THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL A



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Rev. James Hejl leads the 2010 Primetimers' Retreat

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Articles for Youth and Children

... and much more!

To All Readers: Are you a member of "Friends of the Brethren Journal"? If not, and you wish to become one, send in your donation indicating your desire to be a member to Cathleen Schlechte, Business Manager (address on the inside cover of each issue).

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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President's Column . . . Claren Kotrla

POMPEII

Pompeii was a Roman city that was in existence during Christ's time.

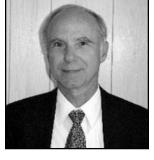
It was destroyed without warning about noon on August 24, 79 AD. A few years earlier it was rocked by an earthquake, but no one saw this as a warning that the city would be destroyed by ash from a volcano in the future. Why is this

important and, why discuss it in *The* Brethren Journal? I believe that the experience of Pompeii has something to tell today's Christians, and by extension the Unity, as well as us as individuals.

Paul traveled near Pompeii on the shore of the Bay of Naples. Pompeii was not unlike other cities such as Corinth that we are familiar with in the Bible and the cities that were visited by Paul as discussed in Acts. What we can learn due to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius is how people lived in these Roman Cites when Christianity was in its beginnings.

> As part of a recent trip my wife, Jean and I were able to visit Pompeii. That visit brought several thoughts together that are worth sharing. Although I had heard about the devastation of Pompeii, I didn't realize the size of the city, which

is about 160 acres. Also, I didn't realize the importance of this advanced sea-front city (before the eruption) with a population that is estimated to have been around 20,000 or more. The city was advanced by our standards and understanding. It had a hall of justice, paved streets with gutters, sidewalks, shops, religious structures, and sewage systems, as well as a water system for the wealthy and wells for the not so wealthy. It had music, and a theater for every-





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one that could accommodate 5,000 people. The theater was open air with a canvas cover to shade the spectators, and the theater was designed to reflect the sound of the actors so everyone could hear them. It even had public restrooms for those in attendance. There were gladiators, and sports events such as foot races.

The city had a system of governing and taxation like modern society. It also had a system of transportation that accommodated both pedestrians and carts or wagons within the city. The streets were paved with stones, and some of the stones were light in color to allow one to see the street in the dark. Because the streets were dirty and water by design was allowed to clean and flow down them. cross walks had elevated stones with gaps between them to allow pedestrians to cross the streets to the sidewalks and wagons to pass. The stones were placed in the streets to allow the donkeys and the wheels of the carts to pass between them. This required regulations that specified the width of the carts and the height of the wheels to allow them to pass between and over the pedestrian stepping stones.

Just like today, they had fast food restaurants where you could buy a cup of soup, have a drink, or have a fish sandwich. By all counts, this was a modern city with modern conveniences, diversity in its society, and acceptance of different life styles. including open gambling and brothels. It was a rich community supported and protected by the central government in Rome. The parallels between Pompeii and similar cities during the time of Christ and afterwards are amazingly similar to what we experience today in America. Granted, the technology is different, but the things available to its citizens were not unlike almost any city in America today.

When reading about how Christ and the apostles went to different cities to speak to the population, I wondered how they would gather an audience. Each city, just like Pompeii, had a central forum where scholars and others could come and start speaking. People would listen to what they had to say, and like us changing the channel on a television; people could go to different speakers to hear what they had to say.

So what lesson, if any, can we learn from the experience of Pompeii in 79AD? One lesson is that we don't know when our time is up. Looking at Matthew 24:36-44, Jesus talks about clues that will precede His second coming just like the earthquake that rocked Pompeii years before the volcano erupted. He also clearly states that no one can predict the exact time of the second coming. Verse 36 states "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." When Vesuvius erupted around noon, the people were eating and drinking like mentioned in verse 38. Although Jesus is referring to what happened in Noah's time, it applied to what happened to the people of Pompeii. The people took shelter in their homes or were caught in the open, and due to the way the city was destroyed we can see the expression on their faces and their positions at the time of their deaths.

