

**The Unity of the Brethren
66th Convention Worship Service
July 10, 2015**



**“In essentials, UNITY,
In Non-essentials, LIBERTY,
In ALL things, LOVE.”**

**Nelsonville Brethren Church
Nelsonville, TX**

UNITY OF THE BRETHREN
CONVENTION WORSHIP SERVICE

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." John 15:5

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2015

9:00 AM
10:00 AM

GUIDE FOR WORSHIP

Prelude (a time to greet folks and prepare for worship)

Call to Worship: *An Act of Praise* # 42

Welcome

*Hymn- *"To God Be the Glory"* # 72

Morning Prayer

Hymn- *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* # 60

Presenting Of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Prayer

Offering

*Doxology

Scripture Lesson: *Hebrews 11:4*

Sermon: **Won't Take Nothing but an "A"!**

*Hymn- *"We've a Story to Tell to the Nations"* #733

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Announcements and Benediction

*Parting Hymn- *"Bless Be the Tie"* (v.1) #708

WELCOME! We welcome everyone to our worship service this Lord's Day and we invite you to come and worship with us again. If you do not have a Church home, we invite you to join our fellowship.

*- indicates when the Congregation stands.

Convention Schedule for Today:

8:00 AM - Registration

9:00 AM - Worship with Holy Communion

10:45 AM - Session 1

12:00 PM - Lunch

1:20 PM - Session 2

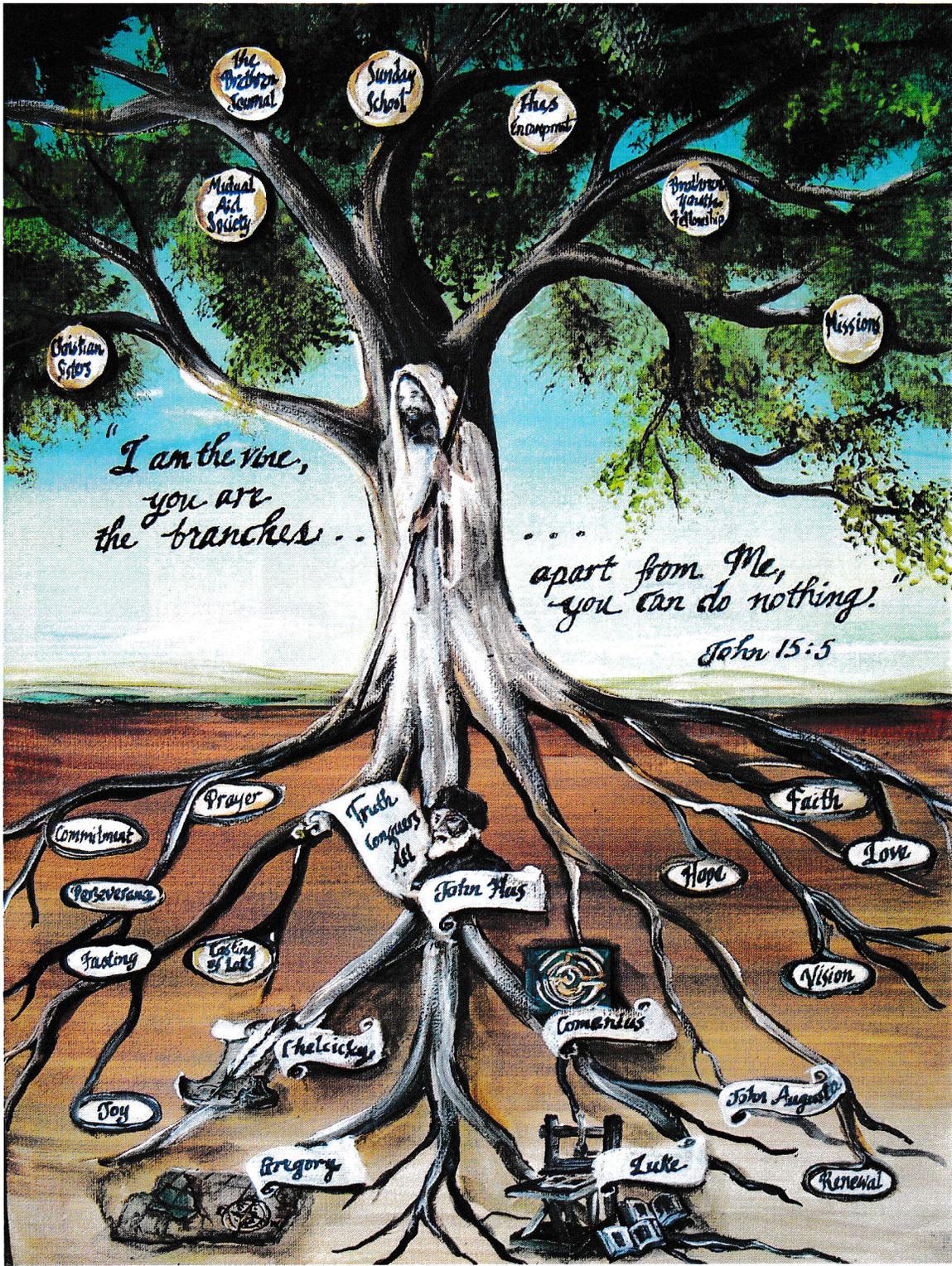
3:30 PM - Break

3:45 PM - Session 3

5:30 PM - Supper

7:00 PM - Session 4

Although only one scheduled break is listed, folks are urged to break individually when needed.



"I am the vine,
you are
the branches..."

...
"apart from Me,
you can do nothing!"
John 15:5

The
Brethren
Journal

Sunday
School

His
Encampment

Mutual
Aid
Society

Brethren
Harmony
Fellowship

Christian
Sites

Missions

Prayer

Commitment

Perseverance

Fasting

Feasting
of Love

Joy

Gregory

Truth
conquers
all

John Hus

Chalcidius

Comenius

John Augustin

Luke

Faith

Love

Hope

Vision

Renewal

THE UNITY OF THE BRETHREN



66TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION
CLOSING WORSHIP
WESLEY BRETHREN CHURCH
JULY 12, 2015
10:00 A.M.



PRELUDE

**Those who are able will please stand.*

WE APPROACH THE PRESENCE OF GOD

