

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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Easter Bonnet Ladies
(see inside front cover for story)

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Easter Bonnet Ladies

The ladies of the Community Chris-
 tian Church of Rosenberg decided to
 wear hats on Easter Sunday. Even
 some of the younger ones joined in
 the fun as shown in the photo. Macy's
 younger sister, Mia, was camera shy
 but wore her bunny ears. We plan on
 wearing hats for Mother's Day and
 having the men wear suspenders for
 Father's Day.

Shown in the cover photo are:

Front row:

Carla Butcher, Michelle Cornett,
 Macy Hawkes, Genevieve Elliott

Back row:

Lee Brandt, Betty Pilkenton,
 Virginia Macik, Cassia Batson,
 Cathy Kuritza, Sara Hawkes,
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President's Column . . . James Marek

A Question of Bylaws

The first time I remember hearing
 the term "bylaws", I was a young boy
 sitting through a series
 of congregational meet-
 ings. It seemed to me
 then that if someone had
 a good idea or sugges-
 tion, it could be quickly
 quelled with a statement
 that began with "accord-
 ing to the by laws". Those
 that wielded this phrase
 seemed to want to prevent change or
 at least slow it down.



I have since learned that my origi-
 nal opinion was ill informed and that
 the people were actually well inten-
 tioned. Especially since being involved
 in the Synodical Committee I have
 gained a tremendous respect for our
 Unity Constitution and Bylaws as

well as for those who have labored to
 create them. While I may not under-
 stand the original intent
 of the authors in all cases
 or even agree with all
 that is in constitution and
 bylaws, I have come to
 understand that they ar-
 ticulate our purpose as
 well as provide a work-
 able framework with which
 the purpose is to be ac-
 complished. They are the necessary
 rules by which the Unity currently
 functions.

There is an ongoing discussion
 about our Unity Bylaws with good
 people on each side. The traditional
 view is that our Unity Bylaws are, by
 in large, appropriate for today's Unity



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just as they were for yesterday's Unity. The alternative view is that the Unity bylaws are outdated, provide an obstacle to change and restrict growth and modern church management. Based on observation of and even participation in by laws discussions, I believe both sides agree that our constitution is biblically based and requires little if any change. My prayer is that we can use our agreement to solve the issues on which we do not agree as it relates to our constitution and bylaws. Regardless of how we may feel about the subject of the bylaws, as members of the Unity we agree to abide by them and follow the rules to amend them when necessary. For this reason, if not for any other reason, we should know what our constitution and bylaws say and work amicably with others to change them when necessary. Article IV Section B (6) of our constitution says:

If one member is afflicted, the whole body suffers; therefore, every congregation and pastor in the Unity of the Brethren should diligently labor for the welfare of the Unity of the Brethren, abide by its Constitution and By-Laws, fulfill the decisions of the Convention, materially support its work, and concern themselves with the discipline and spiritual growth of all members, so that congregations and pastors may become a blessing to their membership and a light to the whole community.

I encourage all Brethren to read our Unity Constitution and Bylaws and become familiar with them. A copy of the bylaws is available on our unity website at

www.unityofthebrethren.org

History suggests that we can often steer clear of unnecessary problems simply by consulting our Unity bylaws and our local congregation's

bylaws at the beginning of the problem resolution process.

As with any constitution and bylaws, there are some dry parts in ours but there is also some wise and valuable direction within their contents. Our constitution and bylaws represent a common bond we share as Brethren because we have all agreed to follow them. They are not perfect, but they continue to exist as a tool to help us accomplish our purpose.

A bylaws committee is actively reviewing and studying the bylaws with the purpose of creating a list of suggested changes by the October Synodical Committee meeting to be held October 20 of this year. The intent of completing the work by October is to allow all members of the

Unity ample time to review and discuss the proposed changes prior to the Church Convention next July (2013) in Taylor. The Bylaws Committee is led by Rev. Tommy Tallas. The members of the committee are Rev. Whitney Amos, Marvin Chlapek, Rev. Nello Strickland, Peggy Hejl, Jean Davis, Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrell, Kent Laza, and Dawn Marie Baletka. I also sit in as an ex-officio capacity.

These people have volunteered their time and service to improve and update the documents on which our Unity was founded and operated for the past 100 years. If you believe change is needed in a specific area of the bylaws, please contact one of the committee members.

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Synodical Committee Meeting April 14, 2012 – 9:00 a.m. MINUTES

At 9:00 a.m. President James Marek called the Synodical committee meeting to order. He welcomed everyone and opened with a prayer. Pat & Mike from Christ Covenant Church in Lewisville joined with us by Skype. Jon Farrow handled the connection with Skype. Roll call was taken – 54 were in attendance.

Ben Kruse, ministerial student, read from John 21:15 and had a short devotional. Ben repeated the Unity motto, and ended in prayer. Unity prayer was read by James Marek.

The minutes from meeting of October 22, 2011, were read, and accepted as presented.

Announcements

James Marek announced that we have Unity History books for sale at \$10.00 each. Bro. Jim announced we also have Bro. Dan Marek's book.

Christian Sisters Convention will be held April 28 at Snook Brethren Church.

