

# THE BRETHREN



# JOURNAL



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**Hus Institute for Lay Leadership Participants  
at the Houston Brethren Church.**

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**. . . and much more!**

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Brother Nello  
Strickland  
Honored

Brother Nello Strickland, Jr., of Brenham, ordained minister of the Faith Outreach Christian Center and an associate minister in the Unity, was recently honored for 50 years of service in the funeral profession. Bro. Nello served as pastor of the Wesley Brethren Congregation for 4½ years and as chaplain of American Legion Post #48 of Brenham for 12 years. He had also served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. Our congratulations to Bro. Nello!

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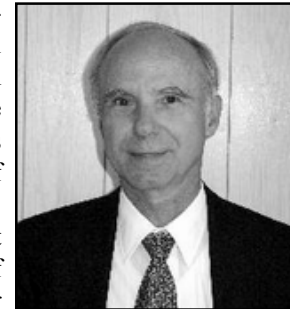
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President’s Column . . . Claren Kotrla

ATTITUDE

Sometimes we hear the statement “you have an attitude”. It is usually not intended as a positive statement. Several years ago there was even a television series where one of the characters was called “B.A.” because of his bad attitude.



What if we looked at the positive aspects of having an attitude? For example, Pastor Chandler used the words “attitude of gratitude” during a sermon. What if we as members of the Unity of the Brethren held an attitude of gratitude in our daily lives? Would we be a lot happier? Would the way we approach issues involving our congregations change for the better? Would our outlook on our daily lives improve?

People who have studied survival situations state that definitely attitude makes the difference. Of course, knowledge plays a role in how we react to a survival situation, but it is the attitude of the individual that determines the outcome. If the indi-

vidual has a positive attitude and the will to survive, they are much more likely to do so than the person whose attitude is negative. The negative person sees what is wrong and what will not work and therefore becomes overwhelmed with the situation. The person who has a positive attitude looks at their situation and begins to deal with the parts they can address. It may be that they need water so they look for water. If a stream is dry they will dig for water in a low spot, but they will take action. They may need shelter, so they look around to determine what is available to make a shelter with. It may be little more than a wind-break made of rocks and covered with brush to keep out the cold, but it is shelter. The person with a negative attitude will look at the same situation, give up and not see the shelter materials in front of them. The stories of successful survival have a common thread and it is



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an attitude of gratitude. The survivors were grateful for what they had and made do with it.

This applies to other difficult situations. The people who have survived being locked up during war time show the same attitude. Perhaps the most recognized POW at this time is John McCain. It was his attitude that got him through the difficult times of torture and isolation. There were times when he and the other POWs didn't hear anything positive about what the U.S. was doing for them. All they were allowed to hear were the protests and negative things about the war and the country they fought for. Those had to be very low times for the POWs. Those that survived had an attitude. They persevered in the face of overwhelming odds. Individuals undergoing cancer treatment or major surgery that have an attitude of gratitude do better than those who don't. Many of those attitudes were based on faith, faith that God would not abandon them in their time of need.

A look at the Old Testament will shed some light on what happens with a change in attitude. In Numbers the Israelites attitude shows discour-

agement and a loss of faith, and in Deuteronomy it is an attitude of fatalism. However, after 40 years when they finally decide to do what God told them to do, their attitude changes and becomes optimistic. This optimistic attitude comes from faith in God. There were battles, and they followed God's instructions which resulted in success. Just as in this illustration, sometimes even today, it takes hardship and difficulty before people finally get the right attitude.

We can learn from these examples and get that attitude of gratitude and get an attitude for Christ, or we can have the attitude of failure and despair. The attitude we choose will impact not only our daily lives but the life of our church and its ability to share the Gospel of Christ. It is an individual choice; we each have the ability to make that choice.

Knowledge plays a part in survival situations, and knowledge of the Bible strengthens us individually and as a church to do Christ's work on this earth. However, in our daily lives it is the attitude we have when using that knowledge that makes the difference, just as it makes the difference in the way our church functions.

## Houston Brethren Study

The Houston Brethren Church hosted a study on Brethren History and Doctrine through the Hus Institute for Lay Leadership (H.I.L.L.) on Saturday, June 28, at the church. The study was presented by Dr. Mark Labaj. There were 36 participants representing Brethren churches in Pasadena, Westheimer Community, Fayetteville, and Houston. After registration at 8:30 AM, a continental breakfast was enjoyed by all. The class began at 9 AM, and broke for a brisket and fried chicken lunch at noon. An afternoon session lasted past 3 PM.

The information provided and discussed covered the start of the Unity of the Brethren in 1457, to the present time. Each participant received a 3-

ring binder of information that included a 20-page section on the Brethren's theology.

