

May 13, 2024 Volume 16 Number 20 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 ..... 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

#### **MINISTER**

Doug Post Email: doug.post@beltlinechurch.com

#### ELDERS

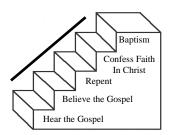
Darrell Allen Richard Renfro Dean Webb

#### **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)



# **Belt Line Road Church of Christ**

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

## CHRIST'S LAW IS A BLESSING Doug Post

Many in the religious world attempt to divorce God from law. Such a desires stems from a disdain for commandment keeping. It is impossible, however, to separate God from law. The laws of nature, which govern the seasons, movement of planets, and the universe, were spoken into existence by God (Psa. 33:6-9). The *law of faith* (Rom.3:27-28), which is simply the gospel (Rom.1:16-17), has commandments to keep, and keeping those commandments is necessary for salvation (John 14:15; Heb. 5:8-9).

Keeping commandments is simply obedience to His law or gospel: "**Come and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths.**" For out of Zion shall go forth the **law, And the word of the LORD from Jerusalem**" (Isaiah 2:3). The *mountain of the Lord* is Mount Zion in Jerusalem. The *house of God* is the temple in the city of David, Jerusalem, also corresponding to the *church*: "that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God" (1 Tim.3:15). Here we also note that *the law* and *the word of the Lord* are the same body of teaching, which contain *His ways* and *His paths*. These are His teachings in which we are to walk – a euphemism for living within. When we conform ourselves to Scripture, we are conforming ourselves to God. Conforming means we are living by Scripture, which is how God molds us. Conformity to His word is following Christ. Following the law of Christ (Gal.6:2; 1 Cor.9:21) means obeying the gospel, which, first, began in Jerusalem on Pentecost following the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

Antinomianism is the idea that no law exists. Such a mindset is rampant in the religious world, rejecting and or opposing His law. Many simply do not want to be constrained by limitations. This manner of thinking leads one to consider law as a curse. True freedom, however, is not defined as the absence of boundaries or limitations. True freedom requires law. By following "the perfect law of liberty" (Jam. 1:25), we can "Stand fast...in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage" (Gal. 5:1).

However, law is a blessing. If there is no law, there is no sin because "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4). Since "all have sinned" (Rom. 3:23), then law must exist. Without law, chaos reigns. The apostle Paul reminds us that "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33). If God did not provide man a law by which to adhere, then man would be left to do what he or she likes as Israel of old did that which is "right in his own eyes" (Judges.21:25). I can think of nothing more chaotic than for every man to determine for himself what is right and what is wrong. Jeremiah proclaims, "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jer. 10:23). But people spurn God's law by either denying it exists or by acting as if it didn't.

Without law, many find themselves claiming to have salvation in ways which are not found in Scripture. The objective standard (Scripture) is replaced with the subjective standard of one's own feelings or "I think so's." It doesn't matter if you feel you are saved, it matters if you are saved, which, again, is determined by God's word – law. When one obeys the Gospel plan of salvation—hear (Rom. 10:17), believe (Heb. 11:6), repent (Luke 13:3), confess (Acts 8:36), be baptized (Acts 2:38), and live faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10; cf.Col.1:23)—then one can know he or she is saved. Jesus says, "If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples; indeed, And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31-32). Therefore, Christ makes us free (John 8:36) when we abide in (live by) His word – law – the Divine standard by which we can measure ourselves (2 Cor.13:5).

# FAMILY NEWS:



Ongoing Health Concerns:Grady Fowler, Polly Roses, Nancy Pond, Jerry Baker, Victor Rathbun,<br/>Katherine Cox, Myrtle Wade, Michelle Reed, David West, Patti Kidd,<br/>Charlotte Burrows, Carol Partridge, Dean Webb, Jackye Jewett, Karen<br/>Rathbun, Alice Worthy, Lacy Allen

Home Bound Members: Gearldean Jones

<u>Rehab:</u>Elma Lawrence (room #516) and Fernando Ybarra (room #510) – Villages on MacArthur<br/>Polly Roses (room #206) – West Fork Village<br/>Glen Kelly – Christian Care – (room #118) - (Mesquite, Tx.)<br/>Virginia Stull – Morada – (room #B118) – (Grand Prairie, Tx.)