Bro. Mark Sebek Ordination will be held April 22 at Bryan-College Station

Brethren Church.

The Mutual Aid Convention will be July 14 at the Dime Box Brethren Church.

Plan to allow time at the 2013 Unity Convention for ministers to report on spiritual health and happenings in their congregations.

Direction on Missionary Gift Funds to Foreign Missions and Hus School Food Account donations: The practice of giving missionaries monetary gifts is discouraged due to various reasons.

Jon Farrow announced July 8 the Kozaks from the Czech Republic will be at the Temple Brethren Church. Reminders will be sent out soon.

Kent Laza reported that the Woo's will be coming to Texas for a couple weeks (around July-Aug). Kent will be scheduling visits to churches with the Woo's.

Reports

ByLaws Committee Update: Bro. Tommy Tallas reported the committee will have bylaws ready to consider at

the fall Synodical meeting. Also reported on the Ministers benefit program. Issues will be presented at the fall meeting, as well.

Hus School Anniversary Committee: Bro. Tommy reported at the last convention it was moved for this new board to appoint a committee. They want to start addressing this and start forming that committee. He is seeking people who would be willing to help. Jim Baletka has volunteered to chair this event. No one present volunteered to serve on this committee. This will be addressed again at the October Synodical meeting.

Foreign Mission/Missionary Report: Kent Laza reported above in announcements that the Woo's will be coming to Texas, and he is scheduling visits.

Action to fill vacancy on Home Missions Board: Steve Davis is in the process of submitting his resignation. Claren Kotrla is willing to serve. Motion was passed unanimously to appoint Claren Kotrla to the Home Mission Board.

Rosenberg Brethren Congregation Name Change Consideration: James introduced Mike Pruett from the Rosenberg Brethren church. Mr. Pruett

said the name selected by the congregation is Community Christian Church. Discussion. After discussion, motion carried. Mike Pruett thanked the committee for this decision.

Cade Lake Update and Funding proposals: Bro. Jim gave an update on Cade Lake and In God's Hands Ministry. Bro. Jim led a Praise Prayer.

Ben Kruse, a member on the Home Missions Board, gave a report from the board. They will get together a Power Point presentation and go to the congregations and try to solicit funds for home mission's projects. This presentation is planned to be ready sometimes this year.

James drew attention to the report of Dewyan Weise. Everyone was asked to go back to their congregation to be active in Foreign and Home missions and continue to pray for our missionaries. We also need prayers to provide the resources that we need to support this outreach.

\$36,000 – amount to fund Cade Lake. Need action item to fund Cade Lake. James proposed to start a transition of funding from contingency to the Home Mission Board that could occur in 6-month increments. The



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funding for Cade Lake ends April 30, 2012. The \$3,000 a month in original form was to pay Bro. Jim for whatever he needs, not as a salary. A motion was made to accept the transition plan. There was no discussion, and the motion died due to lack of a second.

After more discussion, a motion was made and seconded to have the work of the home and foreign mission budgets to come out of the contingency fund if they come up with a deficit. The motion was amended to have the work of the home and foreign mission budgets through this year (December 31, 2012), come out of the contingency fund if they come up with a deficit. This was seconded, and after discussion, passed unanimously.

Concerning the Funding of Cade Lake that expires in April, Motion was made to, effective May 1, have \$3,000 to become the responsibility of the home mission board and discuss again at next Synodical meeting. Motion was seconded and discussion was held. Amendment was made to the motion that effective January 1, 2013, the \$3,000 a month funding for Bro. Jim's salary and other needs for Cade

Lake be moved over from contingency to home missions. Following second and discussion, amendment to the motion passed.

Vote on the main motion passed.

Motion was made to have \$3000 per month funded from contingency fund for purpose of Bro. Jim's Cade Lake ministry from May 1-December 31, 2012. Passed unanimously. May 11-December 31, 2012, \$3000 a month will be funded out of contingency. Effective Jan 1, 2013, funding will come from the Home Missions budget, per them presenting a budget that can be approved at the next Synodical Committee meeting.

Election of Pastor to the Pastors Position: This position is elected at the convention. In 2011 this did not happen. Bylaws say that this body should now appoint this position, but it does not say how. The pastors eligible are all pastors, active or retired. James Marek submitted that we do this by a paper vote. This is something that has not been done before. The Synodical Committee's job is to fill the vacancy, which is a vital role in the Credentials Committee, provides comfort to pastors and a member of the PRC.

Motion was made and seconded for the Synodical Committee to appoint the pastor to the pastors by ballot vote. After discussion, motion passed. James asked everyone to pray about this matter; we prayed individually and James led the group in a prayer. 30 votes were cast. Dr. Larry Koslovsky was elected to the position by ballot vote.

Consideration of Active Pastors local membership status: James said the general rule has been that the ministers are members of the Unity and not the churches they are serving. He read the bylaw addressing this. Request came from Bryan-College Station Brethren church on behalf of Vanessa Mitchell, who was called to specialized ministry, not serving any one church. She is an active minister in the Unity. The bylaws do not address this situation specifically. Motion was made that Rev. Vanessa Mitchell become an active voting member of BCS. Point of order by Ruth Rolston – we can't change a bylaw. Motion was made and seconded to table the issue and refer to the Bylaws Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Salary Recommendation for Breth-

ren Journal Editor/Business Manager: James reported that each of these positions are paid \$400 each month. Cathleen Schlechte assumed both roles in October 2011.

