# THE BRETHREN



Vol. 112 March 2013 No. 2 36 Pages



Members of the 2013 Primetimer's Retreat at the Hus School Encampment See story inside.



### IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Work Day Scheduled at the Hus School Encampment Primetimers' Retreat Activities Report Mutual Aid Society Scholarship Information 2013 Summer Camp Schedule

... and much, much more!

#### THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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On The Cover:

### ATTENDEES OF THE 2013 PRIMETIMERS' RETREAT

Front Row (from left to right): Vlasta Surovik; Barbara Junek; Joyce Baletka; Angie Malicoat; Ruby Loessin; Marie Ann Ripple; Georgia Tyroch; June Daniels; Doris Svoboda; Edna Pechal; Rev. Gordon Heil.

Second Row: Rev. Michael Groseclose; LaNelle McKay; Frank McKay; Calvin Vojtek; Rose Anne Groseclose; Charles Groseclose; Ann Sebesta; Evelyn Matcek; Johnnie A. Labaj; Maurice Maluschka; Mary Maluschka: J.B. Kennard: Pat Heil.

Third Row: Dorothy Milberger; Kimberly Kennard; Rev. Lawrence Junek; Wiley Marx; Leslie Loessin; Donna Verwold; J. T. Verwold; Eugene Haisler; Dorothy Haisler; Marvin Labaj; Alice Chlapek; Marvin Chlapek.

### 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 Daniel Vojtek, Vice-President Natalie Outlaw, Gen. Secretary Guy E. Huffman, Treasurer Dorothy Hinson, Jr. Dept. Secretary Ann Sebesta, Board Member Rev. James Hejl, Synodical Board

## President's Column . . . James Marek Unity Happenings

The end of 2012 and the beginning 2013 has brought several significant

changes and activities in the life of the Unity.

### Who and Where?

In November of last year, Rev. Larry Zabcik resigned his pastorate at The Temple Brethren Church. In December, Rev. Charles and Rev. Whitney

Amos resigned their pastorate at The Granger Brethren Church. Both Temple and Granger are now being served through a pulpit supply schedule. In Granger Rev. Joe Emerson, Rev. Larry Zabcik, Rev. Al Newby, and Rev Vanessa Mitchell are supplying the pulpit at Granger while Rev. Joe Emerson and Rev. Vanessa Mitchell are supplying the pulpit in Temple.

Other Brethren Churches that are being served through a pulpit supply schedule include Houston, Pasadena, Caldwell, Westheimer, and CyFair. Houston is currently being served by Dr. Jerry Terrill all but one Sunday a month. Ministerial student Ben Kruse serves the Houston congregation one Sunday each month. Pasadena is being served solely by Rev. Bill Rinderknecht on a supply basis. The Caldwell congregation is being served by Rev. Milton Maly. Ben Kruse also serves Caldwell one Sunday each month. The Westheimer Community Church is being served by Rev. Nello Strickland and Rev. Henry Beseda while the Cy Fair Community Church is being served by Rev. Rick Chandler

and Rev. Henry Beseda.

Outside the Unity, Rev Mark Labaj

is now serving the Vsetin Czech Moravian Brethren Church in Hallettsville.

### Church History Class Offered in Taylor

The Taylor congregation recently hosted a church history seminar presented by Dr. Mark

Labaj. The seminar was held on January 12 with almost 50 people in attendance. The attendee list included people from the Taylor and Granger congregations as well as a few people from the community that were not affiliated with either congregation. The seminar lasted approximately 6 hours and covered various facets of Brethren Church History. The class began with a discussion of church (universal) architecture and concluded with the migration of the Czech people to Texas and the establishment the Unity of the Brethren in Texas.

Bro. Mark did an outstanding job of keeping the topics informative and interesting. One example was the explanation of the Unity symbol. The picture of the cross, the open Bible and the chalice is familiar to most Brethren; however, the meaning of each individual element seemed a little less familiar to the audience. Bro. Mark explained that the chalice represents the belief that both communion elements (bread and the cup) should be available to all believers.



In the times of Jan Hus and the inception of the original Unity of the Brethren, only the bread was available to the laypeople. Access to the cup or wine was reserved solely for the clergy. One of Hus' contentions against the church was leveled at this practice. Hus believed that all believers should be able to fully participate in the Holy Communion. For this reason, the chalice continues to be an important part of our denominational history as well as an illustration of our belief in open communion.

The open Bible in the Unity symbol represents another one of Hus' beliefs and complaints against the church of his time. In the late 14th and early 15th century, the Bible was most commonly available in Latin. Most of the people could not read, much less read Latin, so the Bible was virtually unavailable to them. The implicit message to believers in that time was, "the Church will tell you what the Bible says, you need not read it yourselves." Hus believed that intimate personal knowledge of the scriptures was a key component in cultivating a close relationship with God and maintaining a faithful Christian life. He worked tirelessly to translate the Bible into Czech so that the people could begin to hear the scriptures read in their own language. Hus believed the Bible should be available and "open" to everyone.

The third and final element in the Unity symbol is the open cross. The open cross (without the image of Christ as found in the crucifix) represents the belief that the sacrifice of Christ was sufficient and need not be re-enacted. This belief was first advanced in the Protestant Reformation led by Martin Luther in the 16th century, but also held by early Brethren. Additionally, the cross is a reminder of the resurrection and significance of the living Christ.

### **Unity Constitution and Bylaws**

The Bylaws Committee, commissioned by the Synodical Committee, has completed their work of making suggested changes to our Unity Constitution and Bylaws. This committee has worked tirelessly and diligently over the past 6 months. There have been hours of travel and discussion contributed by the members of the committee in a sincere desire to leave no stone unturned. There have been a number of passionate discussions

over the many issues contained within the Unity Constitution and Bylaws. An electronic copy of the document has been sent to each Unity pastor and Synodical Committee representative. A copy of the proposed changes is also due to be available on the Unity website at www.unityofthebrethren.org. The document includes a "red line" approach to clearly illustrate the suggested changes. The work and sacrifice of all the members of the committee who participated in the revision

effort is greatly appreciated.

