

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

November 13, 2012
Volume 4 Number 44

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:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

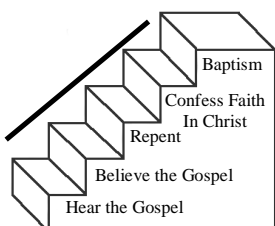
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Do Creeds Create Unity?

Don Hatch

The Old Testament was fulfilled with prophecies of Jesus, His church and kingdom (Mat 5:17-20). The Old Testament manifests a national religion. The New Testament became international (Gal 3:27). The Old Testament was not a creed. A **creed** is a statement of belief, usually that which describes the beliefs shared by a religious community. It is often recited as part of a religious service. When the statement of faith is no longer a point of argument about various items it then becomes a **means of division**. As it becomes commonly used as a means to identify certain people it is called “**a confessional**”. Typically this will be a comprehensive summary of the “core” doctrines within a “**tradition**”. Adherence to written statements necessitates an **affirmation** of these “core doctrines” before one can be a member of that religion.

Creeds are often fought for and frequently rewritten or discarded. The inherent imperfections demand rewritings to accommodate obsolete or apparent dated beliefs which are no longer acceptable. Creeds which embraced Total Hereditary Depravity [Adamic Sin] have changed the wording to make a child **not** vile, vicious, corrupted and evil because of “political correctness”. Hence, creeds are not furnished to give mankind a complete form of teaching which will reprove, correct, instruct in righteousness and make an individual completely furnished unto every good work (2 Tim 3:16, 17). Pledging allegiance to “creeds” written by men does not serve the same purpose as the God given Bible. The Bible is inalterable and must be contended for so that it may be preserved throughout the ages (Jude 3). Why become an adherent to a humanly derived “creed” which is fallible and without divine origin or sanction? If the creed is exactly like the Bible, why write it making two exactly alike? What would be the purpose?

This anonymous statement gives a constancy to direct us. “The Book” contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's

compass, the soldier's sword, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is given you in life, will be opened in judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibilities, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents”-[Author Unknown]. No manmade document can make these claims.

The Bible is a living and vital document, functioning as a perfect law of liberty, law of the Spirit, law of Christ and as a perfect law (Jas 2:19-27; Rom 8:1-5; Gal 6:1-5). It is restorative making the dead in sin alive again (Eph 2:1-11). A curse of damnation rests upon anyone altering the Bible (Gal 1:6-11; Rev 22:18, 19). That which is written by man cannot make such a claim.

Anything more than the Bible is offensive because it is “more” than the Bible. Any creed which contains **less** than the Bible is “less” than the Bible. Any creed which **disagrees** with the Bible is abhorrent because it “disagrees” with the Bible. **No logical argument** can be made which defends a creed because it is different than the Bible and therefore not the Bible. Either the Bible is the Book of books or it is not! No one defending creeds can defend them against an atheist. It is impossible to defend human creeds because they are a rewrite of the Bible. The inconsistent statements are exposed and ridiculed. Creed bound religious groups are incapable of explaining why their creed is better than the Book which gave them Christianity. Either the Bible was or is sufficient or it was not and is not sufficient. The position is hopeless. It is impossible to explain why man, who is **the creation of God**, can rewrite the mind of God, given by God in human language. Can the creature tell God what to think? Professing themselves to be wise their reasoning and senses have become darkened (Rom 1:18-32; 1 Jn 1:1-5). Because of the many creeds of men it is apparent that creeds do not agree on God, sin, man, salvation and countless other doctrines which are found in the Bible.

Creeds keep religious people from using the Bible as a means to find unity of the Spirit (Eph 4:1-16). The Bible teaches of unity where no division can exist (1 Cor 1:1-11). Being perfected in the same mind and judgment can be accomplished by using the Bible only. Divisions can be overcome and unity restored when those who hold to creeds demand “book, chapter and verse for all that is taught and practiced”. It will then be seen that creeds do not teach the whole truth. A half truth is not truth. More than truth is no truth. Truth sets us free (Jn 8:30-32).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

THANKSGIVING, a prayerful attitude Christians should practice daily. Paul said, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil. 4:6). Paul said, "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving" (Col. 4:2). Our two days in November we call "Thanksgiving" observed by this country is not enough. Christians, above all others, should treasure each day we live with a thanksgiving attitude.

This year will soon be in the record books. We should make the necessary preparations in 2012 to spend eternity in Heaven Only in Christ is this spiritual blessing available. Now, who is a Christian and how do we become one? A Christian is one that has been born again into the kingdom (John 3:3-5). When one is begotten by the spirit through the word (1 Pet. 1:23, James 1:18), and born of water (Eph. 5:26), he is converted into the kingdom (Matt. 18:3), and is a Christian. Christians are those who have had their past sins forgiven Christ says, that He forgives sins when one repents and is baptized (Acts 2:38; 3:19). Have you complied with these conditions that your sins might be washed away by the blood of Christ?

