

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

January 26, 2015
Volume 7 Number 4

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.... 7:30 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

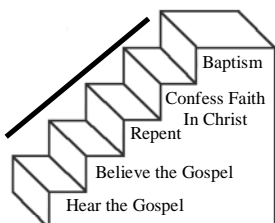
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



The Christian Is Never Alone

Don Hatch

The 21st century Christian if not detached from being able to replicate 1st century Christianity. The 1st century Christian had the apostolic teachings and by the end of that century the New Testament had been written and was being distributed among the churches to be read and studied. It was authenticated by signs, wonders and manifold gifts of the Holy Spirit (Heb 2:1-5). The documents were used by the 1st century church and are proof to be as the unifying link for all congregations of the church of Christ. The compiling of the books of the Bible is called “cannon”. The Hebrew Bible was completed at the writing of Malachi. It contained the Law, Prophets and Writings.

There were 39 books added to the cannon [signifying *straight rod, or rule*] which had been tested and tried. The books had divine authority. One historian said, “...that no one dared to add anything to them or to take anything from them or make any changes in them” (Josephus). The books of the Hebrew Bible were regarded by the 1st century Christian as sacred. The genuineness and authenticity of the scriptures were not questioned by the Hebrews or Christians. The cannon of the Old Testament assumed a unique identity among all records of the ancient world. By the end of the 1st century the books studied and read by the church became commonly the ways and means for them to know the mind of God. Many sought to introduce books which would not qualify and were rejected. A cursory overview of these writings will convince us that they do not belong in the scriptures. Thus was developed the “canon” of the Bible with 66 books [39 in the Old and 27 in the New]. Christians were not left to personal recognizance, but rather guided by the scriptures in all things spiritual.

Christians are not left alone to their personal devices in living the lives outlined by the Bible. The Christian character is not formed in an awkward or freelance way relying on human potency. Significantly the words, deeds and life of Christ and His apostles formed the constancy by which others could follow. Living and moving in God gives divine oversight (Eph 4:1-11). Forfeiture of spiritual strength often comes when individuals forget the local congregation and the constancy it plays in their personal lives. Through the

centuries many have become bankrupt and needy of spiritual abilities by trying to go it alone. Christianity is a community of believers bearing one another's burdens (Gal 6:1-15). Such a community of believers rally around other individuals in prayer and service to ensure that they are never alone.

It is “God who worketh in us both to will and to work, for His good pleasure” (Phil 2:12, 13). The presence of God should be sought and fellowship developed in order that those seasons of refreshing might come upon the believers (Acts 3:19; 2 Cor 6:14-19). The God who made the world and all things therein is the Lord of heaven and earth and giveth life to all things, determining that mankind should seek after Him and find Him for He is not far from each of us (Acts 17:22-31). To avoid or devalue this fellowship is to invite spiritual ruin. Christians have a powerful spiritual motivation to stand fast in one spirit striving for the faith of the gospel and in nothing to be affrighted by the adversary because it has been granted not only to believers in Christ but to be blessed in Him (Phil 1:22-30; Eph 1:3-14).

Prayers without service are powerless and inevitably will result in a separation from God (Eph 2:8-10). Limitless opportunities are afforded the Christian who applies the principles of Christian living. Following the example of Christ and the 1st century Christians who imitated the apostles and Christ places an individual on the path of righteousness (1 Jn 1:1-10). Prayer and service is the equilibrium needed to properly assure growth and maturity in Christ. Christian lives are empowered because they are dependent upon the Lord.

Christians are a part of the fold, vine and house of Christ. Living worthy lives is intensified as the Christians put away all filthiness and overflowing of wickedness, receiving with meekness the word of God which is able to guide us unto salvation (Jas 1:19-22). The perfect law of liberty blesses those who are hearers and doers. Fulfilling the royal law of loving thy neighbor requires that all speak and do as followers that know they are to be judged by the law of liberty (Jas 2:1-13; 2 Cor 5:1-10).

“I can do all things in him that strengthens me” is a Christian's authentication and foundation. Paul said “...[N]ow unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” reminds us that being in Christ has a spiritual power needed to accomplish the tasks which lay before us (Eph 3:20). The inward man is never alone when in Christ (Eph 3:16; 1 Jn 3:24; Rom 8:5-11). In the riches of the grace of God the Christian finds all things which pertain unto life and godliness (2 Pet 3-11).

