

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

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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

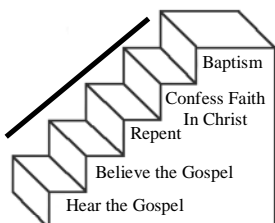
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Providence

Don Hatch

One of the precious passages filled with promise is “**And we know that to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose**” Rom 8:28 (ASV). This passage has much to say about God and His providence. The compound Latin word for providence is “to see beforehand”. God was able to intimately accomplish the effect needful for realization of His purpose from the foundation of the world (Col 1:8-23). God has worked in the events of history to providentially accomplish all to His glory (Eph 1:6).

Where natural laws are suspended the miracles of God are extraordinary but when God uses natural laws in providence we see His majesty. The universal welfare of the human family falls within providence (Matt 6:26; Col 1:17; Heb 1:3). In special cases He manifested welfare through individuals preserving Israel by employing a Persian king to do His bidding. Esther and Mordecai did not know for sure her role in history until it was completed (Esther 4:14).

“**...we know**”- Christians unassumingly, quietly, never boastful, or proud have confidence in God’s loving care. Hardships in life do not imply that God does not care (2 Cor 11:22-33; 2 Tim 4: 1-6). God always pursues His plan which is beyond our limited (finite) abilities to know or explain. In spite of hardships we must be able to say “...I know him whom I have believed...” (2 Tim 1:12). God is working in Christians lives because the Bible tells us so, even when all ways and means are not understood. Experiential explanations are an “icy road” fraught with problems. The subjective nature of “feelings” will lead to more problems than solutions. Confidence is vested in the objective, “thus saith the Lord”.

“**...all things work**”- is never to include an unlimited scope of human affairs. “All” is frequently used as **synecdoche** (i.e. where the part is manifested for the whole and vice versa). “All” cannot be pressed for a literal translation (Matt 3:5; Lk 7:29, 30). When we are called “spiritual man” who

judges all things it cannot be literal (1 Cor 2:15). We do not have supernatural powers to judge all things. All things are limited to the context. In this context we see suffering. The diversity of such sufferings is not to be compared to the glory awaiting the saint. The child of God must exercise patience in trials. Intercessions are part of His help (Rom 8:27, 39; 1 Tim 2:1-5). The argument for providence is that God did not hold back the greatest gift of all to provide for us “all things” (Rom 8:31-39; Jas 1:122-18). Nothing present or future can frustrate God’s plans as long as one remains faithfully obedient (Rom 1:1-5; 16:1 Tim 2:1, 2). God does not cause afflictions, but rather uses them in His plan for man’s good, nor does He generate ill. One should not interpret everything that happens as an instance of providence. The work of providence is exciting and potential but not mechanical in its processes nor an automatic cause and effect.

“**...work together**”- is a verb which demonstrates an active, orchestrated, on-going work of God. Indicated is a harmonious conclusion worthy of God.

“**...for good**”- allows God to bring about beneficial results. The Christian must ultimately have a good ending to his life because at every step of the way he is in the hands of God who is carrying on His divine processes to His glory. While it is not necessary to contend that God orchestrates each instance of adversity to bring out good the scriptures indicate that ultimately God’s purpose will be accomplished even in persecution. We are confident that this passage prompts the Christian to have a positive attitude towards the adversities in life. They should view them as milestones not millstones on the road to eternity.

Examples of good befalling the faithful are: In **Joseph’s** life the overcoming of jealous brothers, accusations by Potiphar's wife, and numerous other events could have overwhelmed him. He was positive that what others intended as evil God meant to use for good as on the day his brothers appeared before him after his father’s death (Gen 50:20). **David** dealt with a headstrong king Saul and many adversities within his own house. God was able to use them. Similar examples abound everywhere in the Bible. Paul demonstrates in his life trust in providence (1 Tim 1:12-14) **Love God, be called according to His purpose and thank Him for His providence.**

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Let us look at some Godly encouragers from the past. Encouragement is more than a trend in popular psychology for it is a biblical principle we must be involved in. We see in the scriptures that we have direct commands to encourage. The first one is found in **1 Thessalonians 5:11** – “*Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.*” The second one is found in **Hebrews 3:13** “*...but exhort one another daily, while it is called “Today,” lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.*” We also see in scripture the numerous examples of godly men and women practicing this spiritual art.

