



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

September 21, 2020
Volume 12 Number 38

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

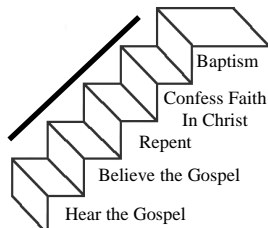
Darrell Allen
John Mayer

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)



Stealing the Hearts of Men

Bro. Wayne Jackson wrote, “David’s beloved son, Absalom, was a rebel at heart. He was envious of his father’s success and wanted acclaim for himself. So he carefully plotted to wrest the allegiance of David’s subjects from him, and transfer the same to himself. And he was significantly successful. He ‘stole the hearts of the men of Israel’ (2 Sam. 15:6). Eventually, a full-blown rebellion was ignited. David, with his remaining loyalists, fled Jerusalem. The king, with head covered, barefooted, and weeping, abandoned his palace for the sheltering seclusion of the forests east of Jordan (2 Sam. 15:30; 17:22ff). Absalom hotly pursued his father, doubtless with the intention of assassinating the king. Such wretchedness!”

Yes, Absalom was definitely a wretch and did wretched things all with evil plotting and intentions. He would “rise early and stand beside the gate” in order to undermine his father’s justice. He would tell the people that he was the only one who could/would give them justice in their cases. (2 Sam. 15:2-4) He would take their hand and kiss them as they bowed before him. In this manner, he stole their hearts, intending to use their loyalty to overthrow and assassinate his father, David. (2 Sam. 15:5-6)

Jesus would warn His disciples of those who would come in sheep’s clothing while inwardly they were ravenous wolves. (Matt. 7:15) In much the same manner, Paul warned of Satan appearing as an “angel of light” and his followers transforming themselves into “ministers of righteousness and apostles of Christ” when in reality, they were “false apostles” and “deceitful workers.” (2 Cor. 11:13-15) Although the saints at Corinth were not ignorant concerning his devices, they were still susceptible to the devil coming in and stealing their hearts. (2 Cor. 2:11)

Jude warned Christians that certain men had crept in unnoticed among them who were ungodly men. He would then go on throughout the epistle describing these men as “sensual persons who cause divisions.” According to Jude, Jesus had warned His apostles about these very “mockers” who would “walk according to their own ungodly lusts.” (Jude vs. 4-19) But I would like for us to focus on what Jude tells us in vs. 16: the method these ungodly men would use to steal people’s hearts was “great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.” Peter described them as “great swelling words of emptiness” (2 Pet. 2:18) but in many instances, they are effective in stealing hearts. (Rom 16:18)

How many congregations have been destroyed by false teachers who “secretly bring in destructive heresies” where “many follow their destructive ways”? (2 Pet. 2:1-2) How many Christians have left the Lord’s church or had their faith destroyed because of false teachers who through covetousness exploit with deceptive words? (2 Pet. 2:3) These modern-day Absaloms plot and scheme against Elderships, Christians, truth, and even Christ. (Prov. 24:8; Acts 9:4)

Our allegiance, devotion, and our hearts belong to God and to Him only. Jesus said, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” (Matt. 22:36-38) Let no one steal our hearts.

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:

Donna Davis is still having problems with dizziness.

Nelda Bell will need to get a shot in her back for a ruptured disc.

Karen Rathbun will be having surgery this week on Friday the 25th. She will be at Methodist Charlton on Wheatland Rd.

Jeanene Heilman is still in Baylor Irving. She was moved to room #554 where she is getting occupational, speech and PT therapy and is doing better.

Polly Roses is still in Baylor Irving, she was moved to PCU #303.

Susan Kruger is scheduled for eye surgery on Wednesday and needs our prayers.

Eva Stambaugh is having a problem with her legs and will be seeing the doctor on Tuesday.

Carolyn Renfro is not feeling well.

If you have lost any items, please check the "**lost and found**" box on the counter in the **Library**.

Greeters scheduled for Sunday Morning – September 27, 2020

Front Foyer: Terry & Clarine Henson

Back Foyer: Alice Worthy & Nancy Pond

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THOSE TO SERVE

A.M. – SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

Lead Singing – Jerry Baker

Sermon Topic – “What Will Be Remembered of Me?”

Scripture – Nehemiah 13:23-31
Jerry Baker

Prayers – Richard Renfro
John Mayer

Attendance a.m. on September 20, 2020 was 71
YTD Average Contribution \$5,273 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.

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

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**

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

A Message from Our Shepherd

It is clear that a sense of **mission** must be the driving force of our lives as God's children. The account of the life and times of Queen Esther points that out very well. We have all heard that story since we were children. But, if you are like me, you have often overlooked the sense of **mission** that filled every step of that woman's life.

In **Esther 1** we see the Persian king, Ahasuerus, throwing a party for the dignitaries of his government. Secular history tells us that this must have been king Xerxes (the 5th king of the Medo-Persian Empire). As the feast continued over a period of 180 days, the king decided that his queen, Vashti, should show off her beauty in front of his drunk friends. When she refused to participate in that spectacle, the king quietly deposed her from her queenship.

In **Chapter 2** the search for a new queen begins. After gathering the virgins from around the kingdom, the king decided that Esther would be his queen. He knew nothing about her nationality, religion, or anything else. She was simply the most beautiful of all the women and he wanted her for his queen. Since her parents died early in her life, Esther was raised from early childhood by her 1st cousin, Mordecai.

When **Chapter 3** begins, we are introduced to another character in the story. This man's name was Haman. Haman was one of the king's favorite princes. Because of that, the king raises him to a high position of authority in the kingdom. Wherever Haman went, the people would bow to him. Being the vain man that he was, Haman thoroughly enjoyed the reverence that the people showed him. That is what made him so mad when Mordecai refused to bow. Despite the pleadings that some of the king's servants did, Mordecai refused to bow to a human being. When Haman found out that Mordecai was a Jew, he arranged an interview with king Xerxes. In that discussion, Haman convinced the king that the Jews were a danger to his kingdom. By the end of the conversation, the king had granted permission for Haman to oversee the extermination of the entire Jewish race.

As we compare our world today with the condition of the Jews in Esther's day, we see some striking similarities. Next week we will talk about what those similarities are. Take the time to read the book of Ester this week and see what you come up with.

Jerry McKey

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