



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

December 12, 2016
Volume 8 Number 46

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

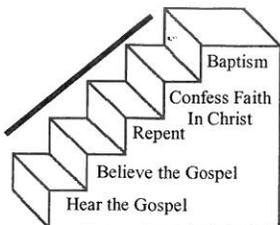
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Season's Greetings



Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

MAY THE NEW YEAR BE FILLED WITH BLESSINGS AND JOY

Don Hatch

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

It is clear that a sense of mission must be the driving force of our lives as God's children. The account of the life and times of Queen Esther points that out very well. We have all heard that story since we were children. But, if you are like me, you have often overlooked the sense of **mission** that filled every step of that woman's life.

In Esther 1 we see the Persian king, Ahasuerus, throwing a party for the dignitaries of his government. Secular history tells us that this must have been king Xerxes (the 5th king of the Medo-Persian Empire). As the feast continued over a period of 180 days, the king decided that his queen, Vashti, should show off her beauty in front of his drunken friends. When she refused to participate in that spectacle, the king quietly deposed her from her queenship.

In Chapter 2 the search for a new queen begins. After gathering the virgins from around the kingdom, the king decided that Esther would be his queen. He knew nothing about her nationality, religion or anything else. She was simply the most beautiful of all of the women and he wanted her for his queen. Since her parents died early in her life, Esther was raised from early childhood by her 1st cousin, Mordecai.

When chapter 3 begins, we are introduced to another character in the story. This man's name was Haman. Haman was one of the king's favorite princes. Because of that, the king raised him to a high position of authority in the kingdom. Wherever Haman went, the people would bow to him. Being the vain man that he was, Haman thoroughly enjoyed the reverence that the people showed him. That is what made him so mad when Mordecai refused to bow. In spite of the pleadings that some of the king's servants did, Mordecai refused to bow to a human being. When Haman found out that Mordecai was a Jew, he arranged an interview with king Xerxes. In that discussion, Haman convinced the king that the Jews were a danger to his kingdom. By the end of the conversation, the king had granted permission for Haman to oversee the extermination of the entire Jewish race.

As we compare our world today with the condition of the Jews in Esther's day, we see some striking similarities. Take the time to read the book of Ester this week and see what you come up with. 2016 is nearly over and as we approach 2017 may we all be more evangelistic minded in all that we do and say. Since Beverly has been in the hospital the last 11 or 12 days it certainly reminds us what prayer can do in our lives. Again I close out the year in the mail out with a love for each and everyone who has gone to God in prayer on her behalf. Love you all.

Jerry McKey

Continued from right column... 5 Privileged- Hearing the thrilling words "**well done thou good and faithful servant**" will be reward enough for the faithful (Matt 25:21,23). Those who wear the armor of God, walk in the light with righteousness are a privileged band of heroes. The highest honor is to have fellowship with Jesus himself. Jesus is depicted in the scriptures as the "Faithful and True; and in righteousness he doth judge and make war" (Rev 19:11-17).

Don Hatch

Good Solider-Privileged Servant

Good is described as a character or constitution which has a beneficial effect. It has a moral sense and is attributed to things and people. God is essentially absolutely good (Matt 19:17; Mk 10:18; Lk 18:19). In certain cases men are called good (Matt 25:21; Acts 11:24; Titus 2:5).

Good is morally pleasing to God and therefore beneficial. Christians are to prove what is good (Rom 12:1-5), cleave to it (Rom 12:9), do it (Rom 13:3; Gal 6:10; 1 Pet 3:11), work at it (Rom 2:10; Eph 4:28; 6:8), follow after it (1 Thes 5:15), be zealous of it (1 Pet 3:13) and overcome evil with it (Rom 12:21).

The first parable of the sower is about the types of soil into which good seed is sown. The effects of the evil one are fully seen. In spite of problems some seed grew (Matt 13:18-23). The second parable is about the enemy sowing tares among the good seed. Jesus said there would be a harvest, the tares burned and the good saved (Matthew 13:24-30).

Governmental authorities should be ministers of good (Rom 13:4). Governments are to benefit the spread of good. When those in high places defer to that which is evil God has set the bounds and habitations of nations and will judge them (Acts 17:22-28).

The Christian is to be a "**good soldier**" (2 Tim 2:3, 4). This metaphor is very fitting. Christ is the Captain of our souls and we as soldiers have a standing appointment with the forces of evil within and without (Eph 6:1-16).

1. **Acknowledged- chosen-** Not everyone is fitted to be a soldier of Christ. Moral and spiritual defects hinder one from being a good soldier of Jesus Christ. Hence one needs to remove moral or spiritual blemishes to be able to stand in the battle against sin (Eph 6:10-16; Col 3:5-11). One needs to put on the armour of righteousness and light (Rom 13:12; 2 Cor 6:7). The soldier is chosen of God. God determines what is morally and spiritually fitting for the soldier (Rom 8:31-39).

