

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

December 5, 2011
Volume 3 Number 46

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

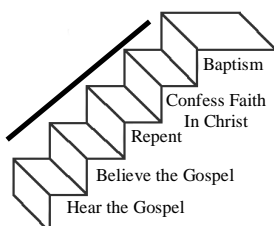
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



God's Pledge

Don Hatch

God's promises are unique and never trivial. They bring into focus the nature of God's divine will, which is succinct. Covenants are agreements which have binding agreements for all those who enter into one. Before the universal flood in the days of Noah, God entered into a covenant of sparing Noah and his family. The entire family had to go into the ark built by Noah. The ark had to meet specifications. Obedience was required at all points in time. When the flood began, the water from above and from under the ground, eventually bore the ark upon the flood. The safety of Noah and his family required that they remain in the ark until it landed. In addition to the flood God covenanted to never again destroy the world with water (Gen 6-9).

God covenanted with Abram (Gen 12). It was a faith based covenant requiring Abram to do what God required. This faith-trust and obedient actions of Abram led to God blessing him with unique and long lasting promises for his family. (Gen 12-22). God enlarged Abram's understanding of the promises by changing his name to Abraham. God manifested the faith-response He required from Abraham. God chose Abraham to be a part of the genealogy [generations] of Jesus Christ (Mat 1:1-19). God expected Abraham to direct his children and household to keep the ways of the Lord by doing that which was right and just (Gen 18:19).

God covenanted with Isaac confirming His promise to Abraham. God's pledge to Abraham affected the life of Isaac and His children (Gen 26:3-5). Moreover, He reaffirmed this covenant with Jacob promising to increase him until he was a great nation wherein would be kings and an immense number of people who would inherit a land promise (Gen 28:1-13). The land given to Abraham and Isaac would eventually belong to the Israelites. There were conditions to be met and circumstances associated with this promise (Gen 15). In the dark days of oppression in Egypt God remembered the covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and at the end of 400 years He sent Moses to tell Pharaoh "let my people go". The covenant with Abraham led to an extensive and highly explicit fulfillment of the pledges from God.

The covenant God made with Israel is laid out in succinct terms in Deuteronomy. It establishes the historical consequences of a covenant from the time Israel was at Horeb until they reached the banks of the Jordon River. Stipulations of the

covenant were explained and responsibilities defined (Deut 1-26). They were to make a great stone with the commandments of God upon it to remind future generations of God's fulfillment of every minuscule part of His covenant. Moses reinforced the value of this covenant with the chapter on "cursings and blessings" (Deut 28). They were told if they fully obeyed God and carefully followed all His commands He would set them above all the nations of the earth (Deut 28:11). The reminder of the fatality associated with disobedience was to be "uprooted from the land" (Deut 28:63).

God repeated His covenant with David (2 Sam 7:16). David understood and lived the spirit of the Mosaic covenant. God sought a man after His own heart following Saul's digressing. David fulfilled this relationship. David learned by chastisement of the Lord that infractions had consequences. The pledge of God to David eventually led to the Messiah coming (Acts 2:17-38).

God made a New Covenant in the Christian dispensation (Jer 31:31-38; Heb 1:1-5). He put his law in the heart and mind of the faithful. This new spiritual covenant was the last He would make with mankind. It is a covenant which responds to mutual love. The conditions of this covenant are that mankind allows God to put His will into their minds and hearts. This covenant reflects the faithfulness of God and mankind's life-principles and fulfilling the eternal promises found in the New Covenant. Jesus the Messiah gave Himself a sacrifice to bring mankind into a covenant relationship with the Father (Rom 5:1-11; 2 Cor 5:18-20). Trusting in the Lord with all the heart, soul and mind are fundamental to the New Covenant. It advocates wisdom drawn from above (Jas 3:13-18). It is equipped with guarantees for the faithful. The justice and righteousness of God are spectacular. He interposes mercy and grace (Rom 5:1-11; Eph 2:1-10). God's blessing are unsparingly lavished upon His children (2 Cor 6:14-7:1). Christians view the New Covenant as a new relationship between God and mankind, mediated by Jesus Christ, which necessarily includes all people everywhere (Gal 3:27). Fellowship in this covenant is significant and serious. Believers covenant with God to heed His will in all their thoughts and deeds. Christ significantly connected the New Covenant with His blood (Jn 6). The reading of the New Covenant and study of it became imperative (1 Tim 4:13-16; 2 Tim 2:15).

