

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

September 15, 2014
Volume 6 Number 34

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

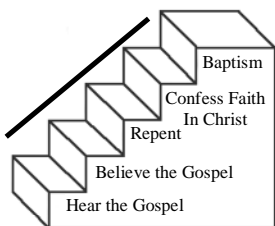
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Hope

Don Hatch

Hope is used in scripture to denote a desire with expectation of good (1 Cor 9:10). It is expressly associated with an assurance of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ. All the blessings included within hope come to life with the washing away of sins because of His praiseworthy gift (Rom 8:31-39). **Hope** is an element of the Christian life identifying a characteristic derived from the “Gospel” [*Good News*]. **Hope** is the flower crowning the stem of love nurtured by the root of faith. It crowns the Christian’s life. The future is held to be resplendent because of **hope**. Grace is the unmerited gift of God through the Lord Jesus (Eph 2:1-11). Love surges throughout the present and lingers to assure us of the bright future in Christ and His church. The present and future belong to the Lord and to those who faithfully follow Him.

Reflected in Christianity is harmony of spiritual living, accomplished through faith, love and hope. An unseen future is expected to be filled with the presence of God because of hope. The Christian loves God and faithfully serves because of the prospects of joy awaiting in the future [*hope*- Rom 8:24; 1 Jn 3:2]. Hope is not the mere reception of doctrine, it is the assurance demonstrated by those who have lived godly lives and are alive in God after death (Mat 22:31, 32). We are saved in hope and run the race of faith with patience to obtain the crown of righteousness (Rom 8:18-25; 2 Tim 4:6-8). Christians have a living hope (1 Pet 1:3) and have boldness because of hope (Heb 3:6). They are not sluggish, but rather are diligent because of hope (Heb 6:9-12). Hope is the anchor of a Christian’s life, steadfast and sure (Heb 6:13-20). The hope of Christianity brings a better hope and covenant (Heb 7:18-25.). Like faith hope is essential.

The riches of glory are fulfilled in hope (Eph 1:18). Central to the Christian vocabulary is hope (Eph 4:4). Hope is encouraged by the gospel because it gives a reason to live the Christian life and provides a gleam of anticipation for a life in the eternal after while blessed with no sorrow, pain, hunger or tears (Rev 21:4). Hope is the precious procession of the faithful (Col 1:5). The unbeliever is identified as those who have no hope (Eph 2:12; 1 Thes 4:13). Being without God, having no covenant and no peace, the hopeless are the

most pitiful of all God’s creatures. God can fill an individual with hope, joy and rejoicing (Rom 15:9-13). God is the God of hope (1 Pet 1:21).

Hope is dependent upon Jesus Christ (1 Tim 1:1; Col 1:27; Tit 2:13). Jesus was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father and activated hope (Rom 6:1-11; 1 Thes 1:3). Hope is a constant companion of love and faith (1 Cor 13:13). It gives the faithful strength during trials (1 Cor 15:58). Christianity is a religion of hope, pointing to everlasting life and eternity with the heavenly Father. Everlasting life is to spend eternity with an eternal God. A future life is the object of hope and demands faithfulness (Rev 2:10). The proclamation of Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords in His kingdom solidifies hope (Rev 19:16). Hope is alive in Jesus (1 Pet 1:3). Dead hope and faith are not of God. Purity is passing the time of our sojourn in holiness which manifests a reverence for God because as saint we are sober and obedient (1 Pet 1:13-25).

Pride is the parent of all evil work, while submission to God does not love the world, knows that lust of the eye, pride of life and vainglory of life are not of the Father (1 Jn 2:12-17). Those who do the will of God abide in hope, love and faith. Hope that is not of God is an enemy of God and it will eventually display evil works. Hope seeks purity and purifies the life of a believer who seeks to be a child of God (Heb 10:22).

Hope gives full assurance to the believer (Heb 10:22). Our spiritual walk travels the narrow road of hope (Mat 7:13, 14). Abiding in faith, hope and love is an awareness that these will benefit and consequently strengthen the inner being (2 Cor 4:16-18). Hope forces one to look to the eternal, not the temporal. Afflictions are hard but hope assures us that we have a true yokefellow (Mat 11:28, 29). Hope seeks to be careful whereas hopelessness is unpredictable. Individuals who think on godly things learn that the God of hope is with them (Phil 4:8-9). Opportunities are unlimited when trust is placed in an infinite God. Each finite step by Christians enables them to understand that growth in faithfulness can anticipate spiritual blessings from God (Jas 1:18; Eph 1:3-14). Temporal relationships between a Christian and the world are not built on hope. The goal of eternal life is not seen in the temporal world but the eyes of faith see the bright hope of eternity with God because of Jesus Christ. The motive of the church is to learn to see, not what man’s wisdom teaches, but rather what the Spirit teaches (1 Cor 2:6-15; Jas 3:13-18). Confident of the forgiveness of sin and purification given in the atonement the Christian is directed toward the future knowing that they can do “all things in Him who strengthens” (Phil 4:13). Hope is the motive behind steadfastness.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Last week we talked about Salt as it relates to our influence in the world today. Today we want to discuss Leaven and the idea of us being Epistles.

