

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



Vol. 109

September 2010

No. 7

36 Pages



Taylor Volleyball Teams Get Ready to Compete
(See "State Youth Retreat and Convention" story)

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

More summer camp pictures and stories, and the monthly childrens' section
. . . Note Unity Schedule

. . . and much more!

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THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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RATE –
\$12.00 per year for individual
subscriptions, via Hard Copy & E-Mail
\$10.00 per year for congregational
subscriptions only
\$6.00 after June 1st
(All subscriptions expire December 31st)
FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS, AND GIFT
SUBSCRIPTIONS, Hard Copy & E-Mail, write
The Brethren Journal Business Manager (see
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FOR ADDRESS CHANGES – Include ad-
dress label from your most recent issue and
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Rates (per column inch per year)
Commercial coverage – \$50.00
Religious coverage – \$15.00
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**FOR ARTICLE AND REPORT
SUBMISSION** – DEADLINE is the first day
of the month preceding publication.
Write: *The Brethren Journal* Editor, 6703 FM
2502, Brenham, TX 77833-9803

Permit #064220
THE BRETHREN JOURNAL (ISSN 0006-9655)
is published monthly except for January and
July, which are bimonthly, at \$12.00 per year
by The Unity of the Brethren through Centex
Dmailing Services, 108 East 2nd Street, Tay-
lor, TX 76574, periodical postage paid at Tay-
lor, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes
to *The Brethren Journal*, Attn: Business Man-
ager, 3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836.

Visit the
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President's Column . . . Claren Kotrla

FOREST GUMP

Christ gave His love to believers unconditionally. He didn't make situ-
ational conditions based on how He was feeling that day or what others had done. His love was without condition; and based on our moral understanding, He always did the 'right thing'. Christ deeply cared for the human race and did every-
thing possible to insure that we spent eternity in heaven. All we have to do is simply believe. He said in John 15:17, "This is my command: Love one another." There was no elaborate explanation or conditions. His command was clear and straightforward.

In our daily lives we don't follow this example very well. We tend to put conditions on things we do and actions we take. We have complex contracts to insure we get what we expect. We expect things because we feel entitled due to our position or who our parents were or simply because we feel it is owed to us. Those

attitudes are creating serious societal problems today that are too involved for this article.

Although we can't delve too deeply into society's issues, we can consider our own actions and the conditions we place on others. By looking at the character Forest Gump, who was as much a sinner as any of us, we can get some insight on living with what God has given us and making the best of it. The movie follows the life of a Southern boy as he grows up and copes with life. Forest is a little slow and his IQ is a few points below normal. Through the efforts of his mother, he is placed in "normal" school classes and, being slow, he got picked on. He also has problems with his legs requiring him to wear braces. This becomes yet another reason for kids to pick on him. His best friend is a girl named Jenny who likes Forest just as he is.



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Forest does what he is told and finds the best in any situation. He always accepts his lot and finds the best in every situation he faces. He doesn't place conditions on his fondness and eventual love of Jenny, nor does he base his friendship on what friends might do for him. As a teenager, due to his speed as a runner, which he developed by running from bullies, he became a football player and won a scholarship to college. However, he didn't change his attitude. He was still one of God's children who accepted what God provided.

While in college Jenny attended an all girl's school and Forest would go see her. Usually she was out with someone else, but his love for her was unconditional and he accepted her for who she was rather than who he wanted her to be.

He joins the Army during the Viet Nam war, and both his mother and Jenny are proud of him. On the way to

basic training he sits next to another recruit named Bubba. Being an African-American, Bubba can't exactly understand why he got that nickname just like some of the redneck boys back home. During basic training Forest excels because he readily accepts his condition and does his best. He and Bubba become close friends, and Bubba tells Forest about his life as a deck hand on his family shrimp boat. He also shares his dream owning a fleet of shrimp boats after he leaves the Army.

Forest gets his orders for Viet Nam and he tells Jenny. She tells him not to be a hero and come back alive. She tells him to run and keep running to be safe. She then goes off with some other guys. Forest promises to write her every day, and for the most part keeps that promise.

Bubba and Forest serve in Viet Nam together, and even there Forest accepts his lot. One example is during

the rainy season. Trust me, most of us would complain about being wet all the time, but Forest notices the different types of rain: hard rain, soft rain, side rain, and even rain from below (it bounces off the water they are wading in). To him life is something you accept, just like he accepts others without condition. It was during one of these rain showers that Bubba asks Forest to become his partner in the shrimp business using Bubba's plan. Forest agrees.

During a battle Bubba is killed, and the Company Commander steps on a mine and loses his legs. Forest does what Jenny asked him to do. He runs and picks up the wounded Company Commander saving his life. For reasons beyond my understanding, the Company Commander is not happy because he comes from a long line of

officers who had been killed in wars and he believed he, too, would be killed.

Forest is wounded in the buttocks, but finds a silver lining in that, also, because he gets all the ice cream he wants. He gets to meet the President of the United States because of his heroic actions, and in the show asks where the restroom is because he drank too many sodas. Again he accepts his lot and assumes others do the same. Can you imagine asking the President of the United States where the restroom is?

After leaving the Army, he follows Bubba's plan and becomes a successful shrimp boat owner. In the process he invites his former Company Commander and, in his honest caring and without conditions way,



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helps him work through the loss of his legs and not being killed in action.

He does what is right and has his accounts and lawyers give half of his assets to Bubba's mother since, after all, it was Bubba's plan that made him rich. Wow, imagine giving half of your assets to the family of the guy who is now dead who gave you the idea. Some folks would say tough luck and go on, but not Forest. He did what he believed was the right thing.

