

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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June 2009

No. 5

28 Pages



Some of the youth who enjoyed the Annual Fishing Retreat in May.
(more pictures inside)

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. . . letters from the Thiessens and the Woos

Youth News

. . . and more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Visit the Unity of the Brethren Website: unityofthebrethren.org

*Our congratulations to Clinton
Machan of the Brethren Church
of Bryan/College Station. He
was awarded the 2008 Cernin
Palace Bronze Memorial Medal
for his contributions in preserv-
ing and promoting relations
between the Czech Republic and
the U.S. The award was pre-
sented at the Czech Educational
Foundation of Texas (CEFT)
annual meeting held on Janu-
ary 24 in Temple.*

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President's Column . . . Claren Kotrla

PREPARATION

What are you preparing for? Why
are you preparing? What are you
doing to prepare?

Preparation is an in-
teresting concept. It can
be fickle and it can be
elusive, yet it can insure
success when applied
appropriately. The deter-
mination to prepare is
based upon a number of
factors including percep-
tion, environment, events, and atti-
tude among others.

For example, you may remember
preparing for a test in school. If you
believed that doing well on the test
was important, you really prepared.
Your perception was that it was im-
portant. If your parents and family
believed education was important,
you prepared more thoroughly than if
they thought education wasn't im-
portant. The environment you were in
influenced your preparation. If you
were rewarded for a successful grade
or punished for a bad grade, your
preparation was greater because

events influenced your efforts. Your
attitude was a factor in your prepara-
tion for the exam. If you
wanted to succeed, you
prepared to succeed, but
if you didn't care, your
preparation was poor.

We are preparing for
the Unity Convention in
Temple. Based upon pre-
vious experience, we have
had meetings and con-
ferred, and have laid out meeting
rooms, seating arrangements, and ar-
ranged for meals. In addition, an agenda
is being developed, churches are elect-
ing delegates, speakers are being se-
lected, and other administrative ac-
tivities are in place. A theme of "RE-
NEWAL" has been chosen. Without
this detailed preparation, the conven-
tion would be chaotic and a meaning-
less exercise.

The farmer prepares for the grow-
ing of crops based upon the yearly
seasonal changes. Seeds are gath-
ered or purchased ahead of time,



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tractors are repaired and made ready during the winter for spring planting, and the soil is prepared for planting. Then the crops are fertilized and made ready for growing and eventual harvest and sale in late summer or the fall. Preparation takes on many forms based upon the needs.

The wild animals prepare for winter by eating a lot since there won't be food readily available during the winter. Some birds fly south to breed and avoid the cold. Bears prepare for the winter by hibernating through it.

As we review past natural catastrophes such as hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, and earthquakes, we find that preparation wasn't always well done. During the hurricane that hit New Orleans, we find that the local, state, and federal governments were ill prepared to deal with the needs of the people. However, we find that some individuals were prepared and survived the experience better than those individuals that depended on

someone else to take care of them. The government entities were in a political and reactive mode based on crisis. As a result, the various government entities made major mistakes, misunderstood the situation, and delayed beneficial action. Those individuals who had prepared and took action to care for themselves and families fared much better than those who didn't.

Many people didn't prepare for an economic downturn. However, many of us are getting through it much better than others. Why are some doing better than others? They prepared by not living beyond their means, not buying a house beyond their ability to pay, or getting saddled with a large car payment. They also put a few dollars away for an emergency even though they didn't know what that emergency might be. Even if a breadwinner lost their job, they were and are in a better position to get through this poor economic environ-

ment than someone who didn't prepare. They live in an environment that consists of family and friends that are supportive and helpful. They believe they will succeed because of their attitude, and based on previous events they know they will get through this problem. Again, individual preparation rather than assuming someone else or a government entity would take care of things leads to better outcomes.

Preparation is not the same thing as worrying and fretting about everything. Preparation is an organized, thoughtful approach to dealing with the future. For instance, if we believe we want to have a certain income, we become educated or trained in a field that will provide that level of income. If we believe there will be shortages of something in the future, we pur-

chase those items, grow them, or make them.

Remember Y2K? When the calendar changed to 2000, many people thought the world would end and their actions were driven by fear rather than a thoughtful evaluation of the issues. They bought large quantities of food and fuel expecting the worst. Others realized the problem was how computers might not be able to transition from the 1900s to 2000. This could result in disruption of food and fuel deliveries, but not the end of the world. Preparation by having a full fuel tank in your car and enough food for a week was all that would be needed if these deliveries would be disrupted. In reality, nothing really happened, but prudent preparation was appropriate.



