

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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Dewyan Weise of Wall and Ron Krueger of Taylor on tractor duty during the work weekend in March at the Hus School Encampment.

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. . . and so much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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President's Column . . . James Marek Years of Benevolence

The month of May has historically been designated as the month of the year when we remember the Mutual Aid Society, the oldest benevolent organization of the Unity of the Brethren. With this thought in mind, it was timely when I recently came across a small gold booklet in our church library entitled *Fifty Years*



of Benevolence: Golden Jubilee Mutual Aid Society. As I picked it up and began to read it, I was struck by the faith of the founders, the modest beginnings, the increase in membership and financial resources year after year, and the glowing predictions for the future of the Mutual Aid Society. The booklet chronicled the first 50 years of the Mutual Aid Society with convention minute summaries, sermon excerpts, testimonials, and organizational statistics about this Brethren benevolent organization.

The Mutual Aid Society began in Shiner in 1905 with just 30 members.

It is interesting to read the accounts of birth of the Mutual Aid Society because of the excitement it created among the early Brethren. When Rev. Adolf Chlumsky first shared the idea of a benevolent organization of Brethren, for Brethren, enthusiasm was high. People rushed to join even before the bylaws were

read. Throughout the next 50 years, membership and financial resources grew at almost an exponential rate. The Mutual Aid Society began with 30 members and a treasury of \$187.80. By 1956 there were 1293 members and the assets had grown to \$98,988.82. To read the commemorative booklet, one gets the impression that the success of the organization was attributable to a genuine Christian love for one another. The Mutual Aid Society's motto, taken from Galatians 6:2, "Bear Ye One Another's Burdens and thus fulfill the laws of Christ," was not



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only a scriptural mandate for members, but the manifestation of a genuine concern for each other. The Mutual Aid Society became an opportunity for members to communicate their concern for their neighbor through a tangible action for good. During those early days most people did not have much in the way of material goods, but they understood what it meant to help their neighbor (and to be helped) through tough times. The Mutual Aid Society was a great way to not only help their neighbor, but to exercise their faith through stewardship.

The success of the Mutual Aid Society was built on a solid scriptural foundation, and although the membership gains once enjoyed by the organization have now been reversed, the organization's purpose remains relevant and important. While much has changed since 1905, the mission of the Mutual Aid Society has remained focused on Christian love and concern – specifically towards Brethren.

A quote from the late Rev. Joseph Barton sums up the service and purpose of the Mutual Aid Society. He said, "It has wiped away many tears and has extended brotherly sympathy and help when it was most needed." Originally, this help came through a monetary support for the families of deceased members. Later, the Mutual Aid began helping Brethren congregations finance various building programs, and most recently The Mutual

Aid Society has begun offering scholarships for college students.

The good done through The Mutual Aid Society throughout its existence is unchallenged, but the organization still faces challenges. One of the largest challenges the Mutual Aid Society faces today typically comes in the form of the implicit question, "What's in it for me?" Many confuse the Mutual Aid Society with a Life Insurance Company. Members join not for what they will get, but for what they will give. Members of the Mutual Aid Society are affirming their concern for other Brethren and making an investment in the Unity of the Brethren as a whole by seeking to ensure that the work of the Unity in God's kingdom here on earth continues. The Mutual Aid Society is a stewardship opportunity and a tangible way of fostering hope in the future of this denomination.

If you are a member of the Mutual Aid Society, encourage someone else in your church to join.

If you are not currently a member, find your local Mutual Aid Secretary or contact the General Secretary, Natalie Outlaw, at (979)-589-2012 or NatalieOutlaw@yahoo.com and become a member today. The founders of the Mutual Aid Society worked unselfishly to provide for those of us who came after them. Now it is our turn to pay it forward for those who will come after us.

...In All Things, LOVE

- by Jim Pokorny

Luke 10:2 (NET) - He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest."

Just over two years ago, I received an e-mail from a gentleman in south-east Texas who had recently read a few of my devotionals. I will never forget Robert's very first question: "Do you think there is any hope for someone like me?"

I responded by telling him that there was indeed hope for each and every one of us because of Jesus Christ!

I continued communicating with Robert and learned some rather disturbing things. It was not Robert who disturbed me. What disturbed me was how people who considered themselves Christians treated him.

As a young man, Robert had been told by someone in his church that there was simply "no hope for someone like him." Robert took this to heart and walked away from church intending never to look back. As the decades passed, Robert felt God's

continual tugging at him to return to church, and he wanted to respond. Unfortunately, those he encountered along the way also treated him harshly. In Robert's words, some had "a mean streak a mile wide" and "did their level best to demean people."