Finally Jenny comes to Forest and tells him that she doesn't have long to live, but has something to tell Forest. She tells him he has a son. He doesn't ask are you sure he is mine. He doesn't ask her how she could have done this. He accepts her statement and only asks if his son is slow like he is. His concern is about the well being of the boy. She assures him their son is smart as a whip and looks like Forest. The father-son scene shows them looking over a lake with both

holding their heads the same way.

In many instances Forest was taken advantage of, but he was an unconditional kind of person with his beliefs and trust and sense of doing the right thing because it was right.

Not many of us are willing to accept our lot in life and not place conditions on those around us or entities that we believe owe us something. Forest was willing and provided several examples of unconditional love with his mother, Jenny, Bubba, the Company Commander, and finally his son. His wealth didn't change him and he didn't feel that he was entitled to everything he made. We may not be able to fully follow in Christ's footsteps by going to the cross, but we certainly take the good in the character Forest Gump and make it a part of our lives for the glory of Christ. Even an old movie can provide some insight as to how we as individuals can be more Christ like.

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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.

You can give without restrictions and let us use the funds for the most pressing needs or you can specify how, when, or where you want the funds used.

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 . . .

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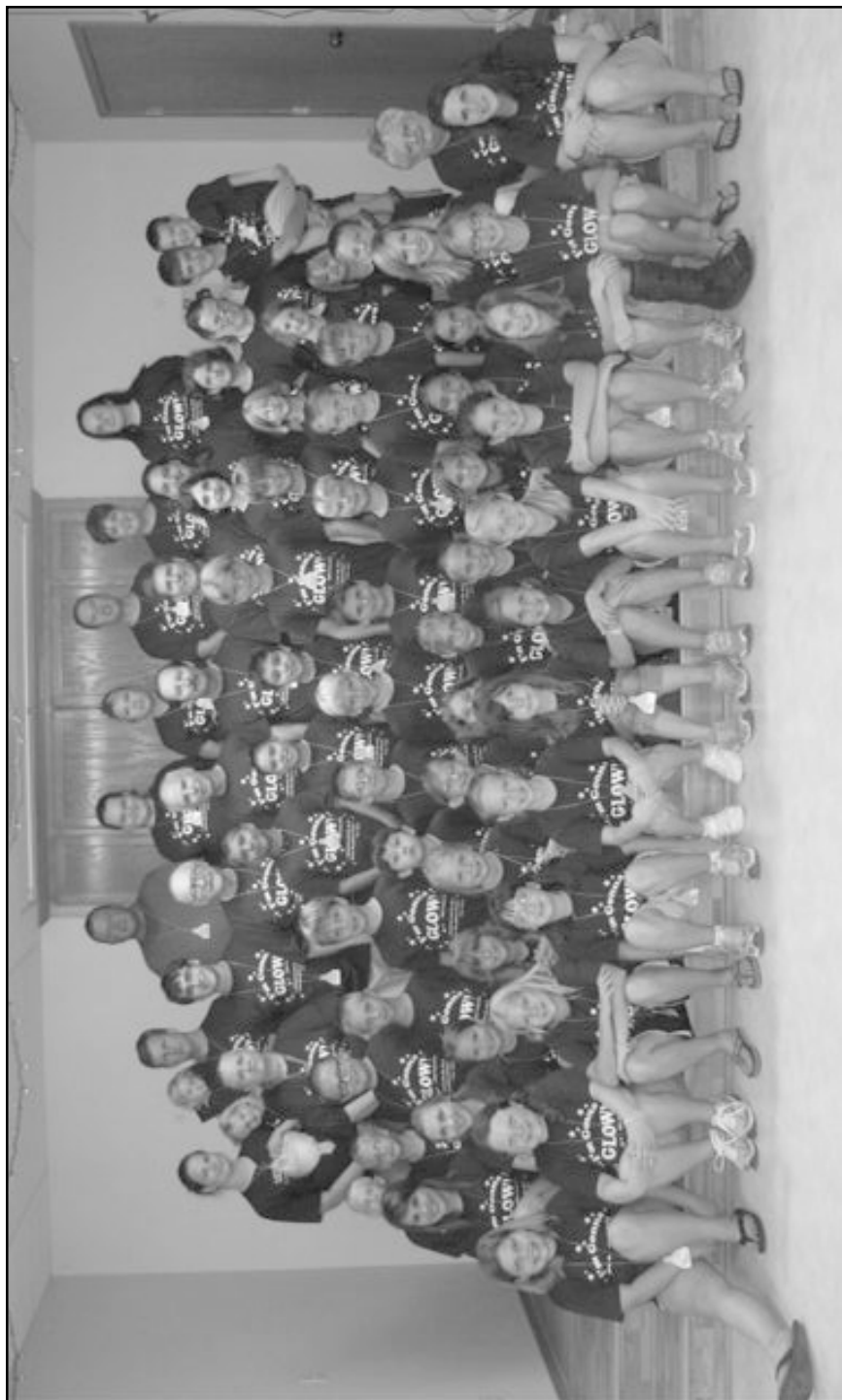
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ALPHA 2010

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Second Row (L to R): Megan Stauffer, Bethany Kelarek, Grace Lewis, Sydney Faust, Cassie Neimeyer, Kayla Wuensche, Colleen Palicka, Carmen Sebesta, Tahni Engelhardt, Jaylee Foster, Amya Rodriguez, Leah Micak, Lynette Urbanosvsky, Peggy Hejl

Third Row (L to R): Shea Sebek, Shane LaBedelle, Montgomery Raesz, Ty Jansky, Philip McSorely, Austin Castillo, Colton Machu, Brandon Dusek, Hunter Smith, Chris Love, Lee Dusek, Michael Love, Noah Lang

Fourth Row (L to R): Jennifer Chervenka, Joanna Chervenka, Mary Vasek, Michael Ramirez, Devin Malicoat, Kristofer Martinez, Zachary Dusek, Shawn LaBedelle, Carsen Amos, Jessica Chervenka, Jacelyn Chervenka, Ashleigh Grizzle

