

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

December 2, 2013
Volume 5 Number 46

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606
972/790-3897 (fax)

Web site:
<http://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

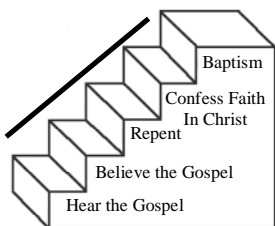
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Christians Have Spiritual Strength

Don Hatch

Christians exercise a power unknown to the world. They stand in the strength of the Lord (Eph 6:10; Jn 15:1-5). They draw vigor from a spiritual resource and can do all things through Christ who strengthens them (Phil 4:13; 2 Cor 12:9; 1 Tim 1:12). The might of the Lord is infinite and wonderful. By His strength the worlds were created and all things have been maintained (Heb 1:-15). By His word the mountains trembled, the river Jordan ran backwards, rocks melted, cedars of Lebanon were broken, the forest stripped bare and a Savior arose to save those dead in their sins (Eph 2:1-11). The Redeemer gave life and freedom from transgressions and sins. New Testament writers urged Christians to find their strength within the church (Christ's, body Eph 1:21-23; 1 Cor 12:12-31). The omnipotent power of Christ was demonstrated repeatedly in His life, death, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God (Heb 2:1-8). The facts are that Christians can ask and they will be answered in accordance to God's will (Eph 3:20, 21).

It is clear that the power of God in Christ is infinitely more powerful than that of Satan. However, we need to be concerned about the power of the **prince of evil**. He has vast power. To overcome him in any given circumstance we must draw near to God, be subject to Him, resist the devil, cleanse ourselves, purify our hearts and submissively present ourselves humbly before Him (Jas 4:1-10).

Every encounter with Satan is serious and victory over him requires diligence. It is possible to win the battles if we count the cost. The counsel of God is from eternity and has never failed. Decisive victory is to the overcomers (Rom 8:31-39). Overcomers are conquerors and in order to conquer one must fight (Eph 6:10-20). The foe is a fearless aggressor (Mat 4:1; Jn 8:44; 1 Pet 5:8; Jude 9; Rev 2:10; 12:9; 20:2). It is evident that Satan personally exists and his sinister influence is at work. Having been cast out of heaven, he is filled with great rage and fury. His wickedness is savage and aimed against God and the redeemed. He cannot dethrone God. Therefore his efforts as a roaring lion are seeking to devour in a well organized warfare, establishing outposts in the hearts of the unredeemed.

The redeemed should not be ignorant of his devices and deceptions (2 Cor 2:11). His craftiness will mean nothing if we *give judicious consideration* of how we can be affected through misdirection mixed with half truths. Satan “apes” God promising people that good can be accomplished by practicing wrong (Lk 4:6, 7; Rom 3:8).

The victor's prayer will circumspectly speak to God waiting upon Him in love and devotion. Waiting passively to engage the enemy is not a part of the action of a conqueror. The soldier of Christ is drawn up in battle array (Eph 6:1-20). He is ready to defend himself and attack to repulse an onrush. The promise is that the Christian will carry through standing up against Satan knowing he will flee (Jas 4:7). The best defense is a good offense. Going out seeking the lost is a reasonable and earnest way of overcoming the devil.

The word of man directed to God connects with a power greater than all, giving spiritual people guidance and moral courage. Paul says, “...with *all* prayer and supplication praying at *all* seasons in the Spirit, and watching thereunto in *all* perseverance and supplication for *all* the saints” (Eph 6:18). Note that Paul used “*all*” four times. The variety of prayer by those who are in fellowship with God will not be of just one kind. Intercessions, thanksgivings and supplications are made for all men (1 Tim 2:1, 2). Moreover the prayer life of a soldier of Christ seeks definite and prescribed benefits. Knowing what is going on around the world connects with situations which center on the here and now as well as the there and then. Prayers in times of great calamities are in vogue. Christians acknowledge God in all their ways and seek to be in harmony with His will. Being alert, not listless or indifferent enlarges the arena of prayer. Perseverance will be a part of the life of those who know that one prayer followed by others deepens and satisfies a longing soul. Partaking of a satisfactory relationship with God has spiritual benefits and great enhancements knowing that prayers are answered and the God of heaven and earth is engaged in the faithful lives

The direct and indirect object of prayer is the sojourn taken in the name of the Lord. “Let love of the brethren continue. Forget not to show love unto strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; them that are illtreated, as being yourselves also in the body. Let marriage be had in honor among all, and let the bed be undefiled: for fornicators and adulterers God will judge. Be ye free from the love of money; content with such things as ye have: for himself hath said, I will in no wise fail thee, neither will I in any wise forsake thee” (Heb 13:1-8).

