



Where families worship,
serve and raise their
children

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

September 28, 2020
Volume 12 Number 39

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 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday:

Ladies' Bible Class (Sept.–Apr.)
Class meets at 10 a.m.

MINISTER

Randy Reagan

Email:

randy.reagan@beltlinechurch.com

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

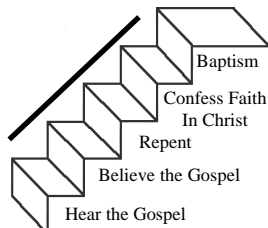
Darrell Allen
John Mayer

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)



Things We Cannot Just Pray Away

“I was going on 35 years old, with no clue that I had clinical depression,” wrote Fonda Bryant March 30, 2018. “I had never been in trouble with the police, didn’t smoke, drink or do drugs. But I found myself sitting in the back of a police car on the way to a mental hospital, and I kept thinking to myself, ‘What had I done wrong?’ When I arrived at the psychiatric hospital and called my mom to let her know where I was, the first thing she said to me spoke volumes: ‘You just need to be stronger.’ Our ancestors ...lived with depression, anxiety, bipolar and PTSD but back then, there weren’t any names for those conditions. Back then, people battling a mental health condition were simply locked up, wandered the streets or even put to death. (Some say) ...all we need to do today is the same (as) our ancestors did, which is: ‘Pray about it. Give it to God.’ But you wouldn’t tell someone with cancer, diabetes or heart problem to just pray about it or give it to God, would you? You’d hopefully say: ‘You need to see a doctor.’ But when it comes to mental health...there is very little compassion or empathy. Don't get me wrong, there’s nothing wrong with praying for recovery from a mental health condition, but we still have to be proactive. We can’t ‘pray away’ a mental health condition. We have to get help. Relentless stigma accompanies mental health conditions. From the words we use—like ‘crazy,’ ‘cray cray,’ ‘psycho,’ ‘nuts’—to hurtful jokes about people who live with mental health conditions, stigma surrounding mental health is deep-rooted. But there is no shame in having a mental health condition. The true shame is not getting the treatment you need to have a good life.”

Mental health disease does not mean someone is “crazy.” Those struggling with mental problems are not just “weak.” Mental health issues do not magically go away if we pray and do nothing else to get help. No one wants to have mental illness any more than someone would want cancer. Many well-meaning Christians have refused medical treatment for illnesses, instead opting to “put it all in God’s hands.” Please let me emphasize, God is a critical part to any healing and we should always pray for God’s help. At the same time, the Bible also says that we should seek medical assistance for ailments. (James 5:14; 1 Tim. 5:23) Mental illness is the same as a physical illness.

Most of us have been, are, or will one day be dealing with these issues in our own lives. We very well may have a spouse, parent, or even a child who will have dementia or Alzheimer. Many already have those in their lives who are struggling with bi-polar, autism, depression, anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorder, mood or personality disorders, just to name a few. As Christians, we must reach out to them with compassion and kindness. (Col. 3:12-13; 1 Pet. 3:8) Most of all, we must remember that mental illness cannot simply be “prayed away.”

Randy Reagan

FAMILY NEWS:

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

Ongoing Health Concerns: David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Sherry Hodge, Jeanene Heilman, Anne Herriage, Katherine Cox, Patsy Swain, Marcella Porter, Vera Gleghorn, Marinell Zaun, Joe Farley, Doris Selby, Ray & LaFon Simpson

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker

Nursing Home: **Nellie Melvin** – Avalon Memory Care **Henry Seidmeyer** – Good Life Senior Living

Military: Andrea Daniel (Air Force) Curtis Vaughan (Navy) Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

The Elders of Belt Line Road church have decided that it is in the best interest of our members to **only** have **Sunday morning worship service** at 10 a.m. at the present time. No Wednesday night service yet.

The Elders have requested that we wear a face covering coming into and leaving the building. If you do not have one, we will provide one for you. We want to protect everyone from getting the COVID-19 illness.

All events are still cancelled until further notice.

Please continue to watch Randy's weekly sermons or listen to them on our website or CD if you are not comfortable in attending Sunday Morning Worship service at the present time. His lessons have been excellent.

A NOTE FROM THE ELDERS

If you do not feel comfortable in returning to worship at the present time, please continue to mail your contribution checks in. The mailing address is: 1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061.

