

# Belt Line Road Church of Christ

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

April 18, 2016  
Volume 8 Number 15

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

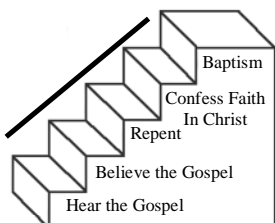
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham  
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

### 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)



### Proper Giving of Thanks

Don Hatch

Giving thanks is grateful acknowledgement of benefits received. The person engaged in thanksgiving realizes that benefits have been bestowed by a Higher Being and gives thankful credit to the One who is their benefactor. Moreover, the one receiving comes to understand such gifts are granted by grace (an unmerited favor). Wonderful and great blessings are received in many diverse manners.

So important is the giving of thanks that the Bible teaches of the thankful *overflowing with thanksgiving*. Gratitude is a cycle of blessings received and the benefited returning to God unendingly with loving adoration. Properly installed in the heart such giving of thanks is self-perpetuating in an attitude of gratitude which will be more active as blessings are received and reviewed. Purposeful concentration on the attention given by the Benefactor causes the gifts to manifest themselves more clearly and significantly in thankful hearts. Thus, the result is an increase in thankfulness. Gratitude is the most expressive response to favors undeservedly granted. When one is thankful uncertainties of life dissipate, grumbling falls silent, valor mounts to face all forces, righteous resolve is formed, peace is knowledgeable and God is glorified.

Thanksgiving can take place “always and in every place”. **It is proper to give thanks after blessings have been received.** As seasonal apprehensions pass and quietness returns to the soul, those who wait upon the Lord call upon Him in a reverential manner, entreating that the Lord will continue along life’s journey, giving Him praise for benefits received. **It is proper to give thanks in the midst of distress.** Those who go into battle praise God prior to and after. Vivid Bible illustrations are the Israelites at the Red Sea (Ex 15), Jonah in the great fish (Jonah 2) and Jehoshaphat (2 Chron 20). Always the believers know that they are under the watchful eye of the Lord whose very name indicates mercy. God alone has the mightiness to bless and sustain. God will never leave or forsake the righteous. Praising God is expressed for physical and spiritual blessings. There are extraordinary blessings, past, present and future, deliverance from evil and even that

which has been withheld. Paul and others demonstrated that they trusted in God in the face of all dangers. In spite of Paul’s chains he took pleasure in weakness and was thankful (Phil 1; 2 Cor 11:22-32). **It is consistent with the Christian life to harmonize the beauty of assurance with being more than a Conqueror** (Rom 8).

Thanks are given to the Father in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ (i.e. under His authority as Son, Mediator and Saviour Jn 16:26; 1 Tim 2:1-6). It was Jesus who earned all the blessings for us (Rom 8:32). He purifies us that our petitions and thanksgivings arrive before the throne of the Father (Heb 4:14-16).

Thanksgivings are offered to the Father. The foolish never give thanks (Lk 12:13-21). The foolish credit themselves for their possessions and achievements. The righteous sense their obligation to Him who is high and holy. They know that every good and perfect gift comes down from the first source, the Father of light (Jas 1:17, 18; Eph 3:14, 15). Favor being received and which will be received all proceed from a loving, merciful and gracious Father. Emphasis in the Bible is that a righteous worshiper approaches the Father through the Son and never the reverse. It is with the Father the righteous speak, communicating through Christ. This arrangement is approved of by Jesus Christ (Jn 16:26). To exempt the Father from any conversation, prayer, or act of worship is to defile the prearranged order of worship. **Neither the Holy Spirit nor Jesus Christ should be sought out in a private setting to accomplish one’s purpose.** The Father is the one to whom all adoration is offered. This does not mean that Jesus and the Holy Spirit are not a part of the Godhead. They are! Rather, the divine arrangement from the foundation of the world must be honored (Eph 1:3-15). The Father is the one seated on the throne; Jesus is at the right hand. Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth with the exception of the Father (1 Cor 15:27, 28). Hence the righteous seek audience with the Father through the Son because of the Holy Spirit’s instructions in the New Testaments (Heb 4:14-16).