All Synodical Committee members and Unity congregations are encouraged to review and discuss the suggested revisions. The revisions offered by the bylaws committee will be discussed at the April 13th Synodical Committee meeting. Further consider-

ation will take place at the church convention to be held in Taylor on July 18-20.

### The Board For Grants and Bequests Reconvenes

The Board for Grants and Bequests met on January 19th at the Encampment. The newly reorganized board met to elect officers and begin the planning process necessary to make the board more effective and visible. The members of the board include: Roger Runnels (Cyfair), President; Dr. Ron Dusek (Caldwell), Treasurer; Eugene Haisler (Ocker), Secretary; Brett Mikesa (Nelsonville); and Ron Tyson (Houston). All members were in attendance, along with Rev. Jimmy Hejl, second vice president of the Synodical committee. The Board for Grants



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Temple, Texas 76501

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Worship 10:15 AM

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

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

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### Elder Board Vice President David Sebek

3910 Red Ranger Road Temple, TX 76501 (254) 985-2578, cell (254) 913-0732

### WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road Houston, Texas 77082

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



5<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Holy Communion

and Bequests exists to provide financial assistance for programs and projects undertaken by the Unity under the direction of the Synodical Committee. The board's financial holdings have been managed by Guy Huffman, who serves as financial advisor to the board. Under Guy's direction and board's oversight, the assets have grown to more than \$375,000. Plans were made to meet again in the coming months to explore ways to increase the effectiveness and service of the board to the Unity. The board will be considering various dreams for the future of the Unity, and welcomes ideas anyone may have that could further the work of God's Kingdom within the Unity.

### Foreign Mission Board Makes Plans

The Foreign Missions board also met on January 19th to make plans for the coming year. One of the goals of the board is to develop a short presentation to increase the awareness and support for the work of Unity missions outside the United States. The Home Missions Board is also completing a presentation detailing the mission work underway locally.

The approval of the foreign and home mission board budgets (each \$67,000) included a directive from the Synodical Committee for the mission boards to visit Unity churches together. Plans are also being made for joint meetings between the home and foreign mission boards to coordinate their presentations to Unity congregations. Once completed, the mission boards will be looking for opportunities and invitations to visit Unity churches to make their presentations.

### Wall Brethren and Taylor Brethren Search for New Staff Member

In other Unity activity, the Wall and Taylor congregations are actively seeking additional staff resources. In Wall, the congregation is seeking a youth minister to work with the youth in the congregation and community. The Taylor congregation is seeking an associate pastor. The associate pastor will minister to the congregation in all facets of the pastoral care with a special emphasis on expanding the youth programs.

May these and all activities within the Unity lead to the expansion of God's Kingdom in ways we are yet to imagine.

# THE BUCKHOLTS BRETHREN CHURCH 606 N. 4th Street Buckholts, Texas 76518

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



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

### Read the Word, Be the Light...

- by Rhonda Johnson

Isaiah 9:2-3 – The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. You have enlarged the nation and increased their joy; they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest, as men rejoice when dividing the plunder.

Isaiah 9: 6-7 – For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders, And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end... the Zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this. (NIV)

John 1:1-5 – In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

If we combine the promise of the birth of Jesus (who is the great light) in Isaiah and the explanation of His being in John 1:1-5 we know that Jesus is the promised light and the delivered word of God. Isaiah describes the "people who walked in darkness" as being "in the Shadow of death". Jesus (the light) is also the living, breathing, WORD of God. To say you know Jesus, and yet to be ignorant of the Word of God, would mean that one has only recently accepted the Lord (or believed). For those of us who have "walked with God" for years we should be advanced in the Word and the statutes. precepts, and ways of our Lord.

John's challenge in this passage (and entire book of John) was to convince the Greeks to believe that Jesus was the promise, word, and light of God. Our challenge is to know this word. Both the word of God we hold in our hands and the Word of God who is Christ who lives in our hearts. By knowing the written Word of God, we will begin to fully KNOW

### 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.

Rev. Larry Zabcik (254) 718-3898 zabcikville@hot.rr.com

the son who lives in us. The Word says that the Holy Spirit is working to complete the good work that God has started in you (this work began at your Salvation). Once you begin to know the Lord through His word, He will complete this work and bring to full fruition all the things God wants to do in your life.

I admit, some areas of the Bible are hard to read. My interest is lost when I start to read some of the begets and lineages of some of the Characters. However, I have had times when even the counting of the utensils in the tabernacle has shown me things I needed to know about God. Just so you know, God showed me how detail oriented He was and how precise was His nature. If he was so attentive to number every item in the temple, He would take care of EVERY detail of my life. Also, if God watched every utensil, I understood He also watched every intent and deed of my heart, and I needed to walk right before a Holy and perfect God. I knew that living sloppy when I knew to do better was not going to be overlooked by a God who knew exactly how much silverware was in His temple drawer.

It has been said that God's word is multi-faceted, and I have seen this many times. You can read a scripture, and in the context of the story or time it is written it makes sense and explains things. Another day, and at a different time in your life, the same scripture can speak to your exact situation in a way you didn't even notice previously. For this same reason, it is said that "God's word is ALIVE". I really believe it is.

Jesus died to be our savior and fulfill the words and plan of God; He died to be our completer and the finisher of our faith. As members of the Unity of the Brethren, we have an additional reminder of how vital and important the Word of God is and how dear to own a personal copy in our own language. Our very own Jon Hus was martyred so that we could have the powerful, life-changing Words of God in our own language. We must remember that to own a copy of these words is only a decoration if we leave it untouched on our shelves. The Word of God is only multi-faceted, it is only life-giving, and it is only life changing when we read it and believe it and when we allow God to speak to us through its Holy Spiritbreathed inspiration. To hear God's word preached is edifying. The Word says that the preaching of the word ads to our Faith and that it builds our faith. However, the Word of God is just like a nutritious meal. Hearing about it does not nurture your body. You must ingest and digest the nutrients for yourself for it to be beneficial.