Please remember that even though we can't get out to visit our shut-ins, we can call them on the phone, email them or send them cards. It's very important that we stay in touch with each other during this pandemic.

Updates:

Jeanene Heilman has gone to her daughter's home in Illinois so that her daughter can take care of her.

Susan Kruger had her eye surgery on Wednesday. They put a stint in her eye. If this one is a success, they will put a stint in the other eye.

Polly Roses was moved to a skilled nursing rehab last Monday. She was moved to **Plaza at Edgemere** in Dallas and is in room # 366.

The staff at Avalon reported that **Nellie Melvin** is doing very good.

Karen Rathbun had surgery on Friday. She is still in the hospital and is in a lot of pain.

Nancy Pond has finished her cancer treatments on her left arm and right leg. Both cancers are now cured. She will be re-checked at the end of October.

Dean Webb is not feeling well.

We rejoice in the baptism of **Patrick Pauli** yesterday.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – October 4, 2020

Front Foyer: *Billy Joe Swain & Glen Kelly*

Back Foyer: *Bobby Allen & Myrtle Wade*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THOSE TO SERVE

A.M. – OCTOBER 4, 2020

Lead Singing – Jerry McKey

Sermon Topic – “Finally”

Scripture – 2 Corinthians 13:11-14
Thomas Rathbun

Prayers – Darrell Allen
Alex Mayer

Attendance a.m. on September 27, 2020 was **63**
YTD Average Contribution **\$5,220** Goal **\$5,360**

Please keep our country in your daily prayers that this COVID-19 virus ends very soon and please be mindful of others and stay in during this time.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David West	9/1
Jackye Jewett	9/2
Dean Webb	9/4
Brenda Bryant	9/7
Billy Joe Swain	9/8
Katherine Cox	9/8
Sherry Hodge	9/13
Charlotte Burrows	9/17
Marcella Porter	9/20
Mary Martini	9/24

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – *Australia*
Jose & Miriam Suarez – *Mexico*
Roland & Rose Mohsen – *France*
Gary & Nadya Workman – *Ukraine*
Charlie & Mary DiPalma – *Australia*
Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
Ted Lingren – *Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia*
Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*
Dennis & Beth Johnson – *Chennai Teacher Training School – India*

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Paper Pulpit – *Hurst, Texas*
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
Luis Loera – **Jaelyn Downing**

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Jackie* Walters	9/2
Vern & Melody Lundquist	9/22
David & Faye West	9/24
Ray & LaFon Simpson	9/27
Bryan* & Delisa Banister	9/30

A Message from Our Shepherd

So, let us pick up from last week's article as we compare our world today with the condition of the Jews in Esther's day. Yes, we do see some striking similarities.

First, Satan hates mankind just like Haman hated the Jews. Second, Satan uses deceit to condemn all of us just like Haman deceived the king into pronouncing a death sentence on the Jewish nation. Finally, most of our world is now living and laboring under the death sentence of sin, just like the Jews of Esther's day faced a death sentence. When Mordecai heard the news, he quickly went to Esther to convince her that now was the time to stand and speak for her people. The lines of reasoning that Mordecai used to convince Esther are found in **Esther 4:13-14 (Please read)**. By examining these reasons, we will see that now is the time for all of God's children to stand and speak today.

Our salvation depends upon our speaking out. In verse 13 Mordecai says, *"Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews."* Mordecai was reminding Esther that she was a Jew. Since the death sentence had been passed upon the entire nation, there was no reason for her to expect to escape that same condemnation. We live in a world that is filled with various kinds of crime and tragedies as well. One of the greatest tragedies in our society is the apathy that so many feels toward those who are in trouble. It appears to be commonplace today to hear and see muggings and murders that take place in full view of several witnesses. Instead of helping, the witnesses just stand and watch. How could a Christian stand by and watch as his own family and friends are dying unprepared to meet God? There are Christians in every church who do this. Many live for 70 and 80 years without ever sharing the precious story of Jesus with a single person. Many attempt to justify themselves by saying that they are **"silent examples."** What they mean is that they are living a good, moral life in front of others and that is great. In fact, no evangelism can ever take place until we show people that we are truly God's children in the way that we live. **But, no one had ever been shown what to do to be saved by a silent example!**

Jerry McKey

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