## **UPDATE:**

**Richard Renfro** was in the hospital last week with pancreatitis. He is now home and feeling better. **Karen Rathbun's** leg surgery is scheduled for Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Darrell Allen has asked for prayers for his former secretary Lacy Allen as she lost her baby.

Brenda Hood has been in the hospital and she is now at home.

**Billy Whitfield** is in room #409, 16<sup>th</sup> floor at Parkland Hospital. He has had a major stroke. Please keep him and Veronica in your daily prayers.

Elizabeth Garrison is having cataract surgery on Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Kent Conner has been in the hospital.

Ray Simpson's heart surgery has been scheduled for June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Eula Hedrick has been admitted to Medical City – Las Colinas Hospital.

We have many of our number who are experiencing various health issues. Please keep them in your daily prayers. Daily prayers are also needed for our missionaries, military, first responders and weather-related victim.

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It's that time again to fill up the grocery bags for **Christ's Haven**. Bags have been placed in both foyers with some items that are needed. The **Christ's Haven** van will be here early on **Tuesday**, **May 14<sup>th</sup>** to pick the bags up. Please have your bags at the church building no later than **Monday**, **May 13<sup>th</sup>**.

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We extend our deepest sympathy to **Dorris and Janie Walker** on the death of their son, **Michael** last Tuesday. Please keep this family in your daily prayers.

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**<u>Greeters</u>** scheduled for Sunday Morning – May 19, 2024

**Front Foyer:** *Billy Joe Swain & Angie Conner* **Back Foyer:** *Joseph Paul & Daniel Rodriguez* 

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5/15/24 – Wednesday Night Bible Study – 6:30 pm

#### MAY BIRTHDAYS

Vicki Catlin	5/1
Kati Mimms	5/13
Jerry McKey	5/14
Janice Daniel	5/16
Nancy Watts	5/20
Myrtle Wade	5/21
Margaret Lewis	5/27
Susan Krueger	5/27
Polly Roses	5/30

#### **MAY ANNIVERSARIES**

**Dean & Joy Webb** 5/23

# THOSE TO SERVE ON: May 19, 2024

## Announcements – Dean Webb

Song Leaders – a. m. Jerry McKey p. m. Nathan Allen

Prayers – a.m. George Tripp Richard Renfro

> p.m. Doug Post Thomas Rathbun

Scripture Reading – a.m. Joseph Paul Genesis 3:17-19 p.m. Doug Post 1 Peter 2:9-10

Lord's Table – (Both Services) Darrell Allen & Walt LaHaye

## **ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS**

	5/13/24	YTD Avg.	Goal
Sunday Class	30	31	50
A.M. Worship	58	57	100
P.M. Worship	28	34	50
Wed. Class	35	31	50
Contribution	\$4,723	\$5,191	\$4,871

## **MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED**

Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT Matthew & Emma Idowu Fola – Lagos, Nigeria Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon

## **OTHERS SUPPORTED**

Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, Texas Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, Texas Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

## STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

Southeast School of Preaching – Trevor Tattersall

Often, we hear people comment about time. They will make statements like, "when I have time" or "while I have time" and then add what *they* plan to do. Brethren, only God knows about our time here on earth. James 4:15 tells us, "Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." This acknowledges that any time we have is given by God, and it is only by His grace and with His help are we able to accomplish anything. Time is very valuable because during the time we are given on earth, our destiny is determined and sealed. You see, it's not how long we live, but how well we live. It's not the quantity of time, but the quality of life (Eccles. 3:1-15 and 12:13-14.) Life on earth is man's probationary period. Neglecting God will result in eternal loss of our souls (2 Thess. 1:7-9). Our future destiny depends upon the decisions we make and the actions we take now. Take a few minutes to read 2 Thess. 2:13-17

During the earthly time we are given, we must hold steadfastly to the truths of God's word. The truth is God's word; and it must be obeyed actively just as first century Christians obeyed according to I Peter 1:22, where Peter said, "Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart,...".

When we do our part, we obey the Lord's commands. In Mark 12:30-31 Jesus said, "...'And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This *is* the first commandment. And the second, like *it*, *is* this: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

Please continue to pray for our bereaved, our sick and our shut-ins. Have a great week!

**Dean Webb** 

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