

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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32 Pages



Rev. Vanessa Mitchell
with
Other Unity Ministers

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Youth News
The Children's Section

... and more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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President's Column . . . Claren Kotrla

CALL

What is your calling? What is your passion? What are your interests? What are your skills? What can you give to the Kingdom of God? Pastors are called to the ministry, which is so more than a passion or interest. They bring their varied skills to the service of the Lord. So can the rest of us.

When we consider our spiritual calling, we first have to fully understand we are only giving back a portion of what God has already given. Sometimes that is the most difficult realization as we respond to a calling. It is not only ministers that are called. People are called to God's service in many ways. Often the response to that calling is demonstrated by our attitude rather than our skills and personal desires. I remember a story about a person that was asked what their talent and calling was, and after some thought, the response was that they were called to criticize. In another case a woman who does cleaning was called to do cleaning, and believes that if there is cleaning to do in heaven, she will be there in the service of the Lord. What a difference in attitude! One person who thought they had a calling was prob-

ably just following a desire and showed a definite selfish attitude. The



second person demon-
strated an attitude of ser-
vice in their response and
was willing to continue
serving in that capacity
for ever.

Leviticus 19: 14-18 tells
us to not be like the first
person. It tells us to not
curse the deaf or put a

stumbling block in front of the blind. Although we are told to rebuke frankly so as not to share the guilt (today we might call this enabling behavior) we are not to hate our brother. These verses tell us not to pervert justice, not to spread slander or to do any-
thing that endangers our neighbors,
and certainly we are not to seek re-
venge or bear a grudge, but to "love
your neighbor as yourself." In our
calling, just like the cleaning lady, we
must maintain an attitude of love and
service to the Kingdom of God.

We as Christians each have a call-
ing to serve. Some of those callings
will result in recognition by others,
and some will largely go unnoticed
on earth, but each response is glori-
ous in the site of God. Some of us
recognize a calling early in life, while



Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September
The Rosenberg Brethren Church
Christian Sisters
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others recognize and act on that calling later in life. Some of us gradually grow into our calling, building the skills necessary to meet the needs of that calling over time. Others seem born to their calling and seem to have always been true to their calling. Sometimes it is difficult to understand, but our calling takes place in God's own time rather than our time. Notice how responding to a call requires doing something. It is not a passive or spectator activity.

On occasion a calling is for a limited time or purpose. For example, when the Brethren Youth went to Oak Island to help with rebuilding projects, they probably just went to help. The temperature was over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The adults told the youth that they could stop work at noon because of the heat. They rejected that idea because they had a calling to complete one of the homes so the elderly couple who had lived there

could move in at the end of the week. If they stopped at noon each day they wouldn't complete the job. So they worked through the heat and sometimes later into the evening to successfully compete the project. That truly demonstrated an unselfish calling.

As individuals, our calling may be for a time and then we move on. We may be called to serve on a board, or to help with a service, or serve as representative on the Synodical Committee or Vacation Bible School or at camp. We may be asked to do any of these things, and out of a passing interest, or a sense of obligation take on a responsibility, but not with the sense of a calling. As a result, we go through the motions and muddle through. Perhaps it really wasn't our time to be called. It might have been better to say no thank you and allow someone with a calling to do the job. It is important to recognize and dif-

ferentiate between a sense of obligation, or a selfish desire, and a true calling. Through faith, prayer, and spiritual guidance, we can determine what our true calling is and take the action needed at the appropriate time to fulfill God's plan for us.

This past May the Unity was fortunate to embrace the calling of Rev. Vanessa Mitchell into the ministry as a pastor in the Unity of the Brethren. Her story is one of growth in her faith, preparation for service, overcoming obstacles, and finding a life mate that shares her faith and supports her service. For reasons known only to God, her travel in faith brought her to the Unity of the Brethren. We understand how she arrived at the Unity of the Brethren, but we don't fully understand why God chose her to serve here. However, we do know she was called to serve in Christ's Kingdom and are grateful for that calling.

All of our ministers have been

called, and Rev. Mitchell is just the last in a long series of individuals who have dedicated themselves to the ministry. Each has strengths and weaknesses they bring to the service but, as we know, God uses imperfect people just like you and I for His Perfect Kingdom.

Unfortunately, what sometimes passes for a call is nothing more than a desire for control or financial gain. Two instances come to mind. When serving in the US Army in Korea in 1969 and 1970, I visited a protestant mission operation not too far from our remote location. The pastor who was in charge was what I came to know as a "control freak". He controlled every aspect of what those he served with and was serving did or didn't do. He was particularly controlling of the women he was to serve and those who came to serve. They had no status and he would not allow them to



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advance in any way. They had their place and the man was the boss. It was disheartening to see a Christian missionary treat fellow servants of Christ and those he was to serve in such a degrading manner.