**The act of giving thanks** or expressing of gratitude is for favors or mercy received. It is a right retention of the benefits conferred, a faithful recall of profit in the memory, frequent reflection upon advantages, due admiration and assessment of assistance. A reflection on those things received with a willing mind. Thanks giving display a fervent affection, acknowledgment of our responsibilities and an endeavor to offer real thanks giving. It is a respect for the Divine Being and a willingness to serve and exalt Him. There is an esteem and worship of God for temporal and spiritual blessing which is paramount.

**FAMILY CARE**  
**A Message from Our Shepherds**

Nehemiah 4:6

So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its *height*, for the people had a mind to work.

This SATURDAY 8 AM is Spring Cleaning Day at Belt Line Road church of Christ. Robert Taylor has several different jobs lined up for you. Come and enjoy the fun of making our building look real clean and nice. He requests that you bring empty spray bottles so that we can fill them with a special cleaner that will not harm the things we will be cleaning. Windex is too strong to use. You will be assigned a job that you can do and when it is completed, there will be another job if you want it. Let's have a mind to work and beautify the place where we worship our God. Our teens will also work at the building as well as other special areas. Psalms 122 I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord..."

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We have so many brothers and sisters who are suffering with many physical difficulties. Please remember to pray for them, send a card and write an email note or a letter of encouragement. They need to know that you care and love them.

James 5:15

"And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven."

Cy Stafford, Director of ACSOP in Nigeria, is recovering from leukemia after months of prayers by thousands of Christians around the world. He plans to return to the hospital tomorrow for another round of chemo. May God bless him and his wife. Our prayers should also include the sick's caretakers because of the great strain that is usually upon them as well.

Psalms 30:12

To the end that *my* glory may sing praise to You and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to You forever.

Have a blessed week in the Lord. --Richard Renfro

**Missionary Bulletin Board**

**Remember to stop by the Missionary Bulletin Board** in the front foyer. Each month we try to update it with the reports the missionaries send. They are exciting and touching stories of the effort they put forth for the kingdom. Each page has a different aspect of how the various parts of the word are being affected by these brethren's hard work. Their reports are filled with pictures of brethren spreading the "Good News". Some are having hard times with health and have touching tales of great successes. Their appreciation is on every page. These humble brethren are worthy of our support and prayers. They have families just like we have and the daily life is reflected in their reports.

**Don Hatch**

**What He Hath Done**

The scriptures speak of one called God with us (incarnate) who was the Son of God. His coming was not a necessity arising out the nature of God, nor the culminating point of human history. It was an act of humility when Jesus Christ of Nazareth came to seek and save the lost. He took part in flesh and bloods in order, by his death, to destroy him who had power over death, the devil (Heb 2:14-18). Apprehension of the wrath of God caused mankind to fear death. Therefore they were subject to fear all of their life (Heb 2:1-18). Jesus died, the just for the unjust, that He might bring mankind near (back) to God. This is constantly represented in the Bible (2 Cor 5:11-20; Eph 1:3-14; 1 Pet 1:13-25). A false doctrine that Jesus would have come even if man had not sinned is contrary to plain Bible teachings. God had a plan for fallen man from the foundation of the world (Eph 1:3, 4). There was no other way in which redemption could have been accomplished. The name of Christ is the only name wherein man can be saved (Acts 4:12). If righteousness could have been accomplished by any other means Jesus died in vain (Gal 2:21). If law (an institution or device) could have given life or salvation verily righteousness would have been by law (Gal 3:21). This does not remove law but rather establishes the law of faith (Rom 3:21-30; 4:15).