There are many, many methods of reading the word. I want to encourage you to choose ANY method to begin. Some will boast about how much they read and you may not be able to spend as much time. Don't feel that you have failed if someone reads more than you. If the only time you have to read a verse is sitting at a traffic signal, then try to remember it and think about it all day. The continuation of your Salvation is lying in the pages of your Bible. Your destiny will begin to unfold as you change as

a result of what you read. Go get your Bible and let that Light that came to shine in the darkness begin to shine through your life for God, it's what you were born to do.

Read the Word, know the Word, and please God.

Rhonda Johnson is the wife of Pastor David Johnson (New Tabor Brethren Church, Caldwell, Texas) Rhonda.johnson1122@gmail.com



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### TAYLOR BRETHREN CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574 512-352-6423

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. Worship: 10:15 a.m.

PastorPresidentSecretaryJames D. HejlKevin PageMary Kokes512-365-6890512-689-1593M-Th 8:00 am-noon

### News from the Friends of the Hus School Encampment

Can you believe March is here already! The camp planning has already started for the summer and the children are starting to count down the days until school is out. The Friends of Hus were able to send nine children to camp last year. All had a great time and, more importantly, were able to learn more about Jesus.

We hope to again offer this opportunity to children this year. I am asking that you support the Friends in our mission to give children the opportunity to experience camp. There are three ways you can help. You can send in a yearly membership or become a lifelong member; you can also make a donation to the Friends. You can contact your church representative or fill out the form below.

Thank you for your support of our outreach ministry. If you have any questions, you may contact Connie Janac at 979-696-1953, or by mail at 1002 Munson, College Station, TX 77840.

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Address			
Church			
Yearly membership:	\$5.00		
Lifelong Membership:	\$100.00	0	
Donation:	\$	. <u></u>	
Mail to: Conni	e Janac	1002 Munson	College Station, TX 77840

### BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9283 College Station, TX 77842 Church 9:00 A.M. Sunday School 10:45 A.M. Off: 979-693-3606 email: papasebek@gmx.com

## **Work Day Scheduled at Hus School Encampment**

For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10: 13-15)

This scripture is a great illustration of the mission of the Hus Encampment. The Hus camping program is an amazing ministry that the Unity has provided for over 50 years. This is an opportunity to make a real difference in leading young people to a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. And how can the Good News be shared with young people without

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a camping facility to support this mission?

In order to improve our wonderful camp, The Hus School Board of Trustees has scheduled a "Work Day" weekend at the Camp for March 15-17. Current projects for the weekend include:

Clearing Of An Internal Bike Trail On Camp Property: Due to the safety and liability concerns of riding on the main road, many of our recent camp programs have been unable to offer bike riding as an option for our campers. The proposed internal trail will alleviate this safety concern and allow campers to once again enjoy the thrill of riding bikes at the Hus Encampment.

**Interior Painting Of The Boys' Dorm:** For some time now, the Boys'



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### Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501 Mail: P.O. Box 4615, Temple, TX 76505 Church Phone: 254-985-2694 <a href="mailto:seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com">seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com</a>

Rev. Denise Mikeska, Pastor – <a href="mailto:sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com">sbcpastorsteve@yahoo.com</a>
Steve Davis, Youth Pastor – <a href="mailto:sbcpastorsteve@yahoo.com">sbcpastorsteve@yahoo.com</a>
Charles Amos Sr., Board of Elders Chair

dorm has been in need of interior repairs. Holes in the ceiling will be repaired and the interior repainted. Current plans are to incorporate an earthtone color scheme that is more welcoming for campers and guests.

Other Projects As Time And Work Force Permit: Other projects that may be tackled include painting of the kitchen, washroom, and interior of the Girls' dorm.

As the proposed date is the last weekend of Spring Break, we are hoping to have several individuals and families Unity wide attend. Let's make a fun service weekend out of it and accomplish some great things at the Hus Encampment! If you are interested in attending, please contact Rick Weise or Todd Snelgrove by March 3rd for sign-up and final details.

Rick Weise: (Cell) 325-656-2620 or (Email) rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us Todd Snelgrove: (Cell) 979-229-7524 or (Email) rtsnelgrove@gmail.com

### CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

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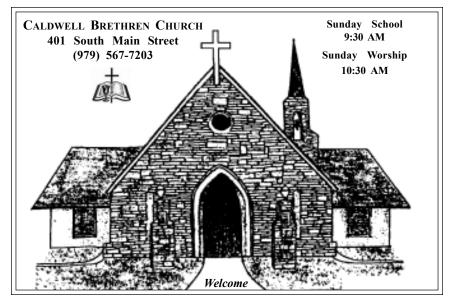
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mama\_dgrimm@hotmail.com

Connie Janac, 1002 Munson, College Station, TX 77840. (979) 587-0363, (979) 696-1953.

Unity Mission Board Rep:Ann Sebesta, P.O. Box 115, Snook, TX 77878. (979) 272-8691, (979) 272-8786.



### Report on the 18th Primetimers' Retreat October 12-14, 2012

- by Rev. Lawrence Junek

Forty-one attended the 18th annual retreat for 40-plus members and friends of the Unity of the Brethren and enjoyed the weekend of fellowship, worship, study and games. It is a good time to visit with friends again.

On Friday, October 12, the early bird Primetimers came and began with registration, unpacking, having a light supper and good fellowship among Christians.

The theme was "Staying connected with Jesus". The Bible verse was John 15:5: "I am the Vine and you are the branches; If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." The Retreat Hymn was: "Jesus is all the World to me". Bible Studies and program and vesper followed this theme; and there were fun activities and free time. The meals were excellent.

Rev. Michael Groseclose led our Bible Studies. The first session was based on Deuteronomy 6:4-9, staying close to God's Word, learning and applying it, and passing it on to our children and others. There was a lively discussion. The second session was based on 1 Peter 2:13-17, regarding the authority ordained of God, doing the will of God, and obeying God's call to us. Another great discussion followed.

There was a program presentation of "I AM..." of readings, comments, and songs related to Jesus' identity as vine, door, shepherd, resurrection, and life, the way, truth and life, bread and vine. Two sisters, Marilyn Sebesta and Nancy Matoush, presented the program; Marilyn reading and Nancy playing the piano.