Thanks to Dr. Labaj for an educational study on who we are, and for answering questions from the group that came up from time to time.

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## Fayetteville Ministers to the Military

- by Pauline Ott



The Fayetteville Brethren Church has been sending items to our troops for several years. One of our Navy Lieutenants came to our church on Sunday, May 25 (Memorial Day weekend) with his family from Hallettsville, to say "thank you" to our congregation. What an honor this was!

Brian recognized our congregation with a flag and certificate. I am so touched by his words of thanks and appreciation. He told us "You are all so kind as to send all these items to all of us, people who you don't even know." I told him that the members of the military are the ones doing the hard part and that we appreciate them.

(Editor's note: Fayetteville has been carrying on this ministry since the war in Iraq began.)

## Austin Brethren Outreach Ministries.....

### FAITH, FOOD & FACEPAINT

(Submitted and written by Claren Kotrla and Pastor Linda Chandler)

On Saturday, June 21, the Austin Brethren Church, in conjunction with Launch Pad Ministries, Abundant Life Church, and Celebration Church, sponsored a Christ-centered community outreach for the neighborhood surrounding the Austin Brethren Church facilities. This was a mega "each one reach one" effort. Over 200 people attended this Christ-centered love fest. The music was varied and included rap music with a message for Christ. Personal testimonies were given that were heart penetrating.

What you saw and heard when you arrived was not unlike a small scale Czech Fest with a flat bed truck, bands, singers, and speakers. There was the smell of food being cooked over the grill and the hum of people visiting and sharing together. The face painters were painting faces with crosses and kids were playing. Bicycles were given away as a result of free drawings. New Testament bibles, provided by Gary Chandler's Gideon ministry were distributed in both En-

glish and Spanish. There was a Mustang racing car subtly painted with scripture. It was bright red, and as you looked closely, just under the surface, were scripture verses covering the whole car.

This was a different approach to reaching people who may not be church-ed or who aren't presently involved with a church. It was a picture of God loving a community and restoring hope through His body, us! Did it result in a large influx of new members? No, but that obviously wasn't God's objective. Did it share the Gospel with people who would not normally hear the word of God? Definitely!

Members of these four churches/ministries came together to reach people with the word of Christ in a different and successful way. In fact the whole coming together of these ministries and the birth of this outreach was God-constructed and ordained. Pastor Linda and the Austin



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### *How It All Began*

### *A History of the Unity of the Brethren*

By Rev. Daniel J. Marek

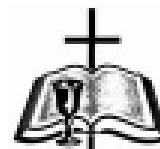
A compilation of Rev. Marek's articles and translations of articles written from 1986-2004. These articles appeared in various issues of *The Brethren Journal*. Hard Cover, 159 pages. Includes a section on the Unity's beginnings in Texas and a section on the Unity's European history.

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Brethren were in 21 days of noon-time prayer (M-F noon-1pm daily) when the vision of loving a community to Christ was presented to Pastor Linda by David Contreras of Launch Pad Ministry and Pastor Art Cardenas of Abundant Life Church. Pastor Linda had no previous knowledge of these ministries. The date for outreach had already been set, June 21, and Pastor Linda now knew that was the reason God had impressed on her for **21 days** of prayer. Austin Brethren provided the site for the outreach, tables, chairs, and eager workers. All food, tents, prizes, etc., were provided by the other ministries. God really knows how to put on an outreach when His Holy Spirit moves on His body!

Pastor Linda was first introduced to the crowd as the community pastor, and she gave a testimony of love and hope. David Contreras' wife, Rebecca, gave a heart-wrenching testimony of being born to a heroin addicted mother and never knowing her father. She had a difficult life, but eventually grew up through those difficult situations to advise President Bush. A girl who in her teens found hope and meaning in Jesus Christ and was later placed by God

before the highest U.S. official, was a testimony bringing many to tears. Her testimony showed that no matter how difficult your situation or circumstances are God has a plan for you if only you will open your heart to that purpose. Conversely, it also shows that no matter how successful or well off you may be, He still has a plan for you if you will listen.

This innovative God designed outreach greatly encouraged and brought hope to this often forgotten Austin community. It also spotlighted God's supernatural power of connection when we listen to His plans and follow His heart. Austin Brethren Church just can't stop talking about God's ever-present help! We are a living testament of these words: *"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."* Romans 8:28

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Twenty three children attended the Austin Brethren Church Bible School held August 5 through 8. The theme was "Highway to Heaven". The classes

were divided into groups, and they rotated from one activity to another. Activities included music with rhythm groups, prayer development, crafts, and physical application of what was learned. During the general assembly the pastor provided sermons focused for the youth. There was not an age separation within the classes, and we found that the older children became mentors to the younger ones.

