

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

June 13, 2011
Volume 3 Number 24

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..Sep.-Apr.
*See page 4 for current meeting time.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
Garl Latham
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

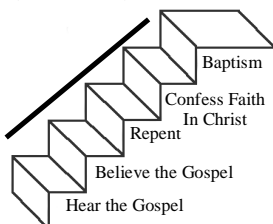
CUSTODIANS

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 Meaningful Life

Don Hatch

To have no goals in life is to be like a ship without a rudder. The winds of change will move that life wheresoever they will. The wise individual seeks wisdom from God and establishes faith and faithfulness (Jas 1:1-8). Double-mindedness is equated with being tossed by the rage of the sea. Instability is commonplace with the person who has no direction in life. What are the best goals we could set for our lives? **Gratification of the flesh** is for a moment; wisdom of this world soon fails to satisfy the soul; great works of the hand are awe inspiring yet transitory; having many people employed is tremendous; gathering silver and gold is pleasing, but will the soul's needs be fulfilled? Solomon said the most worthy goal would be to "find good" (Eccl 2:1-26). All the ceaseless activities of mankind forge earthly ties which will be riven and left behind when mankind crosses the divide between life and death. If all that is possessed is stricken and removed what remains? Job said, "...naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: Jehovah gave, and Jehovah hath taken away; blessed be the name of Jehovah" (Job 1:21; Eccl 5:15). What humanity does must be meaningful and lasting. Pursuing and accomplishing good leaves a rich heritage which is essential and has undeniable values.

Opportunities for worldly pleasure are ample.

Those who have limited means or those with inexhaustible means find pleasant things. Each in some way have moments when pleasure fills their hearts. A culture which centers itself on pleasure can never be satisfied. Societies who seek pleasure are called **Hedonists** [Hedonism argues that pleasure is the only intrinsic good. This is often used as a guide and justification for evaluating actions in terms of how much *pleasure* and how little *pain* (i.e. suffering) they produce. In simple terms a hedonist strives to maximize net pleasure]. To seek pleasure as a central issue of "escape" is a cover up for not dealing with the real issues of life. The quest for immortality is not found in pleasure. There is nothing more tragic than a person weeping because the "pleasures for a season are gone". A life defined by pleasure is like a broken vase, it is never full.

Altruism is the renunciation of self and exclusively manifests concern for the welfare of others. Altruism is the opposite of selfishness. Altruism is distinguished from feelings of loyalty and duty. Altruism is a motivation to provide a value to a party who must be anyone but the self, while duty focuses on a "moral" obligation. Pure

altruism is giving up a value with no expectation of any compensation or benefits, either directly, or indirectly. Christian giving is done in the name of the Lord. The Lord receives the benefit and doing good brings praise upon the Lord. Too often activities are tiring and the haunting desire to stop begins to creep in. "Whatever we do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord" (Col 3:15-18). "...whatsoever ye do, work heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that from the Lord ye shall receive the recompense of the inheritance: ye serve the Lord Christ. For he that doeth wrong shall receive again for the wrong that he hath done: and there is no respect of persons" (Col 3:23-25). "Activities" cannot be "the good". The meaningful life searches for good as a foundation and to be significantly used by Christ.

The pursuing of education or knowledge is important and meaningful. There are comparisons of what is sought and the value it brings with it. Trivia and the pursuit of trivial information can be time consuming. Seeking wisdom with a purpose is desired over folly. The fool has said there is no God (Psm 14: 1, 2). His pursuit, no matter the choice, is biased and will fail to bring forth what is needed for the inner man. Knowledge is subjective. To be worldly wise is better than being a fool, yet it cannot satisfy the longing of the soul. Salvation is beyond the scope of mere knowledge which provides no reason for existing. Wisdom of the world is not prepared to deal with the issues of life, death and after death. No pleasure, fame, power or worldly wisdom will equal a meaningful and spiritual purpose for life. An inequality of the physical over the spiritual tend to eradicate purity, peace of mind, gentleness, mercy and brings out partiality and hypocrisy (Jas 3:13-18). An awakened life has a powerful consciousness of the nothingness within and in the world around. Educating the mind with the ways of God is profitable unto all things which pertain to life and godliness (2 Pet 1:1-10).

Searching for good, meditating on the wisdom of God and practicing its principles are essential to a meaningful life. The uniqueness of the twenty first century is not the universe that surrounds but a universe guided by an Omnipotent God. Mankind must face the problem that there is none other like him in the universe. If mankind is to prosper it must turn to a source of prosperity, God. The meaningful life prays that mankind will prosper in all things and be in health, just as their souls prosper (2 Jn 2). Working through the steps and ultimately resolving how to have a meaningful life recognizes that enjoyment, satisfaction and fulfillment is outlined in the Holy Writ. Seek good and not evil, that your lives will be blessed and God will be with you. Hate evil and love good. God will be with the good and be gracious unto them (Amos 5:14). Our relationship with the Creator gives us meaning. "Except God build the house, they who labor, labor in vain" (Psm 127:1). Purpose defines our destiny.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

I would like to share an article written by Leroy Sedgwick entitled "Everything In Its Time." It is something we need to think about.

