

# THE BRETHREN



# JOURNAL



Vol. 112

November 2013

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36 Pages



*Reverend Henry Beseda, Jr.  
February 17, 1920 – September 16, 2013*

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**. . . and much more!**

## THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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## President's Column . . . James Marek Getting the Word Out

During an interview for an as-  
sociate pastor position in our local  
congregation, our search commit-  
tee was asked a very  
poignant question by one  
of the candidates. He  
asked, "What are you  
all doing to get the word  
out?" He was asking  
how we publicized the  
activities and ministries  
of the church to the



community. His question was  
embarrassing enough because we  
had to admit that we were not  
doing enough. After our meeting,  
I began to think about his question  
in the context of Jesus' command-  
ment to His disciples in the "The  
Great Commission". In Matthew  
28:19 Jesus says, "Therefore go  
and make disciples of all nations,  
baptizing them in the name of the  
Father and the Son and the Holy  
Spirit and teaching them to obey

everything I have commanded  
you..."

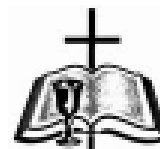
I began to think how uncom-  
fortable it would be if  
we are one day asked  
to articulate, in front  
of our Holy God, what  
we have done to help  
spread the Gospel and  
expand His Kingdom  
with the time we have  
been given on His  
earth? To what degree did we  
participate in evangelism? Cer-  
tainly one way we are involved in  
evangelism is through our denomi-  
national mission programs.

We currently have missionary  
teams deployed throughout the  
world ministering to those who  
may not know Christ yet. Our  
prayerful and monetary support of  
our missionaries' efforts are tan-  
gible responses to Jesus' Great  
Commission. That said, are we



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Rev. Johnny Kueker  
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being called to an even more personal role in evangelism? What impact would it have if we began to purposely seek out those in our families, our neighborhoods, and in our jobs who do not know Jesus? Statistics show that most Christians have not invited anyone to church in the last 6 months. Some of us maybe haven't invited anyone in the last 6 years.

"Evangelism" is a word that often makes us uncomfortable, especially if it means that we may have to invest ourselves beyond prayer and mission giving. What is it that makes us so reluctant to purposely share our faith in an effort to bring others to Christ? According to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, the most common reason Christians say that they do not share their faith with others is because they don't know what to say. Rev. Graham's organization is working to change that. They have launched a grass roots effort called "My Hope with Billy Graham" designed to teach

Christians how to evangelize those whose paths we cross every day. On November 7, 2013, the Rev. Billy Graham is scheduled to speak to the nation on this topic through national television. November 7th will be Rev. Graham's 95th birthday, and he is expected to speak to the world and encourage Christians to become involved in this grass roots evangelism effort organized and administered by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. He is expected to urge all Christians to seek to build relationships with unbelievers and to introduce them to Christ. Graham purportedly believes our country and our local churches can benefit greatly from this evangelism effort. The program is intended to help strengthen and expand local churches. For years, Rev. Graham has preached to the world and been very successful bringing people to Christ through powerful Gospel messages. Now he and his Evangelistic Association seek to equip Christians so that we can

also bring others to Christ.

The *My Hope with Billy Graham* project is modeled after the example of Matthew, the disciple and Gospel writer. Matthew 9 tells us that once Jesus called Matthew and he began to follow Christ, Matthew hosted a dinner party where other tax collectors and "sinners" came to meet Jesus. *My Hope with Billy Graham* encourages Christians to extend similar hospitality to their neighbors and invite them into their homes to meet Christ. The material provided is very comprehensive and well written. There are instructional videos, study guides, and a number of pamphlets for use in leading nonbelievers to Christ. The program stresses the importance of preparation of those who want to be a part of this evangelism effort. It is stressed throughout the instruction that those carrying the message must be prepared and open to the direction of the Holy Spirit. Rev. Graham has used much of the material in the My Hope program in his crusades around the world to bring millions of people to Christ. I encourage everyone to think about and pray for the *My Hope with Billy Graham* evangelism effort. God has

used Rev. Graham's ministry to bring millions of people to Christ over the last 50 years, and now Rev. Graham's organization is providing a very detailed step-by-step program to help us join him and God in continuation of the kingdom-building effort. The question is, what will we do with the opportunity?

As Brethren, we have largely typically relied on our pastors and missionaries to evangelize on our behalf while we have demonstrated our faith through acts done out of Christian love and concern. Is it time for us to expand and exercise our faith by exploring opportunities such as this one in which we allow God to work through us in a ministry of hospitality and personal evangelism? The decision is a very personal one. Is God calling you to such a ministry?

