

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

June 1, 2015
Volume 7 Number 22

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

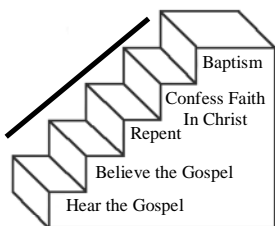
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Knowledge And Self-control

Don Hatch

Christian's earthly goals are not to please self, but rather to delight and honor God through Jesus Christ the Son (1 Thes 2:4; 4:1-5; 2 Tim 2:1-4). Christians strive being guided by faith to comply with ordained earthly goals controlling all faculties through the power of fellowship with God through Christ (1 Jn 1:1-4). Running the Christian race is to obtain a heavenly goal and a crown of righteousness (2 Tim 4:1-11).

Bringing oneself under control becomes an aid to help others gain knowledge of Christ by carefully considering all actions. Becoming all things to others that they might gain a knowledge of Christianity is a stewardship entrusted to Christians (1 Cor 9:16-18). One can place themselves in a role which provides others a vantage point wherein Christ is exalted and Christianity is dignified being lifted above all other religious practices. Running the race to receive the prize is a good illustration of how the Christian manifests self-control (1 Cor 9:22-27; 2 Tim 4:1-11). Greek athletics prepared for their contests diligently in order to receive a corruptible wreath or laurels proclaiming them victors. The Christian seeks a crown bestowed by the Lord. Undergoing rigorous training there must be a constant and full control of mind and body. Christianity is infinitely more important than any other race to be run and won. Undeniably receiving an incorruptible crown of righteousness is supremely important. Generations of Christians subsequent to the first century demonstrated that such an attainment was possible. The striking figure of “buffeting the body” removes any self-seeking means which leads to betrayal of spiritual endeavors. If anyone will follow Jesus they must deny self, take up His cross and follow Him (Mat 16:24; 1 Pet 2:11).

It is necessary that we maintain a clear picture of our close connection with the Savior. His grace and our self-control postures us in an affirmative dependence upon God applying His principles in various circumstances with a sound basis to exercise spiritual harmony, living daily the life fitting for the body of Christ to which we are honored to be added (Acts 2:47; Eph 2:22-24; 1 Cor 12:12-31). Where self-control is not gained by spiritual

knowledge it will degenerate into extremism and a life of misdirected fervor.

An indispensable acquisition of spiritual knowledge aids one to discern and dedicate the body, soul and mind to God (Mat 22:34-40). Life would be beclouded with vices without God's word to train the conscience. Putting away the filth of the flesh and interrogating the conscience towards God unshackle the soul from service to the evil one (Rom 12:1-5). Spiritual living must have a disposition guided by that which is **not** boastful, proud, arrogant nor allured to that which is vain. Spiritual knowledge fashions the will and ambition of a Christians to know what is the good, acceptable and perfect will of God. Knowledge without self-control tends to be perverse and proud. Christians struggle with exercising self-control. By abstaining from all appearances of evil, defining the manner of life to be lived and prayerfully entering into all endeavors there is spiritual support for gaining righteousness.

Intemperate and self-indulgence lead to hedonism. Christians have happiness and enjoyment in their lives (Phil 4:4-8). A thing is not wrong because it brings joy and peace. Christian fellowship is the most fulfilling joy one can share. The pursuit of pleasure as a purpose of life has a wrong sense of why a Christian lives. An action is expressly condemned if it lacks self-control. Good cheer and laughter are expressions of peace and joy.

The control of our tongue is to keep it from slander, backbiting, gossip and talebearing (Jas 3:1-12). Abstaining from hasty words or anger must be prominent in our control over wrong behavior. Lawful things are not wrong in themselves; they violate no moral or spiritual principles. Nullifying our influence for good must be confined. Physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing is where we exercise great control and greatest wisdom is needed. Christians exercise self-control over such sins as stealing, murder, drunkenness governing their lives with astuteness and spiritual wisdom (Jas 3:13-18). “If ye died with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why, as though living in the world, do ye subject yourselves to ordinances, Handle not, nor taste, nor touch (all which things are to perish with the using), after the precepts and doctrines of men? Which things have indeed a show of wisdom in will-worship, and humility, and severity to the body; but are not of any value against the indulgence of the flesh” (Col 2:20-23). There is a need to make a complete break with the rudiments of the world. Actions of righteousness do not nullify principles of salvation. Putting human ordinances above God corrode the soul.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

HOW WE SPEND OUR TIME WHILE HERE ON EARTH IS VERY IMPORTANT tomorrow, today, yesterday, are all expressions of time. We are running a race with death (Heb. 9:27). Tragedies happen many times each day, and our prayers go up for the families affected. For some precious time ran out when they were just minutes away from being safe. Time is that fleeting commodity which God lives outside of and man measures in days, weeks, months and years. Read (Eccl. 3:1-15).