An example of the physical activity included walking in trust. In this activity the children went through a maze blind folded while another child gave them verbal directions. The interesting outcome in this exercise was that the blind folded child put his or her trust in the child giving direction

just as expected, and they learned the importance of trust in God. However, the children giving directions needed a lot of help in providing understandable guidance to the blind folded child. This became another learning opportunity in that even when you are in a leadership position you still need help from God.

A meal was provided at noon, and it was interesting to see many of the children using what was learned about love, caring, and trust. Several of the older children helped ensure the smaller ones were cared for. One example was when one boy was given a cookie for desert at the end of the meal – he first gave one to his little sister.

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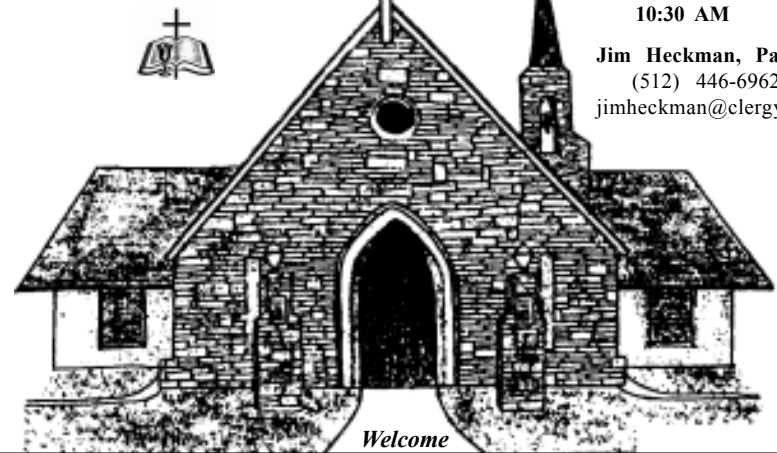
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## !!!!A Section in the *Brethren Journal* for Children????!!!

*It has been suggested that there be a special part of each month's issue dedicated specifically to appeal to younger children. I would think that this would include Bible lessons and Christian thoughts which would relate to the current lives of our younger generations. In sharing this idea with others, all of the responses were very positive. Though action on this suggestion has not been officially approved by the B.J. Business Committee, I invite anyone who feels a strong interest in being the one who creates this kind of ministry to contact me. Also, any feedback you may have on this idea would be appreciated.*

*Rev. Milton Maly, editor*

## 2008 Sunday School Convention...a report



***New Sunday School Union Officers***

*L to R: Ronnie Tyson, Lydia Faust, Pastor Kay Polasek, Pat Mynar, and Angie Hairrell*

The Sunday School Union Convention was held at the Rosenberg Brethren Church on Saturday, July 26, 2008. The main business of the Session involved the possibility of merging the Sunday School Union with the Board of Christian Education. It was noted that these two organizations and their purpose overlap in several areas. The motion was made by Joel Mitchell that the Sunday School Union support the merger with the Board of Christian of Education; details to be worked out by the Synodical Committee and the officers of the Sunday School Union. All members of the convention were in favor of this idea and the motion passed.

Ronnie Tyson made the motion to propose to the Synodical Committee and then proposed and finalize at the Church Convention that all remaining funds in the Sunday School Union be transferred to the Board of Christian Education as a budget line item for

Sunday School. This motion also passed unanimously.

New officers were elected for the Sunday School Union so that they and the Synodical Committee can work through the details of this transfer. The new officers of the Sunday School Union are: Kay Polasek, President; Pat Mynar, Vice President; Lydia Faust, Treasurer; Angie Hairrell, Secretary; Financial Secretary, Ronnie Tyson.

The Sunday School Executive Committee will meet in the near future. More details will follow in a future *Brethren Journal* article.

Blessings,  
Kay Polasek, President

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## Youth Schedule

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September 24

September 19-20

October 10-13

**October 24-26**

**October 24-25**

October 21-November 3

**November 8 & 9**

Novembwer 21-24

See You at the Pole

Revolve Tour (teen girls), Dallas

National Yuoth Workers Convention, Sacramento

**Fall Scrappin' & Stampin' Retreat**

**Women of Faith, Houston**

National Youth Workers Convention

**Fall B.Y.F. Retreat**

National Youth Workers Convention, Nashville

### 2009

January 23-24

January 23-24

January 23-24

February 6-7

February 13-14

**February 20-22**

February 20-21

February 20-21

March 6-7

Planet Wisdom, Houston

Acquire the Fire, Houston

Hot Hearts, Beaumont

Hot Hearts, Texarkana

Revolve Tour, Houston

**Spring Scrappin' & Stampin' Retreat**

Acquire the Fire, San Antonio

Hot Hearts, Hill Country

Acquire the Fire, Fort Worth

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Guys... this is really important! If we don't have a representative, then we don't have a voice in what happens at the camp.