For more information on the My Hope with Billy Graham program, go to

[MyHopeWithBillyGraham.org](http://MyHopeWithBillyGraham.org).

## TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

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Youth Minister: Position open

## Bro. Henry Beseda

(February 17, 1920 - September 16, 2013)

Reverend Henry Earnest Beseda, Jr., was born in Port Lavaca, Texas, on February 17, 1920, and dedicated his entire life to the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. His parents, the late Reverend and Mrs. Henry E. Beseda, Sr., inculcated Henry the tenets of the Christian faith through the Presbyterian Church and the Unity of the Brethren. Henry's father pastored in Texas rural community churches for both denominations. His mother, the late Mrs. Julia Rose Chernosky Beseda, studied to be a missionary at a Methodist seminary in Pennsylvania, prior to marriage as a pastor's wife and mother of nine children. Reverend Beseda was married to Mrs. Carolyn Filipp Beseda, a retired public school teacher and professional musician/part-time insurance agent.

Reverend Beseda's education included studies in Alice, Texas, and Holdenville, Oklahoma, culminating with a high school diploma earned from West High School in West, Texas,

where the family had later moved. His extra-curricular activities included playing halfback for three years on the West Varsity Football Team, as well as active participation in the West Czech Club. During his lifetime, he was an avid sportsman, being competitive in both golf as well as bowling. He often caused much younger players to gaze in awe at his skills in these sports.

Advanced education included studies at the Schreiner Institute, Texas Tech University, University of Texas, and the Austin Presbyterian Seminary. This culminated in the following earned degrees: Associate Degree-Schreiner Institute, 1939; Bachelor of Business Administration-University of Texas, 1947; and the Bachelor of Divinity-Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 1951. The Certificate of Ordination was bestowed upon Henry Beseda in June 1951 in Caldwell, Texas, of Burleson County.

A past, proud U.S. Veteran, Henry served courageously with the United



*Brother Henry and Charles Kruse at Confirmation service.*

States Navy during World War II as Yeoman-First Class on the U.S.S. Oakland in the Pacific Theatre. He served from October 1941 until October 1945. He returned to his home state of Texas via the U.S.S. Texas from Honolulu, Hawaii. It was during Henry's service to his country that he heard God's call to pursue the ministry.

Reverend Beseda's travels have included two trips to the Holy Land, missionary work in Honduras and shorter excursions to destinations here in the United States. He has always enjoyed travel and learning about new and exciting things. An avid reader, he read the newspaper from front to back in one sitting with his favorite cup of coffee and maybe a kolache. Years ago, Henry served as the "Kolache King" of the Caldwell Kolache Festival, a Czech festival held every fall in central Texas. His wife honored his private time of reading, knowing that this was one of his joys of life, as well as a few favorite shows watched on television. Regarding cuisine, seafood prepared by his wife, Carolyn, was one of his favorites.



*Brother Henry Beseda, center with the Hus class of 1950 in West, TX.*

Henry's faithfulness to his God had always been evident as he served first as the Beseda's family pastor, officiating at baptisms, marriages, and family funerals and reunions. He pastored the Brethren at the Westheimer and Cy-Fair Community Churches until his recent hospitalization following a major stroke with complications.

Regarding the Unity of the Brethren at large, he again served families throughout the state regarding baptisms, confirmation classes, vacation bible schools, Sunday schools, church meetings, church conventions, and other activities.

Awarded a plaque in July of this year on the 62nd anniversary of his ordination, he was honored at the Unity of the Brethren Church Convention held in Taylor, Texas, on July 19, 2013. He had previously served as President of the Synodical Board of the Unity of the Brethren, President of the Mutual Aid Society, and held many offices, including President, on the Hus School Board of Trustees for years: 1957-1965, 1969-1977, and 1986-1995. In earlier years during the 1950's -1980's, he was a lead instructor with Rev. and Mrs. John Baletka at the Hus



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*Loretta Lang, Shirley Hughes, David Lang, Brother Henry, Darwin Machu and Nancy Machu, November 1968.*

School Encampment, Caldwell, Texas. Many Brethren fondly remember Henry as their inspiring pastor/counselor during their camping experiences, which included Christian learning and Christ-centered activities.

Besides his church membership, Reverend Beseda was affiliated and served with the following organizations: American Legion, Chapter 451—Chaplain; VFW, Chapter 4458—Chaplain; SPJST—Czech Choir; R.V.O.S. Lodge #108; Germania Insurance; Burleson County Hospital Auxiliary—Chaplain; Caldwell Senior Citizens—Chairman of the Board; Habitat for Humanity; Copperas Hollow Country Club, and Warren Lodge No. 56, A.F. & A.M.—Chaplain. On January 21, 2012, Henry was awarded the coveted Golden Trowel Award from this chapter of the Masons.