In the evening for vesper, after singing and prayer, Dorothy Milberger told about the journey that she and Wilbert had, especially in the last two or three years in his cancer treatment, and how God was with them, and that God is with her today giving her hope and staying connected with Jesus.

Our attendees ranged from in the 40's to 94. We all had fun and fellow-



### **HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH**

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Associate Pastor: Dr. Jerry L. Terrill

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

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

ship and some played dominoes.

Saturday night we had a thunderstorm with a tornado warning, for about one hour. There was heavy rain. Again at 5 a.m. all retreaters were awakened by a loud thunder clap and more rain. The Chlapeks nearby had 2.2 inches of rain.

After Breakfast, Rev. Groseclose led us in worship and Holy Communion, reminding us to remember why Jesus came and His atonement for us and our sins.

All who came seemed to enjoy the time at the retreat, with fellowship, visiting, food, playing games, and serving one another. There were 3 new attendees.

The Planning Committee for this year was Kimberly Kennard, Wiley Marx, Barbara Junek, and Brother Lawrence Junek. We thank all who assisted us in ideas and suggestions. We thank Marvin and Alice for leading the singing and playing the piano.

We would like to invite Unity of the Brethren members and Friends, 40+, to reserve the second weekend in October 2013. The dates are October 11, 12, and 13. Come and enjoy.

For the planning committee, Rev. Lawrence Junek

### The Community Christian Church of Rosenburg

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

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

Bro. Larry Butcher
3030 Prescott, Houston, TX 77025
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Youth Minister: Position open

### State Youth Leadership Team 2012-2013

#### Youth Members:

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David Sebesta, 3737 Essen Loop, College Station, TX 77845. tractordavid@gmail.com

Anna Wotipka - Treasurer, 652 CR 324, Caldwell, TX 77836. awotipka58@yahoo.com

### Pastoral Advisor:

Rev. Rev. Mark Sebek, 9235 FM 437, Rogers, TX 76569. papasabek@gmx.com

### **State Youth Coordinator:**

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

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

From the Thiessen's...

January 20, 2013

Hello friends,

It's Championship Sunday, I am in southern California on my way to Panama, and in that football isn't my thing, I'm taking a moment to fill you all in on our last month's activities. The wild shouts from the others here in the room are enough of an alert to keep up on the important parts of the game. Maybe that's an allegory for these letters...

We spent a week in Yuvinani just before Christmas. The kids were somewhat "under engaged", but together we went around every day and visited with old friends, catching up, listening to their stories about what God has been doing.

We finished that week by attending a festival marking three years of the Cochoapa church's existence. This group has become a rallying point for the growing number of Christians and churches out in the scattered villages. We were amazed to see over 250 people from about 14 churches spend all day singing and testifying about God's power to change their lives. This is where ten years ago there were no churches, no believers.

This pushed Anne and I to talk indepth on the ten-hour return drive about our role among the Mixtecs of Guerrero. We are taking into account that RuthE will be graduating this May, leaving for further education, and Philip only has two more years. We came to Oaxaca nine years ago for the kids' schooling, and that is drawing to a close. We need to think and pray and consult about this. There are several ways this can play out, each one using slightly different sets of our gifting and capacity. Please pray for this.

Christmas and New Year's came and went with old friends visiting, parties, and lots of good times and food. Philip gave us a little taste of things to come by paying for his own flight to go to Texas to visit friends for two weeks.

And now I am on my way to visit the Zuluagas in Panama. These are the Columbian missionaries that work with MBMission among the Wounnan people group there that I visited last year. I get the joy of coming alongside them again and mentoring them in the process of raising up healthy churches with their own leaders. There are so many factors about Christendom that can get in the way of that when



### 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** 

we are not working with people who are Western in the culture. Cultural imperialism creeps into even the very best intentions, and part of my relationship with Einer and Girlesa is to help them see Jesus and Paul afresh. That can be a lot of fun, when people are open to it.

Thank you again for your part in all this, and for encouraging us. All for One, Robert.

### From the Woo's...

### November 2012



The Woo family celebrating Christmas.

### Dear Partners,

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the cap; ves. And recovery of sight to the blind. To set free those who are downtrodden.

To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord. Isaiah 61:1-2 (Luke 4:18-19)

JOY and Sadness – With joy and sadness we are packing up to head to Boston for a month with Michael's family. February 26 we will fly back to Asia from Boston. We have had such an amazing time with our family and all of you.

I think the most amazing thing is learning and growing with you about who we really are in Christ. The Lord is pressing the above scripture into our hearts as a way of life. The above scripture is not just a prophecy about Jesus' coming. It is His job description. It is what He taught His disciples to do. We see the early church doing these sorts of thing all through Acts. It is also OUR job description. And to be honest, it is what I long to be doing. Setting the captives free, the depressed, the sick, the broken hearted, the demon possessed. Helping those with messed up marriages and families, those with addictions and hopelessness, those that are ridden with worries and anxieties, and those that are filled with doubts, fears, and are stuck in the lies of Satan.

If you haven't guessed by now, I'm not just talking about the Shan Dai people. So many in America need this freedom in Christ too! It's like Jesus is saying "I've freed you. You have all my authority and power as I am in you

### **Brethren Book Store**

P.O. Box 321 Caldwell, TX 77836 (979) 200-0513 Diane Heckman, Manager and am always with you. Now, on your mark, get set, GO!" (Matt. 28) So we are off.

Joining us in Ministry – We praise the Lord that 100% of our financial support came in for 2012! Thank you for giving and partnering with us. However, OMF International has NOT given us financial clearance to leave the country in February. Because the cost of living has gone up, we currently have around 84% of our 2013 budget pledged. If you, or your small group, feel the Lord tugging you to give financially and join us in this ministry, please go ahead and contact OMF at www.omf.org/us/partner and let them know about your pledge ASAP so that we can get our financial OK to go. If you desire to pledge, it is by faith. By faith you hope to give this much or that much. We trust that the Lord will make a way for you to give during this year. If you have communicated a desire to pledge and have forgotten to do so, now is the time. Lord raise up many that will, by faith, give financially to this ministry.

