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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.

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36/July-August 2015 BRETHREN JOURNAL

THE BRETHREN





Vol. 114

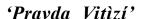
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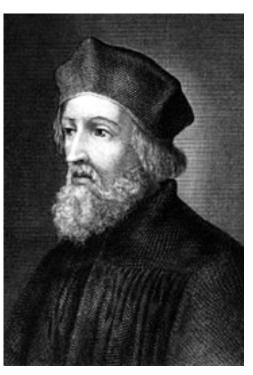
36 Pages

Jan Hus

July 6, 1369 - July 6, 1415 In commemoration of the 600th anniversary of his martyrdom.



Meaning "Truth Prevails" which is written at the base of the monument of Jan Hus that sits in the Square in Prague.



IN THIS ISSUE . . .

From the President . . . Report to the Unity Convention A Strong Heart . . . by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell In the Beginning, Sort of . . . by Jim Pokorny Convention Invitation Rev. Henry E. Beseda, Jr., Memorial Golf Tournament

... and a whole lot more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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The President's Report to the 66th Biennial Convention of The Unity of the Brethren – James Marek

As my service on the Synodical Executive Committee concludes, I want

to express my appreciation to this denomination and to God for the opportunity to serve. The journey has been challenging, educational, rewarding and humbling. As a part of this service role, I have had the chance to work with long-time



friends as well as meet new people and see how God is working in their lives as they offer themselves in service to Him. I have had the distinct pleasure of attending a Moravian Synod on the campus of Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. We have also reclaimed our denomination's previously vacated seat on the Moravian Board of World Missions. Susan and I have had the chance to visit Brethren churches on various Unity events that we had never visited prior to our service on the Synodical Committee. I want to take this opportunity to also thank my wife, Susan. She has supported my service throughout and has been willing to sacrifice her plans in accordance with the demands of my service. Throughout the journey, God has provided. Through this service, I have become even more aware of how inadequate I am without Him and how dependent we are on Him. Although mv weaknesses are many, God has compensated for them through His

provisions. I am constantly reminded of the words of the Apostle Paul

written in 2 Corinthians 12:9. "My grace is sufficient for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Serving in leadership roles of the denomination has further convinced me that God definitely has a plan for the Unity of the Brethren. It

continues to amaze me how God has nurtured, protected, tested, blessed and sustained this denomination longer than any other Protestant denomination in the world. As we commemorate the 600th anniversary of the martyrdom of Jan Hus, we have another opportunity to consider our rich history, thank God for His constant provision and protection, and ask ourselves, where is God leading us in the future? What is God's plan for the Unity of the Brethren and what are our individual roles in that plan? While I am not sure exactly what God's ultimate plan is for the Unity, I am certain that God loves us enough to not leave us where we are. He is at work in the Unity of the Brethren, and through his sovereignty is moving us closer to the fulfillment of His plan for us as a denomination. Especially in the last 2 years this idea has been reinforced as I have had the opportunity to learn more about our denominational history. Primarily, this aware-



ness has been increased through the discovery of a book written by Dr. Craig Atwood, Professor of Theology at Moravian Theological Seminary. The book is entitled *The Theology of* the Czech Brethren from Hus to Comenius. As a part of our commemoration of the martyrdom of Jan Hus, the Executive Committee has made it possible for each congregation in the Unity to receive a copy of Dr. Atwood's book. Dr. Atwood's book focuses on the tremendous contribution early Brethren made to the Protestant Reformation and to the church universal. I have found this book to be extremely interesting and packed full of little-known facts about early Brethren, what their beliefs were and the disciplined lifestyles that they adhered to faithfully. In my humble opinion, The Theology of the Czech Brethren from Hus to Comenius is a book that should be included in every Brethren's library and read as a reminder of the sacrifices and contributions our forefathers. As we read and study this book, my prayer is that we are able to see the implied responsibility all Brethren have to move the denomination forward towards the fulfillment of God's plan. As I read

and study this book, the following seem to be historical characteristics of the Unity. My hope is that a review of these characteristics may also provide insight on direction for us for the future.