Reverend Henry Beseda, Jr., is preceded in death by his parents, Reverend and Mrs. Henry E. Beseda, Sr.; 3 brothers: Woodrow, Joseph Maitland, and Robert Beseda; 4 sisters: Maravene Beseda, Orbin Vance, Julia Bradshaw,

and Effie Howell. Survivors include: Wife, Carolyn Filipp Beseda; Sister, Florene; husband, Jerome Mrazek, and 14 nieces and nephews.

A memorial service celebrating the life of Bro. Henry was held at 2 p.m. Saturday, October 5, 2013, at the Caldwell High School Auditorium. Members of Unity of the Brethren, Caldwell Area Ministerial Alliance,



*Brother Henry with Wendy Schefffield Greenlees and Dr. Gene Greenlees in 2008 just after Hurricane Ike. Dr. Greenlees and Bro. Henry were golfing buddies in the late 1970's in Austin, TX.*

*Brother Henry with Charles Kruse in 1963.*



Warren Lodge #56; A.F. & A.M., American Legion Post #451, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4458, Phillips; and Luckey Funeral Home and Strickland Funeral Home participated.

Burial was at Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery in Houston, Texas.

Reverend Beseda's wishes were to

have memorials in his memory made to The Hus Encampment, c/o Mr. Ron Kruger, PO Box 1225, Taylor, Texas, 76574.

Photos used with permission and courtesy of Dr. Gene Greenlees, Ben Kruse, and the Unity of the Brethren website: [unityofthebrethren.org](http://unityofthebrethren.org).

## OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

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### *Pastor*

**Rev. Ron Winsman**

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[ronwinsman@hotmail.com](mailto:ronwinsman@hotmail.com)

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Rogers, TX 76569

(254) 983-1002

### *Elder Board President*

**David Sebek**

3910 Red Ranger Road

Temple, TX 76501

(254) 985-2578, cell (254) 913-0732

### *Cemetery*

**Sharon Marek**

23383 Milam Road

Burlington, TX 76519

(254) 869-2845

## Knock, Knock

- by Jim Pokorny

It happened on a Saturday a few weeks ago.

I had just finished my errands and the trunk of my car was full of clean laundry, groceries, and supplies. A few blocks from home I saw two men going door to door and I immediately drew two conclusions.

First, these men were likely going from door to door sharing their faith.

Second, it would not be very long before they knocked on my door.

I pulled the car into my garage, put on a pot of coffee, and began unloading my car. As I began putting things away I thought about the various kinds of receptions these men may have encountered. It likely ran the gamut from people pretending not to be at home to having doors slammed in their faces. So, I decided that when they came to my door I would give them a reception they were likely to remember for some time to come.

I had just gotten everything put away and was about to pour my first cup of coffee of the afternoon when there came a knock at my door. "Right on time," I told myself.

I opened the door, and there they stood. The gentleman on my left was about my age and the one on the right somewhat older. I did not recognize

the one on the left, but I recognized the older one, having seen him at a church in the neighborhood. Whenever I attended a funeral service or some other function at that church, I always saw him hard at work in the background.

He said, "Hello. I'd like to talk to you about Jesus!"

I looked at him and exclaimed, "Well, you've come to the right place, Brother! What would you like to know?"

My response obviously took both of them by complete surprise and they turned and stared at each other for a few seconds before looking back at me.

I reached into my pocket and handed them each one of my personal cards that depicts an open Bible, the addresses to my two blog sites, my email address and what I have come to fondly know as my "go to" verse.

Philippians 4:13 (KJV) – I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

I told them that I had seen them in the neighborhood earlier and that I simply could not resist having a little fun with them. They must have appreciated my sense of humor as we shared a good laugh.

I told the older gentleman that I recognized him from the times I had been to his church. He in turn told me that he recalled seeing me there.

The three of us exchanged formal introductions and talked about our churches and our respective roles within them. Being that the churches are located within easy walking distance of each other, we spoke at length about some of the relationships we shared.

We then spoke briefly about some of the differences between our two churches; what we Brethren refer to as the non-essentials. We then spoke at length about that which we have in common; what we refer to as the essentials.

We then discussed the persecuted church, missions, and a few other topics of a spiritual nature.

Although the conversation was pleasant, I sensed that they felt it was time to move on.

As it was a hot summer afternoon, I offered them each a cold bottle of water, which they graciously accepted. We then shared in a prayer and they were on their way.

