

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

"...churches of Christ salute you" (Rom 16:16)

Established 33 AD

January 13, 2020
Volume 12 Number 2

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606

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.

MINISTER

Randy Reagan

Email:

randy.reagan@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

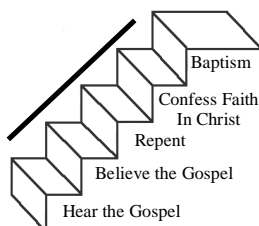
Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Up In Heaven

Everyone who has suffered the loss of someone they care deeply about has but one hope: the loved one is in the comfort of the Lord. The Bible says at death the spirit returns to the Lord who gave it. (Eccl. 12:7) In fact, the Bible defines death as the body without the spirit. (James 2:26) So many find comfort knowing that the loved one has returned to our Creator.

Often I read and hear those who talk about loved ones who have passed on refer to them as being "in heaven." What is surprising is that whether the loved one was a Christian or a non-Christian, the declaration is the same. Some even go so far as to proclaim that the lost loved one is "looking down on them smiling" or "looking over them to protect them." For those in the world, these types of beliefs are understandable. Convincing themselves that a loved one is now in heaven although they never spent a second of their lives in obedience or service to God is a form of self-comfort. Having never acknowledged God in any form, now they conveniently believe God has rewarded this loved one for living a self-serving worldly life. I observe this over and over among those in the world.

I can understand the ignorance of God's word leading the worldly to such declarations and beliefs, but I struggle how often Christians misunderstand Bible teaching concerning what happens at death and where our spirits actually go. Despite men's declarations, upon death, no one goes to heaven!

As Jesus hung on the cross dying, He proclaimed to the thief that "today you will be with Me in paradise." (Luke 23:43) This "paradise" to which Jesus referred is a part of the Hadean realm where Jesus dwelt for three days after His own death. (Acts 2:27, 31) It is in Hades that Lazarus was in the comfort of "Abraham's bosom" and the rich man was in "torment." (Luke 16:22-23) Christians should understand that paradise is NOT heaven and torment is NOT hell. It is not until final judgment day that mankind will be divided into "sheep and goats" and sent to heaven or hell. (Matt. 25:31-46) So, for a Christian to declare that their loved one is in heaven is contrary to Bible teaching. Is this a matter of semantics? Am I "nitpicking" over words? (1 Tim. 6:4) That in no way is my intent. Rather, the intent is to teach the truth of God's word.

Does my loved one look down on me and watch over me, care for me, and rejoice for me? Again, we must turn to God's word for the answer. As difficult as it may seem, the Bible says that the dead "know nothing" and their connection to the living has ceased. (Eccl. 9:5) In fact, any emotional connection that the dead had while on earth with others has ceased! (Eccl. 9:6) I know we want dearly to think that our loved ones miss us as much as we miss them.

If they were faithful Christians, all we can do is join them. (2 Sam. 12:23)

Randy Reagan

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

JANUARY ASSIGMENTS

GREETERS:

Jan.19 – Front Foyer – Bobby Allen & Doris Selby
Back Foyer – Glen Kelly & Donna Davis

Jan. 26 – Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England
Back Foyer – Barbara Reagan & Myrtle Wade

Communion Preparation: Jerry McKey

Contribution Counters: John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

SERMONS

Jan. 19 – a.m. “Faith Of Our Fathers”
Hebrews 11:3-5

p.m. “Being The Best Foot
Possible”
1 Corinthians 12:12-21

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

Ongoing Health Concerns: David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Paul Kelly, Polly Roses, Barbara Reagan, Alice Worthy, Sherry Hodge, Bill & Linda Matthews, Anne Herriage, Dale Cox, Elaine Neill, Patsy Swain, Jennifer Sassano, Vernon Sartain, Bret & Sara Rudd, Debra Alonzo, Jean Forbus, Henry Seidmeyer, Ray & LaFon Simpson, Cloreese Wilson, Vera Gleghorn, Marinell Zaun, Joe Farley, Dolores Ramsey, Debra Wintle

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker

Nursing Home: Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care Dale Cox – Avante

Military: Chris & Abigail Mathews Andrea Daniel (Air Force)

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 and also on **WEDNESDAY** at 5:30 p.m.

Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class is **Tuesday morning January 14th**. Meet and greet is at 9:30 a.m., class is at 10:00 a.m. This will be in the Annex. The lesson will be “**Oil And Water**”. Please plan on attending and invite your friends and neighbors.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Jerry Grantham is having knee surgery this morning in Arlington.

Elma Lawrence has been moved to The Villages on MacArthur, room #324 for rehab after a stay in the hospital last week.

Mary Walker has been in and out of the hospital and has requested our prayers. She is staying with her sister for a few days.

There are many others who are dealing with short term health issues. Please remember them in your daily prayers.

39'ers

Our 39'ers potluck get-together will be **Monday January 20th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex. Please bring your favorite dish and come enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

SYMPATHY

We express our sympathy to **Ray Simpson** and family. **Ray's** sister **Betty Garner** passed away last week.

We also extend our sympathy to **Jackye Jewett** and family on the passing of her son **Gary Baker**.

We mailed out new survey and directory updates last week. Please fill out and return these by **January 26, 2020** to the office. Thank you.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Bill & Linda Matthews
542 Canary Ln.
Red Oak, Tx. 75154

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1/20/20 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Don Hancock	1/1
Ken Lee	1/2
Linda Head	1/3
Scot Allen	1/3
Helen Thomas	1/10
Dale Cox	1/14
Paul Kelly	1/15
Ray Simpson	1/16
Carolyn Montgomery	1/24
Nellie Melvin	1/24
Lautricia Williams	1/25
Dorris Walker	1/29
Kayla Allen	1/30
Judy Odom	1/31

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Harry* & Virginia Debrick 1/5

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
please contact Alex Mayer:
(972) 602-8480*

Men who serve on the Lord's Table on Sunday mornings, please go to room #116 **five minutes** before services.

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)

<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>
• Thomas Rathbun	Bobby England
• Don Herriage	Robert Taylor
• Dorris Walker	Bobby Allen
• Nathan Allen	Kenny Mayer
• Alex Mayer	
• Ken Lee	

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

John Mayer & Kenny Mayer

SONG LEADERS

A.M. Jerry McKey
P.M. Nathan Allen

1/19/20

SUNDAY PRAYERS

A.M. Richard Renfro
Darrell Allen
Mike Haynes
P.M. Alex Mayer
Jerry McKey

SCRIPTURE READING

A.M. Dean Webb
Hebrews 11:3-5
P.M. Jerry Baker
1 Cor. 12:12-21

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

Kent Conner

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday	50	52	51	100
A.M. Worship	90	92	91	150
P.M. Worship	57	67	62	80
Wed. Class	55	59	57	85
Contribution	\$6205	\$6347	\$6276	\$5360

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – Australia
Jose & Miriam Suarez – Mexico
Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – Lagos, Nigeria
Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon
Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas
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
Luis Loera – Jaelyn Downing

A Message from Our Shepherd

I read this in Glen Tattersall's bulletin in Tasmania, Australia this week. I thought it would be helpful to every Christian to study:

Fill the Year with the Fruits of Righteousness

In Philippians 1:11, Paul records that Christians are to be filled with the "fruits of righteousness." Of course the fruit of the Spirit come to mind with a statement like that. The fruit of the Spirit are mentioned in two passages in the New Testament:

Galatians 5:22-23, "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control."

Ephesians 5:9-10, "(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord."

We can find 12 fruits of the Spirit from these two passages and, since there are 12 months in the year, we could emphasize one for every day of its month:

January: Love

February: Joy

March: Peace

April: Longsuffering

May: Kindness

June: Goodness

July: Faithfulness

August: Gentleness

September: Self-Control

October: Righteousness

November: Truth

December: Finding out what is acceptable to the Lord

Think about it, if we would work all day, every day, for a month on each of these, they will easily become a habitual part of our lives. This would result in bearing fruits of righteousness. This year, let us fill the year and our lives with the fruits of goodness and godliness. (E. Sterchi)

---- **Richard Renfro**

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