Motion was made and seconded to begin paying Cathleen both salaries (Editor and Business Manager, a total of \$800 for each month) from October 2011 to April 2012, and in the future \$800 each month. Discussion on the balance of *The Brethren Journal*. Over \$11,000 in the fund reported by Dorothy Kocian. Passed unanimously.

Motion was made and seconded to increase the pay to \$1000 each month – \$500 for the editor and \$500 for Business Manager effective May 1, 2012. Passed unanimously.

James led a prayer, and break for lunch was taken at noon.

The meeting continued at 12:40. James reported that Dawn Marie Baletka, Chair of the Pastoral Relations Committee, is working on planning a Minister's retreat. Report by Dawn: The retreat would last about 3 days; ideas may be emailed to Dawn. Having it at a resort is a possibility.



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James talked about funding for this. Dan Merz asked if we could authorize the Executive Committee to make the decision on this. Approximate cost would be between \$20,000 to \$25,000 for ministers and spouses and held in Texas. Motion was made and seconded to authorize the Executive Committee to figure out how to fund this retreat. Passed unanimously

Consideration of Ministerial Student status of Dave Love: David Love is no longer a member at Wall Brethren. Students need to be a member of the Brethren church. Pastor Linda Chandler reported that she has not had contact with him in about a year. Motion was made and seconded to suspend the status of David Love as a ministerial student. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion: Funds were given to David Love as a ministerial student in the amount of \$1,200.00. Pastor Linda asked that we forgive this amount as he was a student at that time. Discussion on paying back the money in cash or by service time. Motion was made and seconded to forgive the \$1,200 funds for the education of David Love. Motion passed unanimously

Update on Christ Covenant Church

in North Carolina: James asked Pat & Mike if they would like to report on anything that is going on in their church. Mike gave a short report by Skype. The church has the availability of several pastors to serve them. They are meeting in a space at no charge Tuesdays and some Sundays. Their focus is a fellowship with Him and evangelism. Mailing address: 1959 Peace Haven Road, Winston Salem, NC. James commented how thankful we are to have them in the Unity.

Unity Questionnaire Report: Liz reported that all of the questionnaires have been turned in (except for 3 – Snook, Good Shepherd, and Christ Covenant). James expressed appreciation for all churches in turning in these reports.

Update on Hus Board positions: James reported that the following positions were filled by the Executive Committee: Chairman – Mark Olsen, Treasurer – Ron Krueger, Member at Large – Rick Weise.

Also reported that Megan Stauffer has taken on the job of Hus Program manager. We are grateful to her to assume this position. Gratitude also expressed to Jennifer Chervenka. Her position of Unity Youth Coordinator

was paid as a full-time salary; she now accepts a part-time salary. The contingency fund has benefited from her generosity.

Questions regarding any additional reports submitted – no questions on any reports.

President's Report – James Marek. The State of the Unity.

1st Vice-President's report – Rev. Lawrence Juneke.

3rd Vice-President's report – Rev. Tommy Tallas.

Financial Secretary Report – Marvin Chlapek.

Treasurer's Report – Dewyan Weise.

Unity Youth Coordinator Report – Jennifer Chervenka.

Ministers' Benefit Program – Rev. Tommy Tallas.

Secretary – Liz Ripple.

Brethren Journal Business Manager's report – Cathleen Schlechte.

Brethren Journal Treasurer's report – Alice Kocurek.

Home Mission Board – Pastor David Johnson, Chair.

Thanks was given for James' leadership with the meeting. Bro. Nello addressed the "Directory of Ministries" in *The Brethren Journal*. James reported we are trying to keep an updated list of ministers. Bro. Joe Emerson will be listed in *The Brethren Journal* as "Hospice Chaplaincy".

Next meeting will be on October 20, 2012. Meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m. Pastor Linda ended the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Liz Ripple
Secretary, Unity of the Brethren

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

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

Board of Christian Education Rep.:

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BYF Representative:

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

Synodical Committee Liaison:

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

From the Woo's . . .

April 2012

Dear friends and family,

Hallelujah, Our God Reigns! We joyfully celebrate our risen Lord with you! Over in our area of the world they rightly call Easter The Resurrection Holiday. Where would we be if Jesus had just died and never come back to life? We serve a LIVING God!

The Woos are coming Home! – this June 2012 to January 2013.

We are coming home for 7 months! We have not visited with many of you since 2008. We will first be in Boston, arriving June 12, then on to N.C. at the beginning of July. Please look at your calendar and make room for us. We will be available to speak and share with churches and groups, or just have a meal and hang out. Contact us at mcswoo@psmail.net. We are still in need of a car when we get to N.C. Also for the past few years our financial support has only been at 86%. While at home we need to add more

supporters for finances and for prayer. When we leave in January 2013 we need to be at 100%.

