

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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36 Pages



*19th Annual Primetimers' Retreat in October
(see inside cover for names of those who attended)*

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Industry BC Columbarium Dedication
Time to Renew Your Subscription . . . Expires December 31st!

. . . and much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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**Primetimers' Retreat 2013
Group Picture**

Row 1: Carolyn Surovik, Vlasta Surovik, Joyce Baletka, Linda Flens, Susan Hanna, Georgia Tyroch, Johnnie Ann Labaj, Marvin Labaj, Ruth Kohutek

Row 2: Barbara Junek, LaNelle McKay, Carolyn Groseclose, Kathy Smith, Marie Ann Ripple, Angie Malecoat, Rose Anne Groseclose, Charles Groseclose

Row 3: Rev. Mike Groseclose, Frank McKay, Wiley Marx, Janet Pomykal, Margie Kelarek, Dorothy Milberger, Ester Merritt, Alice Chlapek, Marvin Chlapek, Daniel C. Lesikar, Lanelle Lesikar

Row 4: J.T. Verwold, Donna Verwold, Kimberly Kennard, Evelyn Matcek, Gayle Farrow, Ginger Mebane, Rev. Lawrence Junek

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**President's Column . . . James Marek
What Lies Ahead for *The Brethren Journal*?**

When Rev. Adolph Chlumsky first published the *Bratske Listy* more than 110 years ago, he did so primarily to facilitate and foster communication between individual Brethren Churches. *The Bratske Listy* or *Brethren Journal*, as we know it today, has been an important communication



tool and the only official publication our denomination has ever had. It is actually older than the present Unity of the Brethren that exists today. *The Brethren Journal* has served the Unity well for many years, but has recently fallen on some challenging times.

In recent years, the admired publication has struggled to keep pace with its financial obligations. At the most recent Synodical Committee meeting, a \$7,000 loan was approved to meet the operational expenses through the end of the

year. This was the second operating loan provided to *The Brethren Journal* in less than 6 years. Escalating printing costs coupled with declining circulation and advertising revenue have contributed to the current financial state of *The Brethren Journal*. Some have questioned whether *The Brethren*

Journal can continue in its current form and under the current financial model.

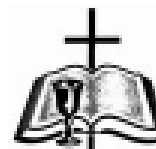
How It is Funded?

The Brethren Journal derives its support from subscription revenue, advertising revenue, the occasional donation, and a portion of the Brethren Fund (fee collected by the Unity from all Brethren Churches at the rate of \$30 per member per year). In recent years, 10% of the Brethren Fund has been directed to



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the operation of *The Brethren Journal*. In an effort to improve the financial condition of *The Brethren Journal*, the 2013 Convention voted to increase the support from the Brethren Fund to 20%. While this move will certainly help, more will likely need to be done to ensure the continuation of *The Brethren Journal* – at least in its current form.

What Else is Being Done?

In addition to approving an operational loan, the Synodical Committee also approved an increase in *The Brethren Journal* subscription rate from \$12 to \$15. This was the first increase in the subscription rate since 2002, when the subscription rate went from \$10 to \$12. The Synodical Committee also instructed *The Brethren Journal* Business Committee to work with the new communications committee, authorized by the 2013 convention, to investigate ways to further increase revenue and decrease expenses. Once again, the idea of reducing or eliminating the commercial printing of *The Brethren Journal* was discussed. It was suggested that an electronic ver-

sion of *The Brethren Journal* could be emailed to the local churches and the local churches would then be responsible for printing paper copies for members who did not have access to email or a computer. The assumption is that by reducing the costs associated with commercial printing, a significant portion of the total production cost could also be reduced. A motion was passed that instructed *The Brethren Journal* Business Committee and the communications committee to investigate an electronic production option and any other scenarios that may be viable long-term solutions to the financial hardship of this treasured publication.

Is there Anything Else That Can Be Done?

Since serving on the Synodical Executive Committee, I have learned it is always a good idea to look at the bylaws when challenges, questions, or problems arise within the Unity. It may surprise some to learn that our current Unity Bylaws stress the need for an advocate for *The Brethren Journal* in each congregation. Article II Section (O)

says “The congregation shall elect a zealous agent for *The Brethren Journal*, who shall work diligently to gain more subscribers for *The Brethren Journal*.” I am not sure that any of our churches still elect a zealous agent for *The Brethren Journal*. Unfortunately, the absence of these advocates may be contributing to the hardship facing *The Brethren Journal* today. Although there are still approximately 1800 members in the Unity today, the current circulation of *The Brethren Journal* is only 864. Some congregations have made the decision to increase the circulation of *The Brethren Journal* in their individual congregations by paying for a subscription for all members. This begs the question, “Should each Brethren household receive a *Brethren Journal*?” “Should the local congregations make sure its members receive a *Brethren Journal*?” “Is the expense of a subscription for each member worth considering as a line item in local church budgets?”

Financial problems aside, *The Brethren Journal* continues to be a source of information on current events within the Unity. It also has a proven track record as a dependable source of historical information and vital statistics accessed by many people within and outside the

Unity. *The Brethren Journal* Business Committee, the communications committee, and the Synodical Committee will be working together to consider and develop ideas and strategies to ensure *The Brethren Journal* continues to be a part of our denomination for another 110 years. May God Bless their work.

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Fall Synodical Committee Meeting October 5, 2013 – MINUTES

(Note: All attachments mentioned in the minutes are posted on the Unity website. If you require a copy of the attachment, please contact Liz Ripple.)