May – May is our number one worker. We have been discipling her for 3 plus years. She has turned from a scared quiet believer into a trainer, an evangelist, a healer for Jesus. And yet since we have been home, her home has turned into a battle ground.



Caroline Woo and May.

She and her husband are in an abusive cycle of fighting, hitting, etc. Lord, pour out your grace, love, and power over May, her husband, and son. Protect them from the enemy in the Name of Jesus. We pray for breakthrough and a break in the cycle of abuse.

Visas – We are trying to get a tourist or a 'looking for work' F visa in the next few months to go back to China. There are a lot more restrictions now and it seems quite difficult. Please pray for this HUGE prayer request. Thank you Lord for the visas that you will provide for the Woos!

**Back to work** – Once we get back to China we need to:

- Find a new apartment and move, since our rent has tripled in the past 4 years.
  - Have May come back to work for



### 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.

us, and seek out times to minister to her and her husband. Praying for healing in their marriage.

- Keep working on our business. We want to start a business that may have worm composting, English tutoring, and a variety of things. It is a long process and lots of paper work, but we could then switch to a business visa.
- Start back homeschool and Shan Dai ministry, starting a set of 40 Bible stories.

Lord we ask for a new apartment for the Woos, for vision and favor with starting their business and getting a work visa, for adjusting back to life in China and homeschool, and for continued ministry with May and vision for what needs to happen next.

Prayer Group – In Winston-Salem we are starting a prayer group that will meet a few times during the year to pray for the Shan Dai ministry. If interested, contact Christine Rose christinerose@windstream.net. How will the Shan people hear the gospel? It is because of your powerful prayers!

### **More Prayer requests:**

• Thank you Lord that Brad, May's cousin, had a baby. Bless them and help them grow in love.

- Thank you Lord that Lisa is still working with our teammates. Grow her up in Christ.
- Lord we pray for Timothy and Philip, the two young pastors. Open their hearts and call them to be evangelists for their own unreached people.
- Lord we pray for Mary, a local believer with a heart sickness. Heal her heart Lord.

Love, Michael, Caroline, Samuel, Ian, Zach, and Isaac

### From Benno and Teresea Marx...

(Editor's note: The Marx's are from Ahuas, at a mission clinic the Unity has had much experience in the past.)

October 2012,

Good afternoon everyone:

We're enjoying a north wind breeze this fine Sunday afternoon, a "yahbra" as the people call it, usually bringing in colder weather. But our temp gauge still stands at 84 degrees with a lightly scattered overcast, which is very pleasant. The rains have slowed down, the intolerable mosquitoes have

disappeared. By now most of you in the U.S. and Canada are seeing early winter weather, fall leaves, and harvest work. Luke says he had added winter insulation to our one bee hive in Grandyiew.

Teresa and I continue the learning curve here in Ahuas. Our warm welcome has continued, and as we walk down any pathway in Ahuas or Paptalaya, we stop and are greeted by many people who just want to say hello and shake one's hand. Many remind me there are fish to catch and deer to hunt. This morning, after leaving the Paptalaya church, we walked over near the local health center, visited with some folks on their veranda, some on a bench, one in his hammock, and found the remains of a deep water well drilled by True Oil some 20 years ago as a good will gesture for our now defunct potable water system.

Clinic work continues. Walk-around rounds start at 7 a.m. First we enjoy short devotions, read, pray, and sing (in parts and a cappella), then the nursing and doctor staff visit patients in our "intermediate" or "pediatric" or "sala Ana" wards, and then to the "Sip Apia Watlas" with names like

"Siloe" or "Blessing Watla" (watla means house). We continue to do many deliveries. The expected Miskito way for the laboring mom is to endure those contractions absolutely silently, with encouragement by her mother and a midwife, and I haven't seen any analgesia used here at all – except of course for C-sections. Most of our anesthesia is by spinal, sometimes using ketamine. And we continue with frequent appendectomies, again a new phenomenon I don't remember at all 20 years ago. After rounds, we begin outpatient clinic in the next building, using methods (SOAP) very similar to North America. We break now and again to do an ultrasound, or to look at an x-ray, or to answer questions about an inpatient, or make a cell phone call regarding a patient referred to Honduras' interior. I'll slip into the Medicina Preventiva room for a shot of coffee about 11, then we continue until all the patients (none of whom have appointments but just wait their turn) are seen, then up to the house for some lunch. Things shut down until 2 p.m., except for occasional emergency patients, as the Alas de Socorro plane may fly in



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### 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	<b>Board of Elders President</b>	<b>Youth Directors</b>
Rev. Joseph Polasek	Justin Lewis	Randall & Jonna See
P.O. Box 54	P.O. Box 222	P.O. Box 345
Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-1624	(979) 272-0416	(979) 272-8179



Eight-month-old Yosnani with probable malignant retinoblastoma, left eye, sent to La Ceiba this week to be seen by eye doctor. A U.S. ophthalmologist provided funds for her transportation and care.

with a patient, or it may instead bring vegetable supplies from La Ceiba. Much of this hasn't changed. During the afternoon we see fewer outpatients, may do some surgery, and then see about the other myriad concerns – medication needs, pap reports, check on that submersible pump or the solar

panel charging, look over medical journals, check the email.