FAMILY CARE

A Message from Our Shepherds

As I read the last chapter of Proverbs, many wonderful Christian women of this congregation, come to mind. Their worth is far above rubies, for they have done good for their husbands and have been trusted in all things. Many have had the agonizing pain at their husband's death bed, but still come into everyday helping others. Some work with their hands to bring food to their loved ones and friends. They work day and night, "their lamp does not go out by night". They go to the poor and less fortunate, such as the fatherless at Christ Haven, and help provide the necessities of life to them. Strength and honor are their clothing and they speak wisdom from experience of living the Christian life. Their children call them blessed and they are praised by their husbands. Finally the last three verses are so well worded, "'Many daughters have done so well, But you excel them all.' Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised. Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her own works praise her in the gates."

Paul mentions the importance of Christian women in the church by greeting them in the following verses. Can you count how many women are listed in these scriptures, whether named or implied?

Romans 16 (NKJV)

Sister Phoebe Commended

"I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant of the church in Cenchrea, ²that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also.

Greeting Roman Saints

"Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, ⁴who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles. ⁵Likewise *greet* the church that is in their house.

Greet my beloved Epaenetus, who is the firstfruits of Achaia to Christ. ⁶Greet Mary, who labored much for us. ⁷Greet Andronicus and Junia, my countrymen and my fellow prisoners, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in Christ before me.

⁸Greet Amplias, my beloved in the Lord. ⁹Greet Urbanus, our fellow worker in Christ, and Stachys, my beloved. ¹⁰Greet Apelles, approved in Christ. Greet those who are of the *household* of Aristobulus. ¹¹Greet Herodion, my countryman. Greet those who are of the *household* of Narcissus who are in the Lord.

¹²Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, who have labored in the Lord. Greet the beloved Persis, who labored much in the Lord. ¹³Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother and mine. ¹⁴Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermas, Patrobas, Hermes, and the brethren who are with them. ¹⁵Greet Philologus and Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints who are with them.

¹⁶Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you". --Richard Renfro

Fellowship

The English terms "communion" and "fellowship" are translations from the Greek words *κοινωνία* and *κοινωνεω* or their cognates. They designated acts observed among early Christians expressed a sense of unity and cooperation existing where these acts were outwardly exhibited.

Fellowship is involved in the observance of the Lord's Supper (1 Cor 10:14-22), "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a communion of the body of Christ?" Paul made protest against Christians participating in idolatrous feasts on the grounds that such were really celebrated in honor of the demons associated with the idols and that those who participated in them had fellowship with demons. As a proof of this point the apostle cites the Lord's Supper. By partaking of the cup and the bread the communicants are linked together in unity. Thus communion of the elements showed real unity of the worshippers, one with another and with Christ.

The term for fellowship is used in Acts 2:42, "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' **teaching** and **fellowship**, in the **breaking of bread** and the **prayers** [emphasis dh]." Four terms are used in pairs. Three refer to **specific acts** observed by the company of believers. This suggests that the term for **fellowship** also refers to definite acts similar to all.

Christian fellowship found a natural manner of expression in giving. This was enjoined as a duty (Rom 12:13; 1 Tim 6:18; Heb 13:16). An example was the collection raised among the Gentile converts for the poor saints of Jerusalem (Rom 15:26; 1 Cor 16:1-5; 2 Cor 8:4; 9:13). To this collection Paul attached the importance of being a witness to the spirit of fellowship which the gospel inspired in all.

A form of fellowship closely related to giving was that of formal aid or support in Christian works, such as the aid given to Paul by the Philippians (Phil 1:5). A unique form of this cooperation is the giving of the right hand of fellowship (Gal 2:9).

As Christianity began it experienced fellowship and a sense of unity centered on caring for the needs of fellow Christians. The expressions of fellowship were designed to give honor to God through Christ. The union of believers with Christ anticipated and renders necessary measures which would bring forth principles of unique dynamics setting Christians apart from the world. Some of the clearest teachings on fellowship are represented in Christ's parables.

From the very beginning Christians experienced a sense of unity. Christ was the center of this unity and the origin of every expression of fellowship.

Further illustrations of fellowship are in **grace** (1 Cor 1:9), in **sufferings** (Phil 3:10), in **love** (Phil 2:2), in **promoting good works** (Phil 1:5), in **prayers, admonition, support of the weak, widows, orphans** (1 Thes 5:14, Jas 1:27), and **warfare** (Phil 1:27-30; 2:25; Eph 6:10-20).