President James Marek opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were 48 people present: Synodical Lay members (14) – J. Marek, L. Ripple, D. Merz, D. Weise, R. Dusek, R. Runnels, M. Chlapek, H. Treybig, R. Schlechte, R. Brinkley, A. Kocurek, G. Farrow, D. Kocian, L. Parthum.

Ministers (13) – L. Butcher, J. Emerson, M. Groseclose, J. Heckman, J. Hejl, L. Junek, L. Koslovsky, M. Labaj, V. Mitchell, B. Rinderknecht, N. Strickland, T. Tallas, J. Terrill.

Others – 21. (Roll Call is on the Unity website)



The Morning Devotional was brought by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell. She read from Jeremiah 1:1-4 and 5-10. Rev. Mitchell said that we need the fire of the Lord in the Unity as a group and we need to have a constant

appetite for Jesus. We worship God in everything we do – through prayer, even the business of this meeting today is a way to worship God. Rev. Mitchell also gave the opening prayer.

James read the Unity Prayer: “Holy Spirit, as in the past you united different men and women and made them one, so bring us together in a oneness that celebrates our diversity of talent and ability. May our personalities blend in a superb harmony, as, laying our egos aside, we learn to prefer one another and to delight in encouraging the gifts we see in others. Let there be no star temperament, no prima donna behavior among us, but a sense of ensemble, as we try to be as anonymous as possible so that you can shine through our efforts to the glory of Christ. And when all is done, may we be in the wings and HE in the spotlight, taking center stage and receiving all the applause! Holy Spirit, you who are fully God and yet so anonymous, hide us that we may reveal Him. Amen.”

President Marek reported that all



	<p>CY-FAIR COMMUNITY CHURCH (Unity of the Brethren) Worship – 10:45 A.M. Sunday School – 9:30 A.M.</p>	
<p>Pastors: Rev. Henry Beseda (979) 567-7033 Rev. Rick Chandler (281) 355-1474 Church Phone – (281) 955-1655</p>	<p>12915 Cypress North Houston P.O. Box 0233 Cypress, TX 77410-0233 President: Rev. Henry Beseda</p>	

of the referendum items passed. There were no questions (see attachment – Agenda #III). There was a motion made by D. Weise to accept the results as presented; second by Bro. Groseclose. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Bro. Jim Heckman to accept the minutes from the 2013 Convention and from the April 13, 2013, meeting; second by Dan Merz. Motion passed. (*Secretary's note: On page 19 of the convention minutes, Suzie Dusek is noted as having seconded the motion regarding the salary for the State Youth Coordinator. Suzie Dusek was not a member of the convention, Beth Dusek seconded that motion. This will be noted as an addendum to the convention minutes.*)

The list of candidates for Unity Offices were: Unity Archivist - Clint Machann; Brethren Bookstore Manager - Diane Heckman; Brethren Journal Treasurer - Dorothy Milberger; Hus School Board of Trustees Chairman - Mark Olsen; Hus School Board of Trustees Treasurer - Ron Krueger; Hus Board of Trustees Synodical Representative - Phil Michalik; Board of Christian Education - Jean Kotrla and Dorothy Kocian; Foreign Mis-

sion Board - Joyce Baletka, John Brinkley, Anne Wentreck; Home Mission Board - Dorothy Hinson, Ben Kruse, Angie Hairrell, Alton Urbanovsky, Martha Dove, Claren Kotrla. There was discussion. A motion was made by Bro. Tommy Tallas to accept the slate of appointments as presented and to grant authority to the Executive Committee to fill the Hus Board position if Phil Michalik does not accept; second by Bro. Heckman. Motion passes.

Rev. Jimmy Hejl led the installation ceremony of the new Executive Officers: President - James Marek, 1st Vice President - Rev. Lawrence Junek, 2nd Vice President - Rev. Mike Groseclose, 3rd Vice President - Rev. Jerry Terrill, Secretary - Liz Ripple, Treasurer - Dewyan Weise, Financial Secretary - Dan Merz. James thanked Rev. Jimmy Hejl, Rev. Tommy Tallas, and Marvin Chlapek for serving on the Executive committee from 2011-2013 and also for their past service.

The committee discussed renewing the 1-year ministerial license for Rev. David Johnson and Rev. Larry Butcher. Rev. Butcher plans to retire next year in September. There was discussion. A motion was made by

Rev. Junek to renew their licenses; second by Rev. Heckman. Motion passed.

President Marek reported that the Unity has had to advance *The Brethren Journal* \$1500.00, and they have paid back all but \$444.25. They will still need \$7,000.00 to finish the year. Alice Kocurek - *Brethren Journal* treasurer, came forward to give her report (see attachment - Agenda VII). She stated that the Journal does have a future. Cathleen Schlechte (BJ Editor) also came forward and reported that the BJ committee has had a meeting and some of the things they want to do include try to focus more on advertising; increase the subscription rate to \$15 a year, and the special rate to churches will be discontinued; increase the rates on religious ads; work on having a facebook page; finding a new printer, the set-up person wants to quit - hopefully they can find someone who could do both of these jobs. Bro. Mike Groseclose, President of the BJ Business Committee, reported the need for the Journal to be more financially responsible – to charge what needs to be charged. There was discussion. 864 journals were printed last month. There was a

question asked about email subscriptions and discussion on hard copies vs. on-line versions.

A motion was made by Rev. Junek to loan *The Brethren Journal* \$7,000 so they can pay their bills until the end of the year; second by Harvey Treybig. Discussion. The loan would come from the contingency fund. The motion passed. There was discussion on how the loan would be paid. A motion was made by D. Weise to allow the executive committee to work out the payment plan with the loan; second by Rev. Groseclose. The motion passed.