Leaven (Matt. 13:33) *“Another parable He spoke to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.”* Following are some analogies that would appear to be valid about leaven. The leaven represents the kingdom of heaven in its influence. The leaven imparts its character to the whole loaf; the church changes the character of people influenced by it. The leaven rises silently, suggesting the manner of the church’s growth. In fact a little leaven is capable, given time, of leavening a vast amount. The influence of the church will become very wide and extensive. So in summarizing this parable one could say: The rule of God in the world will grow quietly, without great fanfare, but its progress will not be hindered until its intensive, transforming power influences all of life.

Epistles (2 Cor. 3:2-3) *“You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; ³clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.”* The Corinthian church, in a figurative sense, was Paul’s letter of recommendation. The heart of the formerly reprobate Corinthians, now converted, however, was where the writing had taken place. Such changes as had taken place in them (due to a change in heart) upon their conversion were indeed visible to the whole world of that period. Again, what kind of influence do you have on others?

Let us notice **there are two kinds of influence** according to **Matt. 7:15-20**. *“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶“You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles? ¹⁷“Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸“A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹“Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰“Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”* There is **bad influence** and we have examples from the Bible found in **Matt. 14:9-10, Revelation 2:20** and again in **Matt. 23:13**. All of these exerted a bad influence - (**1 Cor. 15:33**) *“Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.”* **Then we see that there is good influence**. Again, examples from the Bible are: Paul in Caesar’s household. (**Acts 28:30-31**), the jailer in his household (**Acts 16:25-34**), the brethren at Appii Forum (**Acts 28:15**).

Finally next week we will discuss how every person has influence and the importance of not losing it for the cause of Christ.

Jerry McKey

Divine influences, what doctrine can be more reasonable? “The operations which the power of God carries on in the natural world are no less mysterious than those which the Spirit performs in the moral world. If men, by their councils and suggestions, can influence the minds of one another, must not divine suggestion produce a much greater effect? It imparts assistance in what he thinks proper, without injuring their frame or disturbing their rational powers.”

Providence

The providence of God for mankind is exercised through His wisdom, omnipresence and goodness. Providence demonstrates an overall plan of God moving toward a season of **Eschatology** (time of the end). This doctrine was manifested in Old and New Testament teachings. The Old Testament exhibited providence in mysteries but the New Testament reveals it clearly. Two elements are basic in this doctrine, God **bestows blessings** and there is a requirement of **seeking God and His righteousness**.

The Old Testament is a history providing essential information and elements of how the Divine will is exercised over the natural and spiritual order of the world. Earliest records conclude that maintenance of the natural and spiritual realm is due to the will of God (Genesis 1-3; Hebrews 1:1-14). Forming man from the dust of the earth God **provided a garden** and after mankind’s fall God **provided the promise of salvation**. God guarded mankind throughout history and appointed them boundaries for the godly life. When man goes beyond these limits the goodness of God is replaced by severity (i.e. Behold then the goodness and severity of God: towards them that fell, severity; but towards thee, God’s goodness ...) Romans 11:1-24). Chastisement is meant to yield peaceable fruits (Hebrews 12:1-15). Evidence demonstrates that God’s divine protection rests on those who choose to obey His will (Psalms 91; 105; Hosea 11:1-15; Job 14:5) by keeping them from evil perils and nourishing them (Numbers 11; Exodus 13-16; Psalms 91;105-107). **If the hearts of men harden against** God there is an element of His providence which provides for His judgment. In punishment He can further harden the hearts of the disobedient and allow evil thoughts to grow (Exodus 8:3; 2 Samuel 24:1; Romans 1:18-27; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-11). **When the volition (will) of man changes** from disobedience to repentance and faithful obedience, such replace wrath with goodness. Students of the Bible recognize that any prosperity of the wicked is only transitory, while the blessings upon the godly are enduring. Thus, the Old Testament is a tutor to bring us to faith in Christ and gives reason for living godly lives (Galatians 3:1-29).