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Home: 325-949-7543 Cell: 656-8558
Home: rev.tjt@verizon.net
Church: rev.tjt@zipnet.us
www.wallbrethrenchurch.org

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:45 a.m.

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325-651-8550

Youth Director
David Love
325-656-8363

Secretary
Johnie Smith
Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

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Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor

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(254) 742-0827

ronwinsman@hotmail.com

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(254) 983-1002

Today many people perceive a threat on the horizon that would exceed the great depression. They are preparing by having food supplies and money to meet long-term shortages at home. This may not be as unusual as it may sound. For example, Members of the Church of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) have as part of their belief system having a year's supply of food and funds for their families. Being prepared to function for up to a year is simply the normal way they look at life.

We have looked at what others are preparing for and some of the consequences of not being prepared. What are you preparing for? Does your preparation only include your physical and financial needs? Are you looking beyond the examples presented here? Are you making any preparation for eternity? Why would you prepare for eternity, and how will

you prepare for eternity? What would be the consequence of not preparing? Like the hurricane, the person who prepares for eternity will be saved while those who don't will not be saved. So, it is important to prepare for eternity as we prepare for the more immediate things in our life.

There is good news in preparing for eternal life. John 14:1-4 clearly states that a place has already been prepared! "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust in me. In my Father's house there are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going." What is the way to the place? In John 14:6-7 we find the answer to the question where Jesus states, "I am the way and

the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." Jesus further says in John 11:25 that "he who believes in me will live, even though he dies." The preparation for eternal life is straightforward. Just like most natural disaster preparation, we must prepare as individuals rather than having someone else or a government entity do it for us. Also, as experienced on earth, failure to prop-

erly prepare will have lasting and dire consequences. We as individuals simply need to believe in Christ and accept Him as our Savior. We demonstrate this belief and acceptance through our daily lives, relationships with others, witnessing, church attendance, prayer, and going about the work of the Lord wherever it leads us.

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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.

\$15 plus \$2 shipping and handling

Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53, Temple, Texas 76501
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Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m.
Prayer
9:30 a.m.
Sunday School for ALL Ages
10:30 a.m.
Worship
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Meal
6:30 p.m.
KiD's ZoNe (ages 3 - 5th gr.)
Priority ONE Youth (6th gr. - 12th gr.)
& Adult Bible Study
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Rev. Joe Emerson, Pastor

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(254) 791-0420 hm (254) 931-1653 cell pastorjde@juno.com

Denise Mikeska, Associate Pastor

409 East Upshaw, Temple, TX 76501
(254) 742-0890 hm (254) 721-7340 cell dkaym@hotmail.com

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P.O. Box 658, Rogers, TX 76569
(254) 913-1214 cell sdejdavis@netscape.net

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Thoughts about giving...

Remembering the Unity of the Brethren or any of its ministries is a fitting testimony of your belief. Your gift in a will can be a legacy that continues to affect the Christian values, mission, and ministry that is important to you.

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You can require that we hold the principle as an endowment and use only the earnings each year.

You can give in memory or in the honor of someone.

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.

Guy Huffman . . .

cpaguy@cpaguy.com ph: (979) 567-4974

Frank McKay III . . .

mckayfrank@aol.com ph: (281) 424-5126

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

THE UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

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

“RENEW”

63rd CONVENTION

July 9, 10, & 11, 2009

Temple Brethren Church

2202 Birdcreek, Temple, Texas

254/778-8759

The 2009 Convention Packets were mailed (regular mail & by email) to all Ministers and Congregations. Included in these packets was information regarding meal costs and housing.

On July 9, 2009, at Noon Temple Brethren Church is hosting a luncheon for the Executive Committee, Ministers and Wives

Registration is scheduled for July 9, 2009 4:30 p.m.

Deadlines: *(all to be sent to the Secretary)*

The following have already passed!: 2008 Questionnaire due (also 2007 if not sent in) & 2009 Convention Credential form w/\$200 (per delegate). If you have not sent these in, please do so as soon as possible.

June 1, 2009: ALL Reports due from Officers & Organizations to be printed for Convention handout *(if deadline missed, be prepared to bring your copies to be handed out separately)*

June 25, 2009: 2009 Convention RSVP by *Executive Committee & Ministers & Wives* (7/9/09 Noon Luncheon @ Temple Brethren Church – 254/778-8759 or tbc@hot.rr.com

Reminder: 2008 Unity of the Brethren Contribution Funds should be sent directly to Dewyan Weise, Financial Secretary (HDWeise@academicplanet.cin).