(CCLI License #102017)

"This Is the Day"

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made.

We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CONVENTION HYMN

(CCLI License #102017)

"To God Be the Glory"

To God be the glory—great things He hath done!

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,

Who yielded His life an atonement for sin

And opened the Lifegate that all may go in.

Descant

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son,

And give Him the glory—great things He hath done!

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!

To ev'ry believer the promise of God;

The vilest offender who truly believes,

That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. Descant

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Descant*

WE TURN TO GOD IN PRAYER

REFLECTIONS ON MINISTRY AT WESLEY BRETHERN CHURCH

Reverend Nello Strickland, Reverend James Hejl, Reverend Michael Groseclose

WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Music & Silent Meditation

*Doxology

***A HYMN OF THE "ANCIENT" UNITY OF THE BRETHERN** *"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,
The God of pow'r, the God of love, the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul He fills, and every faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty pow'r hath made His gracious mercy keepeth,
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of His might, Lo! all is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, thru all grief distressing,
An ever-present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing.
As with a mother's tender hand He leads His own, His chosen band:
To God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud His praises,
That all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart! Both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory!

WE READ GOD'S WORD

John 15:1-16

THE MESSAGE

"Playing Right Field in God's Kingdom"

Reverend Tommy Tallas

Texts: John 15:5; John 15:16

*HYMN

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"He's Everything to Me"

In the stars His handiwork I see, on the wind He speaks with majesty,
Tho He ruleth over land and sea, what is that to me?

