

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

February 28, 2011
Volume 3 Number 9

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:
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ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
Garl Latham
John Mayer

SECRETARY

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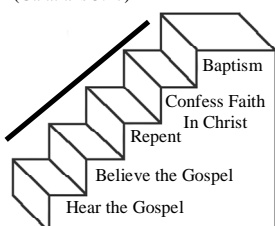
CUSTODIANS

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)



There Is A God, He Is Alive

Don Hatch

The Bible uses strong language concerning the incontrovertible evidence that God exists. “The fool has said in his heart, there is no God” (Psm 14:1; 53:1). Why do so many intelligent people, even brilliant men and women of science balk at the door of this truth? How is it that ideals based upon atheism could conquer the hearts and minds of so many? A few decades ago “Godless” communism prevailed over a huge part of the earth. Millions were told what to believe about God and were forced to give allegiance to a government which denied God. Even in America there are those in high places which have accosted the Science Books and forced any mention of God to be omitted. A sort of practical atheism has gained control over education, courts, mass media and legislatures. The basic right of religious freedom is “under fire” in religious institutions where God is being expelled and denied. Research does not have to be extensive. News broadcasts give repeated reports of savage attacks on Christianity. Factual evidences of God are repeatedly ignored. Elements of faith must be repeated in the face of such hindrances. With evidence presented there will be those who refuse it. However, there are still hearts and minds which will accept and build their lives upon faith in God and His word.

Jesus Christ is not doubted. Proofs show He lived in Israel. He died on a Roman cross and was raised from the dead on the third day by the glory of the Father (Rom 1:1-5; 6:1-11). Many naysayers have found ways around the miraculous in Christ’s life. Prophecies about Him are denied and calling them an occult phenomena unsupported by facts. There are countless ways and means used to explain away Jesus. To the believer the prophecies and miracles are incredible proofs.

It is reasonable to believe in God. For those who believe in God, even those who are skeptical, there are genuine and satisfactory observations which will pilot one to faith. Scientists and logicians deal with “cause and effect”. Nothing happens of itself alone. Invariably there is an effect of one or more proximate causes. No effect can be greater than the cause. Eventually science is placed in the position of saying that the universe is an effect. The antecedent to a universe must be something or someone adequate to be a first cause it. Logic compels that the First Cause has eternal qualities which are uncaused. The laws of cause and effect have operated in ages past and continue. Time

flows in one direction only. It flows from the infinite to the finite. Time will ultimately have an end. There must be an infinite and eternal cause to have a universe and not chaos. The universe is a physical vastness that must be co-extensively great and united with time and space. The First Cause must have been infinite and eternal. Who else but God can be measured by these qualities? With the varieties of power producing systems [e.g galaxies] one must ask, was not the First Cause omnipotent and omnipresent? Such an orderly universe, systematically and intellectually formulated on mathematical formulas bespeaks of intelligent design. A spaceship goes to the moon and returns only because there are laws which are definable and dependable. Where did these laws come from? Mankind is more than a chemical reaction. They think and feel. No known chemical reaction has ever produced these qualities. With all the numerous qualities mankind possesses there must have been a First Cause of consciousness, emotional and volitional wills which make up “a person”. Mankind loves; God is love. Mankind seeks justice, God is just. Mankind has moral and spiritual values and a rock does not. Recognizable in the universe is right and wrong. Right is better than wrong is a recognized universal law. Where did it come from? An ooze in a swamp? We are moved to claim that the First Cause was the prime mover who is infinite, omnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient, personal, emotional, volitional, moral, spiritual, aesthetical, holy, loving and a living Being. This is the description of God Almighty read about in the Bible.

Polytheism cannot satisfy the First Cause. There are two competing forces in the world, sometimes called “dualism”. The universe exists and there must have been a First Cause. Either Satan was a creature of God who later left the bounds of his habitation and became evil or Satan created God and later became good. God and Satan cannot be equally the First Cause of a universe. If truth is forever in doubt and evil enthroned, it is strange that there is a universal description of right and wrong. If Satan is in control why do men everywhere naturally want honor, goodness, justice and love? Even those who do not believe in God as the source of righteousness and goodness are continually troubled with the hate and cruelty in the world. In the creation there was “good”. “Evil” is an interloper, temporary, though powerful. Jesus in His death overcame the Devil and set man free from sin and death (Rom 3:23; 6:23; Eph 2:1-11). In the cause and effect relationship God is the First Cause of all and Satan is a latecomer and disturber of the goodness of God.