Fifth Row (L to R): Jaidyn Chervenka, JP Chervenka, Joshua Soughton, Charles Groseclose, Claren Kotrla, Gary Lancaster, Todd Corporon, Carsen Amos, Kari Raesz, Erin Brinkley, Connie Janac, Zachary Griggs, Chip Amos

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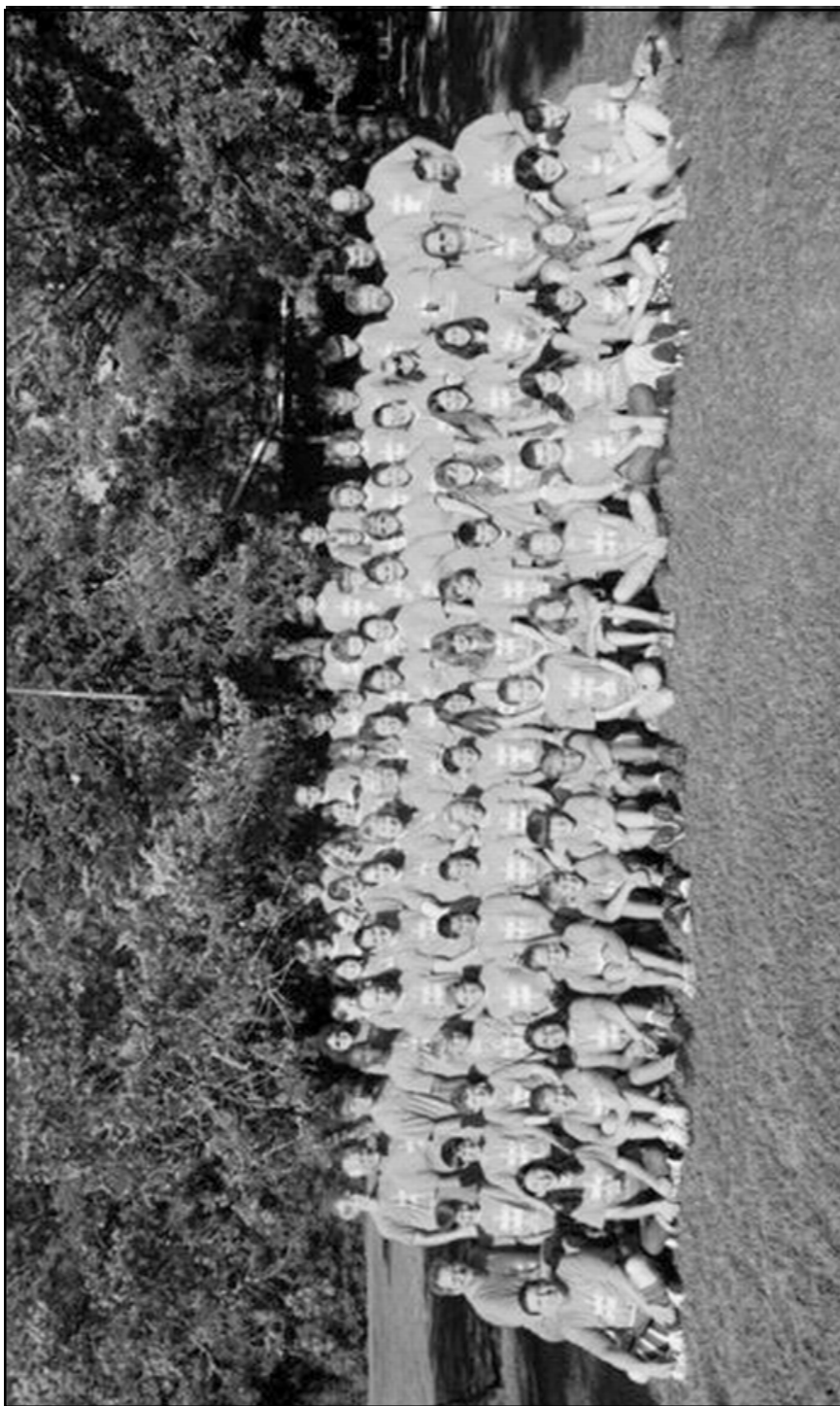
I'm Gonna Glow – Alpha Camp 2010

40 campers and 19 adults gathered at the Hus Encampment Sunday, June 13, through Tuesday, June 15, for Alpha camp. Our focus was 1 Corinthians 10:30, "...whatever you do, do it for the glory of God." Campers were led in Bible study sessions, games, sports, crafts, singing, and worship that all focused on glowing for God.

Psalm 139:13-15 tells us that we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God. He created us exactly as He wanted us to be. We are all different, and we all like different things, but we are all the same. We are all God's children, and He has a purpose and plan for each of us.

We were challenged to seek God's plan for us by listening to Him. We do this by going to church, Sunday school, surrounding ourselves with Christian friends, praying, and most importantly by using His 'flashlight'. Psalm 119:105 tells us that God's word is our light. We have to be reading our Bibles and doing what it says. Just like a flashlight cannot shine if it isn't charged or turned on, we can't glow for God if we aren't plugged in to Him every day.

We *are* God's children; we should act like God's children; we should live like God's children. God wants us to glow. He wants us to live as He tells us in His word. He calls us to be plugged in to Him so that others will come to know and love Him. We want to shine and glow so much that everyone around us will see that we belong to God and want to know God too.