Becoming a New Testament Christian is imperative. All spiritual blessings are found in Christ (Eph 1:3). Being baptized into Christ follows hearing, believing, repenting and confessing that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, places us in Christ (Gal 3:27). The memorial found in the Lord's Supper reminds us that Jesus established His covenant and ratified it by His own blood. Jesus gave His disciples His pledge to return. He will call the quick and the dead and judge the living and dead by His appearing and kingdom (2 Tim 4:1-5). There is a home prepared for the redeemed (Jn 14:1-5).

A Message from Our Shepherds

Influence! We all have one whether it is good or bad. I would like to share with you some things a Christian must know and practice to exert a good influence in our community. If we practice them it will make us a better person.

As a Christian, we must live our religion and practice what we profess. A man who operated a service station would not close it on Sundays. One Sunday he tried to talk to one of his customers about the church. After listening, as the operator spoke eloquently about the church, the customer responded, "If it (the church) means so much to you, why aren't you there now?" You see, we must live what we advocate. We must practice what we preach. *"You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal?"* Rom. 2:21. Yes, we must prove the profession that we are Christians by our performance.

The Christian must portray a friendly disposition. *"A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother"* Prov. 18:24. Snobbishness and discourtesy are bushels that hide a Christian's influence for good. It is said, "a cold shoulder does not attract warm friends." We must portray a friendly disposition.

The Christian must refrain from neighborhood gossip (1 Tim. 5:13 & Psalm 15:3). Someone said it this way: "Gossiping (sometimes called hoof and mouth disease—hoofing it over to the neighbors and mouthing) has never built a church, (or community) but has torn many of them asunder." Recently, a non-Christian said to her Christian employer, after having watched for some time the behavior of the many Christians who patronized the business, "These people never talk about each other." This is wonderful! This is the way it should be.

Before you are three points that will affect you influence toward others and how others will view you as a Christian. May we strive to live by them!

Jerry McKey

"Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost its savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a lamp, and put it under the bushel, but on the stand; and it shineth unto all that are in the house. Even so let your light shine before men; that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven (Mat 5:13-16).

"... having your behavior seemly among the Gentiles; that, wherein they speak against you as evil-doers, they may by your good works, which they behold, glorify God in the day of visitation" (1 Pet 2:12).

"In like manner, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives..." (1 Pet 3:1).

"...but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: being ready always to give answer to every man that asketh you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear" (1 Pet 3:15).

Captured By The Devil

"These are springs without water, and mists driven by a storm; for whom the blackness of darkness hath been reserved. For, uttering great swelling words of vanity, they entice in the lusts of the flesh, by lasciviousness, those who are just escaping from them that live in error; promising them liberty, while they themselves are bondservants of corruption; for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he also brought into bondage. For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein and overcome, the last state is become worse with them than the first. For it were better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after knowing it, to turn back from the holy commandment delivered unto them. It has happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog turning to his own vomit again, and the sow that had washed to wallowing in the mire" (2 Pet 2:17-22).

Strange as it may seem the experience of Peter was that godly believers can again be captured by Satan if they are not wise unto salvation. The snare of the devil is baited with lust, foolish and ignorant questions that generate strife which is the trip that springs the trap (2 Tim 2:19-26). The godly in meekness correct themselves seeking repentance in submissiveness, gentleness and forbearance. By these means they recover themselves out of the snare of the devil after having been taken captives of him unto his will. Peter was told by the Lord, "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have you, that he might sift you as wheat: but I made supplication for thee, that thy faith fail not; and do thou, when once thou hast turned again, establish thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, with thee I am ready to go both to prison and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, until thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me (Lk 22:31-34). It is little wonder that the intercessions of Jesus have profound effect on our lives (Rom 8:31-39).

Bondage can be temporary when the life of a fallen brother or sister is the object of his brethren's prayers (Gal 6:1-10). Confession of sins and seeking reconciliation is a mainstay for the soul that has been tested and proven (Jas 5:13-18). The boldness of saintly brethren is that they can ask on behalf of a brother or sister and God will hear whatsoever is asked. A sin unto death is one which the fallen will not renounce (1 Jn 5:13-17; Heb 10:26-31). Christ died to set the captive free. Our concerns are to help set the captive free and free those who have been ensnared by Satan. Paul ceased not to pray day and night that the brethren walk worthy of the Lord and be strengthened with the power of God according to His power and might. Being delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of God brings forgiveness and redemption (Col 1:9-23).

Christ's conversation with the Jews demonstrated that when the truth is ignored it brings captivity by the evil one (Jn 8:31-59). These individuals were servants of Satan, the father of all lies. They needed to hear the truth and obey the principles set forth within it (Rom 10:1-16). There is an advantage of fellowship with godly brethren.

Don Hatch

Family News:

News at Belt Line.

