

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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Pastor of the Houston Church
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. . . and so much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Taylor Brethren Church Sunday School Picnic

The Taylor Brethren Church Sun-
day School picnic was held the after-
noon of Sunday, October 27, 2013.
The event was organized by the Chris-
tian Education Committee of the Tay-
lor Brethren Church and was gra-
ciously hosted by Ken and Paulette
McConchie at their cabin.

Grilled hamburgers and all the trim-
mings were enjoyed by the 55 in
attendance, who also enjoyed a vari-
ety of activities, games, and good
old-fashioned fellowship (photo taken
by Conrad DeLeon).

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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President's Column . . . James Marek

The following article is a con-
densed version of a paper written by
Dr. Jerry Terrill, Associate Professor
of Counseling, director
of the counseling pro-
gram at Houston Gradu-
ate School of Theology
and pastor at the Hous-
ton Brethren Church. Dr.
Terrill's paper was in-
cluded in the 2013 Baylor
Symposium on Faith and
Culture held October 31-



November 2. The subject of the paper,
Dr. Jan Patocka, was a brilliant Czech
professor who was influenced by fel-
low Czech philosopher and early Breth-
ren, Jan Amos Comenius as well as
Jan Hus. Patocka, like Hus, died for
a cause in which he strongly believed.

On March 13, 1977, Professor Jan
Patocka, of Charles University, died
of a brain hemorrhage after a brutal
11-hour interrogation by the Czecho-
slovakian Communist Secret Police in
Prague. Doctor Patocka was one the
three key architects and the spokes-
person for Charter 77, a human rights
document signed by Czechoslova-

kian students, intellectuals, and free-
dom-loving Czechs. Professor Patocka,
a phenomenologist, one who studies

how we experience ob-
jects, was widely regarded
by many as the greatest
Czech philosopher since
John Amos (Comenius)
Komensky.

Jan Patocka was born
June 1, 1907, in Turnov,
the third of four sons.
His father was a sickly,

but well-known philologist, one who
studies languages. His brother,
Frantisek, was a microbiologist and
physician who introduced the study
of viruses in Czechoslovakia. Patocka
attended Jan Neruda Grammar School
in Prague, named after the famous
writer and Czech patriot who was part
of the Majovci "May School" who
sought to reintroduce Czech as a
literary language.

Patocka attended Charles Univer-
sity. As a 21-year-old candidate for
his PhD, he received a stipend to
attend the Sorbonne in Paris, where
he studied under Henri Bergson, and



Temple Brethren Church

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

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

(254) 718-3898

attended lectures by Alexander Koyre on early Bohemian Reformation thinkers. This included Jan Hus's commentaries on the *Sentences* of Peter Lombard. He went on to the University Vienna to study under Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger as a post doctoral fellow.

During World War II, Adolf Hitler closed all of the universities in Czechoslovakia, and so Patocka was left without an academic position. Following World War II, Patocka refused to sign an oath of allegiance to the Communist Party and was forced to leave Charles University and work as a file clerk in the archives of Comenius and Tomas Massaryk, the first president of Czechoslovakia after World War I. While working as a file clerk, Patocka published numerous articles and books on Comenius and Massaryk. These works have not been translated in English.

During the "thaw" and liberation of Communism under First Secretary Alexander Dubcek in the mid 1960's, Patocka returned to Charles University as professor of philosophy. In 1968, Leonid Brezhnev's "real socialism" ended the period of liberalization known as the "Prague Spring" with

Russian troops and tanks entering the city of Prague. It was during this repressive period that Jan Palach set himself on fire in Wenceslas Square. Milan Kundera would write his novel *"The Unbearable Lightness of Being"*. Professor Patocka responded by creating underground seminars to share the timeless, fundamental elements of truth, justice, and human rights.

Professor Erazim Hohak of Charles University writes that, "for Patocka, philosophy even at its most abstract and theoretical was never solely theoretical and abstract." Patocka believed that philosophy gives meaning to life; our lives bear witness to truth, and what it means to be human. Patocka was not a believer in nihilism, meaninglessness, instead he believed that life is meaningful, and that there are things worth suffering for, including the ability to choose how we should live out our lives. Of course aspiring to freedom brings risk, but without it, "A human would not be human." Patocka, like Plato, believed that man was given a soul to create a world of truth and justice... "Good and evil are something to concern us."

At great risk Patocka ignored his own safety in defense of his principles and chose to participate as an architect and spokesperson for Charter 77, a manifesto for human rights. "Human rights are something higher than both men and government." The course of our lives, Patocka contends, "is determined by our pursuit of the higher movement or our capitulation to the lower." This would involve sacrifice on the part of Patocka and the other Czechoslovakian dissidents. As Patocka wrote, "The light of dawn does not emerge from a void; it emerges from darkness. Darkness is a pre-condition for light to appear."

"Havel recalls that in the 1960s, Patocka would come to the Theatre on the Balustrade and hold informal discussions with actors and writers on phenomenology, existentialism, and other philosophical questions." "These unofficial seminars," Havel says, 'took us into the world of philosophizing in the true, original sense of the word: not the boredom of the classroom, but rather the vital search for the meaning of things and the illumination of one's self, of one's situation in the world.'