There was another instance later in my career when I met an ordained minister who didn't exhibit the attributes we come to expect from a person called into the ministry. We worked together and he was not serving a congregation at that time. He was smart, controlling, manipulative, and vindictive towards fellow workers and those who reported to him. His manipulative skills toward his fellow workers and supervisor were intense. While discussing this with a fellow worker, we came to the conclusion after a while that he went into the ministry because he believed he would lead a large church which would allow him to control people and make a very good living while feeding his ample ego.

Calling opportunities are not only found in the church setting. Here in Austin there was an elementary school that was failing their students. Some of the students didn't speak English, or were from single-parent families and some were poor. All of these factors contribute to low academic performance. The principal realized these problems, stayed in her office working on her correspondence courses, and gave up on the school. Later a new principal arrived. He made it clear that his calling was to teach these kids and the rest didn't matter. He motivated the teachers, he interacted with the parent or parents, he held the kids to a high standard, and he went out of his office to be seen leading. As a result, the school has improved every year without additional funds. The kids have greater expectations of themselves and their fellow students. A person with a calling can make a difference. The first prin-

cipal was apathetic and had other interests, while the second principal had that sense of servitude so necessary to success.

Neither of these people was called to their ministry. They simply saw these situations as opportunities to advance their own selfish agendas. They showed up and went through the motions or placed stumbling blocks in the way of individuals who were willing to serve and should have been serving. They ignored Paul's statements in 1 Corinthians 10:31-33 which says, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all for the glory of God. Do not cause anyone to stumble, whether Jews, Greeks, or the church of God, even as I try to please everybody in every way. For I am not seeking my own good, but the good of many, so that they may be saved. Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ."

As individuals, we are provided the

opportunity to serve by responding to a call. Also as a Church, organization, or Denomination, we are provided the opportunity to respond to a call. If we respond to that call, we need to ensure that we are responding with an attitude of gratitude and servitude. The gratitude is for God's gift to allow us to serve. Servitude is to be like our youth at Oak Island, or the woman who is willing to clean forever, or the principal who was called to teach. That crucial sense of gratitude and servitude to respond to a call was lacking in the examples of the criticizer, the missionary in Korea, the ordained minister in America, and the apathetic principal who only wished to serve themselves.

As we are called to serve in various ways, like Paul, let us be the ones who do the work and be the ones who help remove stumbling blocks for those with whom we serve and those whom we wish to serve.

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Unity Convention Invitation...

“LOVE GOD, LOVE ONE ANOTHER”

The Theme of the 64th Convention of the Unity Of The Brethren

Dear Delegates, Ministers and members of the Executive Committee:

The Pastor, Elders, and Congregation of New Tabor Brethren Church invite you to the 64th Convention of the Unity of the Brethren July 7-9, 2011, in Caldwell, TX.

This year's Convention theme is "Love God, Love One Another." John 17:26, **“And I have declared unto them Thy Name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith Thou hast loved Me may be in them, and I in them.”**

As we come together this year in Caldwell, may we come in unity and in love as we seek God's Will together.

Listed below is information that will help you in making your plans. New Tabor welcomes you, and if we can be of any further service please call on us! Pastor David Johnson, 979-220-3822; Elder President Jeff Garbs, 979-406-0526

Thursday, July 7

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Registration/Check In & Visitation (no meal)

7:00 p.m. Worship & Communion Service

Friday, July 8

8:00 a.m. Cont. Breakfast - Complimentary

Lunch 12:00 p.m. \$9.00

Dinner 6:00p.m. \$9.00

Saturday, July 9

8:00 a.m. Cont. Breakfast – Complimentary

Lunch 12:00 p.m. \$9.00

LODGING: The Hus School Encampment is available for persons wishing to stay at the Hus School facilities during the 2011 Church Convention. Please contact Susan or James Marek to make reservations. Space is limited, so it is important that you let them know as soon as your plans are set. Their contact number is 512-352-6165 and their email is marek1304@hotmail.com.

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* Sunset Inn (In Front of Wal Mart) \$41.00 Pls. Tax 979-567-4661

We look forward to hosting this year's Convention and we believe God's presence will take preeminence over the meetings.