His choice of words was strong, but through them I realized that Robert was still feeling a great deal of personal pain. To be completely honest, I could actually relate to some of what Robert was feeling.

I once belonged to a social network for Christians. The experience was uplifting most of the time. Unintended consequences arose simply because of differing viewpoints held by various denominations. I recall one particularly heated exchange that arose over one of the sacraments.

Someone new to the faith asked about the significance of this sacra-

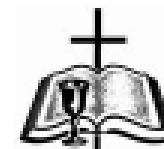


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ment. What began as a simple discussion in response to someone's honest question soon turned into a very heated debate. Individual comments grew ever longer and the language became stronger. I found this to be an increasingly sad situation because more emphasis was being placed on the mechanics of the sacrament rather than on what the sacrament actually represented. Compounding this sadness was an overwhelming feeling that new believers were being given an incorrect impression of what it means to be a follower of Christ.

At that point, I chose to simply walk away from the discussion. One of the more vocal participants began sending me private messages trying to draw me back into the fray. These messages became more and more aggressive and eventually included challenges as to the validity of my faith.

During this time, I was extremely glad to be a member of the Brethren Church, as the words of our motto rang with unmistakable clarity.

"In essentials, UNITY,
In non-essentials, LIBERTY,
In all things, LOVE."

All of this strife and division simply because of differing methods employed in a nonessential. It is important to note that the words "non-essential" and "unimportant" are not equally interchangeable, and there is an almost overwhelming human tendency to do just that. As long as the true meaning of the sacrament is not diminished, the methods that are employed can, do, and will continue to vary.

Our motto also greatly assisted me in helping Robert.

I knew that what was "essential"

for Robert was for him to have a relationship with God. A relationship that was only possible through Jesus Christ.

I suggested a Bible reading schedule to Robert that began with the book of John followed by the other gospels, and I responded to his every question, which were often accompanied by "Let me know if you want me to stop bothering you."

A year ago, Robert found a church home in his town, became a member, and was baptized.

Today, he attends that church with his two granddaughters. He also attends Sunday school and Bible study. Robert now brings others to Jesus and hopes to eventually lead a Bible study himself.

I am not sure who initially told Robert that he was without hope, nor do I know what position, if any, that person held. But to say that one is without hope does more than discourage the individual, it attempts to place limits on God, who has none.

Robert and I still communicate, though not nearly as frequently as we once did. I do miss his daily questions, but I know that he is in excellent hands even though his church in all probability chooses to do some things differently than we choose to do them.

The book of Luke reminds us that there is a vast harvest but few workers. I believe that we, as Brethren, are in a unique and excellent position to help with that harvest. There are a great many Roberts still out there, Roberts who have felt the sting of human criticism, Roberts who desperately need the essentials, Roberts who need our love.

