



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

August 1, 2011
Volume 3 Number 28

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..Sep.-Apr.
*See page 4 for current meeting time.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
Garl Latham
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

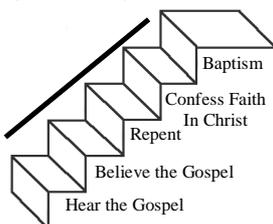
CUSTODIANS

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)



Amen

Don Hatch

Amen is used about one hundred times in the biographical accounts of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. The Greek word is *αμην*. A “double amen” used by Jesus confirms what God has said and what had been given by verbal plenary inspiration. Amen dates back to the earliest text of the Bible and is a declaration meaning “*so be it, truly or I concur*”. It is found in prayer, song and worship. It expresses strong agreement. Pronouncement of “amen” can be with strong emphasis on the “a-men” or “amen” inclusive. Stressing the vowel is commonly found in Christianity rather than Judaism. It is increasingly important to be used to stress agreement with what has been said, sung or practiced. Amen has primitive roots far back in history of the Hebrews and Greeks. It gives affirmation without a complimentary sentence to follow. It avows [acknowledges openly] the speaker’s words.

Frequently amen is the response of individuals or congregations to corroborate and affirm words spoken by others at the conclusion of prayer (1 Chron 16:36). Deuteronomy gave cursing and blessings which were to be affirmed by amen (Deut 27:14-26). Songs sung were ended with amen (Psm 41:13; 72:19). Double amen was found in the Psalms (41:13; 72:19; 89:15; Num 5:22; Neh 8:6). The Lord used “amen” to affirm His own utterances. Amen is sometimes used at the end of a short praise of God, various expressions which need affirmation, songs or psalms read or sung (Rom 1:25; 9:5; 11:36; 15:33; 16; Psm 41:14; 72:19; 89:15; 106:48). New Testament writers ended with the “amen” [Paul’s general epistles]. The reference to Jesus in Revelation as “the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of God’s creation” affirms Jesus Christ of Nazareth as “God with us” and the witness who had been with God in the beginning, and who came to earth as the incarnate “God with us”. He is at the right-hand of the Father verifying that there is a God and mankind lives in, moves and is alive because of Him (Rev 3:14; Mat 1:18-20; Jn 1:1-17). “Amen” concludes the New Testament (Rev 22:21). As a consequence amen became the acknowledgement and verification of God’s word and its binding nature. The full agreement of those listening meant something like “yes I (we) fully agree, yes it is true” (1 Cor 14:16; 2 Cor 1:20). Teachings about the kingdom of God are emphasized by “amen before them” (Mat 13:17; 18:3). The King James Version translated the word amen by “verily”. When Jesus speaks He frequently uses “verily,

verily or amen, amen” to initiate His sayings about the kingdom of heaven and God (Mat 13:17; 18:3; 10:15; Jn 3:3-7). When He challenged the sayings of the Jews He used the same “verily/amen” to enhance what He was saying. The “amen” sayings of Jesus are weighty teachings. He affirmed reconciliation, sanctification and all aspect of salvation (Mat 5:26; 10:42; 17:20; Jn 5:24). Jesus affirmed that humility is opposed to arrogance and those who humble themselves before God must depend upon Him (Mat 21:31). Not every statement was started with amen. Jesus chose what and when He would emphasize. Therefore it is not a formula. Directing attention to His divinity and authority were analogous [equivalent] to expressing His relationship to salvation of mankind. Jesus was more than a prophet. The scriptures quote the prophets by saying, “Thus saith the prophets” but in His earthly role He said, “Thus saith” to emphasize His teachings came from the Father. Jesus went beyond the prophets giving the essence of what they had said.

“Amen” as an expression did not start with Jesus but did stress His uniqueness as God with us. His authority in heaven and upon earth is extraordinary (Mat 28:18-20). Amen was the underscoring of exceptional and valuable statements which should have attention drawn to them. When God gave Moses a commandment for Israel to affirm His testimony, the affirmation was “amen”. Deuteronomy records the “cursing and blessings” which would befall Israel (Deut 27 & 28). The law was to be placed on the West side of the Jordan on a great stone. God’s word was inscribed and when a child saw this ancient altar he would know that the great “I am” had directed his forefathers out of the land of Egypt giving them the land of Israel to be kept in perpetuity until Jesus came. This public acknowledgement of the first generation to inherit the land was for posterity to retain in holiness and loyalty to Jehovah. Israel manifested the quintessence [essence] of obedience because of God word. The location of this monument was Ebal and Gerizim, twin peaks of limestone. The curses and blessings were to be read for Israel to hear between these two peaks. Israel denounced the curses by saying that they understood mankind was a snare to them and that they would promise to build an economy and nation based upon God’s laws. Moreover, the hopes of the Messiah’s true blessings were concurred with by pronouncing “amen”. Upon the altar was a sacrifice renewing the covenant Israel had with Jehovah.