So we do medicine, and listen to physical, mental, and spiritual woes, but are also here to encourage mutual listening among a people – very similar to others - given to cliques and division. So we experienced a wonderful Friday afternoon, when we had invited all the pastors from all local churches, plus our mayor, to a meeting here at the Clinic. A good turnout, with old and young from many denominations and from splintered groups, as we clarified the precarious Clinic financial state, discussed the fact that about 60% of our inpatient bills are unpaid, and therefore, as the U.S. subsidy from the Moravian Mission and Reformed Church in America is unchanging, it's been impossible to attend to needed maintenance, buy additional needed medications, and increase the nursing salaries. (We did recently get an unexpected donation from the RCA, however, with which

### 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.

President Roy Martin 325-651-8788 Youth Director Susan & Bryan Neal 325-227-7242

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

the clinic debts (to pharmacies and social security) were completely paid off.) Then the pastors began to rise, and with experienced, eloquent words using clear Miskito analogies, declared their great appreciation for this first-of-a-kind meeting, and for increased understanding of our issues. "The Clinic is our clinic," we heard many say, "so we need to spread this word to our congregations." "And we can pay with firewood, or supplies of beans or rice, or some hewn boards," others responded. And then we saw the remarkable, as pastors from different, sometimes opposing groups, shook hands, gave us and each other hugs (this is new) and we closed in prayer with all joining in. You know, it's interesting to become a part of a complex clinic, trying to just live day by day, and listen and do what's necessary, and see some pieces begin to fall into place. We learn to trust God in a place like this... but know we are very human, too. Quoting John Piper: "We are (in some ways) powerful, influential, visible... and very human: this is a dangerous combination."

Thank you again for your interest and your prayer.

Benno & Teresa

### ... from the Home Mission Field

### From Rev. Jim Heckman, Cade Lake Community...

### December 2012

We come to the end of another calendar year and look back on an eventful 2012.

As previously noted, we took youth to A&M basketball games on three different occasions. We had great participation at the Children's Rally (thanks to Dime Box Brethren for paying the fees). Several of our children went to camp thanks to Dime Box and Granger Brethren Churches as well as the Friends of the Hus School.

In May we conducted a Candidates' Forum to introduce the Cade Lake Community to the local candidates for County Commissioner, District Judge, District Attorney, County Sheriff and Constable.

During July we conducted a 5-day Vacation Bible School that had a total of 18 children in attendance with 8 youths working as "shepherds" and 10 adult volunteers/teachers.

On August 3rd the Griggs brothers





### 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

and their spouses contributed and cooked the fish for our youth fish fry. Proceeds from the fish fry were used to purchase and install a new sign at the entrance to Cade Lake.

Later in August, working with In God's Hands Ministry and in partnership with Taylor Brethren Church, we supplied 25 children with most of their school supplies.

A Bible study group from New Tabor Brethren supplied our fellowship with a dinner on the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

Members of the Fayetteville Brethren Church purchased gifts for the children of Cade Lake Community Chapel and distributed them in December.

Members from New Tabor Brethren supplied gift bags for the children of the church on the Sunday before Christmas, which was also our Christmas dinner. The church supplied turkey and ham and members provided the side dishes.

The year 2012 was a difficult one for our family. In February two of our granddaughters were hospitalized with

### ADERHOLD FUNERAL HOME, INC.

"Thoughtful Service – A Payne Family Tradition" West, Texas 254/826-5321 viral pneumonia, and during that same week Jim's brother was placed on hospice care. In April his brother, John, succumbed to lung cancer.

In May Diane also suffered a bout with pneumonia, and in June she had a total knee replacement.

In July Diane's dad, who was also Jim's spiritual mentor, passed away.

In September, Jim was hospitalized with a cardiac condition, which was successfully treated, and four weeks later Diane was hospitalized with a similar cardiac condition which is being treated medically.

Throughout all these difficulties we have been buoyed by the prayers and actions of our brothers and sisters in Christ, and we are determined to continue our work here in Cade Lake. We know we are making a difference in the lives of some, and that is what we have been called to do.

You can keep up with our activities on a new website: cadelakechapel.com. We look forward to hearing from you as we go into the New Year. May God bless each one of you.

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### 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 Dorothy Hinson, Board Member

### Fayetteville Brethren Christian Sisters Deliver Gifts to Cade Lake



The Fayetteville Brethren Christian Sisters along with the members of the church collected and delivered Christmas gifts to the children of Cade Lake Community Chapel. Martha Dove, the Society's Secretary, coordinated the project with Rev. Jim and Diane Heckman. Over 30 gifts and several bags of homemade cookies

were delivered to the excited children on December 2, 2012. Others helping and attending the service at Cade Lake were Pauline and David Ott, Ann Heintschel, Martha and Jerry Dove, Ginger and Jerry Marshall and the Marshall's grandchildren, Casey and Avery.

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### Mutual Aid Society Scholarships Available

The Mutual Aid Society of the Unity of the Brethren is now accepting applications for a Mutual Aid Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. More than one recipient may be selected per year. Scholarship funds are available to high school seniors or undergraduate students who will be attending an accredited university, college, or technical school during the summer or fall of 2013.

Scholarship application and requirements can be found on the Unity website at: http://unityofthebrethren.org/mutualai.htm

Application and essay must be postmarked by March 31, 2013, and mailed to: Rev. Joseph J. Polasek, President, Mutual Aid Society, P.O. Box 54, Snook, TX 77878.

Recipient(s) will be announced on May 1, 2013.

### Pastor/Director of Youth Position Available

The Wall Brethren Church has an opening available for a full time Pastor/Director of Youth & Young Family Ministries.

The Pastor/Director of Youth & Young Family Ministries shall be a Christian individual primarily responsible for communicating the Christian Faith and for equipping youth and young families to serve Christ within our community and throughout the world. He or she will be called upon to provide vision, leadership, and oversight for all facets of youth and young family ministries within Wall Brethren Church.

This position requires that the candidate be a committed Christian who exhibits evidence of genuine Christian experience and faith, and who seeks to grow as a disciple of Christ. Also, they must agree with the theology, doctrines, and practices of the Unity of the Brethren. See www.wallbrethrenchurch.org and www.unityofthebrethren.org.

The candidate will be required to hold a bachelor's degree and seminary training is preferred. However, experience and proven ministry effectiveness will weigh heavily in the selection process. The Pastor/Director of Youth & Young Family Ministries will be required to attend all Sunday School, worship, BYF, congregational, and Board of Elders meetings, unless prior approval has been granted by the Board of Elders.

The candidate must have a valid Texas drivers' license and be insurable. They also must pass a background check and initial and random drug screenings. Competitive salary is commensurate with education and experience.

