

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

February 13, 2017
Volume 9 Number 6

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.... 7:00 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

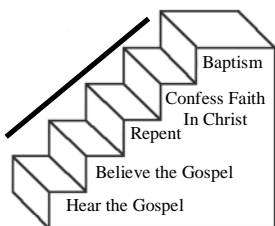
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Abraham-The Pioneer of Faith
(Genesis 12-25)

Abraham is the pioneer of our faith. Abraham lived in Ur of Chaldee. He left and took his father, Terah, his wife Sarah, and nephew Lot. Abraham proceeded across the river Euphrates and thereafter was known as the **Hebrew** which literally meant “CROSSER” (Genesis 14:13).

At the time of Abraham Babylon was distressed by people known as Kassites. Neither fear, nor poverty or love of adventure impelled Abraham to leave his native land. On the contrary his migration to Mesopotamia was a starting point of a higher walk of faith.

Abraham’s calling from God had seven generous promises (Genesis 12: 1-3); a country, nationality, happiness, witness, service, protection, and what is most important, he would become a blessing to others.

Abraham renounced everything in Ur in order to accept the promise of God. It is only with renunciation does he gain (Matt 16:21-28). He left certainty for uncertainty. The secret of his life was faith. Faith is always sure of its destination. It is a state of the soul in which one trusts the things of God as everlasting and a glorious certainty. Dominated by God’s gracious promise Abraham fulfilled the life of self-denial. When God calls an individual it is not for self-denial only but it is that the individual walk by faith (Rom 4).

A famine drove Abraham down to Egypt during the 12th dynasty. Abraham went down on his own recognizance. He should have first consulted God (Jas 4:13-17). When he arrived in Egypt he was in trouble. To protect Sarah and gain security to himself he lied. He resorted to expediency declaring that she was his sister. How it must have chagrined Abraham to be rebuked by a heathen for being untruthful? God did not utterly disgrace Abraham for his failure. He only disciplined him in order to teach him that in morals as well as in geometry a straight-line is the shortest distance between two points.

Abraham was rejected by Pharaoh as unworthy for citizenship. Abraham returned with Lot to Kadesh, south of the Dead Sea. As a peacemaker he displayed great wisdom in offering Lot his choice of the country. Lot chose the delightful "circle" of the Jordan Valley towards Sodom. It was not the wisest choice of his life. It meant great assets, but corrupt neighbors, substantive glorying, with morals ruination, loss of peace of mind, children corrupted and his prosperity went up in smoke as Sodom burned. Lot's choice was a willing compromise. Important decisions are never a remote act, they will epitomize life. Lot chose for himself, Abraham chose God’s ways. Abraham lived by spiritual aspiration, Lot by material ambition. Abraham desired righteousness. Lot’s greatest defeat was in his living by sight and not by faith. Choose well-choices are brief, yet endless in effect (Matt 6:33). Abraham was spiritual, successful and strove for righteousness.

The story of the Chedorlamer with other kings invading the cities of the plains is a picture of desperation in Lot's life. When choices are made they must be lived with. When the cities fell Lot was captured. Abraham with an Army of his servants followed after the five kings and overcame them. Abraham was an ideal warrior, he fought for his nephew's freedom, consecrated a portion of that taken to God and coveted nothing for himself. He was no mercenary. It was the thought of his kinsmen in chains that stirred his heart. During his return he met Melchizedek, King of Salem and priest of Jehovah. Abraham gave tithes to Melchizedek proving Melchizedek was greater than Abraham. Abraham’s liberality was infallible and indexed by faith (2 Cor 9:6-15).

Abraham returned to the plains and Lot to sinful Sodom. Abraham believed and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness. Abraham interceded hoping to arrest the destruction of the cities of the plains. His prayer, reverence and piety are striking.

When Isaac was born it filled Abraham with joy. When God demanded a sacrifice Abraham was obedient believing God was able to raise one from the dead (Heb 11:17-19). Above his love Abraham’s faith was tested. Abraham was thoughtful, reverent and submissive.

When we use our **talents** and **opportunities** they will display our sense of **responsibility**. Never underestimate what God can do with you. Let God use you for His higher purposes. **Don Hatch**

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Quite a bit is written in the word about righteousness, righteous judgment and truth. What Does The Bible Teach About Truth? Truth is the most precious commodity on the market. The wise man Solomon said, "Buy the truth, and sell it not" (Prov. 23:23). All truth comes from God for God cannot lie (Tit. 1:2). All falsehood comes from the Devil, who is a liar with no truth in him (John 8:14).