PIONEER 2010

Row 1: Mr. Farrow, Nia Koite, Carlee See, Hope Atkinson, Morgan Sebesta, Layne Outlaw, Reed Olsen, Charles Ramirez, Michaela Neimeyer, Shelly Snyder, Hannah Kasik, John Palicka, Carsen Amos, Kate Weise, Kriss Kellermeier, Audrey Emerson, Ben Wilde

Row 2: Mr. Emery, Noah Pate, Jackson Davis, Jacob Layne, Logan Snyder, Devin Schramm, Christopher Sebesta, Brodee Shelnuitt, Grace Jungmann, Taylor Krcha, Jazmine Malicoat, Reagan Broussard, Braxton Faust, Christopher Poe, Rebekah Coffman, Alexis Anglin, Alex Shuhart, Mr. Davis, Mr. Stewart

Row 3: Mr. Valenta, Mr. Machalek, Mr. Graef, Mr. Durham, Mr. Neal, Mrs. Neal, Miss Labaj, Mrs. Farrow, Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Bagby, Miss Sulak, Mrs. Chervenka, Miss Stauffer, Mrs. Davis, Miss Marek, Mrs. Janac, Mrs. Durham, Mr. Bagby, Mr. Wilde, Mr. Hickman

Row 4: Rachael Skinner, Meg Pate, Pamela Fojtasek, Kirin Abel, Allison Layne, Baylis Zak, Shelby Scherz, Hope Smith, Mason Stuart, Aidan Fenlon, Peyton Russell, Haley Mitchell, Morgan Layne, Sarah Smith, Hunter Orsak, Andrew McKay

Row 5: Cade Pate, Andrew Stock, Justin Kraatz, Hayes Dusek, Oliver Werner, Alexander McKowen, Jenna Snelgrove

PIONEER 2010

Choices... choices... choices. Everything we do is centered on choices: the friends we have, how we spend our extra time, the classes we take, the words we use. We make many choices each and every day. Our goal for Pioneer campers was for them to make the **ULTIMATE CHOICE: JESUS CHRIST.**

The directors, support staff, counselors, and 54 campers spent a week at the Hus Encampment studying God's Word, watching video lesson series, playing games, eating great food, and hanging out, all with the goal of reinforcing the importance of the choices we make throughout our lives. Brother Dave Johnson was back in the act, providing valuable insight to our Bible studies as well as a question and answer night for the campers. A special vesper was held on Thursday, and many campers made the choice to accept Jesus as their Savior, be forgiven of their sins, and have life everlasting. There were also several campers who were able to publicly profess the faith they have already. Each nail hammered into the cross was a powerful reminder of what Christ did for us, and all of the nails coming together was a touching display of how many lives God has changed and is working in.

We enjoyed God's blessings at Pioneer Camp and can't wait for Pioneer 2011!

Directors:

Don & Laurie Bagby; Mike Emery; Directors-in-training: Steve and Denise Davis; Jennifer Chervenka

N.I.N.J.A.

State Youth Retreat and Convention

Over 150 persons gathered at the Hus Encampment on Saturday, July 24, for the annual youth retreat, convention, and volleyball tournament. Our focus was “Never Imitate Non-Jesus Actions”. We were challenged to stand out from the world and set examples, be a light for those around us. New Tabor took 1st place in the volleyball tournament with Wall coming in 2nd and Taylor 1 Team coming in 3rd. Our new leadership team was elected, and we have already begun making plans for our Fall Retreat. We hope to see you there!

FALL YOUTH RETREAT

(Ages 12 & up)

Friday, November 19 - Sunday, November 21

Registration & \$30 fee due by October 30.

Forms available at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com

Look for more information to be posted soon!

2010-2011 STATE BYF LEADERSHIP TEAM

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Sunday School Island

This month will focus on the *Parable of the Talents*.
This parable is found in Matthew 25: 14-30.

“Each of you has been blessed with one of God’s many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well.” 1 Peter 4:10

The Parable of the Talents is applicable to tots, teens and adults! We all need to be reminded of the gifts God has granted us and reflect on how we are making use of them. Talents in this parable can refer to our time, our abilities, or our possessions. Three important ideas to remember from this parable are: 1) God has given each of us talents to use, not hoard, 2) God’s followers use their gifts to serve and help others, and 3) everything is a gift from God and we are to use these gifts responsibly.

<http://parablesforkids.com/html/contents.html>



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

- Send all suggestions/questions/ideas to hairrell@gmail.com

Sunday School Teacher's



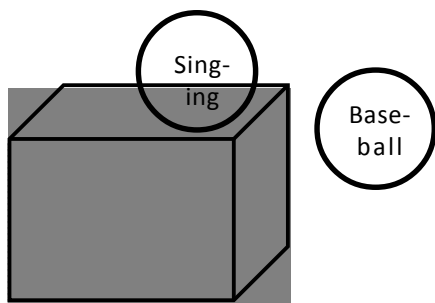
Easy Button

Talent Charades

Write talents on paper coins (construction paper circles). Some examples of talents: writing, singing, acting, listening, problem solving, playing a sport, making people laugh, cooking, etc. Place all the coins in bag. Have students take turns drawing a coin and then acting out the talent. Another option would be to have children think of their own talent, and then act it out.

Talent Box

You will need construction paper coins, pictures of talents, small milk cartons, and contact paper. Use milk cartons to make small boxes that are open at the top. Cover with contact paper. On one side of the carton write "My Talents". Give each child 5 construction paper coins. Young students can glue pictures of their talents to the coins; older students can write the name of their talents on the coins.



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A Special Gateway Contest



The entrance to the Hus School Encampment has been special to many people on their spiritual life journey. The reality is that this special gateway is in need of replacement due to weathering, ground shift, and the deterioration of the materials.

The Hus School Board of Trustees is holding a contest for the design of a new entrance. We are asking for ideas and sketches from which blueprints will be later created and the entrance built. Design and materials are up to the contestant, but the entrance would need to be accessible in some way to heavy and tall equipment.