CONVENTION YEAR

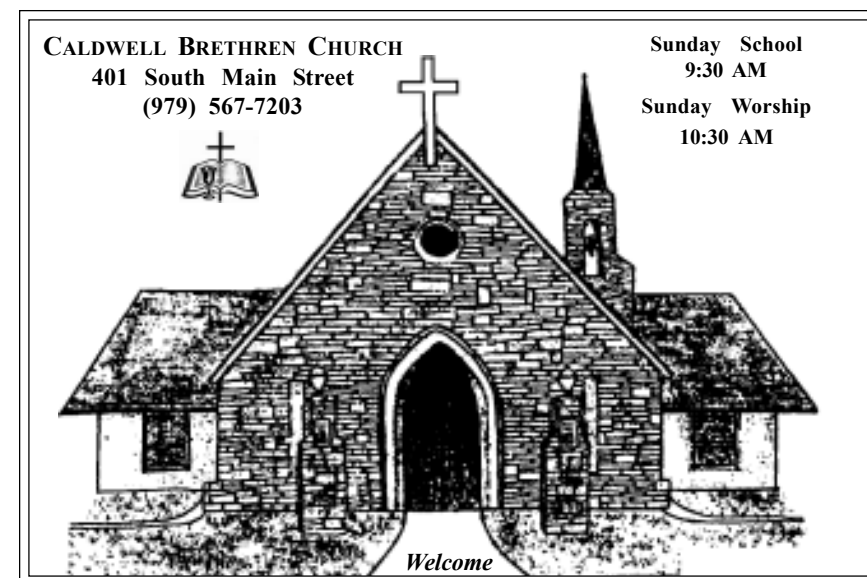
- by Liz Ripple, Unity Secretary

This year is a Unity Convention year. By now you should all have received an invitation to the 65th Biennial Unity of the Brethren Convention that will be held at the Taylor Brethren Church on July 18, 19, and 20. I hope many of you are making plans to attend this convention. It is a wonderful time to enjoy fellowship with our fellow Brethren, to renew friendships and an opportunity to make new ones. If you are not serving your church as a representative, delegate, or pastor, you are still very welcome to attend as a guest. The theme of this year's convention is "Faith in Action", with the Bible verse taken from James 2:26, "As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead."

In looking at the history of past conventions, I found some notes that you may find interesting. Though

this year is the 65th convention, there have been a total of 67 conventions. The first convention was held in 1903, December 23-24 at the Granger Brethren Church. This convention was organized by Rev. Henry Juren, who was elected the first President to the Synodical Committee.

The conventions were held annually until 1921, when they then became biennial. There were only 2 special conventions ever held, one in 1919 and another in 1964. The church that has hosted the most conventions is Taylor Brethren, who has been the host 11 times (including this year). The other churches hosting a convention (with how many times listed) are: Granger (7), Nelsonville (5), New Tabor (5), Temple (5), West (5), Caldwell (4), Snook (4), Crosby (3), Ocker (3), Seaton (3), Fayetteville



(2), Rosenberg (2), Shiner (2), Wall (2), Dallas (1), Dime Box (1), and Houston (1). One of the Special Conventions was held at the Hus Encampment.

Not all churches have adequate space or enough help to host a convention, so I do appreciate those that are willing to be a host. It takes a lot of work, time, and dedication of many people. Times have changed since that first convention, and we can be more comfortable with modern modes of travel, indoor plumbing, air conditioning, and all the electronic devices, and probably a few more women now attend than in years past. But one thing probably has not changed, and that is the passion and commitment of those who serve today – the pastors, the representatives, the delegates,

the missionaries, and everyone who takes a part in serving our Lord in some way. I pray that this sense of duty burns in all our hearts to make our denomination worthy of our time and something that will last many more years to come.

For me, the Convention is always an exciting time. I enjoy meeting new people and the fellowship that it offers through worship and meal time. It also gives us as a denomination a time to revive, inspire, and make changes where needed. I ask each of you to keep the 2013 Convention in your prayers. Those of us who are there will greatly need God's guidance during our deliberations. Your prayer support will greatly benefit the meeting and its work, regardless of whether you attend or not.

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Ocker Youth Host Shower for Hope Pregnancy Center

The Ocker Brethren Youth Fellowship hosted a shower for Hope Pregnancy Center of Temple on Sunday, February 24. The youth provided treats, punch, and shower games. All the children and youth in attendance opened the gifts and sorted them for the center. Gifts given included hundreds of diapers, tons of wipes, oint-

ment, medical kits, clothes and bibs, blankets, bottles, formula, totes and baskets, bathing accessories, and much more. The Ocker BYF expresses thanks for everyone who participated, and also for the volunteers who give so much of their time to help young women choose life.



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*John David Skrivaneck
Secretary*

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

From the Woo's...

April, 2013

Dear Partners in the Work,

Happy Resurrection Day, as we say over here! We left freezing Boston over a month ago, 30 hours later we arrived in hot Thailand. While in Thailand we applied for our Chinese visa and got a 6-month tourist visa. This is a praise as we were expecting to only get a 3-month visa. We also give praise and thanks that we are definitely 100% supported now!

Visa – Our teammates just switched their visas over to a work visa. It took them about a year to process the whole thing, raise the money needed, and get through all the red tape. We are not so interested in going through all that process, but are willing. So we ask that He provide a visa for us in the next 6 months. We will still try to do the worm composting even if it is not our visa. *Lord we ask that by the end of these 6 months you would have led the Woos to a great year-long visa!*

Apartment – Now that we are back in China, we made it out to Target City

where we live. Within a week and a half, we found a new apartment and moved in. We have been in our new place for over two weeks. It's still a wreck, but it's slowly becoming home. We have a great landlord, a first floor, a nice place for the kids to play, cheaper rent, but a larger apartment. We have also been reconnecting with local Dai friends, our teammates, and food. *We give praise to Him and thanks to you for praying for this. It truly was of the Lord that we found this apartment.*

Kids – We have also been able to put Samuel and Ian into the local elementary school. Everything is in Chinese as no one speaks English over here. Their Chinese is slowly coming back. Zach started Kindergarten. He is at level zero in Chinese and we hope he can pick some up. *Lord, help the boys adjust back to speaking Chinese. Help them to make friends at school and protect them in the Name of Jesus. Protect us on the road, Lord, as driving on the road is the most dangerous thing we do.*

May and her son have been helping us in our home for a week now.