“In essentials, **UNITY**; in non-essentials, **LIBERTY**; in all things, **LOVE**”

- Pastor David Johnson, and the New Tabor Congregation

“To God be the Glory” - by Rev. Vanessa Lucia Mitchell



Just two weeks after my ordination into the ministry of the Word and sacrament in the Unity of the Brethren, I find myself sitting on a bench overlooking rushing water at the base of one of the many breathtaking mountains in the majestic Zion National Park in Springdale, Utah. My husband, Joel, is on a mini-hike. Yesterday we climbed together to the top of “Angel's Landing,” a 5-mile hike with a final vertical segment of under a mile where you have the option of hanging on to a chain as you climb higher and higher and the drops on either side of the narrow path become more and more steep with every step. I am

reminded of the Apostle Paul's journey to apostleship. At first he was crusading against those who belonged to “The Way” – that is, the Way of the early disciples of Jesus Christ. Then after Damascus, he was able to see clearly where the Lord God was leading him, what heights the Lord Christ wanted him to climb in the Name above all names, Jesus. Paul discovered that most of the “heights” would be perilous and humbling – to say the least. The higher the once-named Saul, now “baptized” by Our Lord Himself “Paul,” climbed, the further he was from his former life of



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murdering Christ-followers and clinging to the hollow Pharisaical belief of being capable of following the Law of God flawlessly. At the top of “Angel’s Landing,” I found not only an exquisite skyline of reddish-orange mountain tops, but a flurry of fresh green foliage and an array of jagged rock formations under a blue, cloudless sky. My life, although nothing compared to Paul’s in terms of physical suffering in the name of the Gospel, has had its twists and turns as well as moments like the ordination ceremony, when the Lord’s anointing was showering down upon me, directly through the Holy Spirit that indwells me, through now fellow pastors, and through all who were involved, from the musicians to those who spent hours preparing the meal and the décor. The event was almost as if a “baptism” into a new stage of life. My heart wells up with gratitude to those who came and blessed me by their presence, by their faith, and by their

words of encouragement from the Holy Scriptures.

My journey in ministry reached a pivotal turning point back in January of 2006, when the Lord drew me up from a post on a team of youth pastors in a Miami, Florida, Baptist mega-church. Raised Roman Catholic and then Lutheran Missouri Synod prior to my young adult years, Christ – by the Lord’s sweet grace – had always been a focal point in my life; the Lord kept drawing me back to Himself. At the age of 25, called into Bible Study Fellowship International as a student, and then into various leadership roles within the organization for over a decade, my heart took an ever-deepening turn toward service in the Name of Jesus Christ that has never dwindled. I recall that January in 2006, fasting for a day and completing seminary applications, and then 3 weeks later receiving a call from Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary in Waco,

Texas – a Baptist seminary affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, not the Southern Baptist Convention – offering me a full scholarship based on the calling the Admissions Committee sensed in my essays and resume. Some days later I stood before the mega-church’s staff and announced God’s call and proclaimed that whatever came of my time at seminary, that my heart’s anthem would remain “To God be the Glory.”

So here I am, in 2011, in Bryan/College Station, Texas, after 13 years of teaching French and Spanish at various levels and holding posts in different churches, both as a volunteer and as an employee, now standing as a minister in the Unity of the Brethren Church. The ordination ceremony at my home church of Bryan/College Station was beautifully crafted by my church family, and many fellow Brethren came to celebrate this calling of God upon me to become a pastor. The Holy Spirit filled my hus-

band, Joel, and I, as well as those present, with a sense of awe at God’s preparation of His servants for His works. Dr. Larry Koslovsky officiated alongside many other Brethren ministers, and the power of the Holy Spirit drew us into a time of beautiful worship and a challenge upon our hearts to minister as Christ would have us to do: from our intimate connection with the True Vine, the True Source, Jesus Christ, each and every one of us.

We remember the Lord’s words to us in John 15, verse 5:

I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing.

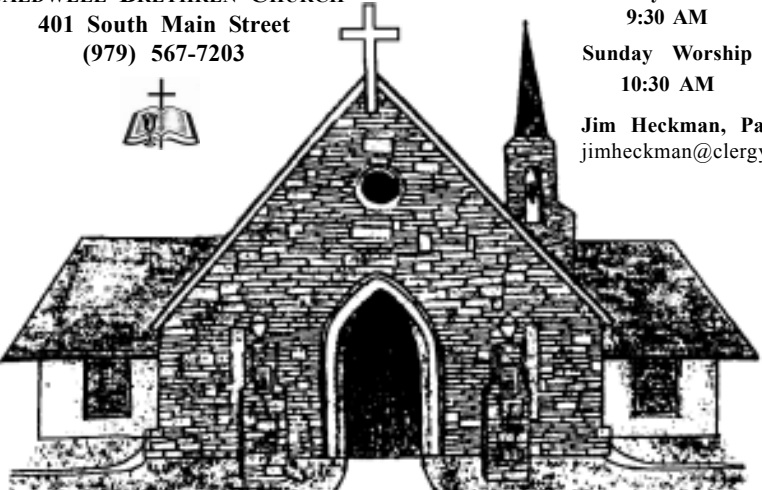
We also keep close Paul’s words from Romans 11, verses 35-36:

“Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?” For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever! Amen.