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Have you ever stopped to think about how important you are to the local congregation you worship at? Let me share some thoughts that should be very important to all of us.

A story is told by someone that "In proofreading an article for publication, a preacher noticed a sentence which read, "The church was untied." The sentence, naturally, should have read, "The church was "united." The only difference between the word "untied" and the word "united" is misplacing the "I". But what a contrast it makes. "I" and "you" - are most important in the local congregation. We must not become misplace.

Yes, we would like to see all Christians united and active in their local congregation which he or she is a member. Also, we like to see that members live so the local church can grow spiritually and physically. **Do you "care" for the local church? (2 Cor. 11:28)** "...besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: *my deep concern for all the churches.*"

Let us look at some facts. The local church provides you and me with all the blessings associated with membership in the Lord's church. You might ask, "What does the local church provide me? The first thing we might think of is "**The bond of fellowship**" (Acts 2:42-47; 1 John 1:8-10). Another important factor is "**The strength of edification**" (Eph 4:15-16) "...but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head; Christ; from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love." Another thought should be "**The joy of public worship**" (Acts 20:7) "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight." (1 Cor. 14:15) "What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding." Finally, how about "**The lift of encouragement**" (Heb 3:13) "but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin." and Heb 10:24 "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,..."

The church "somewhere" cannot do these things effectively but requires a LOCAL congregation. Next week let us look at the local church and why every member is important.

Jerry McKey

"(Now this, He ascended, what is it but that he also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He that descended is the same also that ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And he gave some to be apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, unto the work of ministering, unto the building up of the body of Christ: till we all attain unto the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a fullgrown man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" (Eph 4:9-13).

Attain Unto The Resurrection

"Yea verily, and I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but refuse, that I may gain Christ, and be found in him, not having a righteousness of mine own, even that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith: that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed unto his death; if by any means I may attain unto the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself yet to have laid hold: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye are otherwise minded, this also shall God reveal unto you: only, whereunto we have attained, by that same rule let us walk" (Phil 3:10-16).

Goals are arrived at by fixing the eye upon them. The race for the final goal is encouraged by various signposts announcing the distance to the end of the track. Such things encourage the racer to intensify the exertion and press onward. Pressing forward takes will-power and endurance. Training is the primary part of a racer's life. It starts with small but steady endurance training. In the spiritual race the goal is to be with God, Christ, Holy Spirit and the just. The spiritual ethical perfection is within the racer's capacity and enhanced by training. Racing to be above sin is eagerly promoted and the glory of God is sought by using every ounce of effort to attain that goal. Racers are running in the spiritual race to encourage others to join it and excel.

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in Sheol, whither thou goest. I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favor to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all. For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net, and as the birds that are caught in the snare, even so are the sons of men snared in an evil time, when it falleth suddenly upon them. I have also seen wisdom under the sun on this wise, and it seemed great unto me..." (Eccl 9:10-13).

In context with the spiritual race the security is that others have attained the goal it (2 Tim 4:6-8). What has been done by humans can be done by others! The noble object is enhanced by others praying on our behalf. Urgency is foremost in many Christians' life. To accomplish something in the name of the Lord each day is mentioned many times in the New Testament.

Provoking others to emulate those of the 1st century and encouraging those who live in the 21st century is a worthy undertaking wherein we can count ourselves not yet to have laid hold on the goal of the high calling in Jesus. We, like Paul, can press on, stretching forward to the things which are before us, counting that prize of the goal to be the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

December 8, 2013

Front foyer: Donna Davis & Jerry Grantham

Back foyer: Dale & Katherine Cox

December 15, 2013

Front foyer: Doris Selby & Carol Swinney

Back foyer: Thomas Rathbun & Henry Seidmeyer

Sermon Titles

December 8, 2013

a.m: "Faith, Love And Sanctification"

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:8-15

p.m: "What Your Eye Looks At"

Scripture: Matthew 5:27-32

December 15, 2013

a.m: "The Charge"

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4:1-8

p.m: "Oaths And Pledges"

Scripture: Matthew 5:33-37

Contribution Counters For December

Glen Kelly & Purman Cofer

Communion Preparation For December

Bobby & Brenda England

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate booklets. Please come help us.