Faith – Hebrews 11:6 tells us that without faith, it is impossible to please God. Faith is certainly woven into the fabric of what it means to be Brethren throughout our history. Although early Brethren were persecuted, falsely accused, driven from their homeland. their faith sustained them. I believe we have seen a glimpse of our forefather's faith in the area of our denominational mission program. I believe God is pleased with the faith demonstrated by the synodical committee over the past 4 years in its renewed commitment to missions. As a foundational principle of Christianity, the task of taking an active role in the spreading of the gospel throughout the world is demanded. The Synodical Committee has remained committed to seeing that our work in the respective mission fields continues uninterrupted. Even when the mission budgets have seemed impossible to reach, the resolve of the synodical committee has remained

WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road Houston, Texas 77082





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.

Cade Lake Community Chapel – A Home Mission Project since 10-22-11 – 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 Sundays – Rick Chandler 2nd, 4th, & 5th 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 Shepherd Moravian – worship at 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM every Sunday. – Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez

Granger – Bible Study every Sunday at 9:00 AM with worship service following 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 9:00 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.

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.

- Pastor Tim Chaplin

Vsetin – A non-official member congregation of the Unity of the Brethren – Worship at 10:00 AM every Sunday.

Dr. Mark Labaj5th 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

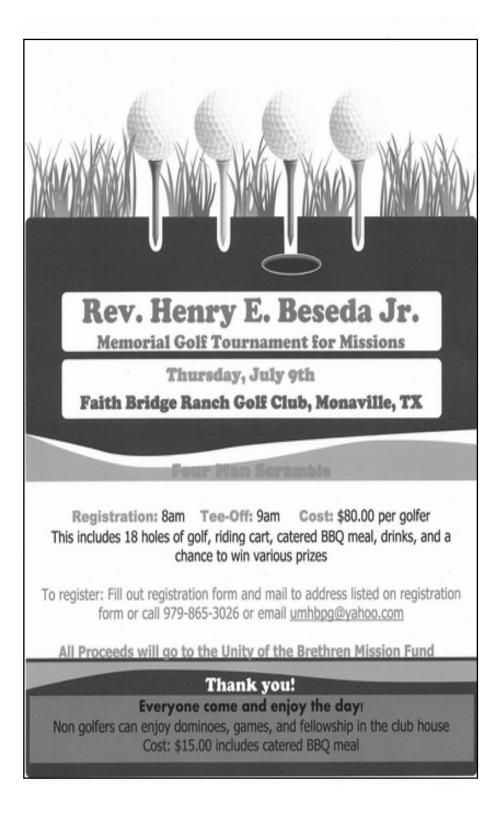
West – Sunday School at 9:00 AM and worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.

Rev. Curtis Holland

Westheimer Community – 9:30 AM, Christian Education; 10:30 AM, Worship, with Holy Communion every 5th Sunday.

Visiting Ministers

BRETHREN JOURNAL



intact. The continued progress that has been made in reaching our aggressive goals (I believe) is evidence of God's approval of this act of faith. We must, however, remain committed to the current work in the mission fields and even begin planning on ways to expand it as God leads us.

Obedience – 1 Samuel 15:22 reminds us that obedience is better than sacrifice. One of the things that the early Brethren were known for was their devout faith and disciplined lifestyles. Brethren living in the day of Martin Luther were praised for their disciplined lifestyle and their lives were held out as an example for other Christians. Today it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between Christians and non-Christians on the basis of lifestyle. When we fail to meet the standard of disciplined Christian living, we not only dishonor our Heavenly Father, we also injure the image of the church in the eyes of unbelievers. The expectation of a disciplined lifestyle is still contained in the current Unity constitution.