2. **Separated- not entangled** with the affairs of this life. Anything which would hinder one's ability to be valiant and faithful must be discarded. Seeking the kingdom of heaven first is an equivalent ideal (Matt 6:33, 34). Everyone should make necessary changes in their personal life to fit the righteousness required by God. We may be in the world but not of the world (Jn 17:14-26). The Christian has a high and noble calling and should be seeking to escape from corruption (2 Peter 1:3-11). Many have lived honorable lives by laying aside every weight and sin which easily besets (Heb 11:32-12:13). Their avocations ranged from kings to pruner of sycamore trees (1 Sam 16; Amos 7:14); wives to warrior (1 Pet 3:6; Judge 4).

3. **Sanctified-** choosing to **please** him who enrolled him as a soldier. Presenting of one's life to the Lord in an acceptable manner is to choose not to be fashioned according to the world and is a formidable concept for soldiers (Rom 12:1-5). Pious manner of living is an inherent reputation and moral goodness. Virtue is essentially an exercise of faithfulness in the face of all enemies (1 Pet 2:9-10).

4. **Preserved- enduring** hardship with others as a good soldier. Knowing that the way will be fraught with foes should never detour the soldier from his appointed task of doing good. "Be not dismayed whatever betides God, will take care of you...when dangers fierce your path assail... God will take care of you, thro' everyday, O'er all the way; He will take care of you, God will take care of you"¹ "...for himself hath said, I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee. So that with good courage we say, The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what shall man do unto me" (Heb 13:5, 6)? **Continued left column...**

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

ASSIGNMENTS FOR DECEMBER

GREETERS:

December 18 – Front Foyer – Robert & Cathy Taylor
Back Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England

December 25 – Front Foyer – Richard & Carolyn Renfro
Back Foyer – Glen Kelly & Nancy Pond

Communion Preparation: Bobby & Brenda England

Contribution Counters: Glen Kelly & Nathan Allen

SERMONS

December 18 – a.m. “Check The Facts”
Luke 3:15-17
p.m. “In The Beginning”
John 1:1-4

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

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

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

Nursing Homes: Elsie Nanny – Avante Frances Tipton – Arlington Rehab
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.

Ladies Bible Class will be on Tuesday, **December 13th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex. We will be filling the **Goodie Bags**.

The **39'ers** monthly get together will be on Monday night, **December 19th** at 6:30 p.m. at the Annex. Come bring your favorite food and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Christian Family,

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers and kindness during this difficult time.

From the family of
Dorris & Janie Walker

There will be **no** bulletin until January 3, 2017.

PRAYER CONCERNS

. **Sissy Allen** went home Thursday from the hospital. Hospice will be taking care of her at home. Please keep **Sissy & Bobby** in your prayers.

. **Lautricia Williams** daughter, **Trisi Williams** had some cysts removed last week. The surgery went well.

. **Elizabeth Garrison** had a procedure done last Thursday.

. **Frances Tipton** is out of the hospital and back at the nursing home.

. **Beverly McKey** is now home from the hospital.

. **Linda Head** had foot surgery Thursday and is having some complications. She is staying with Billie Prince.

There are many others who are dealing with health issues at the present time. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

Hospital:

. **Bobby King** is in Baylor Irving Hospital due to a fall last week and a hurt back. He is in room #356.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12/19/16 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 pm

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grady Fowler – 12/1
 Ann Bruce – 12/5
 Virginia Stull – 12/6
 Lotah Franklin – 12/6
 Max Melton (Walter) – 12/7
 Carolyn Thornton – 12/10
 Crystal Morris – 12/13
 Elizabeth Garrison – 12/13
 Linda Matthews – 12/17
 Virgil LaFerney – 12/17
 Kim Mayer – 12/20
 Carol Lee – 12/24
 Kent Conner – 12/27
 Brenda England – 12/29
 Lovetta Smith – 12/31

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Bill* & Carolyn Montgomery – 12/22
 David & Judy Odom – 12/31

*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>		12/18/16	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Jerry McKey Don Herriage Darrell Allen
Nathan Allen	Thomas Rathbun		P.M. – Jerry Baker Henry Seidmeyer
Curtis Vaughan	Dale Cox		
Purman Cofer	Alex Mayer		
Dean Webb	Robert Taylor		
John Mayer			
Kenny Mayer			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Alex Mayer			A.M. – Bill Matthews Luke 3:15-17
Don Herriage			P.M. – Thomas Rathbun John 1:1-4
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
A.M. – Jerry McKey			Robert Taylor
P.M. – Darrell Allen – Denzil Myers			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	60	55	62	100
A.M. Worship	78	95	99	150
P.M. Worship	56	63	71	80
Wed. Class	48	47	59	85
Contribution	\$6091	\$5875	\$5386	\$5170

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
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 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
 Carlos Tario, Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Brayden Shelley
 Southwest School of Preaching – Austin, Texas – Mike Batot

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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