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Home: rev.tjt@verizon.net
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www.wallbrethrenchurch.org

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Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



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- Remembrances of membership, visiting, or other connections with the church are being collected. If you have something to contribute to this collection, please email Becky Lively at rebecca.lively1@comcast.net, by July 23, 2011.
- Please help in contacting former members of the church, especially those who might not be currently in the Unity.
- A count is needed so we can be prepared for the service and open house afterward. Please RSVP to the above email by July 23, 2011, if you plan to attend.

Questions? Email Becky Lively or call 281-984-7311

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

The Persecuted Church

Dear Friends,

In December I wrote about a new Mixtec church in Guerrero. This church in the town of Cochoapa celebrated its 1st anniversary at the end of last year with close to 50 believers! This has been the strongest response to Jesus Christ, ever, in the Mixtec mountains of Guerrero. And now it is the place where opposition threatens to be most severe.

When I visited in December, there was still an uneasy peace with the rest of the town (who are mostly animistic Catholic). In April, one of their members died, and they took care of the body and attended to his burial in a new way, a way that kept Christ at the center – a way that triggered anger and rejection by his extended family and then the community. Things escalated until one of the founding church leaders, Isau (who we wrote about in the March letter, "Isau and Ruth"), our former language helper, had to flee. After more threats, the believers sought help from the government's Human Rights

Commission. This group called for meetings with the town leaders and the church leaders (Isau and Felix). The town leaders have become even angrier, refusing to show up for the meetings, and finally giving the believers an ultimatum of June 6 to get out of town or face the consequences. That is tomorrow!

I just found out about the ultimatum on my last trip through Guerrero, the last trip scheduled before traveling to the US to visit supporting churches and individuals. Harold went with me. A fellow team member, Harold works with another unreached indigenous group here in Oaxaca, living way out in those mountains, and this was a chance to spend some time together. We made a big circle through the eastern side of Guerrero, contacting friends and mentoring church leaders along the way. So, in Tlapa (our home in the late 90's) we had breakfast with Isau and his family, and he filled me in on the story of the Cochoapa church. Please pray and ask others to join us in this prayer. ➔

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Sarai and Family with Robert

Add this praise to your prayer: we mentored two Mexican missionary candidates (from the missionary training school in Tlaxiaco where we teach). They are serving six-month internships in two Mixtec villages where there are churches, Yuvinani and San Rafael. Monica and Sarai are enjoying their first two weeks with their new families, are struggling to figure out how to learn Mixtec, and are feeling overwhelmed by how “big” the cross-cultural gap is. Here is an irony for you: Monica, a city girl who speaks English and is used to many “sophisticated” things, mentioned that her pastor was from Las Vegas. Her host, Paulino, a very humble man, piped in “Oh, I’ve been there,” and went on to explain all about the opulence (and perversity) of the place. She looked over at me, dumbfounded (she’s never

been to the US), and I quietly mouthed, “Didn’t expect that, huh?” Please pray for these two girls as God confirms their call to the unreached of Mexico.

We begin our US travel this Wednesday, and will be “on the road” till mid August. Hope to see everyone in NC and TX! Ruth will spend all of July and half of August in Ontario with United Church camping people, taking another step into adulthood. Philip gets to spend two weeks in Chicago with friends and godparents, so this will start getting us used to what is coming in just a few short years.

Thank you for your prayers and other support.

Blessings,

Robert and Anne

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Invitations to Special Missions...

TWO LOCAL TEMPLE PASTORS WILL TRAVEL . . . to the Czech Republic September 14-22 to represent their churches and the UNITY of the BRETHREN on a mission trip to Decin in Bohemia and Olomouoc in Moravia. They will assist Pastor Pavel Kozak and his wife, Stana, doing evangelism and encouragement in both areas.