I will celebrate Nativity, for it has a place in history;
Sure, He came to set His people free—what is that to me?

*Till by faith I met Him face to face and I felt the wonder of His grace—

Then I knew that He was more than just a God who didn't care,
That lived away out there and now He walks beside me day by day,
Ever watching o'er me lest I stray, helping me to find that narrow way—

He's everything to me.

*(Return to *)*

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

L: Leader **P: People** **A: ALL**

The invitation

L: Come, people of God, out of your separateness, to enter into unity with one another, and with all who seek the presence of Jesus Christ, through the breaking of bread and the sharing of wine. Come, confessing the sin that separates us from God and from one another.

An act of confession and words of assurance

L: We have been both saints and sinners, O God. It is of our sin that we wish to speak. Not out of a wish to emphasize the negative, but because you are the One who turns shame into honor, who turns evil into good, who turns sinners into saints.

P: We think of missed opportunities for good: of kind words left unsaid, of harsh gestures that easily could have been made gentle, of thinking the worst and expecting the least, of pushing from our mind thoughts of others, of failing to see beauty or to appreciate goodness. We've missed out, and we and your world are impoverished for it. Please forgive us.

L: We also think of serious wrongs in which we participated: of manipulative or cruel words we spoke, of hands that struck or crushed or pushed away, of eyes that looked at things

forbidden or damaging, of ears that perked up at destructive talk, of feet that led us into evil's path, of taking more than a steward's share of your good earth, for feasting without a thought about those who starve, for empty laughter without knowing the side of this world that mourns, for indulging ourselves in an attempt to fill the emptiness. Please forgive us.

A: We are sad, sad people, finding it hard even to love ourselves. Yet you love us, especially in our sorrow, and are willing to forgive. Give us the mind of Christ, that we may walk the earth as living embodiments of Christ and image-bearers of God. Amen.

L: The good news in Christ is that God is more willing to forgive our sins than we are to acknowledge them. May the God of peace be with us all, keeping us in unity with one another and with Christ's people everywhere. Amen.

A prayer of commitment

L: Let us pray. In a world of violence between persons, clans, and nations; of violence upon the self; where families are fractured through broken relationships, where unemployment causes frustration and suffering, where those who differ from ourselves become scapegoats for our pain and fears, and where hatred and war are common to the news...In such a world, God, what do you want us to do?

P: We wait upon you, O God. Guide us.

L: We remember Abraham, a person to whom you made yourself known. Like him, we are willing to go out, not knowing where you will lead. Yet we trust that you will go before us to guide us.

P: Help us, O God, to hear your call above the many conflicting claims of today. Then encourage us, God, to accept your call to go and to do what you want us to do.

L: We remember Deborah, who served as a prophet and a judge over the Israelites.

P: By the power of your Holy Spirit, give us wisdom to respond to your call and, like Deborah, to help others discover how you are calling them.

L: We remember Paul, who sought through his ministry to strengthen the body of Christ so that all its members could work together more effectively.

P: So we of this body seek to witness and work wherever you have placed us, in love for the world.

L: We remember the woman at the well, who, though unacceptable to some among whom she lived, was called to ministry.

P: Give us the courage to face our past so that we may help you build a better future for this world.

L: We remember John Hus, who forfeited his life to tear down the barriers the world had built between you and your people.

A: God, open our hearts that we may discern in others—and ourselves—the great worth and calling you bestow upon all people, that we may not ignore the world and its needs. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He went to the place of departed spirits. The third day he rose from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The prayer at the table and words of institution

The sharing of the bread and the cup

The Unity of the Brethren celebrates Open Communion: anyone who has been baptized and has made their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, regardless of denominational affiliation, is invited to join us in this meal. We shall celebrate the Lord's Supper at the front of the worship space: please come forward as directed to receive the elements. The small trays offer a choice of bread and wafers, while the large trays contain both wine and grape juice. As you receive the elements, please partake of them before returning to your seat. Anyone who cannot come forward will be served at their seat.