Contact Kimberly Stewart  
ASAP if you are willing to serve!!!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### State Youth Coordinator Position Open for Application

Any person interested in the position of Youth Coordinator for the Unity of the Brethren Church should submit a letter of interest and a resume to Rev.

James Hejl at [jhejl@austin.rr.com](mailto:jhejl@austin.rr.com) or

309 Cherrywood Circle, Taylor, TX 76574 or

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352 Nelsonville Church Rd., Bellville, TX 77418.

Applications accepted through November 1, 2008.

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

*"Bear ye one another's burdens*

*And so fulfill the Law of Christ."*

(Gal. 6:2)

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*Your gift can be contingent. The funds go to someone if they survive you and if not, then to the Unity.*

*You can tell us now that you have named the Unity in your will and allow us to express our gratitude...or you can let it be known later.*

**There are many other ways to give. Contact any Board of Grants and Bequests member about what you can give and how you can give.**

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**Ronald Dusek**

rdusekdds@aol.com ph: (979) 567-3732

**Dewyan Weise . . . ph: (325) 651-8550**

## In Christ's Love . . . from the Mission Field Need Christ, Got Work?

- by Phil Raiford

*Editor's note: Phil Raiford is a 24 year old Moravian currently living on the East Coast of Nicaragua as a missionary. He is originally from Winston-Salem, North Carolina where he is a member of Friedburg Moravian. Phil lived in Mexico and was disciplined by YWAM (Youth With a Mission) and specifically with Robert and Anne Thiessen for 2-1/2 years. He is called to be a church planting missionary and is currently discipling a couple of new friends in Nicaragua. He is challenging some of the local youth to become disciples or missionaries. Please pray for Phil and the work that Jesus is doing through him in Nicaragua. His email address is pbrmission@gmail.com*

Wholeness, reconciliation. To what extent can we, as missionaries, give wholeness to others, completeness? How does Christ give completeness to his followers? How do we become carriers of this gift, and where do our responsibilities begin and end? Does our responsibility just lie in securing

salvation of the soul, or in every facet of their lives, building something lasting, beginning with individuals who shape society and then the world?

Through the fullness of Christ in man and in the world, individuals regain value in their personal relationships, work, recreation, and worship. Fullness meets where emptiness once reigned. A void where desire meets necessity, a haunting of something grand, something wonderful to be a part of, not knowing where it is or how to find it, but knowing it was there for some and is for others. The need for bonding; people to people, people to work, people to purpose, and people to faith. Reconciliation is a mustard seed. Not just one, one for every area of life. Start small, where home life is a wreck, a kind word. Where work is abhorred, a passion aroused. Where destiny is a darkness, joy prevails. Where faith condemns, grace lives.

A mustard seed must go through many stages to become a tree. We



### To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

. . . regarding scheduling\* of meetings or events there, contact:

Dawn Marie Baletka  
600 Benchmark Drive  
College Station, TX 77845  
(979) 777-9940 or (979) 693-2710  
BaletkaD@navasotaisd.org

\*This must be done well in advance.



must take whatever we are given, even a bad job with depressed workers and realize it is just a small seed, having faith it can grow into a tree where others can land and bask in its shade, comforted by the harsh conditions all around. If we are filled even unto overflowing, we can only then fill others up with what we are full of, a full life, like a lush beautiful tree reaching far out all around its base which was once a small insignificant seed. For a person to be whole, his whole life must be reached and changed.

As members of one body, divinely universal in unity, unique in purpose, we build up all things. As Zinzendorf said, "everyone with Christ is a missionary, and everyone without Christ is a mission field." From the homeless to the executive we can reconcile every area to Christ. Therefore everywhere we travel, every job we do, every conversation we have, goes toward the building of the body. We must take every opportunity, every gift, and begin the process which is reconciliation, salvation. When we are here and they are there, we cannot meet. We must go where they are. You can lead a horse to the water but you

can't make him drink. The ultimate decision is theirs, we just go along for the journey.

We must not just be providers, but partakers on the same journey, empathizing with their struggles, doubts, and disappointments, showing we are in the midst of it all. What better place than in the area where God first cursed us, the common ground that causes our brow to sweat, cursed from our rebellion, work. We all come from that place, let us not forget those still there. With Christ, work is no longer a curse, but a time in which we provide for those near us spiritually and physically. A man may not make more money at his job, but a man with Christ will be responsible to his fellow workers, and to his family which he provides for. We can give a man more money for food, build him a nicer house, but it doesn't stop him from abusing alcohol, beating his wife, and spending his money on more vices. We must build from within him not around him. We give time, encouragement, grace, forgiveness, and love, making Christ the provider, not us.