Vaclav Havel, playwright, and the

first President of Czechoslovakia after the downfall of communism, writing to his wife Olga in *"Letters to Olga"*, shares this remembrance on the difficult times while waiting for an interrogation:

...during the noon break Halvel and Patocka sat in the prisoner's waiting room, discussing philosophy. ...'At any moment, they could have come for us, but that didn't bother Professor Patocka: in an impromptu seminar on the history of the idea of human immortality and human responsibility, he weighed his words as carefully as if we had all the time in the world ahead of us.'

Three days before he was arrested, Patocka wrote a short document called *The Obligation to Resist Injustice*, which attempted to explain both the motives of the Charter members, and his own motives in joining them. "The idea of human rights is nothing other than the conviction that even states, even societies as a whole, are subject to the sovereignty of... something unconditional that is higher than they are, something that is binding even on them, sacred, inviolable. There are things for which it is worthwhile to suffer."

THE BUCKHOLTS BRETHREN CHURCH

606 N. 4th Street
Buckholts, Texas 76518

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



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

WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road
Houston, Texas 77082

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



5th Sunday – Holy Communion

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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.

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Save the Date – April 26, 2014 for the Hus School 100th Anniversary Celebration

April 26, 2014 (the Saturday after Easter), has been chosen as the date for a celebration at the Hus School Encampment to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Hus School – the denomination's leadership training program. Rev. Joseph Hegar and Rev. Joseph Barton began the program for young people of the denomination in January 1914 at the Granger Brethren Church.

While the celebration will be primarily on Saturday, the 26th, lodging at the Encampment will be available on Friday and Saturday nights, on a first-come, first-served basis, for those wishing to spend more time on the grounds. Saturday will include time for reminiscing, fellowship, singing, a catered meal, and possibly domino and ping pong tournaments. There will be no scheduled activities on

Friday evening, and Sunday will include breakfast and fellowship/worship time.

This notice is for all Hus School ex-students and other interested persons to mark the date on their calendars and make plans to attend. Also, please contact friends who were in your Hus School class and encourage them to attend. Recognition will be given to the class with the most members present, as well as other significant milestones.

Look for more details in future publicity and through your congregation. To help with meal planning and to manage lodging requests, registration forms will be distributed in later publicity. Marvin and Alice Chlappek will be in charge of registration. There will be no registration fee for the celebration.

CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH



401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

Sunday School
9:30 AM

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

Say Cheese

-by Jim Pokorny

A few years ago a well-known photography studio came to the church to take photographs for our directory. I showed up at my appointed time and they took several photos of me.

Their representative asked me to select one for the directory and then informed me that I would get a complimentary copy. She then asked me what package I would like to purchase.

As I live alone, I politely declined to purchase a package. Determined to make a sale I then had to explain to her my reason for declining.

Leaving no stone unturned, she suggested that I at least consider purchasing a gold leaf frame for my copy. At this I began laughing almost uncontrollably and I could tell that she was not pleased by my reaction.

"I'm sorry," I said, "but can you honestly imagine me sitting at home... alone... admiring my picture in a gold leaf frame?"

She smiled and wrote "No Sale" on my form.

Photography is something I really enjoy, and since 2007 I have taken

literally thousands of photographs for my church and some are very special to me. Often the realization set in the moment I captured them. The subject, the light and the circumstances all came together and I was blessed to release the shutter at precisely the right moment.

A half second before or after and the resulting photograph would have been completely different and perhaps not nearly as special.

When the elements all come together and I realize I have successfully captured the moment, I try my best to thank God both for arranging everything and for granting me the patience to have waited for that precise moment to unfold.

The essence of photography lies in the proper combination of light and shadow. Since light is the very first thing God spoke into existence, this activity often takes on a very special feeling.

Genesis 1:3-4 (NIV) – And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light

from the darkness.

Another blessing I find very personally rewarding occurs when people request my photographs from church events.

Just before Thanksgiving I was contacted by a mother in our church. Her son was about to write a school paper about tradition, and he chose to write about our Christmas Eve candlelight service. She wanted to know if I had photographs he could use for his paper. I was absolutely delighted to make those photos available to him.

The most special blessings of all come from the photographs of those church family members who are no longer with us.

I am Facebook friends with a young lady at our church. Recently she decided to honor her late aunt by posting a memory of her every day for an entire month. Everyone at church loved her aunt and we were moved very deeply when her earthly journey was complete. I replied to her post saying that I thought this was a wonderful idea and an excellent way of honoring her memory. I promised that I would even share some memories of my own.

I immediately recalled the last really deep conversation I had with her aunt. It took place at Vacation Bible School shortly before her passing. I could tell that she was not feeling well physically, yet she was determined to give of herself to the very end.

She was about to do a puppet show for some of the youngest children and was standing outside the door with her chipmunk puppet on her hand awaiting her cue.

From the conversation we had I knew that she realized she might not have much time left. She assured me that it was not her mortality that concerned her. What concerned her more than anything else was the thought that her young nieces and nephews whom she loved so very much might not remember her. I assured her that she had absolutely nothing to be concerned about, and added that it was very obvious to me and everyone else just how much they truly loved her in return. With that, she smiled, and I asked her if I could get a photograph of her and her chipmunk sidekick. She agreed, and I knew from the moment I took it that this would be a photograph I would always treasure.



Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501

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

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

TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas

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

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

Pastor
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

President
Kevin Page
512-689-1593

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

My young friend, true to her word, never missed a day sharing memories of her aunt, and I was very happy to see others joining in. I waited for just the right day, and posted the photograph I had taken. Her reply of "I remember that!" brought me a tremendous amount of joy, and I could not help but say aloud, as if her aunt were in the room, "I told you they would remember."

Those of you that follow my articles know how fond I am of history. Photography, through time, has changed a great deal. In its infancy, people would have to remain motionless for extended periods of time as the photographic plates required long exposure times. That is why people looked so very serious in them. As the technology improved, exposure times decreased, yet for a long time people sat for pictures still looking extremely serious mainly due to convention.

That is, by far, the biggest difference between my photographs and those taken in the past.

I certainly mean no disrespect to anyone, but I simply do not like taking posed photographs.

It is my sincerest hope that years from now people will look at the photographs I took of my church family and see exactly what it is I so very much want to capture, namely, people actively serving the Lord with smiles on their faces.

By the way, you won't see very many photographs of me, but I am okay with that. A face like mine is much better situated behind the camera rather than in front of it. Still, every now and then, some kind member of my church family will absolutely insist on taking my photograph until I concede.

You may rest assured that these do not end up in gold leaf frames.

WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

12 miles east of San Angelo, Loop 570, Wall, Texas

P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957

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

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas

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

Home: rev.tjt@verizon.net

Church: rev.tjt@zipnet.us

www.wallbrethrenchurch.org

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

President
David Miller
325-651-7597

Youth Director
Susan & Bryan Neal
325-227-7242

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

Industry & Fayetteville Brethren Churches Honor Our Veterans Service

Industry and Fayetteville Brethren Churches honored 140 veterans on Sunday, November 10, 2013, at the Industry Brethren Church 9:00 a.m. service. This was the fourth annual service of this kind for the churches. There were 136 veterans on the program and four guest veterans recognized. Each living veteran received a remembrance ribbon with red poppy and "thanks" on it, as well as a small US flag that noted the event. The deceased veterans had representatives come forward and light a candle in their honor and receive a small flag. There were five Cub Scouts, including Lucas Grafe, Branson Warnke, Colton Kaase, Justin Schroeder, and Jaden Schroeder, participating in the service. The three Boy Scouts helping with the banner and lighting of candles were Ben Shupak, Dillon Galle, and Wayne Rinn. Scout Leaders, Brett and Blake Galle, assisted with the service.

Sharon Spiess, Pastor Kay Polasek, and Martha Dove sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" as the Boy Scouts carried in a religious military banner

that reflected the different branches of the military and a cross that soldiers are looking at. It was hung at the front of the church to set the mood of the event. The Shelby American Legion, led by Jerry Kubala and August Voelkel, carried in the US flag and led the Pledge Allegiance. The service message was delivered by Pastor Kay Polasek. Terri Ross played the harp while names of the Industry Brethren Church veterans were called. Sharon Spiess provided organ accompaniment to the singing and during the calling of the Fayetteville Brethren Church's honored veterans' names. The church bell rang one time as each veteran's name was called. As Liz Ripple played the piano, the congregation sang one stanza of each military branch's song, while the veterans from that branch stood up. The church was decorated with many flags, including all the flags of the different branches of the military. A large flag draped on a tripod was in the front of the church with a large flag bow that held red streamer ribbons containing



SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247, Snook, TX 77878

Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:00 AM; Worship – 10:15 AM

Bible Buddies – 2nd Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 PM

Pastor
Rev. Joseph Polasek
P.O. Box 54
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-1624

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

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



Back Row: August Voelkel , James Schimara, Billie Sisa, Delvin
Center Row: Ben Polasek, Raymond Bayer, Asa Jackson, Milton Heintschel,
 Ann Heintschel, Dilbert Leschper
Seated Front Row: WWII veterans: Leland Miller, Sanford Schmid, Dennis Rudloff

name labels of each honored veteran. Liz Ripple called the names of the honored Fayetteville veterans, and Martha Dove pinned on their ribbons; Liz Treybig called the names of the Industry honored veterans, and Marian Branam pinned their ribbons on. Boy Scouts handed out the small flags and assisted with lighting candles.

There was a wreath holding red, blue, and white flowers (representing the deceased honored veterans) with a cross in the center, a white dove below five small US flags, and below the flowers the words "Thanks Vets" on a red ribbon with a white dove to each side. As attendees left the church, they were given a red poppy to wear.

HOUSTON BRETHERN 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



Back Row: Syptak , Edwin A. Kuehn Jr., Alvin Henry Coufal, Leebert Brune,
 Jerry Marshall
Center Row: J.B. Branam, Eddie Krause, Daniel (Dan) Muske, Jerry Dove
Seated Row: WWII Veterans: Oliver Rudloff, Rev. Gordon Hejl, and Laddie Ripple

Afterward everyone went to Fellowship Hall, where a delicious brunch of many different foods was served. The hall had many displays, including one of an article featured in a 2009 Bellville Times edition of Theodore Wehring's service, during which time he was a prisoner. All branches of the service were represented in this group

of veterans and all times of service dating back to the Civil War and current active service. People enjoyed viewing all the biographies of these men and women that served our country.