The prize for the contest: 1 free camp registration for 1 child to a camp of their choice at the Hus School Encampment, plus a gift certificate to a Darden's brand restaurant (Olive Garden, Red Lobster, etc.).

Mail entries to: **Gate Contest**
c/o Cathleen Schlechte
3635 County Rd 225
Caldwell, TX 77836

Or email: schlechte86@msn.com ,subject "Gate Contest"

For more info: call 979-255-8266 after 4 pm.

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

A Letter from Moravia

(editor's note: *The Ocker Brethren Church has encouraged support of the Christian Outreach Mission to the Kozaks for quite a while. Pavel and Stana are now in Zlin (Moravia), where the people are more receptive to the Gospel than they were in Bohemia. The following is their latest newsletter. Also, that mission effort is in need of funds for a sound system, and any financial support needs to be sent to the **Ocker Brethren Church.***)

Dear Friends, Dear Sponsors,

We do GREET you ALL from **Moravia! This is our FIRST NEWS-LETTER from this region.** Wow... What a CHANGE! There are many things on our HEARTS to share...

First thing – GOOD THING is that we are settled already in a very nice place – apartment. We do live pretty HIGH, at the SIX-floor level – nice view around. We did pray humbly and hard and Lord did bless us with the really nice remodeled place. So Stana is HAPPY...)))

But let me say main THINGS – how about our beginnings of the MINISTRY... We do have TOO MANY IMPRESSIONS already. Do you want to read long NEWSLETTER or the SHORT one...??? :) I do not know what to put down as the FIRST...

After a few days, when we did put our furniture together for living, we

did start to map the situation here. Mainly in the SPIRITUAL point of VIEW... Personally I was wonder how it is concerning DAILY GOSPEL MINISTRY in Zlin and on the other side we had a desire to visit the main churches and Christians in Zlin too.

The POINT is that many people (including believers) are complaining that Czech republic is the MOST ATHEISTIC country in Europe... And I would like to KNOW where IS the PROBLEM...

To judge the Christianity in Zlin is NOT my business... This is I do not want to talk about... But what I would like to share with you is, how about the situation on the STREETS, in the PARKS, means – among people...

Because our Lord did put me and lead me through the FIRE FURNACE in the North Bohemia, (the TOUGH



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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training battle field) now I do FEEL myself here like to be in the SPA...))) Instead of ARROGANCE, BAD WORDS, IGNORANCE and depressions, I found the ministry field MUCH smoother, easier and ready to be “recultivate” by the Word of God in the Holy Spirit...

We are still learning to understand of the culture and characters of the local people. They are really different then in the North Bohemia. They always are remembering me my Moravian grandma, who was born NEAR from our please. Their dialect is so SWEET... Also people here are more KIND and meek...

Because our ministry is focused MAINLY to the YOUTH, we can find them everywhere, mainly in parks, where they are killing their time... The BEST would be when I describe you the story and situations from YESTERDAY... By the way, each day the Gospel ministry is BETTER and BETTER...

Yesterday afternoon I came to the park, the same like the days before... There was a group of the young people, about 15 in number... They



did have a nice time together, and as it is a custom here, they did drink a vine... I came to them and I did introduced myself... In the beginning they did start to laugh, and did have some silly comments too... But because I used to have those bad kicks daily in Decin, I am resistant...))) I just started – with my smile and with the Peace of God the Gospel presentation and my spiritual ministry life description...

We have to understand that most people here are religious, when “knowing something” about God from the Catholic Church. They was not too

curious to hear the Gospel, BUT when I started to DESCRIBE my past MINISTRY LIFE to the Gypsies, drug addicted youth, dealers, gamblers, mafias... They were quiet like a “foam” as we say here...))) And this was a POINT when I reached their attention and INTEREST...

The POINT IS that they did start to SEE GOD as SOMEBODY, WHO LOVES PEOPLE, LIBERATES PEOPLE, SAVES PEOPLE and BLESS PEOPLE...

One girl (drunk), who was first laughing over me, when I came, AFTER 30 minutes of talking to her, she was like never drink before, sober and humble – talking normally... I couldn’t believe to my eyes... She was ashamed, because she confessed that on Sundays and Mondays attends the Catholic Church (kostel)... The nice friendship was established... When I talked, one young guy (no alcohol) came to me with a question: “Sir, what can I do to be the preacher like YOU?” Wow... I couldn’t believe of my own EARS... I NEVER heard a question like this on the street...

So I told him – YOU have to say to your God, the Lord SORRY for all

your sins, ask HIM for His Forgiveness in His Blood on the Cross, and OPEN all your HEART just FOR HIM... He couldn’t even talk... BIG thing to THINK about...

Suddenly two guys called me aside, to sit down next to them on the bench... They did looked rough... But lately I did realized that their hearts are like hearts of a kid... They wanted to know details about my FAITH in God... So I had a chance to describe them everything from the very beginning of my faith and conversion... THEY said: “WHY there are NOT much MORE PEOPLE LIKE YOU!?”... Wow... there was almost TEARS in my eyes...

I said to them: “GUYS, YOU BOTH WILL BE LIKE ME SOON TOO!” They were eating those words from my lips... Very hopeless guys... One is the homeless boy, sleeping even OUTSIDE in NATURE in the winter... I gave them BIBLES, and they were HAPPY like a kid...

So, if to summarize our experiences from this SHORT time in Zlin... People here are OPEN... But NOT to the



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7331 Misty Morning Lane
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(281) 620-0480

DRY—COLD presentation, but to the LIVING and RESURRECTING Lord Jesus Christ, who is ABLE to DO His Divine Things in their lives and in the lives of OTHER people for His Glory and SALVATION! The stories of the BORN AGAIN GYPSY brothers and sisters from the Maranatha church in Decin are heart breaking also HERE...