Bro. Larry Zabcik of Temple Brethren Church and Bro. Ron Winsman of Ocker Brethren Church have teamed up for this exciting trip. They will be doing a 20-mile walk to raise funds for this trip on September 5 (LABOR DAY). Each pastor will start at his church and walk toward each other – GOD WILLING about 10 miles each – pledges of \$1/mile up to \$100/mile will be accepted by both pastors to cover the expenses of this trip. Make checks out to Ocker Brethren Church or Temple Brethren Church. We are looking for about 25 folks across the UNITY to sponsor either of us as PRAYER WARRIORS; God will provide the funding! YES! The devil is NOT going to be happy that two pastors (AKA – MUTT AND JEFF) from Texas are going to the homeland of our denomination. We are taking the trip (tickets already purchased).

Contact Rev. Ron Winsman (ronwinsman@hotmail.com) if you will be a prayer warrior for us. Who will go after us?

Unity Archivist

Clint Machann

c-machann@tamu.edu

979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

OCKER FOLKS HEAD TO AFRICA . . . Please be in prayer for the following folks from Ocker Brethren Church who will be doing mission work in Africa in June and July. Anyone led by the Holy Spirit to help defray the tremendous expenses of these trips, please make checks payable to Ocker Brethren Church and designate the trip.



Carolyn and Parents

Carolyn Groseclose, June 9-July 5: Teacher Training at New Day Orphanage in Mapanza, Zambia.

Rev. Ron and Dee Winsman, June 18-July 26: The Winsmans will be doing evangelistic work in Isoka, Zambia, and orphanage support work/teaching/preaching in Mapanza, Zambia.

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Jennifer Chervenka
jennchervenka@farm-market.net
Kimberly Stewart; kcstew@austin.rr.com
Jean Kotrla; kotrla@flash.net

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

Progress at Cade Lake

- by Rev. Jim Heckman



Cade Lake Chapel

With wonderful and loving support from the Unity, the first steps are being taken to make the Cade Lake Community Chapel a center for the sharing the word of Christ.

The building has been purchased and moved on site. There is genuine interest in what we are doing. Through other work at Cade Lake, we have a core group of people interested in the new church.

There is a genuine need to bring Christ to the people who live at Cade Lake. Many are poor and looked down upon by people in the area because of that poverty and the resulting problems associated with their lifestyle. They are God's children and, as Jesus

tells us in Matthew 25:40, "I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"

Now, because the Unity recognizes this, we will be able to share the Gospel of Christ with them. Through sharing Christ's love and helping show the youth and adults a better path, they can break the cycle of hopelessness that exists.

The good news is that we have people who are volunteering to help this ministry get started. We have a youth group from the Methodist Youth Camp who will spend three days here in June, and our Brethren youth will



PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

*"Bear ye one another's burdens
And so fulfill the Law of Christ."*

(Gal. 6:2)

THE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

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Calvin J. Vojtek, Vice-President
Natalie Outlaw, Gen. Secretary

Guy E. Huffman, Treasurer
Stanley F. Mrnustik, Junior Dept.
Dorothy Hinson, Board Member

be here in July to help. The Brethren youth will help with witnessing, working on the new structure, and working with a Vacation Bible School. Our prayerful belief is that the work by these two youth groups will help with this church, and will also be an inspiration to the youth. A person here at Cade Lake cleared the site for the church structure, and when asked how much the charge was, he simply said, "God bless you." Other people are also willingly offering their time and abilities for this work.

The support of the members of the Synodical Committee during the last meeting for this ministry is greatly appreciated.

Rev. Jim Heckman, Pastor
Cade Lake Community Chapel

State BYF Leadership Team

Youth Team:

Erin Brinkley, erinbrinkley@yahoo.com
Taylor Brinkley, taylordbrinkley@yahoo.com
Monique Duron, cutesi101@aol.com
Kathryn Laza, k_laza14@tamu.edu
Erica Sebesta, guitargoalie93@yahoo.com
Chris Stauffer,
ChrisStauffer011@gmail.com
Emily Surovik, emilysurovik@gmail.com
Ryan Surovik, ryansurovik@gmail.com
Riley Milberger,
rileywayne3@hotmail.com

Adult Team:

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Angie Hairrell, hairrell@gmail.com
David Sebesta, tractordavid@gmail.com
Megan Stauffer, MeganStauffer@baylor.edu

Youth News...

FROM THE UNITY YOUTH COORDINATOR

Looking back from 2010-2011:

We began with Mission: Makeover and looked into how mission work is all around us. Care packages were prepared and sent to soldiers, Valentine's were made for vets, and life-support bags were made for children in domestic violence emergency shelters. We had our convention and volleyball tournament. We learned to Never Imitate Non-Jesus Actions (NINJA), how to battle Satan at WWG (We're With God) Fall Retreat, and the directions to living a faith-filled, Christ-centered life at GPS (God's Perfect Salvation) Winter Retreat. Several youth came out to serve others, especially our younger children at the State Children's Rally and at summer camps.