Two weeks later to the day there came another knock on my door.

I opened it and there stood the older gentleman from before.

"Hi, Jim! I was just in the neighborhood," he stated. "I just wanted to stop by for a second, say hello and see how you were doing."

"I'm glad you did," I replied.

The conversation that ensued was both brief and pleasant. Then, almost as quickly as he had appeared, he went on his way. As I watched him walk away, I realized that I had received one of my favorite kinds of blessings from God.

God had taken an acquaintance and transformed it into the beginning of a friendship that could even withstand my sense of humor.

### In God's Hands Ministry

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**Sunday Worship**  
**10:30 AM**

**Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, Pastor**  
**email: lajoiededieu@gmail.com**

**Church website: [www.lifeatcbc.org](http://www.lifeatcbc.org)**  
**Church email: [lifeatcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lifeatcbc@gmail.com)**

**Wednesday Family Night Gathering:**  
**1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month**

*Welcome*

## Mission Funds Income Report

Below is a summary of the combined income to the two Unity of the Brethren Mission Funds (Foreign and Home).

2013 Combined Goal	\$ 134,000.00
2013 Combined Goal prorated thru August	100,500.00
2013 Actual Income thru August	62,871.00
Eight-Month Shortfall	\$ -37,629.00

At the October, 2012 Synodical Committee meeting, a budget of \$67,000 was approved for each mission program (Foreign and Home).

At joint meetings of the Foreign and Home Mission Boards a decision was made that the income would be reported jointly not separately.

The Foreign Mission Fund supports the missionaries listed on Page 26 of the October, 2013 Brethren Journal.

The Home Mission Fund supports the Cade Lake Mission and In God's Hands Food Pantry Ministry in Burleson County, Texas.

Contributions to the two mission funds can be made to:

Unity of the Brethren Financial Secretary

Dan Merz

220 Nelsonville Church Road

Bellville, Texas 77418

Prepared By:  
Marvin Chlapek  
Unity Financial Secretary  
30 September 2013

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tbc@hot.rr.com

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## Seaton Brethren Church

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Church Phone: 254-985-2694  
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Charles Amos Sr., Board of Elders Chair



## Unity of the Brethren Synodical Committee Executive Officers Installed for 2013-2015

Executive Officers of the Unity Synodical Committee were installed at the Fall meeting held on October 5, 2013, at the Hus School Encampment.

Outgoing members are: 2nd Vice President, Rev. James Hejl; 3rd Vice President, Rev. Tommy Tallas; Finan-

cial Secretary, Marvin Chlapek; and Non-Voting Member, Dorothy Milberger.

Appreciation and thanks were given to those members not returning to the board, in addition to those remaining.



The Synodical Committee Executive Officers for the 2013-2015 term are:

President – James Marek (Taylor)

2nd Vice President – Rev. Michael Groseclose (Nelsonville)

3rd Vice President – Dr. Jerry Terrill (Houston)

Secretary – Liz Ripple (Fayetteville)

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Diane Heckman, Manager

## Czech Republic Mission Trip 2013

- by Dan Jakubik

This past summer I had the privilege to go on a mission trip to the Czech Republic with members of the Fields of Faith group from Dallas, Texas. It was a journey of a lifetime, one filled with joy and excitement upon seeing the homeland where my Czech ancestors lived before they immigrated to Texas.

To my surprise, however, this joy quickly disappeared when I realized that my beloved homeland is very dark spiritually. Why? Because the light of our blessed Lord does not shine as brightly as it should. This revelation has prompted my testimony through this article and my future efforts to return the Christian faith to the homeland from where it was founded grew, and then was eventually destroyed through the years by multiple social and political events.

Shortly, after my arrival in Prague, I realized that there was no real large Christian work in the Czech Republic. Yes, organized religion is alive and well, but not the Christian

faith. Yes, there are some gatherings such as church services, bible studies, etc. Biblical Christian faith is not practiced on a large scale. In fact, very few people I spoke with practiced a religion or the Christian faith, own a Bible. They did not have someone to tell them why it was so important that they should each experience a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Out of the 450-plus individual contacts, we estimated that only a very small percentage knew how to be saved.