Where work is minimal and pay is low we must change the atmosphere. Bring motivation and purpose to the

work. On the job site is where most time is spent for an adult, especially in countries where leisure is not much of an option. Creating new jobs, teaching responsibility, and giving value to a person for their accomplishments can be one of the best ways to begin the process of reconciliation. Working alongside in jobs already established shows your devotion to them and your attitude shows humility. The bond as coworkers and that to the actual job restores areas once affected by the void. Fullness is thus being instilled. Economic or social development should have that as its core. Christ is then able to work with the foundation we have laid. His principles at work, on the job. With the example given and the value given to coworkers through encouragement and trust with new responsibilities, Christ will open new doors. The Holy Spirit is a little freer to work in their lives.

Christ's power is ever expanding, leading to new ideas, new people, multiplying the possibilities for discipleship. Where we see insignificance, Christ sees worth; where we see the lazy, Christ sees a brother; where we see the hopeless, Christ sees a complete person.

Another stage is then ready to be reached, friendship. The confidence is obtained to move into a more intimate relationship. From a friendship

we have much more liberty to talk about things closer to the heart; home life, other friends and their faith. Your witness has been established and continues to grow as a strong presence in the relationship.

Salvation is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week process. We should take advantage of all of it. This way, the body of Christ is built up, growing stronger and more diverse, expanding into foreign territories; jobs, ball games, bars, and street corners. We make up 100% of the workforce on earth as humans, what a great place for reform, a divine plan full of newness, life, purpose, dignity, and even worship.

*But concerning brotherly love, you have no need that I should write to you, for you yourselves are taught by God to love one another; and indeed you do so toward all the brethren who are all in Macedonia. But we urge you, brethren, that you increase more and more; that you also aspire to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to do your work with your own hands, as we commanded you, that you may walk properly toward those who are outside, and that you may lack nothing. 1 Th 4:9-11*

(Next month... the Woo family returns to China, with another Woo boy!)

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Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September

**The Rosenberg Brethren Church**

**Christian Sisters**

5220 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471

## A Report from Macie...

### *A Summer of Looking Up!!*

HOWDY, from the mountains in Estes Park, Colorado!

Things look AMAZING from the elevation of 8,010 feet here at the YMCA of the Rockies! GCM's Colorado Leadership Training (CO-LT, or LT), our 11-week leadership program for college students in GCM churches around the country, is in full swing (in fact, we're halfway done) and things are going great. About 100 of our GCM-LT students are learning first-hand the trials and joys of working 40-hours a week as well as participating in L T meetings, outreach events, and day hikes, among other things. As for me, project days, international outreach, and sharing life with many non-Christian YMCA employees have been a few highlights of my time in Estes so far! Oh yes, and don't forget the wedding planning!

Also, we have been praying and seeing about 65 additional YMCA students attend our meetings and get glimpses of life with Jesus as Lord! The teachings from pastors have been changing lives – perfect, since the theme is GRACE this summer. We all could use or stand to receive a little more grace, huh?

Each of the approximately 100 LT student participants (LT-ers) spends one of their two days off with a group of 15-18 other LT-ers in worship, prayer, evangelism, solitude, service, and/or fellowship. One of my favorite project days so far was this week's "Marriage Panel" discussion that our project hosted. Our girls spent part of the day watching a movie "just because", then listening in as three "staff wives" and myself (who piped in as "the engaged woman") shared their lives

and stories of dating and marriage with us. With about 42 years of combined "marital experience", these women kept us busy with all of their wisdom and advice!

Praise God!

Reaching out to  
International Students:  
PROJECT DAY:

Another of my favorite experiences so far has been our International (Outreach) Food Fair. My friends, Mik from South Korea, Michelle, and Wei from China, all helped prepare a wonderful Korean dish called Bulgogi. About 20 internationals from South Korea, Thailand, Ukraine, India, and Columbia, to name a few, created dishes from their home countries to share their lives and culture with us. We had a great turnout and many discussions about faith and family throughout the evening. It was a blast – I loved sharing Jesus' love!

Also, Wei, Ju (another girl from South Korea), Mik, and I went shopping this week in Boulder, and we had a great time! We even ate Chinese and Korean food at Pei Wei (which Wei says must be Chinese, since it's a popular name in China!). By the end of the day, calling each other family!



*Wei and Macie*

Scripture of the Month:

Psalm 121:1-2

*I lift up my eyes to the mountains  
– where does my help come from?*

Fellowship Church, 1700 George Bush Drive East, Ste. 140, College Station, TX 77840.

Great Commission Ministries, P.O. Box 7101, Winter Park, FL 32793.

www.gcmweb.org

macie.merz@gcmweb.org

Macie

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YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m. – Church Service 10:30 a.m.