Stories

We continue to prepare our stories. Right now we have about 10 stories. We hope to leave May with these 10 stories, ready for her to share with others who will share with others, etc. *Lord help us to come up with good stories that will communicate Your love and truths to the Dai people.*

Training

The last two Saturdays in a row we have met with Timothy and Philip. These Dai men are believing leaders but from across the border. We shared the vision of Rev. 7:9-12, Matt. 28:18-20, and of 2 Tim. 2:2. We will meet with them on Saturday mornings as many times as we can before we leave. *Lord, help Timothy and Philip to truly catch your vision that you love the entire Dai nation, of around 7 million people, that is spread out in three different countries. They al-*

ready know the stories, they just need to understand the easy pass it on method that can be used with their people.

Brad

We also give thanks for Brad, May's cousin. About a month ago we had a time with him and felt that he truly put his life into the Lord's hands. He desires to get baptized soon. We hope he and a few other men that we know can also come and be trained and catch the vision of the Lord for their people in the next few weeks! *Lord help Brad and the two other local men join Timothy and Philip in studying together to be trained in this work.*

May

Thank you for continuing to lift up May and her husband and son. They

are pressing on and still need our prayers for their marriage and family. They need to learn to communicate better and forgive each other. *Lord thank you for May and her family. Grow them in You, help their son stay healthy, protect their marriage, grow her husband in You, and give May opportunities to share your love with others. Lord we pray for your Word to go forth in Power! Even as the Woos are at home for 7 months. Let them come back to find a movement with thousands of believers all reaching out to their people!*

Village Family

Our friends in the village, where the husband was healed, are doing well. The husband had gone to Burm to work for 6 months like he does every year. While in Burm his leg started to



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hurt him again. He remembered how we shared that he can directly talk to Jesus. So he did just that, and once again he felt shaking come to his leg and it was healed. We still sense a bit of hesitancy in him. They still have their Buddhist idols up in their home. They are trying to figure out if they can worship both Jesus and Buddha as they know their neighbors will persecute them if they throw out the idols. *Lord help this family know that they should only worship You! Help them to be a light in their village and beyond.*

Signs and Wonders

Our teammates in Thailand have recently heard of 30 Dai coming to know the Lord in that country through signs and wonders. Jesus is showing His power and love to these people. *Lord, we ask for you to reveal yourself to the Dai through more signs and wonders. Heal the sick, free those with demons, heal the broken hearted, and give them dreams and visions, in the Name of Jesus and for His glory!*

Unrest next door

We have seen some articles about

how our neighboring country, that is about 5 minutes away by car, has seen some strides as they have had a small election. But please remember the possibly 40,000 from that country that are running into our country because of a war that started last June. There have been rapes, murders, and land mines. *Lord stop the conflict. We pray for peace. Help these refugees, in Your Name.*

Partnering Together: Michael, Caroline, Samuel, Ian, Zach and Isaac

From the Thiessens . . .

April 18, 2012

Dear friends,

"So where were you... during the quake?" (Mar 20) We always ask. We have to know, to compare notes, to process this event we share in common. I was two hours away from my family, in Tlaxiaco, teaching a seminar on what simple church means for a church planter in southern Mexico, working among Indian people. In Tlaxiaco, Alejandro, and Sayra lead a team of Mexican missionaries committed to reaching unreached groups of

Mixtecos in Oaxaca and Guerrero. As new members come onto the team, he leads them through three months of training before placing them in nearby Mixteco communities for a six-month practicum and then a long-term placement in an unreached people group where they will learn the language and call people to Christ. We told you about Ruth (March 2011), whom we helped to mentor, now on the team.

My job that week was to help the new team members rethink the message they take to Indian people, whether that message is given in actions or words. The question for the week was: "What does it mean to communicate the Good News to Indian people in southern Mexico? Can we leave behind our own cultural norms so that these people can respond to Christ without having to adopt all our cultural practices? Can we lay hands on their leaders so that they can baptize their own people, serve them the Lord's Supper and

reproduce their own congregations?

There were seven missionary trainees in the class, but let me tell you about one, Tina. Like Ruth, she is Mixtec, but her family moved to Baja, California, when she was young in order to work in the fields there as harvesters and she never learned to speak her native tongue. Her next door neighbor, a missionary to this diaspora of indigenous people, brought her to Christ and disciplined her right into missions. On a short-term trip to Morocco, she heard God's distinct call, not to that part of the world, but back to her own people in southern Mexico. So here she is, asking God to use her to reach the unreached.

She has already been reaching out to her mother. Gradually, her mother has left behind her fear of evil spirits, learning to call on God for protection and guidance. She has stopped setting up an altar for the dead on the



TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574
512-352-6423

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Pastor
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

President
Kevin Page
512-689-1593

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

CALDWELL BROTHERS CHURCH
401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

Sunday School
9:30 AM
Sunday Worship
10:30 AM



Day of the Dead, stopped tying red ribbons around the limbs of her newly sprouted plants and newly hatched chickens to ward off the spirits. She is beginning to trust in Christ. So Tina knows this is a long road, teaching her people to trust in Christ. I am thrilled to be a part of Tina's journey; helping her think about how the Mixtecs can come to Christ, not as latinos, but as Mixtecs. Very few Mixtecos ever hear such a message of Good News because the dominant culture around them has little regard for their customs or language.