Contact for further information:

Kathy Harrison, Secretary, Unity of the Brethren

P. O. Box 593, Little River-Academy, Texas 76554

Telephone 254/721-1815

kathy@pearson-lawfirm.com

Youth News...Jennifer Chervenka

May Youth Fishing Retreat



Fish were floppin', and we weren't stoppin'. Eight boats were gassed up and ready to go for the annual youth fishing retreat in Port O'Connor, Texas. Everyone fished, fished, and fished some more. We had ice chest loads of fish ready to go with us when we left. So, the fish were definitely biting.

I would personally like to thank all of the sponsors and guides who helped minister to the youth this weekend, and Mrs. Kimberly Stewart for helping to organize the retreat. Thank you also to the folks who housed us. The fellowship among adults and youth was pleasing.

As we were having a great time fishing and fellowshiping, our excitement brought up many big fish tales (I mean great fish facts of the

past). It was interesting to listen to the many memories that were shared. And, through our sharing, we were reminded about an even more memorable and exciting experience: the day that we each personally accepted Jesus Christ as our Savior.

Wouldn't it be awesome to sit among friends and share stories and memories of when and how you came to Christ? I challenge you to find a friend or your spouse, or even a stranger, and share your faith. I encourage you to. Sometimes we need to be reminded of our excitement, and what better way than to talk about it!

My prayer is that God would allow his Spirit to move in **you**, and that you would feel the excitement you felt the first time you truly met Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENT: I have great news! There is now a webpage for Unity children's and youth activities. This is a work in progress, so if you would like to see something else included, let me know and I will try my best. Right now, there is mainly information, a calendar of events, forms, and photos. Check it out when you have a chance!

<http://www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com>

Summer vacation is here, and there are many fabulous opportunities for children and youth to get involved with Unity activities. Vacation Bible Schools, Camping Programs, Retreats, and more!

SUMMER CAMPING PROGRAMS

June 7-9: Alpha Camp, ages 9-10

June 14-19: Pioneer Camp, ages 11-12

June 21-26: Discovery Camp, ages 13-14

June 28-July 3: Sr. High Camp, ages 15-Sr.

July 5-July 17: Hus School, ages 15-Sr.

FAITH IN ACTION MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Oak Island, Texas, June 28-July 3, 2009

For all youth and adults who feel called to serve.

We will be helping with reconstruction in the Oak Island Community that was devastated by Hurricane Ike.

BYF RETREAT, CONVENTION, and VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

July 25-26, 2009

All annual reports and membership information was due May 31.

SEND IT IMMEDIATELY IF YOU

HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO!

Registration and volleyball rosters are due June 30.

FUTURE EVENTS

November 14-15, 2009: Fall Youth Retreat

January 9-10, 2010: Choral Retreat

January 16-17, 2010: Winter Youth Retreat

March 6, 2010: State Children's Rally



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Monday, June 8-Friday, June 12: Wall Brethren Church. Contact: Wanda Holik, wanda.holik@wallisd.net or sign up at <https://www.groupvbs.com/webtoybox/myvbs/wallbcvbs2009/>

Sunday, June 14-Thursday, June 18: Caldwell Brethren Church. Contact: Anna Wotipka awotipka58@yahoo.com; Melinda Palicka 979-574-7134

Sunday, June 14-Thursday, June 18: New Tabor Brethren Church. "Crocodile Dock" Contact: Cathy Homeyer cathyh@airplexus.com

Monday, June 22-Friday, June 26; 6-8pm : Ocker Brethren Church."Crocodile Dock" Contact: Jennifer Chervenka jenniferchervenka@farm-market.net ; Stacie Sebek ockersundayschool@hotmail.com

For more information including event flyers, registration forms, and photos visit www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com or contact Jennifer Chervenka 254-983-1002 (h); 913-1244 (c); jennchervenka@farm-market.net.



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Sunday School Island

The theme for this month is **KINDNESS**. The guiding verses for this issue is Ephesians 4:32. "Be **KIND** and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."

References to kindness are found throughout the Bible. Kindness involves sacrifice and service. But the character trait of kindness can be cultivated. Providing children with opportunities to help others, especially those around them can help. Here's a fun craft that will let kids share a "cup of kindness".

*Mix 4 cups of instant coffee creamer, 2 cups of cocoa, and 2 cups of powdered sugar in the mixing bowl.

*Spoon four spoonfuls of the mixture into a zip-lock bag.

*Tape ribbon to the top of the bag.

*Include directions: Add 2 spoonfuls of mixture to a cup of boiling water. ENJOY!