Reread I Peter 3:15, "Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you for reason of the hope that is in you." You will recall how important it is to establish a common ground so that you can share your Christian faith. The Holy Spirit always provides the words and picture stories that will help develop this con-nection. We can only present our personal testimony, and we must remember it is only God that can do the saving. →



### 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

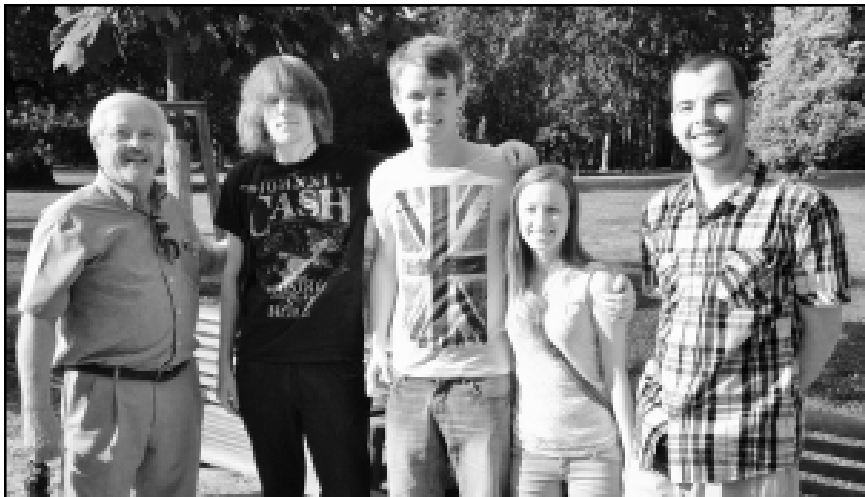
Rev. Rick Chandler  
(281) 355-1474

Church Phone – (281) 955-1655

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

President: Rev. Henry Beseda





*Sharing the gospel with college students in Olomouc, CR.*

There I stood in an Eastern European country – an odd kind of foreigner – not from there, but yet from there; maybe even related to some of them. I had to find a way to bridge the gap and share the gospel.

As I visited with the Czech people, I recalled these words of Peter, and I began my contact with them on a personal level. I told them that I was a full-blooded Czech from Texas, visiting my homeland for the first time to find the homes and villages of my ancestors, but more importantly to make contact with the Czech people themselves. I reminded them that my ancestors left for socio-economic reasons, but more so to have freedom from religion as they best understood at that time according to the teachings of John Hus. I shared with them that my ancestors took their deep abiding Christian faith and left all they had for hope in a new land, The United States, eventually to settle in

the blackland belt of Texas. They built Czech communities, continuing all their homeland traditions and Christian faith.

With a connection established, I then would ask permission to ask them a question. With their consent, I asked them, where is the Christian faith in the Czech Republic today that John Hus died for? Where are the churches with doors opened wide that teach the truth that John Hus was willing to die for? Why don't Czechs have a relationship with Christ?

To my surprise, after I shared the gospel with them, they asked: "Jesus died from what? What sin? What is sin?" They had no concept of the word "sin." They did not know that they were lost and destined for an eternity in hell already condemned by God. I shared scripture with them so that they would see where God's word states, that "all" people have fallen short of the will and purpose of

God. Now with each person I shared the good news with, the fallen human state – a sinful state – emerged. In response to hearing the word of God, they responded with all types of excuses why they do not need to believe. Some seemed to think that it was a new age and they had no need for the old ideas like following the Biblical teachings. Like it's a new age, the old is left behind for the new. We don't need God. We are not accountable to God. Some even blamed the former destructive Communist rule destroying all that was known about God through the true preaching of the word of God.

Don't misunderstand me. Today's Czech people are smart, well aware of world events, educated with philosophies of the new age. All of them believe that they are living a good moral life, treating others well and through their lives contributing to the social good and order of the Czech Republic.

Here in the US, we send missionaries all over the world to share the good news about Jesus Christ. Our list includes the Congo, Costa Rica, the American Indian Reservations, Panama, China, and others. Rarely do we see Europe on the list. I am here to challenge individuals to help send their Christian faith back to their homeland. It's time for us to take our Christian faith back to the Czech Republic. Don't just send it; take it yourself!

I am already planning to return to the Czech Republic next year. Look

around the world today; we only have a short time to share Christ before great tribulation and persecution comes upon the Church in America. Long ago Amos Comenius' famous prayer was...

...As they bade farewell to their native land they did so in the firm conviction that they themselves should see the day when the Church of the Brethren should stand once more in her ancient home; and as they stood on a spur of the giant mountains, and saw the old loved hills and dales, the towns and hamlets, the nestling churches, Comenius raised his eyes to heaven and uttered that historic prayer which was to have so marvelous an answer. He prayed that in the old home God would preserve a "Hidden Seed," which would one day grow into a tree. (Source)

I can tell you that, yes, absolutely that small seed is still there; it's hidden; it has not grown into a tree. It will not grow until you and I pray about the work needed in the Czech Republic. That seed will not grow into a tree until people like you and I care about the lost souls in the Czech Republic. If you don't share the Word, how will they ever hear?