Flags donated by the Shelby American Legion Post 602 were placed on



BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHERN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South

www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

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



Church 9:00 A.M.
Sunday School 10:45 A.M.
Off: 979-693-3606
email: papasebek@gmx.com

all the veterans' graves in the cemetery. US flags also were placed along the walks to the church building and Fellowship Hall.

Ministers honored were Rev. Henry Beseda, Jr. (deceased), Rev. Laurence Junek, Rev. Nello Strickland, Rev. Milton Maly, Rev. Gordon Hejl, and Rev. Daniel Marek (deceased). In addition, other veterans honored were: Robert Anderson, Adolph Assmann (deceased), Roy Dean Duve (deceased), Bennie Boelsche (deceased), Raymond Bayer, Leroy Keaton, J.B. Branam, Clarence Coufal (deceased), Thomas Coufal (deceased), Chris William Coufal, Daniel Coufal (deceased), Leonard Coufal (deceased), Jesse Coufal, Joe Coufal, Sr., Dr. James Hrachovy, Barnell Coufal, Daniel T. Schmidt (deceased), Calvin Coufal, Sidney Welsch, Benjamin Krenek (deceased), Jerry Kunetka (deceased), Alvin Henry Coufal, Gus Kautz, Jr., Alvin Chaloupka (deceased), Henry Lee Franke, Billie Sisa, Benjamin J.

Coufal (deceased), Jan Oldrich Mares (deceased), Bert Dodd, Emil J. Fick, Jr. (deceased); Walter Rasch (deceased), Bob Martin, Larry Kainer, Bennie Dockal (deceased), Rudolph Schmid (deceased), Sanford Schmid, Henry J. Schovajsa (deceased), Robert Jacobson (deceased), Charles Blinka (deceased), Harry Blinka (deceased), Louis Franta (deceased), Henry H. Syptak (deceased), William (Bill) Walden (deceased), Warrie Coleman (deceased), Leo Urban (deceased), Otto Leo Urban (deceased), Ladislav Hromadka (deceased), John Divin, Sr. (deceased), Henry Martinek (deceased), Mickey Fenn (deceased), John T. Henslee, Jr. (deceased), Anton Henneke (deceased), Gilbert Henneke (deceased), John Hlinsky (deceased), John Holan (deceased), Louis A. Weselka (deceased), Frank Jecmenek (deceased), John A. Jecmenek (deceased), Chas M. Juren (deceased), Joseph John Krenek (deceased), Gus Hruska (deceased), Jan Hruska (de-

ceased), Leroy Hruska (deceased), John T. Rippel (deceased), Leslie Singer (deceased), Bill Dove (deceased), Raymond Roesler (deceased), Edward Hoff (deceased), L. W. Wright (deceased), Lee Roy Cervenka (deceased), Gary Dorsett, Jerry Dove, Ann L. Heintschel, Milton Heintschel, Jerry Marshall, James R. Herbst, Laddie Ripple, Elroy Issleib, Claren Kotrla, Eddie Krause, Alfred Krause, Gary Gross, Willie Shupak (deceased), Charley H. Lesikar (deceased), Edward O. Maeckel (deceased), Ernst Edward Maeckel (deceased), Leland Edward Maeckel (deceased), Marvin William Maeckel (deceased), William Otto Maeckel (deceased), Gregory Maly, Jean Maly, Ben Polasek, Leland H. Miller, Emmett Roy Coufal (deceased), Milan Petrussek (deceased), C. M. McAlexander, Jerry Alexander, John Ripple, Jr. (deceased) William Vasicek, August Voelkel, Theodore Wehring (deceased), and Fred J. Ross (deceased), Edwin A. Kuehn Jr., Dennis Rudloff, Delvin Syptak, Oliver Rudloff, Asa Jackson, Raymond A. Kretschmar (deceased), James Hejl, William Hajek (deceased), Sam Humphries (deceased), Bennie Poncik (deceased), Johnnie

Poncik (deceased), Darwin Macat, James Schimara, James E. Havemann (deceased), Robert "Bob" Brightwell (deceased), Willis G. Dove, Godfrey Dove, Hugh G. Dove, John T. Owens, Dr. Tom Kennedy, Harry Taylor Marshall, Vernon "Sonny" Neal Billings, Louis A. Cannon (deceased), Ernest Coufal (deceased), Marvin Coufal (deceased), Ben Chovanec (deceased), Jerry Kubala, and Eugene Michalsky, Sr. The four veterans in the audience were Robert Froebel, Leebert Brune, Daniel (Dan) Muske, and Dilbert Leschper.

It was estimated that there were 150 people attending this event. Honored living veterans that were not able to come to this event were mailed certificates stating they were honored for their military service, their remembrance flower ribbon, small US flag and a program of the event.