This lesson can also apply to Chris-

tians today. Like the people of Pompeii, we are fortunate to live in a rich country where there is a stable government, strong infrastructure, entertainment venues, wealth, and the freedom to be just as diverse as we wish. Verse 42 admonishes us to keep watch, because we do not know on what day our Lord will come. Verse 44 tells us to "be ready because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." It is doubtful there were many, if any, Christians in Pompeii at the time of its destruction, but if they had know what was about to happen, do you believe many of those people would have been doing some things differently? Just as what happened to the inhabitants of Pompeii, we don't know when our end will come. Therefore. we as Christian individuals and members of the Unity need to carefully consider what Jesus is telling us in Matthew and be ready when we face our Vesuvius, be it the second coming, or our individual mortality. The good news that can't be stressed enough is, when that time comes, we as believers have the grace of God that nonbelievers don't have.

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A CHURCH FILLED WITH LOVE

- by Claren Kotrla

Last week I was invited to attend the Industry Brethren Church on November 7, 2010. It was a special service that honored Veterans and those who were left behind. The church was full of over 100 worshipers who came not only to worship, but to offer their appreciation to the Veterans living and passed who have served and are serving to ensure that they could worship. The service was respectful and humbling for those of us who had served in the military. Candles were lighted and flags handed out by representatives from the Scouts. Not only were those who served recognized for their service, but those who waited and worried and prayed for their loved ones were appreciated. It was an all-inclusive worship service that will be remembered a lifetime.

Even a small church can do great things, be it appreciating those who ensure the right to worship or provide help to those in need. Never underestimate the contribution your church, regardless of its size, can make to others. Industry didn't, and they left a lasting impression on everyone who was in attendance.

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

From the Thiessens...

October 13, 2010 On Death and Digging

Dear friends.

In the last three weeks, we have learned a lot about needing to lean on one another. Little baby Taylor died a week ago Tuesday (the 5th), after two weeks of heart-wrenching battle. She died, leaving us wondering what to do in even the simple steps of death certificates and burial procedures. So then the baby church that we wrote about at the same time came to our aid. Even though they are an infant church, they are a well-established clan in an old part of Oaxaca City, with many contacts and an insider network. They found a way to get a burial plot, and get all the paperwork taken care of. They helped with the coffee and bread for the late night prayer vigil at the funeral home. They helped me and a couple other fellows dig the grave Wednesday morning,

and gave us lunch afterwards. They helped us work better in their culture.

It was odd for me to walk with the cemetery attendant through unkempt gravesites, searching for a suitable site for Taylor's body's final resting place. He wanted to squeeze it between existing adult sites, to maximize future room. Finally he settled on a certain place, and we began to dig. Now it was my turn to help them. Perhaps not many of you remember, or even knew, that in my previous life I was a professional "ditch digger". Actually, holes very much the size for coffins, but to repair underground telephone cable. I had spent four years perfecting the "best" ways to dig holes. Now I was putting that skill into practice again. So, as I shared the responsibility with the other three guys, I was giving them some digging lessons. Their natural way was very different than what I had developed, so the morning turned into a friendly



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"interchange" of shovel techniques. Even the type of shovel differed. I had acquired, somewhere along the way, a long handled pointed shovel, the kind preferred by Canadians. They had short, D-handled flat-nosed ones. By about two feet deep, they were all quite convinced of the merits of the unfamiliar shovel, and were asking where to get one (not that any of us do much digging normally).

In another "lean on me" (or mentoring) role, we have entered the lives of three other baby churches forming, or perhaps better said, about to form once their leaders "get" that they can really be the church. In each case we are getting to play the part of "midwife," encouraging new birth through cheers of "you can do it," and "push just a bit harder – it will get easier soon." An exciting characteris-

tic of these baby churches is that they are already involved with other groups in outlying areas that can also become churches as soon as the young mother church's leaders take the simple steps of recognizing what God is doing, and has always been doing.

So pray for Phil and Eunice as they grieve and begin to make new plans (to get involved with efforts to reach a group of Mixes). Pray for the baby church meeting in Samuel's home. Pray for Gerardo and Graciela, father and daughter, both dentists, who lead a church in their home and will be formalizing the group in Claracordoba. And pray for Noel, an electrician friend, who was abandoned by his denomination and is meeting in his own home and helping a group organize an hour away in the mountains.

Blessings, Robert

WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

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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.