"But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son..." (Galatians 4:4)

"The wise man said, "To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). As we travel through the Scriptures, we are made aware that God has indeed done everything in its time. Note:

"Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel'" (Mark 1:14, 15). Our Lord recognized that the time was right to fulfill the work God had given Him to do.

The apostle Paul recognized the proper time of fulfilling our obedience to the Lord. *"We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: 'In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you.' Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation" (II Corinthians 6:1-2).*

Time is defined as *"a continuum of past, present, and future events."* While eternity is not regulated by time, our existence here is; and God has controlled the past, controls the present, and will determine the future. Not only does the Bible record those events of the past, but also speaks of the "last days" being upon us. *"And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God..." (Acts 2:17).* This occurred on the day of Pentecost, and thus is fulfilled. However, *"But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come" (II Timothy 3:1); "...knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts" (II Peter 3:3); "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).*

In view of God's certain control in the past, and His promise of an impending judgment to come, will you be ready? You can trust that it will be as He says." Jerry McKey

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go unto the house of Jehovah. Our feet are standing Within thy gates, O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, that art builded As a city that is compact together; Whither the tribes go up, even the tribes of Jehovah, For an ordinance for Israel, To give thanks unto the name of Jehovah. For there are set thrones for judgment, The thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: They shall prosper that love thee. Peace be within thy walls, And prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companions' sakes, I will now say, Peace be within thee. For the sake of the house of Jehovah our God I will seek thy good" Psm 122:1-9).

Likeminded

"If there is therefore any exhortation in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassions, make full my joy, that ye be of the same mind, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind; doing nothing through faction or through vainglory, but in lowliness of mind each counting other better than himself; not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others. Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, existing in the form of God, counted not the being on an equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even unto death, yea, the death of the cross. Wherefore also God highly exalted him, and gave unto him the name which is above every name; that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things on earth and things under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Phil 2:1-11).

The word "like minded" is from two Greek words [*isos*-equal; *psuche*-the soul] and indicates that those who are like minded are joined in spiritual endeavors. They think alike because their souls have been surrendered to God along with their mind and strength (Mat 22:30-34). There is a resemblance in what they desire to accomplish. Spiritual things matter to those of likeminded intentions. The glory of the incorruptible God is an expressed and noticeable part of their lives. It seeks to never diminish from the worthiness of God and His divine plan. Like-mindedness is an emphatic requiring thought and being preoccupied with spiritual things. Being preoccupied with having the same mind sets the believer's heart and soul upon seeking high and noble endeavors (Rom 12:16). Being wise in self conceit is flawed. The exhortation of love creates a desire for fellowship with those of like precious faith. Tenderness, compassion and mercy are natural to those who have like minds. The sameness of their love is the stability upon which others can find enduring fellowship. Counting others better than self is accomplished because the mind is directed toward accomplishing holy things. Christ manifested this mind. It was the frame work upon which the church built their lives.

Such thinking also includes love. The *agape* love seeks all other's betterment or greater good. It is the way and means the world knows a disciple from a pseudo-disciple. *Agape* love demands consistency and is not partial. The obvious structure of loving as Christ first loved us sets the disciple apart from the world. The self-chosen, voluntary willingness to constantly render love denotes "a door which has been opened of its own accord". Such love is spontaneous and fulfilling.

Godliness produces "being of one accord." This phrase is the translation of the Greek word *sumpsuchos*, which is a compound of the preposition "with" and the word "soul." Thus, the *agape* that we are to share results in a connection "with-soul" that is bound in an agreement, as a disciple, with the mind and spirit of the Creator God. Being of one mind requires setting our affections on things above (Col 3:2).

Don Hatch

Family News:

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

GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

June 19, 2011

Front foyer: Nancy Pond & Roberta Price

Back foyer: Robert & Betty Ruckman

June 26, 2011

Front foyer: Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Back foyer: Max Melton & Ilene Ashworth

Sermon Titles

June 19, 2011

a.m: "For Christ"

Scripture: Eph 4:25-32

p.m: "He Loved This Present World"

Scripture: 2 Tim 4:9-18

June 26, 2011

a.m: "What Doeth Hinder Me?"

Scripture: Acts 8:26-31

p.m: "He Trembled"

Scripture: Acts 24:22-27

Contribution Counters

Glen Kelly and Thomas Rathbun

MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet *Sunday* at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium.

SINGING SESSION

The singing class will meet *Sunday* in Rm #116 at 5:15 p.m.

MENS' DEVOTIONAL

The **Monday morning** devotional will be at 6:00 a.m. in the annex. All men are invited to this period of time for thought, scripture and prayer. The fellowship is edifying.

