

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

July 29, 2013
Volume 5 Number 27

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(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

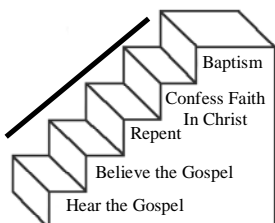
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



America The Beautiful

Don Hatch

In my youth the school system taught overwhelmingly that America was a Christian nation. We sang patriotic songs which spoke of God. We had what were called “National Assembles”, read “Weekly Readers”, and we had prayers in classes and at all types of school functions which honored our heritage as a Christian nation. Each week Christianity was reinforced in “History Classes” and programs which taught of our “Founding Fathers”. We learned of the enormous cost they paid to develop a land of the “free and home of the brave”. An overwhelming portion of Americans believed that the United States were Christian people. Believing that, they did not desire to persecute other beliefs. It was understood that people came here seeking freedom from religious persecution. They never believed that people needed to be forced to become Christians, nor did they believe one belief should be favored at the expense of another. There was no national religion and no state religion. We learned England and other nations had national religions, but America rejected paying taxes to support a “State Religion”. There was no question that “church and State were not at odds with each other”.

Americans believed that Judeo-Christian principles were the best form of practices for a community to engage. Yearly there were parades, rodeos, fairs, civil sponsored events which always had songs, prayers, speeches and special programs which honored America as a Christian nation. I believed that the “Founding Fathers” set forth the principle in our documents upon which all proceedings were to be practiced. I never gave it a thought that such things would change. Yet, with time Christianity has been crowded out. The moral principles and undergirding laws of the United States now are being removed and replaced with a form of “tolerance” wherein virtually anything goes. In the past it was when practices of the communities came into conflict with Moral Law, Moral law was supreme. People could choose their beliefs, but when they ran contrary to morality they had to live by the Judeo-Christian principles of the United States of America.

The Constitution is often cited as evidence against this historic understanding of the role

of Christianity in American public life. “No test of religion was ever required but those who held office were required to support the Constriction” [*The Constitution of the United States of America, Article 6*]. “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances” (*The Constitution of the United States of America, The Bill of Rights, Amendment 1*).

This same Constitution reflects a Christian understanding: “If any Bill shall not be returned by the President within ten Days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the Same shall be a Law, in like Manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress by their Adjournment prevent its Return, in which Case it shall not be a Law” (*The Constitution of the United States of America, Article 1, Section 7*). **Note Sunday excepted.** That is Christian. The adoption of the 1st Amendment manifested the sentiment that America was considered a Christian nation. The aim of such an amendment was not to prostrate Christianity but deny a national ecclesiastical establishment.

Words like “When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of **Nature’s God** entitles them . . .”, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain unalienable Rights . . .” “And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of **Divine Providence**, We mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor”. Such were their beliefs and practices.

What has changed is that there is a general lack of knowledge of God’s word. Progressive leaders quietly impeach the Bible. Teaching that Judeo-Christian principles are archaic and out-of-stride with America is in vogue. We must see that if Christianity is no longer a basis for society there is not long a basis for America. **Fear not, Christianity has weathered greater trials.** “Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising shame, and hath sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin...” (Heb 12:1-6).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

The Belt Line Rd. Church of Christ has been active in mission work since Carolyn and I were on the property before the building was constructed. We have always believed and practiced Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**” ¹⁹ **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,** ²⁰ **teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.**

Throughout the years, this congregation has had an everlasting affect on many nations of the world. At the present time, Belt Line financially supports many missionaries in several different countries. Many of our missionaries labor in other countries as well as their own. The following countries are being taught the word of God through their efforts: Russia, Ukraine, Germany, Italy, France, Mozambique, Madagascar, Burkina Faso, Togo, Ghana, Mali, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea, South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Philippines, Navajo Nation, and the Northeast United States. We have participated in supporting preacher students for many years so that the gospel will continue around the world. Please pray for all our dedicated and faithful missionaries to perform their duty to God each day. We do not only furnish finances for the spreading of God’s word, but we have volunteers who work tirelessly with Mission Printing for “World Evangelism by the Printed Page.”