For a complete listing of responsibilities, duties, and qualifications required for this position, please contact Rev. Tommy Tallas, Pastor of the Wall Brethren Church at email: rev.tjt@verizon.net or phone: (325) 949-7543.

I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.

— Genesis 22:17 (NIV)



"Father Abraham had many sons, and many sons had Father Abraham. I am one of them and so are you. So let's just praise The Lord."

How many times have you sang this song, or led a group of children in singing this fun action song? I know I have, but as I think about it, I'm not sure my kiddos know what they are singing. The great thing about Sunday School songs is they teach (and make memorable) Bible stories and concepts. The down side is as teachers and adults, we sometimes forget to tell and remind students that these songs and stories are truly God's Word with music. I was reminded of this a few months ago after singing "The BIBLE." When we finished, I asked if anyone could spell Bible, and no one volunteered, UNTIL I reminded them of what they had just sang at the top of their lungs! Lesson Learned!

# All About Father Abraham

Facts about Abraham.

These facts can be shared with students, in one lesson for older children and over a few weeks for young children. Use pictures or illustrations to add interest.

- Abraham's father was Terah (Gen. 11:27)
- Abraham was originally from the land of Ur (Gen. 11:31).
- God promised to make Abraham a great nation (Gen. 12:2-3).
- Abraham was a coward (see story in Gen. 12:10-20).
- · Abraham trusted God (Gen. 15:6).
- Abraham tried to take matters into his own hands against God (Gen. 16).
- Abraham's original name was Abram; God changed it to Abraham, which means "Father of a multitude" (Gen. 17:4-5).
- Abraham attempted to save Sodom, an evil and corrupt city, but the city was too sinful (Gen. 18:22-33).
- Abraham brought Lot, Abraham's nephew, out of Sodom, which God would destroy (Gen. 19).
- Abraham had two important sons: Ishmael (Gen. 16:15) and Isaac (Gen. 21:1-7).
- Abraham passed God's test (Gen. 22).
- Abraham died at age 175 (Gen. 25:7).

For comments/questions/ information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



# Thoughts for Teens

### Game Show: Father Abraham

Choose a game show format you love – Jeopardy, Family Feud, etc. Give teams some time to brainstorm everything they know about Abraham. You can provide the verses at the left if teams are having trouble remembering who Abraham was and what he did. Begin the game show with the sample questions below. Be sure to have a prize for the winners!

- True or False: Abraham lived in the land of Ur. Answer: T
- True or False: Abraham was the uncle of Lot. Answer: T
- What was Abraham's name before God changed it? Answer: Abram
- What was the name of Abraham's wife? Answer: Sarai or Sarah
- Name two sons of Abraham. Answer: Isaac and Ishmael [He technically had more sons Gen. 25:2, but Isaac and Ishmael are the main two.]
- How old was Abraham when he died? Answer: 175
- How did God test Abraham? Answer: ...by telling him to sacrifice his son, Isaac.
- Was Abraham always courageous? Answer: No
- Did Abraham ever make mistakes? Answer: Yes
- What does "Abraham" mean? Answer: Father of a multitude.
- Bonus: True or False: Jesus said that he was before Abraham. Answer: True
- Bonus: True or False: God did not provide a sacrifice in place of Isaac. Answer: False

### Man vs. Wild Winter Youth Retreat January 18-20, 2013

Several youth and adults met at the camp for a weekend of fun and fellowship. Bible study focused on who we are as believers in Christ and children of God. We looked at what the world values in individuals (popularity, money, beauty, status, etc.) and how God values as individuals.

Girls and guys participated in special evening sessions about beauty, relationships, and intimacy. Special activities included the joust and bungirun as well as a movie night with ice cream sundaes and hot chocolate.



### **State Youth Fishing Retreat**

Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5 Port O'Connor, Texas Cost: \$60



### Registration Deadline: April 1

Remember space is limited. Spots are first-come; first served with priority given to YOUTH ages 12-21.

Participants and chaperones must use registration forms at <a href="https://www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com">www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com</a>. Forms and payment must be received by the deadline to reserve your spot. No refunds after April 1.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW:

Annual BYF Convention, Volleyball Tournament, and Summer Retreat is moving to JULY 12-14.

(This move is due to the Unity Convention July 18-20.) All annual reports and registrations must be received by the deadline of June 30.

### **Camping Program Dates!**

Listed below are the dates of the various camping programs that will be offered during the summer of 2013 at the Hus Encampment in Caldwell, Texas. We look forward to the campers and staff who will be attending these various camps in the summer to come! Please mark your calendars now! Camper registration and staff applications will be made available by February 8, 2013.

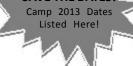
Encounter (ages 7-8) June 6th - June 8th

Alpha (ages 9-10) June 9th - June 13th

Pioneer (ages 11-12) June 16th - June 21st

Discovery (ages 13-15) June 23rd - June 28th

Challenger (ages 16 - high school senior) July 7th - July 12th



## Calling Counselors and Counselors In Training for Summer Programs 2013!!!!!

If you are interested in serving as a counselor or CIT at one of the summer camps, we would love to have you join us. If you are available to volunteer, please contact Kayla Marek as soon as possible! Include your name, your contact information, and which programs you are interested in serving in!