Article IV Section B(8) says: "Members of the Unity of the Brethren shall live sober, righteous, and godly lives and labor faithfully to bring others

to Christ. They shall take an active part in the life and work of the Unity of the Brethren. This shall include regular attendance at divine worship; devout use of the sacraments; diligent observance of private devotions; liberal financial and moral support toward Unity of the Brethren maintenance and its benevolent undertakings; obedience to the Unity's established law and authorities; untiring zeal in bringing the unchurched under the influence of the church; and sincere endeavor to apply the teachings of Jesus to all human relationships. Parents shall provide adequate Christian training for their entire household."

Many Brethren, even those of us who are lifelong Brethren, may be unaware of this formal expectation until it is brought to our attention. Our spiritual standing as children of God as well as our heritage as Brethren require such a standard. Striving to lead a disciplined lifestyle is part of what it means to be Brethren. In an attempt to leverage this expectation along with the hope of unifying all Brethren Churches with a common display, each congregation in the Unity



HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH

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

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

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

BRETHREN JOURNAL

July-August 2015/5

will receive a three-paned, framed display that includes this membership pledge. The centerpiece for the framed display is a copy of an original painting donated by professional artist Suzanne Huser of the Granger congregation. The painting is a depiction of John 15:5, in which Jesus said, "I am the vine and you are the branches, if you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit, apart from Me you can do nothing." The final pane of the display is a historical timeline listing some of the significant dates and events in Unity history. The hope is that all Brethren congregations will find a prominent place within their facilities to hang this display as a constant reminder of our common heritage and ongoing responsibility.

Passion for the Word of God – Early Brethren treasured the Scriptures. Access to the scripture in a language the people could understand was one of the tenets Hus believed was worth dying for. This concept is still illustrated in our Unity emblem with the open Bible. Although a number of Brethren churches still hold Bible studies either in conjunction with Sunday School or as a

separate study, the value assigned to the Scriptures by Brethren today appears to be in decline. Many of us no longer bring a Bible to Church, Sunday School or even Bible School anymore. This is one thing that I have noticed in churches that are expanding both in numbers and ministry. Members of growing churches value their Bibles, even as our forefathers did. If only a few folks still bring their Bibles to church, this begs the question, how many of us are regularly spending time reading and studying the Bible through personal devotionals? God commonly reveals His purpose and His will for our lives through His Word. If we are not valuing our Bibles, nor reading and studying them, how likely is it that we will be able to discern His will for our lives or our denomination?

Love – One of the things I have been inspired by and enjoyed the most is learning about all of the creative and loving ways Brethren churches are ministering in their communities. As we are reminded by the cross, we are to be in relationship and service to our neighbors (as illustrated by the horizontal cross member) just as we are to be in relation-

TAYLOR BRETHREN CHURCH

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

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Pastor President Secretary

James D. Hejl Kevin Page Mary Kokes

512-365-6890 512-689-1593 M-Th 8:00 am-noon

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for August 2015

- by Dorothy Kocian

- We have seen and do testify that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. 1 Jn. 4:14
- 2. A voice from heaven, saying, "This is my Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Mt. 3:17
- 3. I and my Father are one. Jn. 10:30
- 4. He shall be great and be called the Son of the Highest. Luke 1:32
- And Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."
 Mt. 28:18
- 6. Thou art the Christ, the Son of God. Mt. 16:16
- Keep watch, for you do not know the day or hour when the Son of man returns. Mt. 25:13
- God did not choose us to suffer wrath, but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.
 Thes. 5:9
- Lift up your heads because your redemption is drawing near. Lk. 21:28
- 10. We shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 1 Jn. 3:2
- He will appear a second time, to bring salvation to those who are waiting for Him. Heb. 9:28
- This same Jesus shall come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven. Acts 1:11
- You must be ready, for the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him. Mt. 24:44
- 14. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus Lord. Rom. 6:23
- 15. He was wounded for our transgressions and with his stripes we are healed. Isa. 53:5