Christ, the Son of God, told the people of his day, "ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). Truth is Golden. Honest men have searched for it, they have fought for it, and they have died for it. Truth has nothing to fear. Truth has nothing to hide. Truth will bear investigation. It is the truth that men must believe and obey to be saved (1Peter 1:22). It is truth by which men must live, and it is the truth by which men will someday be judged (John 12:48). The only reason for believing and practicing any religious doctrine is because it is the truth.

Some men like Pilate ask, "What is truth?" (John 18:36). Jesus' answer, His word is truth (John 17:17). The truth in religion is the one body of doctrine found in the Bible. It is called the faith, doctrine and the Gospel. Truth is absolute and is not changed by what men think about it. "God would have all men to be saved, and come into the knowledge of the truth" (1Tim. 2:4). Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6). In our search for truth that can save, we need to only go to the Bible (John 17:17, 2John 9-11, Gal. 1:6-9).

There are many good people in the religious world who are honestly mistaken, but when a man who is honestly mistaken hears the truth, one of two things will happen: (1) He will cease to be mistaken, or (2) He will cease to be honest. It does little good to know the truth unless one is willing to obey it. The only way under heaven we can purify our soul is by obeying the truth (1Pet. 1:22). Brothers, Sisters & Friends, may we love the truth more and more, and the opinions of men less and less. We must know the truth, love the truth, believe the truth, and must be willing to obey the truth! We can only tell what is truth by studying our Bibles and investigating God's Word.

Have a great week serving God and being present when possible! Keep praying for our sick and shut-in.

Dean Webb

Continued from right column...

...because ample evidence of His existence is available (Rom 1:8-20). Often ignorance of God is due to some moral shortcoming rather than to a mental difficulty (Rom 2:12-15). The Bible reveals God, not as an abstract, nor remote or an impassive deity, but as the "Eternal One" – living, personal, sovereign in power in every realm with His Being focused upon mankind. The full and final revelation of the character and will of God was made known in His beloved Son, who was the effulgence of His glory.

Don Hatch

There Is A God

Scriptures supply knowledge which can mold man's mind, shaping it until it conforms to God thoughts. God's great operation to introduce the divine plan is presented as a historical fact verified by signs, wonders and manifold evidences which are irrefutable (Heb 2:1-5). There is no truth in the New Testament which was not first introduced as a "gem" in the Old Testament. On the other hand the New Testament expands the Old and gives significance to it. The distinction of the Old and New Testaments is not that the same truths are found on their pages but that the New Testament develops these truths. The Old Testament implants the doctrine of God, Jehovah the God of Israel and the Almighty God among the nations. The New Testament gives a more complete view of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit (2 Cor 13:14).

A conspicuous quality of the Old Testament is that the writers never took the time to prove God. All of them accepted the existence of God and their writings the product of His influence (2 Pet 1:20, 21; Heb 1:1-5). God is understood as an element in the thought processes of man (Rom 1:18-32, 2:1-16; 2 Thess 2:1-12). The moral conditions of mankind's heart, mind and soul will manifest how God is received or if His word will be refused. The teachings of the Bible identify that God can be known. Mankind can know He exists. Acknowledging God will allow a greater understanding of the creature that God made in His own image.

All doctrines in the Bible refer to God in one way or another. It is imperative that man believe in God, that He is and that the Bible is His word before one can approach any teaching from the Bible. Three threads run throughout the Bible: The **Being of God**, Revelation of His **Plan of Redemption** and Record of **Man's History** in three dispensations (Patrichal, Mosaic and Christian). One opens the Bible to learn of Christ, study teachings how God came in flesh, lived and died under the Law of Moses and ascended back to glory with the Father. Building a foundation of spirituality depends on knowing Jesus Christ. The existence of God must be settled before one considers how Immanuel [God with us] can save us from our sins. We must evaluate the evidence that Christ was all that He claimed to be before we can accept His teachings about the other aspects of Divinity.

The doctrine of God is the highest, most important and greatest theme in which man can engage his mind. One can trace the ways of God in the expanse of the universe and in the Holy Script. His reality is taught by consummate **design and workmanship** exhibited in a **Universe. This is not a Chaos (Ps 19:1)**. The Material universe demonstrates supreme intelligence and architecture or First Cause. Someone had to be responsible for the rich heaven, glorious constellations and the abundance upon our earth. Nature cannot tell us of how lost man is in sin or of the love which brought salvation to man. Nature displays power, wisdom and greatness of God but not His mercy, love and grace which remain to be revealed in His word.