Kayla Marek, Camp Programmer

Mailing Address: 1304 T.H. Johnson Dr. Taylor, TX 76574

Email Address: kmarek2012@gmail.com

Phone: (512)944-2619



### DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

### Daily Morsels for March 2013

Dorothy E. Kocian

- Therefore we do not lose heart.
   Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. 2 Cor. 4: 16
- Show proper respect to everyone; love the brotherhood of believers, fear God; honor authority. 1 Pet. 2:17
- 3. "In this world you will have trouble; but take heart! I have overcome the world." Jn. 16:33
- "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." Mt. 28:19
- 5. "And teach them everything I have commanded you." Mt. 28:20
- "Lord, if You are pleased with me, teach me Your ways so I may know You and continue to find favor with You." Ex. 33:13
- The Lord said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." Ex. 33:14
- Since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. Heb. 4:14
- O God, we do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy.
   Dan. 9:18
- The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him. Dan. 9:9
- 11. And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. 1 Jn. 4:16a
- God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.
   Jn. 4:16b
- And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called to His purpose. Rom. 8:28
- 14. Live as servants of God. 1 Pet. 2:16
- 15. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. Eph. 6:11

- 16. It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Heb. 10:31
- Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another. Heb. 10:25
- We have been made holy through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ once for all. Heb. 10:10
- The Lord Jesus said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 1 Cor. 11:24
- 20. "For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes." 1 Cor. 12:26
- 21. He said, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many, for the forgiveness of sins." Mt. 26:28
- 22. "I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail." Lk. 22:32
- 23. Jesus took the bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them. Lk. 22:19a
- He said, "This is My body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Lk. 22:19b
- 25. The greatest among you should be like the youngest, and the one who rules like the one who serves. Lk. 22:26
- The Lord says,"I will put My law in their minds and write it on their hearts." Jer. 31:33a
- 27. "I will be their God, and they will be My people." Jer. 31:33b
- 28. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! 1 Pet. 1:3
- 29. Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 2 Thes. 1:2
- Jesus Himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." Lk. 24:36
- 31. "It is true! The Lord has risen!" Lk. 24:34

### VITAL STATISTICS

### MEMBERS RECEIVED

#### By Reaffirmation of Faith:

LÉROY AND BILLIE ANN WATLEY, at the Caldwell Brethren Church on Sunday, January 10, 2013. Rev. Milton Maly, pastor.

### RECENT BAPTISMS

LANDON GARRETT CHUDEJ, son of Gary and Crystal Chudej, born November 20, 2012, was baptized on December 23, 2012, at the Vsetin CMB Church. Sponsors: Chris Chudej, Tracy Chudej, Kirk Stasa, Serena Stasa, Greg Marburger. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

### RECENT DEATHS

CERVENKA, LEE ROY and DORIS ELLEN (GEISLER) of Lake Jackson and Fayetteville. Doris Ellen (Geisler) Cervenka, age 77, died December 9, 2012, in an automobile accident. She served 2 years on the Board of Elders for the Fayetteville Church and was a member of the Christian Sisters Society. She was born September 26, 1935, in Winedale, Texas, and was affectionately referred to as "Baba" by her family and friends. She and her husband were married almost 60 years. She is survived by 2 brothers.

Lee Roy Cervenka, age 80, died December 15, 2012, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. He served 5 years on the Board of Elders for the Fayetteville Brethren Church. He was born December 16, 1931 in Houston. After graduation from Texas A&M, he was commissioned to go into the Army on June 1, 1954, and served in the Army Chemical Corps. He was honorably discharged on March 1, 1956, as a 1st Lieutenant. He was retired from Dow Chemical. He is survived by 1 brother.

In addition, Doris and Lee Roy are survived by 3 children, 4 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. A memorial service for both of them was held on December 29, 2012, at the Fayetteville Brethren Church with a private interment scheduled for a later date at Restwood Cemetery in Clute, Texas. Ministers: Rev Kay Polasek and Rev Milton Maly.

ZACHARY ROSS MIKESKA, age 17, a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church met

his Lord and Savior on December 7, 2012. He was born on May 18, 1995, to Brett and Beverly Mikeska. Zachary was a senior at Bellville High School, active in the Brethren Youth Fellowship, and helped at many church functions. He was baptized in the Fayetteville Brethren Church and confirmed in the Nelsonville Brethren Church.

Zachary's love for the Lord was witnessed by many, and he was always jumping at the opportunity to help others. Although Zachary's life on earth was brief, he touched the lives of so many people with his smile, voice, laughter, and opinions. Zachary's true spirit will shine with us for years to come. He is survived by his parents, Brett and Beverly Mikeska, and Brother, Jacob Mikeska of Industry and many other family and friends of Austin County. Zachary was laid to rest at Nelsonville in the Susen Cemetery.

#### **FOREIGN MISSION BOARD**

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#### **CURRENT MISSIONARIES**

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

### Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

March 2 - State Children's Rally: Grow With God. At the Hus School Encampment

March 15-17 – Work day at the Hus School Encampment. See article in this issue for more information or please contact Rick Weise or Todd Snelgrove details. Rick Weise: (Cell) 325-656-2620 or (Email) rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us, Todd Snelgrove: (Cell) 979-229-7524) or (Email) rtsnelgrove@gmail.com

April 1 - Youth Fishing Retreat Deadline. See information in this issue or contact Jennifer Chervenka at (254) 983-1002.

April 13 – Spring Synodical Committee Meeting at the Hus Encampment – 9:00 a.m.; refreshments served at 8:00 a.m. A light lunch will be served at noon. The agenda will be sent out soon. Please share this information with your church members. If you have any questions, contact James Marek, email: james@cnbt.com or (512) 352-6165 or Liz Ripple, email: lizripple@hotmail.com or (979) 378-2239.

April 26-27 – New Counselor Training and Camp Planning. For information, contact Kayla Marek, Camp Programming Director, Email: kmarek2012@gmail.com or Phone: (512) 944-2619

May 3-May 5 – Youth Fishing Retreat in Port O'Connor, TX. Registration due by April 1. See information in this issue or contact Jennifer Chervenka at (254) 983-1002.

### **Looking Ahead for 2013:**

June 6-8: Encounter Camp

June 9-13: Alpha Camp

June 16-21: Pioneer Camp

June 23-28: Discovery Camp

July 7-12: Challenger Camp

July 12-14: BYF Convention and Volleyball Tournament (earlier this year because of Unity Convention)

July 18-20: Unity of the Brethren 65th Convention at the Taylor Brethren Church. Letters will be sent out this month with Convention information. If you have not sent in your 2012 Questionnaire to the Unity Secretary, please do that soon.

Does your church/organization 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 immediately preceding the month of publication.

### 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. Kav 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.

BRETHREN JOURNAL

- 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 Heil

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

March 2013/33

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– from the editor

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

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

36/March 2013 BRETHREN JOURNAL