This summer we're looking forward to learning how to have the Heart of Champion at our summer retreat and convention. We are also going to get involved in service with the Faith In Action Mission Venture.

I cannot wait to see what God has in store for us for the 2011-2012 year.

I am confident that He has already called forth leaders, both youth and adult, to work together in making plans for faith-filled adventures, and I cannot wait to meet them and work with them. I also cannot wait to see who He brings to fellowship to learn with us, to be part of His family through retreats, rallies, camps, and so much more. Please join me in prayer as we seek to know, love, trust, and obey everything God has commanded us.

Looking Ahead:

July 17-21: Faith In Action Youth Mission Venture

- Working out of Hus School Encampment.
- Working on Cade Lake Projects and Vacation Bible School.
- Registration Deadline was June 30. No registrations accepted after Friday, July 8. Cost \$10.

July 22-24: State Youth Convention and Volleyball Tournament

- Hus School Encampment.



OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53
Temple, Texas 76501

Preaching the Word, Loving the People

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor

Rev. Ron Winsman
3112 W. Ave. R
Temple, TX 76504
(254) 742-0827
ronwinsman@hotmail.com

Elder Board President

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

Cemetery

Sharon Marek
23383 Milam Road
Burlington, TX 76519
(254) 869-2845

Youth Director

Jennifer Chervenka
9494 Big Elm Creek Rd.
Rogers, TX 76569
(254) 983-1002

SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

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

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:00 AM; Worship – 10:15 AM
Bible Buddies – 2nd Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 PM

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Polasek
4241 Blue Heron
Bryan, TX 77807
(979) 779-3634

Board of Elders President

Rayfield Slovacek
P.O. Box 267
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-8845

Youth Directors

Randall & Jonna See
P.O. Box 345
Snook, TX 77878

- Registration due June 30. Visitors and participants must register. (Those who register after June 30 cannot stay on camp premises.)
- All Forms and Reports from local youth groups are due June 30.
- Leadership Team Applications accepted until June 30.
- Convention begins at 8:00am; tournament follows directly after.

November 18-20: State Youth Fall Retreat

- Hus School Encampment.
- Registrations due October 30.

www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com

Check out the youth website for the latest photos and reports. You'll also find event details, registrations, report forms, leadership team information, and a calendar of upcoming events.

Remember, I'll be on camp premises from July 6-July 24. Leave a phone message or e-mail me, and please be patient for me to get back with you.

Jennifer Chervenka
jennchervenka@farm-market.net;
 Home: 254-983-1002; cell: 254-913-1244

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Sunday School Island

This month: Are you a hero of the faith?

***Our Bible Verse is Hebrews 11:1
 Now faith is being sure of what we
 hope for and certain of what we do
 not see.***

Who are your heroes? Who do you honor and revere? What we hold in esteem tells us about the condition of our heart. Children today often talk of heroes – sports heroes, superheroes like Spiderman and Superman.

We want our children to be just as knowledgeable of the heroes of the faith – men and women of great faith. Men and women who they can use as role models, and who we, as adults, can also use as role models.

Hebrews 11 lists many of these heroes of faith. A great series of lessons would be to teach each of these stories and give our children true heroes to model their lives upon.

| | | | |
|--------|--------|---------|--------|
| Abel | Gideon | Enoch | Samson |
| Noah | David | Abraham | |
| Samuel | Isaac | Jacob | Joseph |
| | Moses | Rahab | |



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

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



Easy Button

This month, the lesson idea will cut across all age levels. One reason for this is the popularity of super heroes in cartoons and movies. Even our youngest children know who these “super heroes” are. In this lesson, you will compare Super Heroes of the Bible (some of which are listed on the previous page) with cartoon super heroes. To make the lesson more interesting, have pictures of each of the heroes – Bible and cartoon.

5 Super Heroes of the Bible

#5: David (aka Batman)

Just like Batman, David didn't really have any supernatural ability. He was, however, quite resourceful and good at winning fights that he seemingly had no chance to win. He admitted to killing lions and bears in order to protect his sheep. Right afterwards he went and killed the 9-foot giant known as Goliath with his utility belt (or sling). He also lurked in the shadows like the Caped Crusader. When Saul went to relieve himself in the cave where David was hiding, David crept up behind him and cut off a corner of his robe, though he confessed he could have killed Saul.

#4: Elijah (aka The Flash)

Elijah's incredible speed allowed him to outrun a chariot over a distance of about 13 miles. Of course, he did possess a few powers that the Flash lacks, such as the time when he called down fire to consume 51 men who came to capture him. Of course, they sent another 50 after that to try again and they fell to the same fate.