Cornelius lifted a prayer that the Church of the Brethren should stand once again in its homeland. Come and help us work so that Cornelius' prayer will be fully answered.

Additional information available. Contact Doug Jakubik at [txhr1@msn.com](mailto:txhr1@msn.com).

## Temple Brethren to Hold Christmas Bible School

The Temple Brethren Church will hold a 2-day Christmas Bible School on Saturday, December 21, and Monday, December 23, 2013, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each day. The church is located at 2202 Birdcreek Dr., in Temple, Texas.

The theme of this 2-day educational/activity program is “*Finding Jesus*” and will focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

Sign up early to reserve your child, grandchild, or neighborhood children involvement in the program. Open to children ages 3 years old through the 5th grade, and special needs children are encouraged to attend.

Volunteers are needed in various capacities to have a successful and spiritually uplifting event.

Call the church office at (254) 778-8759, leave a message, email [tbc@hot.rr.com](mailto:tbc@hot.rr.com), or contact one of the following to reserve your child's spot or to volunteer: Gayle Farrow, [gfarrow@hot.rr.com](mailto:gfarrow@hot.rr.com); or Michelle McCullough, [jacqsmom@gmail.com](mailto:jacqsmom@gmail.com); or call Grace Labaj (254) 773-4427, or Johnnie Ann Labaj (254) 778-3293.

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### 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](mailto:jennchervenka@farm-market.net)

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

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

### Oversight of Synodical

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

**Programming Director:** Kayla Marek, 901 Hidden Valley Dr. #9302, Round Rock, TX 78665; [kmarek2012@gmail.com](mailto:kmarek2012@gmail.com)

## Changes Coming to the Brethren Journal

During the Unity Convention in July, new *Brethren Journal* Business Committee members were elected to fill open positions.

Effective with their installation at the Fall Synodical Board meeting on October 5 at the Hus Encampment, the committee members are: Cathleen Schlechte, *Editor*; Ben Polasek, *Business Manager*; Rev. Mike Groseclose, *President* (Synodical Committee 3rd VP); Dorothy Milberger, *Treasurer*; Rev. Kay Polasek, *Secretary*.

Many thanks and appreciation go to Rev. Tommy Tallas, *President*, and Alice Kocurek, *Treasurer*, for their hard work and dedication to ensure that *The Brethren Journal* continues to be an important part of the Unity of the Brethren.

The new committee has met since the convention to discuss the future of the *Brethren Journal*. Discussions centered primarily on the solvency of the *Journal* in regard to advertising and subscription rates.

In light of the increases in the cost to produce the *Journal* over the past 7 or more years since the last in-

crease, and in the spirit of good stewardship, the committee decided that it was appropriate at this time to increase the rates for both subscriptions and advertising.

Effective with the expiration of the current subscriptions on December 31, 2013, and beginning on January 1, 2014, the cost of all subscriptions will be \$15 per year for 10 issues. The special discounted rate for churches will be discontinued.

At the same time, advertising costs for religious ads will increase from \$15 to \$30 per column inch. Commercial rates will remain the same for now, and the committee will be looking to solicit additional ads to help cover costs.

In addition, the committee has resolved to work on increasing the readability of the *Journal* by researching other options available in print and digital formats.

The committee would like to encourage our readers to provide input on what they would like to see more...or less of in the *Journal*. Ideas are wel-



## 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	Board of Elders President	Youth Directors
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

comed, and we encourage each Congregation to become a part of *The Brethren Journal* by having their own “zealous” reporter send information about the events happening at their church to the Editor for publication. It can be as simple as sending a copy of their newsletter or bulletin by email or regular mail each month. Submissions can be sent to the Editor at: [editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com) or by regular mail to 3635 County Rd. 225, Caldwell, Texas 77836.

The Business Committee would like to thank you for your continued support of *The Brethren Journal*.

#### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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[d\\_kubala@yahoo.com](mailto:d_kubala@yahoo.com)

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 (979) 272-8691, (979) 272-8786.

**Secretary:** Kim Kennard, 4501 Oxford, Temple, TX 76502.  
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**Financial Secretary:** Carol Miller, 1710 West O.S.R., Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 567-7774 (h), (979) 220-0030 (c).  
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**Treasurer:** Mary Kokes, 451 CR 369, Taylor, TX 76574.  
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[mama\\_dgrimm@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

#### GRANGER BRETHREN CHURCH

1903 *Where it all began*

306 WEST BROADWAY STREET, GRANGER, TX 76530

Sunday Services 9:00 a.m.  
 Fellowship, Refreshments & Bible Study 10:15 a.m.