One is a Christian who has obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine (Rom. 6:17-18). Doctrine or teaching is important for we must obey a certain form or pattern of doctrine to be saved. One must obey the truth to be saved (1 Pet. 1:22), and if one obeys the wrong doctrine (error) he will be lost (2 Thes. 2:10-12). We must study and make sure we have obeyed the true doctrine.

A Christian is one that is **IN** Christ (2 Cor. 5:17). One must be in Christ to have access to all the spiritual blessings, for all are in Christ (Eph. 1:3). One must be in Christ to be saved, for salvation is in Christ (2 Tim. 2:10). To be in Christ is to be in His body (1 Cor. 12:13). To be in the body of Christ is to be in the Church (Eph. 1:22-23). Therefore, all Christians are in Christ's body, the church (Acts 2:47). The **ONLY** way one can get into Christ, where there is salvation, is by baptism (Rom 6:3; Gal. 3:27).

Remember, meeting together with fellow saints is a spiritual blessing that should be practiced continually. If God knows how many hairs we have on our heads, and how many grains of sand is on the beaches, then I'm saying he knows how many Bible Studies and Worship Services we attend?

Have a great week serving God, and please continue to remember those sick and shut-in in your prayers! **Dean Webb**

"I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men; for kings and all that are in high place; that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and gravity. This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; who would have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, one mediator also between God and men, himself man, Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all; the testimony to be borne in its own times..." (1 Tim 2:1-5)

Purposing In Our Heart

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. The things which ye both learned and received and heard and saw in me, these things do: and the God of peace shall be with you" (Phil 4:8, 9).

The horror of a bankrupted society with depleted morals is marked by deception, iniquity and works of evil. **Failing to think upon things honorable** reduces law and order to a mere nuisance which can be brushed aside. The low ebb of integrity is when moral degeneracy is widespread with the sanctity of the home violated by flagrant sins of the grossest sort. When sin has an ever widening circle of influence the ancient moorings are cut away leaving any society to drift aimlessly. Stabilization for a society is religious purity and nonproliferation of evil. Unscrupulous power brokers, reckless practices in religion, coupled with greedy corruption of church and state exposes society to a corrosive toxicant which will destroy from within and without.

Refusal to compromise the truth or fellowship with unfruitful works of darkness is reasonable and desired by the pure in heart. The proliferation of witchcraft, sorcery, Satanism, astrology, religious cults and every conceivable vice of man is growing. Publication of materials of the vilest sort is found on almost every corner and a cursory glance makes it evident that the billion dollar industry has taken control of the minds and hearts of our fellow citizens. All such works of darkness have been forbidden by God (Lev 19:26; Deut 18:1-12; Ex 22:18; Acts 19:18-20). It is nearly impossible not to have our lives cluttered with improper thoughts from T.V., radio, books, papers, public advertisements and countless other sources.

The guidelines are ancient, but are timeless and valuable. Hold yourself to the high standard of that which is genuine, true and honest. Deal with others in godly ways being straightforward to all. Examine and prove yourself knowing if indeed you are faithful and above reproach. Prove yourself that you are making reasonable and godly judgments, to avoid becoming reprobate (2 Cor 13:5; Heb 5:11-14; Jn 8:14). "Honesty is the best policy" is one of the most admired maxims in the English language. It is said children's familiarity with this cliché, say is the best known proverb learned at an early age in order to acquire good habits.

To understand equity and equitable practices is to perceive being right, just and fair. Honest and honorable practices toward all are a striving to lead a life that is filled with godliness and purity (1 Tim 2:2). The pure in heart seek to keep their lives free from the stain of sin (1 Thes 5:22; 1 Tim 5:22). Loveliness is confirmed in love and responding to love (1 Jn 3:1-5). A good report from those who observe you is of the highest value and cannot be purchased at any price. Doing good unto all, especially those of the house of faith, is a fulfillment of the "law of Christ" (Gal 6:1-10). The standard of Christian living is "virtue" (2 Pet 1:3-11). Our lifestyle and thought pattern is adjusted by thinking on things of value and purposing in our heart to serve God faithfully. **Don Hatch**

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

November 18, 2012

Front foyer: Janice Daniel & Roberta Price

Back foyer: Carol Swinney & Fay Yeldell

November 25, 2012

Front foyer: Henry Seidmeyer & Ilene Ashworth

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

Sermon Titles

November 18, 2012

a.m: "Who Is Wise?"

Scripture: James 3:13-18

p.m: "Who Shall Stand?"