**For information please contact one of the following:**

*Dorothy Hinson*  
*President*  
7331 Misty Morning Lane  
Humble, TX 77346  
(281) 620-0480

*Larry King, Secretary*  
Board of Elders  
1611 Palomino Ln.  
Kingwood, TX 77339  
(281) 358-3355

### **TAYLOR BRETHERN CHURCH**

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574  
512-352-6423

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Worship: 10:15 a.m.

*Pastor*  
*James D. Hejl*  
512-365-6890

*President*  
*Sidney Srnensky*  
512-365-1142

*Secretary*  
*Mary Kokes*  
M-Th 8:00 am-noon

# DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for September 2008

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. We have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. 1 Jn. 4:14
2. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him and he is in God. 1 Jn. 4:15
3. A voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." Mt. 3:17
4. The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Mark 1:1
5. The gospel is about God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; as a man He was born from the family of David. Rom. 1:3
6. But through the Spirit of holiness He was declared to be the Son of God with great power by His resurrection from the dead. Rom. 1:4
7. **The Lord shall overcome because He is Lord of lords and King of kings. Rev. 17:14**
8. Just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death came to all men, because all men sinned. Rom. 5:12
9. God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Cor. 5:21
10. You were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers with the precious blood of Christ. 1 Pet. 1:18-19
11. Once made perfect, He became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey Him. Heb. 5:9
12. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Ps. 23:3
13. The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. The holy one born to you will be called the Son of God." Lk. 1:35
14. **The Lord said, "A virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel which means "God with us." Mt. 1:23; Isa. 7:14**
15. We have a high priest who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin. Heb. 4:15
16. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Mt. 5:6
17. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Mt. 5:10
18. Jesus said, "Blessed art you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Mt. 5:11
19. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven. Mt. 5:12
20. You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, it is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men. Mt. 5:16
21. **Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. Mt. 5:16**
22. Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples." Jn. 8:31
23. "Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."
24. "This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." Jn. 15:8
25. Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. Rom. 8:14
26. The Spirit we received does not make us slaves again to fear; it makes us children of God. Rom. 8:15
27. Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be condemned." Jn. 5:24
28. **To all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God. Jn. 1:12**
29. Jesus Christ gave Himself to us to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good. Titus 2:14
30. Christ sacrificed for the sins of His people once for all when He offered himself. Heb. 7:27

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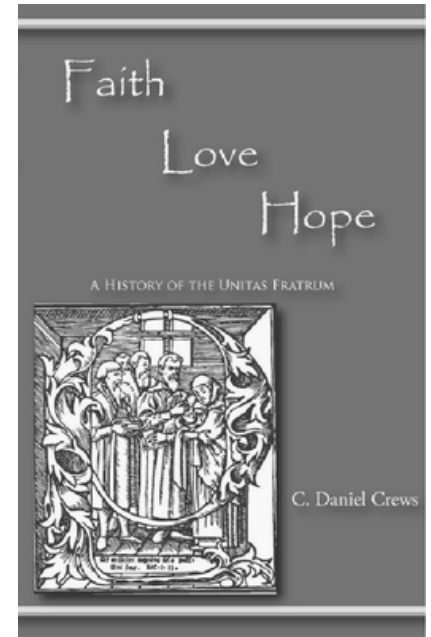
# Faith, Love, Hope

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## Mutual Aid Society – Listing of Local Secretaries' Addresses and Phone Numbers