Pastor, Rev. Larry Zabcik  
 (903) 265-2277



## Your Brethren Journal Subscription Expires December 31st

*Annual Subscription Rate – \$15.00/year*

**CONSIDER making a donation . . .** to support the publication of *The Brethren Journal*, or, better yet, join the Friends of the Brethren Journal. We depend on gifts from those who read and appreciate the information we share each year. Donations help pay \$3.05 per copy for mailing issues to our missionaries.

Your gift is tax deductible.

## SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM

**Send to Business Manager: Ben Polasek,  
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## Thoughts about giving...

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Psalms 71:3*

Be thou my strong  
habitation...for thou  
art my rock.

Sunday School  
Helper



Fairy tales are often read as bedtime stories or as videos children enjoy on the big screen or at home. At times, we may be reluctant to draw comparisons between the Bible and these stories from popular culture. We know the Bible is Truth and these are merely made up stories. Yet throughout his ministry, Jesus used parables — fictitious stories — to explain in ways humans could understand the incomprehensible logic of heaven and the kingdom of God. While our human nature causes us to identify with the jealous older brother, Jesus' parable about the prodigal son calls us to open our arms as the father did...and come home with humility as the son did. Different from fairy tales, Jesus began or ended the parables he told with a statement that said, "This is the point. If you get anything out of the story, get this." So next time we read that fairy tale or watch that movie, let's add the lesson.

## The Three Little Pigs & The Big Bad Wolf

1. Review the story of The Three Little Pigs. You can read the story, watch a movie, or simply retell the story.
2. Explain the Biblical Lessons that can be found in the story of the three little pigs.
  - a. The first two pigs didn't send much time making their houses. They hurried and cut corners.
  - b. When the wolf showed up, he easily blew down the houses of straw and sticks.
  - c. He even dressed as a sheep in some versions of the story. This is an important lesson. Sometimes things are not as they seem. Jesus even warns of false prophets which come in sheep's clothing (Matt 7:15).
  - d. The third pig worked much harder and stayed at it much longer as he built his house out of bricks. He knew that building his house of something strong would provide him protection. Jesus wants us to build our house on the rock (Luke 6:48).
  - e. When the wolf showed up at the third house, he huffed and puffed, but couldn't blow the house down. This is just like the man who built his house upon the rock. Even though rains and floods came, his house stood firm.
  - f. We need to build our lives on the Rock and then we can survive the wolves, storms, and floods that life brings.

For  
comments/questions/  
information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



## Thoughts for Teens

### Building on the Rock

**Materials:** bricks, blocks, dominoes, cards, straws, paper rolls, any other "building objects"

**Activity:**

Have youth build a tall tower using the materials provided. You can break into groups. Just provide each group with identical materials.

Have the youth repeat the activity, but this time build the tower on top of a pillow.

**Ask:**

Compare the activities. Which foundation was more effective?

Why is a strong foundation important?

Is your life built on the solid rock or shifting sand?

**Biblical Application:**

Matthew 7:24  
Matthew 16:18



# DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

## Daily Morsels for November 2013

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Put your hope in God, for I will praise Him, my Savior and my God. Ps. 43:5
2. May my meditation be pleasing to Him, as I rejoice in the Lord. Ps. 104:34
3. **Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. Ps. 105:4**
4. In God we make our boast all day long, and we will praise Your name forever. Ps. 44:8
5. When they heard that the Lord was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshiped. Ex. 4:31
6. And God said, "I will be with you." Ex. 3:12
7. Then the people bowed down and worshiped. Ex. 12:28
8. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing. Ps. 100:2
9. Blessed are those who make the Lord their trust. Ps. 40:4
10. **"I will take you as My people, and I will be your God." Ex. 6:7**
11. I sought the Lord, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Ps. 34:4
12. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you. Ex. 14:13
13. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still. Ex. 14:4
14. Peace to all of you who are in Christ. 1 Pet. 5:14
15. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His. Ps. 103:3
16. Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Ps. 105:3
17. **Look, the Lamb of God. Who takes away the sins of the world! Jn. 1:29**
18. Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the eternal inheritance. Heb. 9:15
19. Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith. Heb. 10:22
20. "I did not see a temple (in the new Jerusalem), for the Lord Almighty and the Lamb are its temple." Rev. 21:22
21. The one who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, will be blessed in what He does. James 1:25
22. Moses did everything just as the Lord commanded him. Ex. 40:16
23. Now begin the work, and the Lord will be with you. 1 Chron. 22:16
24. **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory. Isa. 6:3**
25. Be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God, for He has given you autumn rains in righteousness. Joel 2:23
26. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God. Ps. 147:1
27. Let us offer to God a sacrifice of praise, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. Heb. 13:15
28. Do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased. Heb. 13:16
29. Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving. Col. 4:2
30. Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation. 2 Cor. 6:2

