

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

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Volume 5 Number 43

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

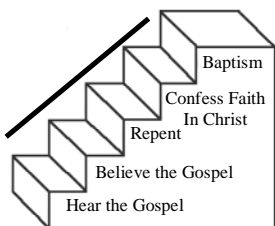
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



Miracles

Don Hatch

Biblical accounts of miracles are the extraordinary work of God transcending laws of nature. Miracles in the New Testament were worked to prove revelation. The Lord's ministry was attended by miracles from first to last by events which were beyond the ordinary. Some examples are His mother's being overpowered by the Holy Spirit to bear Him, the announcement of the birth to His earthly father and the shepherds who were told to go to Bethlehem. Then Simeon and Anna waiting in the temple, and later the uniqueness of His preaching were confirmed by miracles. His death on the cross, resurrection, and being with His apostles for 40 days prior to His ascension to the right hand of God were His authorization to come from heaven to earth and back again. The miracles shown in detail are confirmation of His divinity. Doubt was allayed as He went about in Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, preaching the gospel and working miracles when healing all manner of illness (Mat 4:23). Multitudes sought to touch Him because of unclean spirits, diseases and infirmities. Out of Him came power to heal them (Lk 6:17-19).

Trustworthy evidences are found in the writings of Luke. As a trained physician he could attest to the sicknesses being healed and that they superseded mere manmade curses. His testimonies to the cures being brought about by miracles were the nearest thing possible to the evidences needed to prove something had been derived from God and not man. Luke's consideration is especially important as He was an eyewitness to Paul's performing miracles. The trustworthiness of Luke verifies innumerable miracles of Jesus and Paul.

The special acts of God which interrupt the natural course of events are called miracles. Miracles depend on the existence of God. Numerous arguments are made to prove His existence [i.e. Cosmological Argument, Moral Argument, Teleological Argument, etc]. If God exists there are miracles and if miracles are performed there is a God. If there is a God who can act, then there are acts of God. The only way agnostics, atheists or unbelievers have to prove that there is no God is to show that miracles are impossible. Special acts of God are known when they occur. There are specific

characteristics which occur before it is considered a miracle. Simply saying a miracle happened does not prove it. Miracles are unusual or irregular acts wherein God is at work. The creation of the earth was an antecedent to man. God's greatest miracle was creation. It was a supernatural event. Jesus performed miracles which superseded the natural order. If the Creator exists His Son would perform miracles too. Jesus superseded nature with His miracles, He was from God. The Son was with the Father in creation (Jn 1:1-17). What greater miracle could occur in human history that has not already occurred in cosmic history? Christians come to the Bible encountering no misrepresentation of God and expect that He worked miracles. If the Creator exists there is an expectation of miracles. With His cosmic creation God has already broken through the natural order with supernatural power. We ask not whether, but where has God not been in human history.

Human witnesses to miracles give us a basis for belief in the New Testament reliability. The combined testimonies of these witnesses are based upon their trustworthiness. It is beyond reasonable dispute that if they were willing to give their lives for this testimony they were faithful to what had been demonstrated and the teachings which were confirmed.

The out-of-the-ordinary activity of a miracle is contrasted to the regular pattern of events in the natural world. They were to attract attention by its uniqueness [a burning bush that did not burn, a man walking on the water]. The view which arises is that there is a God who is beyond the created universe, controls it and can interfere in it because of His everlasting power. The **moral dimension** of a miracle is that they manifest the glory, righteousness and purity of God. Miracles are visible acts which reflect the invisible nature of God. No true miracle is evil, because God is good and cannot do evil. Miracles promote good and produce goodness. Miracles are connected to the truths claimed. Miracles are ways of telling a true prophet from God as opposed to false ones (Deut 18:22). They confirm the truth of God though the servants of God (Heb 2:1-5). Messages from God are uniquely coupled to the truth of God. Miracles are not magic. They were never a performance to entertain. Like worship is not a time of entertainment, so also miracles are a distinctive action performed to glorify the Creator, providing evidence to the people that they can believe the message.