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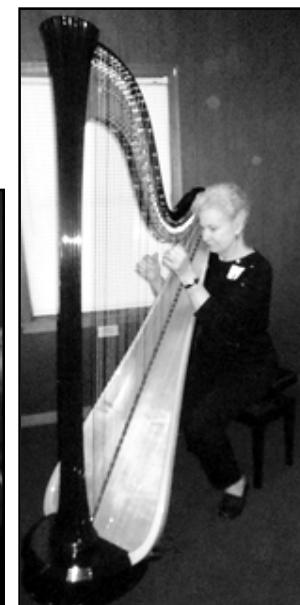
GRANGER BRETHREN CHURCH

1903 *Where it all began*

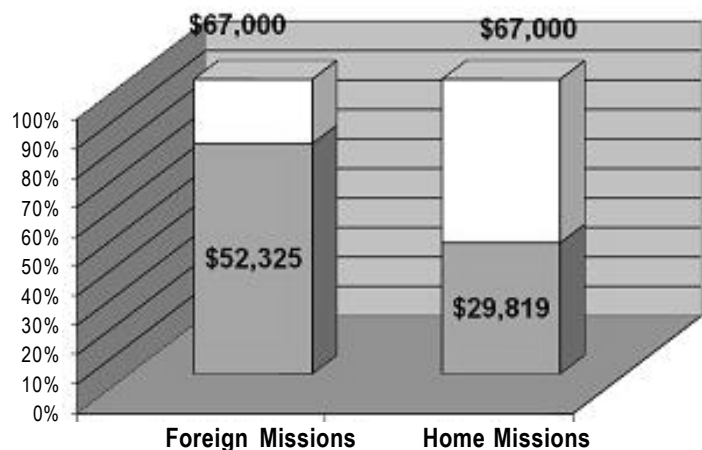
306 WEST BROADWAY STREET, GRANGER, TX
 76530

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

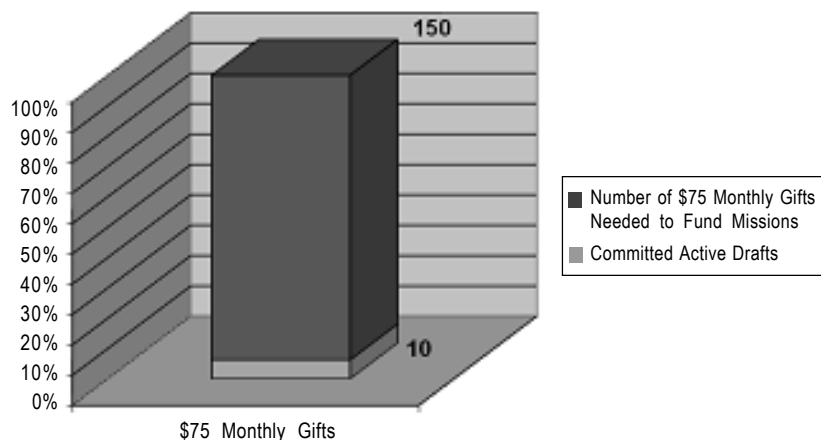
Pastor, Rev. Larry Zabcik
 (903) 265-2277



**Mission Giving Relative to Approved Budgets
as of November 8, 2013**



**Monthly Gifts of \$75
Active vs. Needed**



To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

. . . regarding scheduling* of meetings or events there, contact:

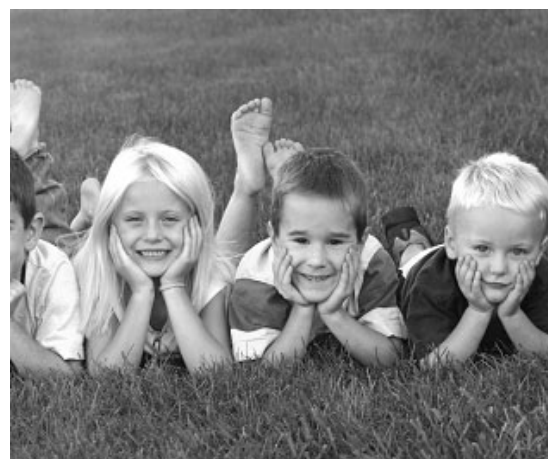
Dawn Marie Baletka
600 Benchmark Drive
College Station, TX 77845
(979) 777-9940 or (979) 693-2710
BaletkaD@navasotaisd.org

**This must be done well in advance*

*Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit
the earth.*

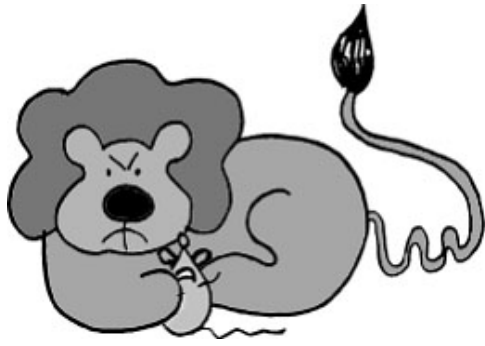
Matthew 5:5

Sunday School
Helper



This month we continue our adventures into the land of fairy tales and how we can use the well-known and often well-loved stories to emphasize Biblical truth. As you enjoy movies at home or on the big screen (many of which are inspired by “old” stories), think about how you can bring the Biblical message to light. It is easy with these three questions: 1) What is the moral of this movie/fairy tale?, 2) What does the Bible say about this moral?, and 3) How does it apply to our lives today?

The Lion & the Mouse



****For the Fairy Tale purist, this is one of Aesops' Fables, and not technically a fairy tale!****

1. Read the story of the Lion and the Mouse or watch this YouTube Clip <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5eh2NU0mjrc>.
2. Discuss how the lion feels about the mouse helping him. This is often how the world sees those who are small or weak. They don't believe they can do anything great.
3. The moral of the story is even someone small can do something great – Translated: Even though children are small, they can still do great things for God! Remind students of the story of David when he defeated Goliath!