Teen Cabana



#3: Moses (aka Captain Planet)

Earth! Fire! Wind! Water! Heart! Moses used all of those as he led the Israelites out of captivity. Moses' superpower, like Captain Planet, allowed him to control nature. It started with the plagues of blood, frogs, lice, flies, livestock disease, boils, hail mixed with fire, locusts, darkness, and death. He controlled the wind and water when he split the Red Sea, and later caused water to stream out of a rock by hitting it. Moses found a way to use heart during the battle with the Amalekites. He stood on a hill watching the battle, and whenever he held his arms up the Israelites would begin winning the fight.

#2 Josheb-basshebeth, Eleazar and Shammah (aka The Fantastic Four)

I know there are only three guys not four (just leave out the Invisible Woman), but David actually had 30 “mighty men”. However, as the author makes it known multiple times, none of the 30 attained to these three. Josheb-basshebeth, the captain of the three, used his spear to kill 800 men at one time. Eleazar found himself facing the hated Philistines alone, but he fought them until he was exhausted, and when the rest of his army came to help him, they found Eleazar had already slain them all. Shammah stood his ground against an army when his own fled. As it turned out, the rest of his army was unnecessary.

#1. Samson (a.k.a Superman)

Samson is the ultimate superhero of the Bible. Just like Superman, he is the number one superhero of all time. Remember the time he killed a lion with his bare hands? or the time he killed 30 men who threatened his wife? How about when he killed 1000 men with the jawbone of a donkey? My favorite is when the men are waiting by the city gates to kill him, so Samson goes and rips the gates off their hinges and carries them to the top of a hill. Just like Superman though, Samson had one weakness. Hair was Samson's Kryptonite. But after Delilah shaves his head and he is captured, they forget that hair tends to regrow, and in his last show of strength, he pushes out on two pillars that hold up the building where he is being judged. The building collapses, killing all 3000 of those who came to watch him die.

Adapted from churchhopping.com

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for July 2011

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Give to the Lord the glory due to His name. Ps. 29:2
2. Love the Lord your God and keep His requirements, His decrees, His laws and commands. Deut. 11:1
3. **The Lord said, "I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction." Josh. 7:12**
4. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord. Ps. 31:24
5. Be careful that no one entices you by riches. Job 36:18
6. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done. Ps. 78:4
7. Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. 2 Chron. 14:11
8. If you seek the Lord, you will find Him, but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. 2 Chron. 15:2
9. We speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 1 Cor. 2:7
10. **Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. 2 Cor. 3:5**
11. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Ps. 27:1a
12. The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Ps. 27:1b
13. The Lord will keep you from all harm; He will watch over your life. Ps. 121:7
14. For with God nothing will be impossible. Lk. 1:37
15. The Lord is faithful, who will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 2 Thes. 3:3
16. You will pray to Him and He will hear you. Job 22:27
17. **God is mighty, but does not despise mankind; He is mighty and firm in His purpose. Job 36:5**
18. Through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Rom. 8:2
19. Blessed is the person who makes the Lord His trust. Ps. 40:4
20. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. Col. 3:2
21. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. Eph. 5:11
22. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Ps. 119:105
23. God is not a God of disorder but of peace. 1 Cor. 14:33
24. **The Sovereign Lord is my strength. Hab. 3:19**
25. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret. 2 Cor. 7:10
26. Unless you repent, you, too, will perish. Lk. 13:3
27. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him. Lam. 3:25
28. The Lord said, "If you will obey Me and keep My covenant, you will be My own special treasure." Ex. 19:5
29. I stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord. Renew them in our day. Hab. 3:2
30. We will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4
31. **The Lord said, "The righteous man trusts in Me and lives." Hab. 2:4**

In God's Hands Ministry

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Everyday Ministries to Meet Everyday Needs
A Home Mission Work to Cade Lake and Burleson County