- 16. Worthy is the Lamb who was slain. Rev. 5:12
- He humbled Himself and became obedient to death on a cross. Phil. 2:8
- 18. It was the third hour, and they crucified Him. Mk. 15:25
- 19. He is my mighty Rock, my Refuge. Ps. 62:7
- They were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God."
 Mt. 27:54
- 21. Christ has been raised from the dead. 1 Cor. 15:20
- 22. Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel. Mk. 16:15
- All kings shall fall down before Him, all nations shall serve Him. Ps. 72:11
- 24. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57
- We believe that Jesus died and rose again. 1 Thes. 4:14
- 26. Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age. Mt. 28:20
- Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Mt. 28:19
- Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. Gal. 6:2
- Let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. Gal. 6:10
- 30. Be of good comfort; your faith has made you whole. Mt. 9:22
- 31. Lord, you have been our dwelling place through all generations. Ps. 90:1

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for July 2015

- by Dorothy Kocian

- I thank my God always for the grace of God given to you by Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 1:4
- 2. Christ is the head of the body, the church. Col. 1:18
- Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievance you may have against one another. Col. 3:14
- How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity. Ps. 133:1
- So, we being many, are one body in Christ, and everyone members of another. Rom. 12:15
- I resolved to know nothing, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.
 1 Cor. 3:19
- 7. The mind controlled by the Spirit is life and peace. Rom. 8:6
- 8. The wisdom of the world is foolishness in God's sight. 1 Cor. 2:5
- 9. The Spirit searches all things. 1 Cor. 2:9
- Your faith should not rest on men's wisdom but on God's power.
 1 Cor. 2:5
- Eye hath not seen, nor ear has heard, nor mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him.
 Cor. 2:9
- 12. No one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 1 Cor. 2:11
- My conscience is clear, but that does not make me innocent; it is the Lord who judges me. 1 Cor. 4:4
- Be shepherds of God's flock under your care, not because you must, but because you are willing. 1 Pet. 5:2
- Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time. 1 Pet. 5:6

- 16. If a man's gift is leadership, let him govern diligently. Rom. 12:8
- 17. The elders who direct the church well are worthy of double honor. 1 Tim. 5:17
- You shall be a good minister of Jesus Christ, fed by words of faith and of good doctrine. 1 Tim. 4:6
- 19. Watch your life and doctrine closely; you will save both yourself and your hearers. 1 Tim. 4:16
- Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit? 1 Cor. 6:19
- 21. You (God) rebuke and discipline men for their sin. Ps. 39:11
- 22. The Lord disciplines those He loves. Heb. 12:6
- 23. God diciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness. Heb. 12:10
- 24. Let us throw off the sin that entangles and run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Heb. 12:1
- 25. Let him who is wise show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. James 3:13
- Live in peace and be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. Heb. 12:14
- 27. Let love and faithfulness never leave you. Prov. 3:3
- And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love. 1 Cor. 13:13
- 29. Flee from sexual immorality. 1 Cor. 6:18
- 30. What God has joined together let not man separate. Mark 10:9
- 31. Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence and likewise the wife unto the husband. 1 Cor. 7:3

Brethren Book Store

P.O. Box 321 Caldwell, TX 77836 (979) 200-0513 Diane Heckman, Manager Father (as illustrated in the vertical plane of the cross). Again this year at Convention, we will dedicate time in the convention schedule to hear from Brethren churches as they present various service ministries being offered by their congregations. The hope is that those in attendance will all be inspired to modify the ministries to fit their local congregation's gifts, or even steal some of the ideas presented and replicate the ministries in our own congregations. Although there are a number of ministries being offered and supported by Unity churches, we must strive to offer as many external ministries as we maintain to serve ourselves. We must challenge ourselves to develop additional ways to serve others in our communities and the world. To do so is to be obedient to the command of our Savior while increasing the possibility of reversing the current decline in our membership numbers. People want to be involved with churches that are relevant and are making a difference in their communities and the world. While numbers are not our first priority, they are frequently the blessing of an active church that is seeking God's will and serving His world. Jesus said in Matthew 5:16, "In the same way, let vou shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." It is not enough for us to come to church even regularly if we are content in the pews while we expect the pastor to provide the outreach and ministry of the church. We as the laity are called to be equipped by our pastors along with the leading of the Holy Spirit, and then be willing to offer ourselves to BRETHREN JOURNAL

ship and service to our Heavenly

the ministry and outreach of our congregations. We must not only be consumers of what the church provides, we must also become active providers of new ministries if we are to mature spiritually, grow our membership, and increase our impact in God's kingdom. Our world is increasingly dark today and sorely in need of Christian service, outreach, and love. The good news is, the smallest light is magnified when displayed in total darkness. Even small expressions of love can have a huge impact in the lives of those we are called to serve.