The congregation in Philippi was an outstanding example of fellowship. They had fellowship in the furtherance of the gospel (2 Cor 8:1-5; 11:8-13). No other congregation matched their zeal (Phil 4:15). They sent spontaneously, according to their means and beyond. Their gifts were not fleeting impulses, but lasting standards.

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

February 1, 2015

Front foyer: Dale & Katherine
Cox

Back foyer: Thomas Rathbun &
Kent Conner

February 8, 2015

Front foyer: Bobby & Brenda
England

Back foyer: Bill & Linda
Matthews

Sermon Titles

February 1, 2015

a.m: "The Potency Of Faith"

Scripture: 1 John 5:1-11

p.m: "Going Visiting"

Scripture: 1 Samuel 23:16-18

February 8, 2015

a.m: "Security Of The Soul"

Scripture: Hebrews 7:11-25

p.m: "Give Me To Drink"

Scripture: John 4:1-7

Contribution Counters For February

Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

Communion Preparation For February

Brenda Bryant

MISSION PRINTING

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

PRAYER LIST

Ongoing Health Concerns:

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, J.C.
and Dessie Ross, Don and
Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton,

Homebound Members:

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary
Walker, Gearldean Jones

Recovering at Home:

.Grady Fowler's surgery went
well.

.Ilene Ashworth's great grandson
Andrew is home from the hospital,
with full time care at home.

.Dorris Walker is not feeling
well.

Nursing Home:

Billie Myers – Northgate Plaza

Dorothy Smith – Avalon

Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Priscilla Mayer – Arbrook Plaza

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

Special Requests:

.Nancy Donley has a growth on
her left kidney that is malignant.
They will be removing the kidney.

.Anne Herriage's great-grandson
Quinton Byrs broke his leg.

.Jerry Catlin's brother, **Mack**
has been diagnosed with Stage 3
lung cancer. **Jerry** and **Vicki** will
be traveling this week to
Ringgold, Georgia to spend some
time with Mack and his wife.

**All of these families need our
prayers.**

UPCOMING EVENT

39'ers Breakfast will be held on
Saturday February 28th at **8 a.m.**
in the Annex. Our teens are
hosting the breakfast. There is a

sign-up sheet in the front foyer so
the teens will know how much
food to prepare.

LADIES

Ladies Class will be **Tuesday
January 27th** at 10:00 a.m. at the
Annex. We will be studying
about **Bible Women**.

LADIES

ALL Ladies – Please plan to
meet briefly Sunday night after
worship services on **February 1st**.
We will discuss our 14th Ladies ½
Day which will be the last
Saturday in April 2015.

THANK YOU NOTE

There are new Thank You Notes
on the bulletin board from: **Pansy
Yankey** and **Jackye Jewett**

SYMPATHY

We express our love and
sympathy to **Frances Tipton**. Her
cousin **Ed Kraus** passed away
January 16, 2015. He lived in
Pharr, Texas and was a member of
the church.

We also express our sympathy to
Marjorie Bennett's family on the
passing of her nephew, **Dennis
Austin** in Michigan. They are in
need of our prayers.

RESPONSE

John Mayer came forward asking
for our prayers. His family has
faced a number of challenges for
some time and are exhausted,
discouraged and overwhelmed.
They want to make decisions in a
way that reflects their faith in
God.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/3/15 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

2/16/15 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

2/28/15 – 39'ers – Breakfast – 8 a.m.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S

Scott Price – 2/6
Robert Ruckman – 2/11
Cathy Taylor – 2/12
Joy Webb – 2/12
Alex Mayer – 2/16
Mary Curtis – 2/17
Carol Partridge – 2/18

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Brandon & Stephanie Howard – 2/28

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
please contact Scot Allen:
(214)724-6400*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		2/1/15	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
· Richard Renfro	· Curtis Vaughan		· Darrell Allen
· Henry Seidmeyer	· Ethan Howard		· Jerry McKey
· Brandon Howard	· Brent Howard		
· Glen Kelly	· Robert Taylor		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Samuel Henderson			· Dale Cox
· Nathan Allen			1 John 5:1-11
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Henry Seidmeyer
			· Denzil Myers
			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Curtis Vaughan
			1 Samuel 23:16-18
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Jerry McKey

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

· Thomas Rathbun
· Scot Allen

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

· Glen Kelly

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	68	62	100
A.M. Worship	97	122	103	150
P.M. Worship	66	76	67	80
Wed. Class	74	69	64	85
Contribution	\$4647	\$5401	\$5652	\$5098

MISSIONS

Glen Tattersall – Australia
Roland & Rose Moshen – 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
Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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