- Granger #1: Angie Malicoat, PO Box 86, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-859-2837  
 Shiner #2: \*\*Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012  
 Taylor #3: Marie Ann Ripple, 2302 Heights Blvd, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-365-6916, [hripple@att.net](mailto:hripple@att.net)  
 West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107 South Barbara Street, Waco, TX 76705, 254-799-5331, [dekocian@yahoo.com](mailto:dekocian@yahoo.com)  
 Dime Box #6: Olga Brinkman, 2302 E. Mercer's Landing, Bryan, TX 77808, 979-731-8681  
 Snook #7: Marie Shelfer, Box 138, Snook, TX 77878, 979-272-8100, [shelfer@tamu.edu](mailto:shelfer@tamu.edu)  
 Ocker #8: Doris Svoboda, 109 Friendship Ln, Temple, TX 76501-9614, 254-742-1405  
 Dallas #10: James A. Marek, 2511 Wedglea, Apt 608, Dallas, TX 75211, 214-942-5168, [jamcei@aol.com](mailto:jamcei@aol.com)  
 Cooks Point #12: Patsy Albright, 2105 Rivendell, Bryan, TX 77807-4812, 979-779-8463  
 New Tabor #13: Evelyn Henry, PO Box 336, Caldwell, TX 77836-0336, 979-567-4397  
 Nelsonville #14: Peggy Peschel, 8000 Hwy 159 W, Bellville, TX 77418, 979-865-5095  
 Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek, 7157 FM 2086, Temple, TX 76501, 254-984-2283  
 Sealy #17: Esther Breeden, 1505 E 27th, Bryan, TX 77802-1318, 979-779-3835  
 Wesley #18: Mary Surovik, 2530 S Berlin Rd, Brenham, TX 77833-2048, 979-251-7485  
 Smithville #19: \*\* Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012  
 Temple #20: Ed Marek, 2900 Pecan Valley Drive, Temple, TX 76502, 254-778-2120  
 Rosenberg #21: Virginia Macik, 1209 Tobola, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 281-342-8802  
 Alief #22: Daniel W. Psencik, 1216 Damon Street, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 979-793-6783  
 Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Dr., Humble, TX 77346, 281-620-0480  
 Industry #24: \*\*Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012  
 Wall #25: Sharon J. Hohmann, 222 Crestwood Drive, San Angelo, TX 76903-9106, 325-651-5884  
 Caldwell #27: Guy Huffman, PO Box 216, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-567-7089, [cpaguy@cpaguy.com](mailto:cpaguy@cpaguy.com)  
 Crosby #28: Gisela Gaeke, PO Box 599, Crosby, TX 77532, 281-426-5506  
 Buckholts #29: \*\*Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, [NatalieOutlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:NatalieOutlaw@yahoo.com)  
 Placedo #30: Dorothy Elsik, PO Box 1054, Victoria, TX 77902, 361-575-2298  
 Robstown #31: Annette Korff, 1207 Baker, Robstown, TX 78380, 361-387-5241  
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 Pasadena #33: Betty Orsag, 5118 Coventry Ct, Friendswood, TX 77546-3001, 281-482-1501  
 B/CS #34: Mary Polasek, 4241 Blue Heron Road, Bryan, TX 77807-9027, 979-779-3634, [josephpolasek@hotmail.com](mailto:josephpolasek@hotmail.com)

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## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT WEDDINGS

BLANGGER-GRIMM. Heath Robert Grimm and Amy Cristin Blangger were joined in marriage at the Taylor Brethren Church on Saturday, July 12, 2008. The ceremony was performed by Rev. James Hejl.

LOBDELL-KOVACEVICH. January Lobdell was married to Kyle Kovacevich on March 29, 2008, at Belton and will live at Temple. Witnesses: Autumn Lobdell and Scott Morrow. Minister: Mark Labaj.

### RECENT DEATHS

LESHIKAR, ANNIE OLGA, 94, was born February 9, 1914, in Granger, Texas, to Henry and Rose (Simcik) Schirpik. She died June 27, 2008. She was preceded in death by her husband, her parents, and two brothers. She is survived by two sons, five grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter. Services were on July 3, 2008, at the Taylor Brethren Church with the Rev. James Hejl officiating.

MAREK, ADELLA AGNES, age 97, of Taylor, born May 10, 1911, died June 30, 2008, at the age of 97 years. She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents. She is survived by three sons, six grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren. Services were held July 3, 2008, at the Taylor Brethren Church, with the Rev. James Hejl officiating.

SUSAN, JOHNNY THOMAS, 69, born July 17, 1938, died July 11, 2008. He is survived by his wife, four sons, four sisters, and twelve grandchildren. Services were held July 15, 2008, at the Taylor Brethren Church with the Rev. James Hejl officiating.

SIMCIK, EDMUND MARVIN, SR., 83, born March 5, 1925, died June 6, 2008. He was preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, three sisters, and two grandsons. Survivors include his wife, three daughters, one son, and six grandchildren. Services were held at the Taylor Brethren Church on June 11, 2008 with Rev. James Hejl officiating.

WARBURTON, CAROLYN, age 68, died June 7, 2008, at Kingwood. Born May 27, 1940, at Houston. Is survived by one daughter and on sister. Services were on June 14, 2008, from the Kubena Funeral Home Chapel in Hallettsville with burial in Salem Cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

## WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

Located in Wall, Texas, on old Highway 87  
 (Loop 570), 12 miles east of San Angelo.