For
comments/questions/
information, contact:

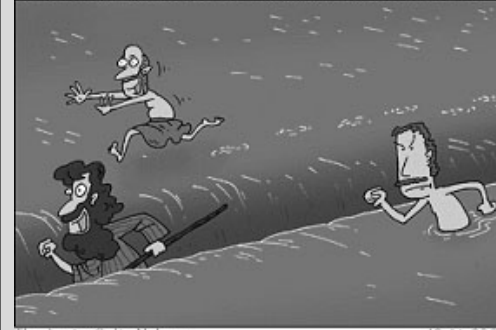
Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



Thoughts for Teens

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Thanks to Colin Nelson 12-11-2009
HOZEKIAH FOUND THIS RACE WITH MOSES
AND PETER TO BE GROSSLY UNFAIR

The Bible Vs. Fairy Tale

Adapted from <http://fervr.net/bible/the-bible-vs-fairy-tales>

There are some fantastical stories in the Bible – burning bushes, parting of the Red Sea, walking on water, Immaculate Conception, the list goes on.

Fairy tales are *stories* that are told, about mythical creatures and people in place that never existed. Although each of these have a moral or lesson about something in reality, such as 'don't talk to strangers' (Snow White), fairy tales are not true and no one ever claimed they were.

The Bible is different. We aren't supposed to read the Bible like a fairy tale. We are to read the Bible as truth – more like a textbook. We should gain lessons about how to live, but there is so much more we can learn from the Bible.

For more detail on this lesson, visit the Sunday School Helper Blog <http://sundayschoolhelperbrethrenjournal.blogspot.com/>

Train Tracks to Truth

Saturday, March 1, 2014

State Children's Rally

For ages 3 and up



Join us at the Hus Encampment for a day of Bible lessons, crafts, music, and games. Youth and parents are invited to come and volunteer for the day as we learn what it means to grow as a child of God.

Registration Deadline FEB. 1

Participant Cost: \$15
Additional t-shirts: \$10

Check-in begins at 8:30am
Activities begin at 9:00am

Dismissal at 3:00pm



Participants and volunteers, make sure to use the registration forms at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com, or contact Jennifer Chervenka if you do not have access to the website. If you miss the deadline, contact Jennifer no later than Friday, February 8. No registrations will be accepted after this date due to t-shirt and craft orders. All participants and attendees must register. Volunteers included.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Chervenka: 254-913-1244;
jennchervenka@farm-market.net.



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

UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

DIRECTORY OF CONGREGATIONS

(visit the Unity website at unityofthebrethren.org)

President: James Marek, 909 TH Johnson, Taylor, TX 76574
 (512) 352-6165; james@cnbt.com

AUSTIN BRETHERN CHURCH

1706 Payton Gin Road/P.O. Box
 181252

Austin, TX 78718

(From the north or east, enter US Hwy 183 at either US 290 East or IH 35, go north to Ohlen Road exit, then one block beyond that road's intersection with Payton Gin Road, make a sharp right turn...the church is on the left. From the north or west, enter US Hwy 183, go south to the Ohlen Road exit, cross under the freeway and then north on the access road one block to Payton Gin Road. Make a sharp right turn...the church is on the left.
 Pastor – Rev. Linda Chandler
 (512) 836-2712

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHERN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South/
 P.O. Box 9283

College Station, TX 77842-9283
 (Emerald Parkway exit off East Bypass.)

Pastor – Rev. Mark Sebek
 (254) 931-2000
 Church: (979) 693-3606

BUCKHOLTS BRETHERN CHURCH

606 N. 4th Street/P.O. Box 192
 Buckholts, TX 76518

(Eight miles west of Cameron on SH 36, then north at the Buckholts State Bank to the end of street.)
 Pastor – Rev. John Kueker
 (254) 605-0434

CADE LAKE COMMUNITY CHAPEL

Pastor – Rev. Jim Heckman
 (979) 739-1393

CALDWELL BRETHERN CHURCH

401 South Main St.
 Caldwell, TX 77836

(In Caldwell at South Main and Buffalo Streets.)

Church Office: (979) 567-7203
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Winston Salem, NC 27106
Contact: Carl Shamel
cshamel@hotmail.com

CROSBY BRETHERN CHURCH
5202 First Street/P.O. Box 599
Crosby, TX 77532
(Corner of First and Church Streets
off FM2100.)
Church phone/fax: (281) 328-2442
Pastor – Dr. Larry Koslovsky
(713) 594-4518

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P.O.Box 233
Cypress, TX 77410-0233
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Rev. Rick Chandler, (281) 355-1474

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8361 FM 141
Dime Box, TX 77853
(On FM 141 south off SH 21 in the
Dime Box Community.)
Pastor – Rev. Jim Heckman
(979) 739-1393

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1022 Kramr Rd./P.O.Box 11
Fayetteville, TX 78940
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(409) 982-4657
Church: (409) 293-2065

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P.O. Box 943
Granger, TX 76530
(West at blinking light on SH 95 onto
Davilla Street, then two blocks to the
right on Brazos St., then one block to
the left – 306 Broadway Street.)
Pastor – Rev. Larry Zabcik
(903) 265-2277

