

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

October 16, 2017
Volume 9 Number 36

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.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

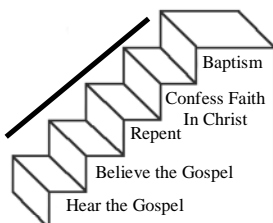
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



The Church's Foreign Policy

Don Hatch

A subject widely discussed is foreign policy. Countless hours have been given seeking ways and means to identify the church to the world as a kingdom with separate sovereign power (Matt 16:13-18; Jn 18:33-38; Col 1:13; Rev 1:9, 10). As a kingdom there are various obligations internally and externally. Each nation has a set of goals that seeks to determine how one country will interact with another. Our relationship with the world is unique. We live in the world but are not of the world. One can be in the world and without God which is a hopeless state (Eph 2:12). Christ came into the world to seek and save the lost (1 Tim 15).

Foreign policies are designed to protect the citizens of their own country. Within these policies will be security, national interests, ideological goals and prosperity. These can occur when there is no aggression or exploitation. The church never seeks to exploit even the worst offenders of aggression. Foreign policy is as old as civilization and as ancient as man. Virtually every nation has a plan for foreign policy in order that they may interact.

Such policies must have principle which can be depended upon to not alter in the face of aggression. Normally the establishing of foreign policy is reserved for the head of state. In the case of the church it is Christ the Lord. Because the church is a kingdom the absolute right to all polices belong to our Lord of lords and King of kings (Rev 17:14). Such policies produce and exert pressure on the citizens of the kingdom to know our boundaries. The disciple becomes an ambassador for Christ (Eph 6:20; 2 Cor 5:20). As ambassadors we are allow to speak for our King only that which he has given us to speak. We are accredited to speak because we know the King's word. Ambassadors live in a host country as strangers and pilgrims (1 Pet 2:11). They are appointed for a specific purpose and definite duration. The disciple has a "great commission"- "...and he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to the whole creation. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned" (Ml 16:15, 16) - "And Jesus came to them and spake unto them, saying, all authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I commanded you: and lo, I am with you always,

even to the end of the world" (Matt 28:18-20). Ambassadors are not permanent residents, only passing through.

The church has a foreign policy. To understand this one must be clear on our relationship with the world. The church is spoke of as a kingdom of Christ and a nation of God's people (Col 1:13; 1 Pet 2:9), while the whole world outside of Christ is a kingdom of darkness (Col 1:13). The world is under the power of the evil one. Hence this world is not our home. To follow Jesus is to walk in light (Jn 8:12; 1 Jn 1:5-10). Jesus spoke the word of His Father and we in turn must speak Christ's (Jn 8:28-30). Our work as ambassadors is to convert those in the world of Christianity that they may be saved. Many ambassadors have been shamefully treated over the years. If they hated the Lord it is imperially true that they will hate us (Matt 10:22; 24:9). Though the work may be hard we are ambassadors for the King. God never left Christ and Christ will never leave us (Jn 8:29; Matt 28:20). The world and the church are diametrically opposite. Yet the church must have some dealings with the world. We are not to be fashioned by the world (Rom 12:1-5; 1 Pet 1:14). We are to be unspotted by the world (Jas 1:27). Friendship with the world is to be an enemy of God (Jas 4:4). By becoming partakers of the divine nature we are able to escape the corruption that is in the world (2 Pet 1:3-5). Great care should be maintained that after escaping the defilements' of the world the world through the knowledge of Christ, we are again entangled therein and overcome because the last state is worse that the first (2 Pet 2:20).

There are certain commitments that the church has to make. We must announce to the whole world that there is a God and that we are confident that His ways are the safest ways to live by (Heb 11:6; Rom 8:28; Gal 6:7, 8). We are committed to the fact that fairytale membership is essential to our intimate salvation (Eph 1:22, 23; 5:23; Jn 15:1-4). We are committed to the truth (Jn 8:332). We are committed to the doctrine that forgiveness is absolutely necessary to a life acceptable to God) Lk 13:3; Act:2:37, 38). We are committed to the belief that only that which leads to eternal life is to be valued (2 Cor 5:17, 18; Matt 16:26). If these and similar commitments are effective in our lives Satan will be defeated and countless souls will be won to the Lord's church and kingdom.