People all over the world knew about our 7.4 quake within minutes. Thankfully, it had little impact on our lives. Yet how long will it take the world to feel the impact of these Mexican missionaries...Tina, Ruth, Mariano, Josafat, Mauricio, Cruz, and Ivonne...who have committed to turning the world upside down, one indigenous church at a time?

Please pray for God's blessing on our up-coming mentoring trips: Robert will be traveling to Panama for two weeks at the end of April, visiting Einer and Girlesa, fellow missionaries, who live among the Wounnan people there. They want to explore organic

forms of leadership training that suit this non-Western people group that they themselves can reproduce naturally. Then, at the end of May, I travel to Chile to teach the one-week church planting course again, this time for students of the School of Frontier Missions of YWAM.

Thank you, and blessings,
Anne and Robert

From the Raiford's . . .

April 10, 2012

Greetings to all and hope you had a great Easter.

Our church here in the city has begun doing volunteer work in a local soup kitchen of sorts. The place is a boarding house, meal provider (Estancia) for people coming in from the many villages around the state who have family in the government-run hospital a couple of blocks away. It is a Catholic run organization and charges just 20 pesos, or about 2 dollars, per day for room and board, and three hot meals. During our first visit there we met a man named Mario, a mute. Mario is a very energetic guy who we thought worked at the



Estancia, but Mario is staying there after being deported from Arizona and dropped off in Oaxaca with no money and separated from his family and new daughter in Arizona. All Mario wanted was to get a job and return home. Through our unconventional communication, we agreed to see what we could do. I honestly was a little skeptical about getting a mute a job here in the city. Thankfully God doesn't respond to my skepticism, and a few days later I get a call from a friend, Samuel. He tells me about a potential job for Mario in a downtown restaurant. I agreed to pick Mario up and take him to the interview and be somewhat of a "translator". I pick up Mario, who had no idea about what was going on, and we head downtown. We find the restaurant and ask for the owner, and we tell her the situation. She asks almost immediately when can he start, and I was shocked. Mario says tomorrow and

we walked out just laughing. Mario was so ecstatic, and I was in shock at how easy it was. Also, I was blown away by God's goodness. I was humbled that our church could have such a real impact so soon.

The next week Eunice and I join a medical brigade going to the southern Mixe region. We were accompanying Jeff Simons, who works with the coffee growers in the area. The organization provides fair wages and some social services to the villages who participate. Eunice, along with another doctor, was able to see almost 200 patients in the three-day trip. The village is called Chimaltepec, and very few people speak Spanish. The people were very shy, but we were able to share the gospel in the village. Thursday evening at the small church gathering I was asked to preach, and I spoke on Abraham's blessing to



SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247, 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
P.O. Box 54
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-1624

Board of Elders President

Justin Lewis
P.O. Box 222
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-0416

Youth Directors

Randall & Jonna See
P.O. Box 345
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-8179

In God's Hands Ministry

P. O. Box 321
Caldwell, TX 77836
979-574-7134

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

all nations, and that the story ends in Revelations with all tongues, tribes, and nations praising God. The Mixe of Chimaltepec can't be ashamed of their heritage or language, but know that God made them that way, on purpose. The village is very beautiful, but a long way away from the city. It took over 12 hours to travel there, eating dust the whole way. We hope our encouragement helps the spread of the gospel in that village and the others nearby.

Unfortunately, real life always comes crashing in. Just yesterday we received news that our friend, Karina, lost her baby. She is the daughter of one of the leaders in our church, and good friend, Manuel. The baby was having some complications, and during her last checkup the baby's heart stopped beating. Infant mortality is still extremely high here in Mexico. Our own experiences only count for a small fraction here in Oaxaca. Eunice and I are on the mission to educate mothers on nutrition, prenatal care, postnatal care, and on the birthing process. But this education only works if there is a relationship between doctor and patient, which is why we are moving to the village San Juan Juquila Mixes. We are all deeply saddened by what has happened, but it is

a daily reality here in Oaxaca. We also know that the pain and heartache is only cured by Jesus Christ. Medical services only treat part of the person, Jesus makes the process complete. Please pray for the Rosas family and their tragedy. Also for Eunice, who, having experienced this loss herself, puts herself in harm's way to help women with the same experiences. We can only prevent so much pain, but our promise is that one day the pain will end; we will have peace, and heaven on earth. We are called to GO, so that you may COME LORD JESUS.

Blessings, Phil and Eunice

All Donations Tax Deductible:
Friedberg Moravian Church
2178 Friedberg Church Rd.
Winston Salem, NC 27127
Memo: IMT



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.*

I have come that
they may have
Life, and have it to
the full

John 10:10b

Sunday School Helper



Life can be pretty good. We are happy and content with how things are going and then POW! Something happens (loss of a job, illness, etc.) and things no longer look so good. The grass seems to be greener on every other side of the fence! I read a quote this week that said "When the grass looks greener on the other side, then it is time to fertilize!" One of the best ways to fertilize is to talk to the Father. God wants us to have full, overflowing, abundant lives!

Life is better with Jesus

Use the points below to guide children through a lesson. You will need 3D glasses and pictures printed that require 3D glasses.