She brings her son, Jonathan. He is 3 months older than Isaac. It's funny, but more stressful than funny. Isaac and Jonathan tend to push and grab each other with one of them always crying. Jonathan tends to bite our boys. That is the stressful part. The funny part is that if I put them at opposite parts of the house, each with their own fun toy, it takes less than a minute for them to be side by side again, fighting over the toy the other one has. *Lord, help Isaac and Jonathan learn how to play together or by themselves. Help us to find time to pray and train May with these two babies around. Help Jonathan and us to get used to each other with no biting!*

May and her husband are our number one priority for ministry right now. She is sharing with us about the pressures of family, and money being a big part of it. Her step-mother told May that she was no longer a part of their family because she doesn't have any money to give them. As a result, May had tried to prove herself to her family by making more money. But this has only resulted in more problems and sin. One of our teammate's neighbors said to them the other day

that all she wants is "money, money, money". Worldly pressure can be hard to resist, and in this area MONEY is definitely a powerful force and a god.

May's husband – We did get to visit with May's husband for about 30 minutes. His heart seems so; and he is so willing to thank and praise the Lord. It was a quick visit so we told him two things. One, he needs to pray with May every day. Two, he needs to use the Name of Jesus, out loud, a lot. That same day he drove his taxi up north and hit a Dai woman with his car. Many of you got an email about this. Thank you for praying. May went up and was able to talk to the woman and 5 of her family members. She told them that God could heal the woman's wounds, and asked if she could pray. They said yes. But first she explained which God she was going to pray to. She shared the entire story starting with creation, how we are sinners, how God loved us and sent His son. They had never heard of this story before. *We praise God that he heard YOUR prayers and May got to share the gospel to people that have never heard. Lord may you*



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Mail: P.O. Box 4615, Temple, TX 76505

Church Phone: 254-985-2694

seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com

Rev. Denise Mikeska, Pastor – sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com

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truly heal this woman and help this family and village and entire area come to know you. Lord we also pray Jesus will cut off any generational sin and break the cycle of abuse and gambling in May and her husband's relationship and bring forth forgiveness and healing.

Timothy – Today Timothy came across the border to visit with us. This is our first time seeing him since we have been back. He stayed about 6 hours with us. If you remember, he is the young pastor that we have trained in our method that is so busy taking care of about 20 kindergarten kids their church has, and then taking care of the old widows, that he has no time for anything else. I reminded him of the story of Stephen in Acts and how the apostles were so busy with the kids and old people that they had no time to go out and share the gospel. So they prayed and God set apart Stephen to do this work. And yet it also says that Stephen did many miracles and also shared, that's why he got stoned. I asked Timothy if he had freedom to do anything he wanted to do, which work would he do, what Stephen did, or going out and only teaching and sharing the good news like the apostles? He picked the apostles! The Lord is raising up Timothy to be an evangelist for his own Dai people! *Lord Jesus, raise Timothy*

and others up to do this work. Send them forth into the 7 million Dai that have never heard your name! Fill Timothy with your power, your vision, and incredible faith!

Outreach – We talked with Timothy and May about possibly doing an outreach at the end of this month. They are praying about it and we are seriously thinking about how to get the gospel out to hundreds and maybe thousands during an up and coming festival. *Lord Jesus, as our sister and brother think about this outreach, would you prepare the way and raise up others to help them. May the Word go out to hundreds and even thousands! Lord, make your Name known among the Dai. Lord, bring many into your kingdom!*

We also see the task before us as a doable task. Before we thought "How in the world do we reach 7 million Shan Dai? That's impossible, but I'll try to do my little part."

But now we think "It's doable. Jesus just has to pour out His Spirit while we do our tiny part. It's so possible, especially if we pray!"

Thank you for all your prayers and love toward us. Again, we had such an AMAZING time in the USA. Thanks to all of you!

