1/31

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Bobby & Mary Bowen -1/11

*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>		1/22/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Richard Renfro Ken Lee John Mayer
Thomas Rathbun	Bobby England		P.M. – Dale Cox Mike Garrison
Don Herriage	Xavier Kaiser		
Dorris Walker	Curtis Vaughan		
Walt LaHaye	Kenny Mayer		
Mike Garrison			
Glen Kelly			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Curtis Vaughan			A.M. – Dean Webb Psalms 8:1-2
Bill Matthews			P.M. – Darrell Allen TBA
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
A.M. – Jerry Baker			Thomas Rathbun
P.M. – 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	46	59	55	100
A.M. Worship	77	89	86	150
P.M. Worship	60	54	56	80
Wed. Class	53	56	56	85
Contribution	\$5728	\$4563	\$5180	\$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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