*See the Unity of the
Brethren website for
the online version!*

*Send all
suggestions/questions
/ submissions to
hairrell@dishmail.net*

Kid's Beach

Ephesians 4:32



Be

KIND.

Kindness Game:

Have the children sit in a circle. One player who is "It" starts the game by smiling, while all the others are somber. "It" uses his hand to wipe the smile off his face and throw it to another player who has to catch the smile with his hand and put it on. He may choose to grin for a while, trying to make the others giggle. Once a player is caught with a smirk and they are not in possession of the smile, they are out of the game.

Sunday School Teacher's



Easy Button

BEE Kind Bees

Write "Be Kind. Ephesians 4:32" in the middle. Have children place their index finger in the ink, the on a piece of paper. Use a washable black stamp pad to make clean-up easy. Add antennae, wings and legs to create "bees".



Be Kind.
Ephesians
4:32

Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September
The Rosenberg Brethren Church
Christian Sisters
5220 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471

Teen Cabana

REVEREND FUN WWW.REVERENDFUN.COM



I HAVE A FEELIN' THOSE SEEDS WE PLANTED WEREN'T SEEDS OF KINDNESS AFTER ALL



Why
should I
be kind?

Most Christian teens have heard the phrase "Good Samaritan," but the phrase itself comes from the parable told by Jesus in Luke 10. There is great significance in the story of the Good Samaritan. We are commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves. Jesus reminded us that kindness and mercy are valuable traits. Samaritans at the time were often mistreated by Jews. The Good Samaritan showed a great deal of kindness for the Jew by being willing to put contempt aside to help a hurting man.

Kindness is a fruit that you can build on, and it is a fruit that takes a lot of work. Christian teens can easily get caught up in day to day activities and anger at non-Christians to forget how to be kind to one another. Gossip is one way that many Christian teens lose sight of this fruit of the spirit. It is easy to be kind to those you like and those who like you. Yet are you willing to put your own feelings aside to help someone that has not been kind in return? Jesus tells us that we are to show mercy to all...not just the people we like.

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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In Christ's Love . . . from the Mission Field

(Note: be sure to always remember our missionaries – the Woos in China (now with three children), and the Thiessens and their children in Mexico

.....from the Thiessens:

Hello, everyone!

Here's a quick note to let you know we're doing fine, and it seems like this whole flu thing is more scare than real (but that's what people would have thought at the beginning of the Spanish one). No one we know of has gotten the flu, or if they have, it was some other kind or a "light" version.

School is shut down across the whole country till next Wed or Thur, so our kids are enjoying some extra time off. They need to do the assigned homework for the week, but that doesn't seem to take long.

Carter is a young man from NC who was a teacher here about four years ago, and now is returning to Oaxaca for a three year apprenticeship with us, in Aug. He came this week for a short visit, in large part to teach debate in Anne's English classes. He was going to start Tue and work

through till next Mon. Wed they cancelled classes, which bummed Anne out. They did organize a one day thing at someone's house, and will do so again on Mon, so all is not lost. They are debating what should be (have been!) done in Darfur with all the violence and whatnot over there.

We'll let you know if we get sick. blessings, Robert.

.....from the Woos:

Dear friends and family,

Water splashing has come and gone. We were soaked for about four days. The Dai think that a long time ago an evil god was killed by his seven wives.

His head burst into flames and they had to throw water on his head to put it out and save the village. So, every year the Dai get dressed up, throw water for three days, and believe that this water can wash away the bad and bring in the new year. They even give Buddha his yearly bath and wash all the statues.

This year we had the privilege of being in the village for this event. We

had a UK team with us and it was really fun. The women and men wear the most beautiful colors, they dance and sing, and laugh. 14 villages came together for this celebration.

As I looked out over the thousands of people I began to pray for them, that they would know that only the blood of Jesus can cleanse them, not the water splash, and that one day they would come together like this in worship of HIM.

I had shared lots with our Dai grandma and her daughter in law, Hannah. They seemed in awe of Jesus and His love and power. Now it seems that their passion has been stifled and blocked. The enemy does not want his territory (the Dai heart) to turn to God. We truly believe that only through prayer will these people come to know the one true God.

We feel up and down. The UK team was definitely an up. We had lots of fun with them and they were so

encouraging. But now that regular life is back, it can be hard. We feel alone, and with our own team two hours away and seemingly going in a different direction than we are. reality sets in again. What are we doing here? Now what? Michael feels we are walking on a balance beam, trying to get to another level of the beam, but careful...one wrong step and we could fall off. Thank you all for your prayers and love, without them we would not be here.