Serving together, Michael & Caroline Samuel, Ian, Zach, & Isaac

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE
*"Bear ye one another's burdens
 And so fulfill the Law of Christ."*
 (Gal. 6:2)

THE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

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Hus Encampment Work Weekend

More than 60 people put on their gloves and scrubs throughout the weekend of Friday, March 15, and Saturday, March 17, to lend a servant's hand and give the Hus Encampment a much needed 'facelift'.

Friday, workers marked a path through the woods that would become the camp's biking trail. They also took apart the bunk beds and readied the camp dorms for painting. The hallway ceilings in both dorms were replaced. In the evening, the painting preparations began. The support posts on the classroom building were also repaired, and some of them were replaced.

Saturday, two work crews painted the interior of the dorm rooms in both

the boys' and girls' dorms. Another crew blazed a new bike trail through the woods behind the boys' dorm. Workers were cutting, hauling, and chipping brush for several hours. Another crew worked on flower beds. They created a new bed behind the classroom and trimmed and cleaned those already existing.

Sunday found workers putting finishing touches on everything. The bike trail was tested by the children, the painting of the dorms was finished, the bunks returned to their rooms, and cleanup was completed before the tired workers returned home.

The love that was poured into the camp over the weekend was overwhelming. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time, materials, and sweat. It could not have been accomplished without you. Thank you, also, to the ladies of Snook Brethren Church, who provided fried chicken, 'tater salad, chips, and delicious des-



*Eugene Haisler (Ocker)
 repairs the front railings of
 the classroom building.*



*Jennifer Chervenka
 (Ocker), James
 Marek (Taylor),
 Edward Dusek
 (Wall), and Ron
 Krueger (Taylor)
 load brush.*



Charlie Farmer (Wall) and David Dusek (Wall) repair the ceiling in the Boys Dorm.



David Dusek and Charlie Farmer.



Becky Ruzicka (Taylor) and Eddie Holik Jr. (Wall) painting dorm room walls.



Charlie Farmer, (Wall) working in a dorm hallway.



Laura Weise, (Wall) and Krystal Dusek, (Wall) painting in a dorm room.



Hannah Kasik, (Wall) moving brush near the main building.



Ken Michalik (Wall) trimming trees.



Oliver Werner, Collin Weise, and Hayes Dusek, all of Wall, painting in a dorm room.



Edward Dusek, (Wall) cutting up brush by the Boys Dorm.

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Taylor Brethren Church

Invitation to the 65th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren

Our church family at Taylor Brethren Church invites the Synodical Committee, delegates, pastors, members and friends of the Unity of the Brethren to the 65th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren to be held at Taylor, Texas, July 18-20, 2013. The church is located at the corner of 7th and Sloan Streets in Taylor.

The convention will begin Thursday, July 18, with registration at 4:30 p.m. The evening meal will be served at 5:30 p.m., followed by the worship of Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.

Let us all join in prayer that God will bless this gathering and that the work of the Holy Spirit will be evident among us as we seek to serve our Lord in this day and time.

Sincerely in Christ,
For the Taylor Brethren Church

Mark Olsen, President of the Board of Elders
Rev. James D. Hejl, Pastor



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Philippians 4:4

*Rejoice in the Lord
always...*

Sunday School
Helper



Joy – as we enjoy the miracles of Spring, we experience joy as the world awakens from Winter. Birds, flowers, and sunshine all remind us of our amazing Creator and His gracious Love! It is often the same in our lives. We are joyous when the season of life is spring-like. However, the winters of life can be difficult. It is not as easy to see the joy, the good. Regardless, we are told to be joyful in all circumstances. That means the springs and the winters. Teaching our children the habit of joy is a lesson that will serve them well their entire life. Maybe it's also a lesson we need to be reminded of often ourselves as adults!

Scientific Joy

Use this demonstration to show Overflowing Joy! This activity is great for all age levels!

1. Prepare 5 paper cups as instructed below.
Cup 1: Write *Pray* on cup and fill with 1/8 cup water.
Cup 2: Write *Believe* on cup and fill with 1/8 cup water.
Cup 3: Write *Bible* on cup and fill with 1/8 cup water.
Cup 4: Write *Problems and Troubles* and fill with 1/2 cup vinegar.
Cup 5: Write *Holy Spirit* and add 1 teaspoon baking soda.
2. Satan tries to steal our joy. Show a clear glass (approximately 12 oz.). This glass is your life (set in a pie plate to catch the mess). Fill the glass approximately 1/2 full with water. This is to represent God washing away your sins.
3. Sometimes Problems and Troubles come along. In this cup vinegar. Vinegar is an acid. It is sour. But vinegar also adds flavor. Pickles would not be near as good without vinegar! God uses our problems and troubles to teach us to rely on Him. (Add the Vinegar to the "Life" glass.)
4. When we go through problems and troubles, it is important that we focus our attention on God. What are some things we can do that will bring us closer to God?
5. One way to remain close to God is to Pray. (Add water from the Pray cup to the "Life" glass.) It adds to our life.
6. Another way to get close to God is to Read our Bible. (Add water from the Bible cup to the "Life" glass.)