1. Ask children if they have ever watched a 3D movie without 3D glasses. What happens when you put on the "special glasses"?
2. Tell students that sometimes things don't look as they seem or turn out like we want. God created us to be in constant contact with him – a life in 3D.
3. Adam and Eve had a perfect world. But sin entered and created a barrier to communication with God. The perfect life of became blurry, like watching a 3D movie without 3D glasses.
4. Jesus came to Earth to break that barrier. He modeled how to live a 3D life! Jesus said in John 10:10b that "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly," John 10:10b (NAS). Another version says it like this, "I came so they can have a real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of." (Msg)
5. Ask if it would be better to look at pictures of Disney World or to go there? It's much better to GO to Disney than it is to look at pictures of it. It's also much better to watch a 3D movie with the 3D glasses on instead of without them on, isn't it? That's what Jesus meant when he said, "have it abundantly."
6. To have life in 3D, you need to let Jesus be your Forgiver, Leader, and Friend. Explain what it means for Jesus to be each.

Find 3D pictures here <http://ministry-to-children.com/life-in-3d-bible-lesson-for-children/>

For
comments/questions/
information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



Thoughts for Teens

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THE PLACE HAS BEEN PACKED SINCE I
ADVERTISED THAT OUR SERVICES ARE
PERFORMED LIVE IN HIGH-DEFINITION 3D

Bobbing for Apples – with a twist

Object: Collect all of the same colored apples

Supplies: 1 bowl per team, 6 Red Apples, 6 Green Apples, 1 large opaque or clear tub, enough slime to fill the tub, towels, wet wipes

Do: Prepare the slime as directed and fill the clear tub. Hide all of the apples in the slime. During the game, contestants will compete with each other to find the apples that match their team's colors. Have the contestants use their hands instead of their mouth. For added challenge, blindfold the contestants. The team to find all of their apples in the slime first, wins the game.

For 3 gallons of slime:

6 large pkgs of Jello 10 lbs of flour water
1/2 bottle of baby shampoo 1/2 large bottle of green food coloring
Mix the Jello powder and half a bag of flour and about 1 gallon of water with a large whisk. Mix well until most of the lumps are out. Add flour in 1/2 bag increments. You want to slowly add water to the remaining flour mixture in order to keep slime from being lumpy. You can add as much water as needed until the slime is the consistency you desire. Once the slime reaches the consistency you desire, add 1/2 a bottle of baby shampoo and food coloring.

An Invitation from the Foreign Missions Board

Missionaries Pavel and Stana Kozak from the Czech Republic will present a program at Temple Brethren Church Worship Service on Sunday July 8, at 10 am. The congregations of Ocker, Granger, and Temple will co-host the service. All are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to observe John Hus Sunday with the Kozaks and learn about their work in the Czech Republic.

Attendees are invited to bring food and join together in fellowship at the covered dish luncheon following the service.

Additional information on the Kozaks and their work is available here:

<http://maranatha-czech.church1.info/>

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Ben Kruse –
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Dorothy Hinson –
dorothy.hinson@hotmail.com
Martha Dove –
walhalla71@gmail.com
Claren Kotrla – kotrla@flash.net
Lawrence JuneK – ljunek@hotmail.com

State Youth Leadership Team 2011-2012

Youth Members:

Erin Brinkley, 119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656. erinbrinkley@yahoo.com
Taylor Brinkley-Registration Manager, 119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656.
taylordbrinkley@yahoo.com
Monique Duron - Secretary, 1613 Southwest Pkwy, College Station, TX 77840. cutesi101@aol.com
Erika (Rikki) Sebesta, P.O. Box 956, Bellville, TX 77418
quitargoalie93@yahoo.com
Chris Stauffer - President, 9206 Sunlake Court, College Station, TX 77845.
Chris.Stauffer011@gmail.com
Lanie Watts, P.O. Box 645, Little River, TX 76554. x3lsw1110@yahoo.com

Representative to Mission Board:

Mary Jones, P.O. Box 212, Wall, TX 76957. marystoked@gmail.com

Advisors:

Angie Harrell, 11482 FM 2155, Somerville, TX 77879.
Hairrell@gmail.com
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Anna Wotipka, Treasurer, 652 CR 324, Caldwell, TX 77836.
awotipka58@yahoo.com

State Youth Coordinator:

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

Pastoral Advisor:

Rev. Bill Rinderknecht, 8787 Shenandoah Park Drive, Apt. 634, Shenandoah, TX 77385.
williamr90@aol.com

Hus School (ages 16 & above)

July 1-July 20 (Sun. 4 PM to Fri. 3 PM)
COST: \$600.00* (Late fee \$100 after May 15)

Hus School



2012

Director:

Jennifer Chervenka

Pastor:

Vanessa Mitchell
Various Unity Pastors

APPLICATIONS EXTENDED UNTIL JUNE 15

Hus school applications and recommendations must be received by JUNE 15. Upon approval of application, students will receive their registration form.

LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 22

Upon acceptance to the Hus School Class of 2012, students will receive a registration packet. It must be submitted, along with complete payment and late fees, by June 22.

— Hus School Information —

We are glad you are considering Hus School this summer. As you make that decision, please read the following to get a glimpse at all that you will encounter. We hope you will make plans today to join the staff for the extraordinary experience called Hus School.