President Dewyan Weise 325-651-8550 Youth Director David Love 325-656-8363

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

November 2, 2010

This week our family has been reminded again of the goodness of God's Word. This is the week of the "Day of the Dead", when Catholic families lay out food, flowers, and candles on alters to feed the dead who return to visit. They spread a path of marigold petals from sidewalk to altar to lead the dead home. They accompany the dead in the city graveyards in all-night vigils lit by candles and accompanied by solemn music. If they ignore the dead, they fear the consequences.

On Wednesday, when I went to visit Linda, my bedridden grandmother-friend whom we baptized last year in recognition of her trust in Christ, we talked about what the Day of the Dead means for her village.

"I am not afraid, you know," she answered.

"What do you mean?"

"I know the *muertitos* (the dear dead) don't come back and walk around like they say."

"How do you know that?" I tested her.

"I heard it on the Bible CD you got me. They are asleep until the time when Jesus comes back. They are waiting for the sound of his voice and the trumpet, you know. I am not afraid. I am ready to go to Him any time."

Linda's simple trust in God's Word always challenges me. She is going against the beliefs and traditions of her entire village, but it gives her no fear. She is so sure of God's grace and power.

On Sunday our home church was studying Ephesians 5. Because we had no music leader, we simply read the chapter and let people offer prayers of praise, petition, and confession as they felt inspired by the verses. We had to stop several times because of the conviction that ran through the room. "I can't read any more." "I keep thinking I have it all down pat – until I read this." "I have been fooling myself." "This is for me." God's Word dropped us outside of anything we had planned for that day. We had confession and forgiveness and sharing and the Lord's Supper, and, after the meeting, "sent out for groceries

HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH

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

For information please contact one of the following:

Ronnie Tyson President 22015 Golden Cedar Dr. Cypress, TX 77433 (281) 373-4376 Dorothy Hinson
Secretary
7331 Misty Morning Lane
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and held a meal together" in good Moravian fashion.

Tonight I taught the leaders of the newborn church in Samuel's house how to use the stories of the Old Testament to reinforce the teachings of the New. We did as much laughing as studying.

Even as I write, many of our Mixtec brothers in Guerrero have gathered on this Day of the Day to hold an evangelistic campaign in Arroyo Prieto, Guerrero, bearing witness to the change God's Word has made in them. We have been witnesses of these changes and have told them to you when we have visited you. This letter is one of praise for how good God's Word is in all cultures, in all ages, in all settings, in all circumstances

Blessings, Anne

From the Kozaks...

Greetings! - my dear friends in the Lord! We are back home from the Decin ministry and from the wedding place in the Pilsen (Plzen). We really did spend NICE time, MINISTRY time in those places.

The BEST was to see the developing church planting ministry in the suburb city Boletice. There were about 70 people who could hear the Message, and about 25 did OPEN their hearts to the Lord! Here are some pictures... (Mainly the KIDS were cute...

Marek and Peter (first members of Decin Maranatha Church and now Elders) were preaching and had great testimony. There were MANY friends of Peter, who are STILL cheating and robbing people, as Peter did BEFORE...





It was so touching to SEE Peter, Rene (Decin Youth Leader), Marek, and others as the ministers of God!

The altar call was touching and many kids came... a few minutes after, their parents came, too. There were many tears and prayers...

It was wonderful TIME! They will minister in that place each Thursday! It is a really NEEDY PLACE for the ministry.

Also, the wedding ceremony was

NICE on Saturday in Pilsen was great. There came half of the Decin Maranatha people, too. It was a nice Christian wedding. I gave the wedding message. On Sunday, I did preach for a great friend of mine in the Brethren Church there. We did have many talks with the people in that church. All of them were VERY INTERESTED to hear what we do for the people outside, as the evangelists. It is very UNUSUAL to be ACTIVE, PUBLIC,



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and open air ministers even in the Czech Republic. So we did a lot of ENCOURAGEMENT for them, too...

Stana and I would like to say THANK YOU for your LOVE to us, and HOW MUCH we do APPRECIATE that we can minister TOGETHER as SISTER churches and MINISTRIES. Our hearts are in the UNITY in our Lord and in His LOVE. Thank you so very MUCH for ALL YOUR

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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BLESSINGS, PRAYERS, and ENCOURAGEMENT.