History is the drama of God and man. In history God has revealed Himself and His dealings with mankind. God has not left Himself without witnesses. Through successive generations God's providence has been at work. In conspicuous historical events He has accomplished His purpose. An innate recognition of the existence and responsibility to God dwells in man (Eccl 3:11).

Nature and history are only partial disclosure of the existence of God. It is the Bible alone which completes the story of how, where, when, why and upon whom God has been at work. Throughout the Bible it speaks of God's authority and assures that there is a consciousness of God within the human. If man does not know God man is to blame.... **Continued in left column...**

FAMILY NEWS:

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

FEBRUARY ASSIGMENTS

GREETERS:

February 19 – Front Foyer – Glen Kelly & Donna Davis
Back Foyer – Richard & Carolyn Renfro

February 26 – Front Foyer – Dale & Katherine Cox
Back Foyer – Thomas Rathbun & Myrtle Wade

Communion Preparation: Brenda Bryant

Contribution Counters: Robert Taylor & Darrell Allen

SERMONS

February 19 – a.m. “Youth And Spiritual Sense”
Judges 13:11-14
p.m. “Ye Should Know”
John 7:14-24

**HAVE YOU INVITED
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP
THIS WEEK?**

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don & Margaret Lewis, Deidra Sutton, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Glen Kelly, Mike Garrison, Nellie Melvin, Alice Worthy, Sissy Allen, Grady Fowler, Bobby King, David Hawkins

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

Nursing Homes: Elsie Nanney – Avante

Max Melton – Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation

Military: Chris & Abigail Mathews

EVENTS

MISSION PRINTING – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

Ladies Bible Class will meet on Tuesday, February 14th. Fellowship at 9:45 and lesson at 10:00. The lesson this week will be **“Building Faith In The Midst Of Adversity”**. Ladies make plans to attend and bring a friend. Be sure to bring your Bibles.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Hospital:

Beverly McKey is in Medical City Hospital, Tower E room #660. Please keep this family in your prayers as she is to have a procedure done on Tuesday or Wednesday to hopefully resolve the cough and nausea.

Elsie Nanney has been moved to room #219 at Avante.

Max Melton has been moved to Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation – room #23. Address is: 619 N. Britain

Judy Odom fell Wednesday and had to have 29 stitches in her head.

Linda Head had eye surgery Wednesday.

Marcella Porter has requested prayers for her friend **Linda Rogers**. She had a heart attack and is in the hospital in Austin.

Amber Vaughan has requested prayers for her friend **Alex** as she is very ill.

Upcoming Events

The **39’ers breakfast** is scheduled for **March 11th**. There is a sign-up sheet in the front foyer.

Foster’s Home For Children 14th Annual Auction is on March 3 and 4, 2017. Further information is on the bulletin board.

The **39’ers** monthly get together will be on Monday night, **February 20th** at 6:30 p.m. at the Annex. Come bring your favorite food and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/20/17 – 39'ers – Annex 6:30 pm

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Robert Ruckman – 2/11
 Cathy Taylor – 2/12
 Joy Webb – 2/12
 Alex Mayer – 2/16
 Mary Curtis – 2/17
 Carol Partridge – 2/28

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Danny & Debbie Estes – 2/14

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:
 (469) 216-7580*

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		2/19/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Dean Webb Darrell Allen Bill Matthews
Richard Renfro	Thomas Rathbun		P.M. – John Mayer Jerry McKey
Nathan Allen	Dale Cox		
John Mayer	Vern Lundquist		
Alex Mayer	Robert Taylor		
Curtis Vaughan			
Purman Cofer			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Thomas Rathbun			A.M. – Glen Kelly Judges 13:11-14
Dean Webb			P.M. – Nathan Allen John 7:14-24
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
A.M. – Jerry McKey			Thomas Rathbun
P.M. – Nathan Allen – 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	60	62	58	100
A.M. Worship	86	88	87	150
P.M. Worship	59	58	59	80
Wed. Class	54	65	57	85
Contribution	\$6436	\$4273	\$5094	\$5220

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

Glen Tattersall – Australia
 Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
 Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
 Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
 Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
 David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
 Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
 Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

OTHERS SUPPORTED

Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas
 The Truth In Love – Hurst, Texas
 Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
 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 – Bedford, Texas
 Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Joseph Harris, Nathan Boyd
 Southwest School of Bible Studies – Issac Umana

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

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