

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

November 14, 2016
Volume 8 Number 40

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

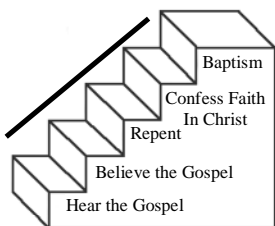
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

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)



A Dragnet!

Don Hatch

Solemn parables of Jesus are paired up like the Wheat and Tares and the Dragnet because of judgment which is displayed by giving a separation of the good and bad (Matt 13). The wicked are removed from the surroundings of the just and doom is described. Eternal blessings are presented as available for the faithful. Some parables have other distinguishing factors like the Mustard Seed, Leaven, Treasure and Pearl. The outstanding truth found in the Dragnet and Wheat and Tares is that good is commingled with bad and a time of separation has been set. Therefore good can rejoice. God has a bright day coming and evil will mourn and be eternally doomed.

Jesus had told his apostles that they would become fishers of men (Matt 4:18-22; Matt 13:47-50). There would be a letting down of “a net” into the peoples of the world and all types would be gathered up.

The dragnet was a large net weighted at the bottom in order that it would drag deep and gather fish from every strata of the sea. It is a typical of the presentation and proclamation of the gospel for it is wide, all embracing, declaring salvation by grace to all. The effectual procedure of presenting the gospel draws mankind into full view of Jesus' propitious gift at the cross of Calvary. The declaration of the gospel demonstrates that none are too deep, too far, too high, too bad, too good to be passed by for the net collects the dreadful and excellent. It's all encompassing power reaches across this last dispensation where all events in its prevailing time intervene to separate the good from the bad (Rom 1:16.17). This present dispensation will conclude when Jesus presents the kingdom to the Father (1 Cor 15:20-28). The gospel net is flung into the four corners of the world without discrimination into every cline, ethnicity or belief (Gal 3:23-29; Col 3:11). The precious gospel is for all. God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34; 1 Pet 1:17; Rom 2:11; Eph 3:25).

The collective mass of fallen mankind is like a troubled sea (Isa 5:1, 2). Sin is a dark foreboding place wherein mankind lives being separated from the light. They can be drawn out but cannot extricate themselves. By

obedience to the terms of the new covenant God affirms that mercy and grace can be extended. Doubtlessly today the greater mass of those caught in the net are Gentiles. It does not mean Jews should be neglected. The good fish represent those who are justified by the blood of Jesus (Rom 5:1-11). The glorious gospel can be preached but it cannot bring one to profession of Jesus Christ as Lord **until the word is applied** to the heart, soul, and mind, creating compliance to the gospel (2 Thes 1:8; Rom 6:15-17; 10:16).

The fishermen of the parable are disciples (Lk 5:10; Matt 4:18-22). Plying the sea they are to catch men alive. The disciples have themselves been taken out of the sea of sin and it is their privilege to rescue others. Consecrated fishermen are used to catch the fish. May we never fall short in the Lord's work (Eph 2:8, 9)! Inconspicuously the fishermen go about their work unnamed and unheralded. Catching all kinds is not a reflection on the fishermen. Once the result of fishing is secured there will be a deliberate sorting take place. Application can be made; **the gospel is for all**. A mystery is unveiled: **“many are called and few are chosen”** (Matt 20:16; 22:14).

In this last dispensation many claim to be Christians but are not. Individuals may be religious but not righteous (Acts 17:22-34; Phil 2:1-11). The good fish are those who are sound, stable and spiritually responsible “working out their salvation with fear and trembling” (Phil 2:12-18). When separation takes place the vile will be cast away like the statement of John about wheat and chaff (Matt 3:12). In vivid repetition many of the parables demonstrate this separation. The Parable of a Wedding Feast (Matt 22:1-14), Tares (Matt 13:24-30), Householder (Matt 25:14-30), Virgins (Matt 25:1-30) and Sheep and Goats (Matt 25:31-46) all display final judgment. Separation is necessary and final judgment will be enforced. The parables of the Tares and Dragnet are centered on the wicked and their effect upon the righteous. The Lord pronounces doom based upon His official office of Prophet, Priest and King. The lot and eternal condition of the lost bespeaks of today being the day of salvation, tomorrow may be too late.