The Divine FRUIT of our together MINISTRY IS OBVIOUS! All this IS PRAISING our Lord Jesus, and Stana and I are sending to you ALL our WARMEST HUGS and THANKFULNESS for your LOVE!

LOVE, HUGS, PRAYERS, and hearts, From Pavel & Stana

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^{**}Position currently filled by Administrative Board members

Save the date!

February 26, 2011, The Unity Foreign Missions Board is presenting "T.E.A.M. Mission - "*Together Everyone Achieves More!*" at the Hus Encampment from 9 am to 3pm.

Two years ago, we asked the question of our churches, "Where in the World Are You and Jesus Working?" As a community of churches we took a day like this one to meet and work together on strategies for answering this question. The strategies looked at both local and foreign missions. Two years later we are going to take a day and concentrate this time on Foreign Missions and how we can "work together to achieve more" in the mission fields we are already invested in and then explore new areas God is calling us to.

So Plan Now to:

- ❖ Come connect and catch the excitement!
- ❖ Hear first-hand Tom Prohaska, Founder and Executive Director of Fields of Faith, fresh from the fields of the Czech Republic and his vision for us to join in more church-planting in the Czech Republic.
- ❖ Strategize with us for our new "Adopt A Missionary Endeavor" in Mexico and China
- Hear Mark Ebert, Moravian Mission Board Member, Insights on Working Together

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Bring a "TEAM" from your church and let us listen, strategize and pray together in order that we might join Jesus in bringing glory to the Kingdom in His Mission Fields! A continental breakfast and lunch will be served. There is no cost to register, but a free will donation will be gladly accepted!

Sign Up with Mission Team Members

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The FALL RETREAT SUMMARY will be coming in the next issue...



Get ready for Winter Retreat 2011! The winter retreat has moved to February. It will be held at the Hus School Encampment February 18-20th. Friday night will be optional. Registration forms and fees are due January 31. A

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Sock-It-To-Me sock drive.

Many warm toes are tapping thanks to your generosity.



The STATE CHILDREN'S RALLY is just around the corner. Saturday, March 5 children ages 3-3rd grade are encouraged to join us at the Hus School Encampment for a day of Bible stories, crafts, and music. Registration forms and fees are due February 12.

Check out the website www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com for more information. Forms will be available in January 2011.

To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

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

Dawn Marie Baletka
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(979) 777-9940 or (979) 693-2710
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Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Worship: 10:15 a.m.

PastorPresidentSecretaryJames D. HejlLarry KotrlaMary Kokes512-365-6890512-818-1504M-Th 8:00 am-noon



This month will focus on Gifts.

The verse for this month is: 1 John 4:10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The Holiday season is upon us! This includes many additional activities – shopping, baking, wrapping, social events, Christmas programs and rehearsals. The list is never ending.



Christmas is often associated with gifts. This month's lessons and devotions are focusing on gifts and gift giving. As you shop and bake and decorate this season, always remember the greatest gift ever given... Jesus!

Also, remember other gifts that we have received from Heaven: Peace, Love, Hope

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

The Gift

Materials Needed: A wrapped Christmas gift, some small treats or gifts to share with all children in the class.

1. EXPLAIN:

In both the Old and New Testament and in our lives today, it is not enough to know the facts about Jesus. God wants us to have a relationship of love and faith with Him. God wants us to KNOW Him and talk to Him and listen to His voice. God wants us to live together with Him today. Just like you can accept or reject a gift, so it is with Jesus.

2. Hand the box to someone and say, "Here, I have a gift for you."

(Let them respond and either take it or not take it.)

3. (Ask the child:) What do you have to do to accept my gift? (Just take it!)

If you are going to ACCEPT my gift, what do I want you to do?

4. Receiving a GIFT & Receiving Jesus:

Knowing about Jesus and hearing about Him doesn't mean you received Him. How do you receive Jesus as God's special gift?

5. Invitation:

If anyone here today has not received Jesus as your Savior, you can right now.

Make sure the child to whom you gave the gift knows he or she can keep it. Pass out some other small gifts or treats for the other children to enjoy at this time.

Teen Cabana



In Jerusalem at the time, there was a man, Simeon by name, a good man, a man who lived in the prayerful expectancy of help for Israel. And the Holy Spirit was on him. The Holy Spirit had shown him that he would see the Messiah of God before he died.

