



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

August 31, 2020
Volume 12 Number 35

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

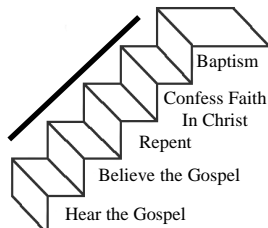
Darrell Allen
John Mayer

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)



Take the Pitch

If you are a follower of baseball, and specifically the Texas Rangers, you may be aware of the recent national uproar over a player on the opposing team hitting a 3-0 pitch for a grand slam home run late in the game when they were already ahead by seven runs. Baseball has long had what is called the “mercy rule” or the “run rule.” Basically, it says that if one team gets a specified number of runs ahead of the opponent, rather than continue to run the score up, the game is ended, thereby showing “mercy” to the overwhelmed opponent. Some of you may be wondering why we would be talking about baseball in a church bulletin article and what possible connection it might have to anything involving my spiritual life.

I believe this whole issue is a case of showing someone else mercy and compassion. It reminds me of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector as told in Luke 18:9-14. All the Pharisee could see in the Tax Collector was a miserable sinner, clearly in his eyes inferior and unworthy, and undeserving of God’s mercy and compassion. His approach in his prayer to God was one of explaining how great he was and how fortunate God should feel that He had such a one as him praying to Him. On the other hand, the “inferior” Tax Collector looked only to God for mercy, compassion and forgiveness. God condemned the Pharisee and calls him unjustified.

A similar scripture that comes to mind involves the servant who had a great debt that he could not repay to his master. (Matt. 18:23-35) The text said the master had compassion on the servant, released him, and forgave the debt. However, when the same forgiven servant was approached by someone who owed him much less but could not repay, the forgiven servant threw his fellow servant in prison rather than show the same level of compassion and forgiveness shown to him by his master.

For all of us “unworthy servants” unable to pay the debt we owe because of our sins and yet are the blessed recipients of God’s mercy and forgiveness, to see others clearly we need to look at ourselves. (Rom. 3:23) As God has been compassionate to us, His expectation is that we will be compassionate towards others. (2 Sam. 22:26; Luke 6:36)

Many of us may remember how we were taught that it was wrong to “kick a man when he is down.” We are losing that the concept in our world today, and if we are not careful, in the Lord’s church. We see this scenario played out every day as people taunt, showboat, humiliate or degrade someone else in some way. That is why the expectation was that the batter would take the pitch. And that is also why it is alarming that some believe he should not.

We must remember the unforgiving servant and how God handled his wickedness. I am grateful every day that God had compassion on me and forgave my sins. “...thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.” (1 Cor. 15:57)

Randy Reagan

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, Polly Roses, Sherry Hodge, Jeanene Heilman, Anne Herriage, Katherine Cox, Patsy Swain, Marcella Porter, Vera Gleghorn, Marinell Zaun, Joe Farley, Doris Selby, Ray & LaFon Simpson

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker

Nursing Home: Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care Henry Seidmeyer – Good Life Senior Living

Military: Andrea Daniel (Air Force) Curtis Vaughan (Navy) Major Chris & Abby Mathews (Air Force)

The Elders of Belt Line Road church have decided that it is in the best interest of our members to **only** have **Sunday morning worship service** at 10 a.m. at the present time. No Wednesday night service yet.

The Elders have requested that we wear a face covering coming into and leaving the building. If you do not have one, we will provide one for you. We want to protect everyone from getting the COVID-19 illness.

All events are still cancelled until further notice.

Please continue to watch Randy's weekly sermons or listen to them on our website or CD if you are not comfortable in attending Sunday Morning Worship service at the present time. His lessons have been excellent.

A NOTE FROM THE ELDERS

If you do not feel comfortable in returning to worship at the present time, please continue to mail your contribution checks in. The mailing address is: 1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061.

Please remember that even though we can't get out to visit our shut-ins, we can call them on the phone, email them or send them cards. It's very important that we stay in touch with each other during this pandemic.

Updates:

Jeanene Heilman is still having pain. The doctor said it could last for another 6 to 8 months or never go away as this has to heal on its own. Please keep her in your prayers.

Dorothy Witt (former member here) was taken to the ER on Saturday night. Please keep this family in your daily prayers.

Dolcey Patino was able to leave the hospital a few days ago. He was diagnosed with COVID-19. He is continuing to recover at home and is feeling much better.

Congratulations: Patrick Pauli and Mariana Rojo as they were married at their home on Saturday. They came forward asking for prayers to bless their marriage and that God may guide them to his will as one.

The Odom's new phone number: 972-790-6520

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – September 6, 2020

Front Foyer: *Billy Joe Swain & Myrtle Wade*

Back Foyer: *Jim Walters & Sandy Hall*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

David West	9/1
Jackye Jewett	9/2
Dean Webb	9/4
Brenda Bryant	9/7
Billy Joe Swain	9/8
Katherine Cox	9/8
Sherry Hodge	9/13
Charlotte Burrows	9/17
Marcella Porter	9/20
Mary Martini	9/24

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Jackie* Walters	9/2
Vern & Melody Lundquist	9/22
David & Faye West	9/24
Ray & LaFon Simpson	9/27
Bryan* & Delisa Banister	9/30

THOSE TO SERVE

A.M. – SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Lead Singing – Jerry Baker

Sermon Topic – “A Spirit of Fear”

Scripture – 2 Timothy 1:1-14
Richard Renfro

Prayers – Ken Lee
John Mayer

Attendance a.m. on August 30, 2020 was **62**
YTD Average Contribution **\$5,214** Goal **\$5,360**

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 don't know what future we may have if any. We never know when a catastrophic event will take place as it did in Lake Charles, Louisiana and the surrounding areas last week. We do know though who holds the future.

HOW WE SPEND OUR TIME WHILE HERE ON EARTH IS VERY IMPORTANT. "Tomorrow," "today," and "yesterday" are all expressions of time. We are running a race with death (Heb. 9:27). Tragedies happen many times each day, and our prayers go up for the families affected when time has run out for loved ones. For all of us, life is like a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away (James 4:14). Time is a fleeting commodity that man measures in days, weeks, months and years; but for God time is limitless and eternal. Read Eccl. 3:1-15.

While we are young and happy and the rains of life overflow and our souls are constantly refreshed, time seems to be little appreciated (Eccl. 12:1). But later, the sad day when our doctor walks away from our bedside and says, "I can't do anymore," then a proper value is placed on time (Eph. 5:16).

But it is not how long we live, but how well we live. It is not the quantity of time, but the quality of life. In our youth, we can hardly wait to have the time pass in order that we might be adults and begin on our own. But when we awake to our new time, too often we find that we have overslept. It is not morning, but late afternoon or middle or old age. Like snow that has fallen during the night, so age has come upon us unexpectedly; and time has passed more quickly than we anticipated. We long for the days of the past. We want again the springtime of life. But it is gone; and we can't go back! We find ourselves on a road we cannot return. We must go on. We cannot look back and wish for the yesterdays.

Time is very valuable because during this period of human existence the destiny of all mankind is sealed. This life is man's probationary period. To neglect God's will for our lives will result in eternal loss of our souls (2 Thes. 1:7-9). Our future destiny depends upon the decisions we make and the actions we take now. Read 2 Thes. 2:13-17. Mission Printing is a great work! Reading one tract convicts some to become Christians. Today is the day of salvation! (1 Thes. 5:1-11)

Have a great week serving our Father who is in Heaven! Please remember in all your prayers our sick, shut-ins and those that are bereaved!

Dean Webb

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