The net flung into the wide array of humanity has no regard for creeds, background or any other relationships. "God is no respecter of persons: but in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him " (Acts 10:34, 35). It is not a question of birth, but rather being born anew.
May the Lord enable us to be fishers of men!

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

During this month, we celebrate a time of Thanksgiving. Most all of the congregation will be connecting with family or friends. We all have precious memories of the past, how we use to fellowship, and enjoy time spent with each other during this Thanksgiving holiday period. Seems in our hustle of less concern, and concentrating more on our individual self image, we are missing out on some very meaningful opportunities. For Christians, every day we live is a day of Thanksgiving. We need to stop and count our blessings on a daily basis. Our record of life continues on, and all we do should be doing good as we have opportunity. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil (Eccl. 12:13, 14)."

We are going to be judged by the words in the Bible and by their works (Rev. 20:12). If we live a life of righteousness and good works our names will be recorded in the book of life (Luke 10:20). Those that live their life according to the scriptures will be resurrected to eternal life (John 5:28-29; Matt. 5:16).

Sometimes our departure from this life is very quick, and sometimes we have the opportunity to lend support and offer many prayers. God's will is first and final. We must live our lives as the early Christians did in the first century according to the scriptures. We must make preparation for the wonderful life to come. Obeying and living as the scriptures teach and command us. (Read 2 Pet. 3:8-18) Being found faithful, we'll be able to enjoy a full life eternally blessed.

If we are not gathered with saints when we are physically able we ought to do something about it. The whole congregation is not complete if every member is not present that could be here. Hope to see you soon gathered with saints that miss you very much!

Please continue to pray for our sick & shut-ins, and have a great week serving God!

Dean Webb

Unity- Don Hatch

It is as clear as daylight that Ephesians 4 emphasizes unity. This unity is not external, mechanical nor superimposed upon by man's device. This systemic and organic unity cannot be extended to embrace exaggerated differences seeking to establish co-operation in an inter-ecclesiastical unity. Such unity would accomplish a grave sacrifice of real principle. The church is spiritually one and is united spiritually. The effort to remain spiritual is the only bond of peace which passes understanding (Phil 4:7). This unity uses each individual in the system. Expressions of individuality are not crushed but molded by transformation and the renewing of the mind (Rom 12:1, 2). Oneness in purpose leads to building up the body of Christ in love. In order to accomplish the tasks assigned to the church each believer assists in a co-operative manner to create an inner growth and unity. As we speak the truth in love we grow up in all things to Him who is the head of the church, Christ (Eph 1:22, 22; 4:12-16).

Consideration of **unity in diversity** is displaced by conducting harmoniously the responsibilities imposed upon us by God. Christ supports only that which has been preordained from the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3-5). The Father expected Jesus to behave in a Godly manner, teaching what was bidden, trusting in the promises and obeying His will. Would those elected, redeemed by the Savior's blood, called to be saints, reconciled to God the Father through the Son with freedom of access to the throne of God have any less expectations placed upon them?

The seven-fold description of Christian unity leaves no doubt that they must be reproduced repeatedly over the centuries (Eph 4:1-7). Having received inexpressible blessings it is all together proper and natural to insist on unity based upon principles set forth in the Bible. Spiritual oneness is indispensable as a prerequisite for promoting a healthy and spiritual congregation which will advance in the cause of evangelism winning the victory over Satan and his allies. Diligence requires "doing your utmost" to emphasize the lofty purpose of unity (Eph 2:11-22).

Unity promotes peace yet not peace at the price of leaving God given principles and precepts out of the equation. The church is not a "museum of the status quo". The church is not defined by subjectivism, experimentalism, mysticism, pragmatism or chaos. It is a living body which inculcates and abides only by having the mind of Christ in it (Phil 2:5).

The church stands against worldly spirits of any age which takes strong courage to keep the culture from overwhelming preset boundaries (2 Tim 3:2-4). Worldliness lacks virtue and character. It may seem to be "good" but it denies the power of God. We should not be devoted to unity of the Spirit only because we live in dangerous times. We must be devoted to a manner of Godly living demonstrated to us by those who lived before and because it is God's determinate will for the redeemed. Stability depends upon the foundation of our faith and the superstructure built upon its strength (Eph 2:19-22; Acts 2:42).