For
comments/questions/
information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



Thoughts for Teens

Scientific Joy continued

7. Another way to stay close to God is to Believe in Jesus. (Pour the contents of the Believe cup into the "Life" glass.)
8. As you can see our "Life" is getting pretty full.
9. When troubles and problems come along, and we pray, believe, and read our Bible, the Holy Spirit comes to provide us peace, comfort, and joy. Now watch what happens when we add the Holy Spirit to our lives. (Pour the contents of the Holy Spirit cup into the "Life" glass.)
10. Our joy overflows! Even when things seem bad, we are able to be joyful in all circumstances.



Youth Activities

For more information visit www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com

or contact

Jennifer Chervenka, State Youth Coordinator

jennchervenka@farm-market.net; 254-983-1002

Fishing Retreat: The fishing retreat is May 3-5 in Port O'Connor. Photos and summary coming in June!

BYF Summer Retreat, Volleyball, and Convention: July 13-14

Please note that the weekend for the annual youth retreat, volleyball tournament, and convention has changed due to the Unity Convention. All **paperwork** (registrations, reports, etc.) is **due** no later than **June 30**. Registration information and report packets will be posted to the website in May.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Chervenka.

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P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957

Phone: 325-651-4444 ~ Fax: 325-651-5100

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas

Home: 325-949-7543 Cell: 325-656-8558

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
David Miller
325-651-7597

Youth Director
Susan & Bryan Neal
325-227-7242

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

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

May 3-May 5 – Youth Fishing Retreat in Port O'Connor, TX. Cost \$60. Registration was due by April 1. Contact Jennifer Chervenka if you missed the deadline: jennchervenka@farm-market.net; 254-913-1244.

June 23 – Fayetteville Brethren Church 15th Annual Celebration at the Ellinger Chamber of Commerce hall. Worship is at 10:45 at the church. Starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Ellinger C of C hall, there will be a meal of turkey, ham, and dressing – eat there or plates to go, bake sale, country store, musical entertainment by Kovanda's Czech Band, and at 1:00 P.M. a love auction. Proceeds benefit the Building Fund. The Christian Sisters will have a silent auction to benefit Unity of the Brethren programs and local charities. For more info, contact Joe Ripple at 979-378-2239.

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)

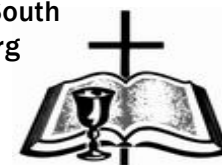
July 18-20: Unity of the Brethren 65th Convention at the Taylor Brethren Church. Letters will be sent out this month with Convention information. If you have not sent in your 2012 Questionnaire to the Unity Secretary, please do that soon.

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.

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

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



SAVE THE DATES!
Camp 2013 Dates
Listed Here!

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



Calling All CITs
and Counselors!!!

Thoughts about giving...

Remembering the Unity of the Brethren or any of its ministries is a fitting testimony of your belief. Your gift in a will can be a legacy that continues to affect the Christian values, mission, and ministry that is important to you.

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

You can require that we hold the principle as an endowment and use only the earnings each year.

You can give in memory or in the honor of someone.

Your gift can be contingent. The funds go to someone if they survive you and if not, then to the Unity.

You can tell us now that you have named the Unity in your will and allow us to express our gratitude...or you can let it be known later.

There are many other ways to give. Contact any Board of Grants and Bequests member about what you can give and how you can give.