What are we and why are we on this earth?

[Ephesians 2:10](#)

“...For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

[Galatians 6:9](#)

“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.”

Remember God is always in control of our lives as long as we obey His word.

Richard Renfro

“But I rejoice in the Lord greatly, that now at length ye have revived your thought for me; wherein ye did indeed take thought, but ye lacked opportunity. Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content. I know how to be abased, and I know also how to abound: in everything and in all things have I learned the secret both to be filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to be in want. I can do all things in him that strengtheneth me” (Phil 4:10-13).

Learning From The Past

Revelation assures us that God rewards and punishes nations upon the earth. Because nations cannot stand in the final judgment, God judges them in time, by bringing them to account upon the earth. It is apparent that many nations have arisen and fallen. Looking back over more than ten thousand years of world history we observe civilizations rising and their eventual demise. Their ruin is partly being conquered, anarchy and consequences of failed governments.

It is stunning to take note of the ghost of long lost civilizations and forgotten lessons. Those who read the Bible note great empires which were astonishingly wealthy, powerful and progressive in sciences, math, militarism and countless other advancements. Their collapse was sometimes slow and for others immediate. Building huge things like the Tower of Babel, Pyramids, Ruins in the Andes, Mexico, Central America, Babylon all demand that we take note of the skills and abilities of many ancient civilizations. Those nations built their culture upon some form of a domestic plan, vague religious practices and cultures which centered on families, business and other basic tools.

There were periods of enlightenment and darkness which were never benign. The seed of troubles or cause for flourishing of a nation was not economic prowess, medical advancements, scientific technology or instruments of war. History is replete with great advancements which were lost with the fall of a nation or culture. Generally the demise of a nation starts with **disregard of religious purpose and spiritual purity** (Rom 1:18-32). Nations which spin off into oblivion commonly increase in their alienation from the God of the Bible. Moral depravity cannot be immediately measured, but in the short run it erodes the foundation and eventually in the long run topples a nation. Sin is a reproach to any people (Prov 14:34). Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall (Prov 16:18). There is no history of a nation maintaining itself without the aid of a spiritual relationship with the God of the Bible. When that which is known about God is dispatched to the dung heap, soon will follow the nation into the same heap. Ridiculing God in the arena of public edification has social, cultural and moral decay to blame. A disastrous symptom of disorder is seen in the deriding of purity. Youth who become undisciplined destroy the old order and develop a lawless disreputable nation having left the spiritual moorings of the soul (2 Kg 12).

Order is not pressure which is imposed from without a society but it is the equilibrium imposed by those with high moral integrity. If a nation is to prevent a repeat of history, then they must learn the lessons of history. The rise in immorality and decay of religious convictions devalue human lives. Immorality is not a modern phenomenon. When life becomes cheap children are often considered a needless burden and infanticide becomes commonplace.

Looking at the pattern of the rise and fall of nations we must consider where they are in **the grand scheme of things**. What many count as triumphs consist of things which degenerate a culture. On the stage of world history the responsibility of a free people is to avoid promiscuity. Predictable patterns show that personal responsibilities fade. A path for renewal is spiritual and moral reformation.

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

August 4, 2013

Front foyer: Bobby & Brenda England

Back foyer: Doris Selby & Myrtle Wade

August 11, 2013

Front foyer: Thomas Rathbun & Carol Swinney

Back foyer: Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Sermon Titles

August 4, 2013

a.m: "Truth Spoken Evil Of"

Scripture: 2 Peter 2:1-3

p.m: "Nations"

Scripture: Amos 1:1-2

August 11, 2013

a.m: "Only Begotten Son"

Scripture: 1 John 4:7-13

p.m: "Pride Of Heart"

Scripture: Obadiah 1:1-7

Contribution Counters For August

Glen Kelly & Steven Grossheus

Communion Preparation For August

Robert & Cathy Taylor

MISSION PRINTING

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

SUMMER YOUTH SERIES

The summer series will be on **Tuesday July 30th**, at 7 p. m. It will be held at **Northwest church of Christ**. Please meet at Melissa

Allen's home at 5:30 p.m. if you need a ride.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Laquita Baker, Roy & Helen Thomas, Tim Fowler, Marietta Houser, Thomas West, Mary Walker, Billie Myers, Shelia Martin, Jane Easter, Serena Jacobs

Those In Need Of Prayer

·**Chelsea Story** granddaughter of **Mike & Elizabeth Garrison** will have surgery Tuesday, July 30th.