A motion was made by Rev. Mitchell to put the BJ on the website for everyone for free; second by Rev. Rinderknecht. There was discussion. An amendment to the motion was made by Gayle Farrow to add the words “have the business committee address”. Amended motion: Have the business committee address putting the BJ on the website for everyone for free. Second by Robin Brinkley. Amendment to the motion passed. There was discussion on the amended motion to have the business committee address putting the BJ on the website for



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everyone for free. Discussion that the business committee would review the proposal of putting the BJ online for free and consider the financial impact, etc. It would not be put online for free until this financial impact is figured out. James said we need to see how severely cutting the number of printed copies would affect the printing costs. If our costs are not cut commensurately by only printing a few paper copies, it would not be wise to do this. Amended motion passes.

A motion was made by Gayle Farrow to accept the proposal from *The Brethren Journal* to raise subscription and advertising rates (\$15.00 per issue of the BJ); second by D. Weise. Motion passes.

President Marek had Kent Laza, Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board, come forward and give his report (see attachment - Agenda VIII; this also includes a "Mission Funds Income Report" from M. Chlapek). A 40% decrease to each program is proposed. There are no reserves available; funds would come from the contingency fund to meet the budget for 2013. Discussion. Ben Kruse had "mission coin banks" that he suggests to give to church members or

anyone that wants to contribute for missions. More discussion. There was no report from the Home Missions Board. Rev. David Johnson serves as the Chairman. A motion was made by Rev. Larry Koslovsky to continue with the current missions 2013 budget that we presently have (\$67,000 for both home and foreign mission budgets) until next September 2014; second by Rev. Rinderknecht. There was discussion. Bro. Mike Groseclose announced that there will be a Unity Golf tournament to raise money for missions. More discussion. A paper ballot was taken on the vote. While the votes were being counted, Bro. Mark Labaj gave a report on the college campus ministry (see attachment - Agenda A). The motion passed 23-3. Kent reported that both boards, Foreign and Home Missions, have a Power Point presentation that they can present to the churches.

An invitation has been extended by the Nelsonville and Wesley Brethren Churches to host the 2015 Unity Convention. That year is the 600th anniversary of Jan Hus's martyrdom and plans will be made to recognize that occasion. The date will be decided later and may be held on Friday,

Saturday, and Sunday. Speakers for the convention will be contacted soon. A motion was made by Rev. Tallas to accept the invitation from Nelsonville and Wesley; second by Dorothy Kocian. Motion passes.

We have received a gift deed for 2 lots that are located in Cade Lake. Dan Merz (Nelsonville) and Ted Hejl (Taylor) - (both men are attorneys) - have looked over the paperwork. There was discussion. A motion was made by Rev. Junek to pursue accepting the gift deed; second by Harvey Treybig. Motion passed.

President Marek reported that Bro. Jimmy Hejl is willing to make the trip to the Moravian Synod Southern Province meeting, which will be held April 3-6, 2014, in Black Mountain, North Carolina. A motion was made by Rev. Groseclose to send Bro. Jimmy Hejl as the Unity representative and pay the air fare/travel expense for the trip; second by Rev Tallas; passed.

President Marek reported that back in 2003 or so we had a seat on the Board of World Missions. There were some issues that came up, and in July 2003 we withdrew from the board. We currently have sent representatives to the meetings, but they do not vote.

The BWM are modifying their by-laws and we are a part of those by-laws. We need to let them know if we want to formalize this arrangement. There was discussion. A motion was made by Rev. J. Hejl that the Unity of the Brethren accepts a seat on the Moravian Board of World Missions and will become active again; second by Rev. Groseclose. After more discussion, the motion passed 24-2.

A motion was made by Rev. Junek that the Chairman of the Foreign Mission Board be the Unity's representative on the BWM; second by Dan Merz; discussion; motion passed.

President Marek reported about the creation of a Communications Committee. He said that we could offer names to serve on this committee and by the next meeting have a slate of people to elect. We need some younger people - the 30-somethings - to serve on this committee and we need to focus on ideas for this committee - particularly the website. *The Brethren Journal* business committee will investigate the possibility of putting the BJ online for free. A motion was made by Gayle Farrow to have the executive committee appoint



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Church Phone: 254-985-2694
seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com

Rev. Denise Mikeska, Pastor - sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com
Steve Davis, Youth Pastor - sbcpastorsteve@yahoo.com
Charles Amos Sr., Board of Elders Chair

the Communications Committee and be in place before the next meeting; second by Rev. Strickland; discussion; motion passed.

The next Synodical Committee meeting will be held on Saturday, April 5, 2014.

Announcements made: James announced that Tim Chaplin, ministerial student, is present and that Bro. Jimmy Hejl is mentoring him. Tim reported that he has 2 years of seminary school left. He is currently ministering at Temple Brethren. Dan Merz (new Financial Secretary) has his contact information on the table. Dewyan announced that the expense voucher is on the Unity website for those wanting to submit their mileage for today. Bro. Bill Rinderknecht announced that he has retired from teaching and that he has accepted the pastorship of a church in Ohio. He will be moving later this month.

Reports submitted included: President's report, James Marek (see attachment - Agenda B); Secretary report: A summary of the convention was printed in *The Brethren Journal* (see Agenda C). If anyone would like a convention booklet, there were some left over and to please take one from

the table. She asked that if a congregation has a new Synodical Representative, to please send the name and email address as soon as possible. The current representative list is being used until she gets informed otherwise. Liz will be relying on the Ministers and Synodical Representatives to share all information received from her with their congregation. She also announced that the roll call will be done as in the past and asked that everyone sign in; Treasurer's report, Dewyan Weise (see attachment Agenda - D); Financial Secretary, Marvin Chlapek (see attachment - Agenda E); Youth Coordinator, Jennifer Chervenka (see attachment - Agenda F).