***The prayer of thanksgiving**

***The exchange of greetings**

THE SINGING OF "HOJ VĚRNI V BOJ" ("Ho! Faithful in Battle")

Hus School Ex-Students

Directed by Reverend Tommy Tallas / Musical accompaniment by Donna Tallas

***THE PRAYER FOR THE MEAL AND THE PARTING WORDS OF BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

WORSHIP LEADERS

Reverend Michael Groseclose, Reverend Tommy Tallas
Reverend Lawrence Junek, Reverend James Hejl

THE 66TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION OF THE UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

Nelsonville and Wesley Brethren Churches

July 10-12, 2015

Convention Theme

"Branches Bearing Fruit"

Convention Text

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5)

Convention Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"

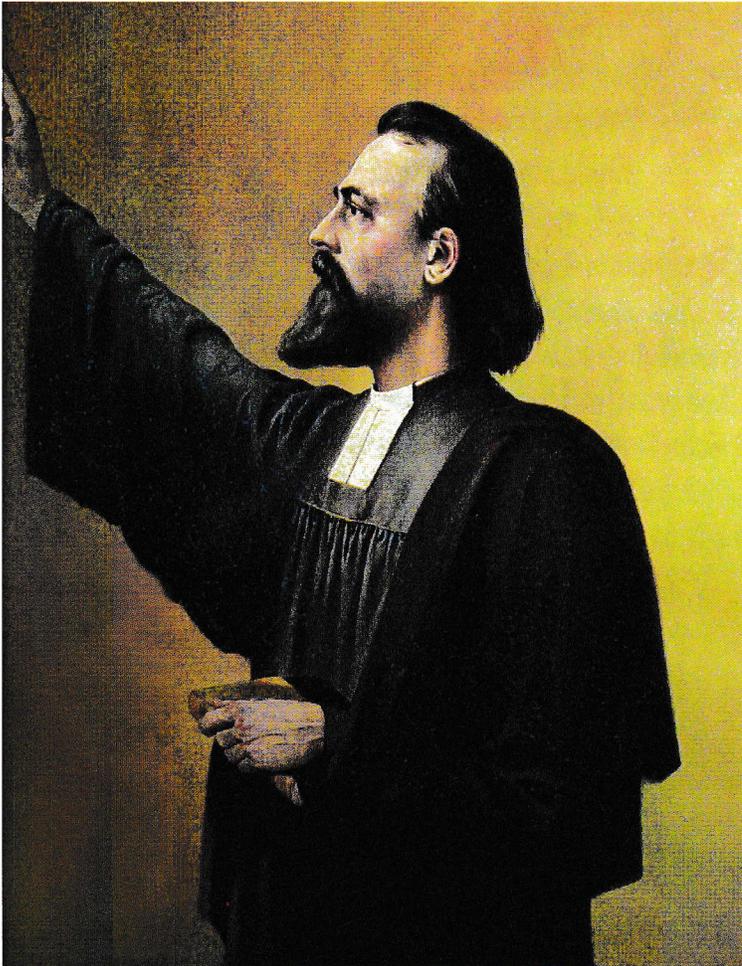
2013-2015 SYNODICAL COMMITTEE OFFICERS

President	James Marek
1st Vice President	Reverend Lawrence Junek
2nd Vice President	Reverend Michael Groseclose
3rd Vice President	Reverend Doctor Jerry Terrill
Secretary	Elizabeth Ripple
Financial Secretary	Daniel Merz
Treasurer	Dewyan Weise

Pastor to Pastors

Reverend Doctor Larry Koslovsky

Bulletin Cover Art by Suzanne Huser of the Granger Brethren Church



*Seek the truth, listen to the truth, teach the truth,
love the truth, abide by the truth, and defend the truth
unto death. ~ Jan Hus*