In the spring time when rains come in abundance, water is not as much appreciated, but in the late summer and fall, when little rain has fallen and the earth is brown and life is dying, then, how we would like to see rain. So it is this way in life. While we are young and happy and the rains of life overflow and our souls are constantly refreshed, time seems to be little appreciated (Eccl. 12:1). But later, the sad day when our doctor walks away from our bedside and says, "I can't do anymore," then a proper value is placed on time (Eph. 5:16).

But it is not how long we live, but how well we live. It is not the quantity of time, but the quality of life. In our youth we can hardly wait to have the time pass in order that we might be adults and begin on our own. But when we awake to our new time, we find that we have overslept. It is not morning, but late afternoon or middle or old age. Like snow that has fallen during the night, so age has come upon us unexpectedly, time has passed more quickly than we anticipated. We long for the days of the past. We want again the spring time of life. But it is gone; we can't go back! We find ourselves on a road we cannot return from. We must go on. We cannot look back and wish for the yesterdays.

Time is very valuable because during this period of human existence the destiny of all mankind is sealed. This life is man's probationary period; to neglect God's will for our lives will result in eternal loss of our souls (2 Thes. 1:7-9). Our future destiny depends upon the decisions we make and the actions we take now. Read (2 Thes 2:13-17). Today is the day of Salvation! This Wednesday starts our summer series. We can't be fed with the sheep if we are not there when the sheep are being fed. We'll be looking to see you!

Have a great week serving our Father who is in Heaven! Hope to see you each time the saints meet when possible. Please remember in all your prayers our sick, shut-ins and those that are bereaved!

Dean Webb

"Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph 5:15-17).

Excellence

Few have greatness thrust upon them! Very rarely is excellence forced upon someone! None unwittingly achieve excellence! People do not stumble into it in the course of amusing themselves or others. All excellence involves discipline and perseverance towards a purpose. Excellence is an intangible and hard to measure. Excellence comes by degree and a well executed training program. **To be excellent does not mean** you have to be **perfect**, the **best** or the **most acclaimed**. Instead it means a deep commitment to being and doing the best that is possible. It is a goal that motivates even if none other will tread the path with you. Christian growth is not a static position once achieved, never to be advanced. Reading, studying and putting the things learned into practice are the dynamics for growth. Investigation, prayer, meditation on Scripture, evaluation, development of sympathy, empathy, genuineness, thinking and principles of normal human development all lead to excellence in Christianity.

Congregational growth is sought and a local congregation needs to grow. Everyone loves the "head count", especially when a congregation is growing. The New Testament mandates evangelism for fulfillment of the "Great Commission". Yet, if there is an emphasis upon a self-conscious growth it often leads to a strategy with implication that bigger is better. Some modern successes may not serve God's purpose at all; instead they may stand as monuments to human pride. An example is a congregation which was built on the backs of investors in a bond scheme. Ultimately they financially violated many investors by not repaying fully the indebtedness. After years of not paying obligations they "crowded" of a huge contribution for mission work. This growth was a failure. There was no striving for excellence.

Church growth is a living organism of morality and purity that is unquestioned. A congregation's health is gauged by spirituality and excellence. Things are never shoddily done or halfheartedly attempted. Few have excellence thrust upon them! Excellence is not unwittingly achieved. Congregations do not achieve excellence while **amusing** themselves. Rather, it takes discipline of worship, prayer, personal study, fulfilling obligations of benevolence and evangelism.

Training for excellence in the Christian's life can start in a Bible class and extend into worship with graduate training being the application of things learned.

Integrity is defined as moral fiber, strength of character and living beyond reproach. It is a **rare word** in our time. It means choosing **accountability** and **faithfulness**. Almost everyone is aware of public scandals, vile television programs tempting the unwise into lust for money, sex and power. We live in a culture where there is little **outrage** or **indignation** over tarnished morals and a total disregard for excellence in ethics. Edgar Guest wrote, "I have to live with myself, and so, I want to be fit for myself to know, I want to be able, as days go by always to look myself straight in the eye; I don't want to stand, with the setting sun, and hate myself for the things I have done."