We do have lots to look forward to. We will soon be going to Thailand for a much needed break and retreat. We also have another team coming for the summer from Michael's graduate school...Gordon Conwell.

Every Tuesday is Dai Fast Day. We have others on our team to do this with us...won't you join us in prayer?

Press on, Caroline, Michael, Samuel, Ian, and Zach

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HOUSTON BROTHERS CHURCH

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Sunday School 9:15 a.m. – Church Service 10:30 a.m.

For information please contact one of the following:

Ronnie Tyson
President
22015 Golden Cedar Dr.
Cypress, TX 77433
(281) 373-4376

John David Skrivaneck
Secretary
P.O. Box 1606
Bellaire, TX 77402
(713) 626-0522

SNOOK BROTHERS CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247m Snook, TX 77878
Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:30 AM; Worship – 10:45 AM
Bible Buddies – 2nd Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 PM

Pastor	Board of Elders President	Youth Directors
Rev. Joseph Polasek	Rayfield Slovacek	Randall & Jonna See
4241 Blue Heron	P.O. Box 267	P.O. Box 345
Bryan, TX 77807	Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878
(979) 779-3634	(979) 272-8845	

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
- West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107 South Barbara Street, Waco, TX 76705, 254-799-5331, 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
- 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
- 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
- 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
- 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
- Austin #32: Doris Boriski, 17111 Oak Cliff Circle, Dripping Springs, TX 78620-2527, 512-264-2273
- 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

**Position currently filled by Administrative Board members



CY-FAIR COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Unity of the Brethren)

Worship – 10:45 A.M.

Sunday School – 9:30 A.M.



Pastors:

Rev. Henry Beseda

(979) 567-7033

Rev. Rick Chandler

(281) 355-1474

Church Phone – (281) 955-1655

12915 Cypress North Houston

P.O. Box 0233

Cypress, TX 77410-0233

President: Rev. Henry Beseda

TAYLOR BROTHERS 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 Srenskey

512-365-1142

Secretary

Mary Kokes

M-Th 8:00 am-noon

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

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for June 2009

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. No one whose faith is in God will ever be disgraced for trusting Him. Ps. 25:3
2. We walk by faith, not by sight. 2 Cor. 5:7
3. I, the Lord your God, hold your right hand; it is I who say to you, "Fear not, I will help you." Isa. 41:13
4. Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God. Isa. 41:10
5. The Lord says, "I have good plans for you, not plans to hurt. I give you hope and a good future." Jer. 29:11
6. Teach me Your way, O Lord; lead me in a straight path. Ps. 27:11
7. **Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ. Rom. 10:17**
8. The Lord will be your confidence and will keep your feet from being caught. Prov. 14:26
9. "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit", says the Lord Almighty. Zech. 4:6
10. Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong. Ex. 23:2
11. When (the people) heard that the Lord was concerned about them, they bowed down and worshipped. Ex. 4:31
12. "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." Mk. 10:27
13. The Lord our God we will serve, and obey Him. Josh. 24:24
14. **The fear (respect) of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; All who follow His precepts (orders) have good understanding. Ps. 111:10**
15. And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. Rom. 8:28
16. No weapon formed against you shall prosper. Isa. 54:17a
17. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord. Isa. 54:17b
18. Remember your spiritual leaders and imitate their faith. Heb. 13:17
19. The salvation of the righteous comes from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble. Ps. 37:39
20. The end will come, when Christ hands over the kingdom to God after He has destroyed all dominion, authority, and power. 1 Cor. 15:24
21. **Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. Prov. 3:5**
22. Rescue me from my enemies, O Lord, for I hide myself in You. Ps. 143:9
23. May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face shine upon us. Ps. 67:1
24. The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. Deut. 33:27
25. God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Ps. 46:1
26. "Be still and know that I am God." Ps. 46:10
27. Do not be afraid, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord. Jer. 1:8
28. **You, O Lord, have been a refuge for the poor and helpless, a defense for the needy in distress. Isa. 25:4**
29. Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. Eccl. 12:13
30. See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ. Col. 2:8

WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas 77082

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Westheimercommunitychurch.org

1st & 3rd Sunday
2nd & 4th Sunday
5th Sunday – Holy Communion



Rev. Nello Strickland
Rev. Rick Chandler
Rev. Henry Beseda

VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERS RECEIVED

By Reaffirmation of Faith:

WESLEY and MANDY GOEBEL, on March 22, 2009 at the Nelsonville Brethren Church.