A motion was made by Rev. Groseclose to adjourn the meeting; second by Rev. Rinderknecht; motion passed. Rev. Koslovsky ended the meeting in a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Ripple, Secretary, 2011-2015,
Unity of the Brethren

Continued Thanks

- by Jim Pokorny

By the time you read this, Thanksgiving will have all but passed into memory and thoughts undoubtedly will be turning to Christmas. But before Thanksgiving is completely relegated to the past, there is a special Thanksgiving memory I would like to share with you.

You see, for me the holiday season always seems to begin with the community Thanksgiving service which takes place several days before Thanksgiving.

Churches in the community take turns hosting the service and clergy from various churches each take part. Canned goods are collected and an offering is taken up with all donations supporting the local food pantry. Ironically, its level of need rises during that time of year when most of us concern ourselves with eating too much.

The service is always uplifting, but I also look forward to what takes place immediately following the service. It is at this point that the host church provides refreshments to those

who desire additional fellowship. While the folks at my church will willingly attest to the fact that I never pass up a chance at coffee, I also enjoy meeting new people and always plan to stay for this informal gathering.

A few years ago I was savoring my coffee at this gathering when a lady some years my senior walked into the church's fellowship hall. Although I had never met her personally, I knew of her because she was well known in the community as a veritable treasure trove of historical information on the town and its families.

I watched her move from table to table spending time with first one group of people and then another. Although I was too far away to pick up on any of the conversation, I could tell by the expressions of those around her that they knew her well, enjoyed her company, and appreciated her sense of humor.

Being as fascinated with history as I am, I really hoped that eventually she would make her way to the table



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at which I was seated and that some sort of introduction could be made. As the minutes ticked away, I realized that this was likely not to happen.

That concern became reality when she suddenly decided to leave and made her way to the door. It was dark outside and I wondered how far away she had parked because of the number of people that had attended the service.

Being my mother's son, I excused myself from the table and intercepted her at the door.

"Excuse me, ma'am," I offered, "but would you like me to walk you to your car?"

Her response was not at all what I expected.

She stopped abruptly, looked me in square in the eye and asked rather emphatically, "Why?!"

To be honest, I could not even be sure it was even a question because of the tone in which she delivered it.

Having dealt with those of the

feminine persuasion before, I quickly realized that I was on very dangerous ground and that my footing was tenuous at best. The warning lights and sirens in my imagination were not helping matters either.

Trying to sound even more Texan than usual I truthfully offered, "I meant no offense ma'am. That's just the way Mom raised me."

At that, she relaxed and said, "It's always good to meet a young man (her words, not mine) who does what 'Mom' says." With that she smiled and offered me her arm.

I took it in mine and we walked out together.

It had grown considerably chillier outside as the evening progressed, and as we walked we discussed some of the history of the community.

When we arrived at her vehicle, formal introductions were made and the conversation turned to our respective family trees. To my delight, we then discussed history in general.

Eventually, the evening chill finally overcame whatever warmth the coffee and conversation had provided. We said our farewells and she drove away.

I will never forget that snapshot in time and the wonderful conversation I had with this kindred spirit. It was one of those special, unplanned moments that I thanked God for arranging. That sense of gratitude was made even more special because within a year this wonderful woman passed away.

It also makes me grateful to Him for the wonderful mother He gave me and for the lessons she taught me, although I confess she may have left this world wondering just how many of them managed to sink in.

As time continues its march ever forward, I find I have more and more for which to give Him thanks.

This is especially true of His placing me in the family known as The Unity of The Brethren.

Some of you I see every Sunday. Some of you I have met only once or twice. Some of you I may never actually meet face to face in this world. Whatever the frequency, or infrequency, of our contact, I am truly thankful to God for each and every one of you.

I am also thankful for *The Brethren Journal* and the invitation extended to me to pursue this ministry,

The world seemingly demands more and more of our time with each passing day. That is why I am also grateful that you take the time to read what God moves me to share.

With that, I wish you and yours a very merry and blessed Christmas!

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Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

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

Church website: www.lifeatcbc.org
Church email: lifeatcbc@gmail.com

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

Welcome



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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.

<i>President</i> David Miller 325-651-7597	<i>Youth Director</i> Susan & Bryan Neal 325-227-7242	<i>Secretary</i> Johnie Smith Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
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Industry Brethren Church Dedication of Cemetery Historical Marker and Columbarium

On Sunday, October 20, 2013, the Industry Brethren Church in Industry, Texas, dedicated its Texas Historical Cemetery Marker and Columbarium. Sheila Coufal, President of the Board of Elders, recognized some of the honored guests, including Rhetta Chandler of the Czech Heritage Museum; Roxanne Johnson, Fayette County Historical Commission Chairperson; Industry Mayor, Alan Kuehn; County Commissioner, Bobby Rinn; Unity of the Brethren President, James Marek; Unity of the Brethren Secretary, Liz Ripple; Grace Holcomb of the Austin County Historical Commission; and Unity of the Brethren Rev. Jimmy Hejl. Austin County Commissioner Bobby Rinn read a Proclamation signed by County Judge Carolyn Bilski and presented it to the church.