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

December 11, 2011

Front foyer: Doris Selby & Ilene Ashworth

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

December 18, 2011

Front foyer: Darrell & Nathan Allen

Back foyer: Bobby & Brenda England

Sermon Titles

December 11, 2011

a.m: "Not Disobedient To The Vision"

Scripture: Acts 26:19-23

p.m: "My Lord And My God"

Scripture: John 20:24-29

December 18, 2011

a.m: "Bless The Lord"

Scripture: Psalm 104:1-9

p.m: "The Old And The New"

Scripture: 2 Cor. 5:11-19

Contribution Counters

Glen Kelly and Thomas Rathbun

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' DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional has been suspended for the remainder of December. The devotionals will start back up in January 2012.

NEWS OF THE SICK

'Dana Hodgkin's father-in-law **Gordon Hodgkins** is very ill and needs our prayers.

'**Bill Matthews** is ill at home.

'**Ira Wolfe** is still suffering with health issues. Please keep him in your prayers.

'**Roy & Helen Thomas** are ill at home. Please keep them in your prayers.

'**Kim Mayer's**, mother **Anna Winniford**, is having ankle replacement surgery today.

'**Ronnie Vaughn**, son of **Dessie Ross & Keith's** brother, is in the Abilene Hospital with congestive heart failure. Please keep this family in your prayers.

'**Chuck Knowles**, the **Renfro's** nephew, was taken to the hospital yesterday with a large clot in his leg. He is a deacon at the Saginaw church.

'**Virginia Stull** is ill at home.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, December 13th at 9:30 a.m. We will be preparing Goodie Bags.

LADIES

Ladies, please pick up an order form for the Ladies ½ Day T-Shirts. The forms are on the table in the front foyer & also in the back. They need to be turned in no later than December 18th.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Debra Alonzo, Maxine Prude, Serena Hatch Jacob, Letitia Beverly, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Virginia Stull.

ADDRESS

Don & Anne Herriage's address is: 2705 Quail Ridge, Irving, Texas 75060
Phone: 972-986-6434

YOU ARE INVITED !!

The **Hatches** invite the congregation to drop by their home for refreshments and fellowship. Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 11th, 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

RESPONSE

Clifford & Fay Yeldell expressed a desire to place membership at Belt Line. Their address is: 1140 Stoney Creek, Cedar Hill, Tx. 75104. Phone: 972-291-8701

Please remember us in your prayers as we will be traveling December 3rd – 17th. Thank you,
Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

SYMPATHY

BC Fowler's uncle **Billy Heard** passed away last Saturday. Grady & BC have left for Tennessee for the funeral. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel.

39'ers will meet on December 19th.

LITATURE

There are new issues of the following: Gospel Minutes, The Spiritual Sword, and Christian Courier. There are copies in the foyer as well as at the back door. Be sure to pick up a copy as they have some very good information in them.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec. 13th – Ladies Class – 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 19th – 39'ers

UPCOMING DEC. BIRTHDAY'S

Ann Bruce – 12/5
 Lotah Franklin – 12/6
 Virginia Stull – 12/6
 Max Melton – 12/7
 Grace De La Cruz – 12/7
 Becky Henry – 12/10
 Brent Howard – 12/10
 Elizabeth Garrison – 12/13
 Virgil LaFerney – 12/17
 Linda Matthews – 12/17
 Kim Mayer – 12/20
 Pam Mathews – 12/23
 Carol Lee – 12/24
 Brenda England – 12/29

UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Tony & Shellie Pearce – 12/18
 James & Billie Gilliam – 12/20
 Bill & Carolyn Montgomery – 12/22
 Scott & Kassie Price – 12/30
 David & Judy Odom – 12/31
 Max & Juanita Melton – 12/31

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE/MORNING</u>		12/11/11	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		
·James Gilliam	· Bobby England		· Jerry McKey
·Brandon Howard	·Brent Howard		· Glen Kelly
·Scot Allen	·Roy Martin		· Bill Matthews
·Denzil Myers	·Darrol Allen		
·Thomas Rathbun			<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Mike Batot			· Mike Batot
			Acts 26:19-23
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Mike Batot
			· Darrell Allen
<u>LORD'S TABLE/EVENING</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Robert Ruckman			· Kenny Mayer
·Bill Paschall			John 20:24-29
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
·Glen Kelly			· Jerry Baker – Denzil Myers
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
·Darrell Allen			

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	70	77	78	100
A.M. Worship	143	110	142	150
P.M. Worship	66	68	74	75
Wed. Class	69	82	79	75
Ladies Bible Class	n/c	22	22	25
Contribution	\$4221	\$6036	\$4942	\$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 – Cape Town, South Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT

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