RECENT BAPTISMS

Please note the following correction in a baptism that was printed in the April Issue: the father of BRIANNA GAYLYNNE MIKUSH, baptized on February 22, 2009, is **Eugene Charles Mikush, Jr.**, not Charles Mikush, Jr.

GRAYSON KRISTOPHER PECHAL, son of Brandon and Sarah (DeSelle) Pechal, born on March 2, 2009, was baptized on April 11, 2009, at the Ocker Brethren Church. The sponsors were Megan Pechal, Justin Pechal, Logan Pechal. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

AMANDA BAILEY SKRHAK, daughter of Randy and Stacy Skrhak, born February 10, 2009, was baptized April 19, 2009, at the Taylor Brethren Church. Sponsors: Adam and

Monica Mehevec and Terry Skrhak. Minister: Rev. Jimmie Hejl.

GOEBEL, SAILOR LEANN, daughter of Wesley and Mandy (Herbrig) Goebel, born August 22, 2008, was baptized at the Nelsonville Brethren Church on April 19, 2009. Sponsors, Travis and Amy Herbrig, Erin Beaman, Dewayne Juergens, and Randy Goebel. Minister: Michael Groseclose.

RECENT WEDDINGS

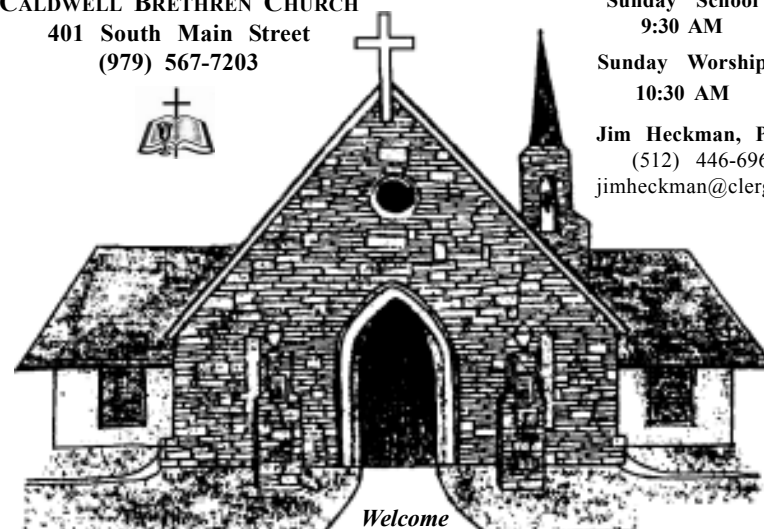
STEWART/KOEHN. Kristen Stewart was married to Brent Koehn of the Wesley Brethren Church on April 25, 2009, at the Wesley Church. The couple will reside in Midland, Texas. Witnesses: Mike and Elaine Koehn. Minister: Michael Groseclose.

MEIER/SODOLAK. Erin Meier of the Wesley Brethren Church was married to Nathan Sodolak of the Catholic Church on April 25, 2009, at the Nelsonville Brethren Church. The couple will reside in Bellville, Texas. Witnesses: Nick Sodolak and Jennifer Jackson. Minister: Michael Groseclose.



CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203



Welcome

Sunday School
9:30 AM

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Jim Heckman, Pastor
(512) 446-6962
jimheckman@clergy.net

RECENT DEATHS

HENNEKE, LEARA L., of Fayetteville, formerly of El Campo, died on January 11, 2009, at the age of 70. She was born on March 25, 1938, in Fayetteville, Texas, to the late Leon and Leona Braun Heintschel. She was a retired cashier and waitress. Leara is survived by her sisters, brothers, sister-in-laws, and brother-in-laws. She was preceded in death by her husband and her parents. A Memorial Service was held on January 24, 2009, Fayetteville Brethren Church. Burial was on February 8, 2009 at Mt. Calvary Cemetery, LaGrange, Texas. Minister: Milton Maly.

SEVCIK, STASIE (SVETLIK) age 89, and member of Vsetin CMB Church, died March 14, 2009, at Hallettsville. She was born August 20, 1919, in Lavaca County and married November 16, 1937, to Adolph Sevcik. Mrs. Sevcik is survived by her husband, 4 daughters, 8 grandchildren, and 10 great-grandchildren. Services were on March 19, 2009, from the Vsetin CMB Church with burial in Vsetin CMB Cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

ZAK, HELEN (GALETKA) age 68, and A member of Vsetin CMB Church, died March 20, 2009, at Hallettsville. Born January 17, 1941, at Lavaca County. She was married on October 29, 1960, to Johnnie A. Zak. Mrs. Zak is survived by her husband, 3 children,