When I am promising them here that THOSE like Peter, Rene and others will come to Zlin soon, I see that they are HAPPY like a kids...

We decided to perform NICE Christmas concert here in Zlin in December. We did it many times in Decin too. Here we do believe that it will be the POINT. Many people could come, there will be very nice well-sounded music, Gospel presentation and MAINLY, Peter and others will come HERE to SAY out loud, WHAT the Father God DID for them 7 years ago... What a celebration!

Well, we are SO HAPPY to be privileged to SHARE ALL those things with YOU ALL. Our Lord sees and knows, that each of us is the PART on His Divine Vineyard, while sharing the God's LOVE and KINGDOM in Christ Jesus!

WE ARE HUMBLLED before the Holy Throne of God that He did count us as the faithful to minister with Him in Zlin. What a call...

Now there is a task to establish the NEW church from a scratch... We do humbly PRAY for the NEW MINISTRY funds, to be able to finance in the beginning all necessary things.

Maybe we will find also a grace in the Lord's Eyes, while we do pray for the NEW sound system for this new church. The last NICE one we did left in Decin... Maybe He will touch somebody's heart in this way..., as we do PRAY...

From the August we will rent a nice room for the meetings with the people, as our new sanctuary... Right now we do not know if there will be some chairs, or not... Prayers, prayers, prayers...

Our beloved Brothers and Sisters, Dear Ocker Brethren Church, THANK YOU once again for your MINISTRY to us, for your PRAYERS, LOVE, ENCOURAGEMENT, HELP and BLESSINGS! It is so GREAT to be the MINISTERING PART on His MISSION! The Divine reward IS in the Heaven READY!

Have VERY BLESSED WEEK in His Peace and Love!

Yours in Christ Jesus WITH PRAYERS,

Pavel and Stana Kozak.

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From Beyond Borders... the Raifords

29 July 2010

Hello everyone, I hope you are enjoying the summer weather. Here in Oaxaca it is the rainy season so it has been a little cool, but it is a refreshing change from the blistering hot days in May and June.

Around here things have been fairly routine. Eunice is doing great with her pregnancy, she is now 5 months along, and it is officially a girl. She is going to be taking some yoga classes to get ready for the delivery. I have been doing the same things for the last month, working in the carpentry shop, teaching on Saturdays and helping out with church stuff. Also, Eunice and I have been meeting with some couples who are in the process of getting ready for marriage, they both have long waits ahead of them for school reasons, so we try to give them some advice about waiting and temptation.

A couple of weeks ago we took the students from our missions program to an indigenous village to spend 5 weeks getting to know the culture and build relationships. While we were there dropping them off, Eunice and I realized it could be a place for us to go and live in the future. The people who live there are Mixes (mee-heh), and are known for being stubborn like the Mixtecs. In this area there is no church, and in the surrounding areas the churches are under heavy persecution. Also, they are in need of medical attention, and the only clinic in the area is one run by nuns. The nuns aren't doctors. Some are nurses, but they just treat basic problems and try to just ease the pain until the patient can be taken to a hospital: three or more hours away. We still have a lot of investigating to



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Church: rev.tjt@zipnet.us

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325-651-8550

Youth Director
David Love
325-656-8363

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

do, but it is a good place to start.

I hope the summer days are treating everyone well and you have had time to relax some. Eunice and I are going to take a couple of days in September with some friends, and we can't wait. Please continue to remember us in your prayers. Pray for my immigration papers being processed, and the preparation of Eunice's papers and those for the baby. We think of you often and hope to see you all in the near future.

Blessings,
Phil and Eunice

The Woos in China...

The July newsletter from the Woos states that it was seven years ago that they left the U.S. to go to China for the first time. They recently returned from a conference in Thailand where they were able to connect and share with other missionaries. Upon their return to their home city, they were very encouraged to learn that some of those with whom they share had gone and done the same with others.

Please remember this family and the work they are doing.

Think Ahead, or give a gift subscription to a friend or relative (all subscriptions expire at the end of this year)

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Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September
The Rosenberg Brethren Church
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The Mutual Aid Society's Scholarship Program*

Would you like to help a Brethren youth with his/her college education? If so, please consider making a tax-deductible donation of any size toward the Mutual Aid Society Scholarship Program. Please send donations to:

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*Requirements for the recipients of this scholarship:

- Active member Brethren Church
- Mutual Aid Society member for at least 2 years
- Hus School Alumni having completed at least one full term
- Active participation in Unity camping program and Hus School
- Must have served as a counselor/CIT in the Unity Camping Program
- 5-10 page double-spaced Essay on Brethren Church History or Brethren Organization.
- Active in local BYF if their church has one
- Must be active in Sunday School if their church has one
- Submit application and agree to be interviewed by scholarship committee

Please prayerfully consider this new program and be attentive to the Lord's leading as to how you should be involved.

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16th ANNUAL PRIMETIMERS' RETREAT NOTICE

Plans are being completed for the Primetimers' Retreat scheduled for October 8-10, 2010. According to participants at previous retreats, this is a highlight of fall activities for adults of all ages in the Unity of the Brethren.

Some participants like to arrive on Friday evening for a relaxed time of dominoes, fellowship, and snacks. Others prefer to arrive in time for breakfast about 8 a.m. on Saturday. The schedule for Saturday includes singing, Bible study sessions with videos and discussions, a special musical program by "Sweet Harmony", lots of good food, plenty of free time for visiting and fellowship, and an early vesper service. Many participants choose to spend the night and conclude the retreat with a

Worship Service on Sunday morning. Some find it necessary to come for Saturday only, but have found the experience very rewarding.

Whether you can come for the entire weekend or for Saturday only, you will be rewarded with spiritual refreshment, an opportunity to see old friends and make new ones.