It is strange that Atheism is also a latecomer and disturber of goodness. What good has come of Atheism? No lasting institution can be shown which Atheism has built. Communism and socialism are debunked and have control over others only because of fear mongering. Christianity came from a loving God and does all things well. It is eternal and blessed by God. He is alive! Evil seems strong but it will be vanquished. Come Lord Jesus.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

The Eldership is pleased to inform you that our secretarial position for the congregation has been decided from within. Belt Line has been truly blessed in the past to have had members desiring and very qualified to do our work. Now, our decision to continue on this path is no different. Sister Janice Daniel, who recently retired from full time employment, has chosen to work with us on Monday and Tuesday of each week. Sister Jerry Grantham, who has been retired a short while from full time employment, has chosen to work with us on Wednesday and Thursday of each week. Both of these fine members are highly qualified to serve our needs in this area of work. We are confident and very excited about this area of work continuing on a very high standard of performance and satisfaction for the entire congregation. We welcome Janice and Jerry to the staff at Belt Line. For the time being, and until further notice, the office will be closed Friday.

We need to make it known to the world our purpose in Life. We are seeing a large number of people who use to be faithful followers of God, and now they have strayed or lost interest in being faithful. We need to locate these former brethren, and bring them back to the fold if at all possible. We also have a good opportunity to teach those who have not heard the true Gospel. We need to be going about doing the Lord's work?

There are basically four types of people in the world: (1) those that seek pleasure, (2) those that seek wealth, (3) those that seek wisdom, and (4) those that seek and do God's will. The Bible teaches that those that love pleasure shall be a poor man (Prov. 21:17). Pleasure chokes out the word of God (Lk. 8:14), and leads to destruction (James 5:5). The Bible also teaches that one's life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses (Lk. 12:15), and the love of money is the root of all evil (1 Tim. 6:10). Will we in America ever learn this lesson? The Bible also says that we can't find (know) God's will for our lives through human wisdom. "For after that in the wisdom of God the world by its wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe" (1 Cor. 1:21). We must seek God through His Divine revelation, the Bible.

It was Solomon in the long ago that gave man's purpose in life. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter; Fear (respect) God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man" (Eccl. 12:13). It was the Christ, the Son of God and master teacher, that also gave man's purpose in life. "Thou shall love the Lord God with all thy heart, soul, strength, and mind and thy neighbor as thyself" (Lk. 10:27). "Whosoever hears these sayings of mine and DOES them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock" (Matt. 7:24). If we are not doing God's will found in the Bible, then we have no real (true) meaning in life, and all is vanity. What is our purpose in life? Christians should be united and letting their light shine as examples to all others. **Dean Webb**

"I Rejoice At Thy Word"

"Princes have persecuted me without a cause; But my heart standeth in awe of thy words. I rejoice at thy word, As one that findeth great spoil. I hate and abhor falsehood; But thy law do I love. Seven times a day do I praise thee, Because of thy righteous ordinances. Great peace have they that love thy law; And they have no occasion of stumbling. I have hoped for thy salvation, O Jehovah, And have done thy commandments. My soul hath observed thy testimonies; And I love them exceedingly. I have observed thy precepts and thy testimonies; For all my ways are before thee" (Psm 119:161-168).

When God's word became the source of "manna" from heaven wherein the soul is nourished the believer can proclaim the joy and steadfastness it creates within. Believers profess their faith even as outward man is persecuted. There is a renewal and revitalization taking place each day. The afflictions are but light things that work out to the advantage of the believer. All things work together for those who love the Lord with all their heart and soul (Rom 8:26-28). Looking at the things which are present is exceedingly good but the greater is looking at the things to come which have an exceeding weight of glory (2 Cor 4:16-18).

Christ Jesus, the Lord gave a parable about a treasure which a man found in the field (Mat 13:44, 45). The cost of having this fantastic treasure was buying the field. The joy that filled his life was beyond measure. The Kingdom of heaven is like unto this parable.

The parable of the "tares" has the same outcome as the Psalmist. When the seed of the word of God is planted in a good and honest heart it will produce manifold in the heart of a believer. Those who are wicked seek to destroy the "word of God" by planting "tares". Evil thinks it wins but in the final harvest the tares are gathered and put into the fire and the grain is gathered into a safe place. The weeping and gnashing of the teeth is a dramatic finish to evil.

God cares for the believer in an awesome and wonderful way. They have focused upon the ways of righteousness and walk in fellowship with God (2 Cor 6:14-18). In that fellowship they are called the "sons and daughters of God". The abhorring and hating of falsehoods allows the believer to abstain from it and cultivates a prayer life which is ceaseless (1 Thes 5:12-22). Encouraging the weak, discouraged and fainthearted is a natural outgrowth of loving God's word (Gal 6:1-11). The entire being of a believer engages in serving God (Mat 22:34-40).

The word of God lives and abideth forever (1 Pet 1:23). It is far more than a "mere written text". It is living, active and sharper than any sword of man. It divides the thought and intent of the heart (Heb 4:12-13). It will be the instrument which God uses in judgment (Rev 20:11-15). The word of God is stable and full of hope (Rom 5:1-11). The believer finds time each day to pray and thank God. Such prayers bring great peace. The precepts and ordinances are loved by the faithful. God makes the faithful believe and to see beyond this world. Great are the blessings from God. Rejoice and be glad in His presence (Psm 68:3; Eccl 12:13). **Don Hatch**

Family News:

News at Belt Line.