SINGING CLASS

The *Singing Class* meets every Sunday in room #116 at 5:15 to

learn new songs and sing the old standards.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Frances LaFerney, Jan Smithson, Hank Henry, Elsie Nanney, Roy & Helen Thomas, Marietta Houser, Mary Walker, Denzil & Billie Myers, Jane Easter, Bill Matthews, Harold Keller, Tom Head*

Those In Need Of Prayer

Tom Head is now at home recovering from his stay in the hospital. Please pray for him and **Linda**.

Jerry Grantham is having a biopsy on December 9th, at Methodist Hospital. Please keep her in your prayers.

Dale Cox is not feeling well. Please keep him in your prayers.

Linda Matthew's brother, **Michael** is very sick and needs our prayers.

LeJean Pope (member of the church in Sulpher Springs, Tx.) is in poor health and prayers have been requested on her behalf.

Dorothy Chaves, 87 years old is in declining health. Prayers have been requested on her behalf as well as for her family.

Prayers have been requested for **Margeen Cotton**. She is under the care of hospice.

There are many others who are suffering with various illnesses. Please keep them in your daily prayers.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will be Tuesday, **December 3rd**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex. The lesson will be on **Romans, Chapter 14**.

NEW STUDY

Don Hatch is starting a new series in the Auditorium Class. It is on the "**Savings of Jesus Christ**" Plan to attend and study from our Lord's word.

39'ers

39'ers will meet **December 16th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex. Please bring food and enjoy the wonderful fellowship.

SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to **Marcella Porter** and family on the loss of her sister **Linda Porter Lynd** last Wednesday. Funeral services will be held in Abilene today, December 2nd.

We also extend our sympathy to the family of **Lewis Randell** who passed away in Amarillo. He was a good friend of Don and Ann Herriage.

CONGRATULATIONS

Jeremy Kyle Hardegree will be graduating from Texas A&M University at College Station. He will be receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science with a major in Sport Management and also with a minor in Communications. The Commencement Exercises will be held on Friday, December 13th at 7 p.m. at the Reed Arena in College Station, Texas.

"HOW WE GOT THE BIBLE"

David Tarbet will be conducting the above study on **December 6th** at 7 p.m. and on **December 7th** at 10 a.m. at the Bridgewood Church of Christ – Fort Worth, Texas.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

12/10/13 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

12/16/13 – 39'ers – Annex – 6:30 p.m.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY'S

- Grady Fowler – 12/1
- Donna Myer – 12/2
- Ann Bruce – 12/5
- Virginia Stull – 12/6
- Lotah Franklin – 12/6
- Becky Henry – 12/10
- Brent Howard – 12/10
- Crystal Morris – 12/13
- Elizabeth Garrison – 12/13
- Linda Matthews – 12/17
- Virgil LaFerney – 12/17
- Kim Mayer – 12/20
- Pam Mathews – 12/23
- Carol Lee – 12/24
- Brenda England – 12/29

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Tony* & Shellie Pearce – 12/18
- Bill* & Carolyn Montgomery – 12/22
- Scott & Kassie Price – 12/30
- David & Judy Odom – 12/31

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

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		12/8/13	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Jerry McKey
·Richard Renfro	·Ethan Howard		· Dale Cox
·Brandon Howard	·Brent Howard		· Clifford Yeldell
·Purman Cofer	·Curtis Vaughn		
·Glen Kelly	·Derrol Allen		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Kenny Mayer			· Nathan Allen
·Mike Batot			1 Timothy 2:8-15
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Mike Batot
			· Darrell Allen
			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Don Herriage
			Matthew 5:27-32
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Darrell Allen

LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)

- Nathan Allen
- Clifford Yeldell

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

- Glen Kelly

A.M. SONG LEADER

- Jerry McKey

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	63	67	72	100
A.M. Worship	79	127	129	150
P.M. Worship	48	52	66	80
Wed. Class	75	50	71	85
Contribution	\$3419	\$4885	\$5096	\$5470

MISSIONS

- 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
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
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AT IRVING, TEXAS**