

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

December 18, 2023  
Volume 15 Number 47  
1202 N. Belt Line Road  
Irving, TX 75061  
972-790-8606

Web site:  
[www.beltlinechurch.com](http://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](mailto:doug.post@beltlinechurch.com)

## ELDERS

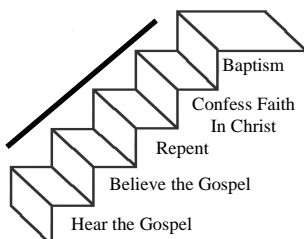
Darrell Allen  
Richard Renfro  
Dean Webb

## SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
[beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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)



## LIVING, OR LIVING WELL?

Doug Post

*There's a difference in Living and living well You can't have it all by yourself*

*Something's always missing 'Til you share it with someone else*

The above is a line from a George Strait song. It's about sharing life. We are designed not only to exist, but to exist with others. We are designed to share life together. Whether in marriage, through family, or friendship, our lives are meant to be shared. God designed us to be able to take the focus off of ourselves and place it on others, where it rightly belongs. Brethren, this is THE Divine cure for not only our narcissistic tendencies but for enjoying sound mental health.

Most of our mental health issues are the result of sin in our lives. Sin is typically the result of selfishness or self-centeredness (1 John 2:16-17). We are our own worst enemy. Instead of acknowledging others we seek to satisfy and ingratiate ourselves. Somehow, we think that if we please ourselves first, then pleasing others will naturally follow. Not so. The problem with such thinking is that we are never satisfied so we never get around to pleasing others.

However, God is always right. He, of course, knew all of us would have problems and issues in this life, but He also provided us the best way to cope with them. Sharing life with others! One thing we have in common is the need for social interaction, and when that is missing from our lives, we self-destruct. We become easily agitated, angry, intolerable, and cantankerous. When this happens, we have a tendency to sin, demonstrating our bitter attitudes through sinful actions.

Sharing our lives with others means giving others our time, our resources, our help, and our love. The Bible calls that “*one anothering*.” Well, that's not a word, but you understand what I mean. The Lord's church is truly the Lord's family, and family always helps each other when help is needed. Quite simply, just being there or acknowledging others goes a long way in helping not only our own mental health, but also the mental health of others. Sharing our lives with one another is a choice – a godly choice. The choice to be unselfish or selfish is always present. An unselfish life is one centered on God and others, not on self. It truly is the difference between merely living and living well.

Yes, the old acronym, **JOY**, still applies: **J**esus, **O**thers, **Y**ourself. This is the Divine order. When we begin to practice this order, we will not only find, but we will enjoy that “elusive” abundant peace missing in our lives. Brethren, the whole duty of man is to fear God and keep His commandments (Eccl.12:13). One of those commands is putting others first: “**Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind, let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus**” (Philip.2:3-5). May the season of JOY be a perpetual one and may we truly live well.

## 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** is out of the hospital.

**Alice Worthy** is back at Avante room # 319. She has improved and may get to go home this week.

**James Pauli, Patrick Pauli's** father recently had a toe removed due to his diabetes. Please keep this family in your prayers.

**Nelda Bell Newton** is just getting over pneumonia. **Nelda's** sister and daughter and other family members are just getting over Covid. Also, **Nelda** will be retiring soon.

**Karen Rathbun's** surgery went well. She had her surgery on Thursday and went home on Friday. She had to go back to ER on Saturday because of pain.

**Dorris Walker** is not feeling well.

**Elizabeth Garrison** has been exposed to Covid and is quarantine until December 21<sup>st</sup>.

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**Delia Watley** will start the Ladies Class back on January 5<sup>th</sup>, these classes will be quarterly. They will be April 5<sup>th</sup>, July 5<sup>th</sup>, and October 4<sup>th</sup>. The first class will be on the book of Philemon. These classes will be held in the annex from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m.

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

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**Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – December 24, 2023**

**Front Foyer:** Elizabeth Garrison & Jeanene Heilman

**Back Foyer:** Joseph Paul & Myrtle Wade

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**THOSE TO SERVE ON: December 24, 2023**

*12/13/23 – Wednesday Night Bible  
Study – 6:30 pm*  
*12/31/23 – 5<sup>th</sup> 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

**Announcements** – Darrell Allen

**Song Leaders** – a. m. Darrell Allen  
p. m. Jerry McKey

**Prayers** – a.m. Richard Renfro  
Joseph Paul  
p.m. Dean Webb  
Darrell Allen

**Scripture Reading** – a.m. Jerry McKey  
1 Corinthians 8-13  
p.m. David Cofer  
2 Timothy 4:1-2

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

### ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>12/17/23</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
<b>Sunday Class</b>	31	33	100
<b>A.M. Worship</b>	61	62	150
<b>P.M. Worship</b>	31	36	80
<b>Wed. Class</b>	28	29	85
<b>Contribution</b>	\$21,283	\$4933	\$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*

*"And do not be drunk with wine, in which is **dissipation**; but be filled with the Spirit," Eph 5:18 NKJV  
"But be on your guard, so that your hearts will not be weighed down with **dissipation** and drunkenness  
and the worries of life, and that this day will not come on you suddenly, like a trap;" LK 21:34 NASB*

Dissipation, apart from the scientific meaning, I do not think I have ever seen it used except in scripture. According to the Merriam-Webster online Dictionary it means: dispersion, diffusion, dissolution, *wasteful expenditure*, intemperate living, *an act of self-indulgence*. In place of dissipation, other bible translations will use debauchery or wild, riotous living.

In the parable of the Prodigal Son, our Lord gives us a vivid example of the word:

*"Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living." ESV Luke 15:13*

Are we free of dissipation in our lives? Having put on the Lord in baptism, we know that debauchery and wild, riotous, reckless living should not be known among us. How about the wasteful and or self-indulgent facets of dissipation? Is our life, our time, energy and efforts focused, as it should be, on the upward call (Phil. 3:14) or attentive to the shiny things of this world? Is what we are investing ourselves in lawful, edifying of God and profitable to His service? (1 Cor 6:12, 10:23) Have a wonderful, productive week in the Lord and please examine your life often while doing so. (2 Cor. 13:5) May none of it be deemed dissipation, all for nothing or a wasted effort.

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

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