May God inspire us all individually and as a denomination to have the courage to ask Him to reveal His plan for our lives, and may He provide the faith and strength to respond to His plan. To God be the Glory, great things He hath done – and continues to do in the Unity of the Brethren.

In the Service of Christ and His bride the Church,

James Marek

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

"Bear ye one another's burdens And so fulfill the Law of Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

THE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

Rev. Joseph J. Polasek, President Daniel Vojtek, Vice-President Natalie Outlaw, Gen. Secretary Ruth Ann Wuensche, Treasurer Dorothy Hinson, Jr. Dept. Secretary Ann Sebesta, Board Member Rev. Michael Groseclose, Synodical Liaison

Invitation

66th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren "Branches Bearing Fruit"

To the Synodical Committee Lay members, Pastors, Delegates, Members & Friends of the Unity of the Brethren:

The Board of Elders of the Nelsonville & Wesley Churches most warmly invite you to the 66th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren to be held July 10-12, 2015. The 10th & 11th will be at Nelsonville and the 12th will be at Wesley. The churches are located on Nelsonville Church Road and Wesley Church Lane.

The convention will begin Friday, July 10, with registration at 9:00 A.M. Opening Worship with Holy Communion will begin at 10:00 AM. Convention business will be done at

Nelsonville on the 10th and 11th and a Unity-wide Worship Service will be held at Wesley on the 12th. This Convention will center on "Celebration" commemorating the 600th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Jan Hus and the 150th Anniversary of the Wesley Brethren Church.

This year's Convention theme is "Branches Bearing Fruit" with scripture from John 15:5:

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in Me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."

Housing accommodations have been set up in Brenham, TX 77833 and rooms have been blocked off at



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VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT DEATHS



N E L D I N A HOLUBEC MAREK died at her home in the early morning hours of April 28, 2015. She had endured many health problems for several years and was ready to go to her home in heaven to

be with all of her loved ones, especially her husband for 60 years, Theodore Joseph Marek, who died on 4/6/2009.

Neldina was the fourth child born to John and Fannie Holubec, on December 30, 1926, in Caldwell, Texas. She graduated from Austin High School in 1944. She married Theodore J. Marek on May 29, 1948. In 1951 her first child, Janette, was born, followed by her son, Larry, in 1955. In 1966 they moved to San Marcos, Texas, because Ted became the chief auditor at SWT. She worked for SMCISD as the secretary to the Superintendent of Schools for 25 years. For many years after retirement, she and Ted traveled extensively around the world and enjoyed their grandchildren, Jennifer and Johnny.

Nel was baptized in the Moravian Brethren Church as a baby and was a faithful member of the Austin Brethren Church until her death. Even after moving to San Marcos, Ted and Nel drove 30+ miles to church every Sunday. When Ted could not drive any longer, Nel drove them. When Nel couldn't drive any longer, she had her children or caregivers drive her. She loved her church.

Nel is survived by her daughter Janette Hall and husband John of Mountain City, TX, son Larry Marek and wife Becky of San Antonio, TX, her sister, Gardina Holubec of Austin, granddaughter Jennifer and husband Elliott Kruppa of Houston, TX, grandson Johnny Hall of Kyle, TX, great-grandson Elijah Kruppa, and great-granddaughter Claire Kruppa.