Become a Part of This Proud Tradition

Hus School is a proud tradition within the Unity of the Brethren. The dream of such an endeavor, to train lay people for the many areas of work within the church, began even before the Unity of the Brethren was formally organized. In 1914, the first 8-week session of the Hus Memorial School began as a way for young ladies and men “to receive systematic, intensive instruction from the ministers in the manner of school”. Over the years this instruction has taken place in various locations with many different instructors, but the general premise has always remained – **instructing young people for their roles as lay leaders in the church.**

An Awesome Opportunity and Experience

Hus School is an awesome experience that you will cherish the rest of your life. The knowledge gained, skills received, and growth of personal relationships with God will help make each participant a better leader in his/her church and community. Information and relationships gained in this experience will be with you for the rest of your life. The friendships gained by living together with fellow Christians will forge life-long bonds.

Mature Students

While there will be many opportunities for fun and fellowship within the Hus School experience, Hus School is **more like school and less like previous conferences.** Serious, mature, attentive students are expected to participate in the class time and other learning experiences for the FULL THREE WEEKS. We will focus on the study of God’s Word, developing necessary skills for Christian life, deepening our commitment to Christ, and how to live in the “real world” as a strong Christian.

Areas of Study

Course offerings will include: How to Study the Bible, Relating Biblical views to current issues, How to share God’s Word, Jesus’ Life and Teachings, Church History, Spiritual

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Gifts and Leadership Training. During the day much of our time will be in sessions or classes either in the classroom or in a nice shady spot outside. There will certainly be time for fun and games, and we may travel to include other experiences that enhance our studies. These subject areas are best experienced with time for in-depth focus. Therefore, Hus School Students must be able to attend the FULL THREE-WEEK COURSE. (See below for tentative itinerary.)

***Financial Assistance**

Financial assistance is available on a limited basis to those who would like to attend Hus School and would be unable to do so without financial aid. For further information, please contact Glenn Fojtasek (by mail: 2 Guinevere Place / The Woodlands, TX 77384, or phone: (936) 271-1761).

Hus School 2012

The student daytime schedule will include classroom time as well as fellowship; games; and free time. Here is a brief and tentative look at what we will be covering.

Week 1: July 1-8

Class focus will be Christian principles; denominational history and beliefs; prayer; Heaven and Hell; evangelism and sharing testimonies.

We will be traveling to Wesley Brethren Church, Blue Bell Factory; and Reed's Arena for July 4th celebrations. We will leave on Friday, July 6, and travel to Bell County (Ocker Brethren Church) for a mission focus. We will work hands-on at CTLC, a food/clothing/counseling facility, as well as at the Salvation Army kitchen. We will meet and study with Pavel Kozac from the Czech Republic and worship with several congregations on July 8 at Temple Brethren Church.

Week 2: July 9-14

Class focus will be on the Old Testament; spiritual gifts; and current issues that you choose. Our service focus will be making improvements at the camp. We are working on at least one outing for the week and will be planning the Sunday worship location.

Week 3: July 16-20

Class focus will be on the New Testament (Jesus' life and teachings and the church); trials and faith; leadership in practice; and worship and faith when you are on your own. We will also have group challenge activities.

There is still much planning in process. Please pray about attending and contact Jenn if you have any questions.

We are in need of your service! If you are a Hussite, pastor, or lay person who would like to contribute to Hus School, come and speak, or offer carpentry skills, etc. We need your help. We also need a male counselor for part of the session.

**Contact HUS Director: Jennifer Chervenka 254-913-1244;
jennchervenka@farm-market.net.**

Applications available at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com.

Summer BYF Retreat, Convention, and Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, July 21-Sunday, July 22, 2012

(Those arriving on Friday are asked to arrive no earlier than 7pm so that Hus School can be closed, and the camp readied for the retreat. No meals will be provided on Friday.)

Complete and Mail the following by May 31: By-law amendment proposals

If you have any proposals for changes to the BYF constitution, they must be submitted by **May 31st** in order to be acted upon at the July 2012 Summer Convention. Any proposals not received by May 31st may be presented at the convention, but cannot be acted upon until the following convention. To submit an amendment/change, please e-mail Jennifer Chervenka jennchervenka@farm-market.net or mail them to the address below.

Complete and Mail the following by June 30: These items must be received by June 30 in order to compete in the volleyball tournament (see by-laws).

- **Local Information Page** with delegate and volleyball information
- **Membership Roster** (Please include all youth ages 12-21)
- **Annual Activity Report**

Paraphrased:

1. *Each local is responsible for sending in current member, officer, and sponsor information. (State BYF Constitution, Article IV, Section 2d; Section 5).*
2. *Local groups must have delegates seated at the convention. (Section 5.)*
3. *Local groups must maintain a program of worship, study,*

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

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

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

service, outreach, and recreation. They should conduct or participate in at least one youth-led service. A report must be submitted describing these activities. (Article IV, Section 2).

Also due June 30:

- Registration and Rules Form & Fee (one per participant)
- Registration Forms (one per adult)
- State Leadership Team Youth Application (if any)
- State Leadership Team Advisor Application (if any)

Mail To: Jennifer Chervenka
State Youth Coordinator
9494 Big Elm Creek Rd.
Rogers, TX 76569

Current by-laws, all forms and report pages, registrations forms, and leadership applications are available at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com.