The church is not an earth born or man-made institution but a product of the Divine mind. It is a spiritual organism (body of Christ). The Lord is her divine Ruler (Phil 2:11; 1 Pet 1:18). She embraces one faith which creates a household of God (Gal 1:23; 6:10). The genesis of a new life starts in the watery grave of baptism (Rom 6:1-11). Thus we have one Lord in which to believe and whose name we wear after baptism. The family of God needs to be strengthened with power through the Spirit in the inner man (Eph 3:14-19). Fellowship with Divinity is essential to unity. The mind of flesh is death (Rom 8:1-11). The spiritual mind can pursue life, liberty and happiness. Christ's unmerited gift recognizes only being in unity, not diversity.

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

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

ASSIGNMENTS FOR November

GREETERS:

November 20 – Front Foyer – Henry Seidmeyer & Doris Selby
Back Foyer – Robert & Cathy Taylor

November 27 – Front Foyer – Bill & Linda Matthews
Back Foyer – Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

Communion Preparation: Jerry Grantham

Contribution Counters: Bobby England & Mike Garrison

SERMONS

November 20 – a.m. “A Voice Of Approval”
2 Peter 1:12-21
p.m. “Boldness Which We Have”
1 John 5:13-17

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

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

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

Nursing Homes: Elsie Nanny – Avante Frances Tipton – Arlington Rehab
Max Melton – Northgate Plaza

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, November 15th at 10 a.m. in the Annex. The Topic will be “**Jesus: Master In Molding Men**”

Ladies – please invite your friends and neighbors to attend each Tuesday morning with you.

Wednesday night **November 23rd** we will meet in the auditorium for a devotional due to the holidays.

Thank You so very much for the cards, calls and prayers when I had my eye surgery. Thanks for thinking of me. **Ken Lee**

Mary Curtis will be having hip replacement surgery on Tuesday, November 15th.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Hospital:

Alice Worthy had surgery Monday November 7th and needs our continued prayers.

Mary Jo Bernard (Mary Scott’s daughter) had a routine surgery that did not go well. She is in critical condition in a hospital in Arlington.

Linda Head’s daughter, **Debbie Wintle** is back in the hospital in Fort Worth.

Jackye Jewett’s grandson had a heart attack and is at Methodist Hospital in Dallas.

Special Prayer Requests:

Dorris and Janie Walker’s son **Michael** has Parkinson’s disease and will have back surgery Tuesday November 15th in Waco.

Jerry Grantham’s Aunt’s cancer has come back.

David and Faye West has several family members that need our prayers.

Amber Vaughan’s friend, **Alex Cervantes** has kidney failure.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Julie Roses – 11/5
Patsy Swain – 11/6
Bill Matthews – 11/8
Josie Jones – 11/8
Doris Selby – 11/13
Gary Workman – 11/14
Nancy Pond – 11/15
Nathan Allen – 11/17
Katherine Davis – 11/17
Bobby King – 11/19

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jerry & Vicki Catlin – 11/9
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 Curtis Vaughan:
(469) 216-7580*

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.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Belt Line Rd. Church of Christ, 1202 N. Belt Line Rd., Irving, Texas 75061

THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		11/20/16	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Dean Webb Thomas Rathbun Jerry McKey
Don Herriage	Kenny Mayer		P.M. – John Mayer Curtis Vaughan
Alex Mayer	Bobby England		
Richard Renfro	Vern Lundquist		<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Walt LaHaye	Nathan Allen		A.M. – Glen Kelly 2 Peter 1:12-21
Curtis Vaughan			P.M. – Thomas Rathbun 1 John 5:13-17
Dorris Walker			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
Thomas Rathbun Nathan Allen			Robert Taylor
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			
A.M. – Darrell Allen P.M. – 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	57	69	62	100
A.M. Worship	92	100	100	150
P.M. Worship	64	69	72	80
Wed. Class	53	63	60	85
Contribution	\$7741	\$5068	\$5389	\$5170

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
Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
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
Carlos Tario, Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Brayden Shelley
Southwest School of Preaching – Austin, Texas – Mike Batot

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