Moses, for instance, was commanded by God to encourage Joshua who was about to take his place as national leader of Israel—**Deuteronomy 3:27-28** “*Go up to the top of Pisgah, and lift your eyes toward the west, the north, the south, and the east; behold it with your eyes, for you shall not cross over this Jordan.*”²⁸ *But command Joshua, and encourage him and strengthen him; for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which you will see.*” **Hezekiah** spoke reassuring words to the discouraged people of Jerusalem during the siege of the city by the Assyrian King Sennacherib—**2 Chronicles 32:6-8** “*Then he set military captains over the people, gathered them together to him in the open square of the city gate, and gave them encouragement, saying,*”⁷ “*Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him.*”⁸ *With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles.*” *And the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.*” **Paul** was one of the greatest encouragers in New Testament times. Even in jail, he continually looked for opportunities to lift people’s spirits—most notable was his letter-writing to churches in Ephesus, Philippi and Colossae. **Colossians 2:1-2** “*For I want you to know what a great conflict I have for you and those in Laodicea, and for as many as have not seen my face in the flesh,*”² *that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ,...*”

Scripture is filled with inspirational stories of men and women engaging in the work of encouragement. Just the mention of names such as David and Deborah gives hope to the weary. Prophets like Elijah and Elisha urged their countrymen to maintain a covenant relationship with God. The psalmist cheered the hearts of worshipers by centering their thoughts on the goodness and greatness of the Lord. The apostles devoted their lives to dispensing good news of forgiveness and abundant life in Christ. Clearly, the Bible was written and preserved as a source of encouragement for all ages.

Next week let us look at encouragers and how they are needed today. Have a great week. **Jerry McKey**

Gospel Is For All

Christianity is not esoteric! There are those who believe Christianity is intended for or understood by a chosen few, beyond the understanding of most people, abstruse! Many false teachings like astrology, transmigration of the soul, reincarnation and the occult are **esoteric**, hidden to only a few who are enlightened.

The scriptures use the word “mystery” to denote things revealed, not concealed, which is a paradox. These mysteries are outside of the ranges of unassisted natural apprehension but can be known by divine revelation at an appointed time of God’s choosing. Mysteries of the Old Testament were knowledge withheld until manifested in divinely revealed truth. Words like preached, made known, understood and dispensation indicate the ways and means of this understanding being granted. An illustration is “even the mystery which hath been hid for ages and generations: but now hath it been manifested to his saints” (Col 1:27).

The spiritual truth revealed in the gospel includes vital facts upon which the New Testament now rests (1 Cor 13:2; 14:2; 1 Tim 3:9). Without such information no man would know who Christ is, what His church is, how one is added to the church and who are excluded from its fellowship. The possession of such knowledge, when it is impaired by human wisdom, demonstrates that some fail to understand because of the difference between human and spiritual wisdom (Jas 3:13-18; 1 Cor 1:18-26). It is understood all can come to the knowledge of God and His ways.

Scripture presents truth which is foolishness to the worldly minded (1 Cor 1:18-20). God’s wisdom is from above while worldly wisdom is earthly and sensual (Jas 3:13-18). Mankind must seek wisdom from above within the scriptures, not from philosophy, rudiments of the world or vain traditions of man (Col 2:8, 9). Christ assures mankind that spiritual wisdom can be obtained. Jesus was manifested in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen of angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world and received up in glory (1 Tim 3:16). God accomplished salvation, established a New Testament which would include Jew, Gentile, male, female, bond or free (Gal 3:27). Thus the modern meaning of mystery, something incomprehensible, obscured, difficult or impossible does not convey the sense of that which is unknown until revealed.

The Bible portrays Christians as people partaking of the whole. There are not a privileged few where the many are denied to participate in religious activities. God has secrets (Deut 29:30) but such as He reveals belong to all. The plan was far from silent, but rather openly proclaimed.

The New Testament bears a sense of a secret revealed, not that modern sense of something unfathomable, incomprehensible. The medium of revelation is the key to understanding the divine mind. Frequently scriptures are symbols, metaphors or figurative statements to conceal understanding from the impious. The key to understanding lies within attributing all wisdom to God and using His meanings as definitions when applying truth to lives. Carnal mindedness, moral obtuseness or worldliness makes one blind (2 Cor 4:2-4). Christians learn the principles of adaptation of the teachings into their lives with progressive receptivity (Jn 16:12-15).