Ron Dusek, Treasurer – Caldwell – 979-567-3732,
rdusekdds@aol.com

Roger Runnels – Cy-Fair – 281-469-4302,
rogerhr@swbell.net

Ron Tyson – Houston – 281-373-4376 (home),
rdtyson1@hotmail.com

Eugene Haisler – Ocker – 254-985-2316, dmheeh@msn.com
Brett Mikeska – Nelsonville – 979-357-2102
bmikeska@hotmail.com

Rev. Jimmy Hejl – Taylor – 2nd Vice President and
Synodical Committee Liaison – 512-365-6890,
jhejl@austin.rr.com

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for May 2013

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. They will call on My name and I will answer them; I will say, "They are My people", and they will say, "The Lord is our God." Zech. 13:9
2. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. Heb. 12:2
3. God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. Jn. 3:17
4. Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! 1 Pet. 1:3a
5. **In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Pet. 1:3b**
6. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. Heb. 6:19
7. Thus is the one blessed who fears the Lord. Ps. 128:4
8. Do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. Heb. 10:35
9. You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what He has promised. Heb. 10:36
10. If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible for you. Mt. 17:20
11. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him. Rom. 15:13
12. **Grace and peace be yours in abundance through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 2 Pet. 1:2**
13. Put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love. Ps. 130:7
14. Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light for my path. Ps. 119:105
15. All scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. 2 Tim. 3:16
16. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Pet. 4:10
17. Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus, our Lord. 1 Tim. 1:2
18. Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. 1 Chron. 16:11
19. **Just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do. 1 Pet. 1:15**
20. In these last days God has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things and through whom He made the universe. Heb. 1:2
21. With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 2 Pet. 3:8
22. God our Savior wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim. 2:4
23. For there is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Tim. 2:5
24. The Lord is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. 2 Pet. 3:9
25. Rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ, that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. 1 Pet. 4:13
26. **Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in his ways. Ps. 128:1**
27. The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world and all who live in it. Ps. 24:1
28. Fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Josh. 24:14
29. "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Josh. 24:15
30. "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of his glory." Isa. 6:3
31. "If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all." Isa. 7:9

Brethren Book Store

P.O. Box 321
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Diane Heckman, Manager

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

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mjcarc@airplexus.com

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Synodical Committee Liason:

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The Community Christian Church of Rosenberg

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

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

Bro. Larry Butcher

3030 Prescott, Houston, TX 77025
(713) 299-4813 (Home)
Youth Minister: Position open

State Youth Leadership Team 2012-2013

Youth Members:

Kassie Benner, 14910 Possum Creek, Temple, TX 76501.
kassie.benner@gmail.com

Erin Brinkley - Board of Trustees Rep., 119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656.
erinbrinkley@yahoo.com

Taylor Brinkley - Registration Manager, 406 Elmwood Street, Gainesville, TX 76240. taylorbrinkley@yahoo.com

Monique Duron - Secretary, 1919 Pinetree Dr., Apt. B, Bryan, TX 77802. mduron35@gmail.com

Meghan Griggs, 9415 Whitney Lane, College Station, TX 77845.
meghang97@gmail.com

Erika (Rikki) Sebesta - Chairperson, 3737 Essen Loop, College Station, TX 77845.
guitargoalie93@yahoo.com

Ian Zamorsky, P.O. Box 556, Taylor, TX 78634. cseigmund@austin.rr.com

Representative to Mission Board:

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

Advisors:

Kari Raesz, 4900 CR 101, Taylor, TX 76574. kari.raesz@dps.texas.gov

Tammie Riethmayer, 1401 Giolmore Street, Taylor, TX 76574.
triethmayer@aol.com

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

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.*

WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas 77082

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



5th Sunday – Holy Communion

Temple Brethren Church

2202 Birdcreek Drive
Temple, Texas 76502
(254) 778-8759
tbc@hotmail.com

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

(254) 718-3898



CY-FAIR COMMUNITY CHURCH

(Unity of the Brethren)

Worship – 10:45 A.M.
Sunday School – 9:30 A.M.



Pastors:

Rev. Henry Beseda
(979) 567-7033

Rev. Rick Chandler
(281) 355-1474

Church Phone – (281) 955-1655

12915 Cypress North Houston
P.O. Box 0233
Cypress, TX 77410-0233

President: Rev. Henry Beseda

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

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

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

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

Fayetteville #5: Sandra Stepan, PO Box 145, Fayetteville, TX 78940, 979-378-4167, sandrinaustin@yahoo.com

Dime Box #6: Marvin Chlapek, PO Box 1163, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-272-9102, mjcarc@airplexus.com

Snook #7: Ann Sebesta, Box 115, Snook, TX 77878, 210-244-3362, bfsinc@tconline.net

Ocker #8: Doris Svoboda, 109 Friendship Ln, Temple, TX 76501-9614, 254-742-1405

Dallas #10: **Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

Cooks Point #12: Patsy Albright, 2105 Rivendell, Bryan, TX 77807-4812, 979-779-8463

