



Where families worship,  
serve and raise their  
children

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

Established 33 AD

April 6, 2020

Volume 12 Number 14

1202 N. Belt Line Road  
Irving, TX 75061  
972/790-8606

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.

## MINISTER

Randy Reagan

Email:

randy.reagan@beltlinechurch.com

## ELDERS

Jerry McKey  
Richard Renfro  
Dean Webb

## DEACONS

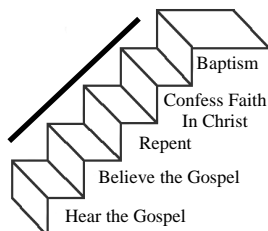
Darrell Allen  
Glen Kelly  
John Mayer

## SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
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)



## A Great Persecution Arose

March 19, 2020

Andy Baker

Things were going great at first. In the first chapters of Acts, the church was growing by leaps and bounds, there were great open-doors for the people of God, and the future was bright in sharing the message about Jesus. However, beginning in Acts 4, the problems started for the church in Jerusalem.

By the end of chapter 7, there is the death of Stephen and by chapter 8:1, the church scatters. Note this, up until the church scattered, there is no indication that they stopped assembling as the apostles commanded. However, just as relevant, there is a precedent for not assembling for a physical reason. Some things to note in this situation:

There were probably people who scattered and felt bad about missing the assembly. It was not ideal. It was not optimal, but due to this physical danger, they did not stay to assemble with the brethren in Jerusalem. Note that if it was sinful what these people did, the apostles are silent about it. In fact, Acts 8:1 seems to indicate that the apostles were the only ones left!

There were probably those people who looked with disdain at the apparent lack of faith of those who scattered. There is a difference between being wise and being foolish. There is also a difference between not assembling for wise reasons and willfully missing the assembly for foolish reasons. There are some, even today, who will claim that members of the church are lacking in faith when it comes to immediate physical dangers.

Missing the assembly and forsaking the assembly are not the same things. These people that scattered were not abandoning the faith. They were removing themselves from possible attacks on their lives. In fact, Acts 8:4 is a punctuation mark on that fact: They went everywhere preaching the word. Their desire was not to have an excuse to stop assembling; their desire in that immediate context was to remove themselves from the threat. Study the word, forsaking Heb. 10:25 and the distinction will be immediately obvious.

God can bring great things with people who are scattered and who desire to do His will. Up until this time, the church had remained in the comfort of the city of Jerusalem. What if they had remained there? They would have never had an opportunity to turn the world upside down for Christ. Just because there is a danger, doesn't mean God can't cause great things to result. Be wise, be faithful and be bold in Him!

**FAMILY NEWS:**

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

**Ongoing Health Concerns:** David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Grady Fowler, Paul Kelly, Polly Roses, Sherry Hodge, Anne Herriage, Dale Cox, Patsy Swain, Cloreece Wilson, Vera Gleghorn, Marinell Zaun, Joe Farley, Debra Wintle, Marcella Porter

**Home Bound Members:** Helen Thomas, Mary Walker

**Nursing Home:** Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care      Dale Cox – Avante

**Military:** Chris & Abigail Mathews      Andrea Daniel (Air Force)      Curtis Vaughan (Navy)

Because of the “**Shelter-In-Place**” orders mandated for Dallas County, we are not able to have services or any church related events until at least April 30<sup>th</sup>. Then the Governor and Dallas County officials will review the situation.

The Church Office will be closed for the next few weeks. We will be working from home. Please call one of the Elders if you have a need.

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**A NOTE FROM THE ELDERS**

Just a reminder ... Even though we haven't been able to assemble with one another at the building, our congregation continues to have weekly expenses. As the example was set for us in 1 Corinthians 16:1-2, we likewise need to set aside and make our contributions. We would greatly appreciate each of you mailing your contribution to the church office until shelter-in-place is lifted and we can meet again. The mailing address is: 1202 N. Belt Line Road Irving, TX 75061. As always, the elders appreciate your thoughtful generosity. May God bless you. May we all continue to pray for each other and this situation.

