

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

December 11, 2023

Volume 15 Number 46

1202 N. Belt Line Road

Irving, TX 75061

972-790-8606

Web site:

www.beltlinechurch.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.

AM Worship 10:00 a.m.

PM Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

MINISTER

Doug Post

Email:

doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Darrell Allen

Richard Renfro

Dean Webb

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham

beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear - Romans 10:17

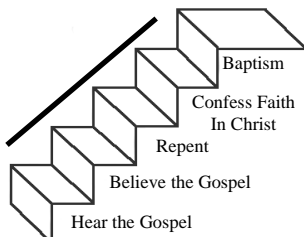
Believe - John 8:24

Repent - Acts 17:30

Confess - Romans 10:10

Be Baptized - Acts 22:16

Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



SAME RULE, SAME MIND

Doug Post

The apostle Paul writes: “Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind” (Philip.3:16). Our Lord’s desire is that children of God be unified in faith and practice (John 17:20-21; 1 Cor.1:10; Col.3:17). Therefore, when it comes to the fundamentals of *the faith*, we must all think the same thing, and speak the same thing. Let’s note some things that can help us better understand the point Paul is making.

1. We must note that there are two commands for us to recognize. Whenever we come across the phrase, “let us,” we are dealing with a command. The phrase is typically in the imperative mood, which means it’s a command. We are, therefore, commanded to walk by the same standard – the word of God, and to understand it alike – agree.
2. The Greek word, **κανόνι** (kanoni) means, *rule, regulation, rule of conduct or doctrine, a measured or defined area or realm*. We are to live by the same measurement, standard, or rule of faith. We are to confine ourselves and our thinking to what the word of God says and teaches. The word “walk” simply means to “live.” We are all to live our lives by the same standard or rule (THE WORD OF GOD), and our thinking must be brought in line to achieve agreement. Here is what else Paul says about the matter: “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment” (1 Cor. 1:10).
3. The phrase, “by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,” by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ. His authority over all of us demands this unity of thought and teaching, which is the remedy for divisions among us. This takes effort, patience, and diligence. We are all different, having varying degrees of understanding, therefore, we must all work to understand so we can all teach and practice the same things. Prior to Philippians 3:16, Paul wrote: “Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (1: 27). We are to work at and make the effort to understand things, alike, so we can teach the same things.
4. Another important aspect of Philippians 3:16 is the next verse: “Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern” (3:17). Please note that the context is instructing us to live by *the same rule* and to be of *the same mind*, which includes living by the **example** which Paul and others wrote down for us. Paul has equated his example, as it relates to the faith and practice, as authoritative as a command. In other words, his example of living is also part of the standard or rule we are to follow and emulate. Therefore, as Christians, we must live by confining our lives to the direct statements made by Christ and the apostles, by their examples, and by the many principles and their implications.

This entire process ought to draw us closer to God and to one another. It really has nothing to do with who is right, but what is right, as is taught in our shared rule or standard we call the Bible. This is the Lord’s will and when we discover His will and do it, we will enjoy among ourselves the kind of unity Jesus prayed for. May we consider the importance of growing in unity by growing in the truth. In all things, our goal must be “to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ” (Eph. 4:13).

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line Road Church of Christ

Call in your information to the office at:

972-790-8606 by Sunday evening



Ongoing Health Concerns: Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Victor Rathbun
Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West,
Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Dean Webb, Judy Odom,
Patti Kidd, Kenneth Treadwell, Janice Daniel, Karen Rathbun,

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Elma Lawrence (room #516) and Fernando Ybarra (room #510) – **Villages on MacArthur**
Polly Roses (room #206) – **West Fork Village**
Glen Kelly – **Christian Care** – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)
Virginia Stull – **Morada** – (room #B118) – (Grand Prairie, Tx.)

Military: Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

UPDATES:

Thomas Rathbun's brother **Victor Rathbun** had heart surgery on December 7th. His surgery went well he is in ICU for a few days.

Eula Hedrick was in Medical City Las Colinas for a few days last week. She is now home.

Alice Worthy is in Baylor, Scott, And White room # 1618 with low blood pressure.

Elma Lawrence asked for prayers for her sister **Meldoza** and her husband **Kelly**.

Fernando Ybarra asked for prayers for his son's mother-in-law she will be having heart surgery today.

It was wonderful to see **Janice Daniel** at services Sunday night.

Angie Hoy, a sister of **Darrell Allen's** client was in a head on accident last month. She is in Parkland Hospital in bad shape. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Congratulations to **Kayla Allen** who graduates this Friday from Tarleton College with a Wildlife Science Degree. She is a fine young lady that will make her family proud of her.

5th Sunday Singing will be on Sunday, December 31st. There is a sign-up sheet in the front foyer for songs you want to sing.

Jackye Jewett & Alice Worthy would like to Thank everyone for the cards, calls, visits, and prayers.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – December 17, 2023

Front Foyer: *George Tripp & Clarine Henson*

Back Foyer: *Doris Selby & Nora Phillips*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12/13/23 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm
12/31/23 – 5th Sunday Singing
1/5/24 - Delia Watley's class

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Grady Fowler	12/1
Virginia Stull	12/6
Elizabeth Garrison	12/13
Daniel Rodriguez	12/14
Carol Lee	12/24
Brenda England	12/29
Dolores Bernal	12/30

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mike & Sharon Haynes	12/24
David & Judy Odom	12/31

THOSE TO SERVE ON: **December 17, 2023**

Announcements – Darrell Allen

Song Leaders – a. m. Jerry McKey
p. m. Nathan Allen

Prayers – a.m. Joseph Paul
Jerry McKey
p.m. Darrell Allen
David Cofer

Scripture Reading – a.m. George Tripp
1 Peter 1:3-9
p.m. Richard Renfro
Romans 14:12-13

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Dean Webb & Walt LaHaye

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>12/10/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	35	33	100
A.M. Worship	68	60	150
P.M. Worship	33	35	80
Wed. Class	25	30	85
Contribution	\$5,789	\$4,477	\$4,871

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Christ's Haven Children's Home – *Keller, Texas*
Foster's Home for Children – *Stephenville, Texas*
Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Brown Trail School of Preaching – *Jose Mata*

I was at a meeting and one of the speakers told a story that went something like this:

“A man was asked to lead a prayer one Sunday morning. He was a well- respected old country gentleman, well thought of by everyone. He went up front and asked all to bow their heads and he started his prayer. *‘Heavenly Father, I hate buttermilk.’* The whole congregation collectively thought, what?! The man continued. *‘And Father, I don’t much care for lard.’* Some folks in the audience now raised their heads looking on in confusion. *‘Father, truth be told, I ain’t a fan of plain flour either.’* Now, almost all those in the building were staring at him, mouths open in disbelief. *‘But Gracious Lord, even though I have no liking for those things, when given to someone to who is knowledgeable, capable, who cares, who with skillful effort, and the appropriate amount of time and heat, can take those things I find distasteful and provide me something I love, biscuits. Likewise Loving Father, when tough times, bad health, difficult people or worries of the world come our way, help us to trust and give them over to You. For You are the all knowledgeable, all powerful, all caring Creator who in due time will bring us through the fire making us a more complete and pleasing child of Yours. This we ask in Jesus’ name.’* And the whole congregation said AMEN! “

1 Peter 5:6-7

-----Darrell Allen-----

**Belt Line Road Church of Christ
1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, Texas 75061**