**Parties at variance** need someone to mediate and reconcile themselves by means of intercession and negotiation. In the case of mankind's sins there had to be a satisfactory mediator who could atone for sin. Christ became man to reconcile, intercede, mediate and become the satisfactory sin offering for sin. This could be done by Christ alone and it follows that He is the only one between man and God (1 Tim 2:1-6). He is our peace-maker making all free from sin and death (Eph 2:16).

Some have developed a false teaching that there can be other mediators whose influence with God can cause reconciliation. This has arisen from false teachings on the priesthood. These teach that there is a special priesthood separate and apart from the members of the church (1 Pet 2:5, 9; Rev 1:6; 5:10) who alone can affect intervention between man and God. Such benefits flow through "sacraments" (a patently false teaching) including baptism, confession, Eucharist (Lord's Supper), penance, extreme unction (last rites) and nuptials which can only be administered by an "ordained priest". These false "sacraments" are available only by men who are canonically ordained. Such priests offer sacraments and absolution. Hence, no man can come to God except through them.

**The doctrine of merits** is that one must do good works after regeneration to have real merit in the eyes of God. (It is taught that one can work and acquire merits for their own salvation, if they gain more than sufficient for themselves they could extend the surplus to others). This principle of "communion of the saints" makes merits available to others. Thus, was developed a group of individuals call "saints" who are appealed to; they plead before the throne of God on behalf those who pray through them. Assigning meritorious rights makes them mediators. No one can claim a superabundance of merits in the sight of God in order to grant it to others. Distinctively the mediator's work according to the scriptures belongs to Jesus Christ.

**Christ is the only mediator** because He accomplished what was necessary for our reconciliation to God. Christ alone has the personal qualities for this work. Jesus' qualifications to be our mediator were that He had to be man and divine. Christ assumed man's nature that He might redeem man (Heb 2:14-16).. He constituted the only means by which man could be reconciled. None but divinity could destroy the power of Satan. **What a Saviour** (Heb 9:27, 28)!

**Don Hatch**

# Family News:

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

## GREETER ASSIGNMENTS

**April 24, 2016**

*Front foyer:* Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

*Back foyer:* Thomas Rathbun & Polly Roses

**May 1, 2016**

*Front foyer:* Dale & Katherine Cox

*Back foyer:* Bill & Linda Matthews

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## MISSION PRINTING

Mission Printing will meet **Sunday** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate tracts. Please come help us and enjoy the Christian fellowship.

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## Contribution Counters For April

Glen Kelly & Scot Allen

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## Communion Preparation For April

Dorris & Janie Walker

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## Military:

Chris and Abigail Mathews

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## Sermon Titles

**April 24, 2016**

a.m.: "The Unfolding Of Character"

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:3-12

p.m.: "Growth"

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:14-18

**May 1, 2016**

a.m.: "What We Are and Why"

Scripture: Genesis 2:4-17

p.m.: "The Calendar"

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-4

## PRAYER LIST

### *Ongoing Health Concerns:*

Bobby Bowen, Jane Easter, Dessie Ross, Don and Margaret Lewis, Frances Tipton, Diedra Sutton, Tom Prince, Ruben Melendez, Tom Head, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Glen Kelly, Mike Garrison

### *Homebound Members:*

Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross

### *Recovering at Home:*

**Elizabeth Garrison's** son, **Joe Mack Dwyer** had surgery last Wednesday, everything went well. **Tom Prince** is now at home.

### *Hospital:*

**Jackye Jewett's** son **Gary Baker** is in the hospital at Clear Lake, Texas.

**Glen Kelly** is still at Kindred Hospital, room #133. He will be seeing the surgeon today for a follow-up visit.

### *Prayer Request:*

**Donnetta Allen**, a friend of **Darrell Allen** has cancer and needs our prayers.

**Beverly McKey's** uncle, **Gus Gusler** is in critical condition and hospice has been called in.

### *Upcoming Procedures:*

**Mike Garrison** is scheduled for surgery tomorrow April 19<sup>th</sup> at Baylor, Dallas.

**Jerry Catlin** will be having surgery today April 18<sup>th</sup> at Baylor Irving to put in a pacemaker and possibly angioplasty, depending on the tests results.