We have the power to keep our commitments (2 Pet 1:3-11). We must make an honest effort to persuade the world, by actually demonstrating, that we are convinced that there is a God, He is alive and we live and move and have our being in Him (Act 17:28). God has given us His promises to enable us to succeed (2 Pet 1:4; 1 Jn 3:1-3). He has shown us countless times that we can depend on Him. We are promised he will instruct us and encourage us in all matters of the church and kingdom. When we put first things first who or what can conquer us (Rom 8:31-39)?

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Baptism is Essential to Salvation
(Continued from last week)

II. The Study

As we begin our study of Baptism, we will find clear examples of the teaching regarding how baptism must be done and for what purpose it must be done.

Let's begin by studying the life of Paul, the one who wrote more books of the New Testament than any other writer and we also notice that Paul was chosen by God primarily for the purpose of spreading the gospel to the Gentiles and also to the Jews. **Acts 9:15** – "...he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel."

You might ask, "what does he have to do with our study of Baptism"?

So let's see how Paul became a Christian ...

The first time Paul is mentioned in the New Testament, he was called "Saul", his Hebrew (Jewish) name. **Acts 7:58**

His name was later changed to Paul, which was his name as a Roman citizen. **Acts 13:9**

Acts chapter 7 begins by telling of a man named Stephen, one of the first deacons selected in the very first church that was established in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost, after the death of Jesus. **Acts 7:1-6**

Stephen was preaching to a group of Jews, explaining that Jesus was the son of God and how the Jews "murdered" him by crucifying Jesus on the cross. (**Acts 7:52**)

Remember how the Jews were furious when Stephen accused them of this sin and they took him out of the city and stoned him to death.

When this happened a "young man named Saul" stood by and the Jews laid their coats at the feet for him to watch, while they stoned Stephen. (**Acts 7:58**)

While Saul did not throw stones at Stephen, he was guilty of "**approving**" or as the text says "**...consenting to his death.**" **Acts 8:1**

Acts chapter 8 continues the story of Saul by telling how he was dedicated to persecuting the new Christians.

Please read, **Acts 8:1-3**

Saul was not an evil man for he was a devout Jew who thought he was doing the work of God by persecuting the Christians, whom he considered enemies of God.

Saul was a highly respected member of the Jews in Jerusalem, as he described himself years later in **Acts 22:3**

Acts 9:1-20 – tells us the story of how Saul was forever changed when he met Jesus on his way to Damascus to arrest more Christians.

At this point **Saul had met Jesus, he believed that Jesus was the Son of God**, but there was **still something more he was required to do**.

After being in Damascus three days, Ananias went to Saul, laid his hands on Saul and told Saul that Jesus had sent him to restore Saul's sight and immediately something like scales fell from Saul's eyes and immediately he could see. **Acts 17:16-18**

Immediately Saul arose and was baptized - "*...he arose and was baptized*" – **vs. 18**

In **Acts Chapter 22** the rest of the story is told for here Paul adds that Ananias told him to "*arise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.*" **Acts 22:16**

Saul did not have his sins washed away until he was baptized, even though he already believed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of God.

IMPORTANT: If Saul did not have his sins forgiven until baptism, neither do we.

Acts 2:40-41 – "*And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying 'Be saved from this perverse generation.' Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.*"

In **Vs. 47b** we are told "*...the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.*"

As we see in these verses, salvation does not occur without baptism.

Please pray for our sick and bereaved and let them know you care

Richard Renfro

"In English Versions of the Bible the words "salvation" "save," denoting "deliverance," in almost any sense. In systematic theology, however, "salvation" denotes the whole process by which man is delivered from all that would prevent his attaining to the highest good that God has prepared for him. "[S]alvation" denotes the actual enjoyment of good. So, while often associated with the Greek or Hebrew words translated "save," etc., yet still more often used in connection with other words or represented only by the general sense of a passage. And so a collection of the original terms for "save," etc., is of value only for the student doing detailed work, while it is the purpose to present an article to present a general view of the Biblical doctrine of salvation..." (International Bible Encyclopedia used as resource).