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

March 6, 2011

Front foyer: Mike and Elizabeth Garrison

Back foyer: Nancy Pond, Roberta Price

March 13, 2011

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: J.C. & Dessie Ross

Sermon Titles

March 6, 2011

a.m: "Good Samaritan"

Luke 10:25-30

p.m: "Lay Up Wisdom"

Proverbs 2:7-11

March 13, 2011

a.m: "Help, Lord"

Scripture: Psm 12:1-8

p.m: "Walk Worthy"

Scripture: Psm 119:33-40

Contribution Counters

John Mayer & Bobby England

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'

GATHERING/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.

LADIES

The **Ladies Class** is studying the "Parables of Jesus". **Linda Matthews** will be teaching "The Good Samaritan" [March 8th].

Every Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM the ladies of the Belt Line Road congregation meet for class. This program has been going for many years. The class is conducted to give our ladies an opportunity to learn in an interactive study environment. The classes are encouraging and spiritually uplifting. Plan to attend.

Investment In Others

The **relevance** of a personal outreach to others is that it is worth doing. Our efforts keep the gospel being presented in the community. An ever expanding company of faithful brethren dedicated to seeking the lost and leading them to Jesus is incalculable in its worth. Our objectives are clear in the unfolding months ahead. We know those who are lost, discouraged and in need of Jesus in their lives. **Reach out to them one at a time.**

Helping other to see that putting on holiness, godliness, hearts of compassion, meekness and forgiveness helps mankind to be filled with love is critical (Col 3:5-17). The Lord had a well thought-out plan for evangelism. His disciples knew the destiny of the soul and the need they had for "saving grace" (Eph 2:1-10). Christ has no other way than the disciples going (Mat 28:18-20; Mk 16:15, 16; Lk 24:44-49).

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to **Maxine Prude**, her sister-in-law, Pauline Odom pass away. Her services were at Donnelly's Colonial on Saturday [2/26/11].

NEWS OF THE SICK

•**Mary Scott** had a tooth extraction and is recovering at home.

•**Gina Pearson**, daughter of Jerry and Laquita Baker, had a liver biopsy and is awaiting results.

•**David and Faye West**, son-in-law, Tommy Pitman is recovering from multiple bypass open heart surgery.

•**Gail Bates**, Nelda Newton's sister is having health issues.

•**Jean Kelly** was admitted to Baylor of Irving. She has a compressed disk in her back. She is in room 363

•**Crystal Vaughan**, Mary Curtis' daughter fell was cared for in the ER. She is now home.

•**Garldean Latham** is not doing well. She is being moved back into the Kendrick Hall at Gunter, her room is #126.

•**Joann Hatch** remains very ill at home with flu and bronchitis.

New Quarter

New quarter starts *Sunday March 6th* and *Wednesday 9th*. Bible classes for all ages are vital to the congregation. Plan to attend, bring your children and others. The blessing of a Bible Class is seen now and in eternity.

Newly Weds

•**Congratulations to Chris and Abby Mathews** who were married February 6, 2011. They are serving in the Air Force. Chris is stationed in Minot, ND and Abby hopes to join him after a brief deployment.

Jerry McKey is starting a new class on the Book of Jude in room 116 Sunday morning 6th of March.

Be sure and mark your calendar –

- Ladies’ Class March 8th –Linda Matthews will be the teacher.
- Saturday March 5th -8:00AM in the annex the Teens will cook breakfast for 39ers.
- Bible School Department will start their Spring quarter *Sunday March 6th* and *Wednesday 9th*.
- Ladies 10th Annual ½ day is coming soon-Sat. April 30th-pray-plan-particite

LORD’S TABLE/MORNING

Front Table

- Jerry Baker
- Marvin Brown
- Mike Garrison
- Kenny Mayer
- Henry Seidmeyer
- Dorris Walker

Rear Table

- Bill Paschall
- Thomas Rathbun
- J.C. Ross
- Robert Taylor

LORD’S TABLE/EVENING

- Bill Matthews
- John Mayer

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Darrell Allen

A.M. SONG LEADER

Darrell Allen

3/6/11 SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

- Jerry McKey
- Stan Selby
- Denzel Myers

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Garl Latham
- Luke 10:25-30

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

- Robert Ruckman
- Mike Garrison

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

- Thomas Rathbun
- Proverbs 2:7-11

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

- Garl Latham

	Last Week	This Week	Average	Goal
Sun. Class	76	83	81	100
A.M. Worship	147	140	145	150
P.M. Worship	65	71	74	75
Wed. Class	70	65	74	75
Ladies Bible Class	23	22	21	25
Contribution	\$5260	\$4702	\$5104	\$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 Capetown South Africa