**The Elders**

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**Everyone** – we have a new telephone messaging system. The church phone number will come up on your caller ID. Please listen to the message in full so that you will know what is going on. Please don't call the office to ask what the call is about because the office is closed at this time.

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**Randy Reagan** will be recording his sermons. You can listen to them if you go to [www.beltlinechurch.com](http://www.beltlinechurch.com) and click on sermons. You can then choose which week you want to listen to. Members Only - if you don't have a computer, we will be glad to mail you a CD so that you can listen to it on a CD player.

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**Update on the sick:**

**Nancy Pond's** family member **Katy Bowman** was released from the hospital last Tuesday after being injured in a terrible auto accident.

**Nelda Bell's** son **Lewis Tomlinson** has been diagnosed with Hodgins Lymphoma.

**Richard and Carolyn Renfro** had a rough week last week with some health issues.

Please keep these families in your daily prayers.

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Rebecca Andrepont | 4/1  |
| Glen Kelly        | 4/1  |
| Jerry Grantham    | 4/2  |
| Mary Wise         | 4/2  |
| Vern Lundquist    | 4/6  |
| Jim Walters       | 4/6  |
| Billie Beverly    | 4/7  |
| Clemmie Cheatham  | 4/15 |
| Bobby Allen       | 4/16 |
| Henry Seidmeyer   | 4/16 |
| Nelda Bell Newton | 4/17 |
| Jeanene Heilman   | 4/19 |
| Alice Worthy      | 4/20 |
| Thomas Rathbun    | 4/21 |
| Mary Walker       | 4/22 |
| Faye West         | 4/30 |

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

|                        |      |
|------------------------|------|
| Paul & Becky* Kelly    | 4/3  |
| Randy & Barbara Reagan | 4/10 |

**SHELTER-IN-PLACE**  
Until restrictions are lifted

By  
Dallas County and the State of Texas

Please keep our country in your daily prayers that this COVID-19 virus ends very soon and please be mindful of others and stay in during this time.

**MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED**

- Glen Tattersall – *Australia*
- Jose & Miriam Suarez – *Mexico*
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – *France*
- Gary & Nadya Workman – *Ukraine*
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma – *Australia*
- Willie & Del Gley – *Ghana/Togo, Africa*
- David & Paula Tarbet – *New Milford, CT*
- Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – *Lagos, Nigeria*
- Ted Lingren – *Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia*
- Rohan & Sandra Jones – *Cape Town, South Africa*
- Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – *Wotutu, Cameroon*
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – *Chennai Teacher Training School – India*

**OTHERS SUPPORTED**

- Paper Pulpit – *Hurst, Texas*
- 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
- Luis Loera – *Jaelyn Downing*

## A Message from Our Shepherd

We are all experiencing some of the most unusual times in our lifetime. I would have never believed that we would not be allowed to worship together on Sundays. This should not keep us from worshipping with our family or with a close friend. Carolyn and I watched, and had communion, and sang with the Brown Trail video on their web site. Then we listened to Randy's sermon from his audio recording by Jerry McKey. Next week, Jerry plans to video Randy's sermon for email distribution to those who have the computer connection and he will also include an audio version for those who have only audio connections. Jerry will also mail CD audios to those who need them. Randy has ordered 200 communion containers that include both the bread and the fruit of the vine that should be available by Friday at the building. Call Jerry McKey to find out when he will be able to distribute them at the building for car pickup. The elders have divided the church phone directory into three groups. Each elder phoned their assigned group this week and we will rotate the groups between the eldership in the coming weeks. Jerry, Dean and I have been conferencing on Zoom, a video phone service. We are trying to keep everything going the best way possible.

These next two weeks maybe shocking to many of us. Please pray for each member at Belt Line as well as the brotherhood throughout the world. Many of our missionaries are suffering much more than we, but they always write that they are praying daily for us. Remember that if we live in Christ, we are assured that we will die in Christ.

For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. **2 Corinthians 5:14-15 NKJV**

--- **Richard Renfro**

**BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(USPS 110820) published weekly except the first 3 weeks of July and the last 2 weeks of December at 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061. Periodicals postage paid at Irving, Texas.

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