“Amen” is a scriptural response to hearing the word of God. Worthiness accorded to singing, praying, giving, preaching and teaching the word of the Lord can best be expressed by “amen”. The oaths we pledge to God are confirmed by a solemn agreement swearing upon ourselves that we will perform them with godliness and purity pronouncing “so be it, I concur or amen”. It is perfectly evident that “amen” follows the faithful path of Christianity displaying an utterance acceptable to God. Amen is the spiritual way to agree publically.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

As of July 1, we are happy to announce that David and Paula Tarbet have become our missionaries in the Northeast United States. Our support of \$1,000 per month will come from monies that have been set aside by interested individuals and will not be part of our 2011 budget. Bridgewood church of Christ is their sponsoring congregation. One-fifth of the U.S. population is in the Northeast and only a handful of churches of our Lord. Brother David will work with churches to help them grow, appoint elders, create new congregations and hold special classes in different religious subjects. This is a difficult area of our country and someone of David's caliber is required to help spread the gospel to the lost. Our prayers are with David and Paula as they take on this wonderful and exciting work for the Lord.

The Belt Line Rd. elders have been informed by the Palm Beach Lakes elders that there has been a change in the Alvarenga's schedule to go to Argentina. Douglas and Sandra have been unable to raise enough support at this time. They have now rescheduled their departure to January 2013. We had planned to start supporting them this September, but things have now changed. They have moved to Nebraska to work with a Boys Home. Douglas has made an agreement with the home to allow him time for the necessary fund raising for Argentina. We have emailed the PBL elders that we will have to reconsider our options, based on our situation in October 2012.

Due to the weak global financial situation, many missionaries and non-profit groups are suffering loss of funds. Please remember to continue your support and contributions to the efforts of our congregation.

Richard L. Renfro.

“But let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth unto his own flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth unto the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap eternal life. And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the household of the faith” (Gal 6:6-10).

Our Advocate In Heaven

God is a just God. He established laws which mankind is expected to obey. God is a loving God full of grace and mercy. He knows mankind well and because of this He made provisions for us from the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3-15). The requirement of being holy and without blemish before Him in love is according to His good pleasure unto the praise of His glory and grace. Redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ and the remission of our sins are because of His marvelous grace. All spiritual blessings are summed up in Christ, in whom we have a heritage to the end that we should be unto the praise of His glory.

God's justice expects us to be obedient to Him. The scriptures teach that no unclean thing can enter into His presence. Mankind sins and needs cleansing from the stain of sin. God lovingly provided a Savior for mankind. God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (2 Pet 3:8-15). Jesus Christ brought grace and truth allowing God's justice to be tempered with mercy (Eph 2:1-10). Sin leaves mankind alienated from God and without hope (Eph 2:11-23). A pattern of sin in life hinders one from being in fellowship with God. Mankind cannot be a yokefellow with Satan **and** Christ at the same time (Deut 22:10; 1 Cor 5:9-11; Mat 11:28, 29). Mankind cannot be in communion with God and evil (1 Cor 10:21). There is no agreement mankind can make with the Devil **and** God. Mankind cannot serve two masters (Mat 6:24). Jesus Christ as our advocate, can restore us to God (2 Cor 5:18-20). Advocate generates the idea of a lawyer representing a client before the judgment bar. Jesus presents the defense for a sorrowful believer who has repented of his sins. Mankind cannot restore fellowship by a vague promise or willingness to do better. It requires a full separation from sin and its practice (Col 3:5-7). Bringing forth fruit worthy of repentance is required (Mat 3:7-12). God will forgive sins based upon the death of Christ and being baptized into Him for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Jesus' blood was the agency for remission of sins wherein mankind is added to His church. His blood will remove the stain of sin when the believer confesses sins and repents (1 Jn 1:5-10). Moreover, the same efficacy found in Jesus' blood is available after baptism. Jesus as an advocate secures a pardon when we are justly condemned. He obtains mercy and reinstates us to God. He is the propitiation for sins of the whole world. Jesus is at the right hand of God (Rom 3:21-30).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

August 7, 2011

Front foyer: J.C. & Dessie Ross

Back foyer: Bobby & Brenda England

August 14, 2011

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Sermon Titles

August 7, 2011

a.m: "Knowing God's Gifts"

Scripture: Eph. 1:15-23

p.m: "Make Alive"

Scripture: Eph. 2:1-10

August 14, 2011

a.m: "God Is Able"

Scripture: Eph. 3:20-21

p.m: "Walk Worthy"

Scripture: Eph. 4:12-24

Contribution Counters

Mike Batot and Darrell Allen

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet *Sunday* in Rm #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will be at 6:00 a.m. in the annex. All men are invited to this period of time for thought, scripture and prayer. The fellowship is edifying.