HUS ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Chair: Mark Olsen, 1316 Howard St., Taylor, TX 75674. (512) 630-5153; olsenemcee@yahoo.com

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

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

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

Non-Voting Appointments:

Programming Director: 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

Caretakers: Robert and Cathleen Schlechte, 3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836; (979) 324-5560,

(979)255-8266; <u>rschlechte@hotmail.com;</u> schlechte86@msn.com

Oversight of Synodical Committee: Rev. Dr. Jerry Lee Terrill, 7 Torch Pine Court, The Woodlands, TX 77381. (281) 364-9865; jerryleeterrill@gmail.com

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

July 9, 2015 – Rev. Henry E. Beseda Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament for Missions at Fifth Bridge Ranch Golf Club, Monaville, TX: Registration 8 a.m. with tee-off at 9 a.m. Cost is \$80 per golfer, \$15 for non-golfers. Fees cover catered BBQ meal. For registration and additional information, please see flyer in this issue.

July 10-12 – 66th Biennial Unity Convention at the Nelsonville & Wesley Brethren Churches (see congregation's invitation in this issue), and see Secretary's report for more information. The planned speaker, Rev. Dr. David Schattschneider, will not be able to atend. Committee is searching for a replacement speaker.

July 12-17, 2015 - Challenger Camp: (age 16- HS Seniors)

July 17-19 – Summer Retreat, Convention, & Volleyball at the Hus Encampment. Check-in will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, July 18. The convention will begin at 9 a.m.. All participants are asked to be in the classroom building by 10 a.m. so that we can have a registration check and activities can begin. A trophy presentation will be held on the courts as soon as the tournament concludes. There will be no evening worship. Sunday morning a continental breakfast will be provided and there will be no organized activities. Dismissal Sunday will occur as soon as the camp is cleaned. If you have questions, please contact Jennifer Chervenka: 254-913-1244; jennchervenka@farm-market.net.

SAVE THE DATE...

October 9-11, 2015 – Annual Primetimers' Retreat at the Hus Encampment.

November 7, 2015 – Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale & Quilt Show.

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.

the following hotels: Comfort Suites (\$104.99 per night, reserve before July 1), 2350 S. Day Street, 979-421-8100 or 1-800-300-8800 (comfortinn.com).

Hampton Inn & Suites (\$109 per night, reserve before June 18), 2605 Schulte Blvd, 979-337-9898-or 1-800-426-7866.

Best Western Inn of Brenham (\$98.99 per night, reserve by June 9), 1503 Hwy 290 E (Bestwestern.com).

La Quinta Inn & Suites (\$116 per night, reserve by June 18), 2950 Wood Ridge Blvd; 979-836-5551 or 1-800-642-4241 (lq.com).

Mention Unity of the Brethren Convention to get these rates. If you bring a Texas Hotel Occupancy Tax Exemption Certificate from your Church, you can avoid the State tax.

The meals which will be provided are:

At Nelsonville Brethren Church Friday, July 10, and Saturday, July 11: 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast – Complimentary; Lunch 12:00 p.m. – \$10.00; Supper 6:00 p.m. – \$10.00.

At Wesley Brethren Church Sunday, July 12: 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast – Complimentary; Lunch 12:00 p.m. – \$10.00.

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From the Nelsonville & Wesley Brethren Churches.

Jon Schroeder, President of the Nelsonville Elders J. T. Grounds, President of the Wesley Elders Rev. Michael Groseclose, Pastor

Nelsonville Brethren Church 332 Nelsonville Church Road Bellville, TX 77418

> Wesley Brethren Church 9643 Wesley Church Lane Brenham, TX 77833

Nelsonville Brethren Church office and Pastor's Phone: 979-865-3026

Unity Archivist

Clint Machann c-machann@tamu.edu 979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

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

Youth Minister: Position open

The Secretary's Report to the 66th Biennial Convention of The Unity of the Brethren -by Liz Ripple

The 2015 Convention Packets were mailed (regular mail and by email) to all ministers and congregations. Included in these packets was information regarding meal cost and housing.