There is no esoteric doctrine or intentional reserve in the New Testament. The mystery concealed in the Old Testament, is revealed in the New Testament. The gospel of God is a **world-embracing purpose of redemption through Christ** (Eph 6:19; Col 2:2; 1 Tim 3:9). Mystery (revealed) is applied to the doctrines of incarnation, being in Christ, pledge of immortality, salvation by grace and Christ and His church. **Don Hatch**

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

September 25, 2016

Front foyer: Dale & Katherine Cox

Back foyer: Henry Seidmeyer & Myrtle Wade

October 2, 2016

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Thomas Rathbun & Nancy Pond

Sermon Titles

September 25, 2016

a.m: "Love Is Superior And Supreme"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13
p.m: "Readiness"

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:1-5

October 2, 2016

a.m: "Liberty Not License"

Scripture: Galatians 5:2-12

p.m: "Being Forewarned Is To Be Forearmed"

Scripture: Ephesians 6:10-20

Contribution Counters For September

John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

Communion Preparation For September

Darrell & Melissa Allen

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate tracts. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don and Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton, Diedra Sutton, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Glen Kelly, Mike Garrison, Lauren Roses, Nellie Melvin, Alice Worthy

Homebound Members:

Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

Recovering at Home:

David and Faye West are both having health problems. **Faye** has gout and **David** is very fatigued. **Sissy Allen** is not feeling well.

Kent Conner was released from the hospital and is now at home.

Jerry Grantham is dealing with upper respiratory issues and is also waiting on test results.

There are many who are dealing with health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

Hospital:

Linda Head's daughter **Debra Gomez** has requested our prayers. She has a brain mass and is in the Jones Tower, room #J-392 at Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth.

Nursing Home:

Elsie Nanney – Avante
Frances Tipton – Arlington Rehab
Max Melton – Northgate Plaza

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

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

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will be on Tuesday, **September 20th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex. The Topic will be **"Bible Doctrines About Jesus Christ"**.

Ladies – please invite your friends and neighbors to attend each Tuesday morning with you.

AREA UP COMING EVENTS

CHRIST'S HAVEN

What: Annual Open House & Alumni Reunion

When: September 24, 2016

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Keller, Texas

You are invited for a time of fellowship, tours, activities and a meal catered by Spring Creek BBQ.

LADIES ONLY

What: A DFW Convention for Women

Theme: For Such a Time As This

When: October 7-8, 2016

Where: Lewisville Church of Christ - Lewisville, Tx.

Cost: No charge
(includes lunch Saturday)

Contact: Church office at
972-353-2518

**Registration Deadline is
September 25, 2016**

Who Am I?

In my office as scribe, I recorded what God instructed Jeremiah to say, and I also read it to the people. (Jeremiah 36:4-6)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David West – 9/1
 Jackye Jewett – 9/2
 Dean Webb – 9/4
 Brenda Bryant – 9/7
 Billy Joe Swain – 9/8
 Katherine Cox – 9/8
 Myashia Moore – 9/10
 Jane Easter – 9/10
 Sherry Hodge – 9/13
 Charlotte Burrows – 9/17
 Marcella Porter – 9/20
 Mary Martini – 9/24
 Dessie Ross – 9/26

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Vern & Melody Lundquist – 9/22
 David & Faye West – 9/24
 Brian* & Delisa Banister – 9/30

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:
 (469) 216-7580*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)

9/25/16

SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS

Front Table

· Don Herriage
 · Curtis Vaughan
 · Mike Garrison
 · Walt LaHaye
 · Alex Mayer
 · Dean Webb

Rear Table

· Nathan Allen
 · Kenny Mayer
 · James Gilliam
 · Thomas Rathbun

· Jerry McKey
 · Bill Matthews
 · John Mayer

A.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Thomas Rathbun
 1 Cor. 13:1-13

SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS

· Alex Mayer
 · Henry Seidmeyer

P.M. SCRIPTURE READING

· Dale Cox
 2 Cor. 9:1-5

P.M. SONG LEADER(S)

· Jerry McKey

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

· Thomas Rathbun
 · Nathan Allen

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

· Robert Taylor

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 | 60 | 57 | 63 | 100 |
| A.M. Worship | 93 | 96 | 100 | 150 |
| P.M. Worship | 79 | 76 | 71 | 80 |
| Wed. Class | 66 | 57 | 60 | 85 |
| Contribution | \$5095 | \$6628 | \$5352 | \$5170 |

MISSIONS

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
 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
 Dolcey Patino – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX
 Roberto Ortiz – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX
 Brayden Shelley – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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