



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

July 20, 2020
Volume 12 Number 29

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

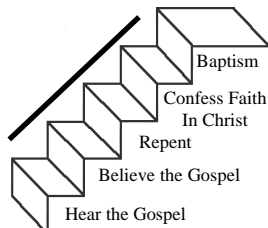
Darrell Allen
John Mayer

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)



Is Christianity a Cult?

One of the definitions offered by Webster of a cult is “a religion regarded as unorthodox or spurious.” The world has at various times attempted to discredit Christianity as “just another cult.” These claims are based on a misuse of scripture to say or teach things that are not accurate. Before we consider some of these claims, let us freely acknowledge that yes, there are some who take Christianity and turn it into a cult. However, the Christianity of the Bible never has been nor ever will be a cult as our culture defines a cult.

When the church was established in the first century, many early Christians were martyred by Jews intent on crushing the teachings of Jesus as well as the followers of Jesus, whom they had crucified. As the persecution intensified, Christians fled the persecution into all parts of the world. (Acts 8:1-4) At that time, Rome ruled the world. Rome even had its own “religion” which included Emperor Worship and worship of their gods. Since Christians refused to worship the Emperor or the Roman gods, there was an immediate conflict. The Romans and Jews accused the Christians of holding “secret meetings” which excluded all who were not Christians. The accusation was that they were plotting treason against the Roman government. The Christians were simply worshipping. In worship, they partook of the Lord’s Supper remembering the body and blood sacrifice of Jesus. For this, they were accused of cannibalism. Remember, when Jesus taught on this very subject, “...many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.” (Jn. 6:66) Because the basis of Christianity was love and their own scriptures talked about “love feasts” (Jude 1:12), Christians were accused of practicing open sex and incest in their meetings. None of these accusations were true and all were distortions of teachings, beliefs, and practices of Christians.

Jesus taught His disciples, “...I have come to set a man against his father and a daughter against her mother” (Matt. 10:35) and “brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.” (Matt. 10:21) So Christianity is accused of being a cult by trying to break up families and recruit children to oppose their parents even to the point of death. We know that was not what Jesus was teaching. The Bible is the very source for the creation of the family. (Gen. 1:28; 4:1-2)

The unique and exclusive relationship that Christians have with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit is distorted to indicate there is something “mystical” and “magical” concerning Christianity and the worship of the spiritual Godhead. For example, the washing away of sins in baptism by the blood of Jesus (Rev. 1:5) was purported as “magical happenings.” The non-believer will never understand any of this.

In every case throughout history, a true understanding of Bible teaching exposes the truth. Biblical Christianity is not a cult. Christians are simply a group of people who believe in one God, salvation through His one Son, and the teachings of the Bible provided by the one Holy Spirit.

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

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker

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

Clorece Wilson – River Oaks

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 at home and is still in pain. She has some doctor appointments this week.

Karen Rathbun's surgery has been rescheduled for August 21st.

Jerry Grantham went to the hospital on Thursday and had injections in her back.

Barbara Reagan spoke to her doctor and he confirmed that she has a serious case of pneumonia. He has quarantined her and said if she does not make significant improvement, she will have to go into the hospital. Please keep **Barbara** in your prayers.

Richard and Carolyn Renfro are not feeling well.

There are many others who are dealing with short term health issues. Please remember them in your daily prayers.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – July 26, 2020

Front Foyer: Terry & Clarine Henson

Back Foyer: Billy Joe Swain & Alice Worthy

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THOSE TO SERVE

JULY BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| Kristen Cornish | 7/3 |
| John Mayer | 7/9 |
| Sharon Haynes | 7/13 |
| Terry Henson | 7/19 |
| Clarine Henson | 7/22 |
| Melissa Allen | 7/25 |
| Linda Hogan | 7/25 |
| Robert Taylor | 7/28 |
| Don Herriage | 7/28 |
| Vera Gleghorn | 7/30 |
| Purman Cofer | 7/30 |
| Clorece Wilson | 7/31 |

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| John* & Cindy Derbyshire | 7/20 |
| Mike & Sandy Hall | 7/31 |

A.M. – JULY 26, 2020

Lead Singing – Jerry Baker

Sermon Topic – “We Are Brethren”

Scripture – Genesis 13:1-8
John Mayer

Prayers – Ken Lee
Darrell Allen

Attendance a.m. on July 19, 2020 was **58**

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

Bro. Alfred Beyan (my friend that I wrote about last week) and his team of soul winners ventured out into a Liberian county this week, that had a village without a congregation of the Lord's church. Read his email, if you have a computer, please view the four pictures of those whom we should pray for to continue their Christian life in obedience to God.

Subject: Church planted this week.

We had a successful gospel campaign in Sekou village, Margibi County this week. We went into the village on Friday and started our evangelism campaign from village to village, doing public preaching and from house to house. By the grace of God 34 persons gave their lives through baptism from Friday to Sunday and the Church was successfully planted with 82 Persons in attendance during the first worship service Sunday. Please keep the newly established Church in your prayers and the team that continue to reach out to people in towns and villages and Communities in Liberia.
Alfred

Note from Richard: You are helping this effort in Liberia through your work and donations for Mission Printing (MP). MP shipped a container of our material to Liberia in Nov. 2018 that has been used by Alfred and his team. MP will hopefully be able to ship a second container to him next month. Even though MP is officially closed, there are a half a dozen individuals and churches who continue to produce our material. May God be praised!

--- **Richard Renfro**

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