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

OCTOBER ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS:

Oct. 22 - Front Foyer – Dale & Katherine Cox
Back Foyer – Doris Selby & Polly Roses

Oct. 29 - Front Foyer – Bobby & Brenda England
Back Foyer – Henry Seidmeyer & Myrtle Wade

Communion Preparation: Bill & Linda Matthews

Contribution Counters: Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

SERMONS

Oct. 15 – a.m. “The Forgiveness Of Sins”
Matthew 6:5-15
p.m. “Pathway Of Glory”
Hebrews 11:8-12

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

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Dessie Ross, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Jerry Catlin, Paul Kelly, David Hawkins, Beverly McKey, Barbara Reagan, Anne Herriage, Bobby Allen, Jimmy Webb

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

Nursing Homes: **Max Melton** – Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation
Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care
Denzil Myers – 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

Ladies Bible Class will be on **Tuesday, October 17**. Please mark your calendar and join us at 9:45 a.m. The lesson will be “**The Early Ministry / Selecting Disciples**”. Ladies make plans to attend and bring a friend.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Linda Head is out of the hospital and recovering at her son’s house. She will continue having physical therapy.

Mike Garrison was taken to Baylor Hospital in Carrollton Wednesday night. He was placed in the Hospice Unit there, room # 405.

Billy Prince is having some issues with the medications she was given and is afraid to drive at the present time.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes out to **Mike and Sharon Haynes** and **Ray and LaFon Simpson**. Their friend **Don Hand** passed away last week. He was a former elder at Freetown Road congregation. Please keep all of these families in your prayers.

TRUTH RALLY

What: An Interactive Bible Study in Apologetics
Theme: “The Stirring”
When: October 28, 2017 9:00 – 3:30 Lunch Provided
Where: Brown Trail Church of Christ
1801 Brown Trail – Bedford, Texas
Speaker: Dean Meadows – Apologia Institute
RSVP – Text Jon@720-422-4940
Further information is on bulletin board.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Walt LaHaye – 1644 Coyote Ridge
Carrollton, Texas 75010
Phone: 214-493-1059

There is a **Thank You Note** on the bulletin board from Janie Walker.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/5/17 – Our Gospel Meeting with Jeff Jenkins

11/5/17 – (TIME CHANGE)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Anne Herriage – 10/5
- LaFon Simpson – 10/7
- Geraldean Jones – 10/8
- Annette Kaiser – 10/10
- Walt LaHaye – 10/11
- Mary Bowen – 10/12
- Carolyn Renfro – 10/14
- Janie Walker – 10/19
- Marinell Zaun – 10/20
- Tori Morris – 10/21
- Jan Smithson – 10/22
- Richard Renfro – 10/22
- Barbara Hatcher – 10/24
- Michael Haynes – 10/26
- Letitia Beverly – 10/26
- Bobby England – 10/30
- Sandy Hall – 10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Bobby & Brenda England – 10/9
- Robert & Betty Ruckman – 10/10
- Richard & Carolyn Renfro – 10/15
- Darrell & Melissa Allen – 10/24

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>		10/22/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Richard Renfro
Thomas Rathbun	Bobby England		Jerry Baker
Nathan Allen	Alex Mayer		Dean Webb
Kenny Mayer	Xavier Kaiser		P.M. – Bill Matthews
Glen Kelly	Curtis Vaughan		Ken Lee
John Mayer			
Purman Cofer			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Randy Reagan			A.M. – Don Herriage
Darrell Allen			Matthew 6:5-15
			P.M. – Kenny Mayer
			Hebrews 11:8-12
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
A.M. – Randy Reagan			Robert Taylor
P.M. – Mike Haynes			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	57	54	59	100
A.M. Worship	89	103	94	150
P.M. Worship	60	68	66	80
Wed. Class	64	60	64	85
Contribution	\$5063	\$5188	\$5347	\$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 – Garrett English

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