The New Testament teaches that God in His providence is continually the same (Hebrews 6:13-20). God as a Father loves infinitely and affectionately watches over mankind. He protects the humble and in the course of events has given mankind the **ultimate** reason for obedience. **This reason is salvation** through reconciliation found in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:11-19). It is understood that the rain comes upon the just and unjust (God’s benefits in the **natural realm**) however, the spiritual **blessings** are reserved in Christ (Ephesians 1:1-13; Galatians 3:27). The mighty optimism of faith is that God will provide for the faithful even in the face of apparent insurmountable odds, a complete and ultimate victory can be won, even over death (1 Corinthians 15:50-58). Christians are “more than conquerors” in Christ. “For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38,39). “Humble yourself therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you” (1 Peter 5:6, 7).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

September 21, 2014

Front foyer: Glen Kelly & Donna Davis

Back foyer: Carol Swinney & Fay Yeldell

September 28, 2014

Front foyer: Dale & Katherine Cox

Back foyer: Jerry Grantham & Myrtle Wade

Sermon Titles

September 21, 2014

a.m: "Drifting"

Scripture: Hebrews 2:1-4

p.m: "Success In Christianity"

Scripture: Matthew 7:1-6

September 28, 2014

a.m: "Bone Of Contention"

Scripture: Ephesians 5:22-33

p.m: "Bone Of Contention"

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:35-41

Contribution Counters For September

John Mayer & Thomas Rathbun

Communion Preparation For September

Darrell & Melissa Allen

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, Joann Hatch, Serena Hatch, J.C. and Dessie Ross, Denzil Myers, Tom Prince, *Tom Head, Faye West

Homebound Members:

Roy and Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Gearldean Jones, Frances LaFerney

Recovering at Home:

.**Margaret Lewis** has had an allergic reaction to some medication the doctor put her on.

.**Don & Joann Hatch's** daughter **Terri Fortner** has a case of shingles around her eye.

.**Purman Cofer** is now at home from a stay in the hospital last week.

.**Denzil Myers** is now home from the hospital after having a procedure done last Thursday.

.**Virginia Stull** is suffering with her hip.

Hospital: No one at this time.

Nursing Home:

Billie Myers – Northgate Plaza
Dorothy Smith – Avalon
Elsie Nanney – Elm Croft

Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

Special Requests:

.**Mike Garrison's** sister **Dorothy Cleaver** is to have a hip replacement on 9-16 at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona.

LADIES CLASS

Ladies Class will be on Tuesday, **September 16th** at 10 a.m. at the Annex. We will be studying about **Bible Women**.

THANK YOU

Dear Beltline church of Christ:

I want to thank everyone that helped me move into my new place. What a wonderful loving church we have at Belt Line.

**Love You All,
Myrtle Wade**

SPECIAL REQUEST

If you have any prescription or reading **glasses** at home that you no longer need, please bring them to the church building. There is a box in the front foyer to place them in. The glasses will be donated to our brethren in Africa and will be shipped the first week in October. This will help the less fortunate to read the Bible.

Wednesday Night Class

Henry Seidmeyer will be teaching on the book of **2 Corinthians** in the Adult auditorium class.

SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of **Fauna Garrett** who passed away this past week. She was the sister of **Dessie Ross**. Services are pending at this time. Please keep these two families in your prayers.

RESPONSE

Myashia Moore placed membership with us on Sunday.

Address is: 1960 W. Tarrant Rd.
Apt. #1905
Grand Prairie, Tx.
75050

Phone: 214-354-9190

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

9/16/14 Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

David West – 9/1
 Jackye Jewett – 9/2
 Dean Webb – 9/4
 Brenda Bryant – 9/7
 Katherine Cox – 9/8
 Fauna Garrett – 9/10
 Jane Easter – 9/10
 Hannah Guajardo – 9/12
 Sherry Hodge – 9/13
 J.C. Ross – 9/17
 Marcella Porter – 9/20
 Derrol Allen – 9/21
 Mary Martini – 9/24
 Dessie Ross – 9/26

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tom* & Linda Head – 9/7
 Keith & Cindy Vaughn – 9/15
 Vern & Melody Lundquist – 9/22
 David & Faye West – 9/24

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 please contact Mike Batot at:
 (972)741-2397*

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		9/21/14	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Jerry McKey · Ken Lee · Dale Cox
· Don Herriage	· Kenny Mayer		
· Scot Allen	· Ethan Howard		
· Dorris Walker	· James Gilliam		
· John Mayer	· Thomas Rathbun		
· Mike Garrison			
· Glen Kelly			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Dale Cox			· Bill Matthews Hebrews 2:1-4
· Dean Webb			
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
· Darrell Allen			· Don Herriage · Robert Ruckman
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
· Darrell Allen			· Alex Mayer Matthew 7:1-6
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Jerry Baker – Denzil Myers

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	67	64	68	100
A.M. Worship	119	112	115	150
P.M. Worship	59	72	64	80
Wed. Class	84	70	70	85
Contribution	\$4990	\$4168	\$4898	\$5331

MISSIONS

Haiti – Printing
 Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Moshen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
 Roy Conner – Brown Trail Preaching Student
 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
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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