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for August 2011

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; may Your good Spirit lead me on level ground. Ps. 143:10
2. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Eph. 6:1
3. We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His commands. 1 Jn. 2:3
4. The Lord says, "Walk in all the ways I command you, that it may go well with you." Jer. 7:33
5. My God turns my darkness into light. Ps. 18:28
6. The Lord will send His angel with you and make your way successful. Gen. 24:40
7. **I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. Phil. 4:13**
8. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! Rom. 10:15
9. It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Rom. 10:10
10. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Rom. 12:11
11. The commandments are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Rom. 13:9
12. Each of us will give an account of himself to God. Rom. 14:12
13. Fear the Lord your God and serve Him. Hold fast to Him. Deut. 10:20
14. **Your people will be my people and your God my God. Ruth 1:16**
15. Serve one another in love. Gal. 5:13
16. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Gal. 5:14
17. The Lord will reply, "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me." Mt. 25:40
18. Thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress. Isa. 25:4
19. The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love. Ps. 33:18
20. A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor. Prov. 22:9
21. **My grace is sufficient for you, for My power made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9**
22. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Mt. 5:7
23. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Eph. 4:2
24. Do everything in love. 1 Cor. 16:14
25. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers. 1 Pet. 3:12
26. Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Prov. 31:8
27. Let brotherly love continue. Heb. 13:1
28. **By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you love one another. Jn. 13:35**
29. There is joy for those who promote peace. Prov. 12:20
30. Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Ps. 32:10
31. Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord. Ps. 144:15

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.*

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

Be in prayer for the Unity Convention, which will take place at the New Tabor Brethren Church on July 7-9 (see invitation this issue).

The Pasadena Brethren Church is setting up a 50+ anniversary celebration on August 6, 2011 (see ad this issue).

GUY E. HUFFMAN, CPA

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For information please contact one of the following:

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

David Skrivanek
Secretary
P.O. Box 1605
Bellaire, TX 77402
(713) 626-0522

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

VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERS RECEIVED

At the Ocker Brethren Church:

...by Profession of Faith:
GEORGE SILVERS, on May 15, 2011.

...by Letter of Transfer:
ALICE DIENER, on May 15, 2011.

...by Re-affirmation of Faith:
DAVID AND SANDRA SOSA, on May 22.

...by Confirmation of Faith:
KASSIE BENNER, JOSHUA KIRBY, BRODY MALOVETS, EMMA MCGRATH, HALEY NAIVAR, and GRACE ROSA, on May 29.

SARAH JACOBS on June 5.

RECENT BAPTISMS

GOEBEL, SCARLETT MCKAY, daughter of Wesley and Mandy Herbrig Goebel, born on June 1, 2010, was baptized on May 15, 2011, at the Nelsonville Brethren Church. Sponsors: Adam and Megan Noviskie. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

RECENT DEATHS

ZABCIK, SUE, age 87 and a longtime member of the Ocker Brethren Church, died on May 13, 2011. Mrs. Zabcik is survived by one son, Brian Zabcik. Minister: Ron Winsman.

LIVELY, ALICE KOVAR, age 87 and a longtime member of the Pasadena Brethren Church, died May 30, 2011, in Pasadena, Texas. She was born February 24, 1924, in Snook, TX, and was a member of the Snook, Rosenberg, Houston, and Pasadena congregations. Alice is survived by six daughters, five sons-in-law, three sisters, two brothers-in-law, and nine grandchildren. The memorial service was held on June 18, 2011, at the Pasadena Church, with burial at the Houston VA cemetery alongside her beloved husband Everett, who preceded her in death in 2006. Ministers: Rev. Bill Rinderknecht and Rev. Jim Heckman.

KUNETKA, MARJORIE (COLE), age 84 and a member of the Industry Brethren Church, died on June 1, 2011, in Lancaster, Texas. Survivors include four sons, one brother, and six grandchildren. Services were on June 4, 2011, at the Industry Brethren Church with burial in the Byler Cemetery in West Point, Texas. Minister: Milton Maly.

Visit the Unity of the Brethren
Website: unityofthebrethren.org



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

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

Granger #1: Angie Malicoat, PO Box 362, Granger, TX 76530, 512-859-2837

Taylor #3: Marie Ann Ripple, 2302 Heights Blvd, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-365-6916

West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107 South Barbara Street, Waco, TX 76705, 254-799-5331, dekocian@yahoo.com

Fayetteville #5: Sandra Stepan, PO Box 145, Fayetteville, TX 78940, 979-378-4167, sandrinaustin@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: **Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, natalieoutlaw@yahoo.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

Temple #20: Irene Marek, 2900 Pecan Valley Drive, Temple, TX 76502, 254-778-2120

Rosenberg #21: Virginia Macik, 1209 Tobola, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 281-342-8802

Westheimer #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

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Crosby #28: Gisela Gaeke, PO Box 599, Crosby, TX 77532, 281-426-5506

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

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B/CS #34: Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

**Position currently filled by
Administrative Board members

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.
– visiting ministers

Crosby – 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.
– visiting ministers

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.
– 1st & 2nd Sunday, Dr. Jerry Terrill
3rd & 4th Sunday, Pastor Mark Sebek

Industry – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday with Sunday School for all ages following.
– visiting ministers

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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