The service with the sermon delivered by Rev. Kay Polasek was held at 2 p.m. Following singing "When We All Get to Heaven" and "In the Garden", the Shelby American Legion flag bearers carried the U.S. flag out of the church as attendees followed them to the cemetery area. Rev. Kay Polasek led the responsive reading of the dedication, and Sanford Schmid unveiled the marker.



Industry Brethren Church Cemetery Historical marker

The cemetery was established in 1880 with the first graves being L. & Rosalie Marek. The earliest military burials are of Ernst Maeckel (served in the Civil War), Bennie Dockal, and John Ripple, Jr. Red, white, and blue balloons were released by family members or friends of the 21 veterans buried in this cemetery (the veteran's name was attached to the balloon), plus balloons were released for the veterans that were members and held their memorial services at the church. As the balloons floated high above, we were reminded that each balloon represented a man that served our country and in some cases gave the

ultimate price that we are free to be here today and practice freedom of religion and do those things we wish to do without fear of harm. Taps was played by Billie Sisa of the Shelby American Legion while the names of the veterans were called. American Legion members Jerry Kubala and Paul Burnside held the US flag by the historical marker.

The columbarium was dedicated by Rev. Nello Strickland and anointed by him. Linda Coufal Lawson unveiled the columbarium, which was given in loving memory of Travis Kasmiersky. He is the son of Linda and Hildred Lawson and the late Tommy Kasmiersky. At the end of the dedication of the columbarium, ev-

eryone sang "God Be With You Till We Meet Again", and Linda Lawson released a white dove, which flew to the stained glass window on the church wall depicting Jesus praying in the garden of Gethsemane. It settled on the louvers above the window and on the roof of the church at the end.

After the dedications, everyone went to Fellowship Hall, where a delicious lunch was served, and everyone was invited to view historical books, calendars, and information on the church. The event was attended by approximately 110 persons.



Taps played by Billie Sisa of the Shelby American Legion



Dedication of the Columbarium

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BaletkaD@navasotaisd.org

**This must be done well in advance.*

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

From the Woo's...

November 2013

Dear Partners in the work,

Happy fall! We have been busy in September and October with a short-term team and visitors, traveling, retreats, and 3 birthdays. With all of this we have felt busy and a little off track. May and the local church have also had their own troubles.

Joan, from the local church, the one who loves to go out and share with her family and who was hosting the church, is now full of fear, anger, and bitterness. She gets angry at her relatives that turn from the Lord, and holds it against them. Also during the last months she has received persecution for hosting the church and believing in Jesus. Since then she has not hosted the church nor attended the group in the new location. She won't even speak to May, even though May has asked for forgiveness and Joan said she forgave her, obviously she has not.

Lord we pray for Joan. We ask you would convict her of her sin, her anger, her self-righteousness. Lord, break the fear of people and free her from this grip that is leading her down the wrong road!

May has also had a few bumps in the road. If you remember, last year, when we were in the States, May went on a gambling spree and got herself into a heap of debt and sin. She is still in that hole. This week we have found out even more of what she did. Even though she loves the Lord, she struggles with lying, gam-

bling, money, and distrust of others. Her husband found out a little about what she did and beat her 2 weeks ago, which may have given her a cracked rib. Talking and praying with her, it seems she has always been abandoned by her parents and step parents all her life, and it still goes on today, leading to mistrust, and feeling unloved deep in her heart. Michael and our teammate met with her husband last night to tell him ALL May had told us she has done. He only knew a part of it. Today she said lots of freedom and hope has come back to her heart as her husband didn't throw her out and hasn't been violent. Isn't that the gospel. Jesus knows ALL our sins, and yet He still loves us, we need not fear.

Lord, we pray for May to be truly transformed and set free by your love. Help her to speak the truth, to get out of debt, to trust others, to trust your love, to be reconciled with her husband. To know deep in her heart of your love and forgiveness.

Because of various things, the local group has not met together for 2 weeks now. We are happy to say they have finished studying our 11 discipleship stories from the Bible. The last time they met the 3 women evaluated their group and asked themselves if they were a true church, or just a Bible study. They looked to see if they were: meeting together, sharing communion, giving money, loving God and others, doing and receiving baptism, making disciples, praying, helping and serving others. Their answer was "Yes, they wanted to be

a church of Jesus and they were doing most of these things." The only things they had not done yet were baptize people and make disciples that would grow up in Christ to go and make more disciples. So when they meet again, we hope they can pray about and be challenged to start new groups, to truly make disciples that will go make disciples. The method and stories are SO easy, they are not the problem, people's hearts are. We all come up with excuses why it is not culturally appropriate to share, or how we don't know how to share the gospel.

Lord, we pray that this group would meet again, and You would pour out Your Spirit on them. Help them to be willing to go and start new groups. Help all of us, whether abroad or at home, to obey You by making disciples.

We will head out for another visa run to Thailand in November. Then we hope to get another 3/6 months visa to last us until the beginning of April when we will have to leave because of baby #5. Yes, we are going to have another baby in Thailand. When will those Woos stop? Well, you can be sure we will stop after this one. I, Caroline, am making Michael take the proper precautions. We are happy and a little surprised. Due date is May 8. There are two possible visas opening up to us that we hope we can get in June that will provide year-long visas.

Lord, thank you for these visa opportunities and thank you for a healthy Woo #5.

Love,

Michael & Caroline, Samuel,
Ian, Zach, Isaac, and Baby 5



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

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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.

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rdusekdds@aol.com

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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

1 Samuel 16:7b

People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart...