**Sunday Schedule**  
 Sunday School – 9:30 A.M.  
 Worship – 10:45 A.M.

Church: (325) 651-4444  
 Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas  
 (325) 949-7543  
[rev.tjt@verizon.net](mailto:rev.tjt@verizon.net)

Chairman, Board of Elders  
 Jimmie Brenek, (325) 469-3733

*“Come as a guest, leave as a friend”*

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

*Keep these activities in your prayers.*

**September 6:** At 9:00 AM at the Taylor Brethren Church, the Unity of the Brethren Mission Board meets.

**October 4:** At 9:00 AM, Fall meeting of the Synodical Committee, at Hus School Encampment.

### Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53  
Temple, Texas 76501  
254-985-2694



#### Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m.  
Prayer Gathering  
9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School for ALL Ages  
10:30 a.m.  
Worship Service

#### Wednesday Schedule

6:30 p.m.  
Kid's NITE Out (ages 3-5<sup>th</sup> gr.)  
Priority ONE Youth (6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> gr.)  
Adult Bible Study  
7:30 p.m.  
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

**Pastor**  
**Rev. Joe Emerson**  
P.O. Box 4615  
Temple, TX 76505  
(254) 791-0420 hm  
(254) 931-1653 cell

**Youth Director**  
**Steve Davis**  
P.O. Box 658  
Rogers, TX 76569  
(254) 913-1214

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At SBC...

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We Do *LIFE* Together

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES SEPTEMBER 2008

Austin – Bible Study at 10:00 AM  
Worship at 11:00 AM.  
– Rev. Linda Chandler

Bryan-College Station – worship at  
9:00 AM every Sunday.  
Snook – worship at 10:45 AM every  
Sunday.  
– Rev. Joseph Polasek

Buckholts – worship at 9:00 AM every  
Sunday except the 5th Sunday.  
Holy Communion on 1st Sunday.  
Guest speaker on 4th Sunday.  
– Rev. John Kueker

Caldwell – Sunday School at 9:30 AM,  
worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.  
Bible Study on Tuesday at 10:30 AM.  
– Rev. Jim Heckman

Crosby –  
Sunday – 9:00 AM: Worship  
10:00 AM: Faith Adventure  
11:00 AM: Celebration  
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Cy-Fair Community Church – worship at  
10:45 AM every Sunday.  
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays – Rev. Rick Chandler  
2nd & 4th Sundays – Rev. Henry Beseda  
– Rev. Henry Beseda

Dime Box – worship at 9:00 AM every  
Sunday.  
– Rev. Jim Heckman

Faith Brethren in Bryan –  
Worship - 5:00 PM  
Bible Study - 6:15 PM  
– Kay Polasek

Fayetteville – Sunday School at 9:30 AM,  
worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Milton Maly

Good News Fellowship Church of West  
Palm Beaches – worship at 1:00 PM  
every Sunday at Boynton Springs  
Presbyterian Church, Boynton Springs,  
Florida.  
– Rev. James Henry

Good Shepherd Moravian – worship at  
11:30 AM and 6:30 PM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez

Granger – worship services every Sunday at  
9:00 AM; Sunday School at 10:15 AM.  
1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sunday – Rev. Charles Amos  
4th & 5th Sunday – Mark Sebek

Houston – Every Sunday:  
Sunday School at 9:15 AM;  
Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.  
– Visiting Ministers

Industry – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday  
with Sunday School for all ages following.  
– Rev. Milton Maly

Nelsonville – Sunday School at 9:00 AM  
Worship at 10:15 AM  
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

New Tabor – Sunday School at 9:30 AM &  
Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday,  
"Tune Up" on Wednesdays, 7:30 PM.  
– Rev. Dave Johnson

Ocker – worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Ron Winsman

Pasadena – Sunday School at 9:30 AM  
and worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.  
Bible Study at 7:30 PM on Wednesday.  
– Scott Keaton

Rosenberg –  
Sundays: Adult Bible Study and Sunday  
School for children at 9:00 AM; worship  
at 10:30 AM.  
Wednesdays: 5:30 PM, Dinner; 6:30 PM,  
Bible Study; 6:50 PM, Prayer Meeting.  
– Bro. Larry Butcher

Seaton –  
Sunday, 9:15 AM – Sunday School, All Ages;  
10:30 AM – Worship Celebration Service.  
Wednesday, 6:30 PM – Kid's NITE Out  
and Priority ONE Youth (BYF), Adult  
Bible Study.  
– Rev. Joe Emerson

Taylor – worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. James Hejl

Temple – Sunday School at 9:30 AM.,  
Worship at 10:45 AM.  
– Rev. Bill Rinderknecht, Interim

Vsetin – worship at 10:00 AM every Sunday.  
1st, 2nd, & 4th Sunday – Dr. Mark Labaj  
3rd Sunday – Rev. Henry Beseda  
5th Sunday – Visiting Ministers  
– Rev. Henry Beseda

Wall – Sunday School (for all ages) at 9:30  
AM; worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Thomas Tallas

Wesley – worship at 9:00 AM every  
Sunday. Sunday School follows.  
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

West – Sunday School at 9:00 AM and  
worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Curtis Holland

Westheimer Community – 9:30 AM, Christian  
Education; 10:30 AM, Worship, with Holy  
Communion every 2nd Sunday.  
– Visiting Ministers

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