We must know what to look for before we recognize a miracle. Miracles stand in contrast to the natural. Miracles are unusual, unpredictable events wherein God works. The age of miracles has ceased. The reason for them to no longer exist is we have the full revelation from God (Jude 3). The Bible is complete and proven.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

At just about every service of the Lord's church the question is asked ARE YOU IN CHRIST? The little preposition "in", when it precedes Christ becomes an important word as it relates to salvation. To be saved means to be "in" Christ. "Therefore, I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory" (2Tim. 2:10). What does it mean to be in Christ? It shows the relationship Christians have with Christ. It shows the sphere or realm in which the Christian is located. To be in Christ is to be in His spiritual body, the church. This is true because we are baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3); we are baptized into the body (1 Cor. 12:13); and the body is the church (Eph. 1:22-23). Hence, to be baptized into Christ is to be baptized into His spiritual body, the church. Since salvation is in Christ (Eph 2:10), and to be in Christ is to be in His body, then salvation is in His body. Since salvation is in the body of Christ, and the body is the Church (Col. 1:18), then salvation or the saved are in the Church. This shows the error that one is saved or born again and then joins the church of his choice. It also shows the error that one can be saved outside of Christ, His body, the church. Being saved, born again, a Christian, and being in Christ, the church, all refer to the same process. Since salvation is in Christ and no saved are outside Christ, it is essential to be in Christ.

Since it is essential to be in Christ, because salvation is there, how does one get INTO Christ? There are only three passages that tell us how to get INTO Christ (Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 12:13). All three passages say that the way one gets into Christ is by Baptism. "For as many of you as have been baptized INTO Christ have put on Christ" (Gal. 3:27). These passages are too plain to be misunderstood, and cannot be ignored. Baptism puts one into Christ (the church) where there is salvation (2 Tim. 2:10; Rom. 6:3; Acts 2:47). Therefore, baptism is essential to salvation. If we are not in Christ, then we are outside of Christ, and if outside of Christ, then lost. Read (Acts 8:34-39).

Continue to pray for all of our members and the many works going on in several areas. You are to be commended for doing good works! Have a great week serving God and pray for our sick and shut-ins.

Dean Webb

"And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. But of the rest durst no man join himself to them: howbeit the people magnified them; *and believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women*; [emp. DH] insomuch that they even carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that, as Peter came by, at the least his shadow might overshadow some one of them. And there also came together the multitudes from the cities round about Jerusalem, bringing sick folk, and them that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one" (Acts 5:12-16).

Words Of Life

"Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain." (*Philippians 2:16*)

Obedience takes the words of God and uses them as illumination for others to see the path of life upon which to tread (Mat 5:14-16). Invigorating the life of another to serve the risen Lord is a blessed part of the believer's life. The "words of life" are qualifiers manifesting that there are many words spoken, but those who serve the Lord hold them as precious messages. The disciples in the first century did not embellish the truth. It is essential that there are never lies equated with the ways of God. The false prophet, false teacher, false Christ, false brother and false witness portray those that misrepresent who they are by what they do, by saying the "words" purported to be truth. Connivances of those who seek to be aggrandized by falsifying the truth are both evil and injurious. The strong prohibition "lie not one to another" means never lie, expressly to those of faith. The New Testament teaches that believers must stress honesty in life.

Those who misrepresent the truth must be contested because they diminish the value of the "truth of the gospel of salvation". Obedience is not a grudging compliance (Phil 2:14-17). When grudgingly done it is not obedience. Granting guidance and valuing truth is true religion. Christians do all things without murmuring. Cheerfulness comes to those who do the will of the Lord. The unadulterated teachings of the New Testament are blameless without admixture. Those who are sanctified in Christ seek virtue and value being begotten from above. Christians are charged to maintain love and discipline (2 Tim 1:7).

Knowing God saves is the propellant for teaching the gospel. Accordingly we work within the purpose of what was given to us by the Lord Jesus Christ. Knowing that the Lord abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel makes us unashamed (2 Tim 1:3-14). All must be persuaded that God is able to keep the soul that has been committed unto Him. Holding the pattern of sound words is imperative because they are vouched safe by those who heard and remained faithful to the Lord. The world steeped in darkness must have individuals who are accountable and diligent. The things which were heard among many witnesses must be committed unto faithful men who are able to teach others even while suffering hardships (2 Tim 2:1-13). Enduring all things for the elect's sake in order that all may obtain salvation is a resolute force which overcomes the evil one (Rom 8:31-39).

Wearing the name "God's people" means we have come out of darkness, uncleanness, vile passions, fellowship with iniquity and all that will overwhelm us. Having the promise of God we cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh or spirit in order to perfect holiness with reverence for God (2 Cor 6:14-18; 7:1).