8 grandchildren, and 1 sister. Services were on March 25, 2009, from the Vsetin CMB Church with burial in Vsetin CMB Cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

MAREK, THEODORE JOSEPH, age 81, died at home in his sleep on April 6, 2009. Theodore "Ted" was born the youngest of five children on December 28, 1927, to Frank and Rosie Skrivaneck Marek. He was born and reared on a farm in Burleson County near the city of Caldwell. He was baptized in the Moravian Brethren Church as a baby and remained a loyal member of the Austin Brethren Church until his death. Ted was a third generation Czech-Texan, and is survived by his wife, Neldina Holubec Marek, a daughter, a son, and 2 grown grandchildren. Services were held on April 9, 2009, at Pennington Funeral Home in San Marcos, Texas. Entombment was at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Mausoleum in Pflugerville. Minister: Linda V. Chandler.

HAYEK, JOE, age 89 and a member of the Fayetteville Brethren Church, died on March 22, 2009, in Houston. He was born on June 18, 1919, and worked as a farmer and rancher. He served his country in the U.S. Army during WWII. Surviving Joe are his long-time friend, Evelyn Koehl, a half-brother, Harvey, and many nieces and nephews. Funeral Services were at the Fayetteville Brethren Church on March 26, 2009, and burial was at the Kaiser Cemetery in the Brushy Community. Minister: Milton Maly.

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Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Eve. 6:00 PM
Prayer Service and Bible Study

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Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

Keep these activities in your prayers.

Sunday, June 21: Ocker Fundraiser (see details below).

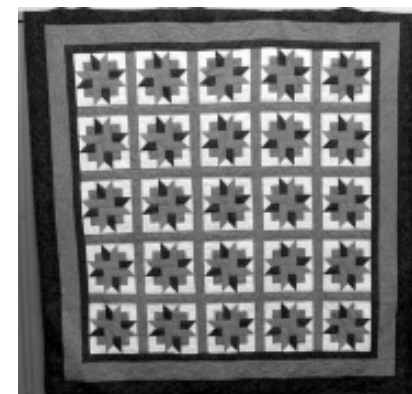
Sunday, June 28: The Annual Fayetteville Celebration (see details next page).

July 9, 10, & 11, 2009: The 63rd Convention of the Unity of the Brethren in Texas . . . hosted by the Temple Brethren Church (see complete information in this issue).

We Are Invited . . .

Ocker Brethren Church will be holding it's annual Father's Day Fundraiser on Sunday, June 21, at Flag Hall, SPJST Lodge #24, in Cyclone, Texas. Bar-B-Que plates with all the trimmings will be served from 11am-? for \$8.00/plate. There will also be a silent auction and a donation drawing for a quilt. The quilt was crafted and donated by Ms. Doris Svoboda.

For information regarding this event, or to make a donation or purchase tickets for the drawing, please contact the Board President, Bill McGuire, at 254-778-2988.



The Ocker Quilt



THE BUCKHOLTS BRETHREN CHURCH

606 N. 4th Street
Buckholts, Texas 76518

Worship 9 AM
Study 10:30 AM
(No service on
fifth Sunday.)



Rev. Johnny Kueker
P.O. Box 325
Buckholts, Texas 76518
(254) 605-0434

Fayetteville Brethren Church will be holding its annual celebration at the Chamber of Commerce Hall in Ellinger on June 28. Worship is at 10:30 AM at the church. Then, at noon at the Ellinger Chamber of Commerce Hall, there will be a meal of turkey, ham, and dressing. There will also be a bake sale, country store, musical entertainment by Kovanda's Czech Band, and a 1:00 PM live auction. Proceeds benefit the Building Fund of the church. The Christian Sisters' will have a Quilt Show & Silent Auction at the celebration, which will benefit Unity of the Brethren programs and local charities. For more info, contact Joe Ripple at 979-378-2239.

DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARIES

Jill Miller (at home in San Angelo now)
e-mail: jillmiller7@gmail.com

Rob and Anne Thiessen
25 E. Camino Nacional
Tlalixtac de Cabrera
Oaxaca, MEXICO 68627
(011) 52-1-951-145-8947
e-mail: rthiessen@yahoo.com

Michael and Caroline Woo
P.O. Box 27
Chiang Mai 50000
Thailand
e-mail: mcswoo@psmail.net
To access their pictures, go to
<http://gallery.mac.com/woofamily>

BYF Leadership Team 2008-2009

Chairperson: Megan Stauffer, 9206
Sunlake Court, College Station, TX
77845. Megan.Stauffer@baylor.edu

Registrar: Casey Stauffer, 9206
Sunlake Court, College Station, TX
77845. jesusfreak7209@yahoo.com

Secretary: Kathryn Laza, 13858
Apricot Glen, College Station, TX
77845.

guardian.angel14@verizon.net
Kelsey Marek, 1304 TH Johnson Drive,
Taylor, TX 76574.

swtexas33191@yahoo.com

Brittany Coots, 926 FM 437,
Burlington, TX 76519.

brittanycoots@yahoo.com

Christian Kirby, 1366 FM 437,
Burlington, TX 76519.