### 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.*

## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT DEATHS

PAYSSE, SHIRLEY (PALLA), age 69, died October 7, 2013, at Temple. She was a student in the Hus School Class of 1960. She was the Chair of the Temple Brethren Church Special Fund project during the congregation's relocation from 1987 to 1989. Born August 19, 1944, at Temple. Married June 27, 1964, to John Paysse. Is survived by husband, 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 2 sisters. Services were on October 11, 2013, from Temple Bible Church with burial in Bellwood Memorial Park. Ministers: Mark L. Labaj and Gary DeSalvo.

### 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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Ruth Ann Wuensche, Treasurer  
Dorothy Hinson, Jr. Dept. Secretary  
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John Brinkley, (254) 721-3196

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#### BYF Representative:

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

#### Synodical Committee Liaison:

Rev. Rev. Lawrence Juneke, 3316 Lyle Ave., Waco, TX 76708. (254) 714-2622

#### ADVISORY MEMBERS

Rev. Milton & Jean Maly  
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## HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH

6207 North Main, Houston, TX 77009 – (713) 864-6707

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

**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill**

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

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

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

**November 2 – Seaton Brethren Church Fall Bake Sale and Quilt Show.** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kolaches, cakes, pies, craft items, homemade canned goods, and soup and sandwiches for lunch. A resale/rummage shop and quilts will be on display. Drawings for a quilt and other prizes to be given away for love donations of \$1 per ticket or \$5 for 6. Free admission. For more information, please contact Helen Haisler by phone: (254) 718-5356, or by email: [helenhaisler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:helenhaisler@sbcglobal.net).

**November 24 – Temple Brethren Church will host Carolyn Groseclose** at 1 p.m. Carolyn will give a presentation of her mission work in Zambia, Africa. Contact [tbc@hot.rr.com](mailto:tbc@hot.rr.com) or call Grace Labaj at (254) 773-4427 for further information. Everyone is invited!

**November 28 – Thanksgiving Day.**

**December 8 – BYF Winter Retreat registration deadline.**

**December 21 (Saturday) and December 23 (Monday) – Christmas Bible School at the Temple Brethren Church.** 9 a.m.-1:30 each day. Theme is “Finding Jesus” and will focus on the true meaning of Christmas. All children 3 years to 5th grade welcome. No fees involved and early sign-up is encouraged. For more information, or to sign your child(ren) up or to volunteer, call the church office (254) 778-8759, leave a message, email [tbc@hot.rr.com](mailto:tbc@hot.rr.com) or contact Grace Labaj at (254) 773-4427 (*also, see article in this issue*).

**December 25 – Christmas Day**

**January 3-5, 2014 – BYF Winter Retreat**

*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](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com). Information must be received by the first day of the month immediately preceding the month of publication.*

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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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.  
Family Night, 1st & 3rd Weds. each  
month in Fellowship Hall. Bring a  
snack, a game, and a friend if able.  
– Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

---

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

---

Crosby – 9:00 AM: Worship  
10:00 AM: Faith Adventure  
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

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Cy-Fair Community Church – worship at  
10:45 AM every Sunday.  
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays – Rev. Rick Chandler  
2nd & 4th Sundays – open

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Dime Box – worship at 9:00 AM every  
Sunday.  
– Rev. Jim Heckman

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

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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.  
– Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill

---

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

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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

---

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  
Communion every 5th Sunday.  
– Visiting Ministers



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 2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South  
 www.unityofthebrethren.org



**Rev. Mark Sebek**

**Mailing Address:**  
 P.O. Box 9283  
 College Station, TX 77842

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**Sunday School 10:45 A.M.**  
**Off: 979-693-3606**  
**email: papasebek@gmx.com**

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PS Form 3526, August 2012 (Page 2 of 3)

**WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH**

15635 Westheimer Road  
 Houston, Texas 77082

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

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



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- Taylor #3: Marie Ann Ripple, 2302  
Heights Blvd., Taylor, TX 76574,  
512-365-6916
- West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107  
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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](mailto:rev.tjt@verizon.net)

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[www.wallbrethrenchurch.org](http://www.wallbrethrenchurch.org)

**Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:45 a.m.**

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325-651-7597

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325-227-7242

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