Scripture: Nahum 1:2-8

November 25, 2012

a.m: "Oracles Of God"

Scripture: 1Peter 4:7-11

p.m: "Behold The Nations"

Scripture: Habakkuk 1:5-11

Contribution Counters For November

Mike Batot & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For November

Marion & Jerry Grantham

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING CLASS

The singing class will meet *Sunday* in Rm #116 at 5:15 p.m. Come and learn some new songs.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Maxine Prude, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Laquita Baker, Roy & Helen Thomas, Marion Grantham, Carolyn Renfro, Tim Fowler, Marietta Houser, Thomas West, Mary Walker, Nancy Pond, Billie Myers, Shelia Martin, James Brown, Vern Daniel, Andrew Waldrum

Those In Need Of Prayer

·**Bill Matthews** is having some effects from the Myasthenia. The doctors will start him on a new medicine.

·**Frances Tipton's** cousin Alva Kraus needs our prayers. She has a serious liver disease caused by her medication.

·**Charlene Carroll** got a good report from her heart doctor, and she does not have to go back for 6 months.

·**Don Herriage** will have back surgery on November 19th.

·**Henry Seidmeyer's** son **Robert Seidmeyer** was involved in an automobile accident.

·**Please remember** our chemo patients: **Marion Grantham, Billie Gilliam, and Carolyn Renfro.**

·**Kati Mimms** will have gall bladder surgery on Tuesday, Nov. 13th at Baylor, Grapevine.

·**David West** sister **Lois Moore** is in an Amarillo Hospital after being hit by an 18 wheeler in Childress.

·**Lautricia Williams** daughter **Kyiom** had back surgery yesterday.

·**Billie Myer's** twin sister is in an Arlington hospital with the same condition as Billie has. Please keep this family in your prayers.

·**Carol Partridge** will be going in on November 19th for preliminary tests before having open heart surgery.

·**Please remember** our chemo patients: **Marion Grantham, Carolyn Renfro, Billie Gilliam.**

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

Ladies Bible Class will **not meet** on Tuesday **November 20th** due to Thanksgiving.

LADIES

Stitcher's please turn in your completed bears by the **18th** so they can be stuffed.

NEW ADDRESS

Lyda McAlister's new address:

Mt. Carmel Community

3505 Boone Rd. # 122

Benton, Ark. 72015

Phone: 501-326-6543

Lyda wants everyone to know that she is settled in her new home and really likes it, but misses everyone.

TEACHERS

Sunday, **December 2nd** is the beginning of the new winter quarter. If there is anything you need, please let Don Hatch know.

A special Thanks to all who helped in relabeling the tracts that will be sent to the storm victims in the Northeast. These will be mailed this week to various congregations to distribution along with food, blankets, water and other items.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/20/12 – No Ladies Bible Class

UPCOMING NOV. BIRTHDAY'S

Julie Roses – 11/5
 Frances LaFerney – 11/7
 Bill Matthews – 11/8
 Charlene Carroll – 11/10
 Doris Selby – 11/13
 Gary Workman – 11/14
 James Brown – 11/14
 Nancy Pond – 11/15
 Nathan Allen – 11/17
 Katherine Davis – 11/17
 Lyda McAlister – 11/23

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison – 11/12
 Don & Margaret Lewis – 11/23
 Ken & Carol Lee – 11/25

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 Please contact Mike Batot at:
 (972)741-2397*

BELT LINE RD. CHURCH OF CHRIST

(USPS 110820) published weekly except the first 3 weeks of July and the last 2 weeks of December at 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061. Periodicals postage paid at Irving, Texas.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Belt Line Rd. Church of Christ, 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY**LORD'S TABLE/MORNING****Front Table**

·Dale Cox
 ·Thomas Rathbun
 ·Nathan Allen
 ·Kenny Mayer
 ·Henry Seidmeyer
 ·Dorris Walker

Rear Table

·Bill Paschall
 ·J.C. Ross
 ·Robert Taylor
 ·Scot Allen

11/18/12

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

· Dean Webb
 · Glen Kelly
 · Clifford Yeldell

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Don Herriage
 James 3:13-18

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· Jerry Baker
 · Dale Cox

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Scot Allen
 Nahum 1:2-8

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Jerry McKey – Denzil Myers

LORD'S TABLE/EVENING

·Mike Batot
 ·John Mayer

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

·Darrell Allen

A.M. SONG LEADER

·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	84	86	79	100
A.M. Worship	148	141	147	150
P.M. Worship	79	73	69	80
Wed. Class	73	77	78	85
Ladies Bible Class	21	0	23	25
Contribution	\$7334	\$4741	\$5201	\$5470

MISSIONS

Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Australia
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
 Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Christ's Haven Children's Home - Keller, TX
 Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 Dan Keele – Kayenta, AZ – Navajo Nation
 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 – Cape Town, South Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT

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