Flyers and registration forms have been sent to all congregations and also appear on the Unity website. Cost per person – \$45 for the weekend and \$30 for Saturday only. Deadline for registering is September 30. DON'T DELAY – SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATIONS TODAY to **Marvin and Alice Chlapek**

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Choral Retreat Notice... from the Retreat Director

The Joyful Noise Choral retreat has changed seasons! To avoid the holidays and inclement/icy weather, the 5th Annual Choral Retreat has been moved to October 22-24, 2010. We hope this will allow more families to participate.

Another change is the location for this year's retreat. The retreat choir has been visiting different churches over the years so congregations with church members involved can experience the service in song. This year, the retreat will be held in Wall, TX.

Wall has sent anywhere from 8-15 retreat members each year, so the time has come for the Wall congregation to know what we are all about.

Please announce these changes in your congregations. October is approaching quickly, and we want everyone who wishes to participate to know about it. Please share my contact information with anyone who has questions.

In Christ,

Angela Farris

akaycat@gmail.com

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Denise Mikeska, Associate Pastor – sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com

Steve Davis, Youth Pastor – sbcpastorsteve@yahoo.com

Dolores Skrabanek, Board of Elders Chair

www.seatonbrethren.com

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for September 2010

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. The Lord is not the God of the dad, but of the living, for to Him all are alive. Lk. 20:38
2. Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from Him. Ps. 62:5
3. And God said, "I will be with you." Ex. 3:12
4. "Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord almighty." Malachi 3:7
5. **In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways. Heb. 1:1**
6. The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your needs. Isa. 58:11
7. My dwelling place will be with them; I will be their God, and they will be My people. Ezek. 37:27
8. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name. Ex. 20:7
9. "But My people have exchanged their Glory for worthless idols," declares the Lord. Jer. 2:11,12
10. And God spoke all these words. Ex. 20:2
11. "I am the Lord your God." Ex. 20:2
12. **"You shall have no other gods before Me." Ex. 20:3**
13. We will do everything the Lord has said; we will obey. Ex. 24:7
14. If you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 1 Cor. 10:12
15. When you are tempted, God will provide a way out so you can stand up under it. 1 Cor. 10:13
16. Lord, enable Your servants to speak Your word with great boldness. Acts 4:29
17. Put to death whatever belongs to your earthly nature: impurity, lust, evil desires, and greed, which is idolatry. Col. 3:5
18. See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. Heb. 3:12
19. **Cursed is the man who carves an image or casts an idol, a thing detestable to the Lord. Deut. 27:15**
20. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory." Isa. 6:3
21. Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. Ps. 136:1a
22. His love endures forever. Ps. 136:1b
23. The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer. Ps. 18:2
24. His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him. 2 Pet. 1:3
25. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Jn. 4:10
26. **As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God. Ps. 42:1**
27. They sang praises with gladness and bowed their heads and worshipped. 2 Chron. 29:30
28. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. 1 Tim. 1:17
29. The Mighty God has done great things for me. Lk. 1:49
30. Now I commit you to God and to the word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among those who are sanctified. Acts 20:32

VITAL STATISTICS

INFANT BAPTISMS

DANIEL FRANCISCO SLADECEK, son of Daniel and Cecelia Sladeczek, was baptized on June 27, 2010, at the Temple Brethren Church.

RECENT WEDDINGS

KOTRLA-MUNCEY. Edward Kotrla and Blossom Muncey were joined in marriage on June 26, 2010, at the Wall Brethren Church, Wall, Texas. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

BERAN-SCHNEIDER. Jerrie K. Beran was married to Russell W. Schneider on July 24, 2010, at the Temple Brethren Church. Witnesses: Charlotte Bennett and Bill Schneider. Minister: Larry Zabck.

CALHOUN-MACAT. Courtney Renee Calhoun was married to Lawson Bain Macat on July 17, 2010, at Salado and will live at Troy. Witnesses: Jenna Miller and Justin Self. Minister: Mark Labaj.

SIPTAK-HOWARD. Melissa Howard was married to Joshua Siptak of the Vsetin Czech-Moravian Brethren Church on July 24, 2010, at Bay City and will live at Houston. Witnesses: Natalie Cooper and Joey Trobl. Minister: Mark Labaj.

RECENT DEATHS

CHLAPEK, IDA (URBAN), age 99, of San Angelo, Texas, born July 23, 1910, died on January 7, 2010. She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Hohmann, and husband Walmar and grandson Mark Waggoner. Funeral services were held January 11, 2010, at the Wall Brethren Church, with Rev. Tommy Tallas officiating.

MAREK, BENJAMIN (BENNIE) LOUIS, age 79 and a member of the Houston Brethren Church, died June 11, 2010, at his home. He was born on January 11, 1931, at Tunis, Texas, to Louis and Lydia Mikeska Marek and is survived by his wife, Jackie, two daughters, two grandchildren, and a great-grandson. Services were held on June 14, 2010, in the Chapel of Brookside Champions Funeral Home with burial at the Brookside Cemetery in Houston. Minister: William J. Hodge.

URBAN, MARTHA ANN (LANDGRAF), age 78, of San Angelo, Texas, born January 9, 1932, died May 29, 2010. She is survived by brothers Arnold and Bobby Landgraf. Funeral services were held June 1, 2010, at the Wall Brethren Church with Rev. Tommy Tallas officiating.

SEVCIK, ADOLPH CHARLES, age 95, and lifelong member of the Vsetin CMB Church, died July 1, 2010, at Hallettsville. Born October 14, 1914, at Lavaca County. Married

to Anastasia (Stasie) Svetlik on November 16, 1937, who preceded him in death. He is survived by four daughters, eight grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. Services were on July 6, 2010, from the Vsetin CMB Church with burial in the Vsetin CMB cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

HOPKINS, GLORIA JEAN, passed away on June 19, 2010. She was born on January 5, 1940, in Bellville, Texas, and was the only child of Viola and Milton Stuessel. She is survived by her husband, James Carl Hopkins, one daughter, one son, and four grandchildren. She was a member of the Rosenberg Brethren Church. Services were held at the church on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, with burial at the Cat Spring Cemetery. Minister: Bro. Larry Butcher.