Here's an older gentleman who must have been as giddy as any child who has ever lived. He waited his entire life for the first Christmas – and when it came, it was the greatest moment of his life. Seeing the coming of the Messiah caused him to break out into a blessing to God. When's the last time you broke out in praise around Christmastime?

If the 'burdens' of Christmas are starting to weigh you down – maybe it's time you took advice from the Reason for the Season Himself: For an answer Jesus called over a child, whom he stood in the middle of the room, and said, "I'm telling you, once and for all, that unless you return to square one and start over like children, you're not even going to get a look at the kingdom, let alone get in. Whoever becomes simple and elemental again, like this child, will rank high in God's kingdom. (Matthew 18:2-4)

That's right – resurrect your childhood feelings about Christmas – or if you don't have positive ones, then start over. If we as Christians don't demonstrate their excitement about the Christmas season – why would anyone believe the Christmas message?

Relax in Port O'Connor at Kotrla's Coastal Retreat!

Reservations: Contact Valerie at 361-920-4663, or Valerie@tigrett.com Oh Yes – GREAT FISHING, too!

16th Annual Primetimers' Retreat -by Joyce Baletka

Beautiful fall weather, a well-planned schedule, meaningful study sessions, and congenial people all contributed to a very successful Primetimers' Retreat. The event was held, as has been the tradition, during the second weekend of October at the Hus Encampment.

Several of the participants arrived on Friday evening for a relaxed evening of fellowship. Others arrived in time for breakfast on Saturday morning, and brought the total number of attendees to 52. It was encouraging to welcome several new participants to the event

Singing and mixer activities began at 9 a.m. The theme of the retreat was "Fearless" based on a video series by Max Lucado. The Rev. James Hejl, retreat pastor, lead 3 study sessions during the day based on the videos. The overall focus was facing current

KUBENA Funeral Home 507 South Main St.

Hallettsville, Texas 77946 Pre-Arranged Funerals Low Cost Funeral Insurance Phone 361-798-3271 life challenges without fear by knowing that God will see us through all the difficult times of our lives. Brother Jimmy did an excellent job in leading the discussions following each video.

A group of singers known as "Sweet Harmony" from Hilltop Lakes presented a beautiful musical program, along with a personal Christian testimony of one of the singers during the afternoon. The remainder of the day's schedule included visiting with friends (old and new), taking pictures, looking at scrapbooks, playing dominoes, a hamburger supper, and an early evening vesper. Photographers active throughout the retreat were Jon Farrow of Temple and Linda Flens of Taylor.

About half of the attendees departed after the vesper. Those who remained continued to enjoy games

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9283 College Station, TX 77842 Church 9:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:45 A.M. Off: 979-693-3606 Hm: 979-779-3634 and fellowship. The Sunday schedule included a worship service with communion, lunch and camp clean-up.

The Retreat Planning Team included Marvin and Johnnie Ann Labaj of Temple, Wiley and Kimberly Marx of Ocker, Marge Kelarek of Hilltop Lakes, Marvin and Alice Chlapek of Dime Box, and Brother John and Joyce Baletka. The team did a wonderful job of sharing the responsibilities of preparing materials, decorating, purchasing food, and providing delicious meals and snacks.

The 17th Annual Primetimers' Retreat is scheduled for the second week-end of October 2011. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend for a great weekend of Christian fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

Please note: The video "Fearless" is available for use in local Brethren congregations. It could be used as a

six weeks Bible study or Sunday School curriculum. If interested in borrowing the video, contact Joyce Baletka (979-567-4563).

State BYF Leadership Team

Youth Team:

Erin Brinkley, <u>erinbrinkley@yahoo.com</u> Taylor Brinkley, <u>taylorbrinkley@yahoo.com</u> Monique Duron, <u>cutesi101@aol.com</u> Kathryn Laza, <u>k laza14@tamu.edu</u> Erica Sebesta, <u>guitargoalie93@yahoo.com</u> Chris Stauffer,

<u>Chris Stauffer011@gmail.com</u> Emily Surovik, <u>emilysurovik@gmail.com</u> Ryan Surovik, <u>ryansurovik@gmail.com</u> Riley Milberger,

rileywayne3@hotmail.com

Adult Team:

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jennchervenka@farm-market.net
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Angie Hairrell, hairrell@gmail.com
David Sebesta, tractordavid@gmail.com
Megan Stauffer.Megan Stauffer@baylor.edu



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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 . . .