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

## WORK DAY

There will be a special **WORK DAY** on Saturday, **April 23<sup>rd</sup>** starting at **8 a.m.** We need everyone that can come help us clean the building in preparation for our Ladies ½ Day. It will be greatly appreciated if you can come help us in this endeavor so that the Ladies will have a very successful day on the 30<sup>th</sup> as there is a lot to be done.

If you have any empty spray bottles, please bring them on Saturday for the workday.

**Teen Work Day** is also on **April 23<sup>rd</sup>**, weather permitting.

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## LADIES

Please bring your **gift bag** items for Ladies ½ Day by Sunday, **April 24<sup>th</sup>**.

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## SUMMER CAMP

### Bangs, Texas

**Jr. Camp**– June 26<sup>th</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup>  
**Senior Camp** – July 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>th</sup>

**Jerry McKey** has registration forms or you can get them from the office for those wanting to go to camp this year. They need to be filled out and **returned to the office no later than Wednesday May 4<sup>th</sup>** if you plan on going this year.

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## SYMPATHY

Our sympathy goes out to the family of **Jesse De La Cruz** (former member) who passed away last Thursday morning.

### *Nursing Home:*

Elsie Nanney – Avante

Frances Tipton – Marine Creek

Max Melton – Northgate Plaza

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

4/23/16 – Work Day – 8:00 a.m.

4/30/16 – Ladies ½ Day – 9:00 am

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

Glen Kelly – 4/1  
 Rebecca Andrepoint – 4/1  
 Jerry Grantham – 4/2  
 Mary Wise – 4/2  
 Vern Lundquist – 4/6  
 Billie Beverly – 4/7  
 Sissy Allen – 4/12  
 Bobby Allen – 4/16  
 Henry Seidmeyer – 4/16  
 Nelda Bell Newton – 4/17  
 Tom Head – 4/18  
 Jeanene Heilman – 4/19  
 Alice Worthy – 4/20  
 Thomas Rathbun – 4/21  
 Mary Walker – 4/22  
 Don Hatch – 4/25  
 Faye West – 4/30

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

Bobby &amp; Sissy Allen – 4/18

*If unable to serve on the Lord's table,  
 please contact Curtis Vaughan:  
 (469) 216-7580*

**BELT LINE ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY****LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)**

4/24/16

**SUNDAY A.M. PRAYERS****Front Table****Rear Table**

- John Mayer
- Nathan Allen
- Dorris Walker
- Curtis Vaughan
- Alex Mayer
- Purman Cofer
- Vern Lundquist
- Bobby England
- Dale Cox
- Robert Taylor

- Richard Renfro
- Bill Matthews
- Thomas Rathbun

**A.M. SCRIPTURE READING**

- Nathan Allen
- 2 Peter 1:3-12

**SUNDAY P.M. PRAYERS**

- Dean Webb
- Jerry McKey

**P.M. SCRIPTURE READING**

- Curtis Vaughan
- 2 Peter 3:14-18

**P.M. SONG LEADER(S)**

- Darrell Allen

**LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)**

- Scot Allen
- Thomas Rathbun

**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>
<b>Sun. Class</b>	61	56	63	100
<b>A.M. Worship</b>	108	81	102	150
<b>P.M. Worship</b>	69	57	71	80
<b>Wed. Class</b>	56	47	55	85
<b>Contribution</b>	\$4641	\$4218	\$5410	\$5170

**MISSIONS**

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  
 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  
 Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon  
**Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution**  
 Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo  
 Mike Batot – Southwest School of Bible Studies – Austin, TX  
 Carlos Tario – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX  
 Brayden Shelley – Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, TX  
 Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
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 AT IRVING, TEXAS**