MAREK, WILTON JAMES, 74, of Caldwell, passed away on Saturday, June 19, 2010, in Caldwell. He was born on June 24, 1935, and is survived by his wife, two daughters, a son, and two grandchildren. Services were on June 22 at the Caldwell Brethren Church with burial in the New Tabor Cemetery. Minister: Jim Heckman.

SASSIN, EVELYN THERESA (GALETKA), age 80, died June 12, 2010, at Freeport. She was born on January 4, 1930, at Hallettsville and married on November 1, 1959, to Louis Sassin. Mrs. Sassin is survived by her husband, two sons, two grandchildren, two brothers, and many nieces and nephews. Services were on June 16, 2010, from the Vsetin CMB Church with burial in that church's cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

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.*



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

CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

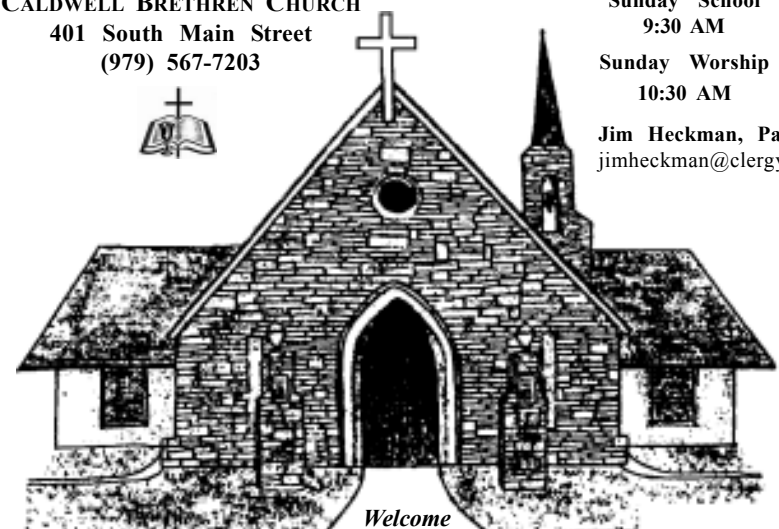
401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203



Sunday School
9:30 AM

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Jim Heckman, Pastor
jimheckman@clergy.net



Welcome


Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

...Primetimers' Retreat: October 8, 9, 10 at the Hus School Encampment. So, primetimers, put this on your calendars and plan to attend an always-fun time!

...5th Annual Joyful Noise Choral Retreat: October 22-24, 2010, at Wall, Texas. Contact Angela Farris, akaycat@gmail.com, for scholarship and any other information.

(see the Youth Activities Schedule in the Youth Section)

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH
 2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South
www.unityofthebrethren.org



Church 9:00 A.M.
 Sunday School 10:45 A.M.
 Off: 979-693-3606
 Hm: 979-779-3634

Mailing Address:
 P.O. Box 9283
 College Station, TX 77842

Temple Brethren Church
 2202 Birdcreek Drive
 Temple, Texas 76502
 (254) 778-8759
tbc@hot.rr.com



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

Pastor Larry Zabcik
 (254) 718-3898
zabcikville@hotmail.com

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.
 – Visiting Ministers

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
 – 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

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 First 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,
 Rev. Whitney Amos
 4th & 5th Sunday – Mark Sebek

Houston – 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. Sunday School at 9 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.
 – Rev. Bill Rinderknecht, supply pastor

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

Snook – Sunday School – 9:00 AM;
 Worship – 10:15 AM.
 – Rev. Joseph Polasek

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
 5th Sunday.
 – Visiting Ministers

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To access their pictures, go to
<http://gallery.mac.com/woofamily>

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Bellville Sealy Wallis
865-3121 885-3535 478-6311

The Rosenberg Brethren Church

5220 Reading Road
Rosenberg, TX 77471
(281) 342-3060

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Eve. 5:30 PM
Prayer Service and Bible Study

Bro. Larry Butcher
3030 Prescott, Houston, TX 77025
(713) 299-4813 (Home)
Youth Minister: Debbie Gloria

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

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

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L77c@aol.com

2nd Vice President: Rev. Jim Heckman

3rd Vice President: Rev. Joe Emerson;
pastorjde@juno.com

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Pastor to Pastors: Dr. Larry Koslovsky

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West – Dorothy Kocian; dekocian@yahoo.com
Westheimer – Daniel Psencik

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Rev. Jim Heckman, 9849 PR 1015, Rockdale,
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Rev. James D. Hejl, 309 Cherrywood Circle,
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Rev. Tony Taylor, P.O. Box 1680, Hilltop Lakes,
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UNDER CALL OF THE UNITY

Military Chaplaincy

CH (Maj) Daniel E. Husak 521 Elizabeth, Troy,
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(Seaton)

Denise Mikeska – dkaym@hotmail.com (Seaton)
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– from the editor

The Brethren Journal has been publishing life and activities of the Unity of the Brethren in Texas for over 100 years. All of these include records of weddings, baptisms, deaths, etc., of the ministers... when they were submitted. These records are invaluable for families who wish to research their family history or activities that have taken place in our congregations and the denomination. It would be fitting, in the eyes of the Brethren Journal Business Committee, to ask for financial support for the continuation of this publication.

If you wish to become a special FRIEND OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL, please send your donation to the Business Manager, Cathleen Schlechte (address inside front cover). These donations are tax deductible.