Sunday School
Helper



This month we are continuing our explorations into fairy tales and finding God's truth and message in these seemingly worldly tales. Beauty and the Beast is the story of Belle and how her love for her family can overlook the beastly appearance of the Prince. There's truth here. We often judge others by their outward appearance, but we know that God looks past this and sees the true beauty of each person He created. There's a song by Brandon Heath. The chorus states, "Give me your eyes for just one second, Give me your eyes so I can see, Everything that I keep missing, Give me your love for humanity, Give me your arms for the broken hearted, Ones that are far beyond my reach, Give me your heart for the ones forgotten, Give me your eyes so I can see."

Beauty & the Beast

Materials: A box of chocolates

1. Ask who would like a chocolate, but they can't know what is on the inside.
2. The good thing about a big box of chocolates is there is variety; everyone can find something they like. The bad thing is there is variety. There's going to be something you don't like!
3. Take this chocolate (pick any). How many would say no if it was orange? Coconut? Had nuts?
4. On the outside, all these chocolates look delicious, but if you don't like what is on the inside, it is not so good. It's not about what's on the outside, but the... (have children fill in the blank: it's on the inside that counts).
5. Remind children of Belle in Beauty and the Beast. Belle looked past the monster she saw and got to know the person inside.
6. God wants us to look past the outside. True beauty comes from the heart, and if we want to love others the way Jesus loved us, we need to learn to look at the heart!

For
comments/questions/
information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



Thoughts for Teens

A beautiful king?

Read 1 Samuel 16:1-13

King Saul looked good on the outside, but his heart was corrupt. God decided to choose a new king. The prophet Samuel went looking for another Saul – someone handsome and strong on the outside, but that was not what God was looking at. He was looking at the inside. Who was chosen as the next King? How was he different from Saul?

Read Galatians 5:22-23

If you have the Fruits of the Spirit in your life, that is a sign there is true beauty within. The Spirit pours from our hearts and allows us to touch the lives of people around us. That's the beauty we see in Belle, who in spite of the Beast's awful appearance, looks for the good inside him. That's the beauty people will see in us when we let the Holy Spirit transform our lives. It doesn't matter who you are on the outside or the inside, God can take any heart and transform it into something beautiful.

**NEW ADDITION: There is now a blog
where you can find weblinks and
additional information. Check it out!**

<http://sundayschoolhelperbrethrenjournal.blogspot.com/>

Made With Love: Bullying – Fall Youth Retreat October 19-20, 2013, Hus School Encampment

“Oh yes, you shaped me first inside, then out; you formed me in my mother’s womb. I thank you High God – you’re breathtaking! Body and soul, I am marvelously made! I worship in adoration – what a creation!”

Psalm 139:13-14 The Message

Forty-three youth and 14 adults spent a beautiful weekend at the camp to learn more about what it means to be Made in Love. The weather was wonderful, and in many years of staying at the camp, not having to use the a/c was a first! The sunshine and a light breeze for the weekend, following the rain that greened everything up, was such a blessing.

Our morning study sessions focused on what bullying is, the different types of bullying, and the consequences of being bullied. After lunch we dug deep into scripture as we determined that self-esteem and self-worth are different. Although our self-esteem can go up and down, our self-worth never changes. We found many verses about God’s love for us and His care and affection for us as well as how He created us for a purpose. We identified our gifts and talents, our interests, our strengths, and our weaknesses as we discussed our purpose and the plans God may have for each of us.

Sunday morning’s worship was about our love for others. We learned about our words and our actions and how everything we do or say, no matter how insignificant it may seem,

could have a profound influence on someone else. We also learned about forgiveness and not retaliating or seeking revenge for those who hurt us.

Each of us were created with love, by Love, and for love. None of us were made by mistake, and none of us are a mistake, because our Great God doesn’t make mistakes. He knew us before we were born. He loved us then, and He loves us now. He sees us each and every day, sin and all, and He loves us still. We have to choose to love Him and to live for Him, in spite of the unlovely attitudes of those around us.

The next retreat is January 4-5 at the Hus Encampment. The registration deadline will be Sunday, December 8, as everything needs to be in and ordered before Christmas. We will be continuing MADE IN LOVE with a focus on God’s love for us and for others. The same t-shirts will be available if anyone would like to order. They are \$10, and can be seen at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com. No orders after December 8.

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for December 2013

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. **The Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God. Lk. 1:35**
2. I will establish the throne of His kingdom forever. 1 Chron. 22:10
3. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart. 1 Sam. 16:7b
4. Mary said, “I am the Lord’s servant. May your word to me be fulfilled.” Lk. 1:38
5. Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together. Ps. 34:3
6. Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Ps. 100:1
7. There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no Rock like our God. 1 Sam. 2:2
8. **My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Lk. 1:47**
9. Praise be to the Lord, because He has come and has redeemed His people. Lk. 1:68
10. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for Him. Lk. 3:4
11. And all mankind will see His salvation. Lk. 3:6
12. The Lord reigns forever, your God for all generations. Ps. 146:10
13. Great are the works of the Lord. Ps. 111:2
14. You will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way. Lk. 1:76
15. **For you who revere My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. Malachi 4:2**
16. When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law. Gal. 4:4
17. “But you, Bethlehem, though you are small, out of you will come one who will be ruler over Israel.” Micah 5:3
18. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those that love Him, who are called according to His purpose. Rom. 8:28
19. They went home, joyful and glad in heart for all the good things the Lord had done. 1 Kings 8:66
20. And the angel said unto them, “Fear not; for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.” Lk. 2:10
21. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. Mt. 2:10
22. **For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Lk. 2:11**
23. Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men. Lk. 2:14
24. “Do not be afraid; I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.” Lk. 2:10
25. Thanks be to God for His Son, His Gift too wonderful for words. 2 Cor. 9:15 TLB
26. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name. Lk. 1:49
27. The child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom and the grace of God was upon him. Lk. 2:40
28. The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. Isa. 12:2
29. **The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all. Titus 2:11**
30. I am with you, says the Lord. Haggi 1:13
31. The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. Ps. 118:14

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VITAL STATISTICS

MEMBERS RECEIVED

By Letter of Transfer:

JOHN HENRY RAGSDALE was welcomed into membership of the Wall Brethren Church of Wall, Texas, on June 28, 2013, by transfer of membership from Fayetteville Brethren Church, Fayetteville, Texas.