NEWS OF THE SICK

Evelyn Armstrong is now at Sandy Lake Rehab Center, room #115-B. She is expected to go home sometime next week.

Ted Lingren was in an auto accident in Laos on June 24th. He is not able to carry or stand for a long period of time due to the pain. Please keep him in your prayers.

Grady & B.C. Fowler have requested prayers for all their family's health concerns.

Marty Rogers has been moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas to be close to his family. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Charlotte Nigh's daughter **Tracey Tumey** is now off the ventilator and breathing on her own.

Hank Henry was released from the hospital on Thursday, July 28th.

Nancy Pond's brother **Johnny** had successful cataract surgery last week.

SUMMERTIME GOSPEL PREACHING 2011

Our series this year is **Paradoxes of the Bible**. Each Wednesday evening we will have a guest speaker speaking on God's Plans for Mankind. In this summer series we will be looking at hard passages to understand. Difficult passages test our commitment to Christ. **Kenny Gardner** will be our guest speaker on August 3rd. He will be speaking on "*Profit Through Loss*".

Foster's Home for Children

We have **green cans** in the foyer

for Foster's Home for Children. Please put your loose change in them during the summer and they will be picked up in the fall.

DFW Youth Summer Series

The Northwest Congregation will be hosting the Summer Youth Series on **August 2nd**. The topic will be "*Church Family*". Those wishing to attend, please meet at the McKey's home at 5:30 p.m.

SYMPATHY

Lowell Brewer, an elder at South McArthur Church of Christ passed away on Saturday, July 30th. Services are pending.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Jean Kelly, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Debra Alonzo

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE

In both foyers of the building there are new copies of Spiritual Sword, Christian Courier, and Gospel Minutes. Please take a copy for your family and after you have read it, give it to a friend to read. These publications have information which will be spiritually up building and vital to Christian Growth.

There are also older copies which you are welcome to take.

Also we have placed new tracts in our tract racks. Take these and put them in places where others will pick them up and read them. This is a good way for us to do evangelism by the printed page.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

·August 10th – Neal Thurman will be our speaker on Wednesday night. He will be speaking on “Finding Through Losing”.

UPCOMING AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

- Elsie Nanney – 8/2
- Francis Tipton – 8/2
- Dorothy Smith – 8/3
- Ilene Ashworth – 8/5
- Amber Vaughan – 8/5
- Marjorie Bennett – 8/8
- Charlotte Nigh – 8/22
- Ann Smith – 8/26
- Debi Gooden – 8/27
- Melody Lundquist – 8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- Dorris & Janie Walker – 8/5
- Brent & Samantha Howard – 8/14
- Marvin & Linda Brown – 8/19
- Derrol & Kelly Allen – 8/20
- Leo & Carol Townsend – 8/21
- Bill & Linda Matthews – 8/22

If unable to serve on the Lord's table, Please contact Mike Batot @ (972)741-2397

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE/MORNING</u>		8/7/11	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
·Mike Batot	· Bobby England		· Darrell Allen
·James Gilliam	·Brent Howard		· Marvin Brown
·Brandon Howard	·Roy Martin		
·Glen Kelly	·Derrol Allen		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Bill Matthews			· Darrell Allen
·John Mayer			Eph. 1:15-23
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Henry Seidmeyer
			· Denzil Myers
<u>LORD'S TABLE/EVENING</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Bill Paschall			· Nathan Allen
·Thomas Rathbun			Eph. 2:1-10
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
·Bill Paschall			· Jerry McKey
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
·Jerry Baker			

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	72	85	83	100
A.M. Worship	130	137	148	150
P.M. Worship	70	72	74	75
Wed. Class	70	75	80	75
Ladies Bible Class	n/c	n/c	n/c	25
Contribution	\$3899	\$7019	\$5256	\$5553

MISSIONS

- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Glen & Kuin Tattersall – Australia
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
- Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
- Hyderabad Church of Christ - Hyderabad, India
- Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
- Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
- Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
- Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
- Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India
- Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
- David & Paula Tabet – New Milford, CT

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