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

Frank McKay III . . .

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

Ronald Dusek

rdusekdds@aol.com ph: (979) 567-3732 **Dewyan Weise . . .** ph: (325) 651-8550

Mutual Aid Society Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

Applications are now being accepted from high school seniors and undergraduate students for the 1st Annual Mutual Aid Society Scholarship. Three thousand dollars (\$3,000) will be awarded. More than one recipient may be selected per year. Requirements:

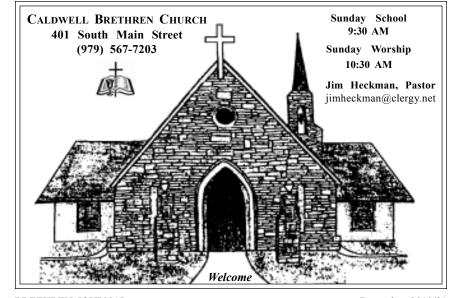
- 1. Active member of a Unity of the Brethren congregation.
- 2. Mutual Aid Society member for at least 2 years.
- 3. Hus School alumni having completed at least one full term.
- 4. A minimum of 1 week of service as a counselor/CIT with the Unity camping program.
- 5. Active member of local BYF (if available).
- 6. Active member of local Sunday School (if available).
- 7. 5-10 page essay on the history of the Mutual Aid Society, the Unity of the Brethren, or both.

Submit application and essay by February 28th and participate in an interview with the Selection Committee in March or early April.

Send application to: Rev. Joseph Polasek, PO Box 54, Snook TX 77878 Application and more information can be found on the Unity website at: www.unityofthebrethren.org

NOTE... Anyone who would like to help a Brethren youth with his/her college education is encouraged to consider making a tax-deductible donation (of any size) to the Mutual Aid Society Scholarship Program. Please send such donation to:

The Mutual Aid Scholarship Program c/o Guy E. Huffman, Treasurer P.O. Box 216 Caldwell, TX 77836



DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for December 2010 Dorothy E. Kocian

- 1. Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. Isa. 40:31a
- They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not be weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isa. 40:31b
- Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of Your name; deliver us and forgive our sins. Ps. 79:9
- The Lord reigns, He is robed in majesty and is armed with strength. Ps 93:1
- The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever, Isa, 40:8
- Oh, praise the greatness of our God! Neut. 32:3
- Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father. James 1:17
- 8. The Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eves. Ps. 118:23
- Here is my servant, whom I uphold; I will put my Spirit on him, he will bring justice to the nations, declares the Lord. Isa. 42:1
- 10. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. 1 Jn. 4:16
- 11. "I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight," declares the Lord. Jer. 9:24
- 12. For you are great and do wondrous things. You alone are God. Ps. 86:10
- 13. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 1 Jn. 4:10
- 14. When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law. Gal. 4:4
- 15. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Jn. 3:17
- 16. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. Isa. 9:6a

- 17. The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. Isa. 9:2
- 18. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. Isa. 9:7b
- He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa. 6:9b
- I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. Job 19:25
- "Glory to God in the highest, and on the earth peace, goodwill toward men." Lk. 2:14
- 22. An angel of the Lord said to Joseph, "Mary will bear a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." Mt. 1:20. 21
- 23. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call Him "Immanuel", which means "God with us." Mt. 1:23
- 24. today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Lk. 2:11
- 25. The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. Ex. 15:2
- For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. Jn. 3:16
- 27. "The Lord has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release the blind from darkness." Isa. 61:1
- But now in Christ Jesus you who were once far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. Eph. 2:13
- 29. For he himself is our peace. Eph. 2:14
- O God, you will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you. Isa. 26:3
- Our heart is glad in the Lord, because we trust in His holy name. Ps. 33:21

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At-Large: Mark Olsen (Syn. Com. 2009)
C: (512) 630-5153; olsenmc@live.com