By Profession/Re-Affirmation of Faith:

LEEVI GARRETT HALLMARK and ASHLEY LYNN HALLMARK from Wall, Texas, were welcomed into membership at the Wall Brethren Church on October 6, 2013. LeeVi was received by Profession of Faith and Ashley by Re-affirmation of Faith.

By Re-Affirmation of Faith:

JASON WAYNE KASPER and ASHLEY NICOLE KASPER from San Angelo, Texas, were welcomed into membership at the Wall Brethren Church on June 16, 2013. They were received by Re-Affirmation of Faith. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

PATSY ANN LINGTON joined the membership of the Pasadena Brethren Church by Re-affirmation of Faith on October 13, 2013. Minister: Rev. Bill Rinderknecht.

RECENT BAPTISMS

RILEY SHAY HALFMANN, daughter of Clint Michael and Julie (Riley) Halfmann, born July 23, 2013, was baptized September 15, 2013. Sponsor: Josh Holik. Grandparents: Roger and Becky Halfmann and Mark and Cindy Riley. Eddie Holik, Jr., held the baptismal bowl. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

MEMBERS OF THE HALLMARK FAMILY received baptism at the Wall Brethren Church on October 6, 2013: LEEVI HALLMARK received adult baptism. The Hallmark children, AUGDEN LEE, born April 4, 2006, SLAYTON GAGE, born February 25, 2009, and ATTLI REESE, born October 9, 2012, also received baptism. Sponsors: Shane Mikeska, Sheyanne Mikeska, and Whitney Weidner. Grandparents: Theresa Cain, Becky Ethington, and Dusty and Cheryl Weidner. David Miller held the family baptismal bowl. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

ETHAN GENE HOLIK, son of Erik and Cassidy Holik, born September 21, 2012, was baptized December 9, 2012. Sponsors: Simon Holik and Shelby Sanders. Suzie Dusek held the baptismal bowl. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

MADISON and JACKSON KASPER, daughter and son of Jason and Ashley Kasper, twins born on February 21, 2007, were baptized on June 16, 2013. David Miller held the baptismal bowl. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

ANNA KINNIBRUGH, daughter of Cliff Aaron and Leslie Elaine (Meyer) Kinnibrugh, born December 21, 2012, was baptized at Wall Brethren Church, Wall, Texas, on September 29, 2013. Sponsor: Vanessa Pistana. Grandparents: Michael and Carol Kinnibrugh and Les and Phyllis Meyer. David Miller held the baptismal cup. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

ELI HENRY ROBERT RATHBONE, son of Austin and Kara (Ueckert) Rathbone, born on December 12, 2012, was baptized on February 17, 2013, at the Nelsonville Brethren Church. Sponsors were Teri Maresh and Kate Ueckert. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

KAITLYN ELIZABETH TALLAS, daughter of Thomas and Kristin Tallas, born June 10, 2012, was baptized October 7, 2012. Sponsors: Tim and Christa Coffman and Ryan and Kimberly Smith. Grandparents: John and Becky Smith and Tommy and Donna Tallas. Roy Martin held the baptismal bowl. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

RECENT WEDDINGS

RACHAEL SMITH was married to AARON MARESH on August 17, 2013, at the Nelsonville Brethren Church. Witnesses were Justin and Teri Maresh. The couple now resides in Sealy, Texas. Officiating Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

SARAH PESCHEL and MARK ZAPALAC were married at the Nelsonville Brethren Church on September 21, 2013. Witnesses were Kara Rathbone and Becca Luedke. The couple will reside in Bellville, Texas. Officiating Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

SARAH ANN HOLIK and SAMUEL CALEB GALLANDER were married June, 8, 2013, at Wall Brethren Church in Wall, Texas. The couple's parents are Benny and Marilyn Holik of Wall, Texas, and David and Mary Gallander of Liberty Hill, Texas. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

RECENT DEATHS

ANDREAS, BEATRICE (BRAVENEK), age 89 and a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died January 16, 2013, at Columbus, Texas. She was born July 6, 1923, at Oakhill, TX. She was married to Edmund Andreas on January 7, 1940. She is survived by 3 children, 4 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, and 2 great-great-grandchildren. Services were on January 19, 2013, from the Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

BRUNO, GENE, age 87, died January 13, 2013, in San Angelo, Texas. Gene was born May 5, 1926, in Miles, Texas. Gene's survivors consisted of his many friends, his nieces, and their families. He met his beloved wife Betty in Germany while stationed there during World War II and they shared sixty-two years of marriage before her passing in 2008. Their only child, Tommy Gene, died in 2007. Graveside services were held at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens, January 16, 2013. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