NEWS OF THE SICK

Crystal Vaughan had surgery Thursday for a bulging disc.

Maxine Prude went to the doctor Thursday and is waiting on the test results.

Roberta Price will be getting a shot in her back Monday for her back pain.

BC Fowler had laser surgery on both eyes this week to keep from losing her sight. She has requested special prayers for the recovery of her eyes as recovery is not going as well as expected.

Ralene Ruyle, Ilene Ashworth's daughter is having surgery sometime this week. She will then begin chemotherapy & radiation treatments.

Marty Rogers, a member at Rendon Church of Christ is in Las Colinas Hospital, 2nd Floor, Room #5. They are waiting on the results from his 4th surgery. He has taken all of the chemo & radiation he can. The family has requested our prayers.

Camden Connor, grandson of Bill and Linda Matthews, got to go home on Saturday.

SUMMERTIME GOSPEL PREACHING 2011

Our series this year is **Paradoxes of the Bible**. Each Wednesday evening we will have a guest speaker speaking on God's Plans for Mankind. In this summer series we will be looking at hard passages to understand. Difficult passages test our commitment to Christ.

Foster's Home for Children

We have **green cans** for the Foster's Home for Children. Please put your loose change in them during the summer and they will be picked up in the fall.

Christ's Haven

Grocery bags were picked up on Tuesday, **June 14th**. They deeply appreciate your generosity.

39^{ers}

Due to VBS we will skip the 20th and meet on the 27th. Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship. Our meal will be "pot-luck".

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The handouts for **Vacation Bible School** are in both foyers. Please pick up as many as you need and pass out to your neighbors and friends. Lessons will be "**Putting on the Armor of God**". **Dates are June 20-22**, Ephesians 6:10-18. Ages 2yrs.-completed fifth grade and adults.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Erma Lee Baker, Bobby Bowen, Fauna Garrett, Billie Gilliam, Jean Kelly, Frances LaFerney, Tom Prince, Jan Smithson, Debra Alonzo.

DFW Youth Summer Series

We will not be going to the Youth Summer Series until Tuesday, June 28th due to vacation and VBS.

THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you all for your cards, prayers and concerns for our safe trip to Louisiana to my sister's funeral and back. She was a 101 years old. Thanks again for your love. In Christian Love, Hank & Becky Henry

SYMPATHY

Our prayers go out to **Frances Tipton** on the sudden death of one of her relatives. She was killed in an accident and was only 17 years old

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

·June 15th – Robert Waller will be our guest speaker on Wednesday night. He will be speaking on “Help Through Hindrance”.

Be sure and mark your calendar –
 ·Vacation Bible School – June 20-22
 ·Remember to start bringing cookies.

·Summer Youth Camp – July 4-7th
 Junior Camp and July 17-22nd Senior Camp.

If unable to serve on the Lord’s table, Please contact Mike Batot @ (972)741-2397.

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD’S TABLE/MORNING</u>		6/19/11	<u>SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		· Jerry McKey
·Nathan Allen	· Derrol Allen		· Robert Ruckman
·Jerry Baker	·Bobby England		· Dean Webb
·Purman Cofer	·Brent Howard		
·John Mayer	·Roy Martin		<u>A.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Kenny Mayer			· Garl Latham
·Henry Seidmeyer			Eph 4:25-32
			<u>SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS</u>
			· Thomas Rathbun
			· Mike Garrison
<u>LORD’S TABLE/EVENING</u>			<u>P.M. SCRIPTURE READING</u>
·Marvin Brown			· Kenny Mayer
·Glen Kelly			2 Tim 4:9-18
<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>			<u>P.M. SONG LEADER(S)</u>
·Bill Paschall			· Garl Latham – Denzel Myers
<u>A.M. SONG LEADER</u>			
·Darrell Allen			

FOR THE RECORD: WEEK ENDING ATTENDANCE & BUDGET

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	82	83	82	100
A.M. Worship	146	149	147	150
P.M. Worship	78	75	74	75
Wed. Class	91	74	77	75
Ladies Bible Class	n/c	n/c	21	25
Contribution	\$5799	\$4810	\$5191	\$5553

BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

MISSIONS

- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma - Malaysia
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Glen & Kuin Tattersall – Australia
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Oleg & Natasha Yakimenko – Russia
- Wil & Telanda Sadler – Military Missions
- Hyderabad Church of Christ - Hyderabad, India
- Christ’s Haven Children’s Home - Keller, TX
- Foster’s Home for Children – Stephenville, TX
- Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
- Dan Keele – Bear Valley School of Preaching
- Ted Lingren - Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo Nation
- Dennis & Beth Johnson - Chennai Teacher Training School – India
- Rohan & Sandra Jones Capetown South Africa

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
 PAID
 AT IRVING, TEXAS**

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