Member: Debbie Grimm (Chr. Sis. 2010) 1409 Stone Ridge Rd., Taylor, TX 76574. C: (512) 718-2310; mama dgrimm@hotmail.com

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Non-Voting Appointments: Programming Director: Kim Stewart, (512) 932-9939; kcstew@austin.rr.com

Unity Youth Coordinator: Jennifer Chervenka (Synodical Committee Appointment), (254) 983-1002; jennchervenka@farm-market.net

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Caretakers: Robert and Cathleen Schlechte; (979) 324-5560, (979) 255-8266; greesemonkey86@hotmail.com; schlechte86@msn.com

Oversight of Synodical Committee: Rev. Joe Emerson; sbcpastorjoe@yahoo.com

VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERS RECEIVED

MARK and STACY OLSEN, on February 28, 2010, at the Taylor Brethren Church.

SHIRLEY TOWNSEND, on July 4, 2010, at the Taylor Brethren Church.

AMY GRIMM, on October 24, 2010, at the Taylor Brethren Church.

RECENT BAPTISMS

GRACIE LYNN GRIMM, daughter of Heath and Amy Grimm, born on April 19, 2010, was dedicated to the Lord on October 24, 2010. Minister: James Hejl.

AVA JANE PRASEK, daughter of Constance Prasek, was born on June 9, 2010, at Hallettsville. She was baptized on October 24, 2010, at the Vsetin Czech Moravian Church in Lavaca County. Sponsor: Kyle Prasek, Minister: Mark Labai.

CAL VERNON ZAK, Son of John and Ani (Critchell) Zak, born on June 11, 2010, was baptized on September 20, 2010, at the Vsetin Czech-Moravian Brethren Church. Sponsors: Kathleen Smolik and Jean Wick. Minister: Mark Labai.

RECENT WEDDINGS

MORRIS-POKORNY. Larry Morris and Crystal Pokorny were joined in marriage on July 30, 2010, at the Taylor Brethren Church. Minister: James Hejl.

PAGE-FOLKS. Kevin Page and Denisa Folks were joined in marriage on March 13, 2010, at the Taylor Brethren Church. Minister: James Hejl.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD July 2010

Chairman (2007)(2009):

David Miller (2005), (2003), 3693 Blumentritt Road, San Angelo, TX 76905. (325) 651-7597; dm103157@hotmail.com

Unity Representatives:

Kent Laza (2007) (2009), 1358 Apricot Glenn, College Station, TX 77845. (979) 690-7608; kent.laza@verizon.net

Joyce Baletka (2007) (2009) (2004-C.S.), P.O. Box 614, Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 567-4563; ilbaletka@peoplepc.com

Marvin Chlapek (2009), PO Box 1163, Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 272-9102; mjcarc@airplexus.com

Board of Christian Education Rep.: Charlie Groseclose (2009), 358 State

Hwy. 53, Rosebud, TX 76570. (254) 583-4160; cmrag@aol.com

Christian Sisters Representatives:

Sharon Hohmann (2008)(2010), 222 Crestwood Dr., San Angelo, TX 76903. (325) 651-5884

BYF Representative:

Mary Jones (2009), PO Box 2112, Wall, TX 76957. (325) 651-4623; gkjones@wcc.net

Synodical Committee Liason:

Rév. Linda Chandler (2007) (2009), 13108 North Ridge Circle, Leander, TX 78641. (512) 203-7293; L77c@aol.com

ADVISORY MEMBERS

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

CURRENT MISSIONARIES

Robert & Anne Thiessen Michael & Caroline Woo Phil & Eunice Raiford Pastor Pavel & Stana Kozak

Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September

The Rosenberg Brethren Church Christian Sisters

5220 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

February 26, 2011: The Unity Foreign Missions Board is presenting "T.E.A.M.". Mission – "*Together Everyone Achieves More!*" at the Hus Encampment from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

(read of Youth Activities Schedule in the Youth Section)

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Cemetery Sharon Marek

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Elder Board President Sharon Marek

23383 Milam Road Burlington, TX 76519 (254) 869-2845 shadimar@vvm.com

Youth Director Jennifer Chervenka

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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

Favetteville - 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. - Rev. Whitney Amos and Rev. Charles Amos

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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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

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Pastor to Pastors: Dr. Larry Koslovsky

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