BURKETT, MARGARET (Margie) BEATTY, age 81, died December 21, 2012, in San Angelo, Texas, after a long illness. A service to celebrate her life was held at Wall Brethren Church in Wall, Texas, December 26, 2012. Burial followed in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens, San Angelo, Texas. Survivors include her husband, Myrlee Burdett; three sons, Paul and wife Brenda, Mike and wife Donna, and Charlie and wife Alanda; a daughter, Tonie Heflin and husband Sammy; twenty grandchildren, thirty-eight great grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild; a sister, Sally Howell and husband Roger; and a niece, Kim Brown. She is also

survived by step-daughter Gretta Hooker and husband Bruce; and a stepson, Myrlee (Sonny) Burdett. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

HOLIK, EDDIE FRANK, SR., age 85, died July 3, 2013, at home in Wall, Texas. He and wife Elsie (Dusek) were married July 30, 1950, at Taylor Brethren Church in Taylor, Texas. He served the Wall Brethren Church and the community well with his love of Bar-B-Que cooking. He loved to fish, hunt, and attend sporting events of his children and grandchildren. He served as elder of the church many times, and he and his wife, Elsie, raised their seven children in a Christian home and farmed together until her passing May 5, 2006. Survivors are children Albina Phillips and husband Jim of Carrollton, Texas; Eddie Holik Jr. and wife Brenda of Veribest, Texas; Benny Holik and wife Marilyn, Linda Miller and husband David, Adolph Holik and wife Gayla, John Holik and wife Kim, and Becky LaBedelle and husband Ronnie, all of Wall, Texas, and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The service was held at Wall Brethren Church in Wall, Texas, with burial at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens, San Angelo, Texas, July 6, 2013. Minister: Rev. Tommy Tallas.

MARESH, DAVID LEE, age 71, died December 30, 2012, at Nelsonville. He was born January 16, 1941, at Nelsonville. Married February 10, 1963, to Grace Garling. Is survived by wife, 5 children, 9 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and 1 sister. Services were on January 4, 2013, from Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

MIKESKA, ESTHER (TIEMANN), age 90 and a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died May 9, 2013, at Houston, TX. She was born October 7, 1922, at Nelsonville, TX, and married Edwin O. Mikeska on September 5, 1943. She is survived by 1 child, 2 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. Memorial Service was held on May 23, 2013, from the Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.



POMYKAL, VERDE, age 83 and a member of the Wesley Brethren Church, died July 18, 2013, at Bryan, TX. He was born September 8, 1929, at Wesley, TX, and married Janet Weiss on September 16, 1950. He is survived by his wife, 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 1 sister. Services were on July 21, 2013, from the Wesley Brethren Church with burial in Wesley Church Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

SCHRAMM, LEELAND FRANK, age 78 and a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died July 22, 2012, at Brenham, TX. He was born September 27, 1934, at Nelsonville, TX. He was married January 2, 1960, to Shirley Wagner, who died January 11, 1993. He married Irene Mieth on April 26, 1997. He is survived by his wife, 2 children, 4 grandchildren, and 2 sisters. Services were on July 26, 2013, from the Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

ZAJICEK, EVELYN (POMYKAL), age 91 and a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died May 8, 2013, at Bellville,

TX. She was born December 4, 1921, at Belleville, TX, and was married to Ben Zajicek on February 18, 1945. She is survived by 1 child, 5 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Services were held on May 11, 2013, from the Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in Oak Knoll Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

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Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill; jerryleeterrill@comcast.net

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

December 15 – 3rd Annual Outdoor Christmas Drama and Musical at the New Tabor Brethren Church. At dusk (approximately 5:30 pm). Live nativity, animals, special effects, anointed music, coffee and hot chocolate, popcorn and cookies! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy the Christmas story under the stars! For more information, contact Rhonda Johnson at Rhonda@newtaborchurch.com.

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 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

February 1 – State Children’s Rally Deadline (age 3-5th grade)

February 8, 2014 – Fayetteville Brethren Christian Sisters Fundraiser: On the square in Fayetteville at the Old Fire Station from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. – breakfast tacos, bake sale, country store, and raffle. Love donations of \$2 per ticket or \$10 for 6 for a drawing with over 30 prizes! Top prize is a queen size “Jeweled Windows” quilt. Tickets are available now. For information about the event, contact Liz Ripple (979) 378-2239 or lizripple@hotmail.com

Upcoming Dates:

March 1 - State Children’s Rally (age 3-5th grade), 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

March 29 – Christian Sisters’ Union Convention at the Nelsonville Brethren Church.

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.

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Preaching the Word, Loving the People

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor

Rev. Ron Winsman

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

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David Sebek

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Youth Director

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 Rogers, TX 76569
 (254) 983-1002

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

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

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.
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

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

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.
– 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

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

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

*“Bear ye one another’s burdens
And so fulfill the Law of
Christ.” (Gal. 6:2)*

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Natalie Outlaw, Gen. Secretary
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Ann Sebesta, Board Member
Rev. James Hejl, Synodical Board

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

CHRISTIAN SISTERS’ UNION OFFICERS

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Unity Mission Board Rep:

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

WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas 77082

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



5th Sunday – Holy Communion

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

**Position currently filled by Administrative Board members

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

Non-Voting Appointments:

Programming Director: Kayla Marek, 901 Hidden Valley Dr. #9302, Round Rock, TX 78665; kmarek2012@gmail.com

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

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State Youth Coordinator:

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

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Rev. Michael Groseclose, 352 Nelsonville
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(979) 865-3026

Rev. Jim Heckman, 9849 PR 1015, Rockdale,
TX 76567. (979) 739-1393, leave message. If I
don't answer, then try a 2nd number,
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Rev. Tony Taylor, P.O. Box 1680, Hilltop Lakes,
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UNDER CALL OF THE UNITY

Military Chaplaincy

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Ben Kruse – krusedadb@yahoo.com
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– from the editor

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

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

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