Spirituality must be included in the training program of Christians. Emphasizing traits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control are not byproducts but the heart of Christian ethics (Galatians 5:22-24). **Excellence** means to **exceed** by approving the things which are best (Philippians 4:8, 9; 2 Peter 1:16). Little else matters if one is not **striving** for excellence. The church should rise above the fray and position her as noble and fitting. Excellence involves pressing towards the goal of the high calling in Christ (Philippians 3:13-15).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

June 7, 2015

Front foyer: Thomas Rathbun &
Donna Davis

Back foyer: Bobby & Brenda
England

June 14, 2015

Front foyer: Robert & Betty
Ruckman

Back foyer: Dale & Katherine
Cox

Sermon Titles

June 7, 2015

a.m: "Repentance and
Remission"

Scripture: Luke 24:44-49

p.m: "Coming Kingdom"

Scripture: Micah 4:1-5

June 14, 2015

a.m: "Revive Us Again "

Scripture: John 1:10-18

p.m: "Consider Your Ways"

Scripture: Haggai 1:7-11

Contribution Counters For June

Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For June

Vern & Melody Lundquist

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, Don and
Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton

Homebound Members:

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary
Walker, Gearldean Jones, Don
Hancock

Recovering at Home:

Sam Harding has pneumonia. He
is a volunteer at Mission Printing.

Bill & Linda Matthews sister-in-
law **Marilyn McGuire** has
cancer.

Frances Tipton has an upper
respiratory infection. She also will
be having a biopsy on Thursday.

Curtis Vaughan is home sick.

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

Hospital:

James Gilliam's son, **James Paul**
had a heart attack last week. He is
at Methodist Hospital in Desoto.

Darrell Allen's cousin had a
reaction to cancer treatment and is
now in ICU.

Nursing Home:

Noma Myers – Northgate Plaza

Dorothy Smith – Avalon

Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

Special Request:

The Garrison's have requested
prayers for their daughter **Diedra
Sutton**. She had cancer surgery
last Thursday.

The Garrison's have requested
prayers for their friend **Wynonne
Jackson**. She is having surgery on
her hand Wednesday.

CHRIST'S HAVEN

Grocery bags are available in both
foyers for Christ's Haven. There
are lists attached to each for your
convenience. The bags will be
picked up on **Tuesday, June 9th**.

TEACHERS

The Summer Quarter will begin
on **Wednesday** night, **June 3rd**
and **Sunday, June 7th**. Please
contact the office or Don Hatch if
there is anything that you need.

Outstanding Women

Leading & Serving (O.W.L.S.)

Where: Lewisville Church of
Christ

When: July 12 – July 19, 2015

Cost: \$70.00

2015 Theme: "Righteous Living"

Speaker: Becky Blackmon

Designed for: 9th – 12th grade
(Young Ladies)

More info: www.O-W-L-S.net

GREEN CANS

There are "**Gleaning For
Children**" green cans in both
foyers. Please take one home and
put your leftover change in it.
This money goes to the **Foster's
Home for Children**.

GRADUATION PARTY

Scot Allen's come and go
graduation party will be this
Saturday, **June 6th** at the annex
from **4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

June 3rd – **Willie Alvarenga** will
be our Guest Speaker at 7 p.m.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

6/15/15 – 39’ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

JUNE BIRTHDAY’S

- Laquita Baker – 6/2
- Denzil Myers – 6/5
- Beverly McKey – 6/6
- Keith Vaughn – 6/8
- Tom Prince – 6/9
- David Hawkins – 6/12
- Taylor Lee – 6/14
- Ethan Howard – 6/16
- Nadya Workman – 6/22
- Nona (Billie) Myers – 6/22
- Darrell Allen – 6/23
- Mike Batot – 6/28
- Patricia Elliott – 6/30

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- Denzil & Billie Myers – 6/11
- Tom & Billie Prince – 6/12
- Robert & Cathy Taylor – 6/13
- John & Kim Mayer – 6/30

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD’S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		6/7/15	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Jerry McKey
· Nathan Allen	· Curtis Vaughan		· Richard Renfro
· Henry Seidmeyer	· Alex Mayer		· Mike Garrison
· Purman Cofer	· Brent Howard		
· John Mayer	· Robert Taylor		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Bill Matthews			· Scot Allen
· Kent Conner			Luke 24:44-49
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· John Mayer
			· Thomas Rathbun
<u>LORD’S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Scot Allen			· Don Herriage
· Glen Kelly			Micah 4:1-5
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
· Robert Taylor			· Jerry McKey
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
· Jerry Baker			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	57	61	62	100
A.M. Worship	100	109	103	150
P.M. Worship	69	74	67	80
Wed. Class	54	56	59	85
Contribution	\$4375	\$4553	\$5399	\$5098

MISSIONS

- Glen Tattersall** – Australia
- Roland & Rose Moshen** – 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
- 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
- Mike Batot** – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX
- Carlos Tario** – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX
- Daniel Garza** – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX
- Dennis & Beth Johnson** – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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