HOUSTON BRETHERN CHURCH
6207 North Main Street
Houston, TX 77009
(On North Main Street in Houston
between 22nd and 24th Streets.)
Church: (713) 864-6707
Pastor – Dr. Jerry Terrill
(281) 364-9865

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2758 Main Street/P.O. Box 73
Industry, TX 78944
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of Industry.)
Pastor – Rev. Kay Polasek
(979) 220-1289

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CHURCH
332 Nelsonville Church Road
Bellville, TX 77418
(On Church Road between SH 159
and FM 2502 in Nelsonville.)
Pastor – Rev. Michael Groseclose
(979) 865-3026

NEW TABOR BRETHERN CHURCH
2439 County Rd. 225/P.O. Box 262
Caldwell, TX 77836
(Two and one-half miles east on FM
166 off SH 36 in Caldwell, then left
one mile on County Road 225)
Church: (979) 272-1643
Pastor – Rev. David Johnson
(979) 567-1838

OCKER BRETHERN CHURCH
17454 State Hwy. 53
Temple, TX 76501
(11 miles east of Temple on SH 53.)
Church: (254) 985-2240
Pastor – Rev. Ron Winsman
(254) 742-0827

PASADENA BRETHERN CHURCH
1810 Scarborough Lane
Pasadena, TX 77502
(Exit SH 225 to the south onto
Scarborough Lane in Pasadena.)
Church: (713) 472-3192
Visiting Ministers

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CHURCH OF ROSENBERG
5220 Reading Road
Rosenberg, TX 77471
Church: (281) 342-3060
Pastor – Bro. Larry Butcher
(713) 669-9381

SEATON BRETHERN CHURCH
12561 State Hwy. 53, Temple, TX
76501
P.O. Box 4615, Temple, TX 76505
(Eight miles east of Temple on
SH 53.)
Church: (254) 985-2694
Pastor – Rev. Denise Mikeska
(254) 742-0890

SNOOK BRETHERN CHURCH
9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247
Snook, TX 77878
(On FM 2155, three tenths of a mile
south of FM 60.)
Church: (979) 272-3303
Pastor – Rev. Joseph Polasek
(979) 272-1624

TAYLOR BRETHERN CHURCH
700 Sloan Street/P.O. Box 351
Taylor, TX 76574
(Five blocks north on Sloan Street
off SH 79 West.)
Church: (512) 352-6423
Pastor – Rev. James D. Hejl
(512) 365-6890

TEMPLE BRETHERN CHURCH
2202 Bird Creek Drive
Temple, TX 76502
(South off Loop 363 in Temple onto
Bird Creek Drive... one block down
the street from Luby's, which is
fronted by IH35.)
Church: (254) 778-8759
Visiting Ministers

*VSETIN BRETHERN CHURCH
(In the Vsetin Community near
Hallettsville.)
Dr. Mark Labaj, (254) 774-8179
(visiting ministers on 5th Sunday)

WALL BRETHERN CHURCH
P.O. Box 195
Wall, TX 76957
(12 miles east of San Angelo, Loop
570, Wall, Texas.)
Church: (325) 651-4444
Pastor – Rev. Thomas Tallas
(325) 949-7543

WESLEY BRETHREN CHURCH
8000 FM 332 (mailing address)
Brenham, TX 77833
(9643 West Church Lane; North off
FM 2502 at Wesley, which is ten
miles southwest of Brenham by way
of FM 332.)
Pastor – Rev. Michael Groseclose
(979) 865-3026

WEST BRETHREN CHURCH
901 N. Marable St.
West, TX 76691
(Across from the old West High
School building, now the middle
school, at North Marable and
Shook Streets.)
Church: (254) 826-3146
Pastor – Rev. Curtis Holland
(254) 776-5886

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CHURCH
15635 Westheimer Rd
Houston, TX 77082
Church: (281) 493-0837
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Worship 10:15 AM

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

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3910 Red Ranger Road
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Jennifer Chervenka

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kassie.benner@gmail.com

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jennchervenka@farm-market.net

Unity Archivist

Clint Machann

c-machann@tamu.edu

979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for January 2014

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you. Deut. 5:12
2. There are six days when you may work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath of rest, a day of sacred assembly. Lev. 23:3
3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Ex. 20:8
4. "Keep the Sabbath day holy, as I commanded your forefathers." Jer. 17:22
5. **"The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath." Lk. 6:5**
6. Your beauty should not come of outward adornment; instead it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle spirit. 1 Pet. 3:3,4
7. Let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Rom. 13:1
8. Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature. Rom. 13:14
9. A heart of peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones. Prov. 14:30
10. These three remain: faith, hope, and love; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Cor. 13:13
11. So each of us shall give account of himself to God. Rom. 14:12
12. **"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you." Lk. 6:27**
13. He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God. Prov. 14:31
14. Submit yourselves to God. James 4:7a
15. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. James 4:7b
16. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up. James 4:10
17. "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." James 4:6
18. Those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted. Lk. 14:11
19. **Let Your light so shine before men, that they may see Your good works, and glorify Your Father which is in heaven. Mt. 5:16**
20. May you be blessed by the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. Ps. 115:15
21. May the poor and needy praise Your name. Ps. 74:21b
22. Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. Ps. 68:19
23. Commit your way to the Lord, trust in Him, and He will act. Ps. 37:5
24. Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. Ps. 25:17
25. Speak out for those who cannot speak, for the rights of all the destitute. Prov. 31:8
26. **Above all, clothe yourself with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. Col. 3:14**
27. Blessed be the name of God from age to age, for wisdom and power are His. Daniel 2:20
28. Do not set foot on the path of the wicked or walk in the way of evil men. Prov. 4:14
29. God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life. 1 Thes. 4:7
30. The Lord says, "Do not be afraid, for I am with you and will bless you." Gen. 26:24
31. Blessed are they that hear the Word of God and obey it. Lk. 11:28

