



Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

August 21, 2023
Volume 15 Number 31
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

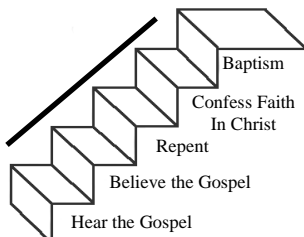
Darrell Allen
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

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)



WHO, OR WHAT, IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Doug Post

The Bible describes our Creator, God, as “**He**.” While He is spirit (John 4:23-24), not having flesh and bones, God personifies Himself taking the male gender. Jesus made this clear when He was teaching His disciples how to pray, saying, “**Our Father**.” Therefore, this one God or *Divine Nature*, is comprised of three distinct Persons or Personalities. To say it another way, there are three eternal Personalities, having One Divine Nature, named *God*. The Father is God, the Son is God, and the Holy Spirit is God.

Genesis 1:1 says, “**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth**” The Hebrew word for “God” is *EL*, which is singular in number. However, the that is used here is *Elohim*, which is plural in number, as well as masculine in gender. Therefore, the very first verse of the Bible informs us that God consists of a plurality and masculine in gender. God is further described by the male, “**He**” (Genesis 1:5). Moreover, God said: “*Let Us make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness*” ... “*So, **God** created man in **His** own image; in the image of **God**, **He** created him; male and female **He** created them*” (Gen.1:26-27). Note the pronouns “**Us**,” “**Our**,” and “**His**.” These pronouns are masculine in gender and plural in number. As the Bible unfolds, we learn that there are three eternal and self-existent Beings, sharing this same *Divine Nature*, referred to as God. One is the Father, one is Son, and one is the Holy Spirit (Matt.28:19).

The Holy Spirit is NOT less than God, He is God. He is eternal, NOT created. He is NOT an “**IT**” or a “**THING**.” He is not a mere substance or energy. He is part of one *Divine Nature* called God. His provided certain men with revelation, inspiring them to speak the very words God wanted them to preach, which are recorded on the pages of the Bible. Please note, the Holy Spirit is not the Bible. The Bible is simply the means by which He influences mankind – non-Christian and Christian alike (2 Tim.3:16-17; Eph.6:16; John 5:24, 6:44-45, 63, 68; Titus 2:11-12; James 1:18, 21; cf. Luke 8:11-15).

The Scriptures are the sword of the Spirit (Eph.6:17), by which He figuratively cuts hearts. **In conviction, conversion, and sanctification**, God influences people. The influence is a result of the words and instruction He provided (John 6:44-45). Therefore, His influence (work) is indirect, through the Scriptures He provided – the fundamental principle of the Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:11-15).

The Holy Spirit provided revelation, and while revelation has ceased (1 Cor.13:8-13; Eph.4:11-15), it still has on-going effects. The words the Holy Spirit provided in Scripture continue influencing and impacting our souls, motivating us to change and become more Christlike (Matt .4:4; Heb. 4:12).

The Spirit supernaturally aided certain men to deliver revelation, by means of preaching and writing. These inspired words of instruction, lead us (Rom.8:14), directing us to make the right decisions. After all, God’s word is the **sword of the Spirit** (Eph. 6:17), and His words are designed to cut our sinful, had, and sometimes rebellious hearts. Because He influences us only by means of the Bible, does not mean He is the Bible, any more than a lumberjack who uses a chainsaw to cut down a tree, is the chainsaw. The Holy Spirit is NOT the sword (the Bible), and His sword is not Him. Nonetheless, His influence upon us is **not** direct, but indirect, by means of His word.

Words of the Bible are vehicles of thought and signs of ideas. They represent the thoughts, intents, and ideas of God’s mind. Since words provide pictures of those thoughts and ideas, God chose the best words to represent and capture His thoughts and ideas, in order for us to understand His will for us. This is why Paul says we have the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16).

For the next several weeks we will be discussing the Holy Spirit and His role in our lives.

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, Anne Herriage, Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West, Jeanene Heilman, Jerry Grantham, Billy Whitfield, Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Mac Dwyer, Dean Webb, Lilla Tripp, Judy Odom, Robert Duckworth

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

Rehab: Anne Herriage (room #204-A) – **Avante**
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:

Anne Herriage is at Baylor, Scott & White Hospital in room #CCU 326. She has sepsis and is not doing well. Prayers have been requested and visitors are welcomed.

David Sherrill had some extensive cancer surgery on his face last week.

Harry Debrick is home after his knee surgery last week.

Bob Duckworth was at services on Sunday after suffering a fall.

Fernando Ybarra has requested prayers for his niece **Penny Ybarra**. She is dealing with severe kidney problems.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our missionaries, military, first responders and weather-related victims.

Ladies: Don't forget the upcoming Quarterly Bible Class on Friday, **September 1, at 6:00 PM** at the Annex. Please invite your friends to come join us for Bible Study.

What: 25th Annual Lubbock Lectureship
When: October 8-11, 2023
Where: Southside Church of Christ
8501 Quaker Avenue, Lubbock, Texas
806-794-5008 806-777-7808
Further information on bulletin board

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – **August 27, 2023**

Front Foyer: Thomas & Karen Rathbun

Back Foyer: Elizabeth Garrison & Mary Elaina Vaughan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

8/23/23 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm

9/1/23 – Ladies Bible Study – 6 pm Annex

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Patti Kidd	8/6
David Odom	8/11
Pramoda Paul	8/14
Brenda Hood	8/27
Melody Lundquist	8/31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Dorris & Janie Walker	8/5
Jim & Eva Stambaugh	8/17
Thomas & Karen Rathbun	8/26
Patrick & Mariana Pauli	8/29

THOSE TO SERVE ON: August 27, 2023

Announcements – Dean Webb

Song Leaders – a.m. Jerry McKey
p.m. Mike Haynes

Prayers – a.m. Richard Renfro
David Cofer
p.m. Jerry McKey
Ray Simpson

Scripture Reading – a.m. Nathan Allen
Luke 17:6-10
p.m. Richard Renfro
Proverbs 16:19

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Richard Renfro & Walt LaHaye

ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>8/20/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sunday Class	34	33	100
A.M. Worship	56	62	150
P.M. Worship	54	38	80
Wed. Class	39	30	85
Contribution	\$2,789	\$4,604	\$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

Jesus told Nicodemus that if a man desires to enter the Kingdom of God, he must be born again (John 3:3), and this is true for each of us as well. James tells us that “Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures” (James 1:18). We are to walk in the truth as Gaius, "For I rejoiced greatly when brethren came and testified of the truth *that is* in you, just as you walk in the truth" (3 John 3).

The Gospel is truth: In the Ephesians epistle Paul said “Therefore, putting away lying, ‘*Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor,*’ for we are members of one another” (Eph 4:25). Christians are admonished to put away falsehood and speak that which is truth. Paul also said, "to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you" (Gal. 2:5). This Gospel (truth) is God's Word. Jesus recognized this truth when He prayed for the His disciples saying, "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.” (John 17:17). The truth is God's word and must be obeyed as first century Christians obeyed according to I Peter 1:22-23, where Peter said, "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,...”

When we do our part, we obey the Lord's commands. Mark 12:30-31 says, "And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. This *is* the first commandment. And the second, like *it, is* this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these."

Have a great week serving God. Remember to pray for our sick & shut-ins.

Dean Webb

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