·**Thomas Rathbun** had back surgery last Thursday. The surgery went well and he was able to be at services on Sunday. He has asked for prayers on his behalf.

·**Elizabeth Garrison** will be having a root canal done on Tuesday, July 30th.

·**Purman Cofer** had cataract surgery last week. All went well.

·**Nancy Pond** will be having a procedure done on Thursday.

·There are many others who are suffering with various illnesses. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

SUMMER SERIES

Our speaker on **July 31st** will be **Robert Dodson**. His Topic will be "**No Contradictions In The Bible**", **2 Peter 3:1-13**.

GREEN CANS

There are "**Gleaning For Children**" green cans in both foyers. Please take one home and

put your leftover change in it. This money goes to the **Foster's Home For Children**. The cans will be picked up in late August.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We are making plans to have a **Vacation Bible School** again this year on Saturday, **August 17th**. The **theme** is: **Circus of Faith**.

We need volunteers to put VBS hangers on doors and to drive the teenagers to place these hangers on the doors. Please meet at the Annex on Saturday, **August 3rd** at 8:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 17th for VBS.

BEAR MINISTRY

We need at least **3** additional people to help stitch bears. If you would like to volunteer, please contact **Beverly McKey**.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the cards, calls, and prayers that have continually encouraged me. It's wonderful to have a loving Christian family.

Serena Jacob

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the **Dean Webb** family on the loss of Dean's brother **Doyle Webb**. His services will be today at 1 p.m. at the McNeece Morris Funeral Home in Fulton, Mississippi. Dean and Kay are there for the services. Joy was not able to make the trip. Please keep them in your prayers for a safe trip.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8/6/13 – Summer Youth Series - Keller

8/7/13 – Kevin Rhodes – guest speaker

AUGUST BIRTHDAY'S

- Francis Tipton – 8/2
- Elsie Nanney – 8/2
- Dorothy Smith – 8/3
- Amber Vaughan – 8/5
- Marjorie Bennett – 8/8
- David Odom – 8/11
- Kaitlyn Howard – 8/17
- Delores Ramsey – 8/18
- Stacey Cook – 8/22
- Tiffany Garrett – 8/22
- Charlotte Nigh – 8/22
- Donna Davis – 8/25
- Ann Smith – 8/26
- Debi Gooden – 8/27
- Melody Lundquist – 8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- Dorris & Janie Walker – 8/5
- Brent & Samantha Howard – 8/14
- Derrol & Kelly Allen – 8/20
- Leo & Carol Townsend – 8/21
- Bill & Linda Matthews – 8/22
- Dale & Katherine Cox – 8/30
- Jerry & Laquita Baker – 8/31

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		8/4/13	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
·Glen Kelly	·Robert Taylor		· Don Herriage
·Bill Matthews	·Brent Howard		· Steven Grossheusch
·Brandon Howard	·Roy Martin		
·Nathan Allan	·Derrol Allen		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Henry Seidmeyer			· Scot Allen
·Bobby England			2 Peter 2:1-3
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Henry Seidmeyer
			· Bill Paschall
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Dale Cox			· Mike Batot
·Jerry McKey			Amos 1:1-2
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
·Mike Batot			· Darrell Allen
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
·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	70	65	75	100
A.M. Worship	133	120	134	150
P.M. Worship	60	59	68	80
Wed. Class	72	74	71	85
Contribution	\$4442	\$4822	\$5252	\$5470

MISSIONS

- Glen Tattersall – Australia
- Roland & Rose Moshen – France
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
- Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
- Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
- Roy Conner – Brown Trail Preaching Student
- 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
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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