Please note that I will directing Hus School from July 1-20. Communication will be limited. Please submit your reports and registrations by the June 30 deadline. E-mailed registrations are not accepted. THANK YOU!

VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERS RECEIVED

By Letter of Transfer:

GINGER MEBANE transferred membership from St. Andrews UMC, Killeen, to the Temple Brethren Church on April 9, 2012. Larry Zabcik, Pastor.

RECENT DEATHS

HAISLER, LORENE ANN (JAKUBIK), age 96 passed on January 2, 2012, in Temple. Born March 20, 1915, near the Red Ranger community in East Bell County, she married Joseph Haisler on December 24, 1936, and lived in the Temple area all of her life. She is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, and two sisters. Services were on January 6, 2012, at the Temple Brethren Church with burial at Bellwood Memorial Park in Temple. Pastor: Larry Zabcik.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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Jennifer Chervenka
jennchervenka@farm-market.net

Kimberly Stewart;
kcstew@austin.rr.com

Jean Kotrla; kotrla@flash.net

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

June 30: Annual youth reports and Leadership Team application deadline.

July 8: John Hus Sunday, Missionaries Pavel and Stana Kozak at Temple Brethren Church at 10 am. The Kozaks will present a program about their work in the Czech Republic. Please bring a covered dish to share during the luncheon following the service.

July 20-22: State Youth Retreat, Convention & Volleyball Tournament. See additional information in this issue.

Summer Camp Dates at the Hus School Encampment, Caldwell, Texas

Encounter (ages 7-8) **June 7-9** Pioneer (ages 11-12) **June 17-22**
Alpha (ages 9-10) **June 10-14** Discovery (ages 13-15) **June 24-29**
Hus School (at least 16, upon application approval) **July 1-20** (see flyer advertisement in this issue for additional information)

Questions or Comments about the Camping Program? Contact Megan Stauffer, Camp Programmer, (979) 255-9713, or Megan_Stauffer@baylor.edu

Does your church have an activity that you would like to include in this listing? Please send activity information including a contact name, phone number and/or email address to the Brethren Journal Editor at: editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com Information must be received by the first day of the month preceding the month of publication.

WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

12 miles east of San Angelo, Loop 570, Wall, Texas
P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957
Phone: 325-651-4444 ~ Fax: 325-651-5100

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas
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.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>President</i> | <i>Youth Director</i> | <i>Secretary</i> |
| Roy Martin | Susan & Bryan Neal | Johnie Smith |
| 325-651-8788 | 325-227-7242 | Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. |

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for June 2012

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. O Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you. Ps. 84:12

2. Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. Isa. 30:18a

3. The Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him! Isa. 30:18b

4. Our God is the Rock, His works are perfect, and all His ways are just. Deut. 32:4

5. "Bring the best of the first fruits of your soil to the house of the Lord your god." Exodus 23:19

6. God said, "I looked for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand before me in the gap." Ezek. 31:30

7. We know him who said, "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," and again, "The Lord will judge His people." Heb. 10:30

8. A patient man has great understanding, but a quick-tempered one displays folly. Prov. 14:29

9. "Keep all my decrees and all my laws and follow them. I am the Lord." Lev. 19:37

10. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your strength and with all your mind," and "Love your neighbor as yourself." Lk. 10:27

11. Be very careful how you live, not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of your time. Eph. 5:15,16

12. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. Eph. 5:17

13. He who heeds discipline shows the way of life, but whoever ignores correction leads others astray. Prov. 10:17

14. Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way good will come to you. Job 22:21

15. As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. Prov. 27:17

16. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth, but only what is helpful for building others up. Eph. 4:29

17. Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers; be shepherds of the church of God. Acts 20:28

18. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bonds of peace. Eph. 4:3

19. Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is Christ. Eph. 4:15

20. "Do unto others as you would have them do to you." Lk. 6:31

21. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame." Rom. 10:11

22. Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Ps. 37:4

23. No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love Him. 1 Cor. 2:9

24. He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

25. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret – it only leads to evil. Ps. 37:8

26. I will sing of the Lord's great love forever. Ps. 89:1

27. Godliness with contentment is great gain. 1 Tim. 6:6

28. Do not withhold Your mercy from me, O Lord; may Your love and Your truth always protect me. Ps. 40:11

29. Commit yourselves to the Lord and serve Him only. 1 Sam. 7:3

30. I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. Ps. 40:1

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.
– Rev. Mark Sebek

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

Cade Lake Community Chapel – Sunday School at 11:00 AM; Fellowship Lunch at Noon; Worship at 1:00 PM.
– Rev. Jim Heckman

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 9:45 AM, worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Kay Polasek

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.
– Dr. Jerry Terrill
Ben Kruse once a month

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

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.
Midweek Study twice per month on Thursdays at 6:30 PM.
– Rev. Bill Rinderknecht

Community Christian Church of 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 – Prayer Gathering; 9:30 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. Denise Mikeska
Pastor Steve Davis, Youth Pastor

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.
– Rev. 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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