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Albert "Pee Wee" Surovik 535 CR 208
Caldwell, TX 77836.

albertsurovik@gmail.com

Anna Wotipka, 652 CR 324, Caldwell,
TX 77836. awotipka@yahoo.com

Pastoral Advisor:

Rev. Bill
Rinderknecht, 19 Brandenburg
Court, The Woodlands, TX 77381.
Williamr90@aol.com

Youth Coordinator:

Jennifer
Chervenka, 9494 Big Elm Creek
Road, Rogers, TX 76569.
jennchervenka@farm-market.net

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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 –
Bible Study - 9:30 AM
Worship 10:45 AM
– Pastor 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.
– Pastor Larry Zabcik

Vsetin –
Worship at 10:00 AM every Sunday.
– Dr. Mark Labaj
5th Sunday – Visiting Ministers

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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Robert Marsh, 2201 Real, Waco, TX
76712. (254) 420-1378;
redplanet52@yahoo.com

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olsenmc@yahoo.com

Curtis Stewart, 407 Kates Way, Hutto,
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kcstew@austin.rr.com

Kent Laza, 13858 Apricot Glenn,
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jlbaletka@peoplepc.com

Marvin Chlapek, 11026 Elm Bridge Ct.,
Houston, TX 77065. (281) 469-7630;
mjcarc@sbcglobal.net

Sunday School Representative:

Pat Mynar, 911 N. Hull St., Caldwell,
TX 7836. (979) 567-4020;
patsy104@verizon.net

Christian Sisters Representatives:

Janet Pomykal, P.O. Box 560,
Brenham, TX 77834. (979) 836-3772.

Sharon Hohmann, 222 Crestwood Dr.,
San Angelo, TX 76903. (325) 651-5884

BYF Representative:

Kelsey Marek, 1304 T.H. Johnson Dr.,
Taylor, TX 76574. (512) 844-8520;
marek1304@hotmail.com

Synodical Committee Liason:

Rev. Linda Chandler, 13108 North
Ridge Circle, Leander, TX 78641.
(512) 203-7293; L77c@aol.com

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Rev. Lawrence & Barbara JuneK
Rev. Milton & Jean Maly
Ray & Laurie Griggs
Jill Miller

CURRENT MISSIONARIES

Robert & Annie Thiessen
Michael & Caroline Woo
Phil Rayford
Pastor Pavel & Stanya Kozak
Steve & April Brown

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

President: Claren Kotrla, (512) 491-7802;
kotrla@flash.net

1st Vice President: Rev. Linda Chandler;
L77c@aol.com

2nd Vice President: Rev. Joe Emerson;
pastorjde@juno.com

3rd Vice President: Rev. Michael Groseclose,
352 Nelsonville Church Rd, Bellville, TX 77418.
(979) 865-3026

Secretary: Kathy Harrison, P.O. Box 593, Little
River-Academy, TX 76554. (254) 721-1815;
kathy@pearson-lawfirm.com;
kathy53087@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary: Dewyan Weise, 6006 FM
Hwy 765, San Angelo, TX 76905;
HDWeise@academicplanet.com

Treasurer: James Marek, 1304 T.H. Johnson
Drive, Taylor, TX 76574. (512) 352-6165;
james@cnet.com

Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Michael Groseclose

Pastor to Pastors: Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Lay Alternate: Marvin Chlapek, 11026 Elm
Bridge Court, Houston, TX 77065. (281) 469-
7630; mjcarc@sbcglobal.net

Lay Members:

Austin – Claren Kotrla

BCS – Jim Baletka; TXNFish@aol.com

Buckholts – Dan Balusek

Caldwell – Ron Dusek; rdusekdds@aol.com

Crosby – Chris Armstrong;

chrisarmstrong@alltexenergy.com

Cy-Fair – Roger Runnels; rogerhr@swbell.net

Dime Box – Theresa Buchan;

tkbuchan@airmail.net

Fayetteville/Industry – Jerry Marshall;

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