Charged with the responsibilities of "holding forth the word of life" we are thus true stewards of the mysteries of life (1 Cor 4:1-5). Being well versed in the word makes us competent labors. Searching the scriptures lead to eternal life and to the witnesses which are unassailable (Jn 5:39; 1 Tim 6:1).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

November 17, 2013

Front foyer: Carol Swinney & Fay Yeldell

Back foyer: Glen Kelly & Myrtle Wade

November 24, 2013

Front foyer: Henry Seidmeyer & Doris Selby

Back foyer: Robert & Cathy Taylor

Sermon Titles

November 17, 2013

a.m: "Your Faith"

Scripture: Col. 1:3-8

p.m: "Light Before My God"

Scripture: Psalms 56:8-13

November 24, 2013

a.m: "Confirm Your Faith"

Scripture: 1 Thes. 3:1-10

p.m: "Fulfill The Law"

Scripture: Matthew 5:17-20

Contribution Counters For November

John Mayer & Bobby England

Communion Preparation For November

Jerry Grantham

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, Shelia Martin, Jane Easter, Bill Matthews, Harold Keller, Tom Head*

Those In Need Of Prayer

Elizabeth Garrison is scheduled for knee surgery this Thursday **November 14th** at 8:30 a.m.

Faye West is still having blood pressure problems.

John Mayer's cousin **Debbie Beddoe** fell and hit her head. She has blunt force trauma and is in ICU in a hospital near Houston.

Hugh Bumgarner's brother **Terry** is suffering from cancer. They brought him home from the hospital and hospice is there with him. Please keep this family in your prayers.

Lewis Randell, a friend of the **Herriage's** has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer and has requested our prayers on his behalf. He lives in Amarillo.

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

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will be Tuesday, **November 12th** at 10:00 a.m. in the Annex. The lesson will be on **Romans, Chapter 11.**

Wil Sadler will be speaking to us on Sunday night **Nov. 17th**. After services we will have a "**finger food**" **get together** in the Annex.

39'ers

39'ers will meet next Monday **November 18th** at 6:30 p.m. in the Annex. Please bring food and enjoy the wonderful fellowship.

CONGRATULATIONS

Scot Allen and Tori Morris both were inducted into the National Honor Society Monday night at McArthur High School.

RESPONSE

Christal Moore came forward Wednesday night asking for prayers for her mother **Denice Moore**, and also for a co-worker and his twins, the babies are in the hospital. Please keep both of these families in your prayers.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy is extended to **Jenny Reed** on the loss of her mother **Ona Reed**. Ona was 93 years old. Graveside services are being held this afternoon at 2 p.m. at the Ivy Cemetery in Christoval, Texas. Please keep this family in your prayers.

TEACHERS

The new quarter will begin on Sunday, **December 1st** and Wednesday night, **December 4th**. If you need any supplies or help please let Don Hatch know.

Jesus listened to His Father and told the world what He heard (John 8:26; 12:49-50). He worked diligently at fulfilling the work God had for Him (John 9:4) and He brought glory to the Father.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/18/13 – 39’ers – 6:30 p.m.

11/19/13 – Ladies Bible Class – 10 a.m.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY’S

- Julie Roses – 11/5
- Frances LaFerney – 11/7
- Bill Matthews – 11/8
- Charlene Carroll – 11/10
- Doris Selby – 11/13
- Gary Workman – 11/14
- Nancy Pond – 11/15
- Katherine Davis – 11/17
- Nathan Allen – 11/17

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Mike & Elizabeth Garrison – 11/12
- Don & Margaret Lewis – 11/23
- Ken & Carol Lee – 11/25

*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>		11/17/13	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Dean Webb
·Don Herriage	·James Gilliam		· Glen Kelly
·Thomas Rathbun	·J.C. Ross		· Clifford Yeldell
·Scott Allen	·Bobby England		
·Bill Paschall	·Toby Howard		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Henry Seidmeyer			· Kenny Mayer
·Dorris Walker			Col. 1:3-8
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· John Mayer
			· Jerry McKey
			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
			· Bill Paschall
			Psalms 56:8-13
			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
			· Darrell 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	62	66	72	100
A.M. Worship	122	130	130	150
P.M. Worship	70	60	66	80
Wed. Class	66	70	71	85
Contribution	\$6537	\$3908	\$5154	\$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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