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for February 2014

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. It is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for His good pleasure. Phil. 2:13
2. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rom. 12:11
3. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. James 1:22
4. The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble; He cares for those who trust in Him. Nahum 1:7
5. Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth. 1 Jn. 3:18
6. Man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. James 1:20
7. Do not show partiality in judging; hear both small and great alike. Deut. 1:17a
8. Do not be afraid of any man, for judgment belongs to God. Deut. 1:17b
9. Judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment. James 2:13
10. The Lord will not forsake His people. Ps. 94:14
11. It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. Lamentations 3:26
12. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ. 2 Thes. 3:5
13. Happy are those who consider the poor; the Lord delivers them in the day of trouble. Ps. 41:1
14. If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes. Mk. 9:23
15. "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God." Mt. 5:9
16. As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead. James 2:26
17. The words of the Lord are flawless, like silver refined in a furnace of clay. Ps. 12:6
18. The wicked freely strut about when what is vile is honored among men. Ps. 12:8
19. It is not by sword or spear that the Lord saves; for the battle is the Lord's. 1 Sam. 17:47
20. O Lord, let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of this Your servant. Neh. 1:11
21. As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead. James 2:26
22. Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom? James 2:5
23. "I will guard my ways that I may not sin with my tongue." Ps. 39:1
24. God is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. Ps. 62:6
25. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. James 3:10
26. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Ps. 46:1
27. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. Heb. 10:23
28. Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Eph. 6:10

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VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT BAPTISMS

HARLEY RENEE SAUCEDO, daughter of Chris and Kayla (Mlcak) Saucedo, born on May 8, 2013, was baptized on October 20, 2013, at the Nelsonville Brethren Church. Sponsors were Cassidy Meyer, Ryan Reiberstein, and Eli and Brittany Merz. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

RECENT DEATHS

FOLSOM, PAUL CHARLES, age 77 and a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died November 1, 2013, at Brenham, TX. He was born March 13, 1936, in Cambridge, Maine. Married December 22, 1957, to Betty Mikeska. Is survived by his wife, 2 children, 5 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchild. Services were on November 5, 2013, from

Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

MIKUSH, JOE JOHN, age 71, died December 1, 2013, at Houston. He was born February 20, 1942, at Hallettsville. Is survived by 3 children and 3 grandchildren. Services were on December 6, 2013, from the Vsetin CMB Church with burial in Vsetin CMB Cemetery. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.

STAPLETON, MILDRED A., age 99, died November 19, 2013, at Temple. She served as a psychiatric nurse in the European Theater during World War II, and after the war continued a career in nursing with the Veteran's Administration. Mildred was born on September 27, 1914, in Honey Grove, Texas. She never married. Mildred is survived by 2 nephews, as well as many friends and extended family. A graveside service was held on November 22, 2013, at Waco Memorial Park. Minister: Mark L. Labaj.



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- Scholarships
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Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

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.

March 1 – State Children’s Rally (age 3-5th grade), 9 a.m.-4 p.m. See flyer in this issue for information.

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

April 5, 2014 – Spring Synodical Committee Meeting at the Hus Encampment – 9:00 a.m.; refreshments served at 8:00 a.m. A light lunch will be served at noon. If you have any questions, contact James Marek, email: james@cnb.com or (512) 352-6165, or Liz Ripple, email: lizripple@hotmail.com or (979) 378-2239.

April 11-12 – Camp Planning and Counselor Training at the Hus Encampment – More information to come soon or contact Program Director, Kayla Marek at kmarek2012@gmail.com.

April 26, 2014 – Hus School 100th Anniversary Celebration at the Hus Encampment – See article in this issue for more information.

Upcoming Dates:

Summer Camps

June 5-7 – Encounter Camp
June 8-12 – Alpha Camp
June 15-20 – Pioneer Camp
June 22-27 – Discovery Camp
July 6-25 – Hus School

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Austin – Bible Study at 10:00 AM
Worship at 11:00 AM.
– Rev. Linda Chandler

Bryan-College Station – worship at
9:00 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Mark Sebek

Buckholts – worship at 9:00 AM every
Sunday except the 5th Sunday.
Holy Communion on 1st Sunday.
Guest speaker on 4th Sunday.
– Rev. John Kueker

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

Caldwell – Sunday School at 9:30 AM,
worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
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.
– Visiting Ministers

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

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
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512-365-6916

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77418, 979-865-5095

Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek,
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76501, 254-984-2283

Sealy #17: Esther Breeden, 2728
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77803, 979-779-3835

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The Community Christian Church of Rosenberg

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

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Wednesday Eve. 5:30 PM
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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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