New Tabor #13: Evelyn Henry, PO Box 336, Caldwell, TX 77836-0336, 979-567-4397

Nelsonville #14: Peggy Peschel, 8000 Hwy 159 W, Bellville, TX 77418, 979-865-5095

Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek, 7157 FM 2086, Temple, TX 76501, 254-984-2283

Sealy #17: Esther Breeden, 2728 Osborn Apt #1002, Bryan, TX 77803, 979-779-3835

Wesley #18: Elaine Koehn, 9053 Learning Oak Lane, Brenham, TX 77833, 979-836-5196, koehns72@yahoo.com

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

Rosenberg #21: Carla Butcher, 5220 Reading Rd., Rosenberg, TX 77471, allbutchers@yahoo.com

Westheimer #22: Betty J. Parthum, 3620 Ave. O, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 713-826-7993, dparthum@sbcglobal.net

Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Dr., Humble, TX 77346, 281-620-0480, dorothy.hinson@hotmail.com

Wall #25: Sharon J. Hohmann, 222 Crestwood Drive, San Angelo, TX 76903-9106, 325-651-5884

Caldwell #27: Guy Huffman, PO Box 216, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-567-7089, cpaguy@cpaguy.com

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

Placedo #30: Dorothy Elsik, PO Box 1054, Victoria, TX 77902, 361-575-2298

Robstown #31: Annette Korff, 1207 Baker, Robstown, TX 78380, 361-387-5241

Austin #32: Doris Boriski, 17111 Oak Cliff Circle, Dripping Springs, TX 78620-2527, 512-264-2273

Pasadena #33: Betty Orsag, 5118 Coventry Ct., Friendswood, TX 77546-3001, 281-482-1501

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

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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**

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Quail Cove, Taylor, TX 76574.
(512) 352-3823, (512) 971-2173.
d_kubala@yahoo.com

Vice President: Ann Sebesta, P.O.
Box 115, Snook, TX 77878.
(979) 272-8691, (979) 272-8786.

Secretary: Kim Kennard, 4501
Oxford, Temple, TX 76502.
(254) 931-5657;
kimberlykennard@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary: Carol Miller,
1710 West O.S.R., Caldwell, TX
77836. (979) 567-7774 (h),
(979) 220-0030 (c).
delandcarolmiller@verizon.net

Treasurer: Mary Kokes, 451 CR
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(512) 365-7146, (512) 352-6423.
taylorbrethren@sbcglobal.net

Hus Encampment Rep.:

Debbie Grimm, 1409 Stone Ridge
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8966, (512) 718-2310.
mama_dgrimm@hotmail.com

Connie Janac, 1002 Munson,
College Station, TX 77840.
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Unity Mission Board Rep:

Ann Sebesta, P.O. Box 115, Snook,
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krueg98@austin.rr.com

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rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us

Secretary: Connie Janac (Chr. Sis.
2010) 1002 Munson, College Station,
TX 77840. (979) 696-1953;
cjanac@st-joseph.org

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

Member: Erin Brinkley (BYF: 2012),
119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656;
erinbrinkley@yahoo.com

Member: Angie Hairrell (Bd. Chr.Ed.),
11482 FM 2155, Somerville, TX
77879; Hairrell@gmail.com

Member: Todd Snelgrove, 5207
Draycott Ct., Bryan, TX 77802.
(979) 229-7524;
rtsnelgrove@gmail.com

Non-Voting Appointments:
Programming Director: vacant

Unity Youth Coordinator: Jennifer
Chervenka (Synodical Committee
Appointment), 9494 Big Elm Creek
Road, Rogers, TX 76569.
(254) 983-1002;
jennchervenka@farm-market.net

Facilities Manager(s): Jim and Dawn
Marie Baletka, 600 Benchmark Drive,
College Station, TX 77845;
txnfish@aol.com;
BaletkaD@navasotaisd.org

Caretakers: Robert and Cathleen
Schlechte, 3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX
77836; (979) 324-5560,
(979) 255-8266;
rschlechte@hotmail.com;
schlechte86@msn.com

Oversight of Synodical

Committee: Rev. Tommy Tallas,
3829 Sandstone, San Angelo, TX
76904. (325) 949-7543;
rev.tjt@verizon.net

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

Christ Covenant Church – Tuesday
Evening Bible Study.
– Carl Shamel

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

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, a Provisional Church of
the Unity of the Brethren – 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. Larry Zabcik

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
Nelsonville – 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.
– Visiting Ministers

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
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