The convention will begin Friday July 10, with registration at 9 a.m. Opening worship with Holy Communion will begin at 10 a.m. Convention business will be done at Nelsonville on the 10th and 11th. As we commemorate the 600th anniversary of the martyrdom of Jan Hus, we believe it appropriate to conclude the convention with a Unity-wide joint worship service that will be held at Wesley on the 12th. All Brethren congregations are encouraged to permit their pastors to attend this special service and also encourage all Brethren to be a part of this historic time of worship and celebration.

Please note that the Rev. Dr. David Schattschneider, the planned speaker for the convention, will not be able to attend due to health reasons. The planning committee is searching for someone else to speak.

Deadlines:

(all to be sent to the Secretary) The following have already passed!: 2014 Questionnaire due (also 2013 if not sent in); 2015 Convention Credential form with \$250 (per delegate). If you have not sent these in, please do so as soon as possible. All forms are posted on the Unity website (see calendar, forms).

Note: ALL reports from Officers and Organizations are now past due... each needs to print their own report in preparation and hand them out at the convention.

Reminder: 2014 Unity of the Brethren Contribution Funds should be sent directly to Dan Merz, Financial Secretary. Contact for further information: dan.merz@williams.com

Liz Ripple, Secretary Unity of the Brethren 311 W. State Hwy 71 Fayetteville, TX 78940 Telephone: 979-378-2239 lizripple@hotmail.com

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OBJECT LESSON: Ways to Serve

Joseph served God, no matter his circumstances. We can serve God also in many ways. Show the following items and ask students how they can serve (items are in bold, items for service follow).

- **Telephone** Call a friend who was absent from school to see if they were o.k.
- **Music CD** Listen to music that would not be displeasing to God.
- **Pillow** Invite a friend to spend the night on Saturday and go to Sunday School and Church the next morning.
- **Basketball** Be a good sport and an encouragement to everyone while playing a game.
- **Get-well card** Send a get-well card to a grandparent, friend, or other relative.
- **Movie video** Watch movies that would not be displeasing to God.
- **Plate** Set the table for dinner or help with other chores around the house.
- Candy Bar Share with others.
- Trash Can Don't be wasteful. Pick up litter.
- **Book** Study and learn.
- **Banana** Eat healthy and take care of yourself.

Find more ideas on Pinterest: https://www.pinterest.com/ahairrell/sunday-school-helper-joseph/

A Boy and a Colorful Coat

BACKGROUND: Joseph was a victim of great sibling rivalry, but God worked it for good.

READ AND TELL: Genesis 37-49; summary at http://www.dltk-bible.com/genesis/story_of_joseph-cv.htm

DO: Make Joseph with his coat of many colors (http://www.allkidsnetwork.com/crafts/bible/josephs-coat-colors.asp#.UP1bqxClbJA.pinterest)

BIBLE TRUTHS:

- 1. Joseph became successful in Egypt because God was with Joseph. Genesis 39:2; 41:39-40.
- 2. God blessed the Egyptian named Potiphar because of Joseph. Genesis 39:5.
- 3. Joseph did the right thing, but was still unfairly put in prison. But God was with Joseph in prison and extended kindness to him. Genesis 39:7-12, 20-21.
- 4. Joseph served God even though he was a slave in prison. Genesis 39:20; 40:8; 41:25-32.
- 5. Joseph gave God the credit for his ability to interpret dreams. Genesis 40:8; 41:16,25,28,32.
- 6. God demonstrated His power when He made Joseph (a slave) successful in Egypt, when He gave Joseph the ability to interpret dreams, and when He brought abundance and then famine to the land of Egypt. Genesis 39:2; 40:8; 41:16,29-32, 39-40.
- 7. Pharaoh glorified God when he appointed Joseph as overseer of Egypt. Genesis 41:39-40.
- 8. The Egyptians saved during a time of abundance so they would be prepared for a time of famine. Genesis 41:35-36

For comments/questions/ information, contact:

Angie Hairrell

Hairrell@gmail.com



"A Strong Heart"

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

What does it mean to have a strong heart?

Perhaps it requires a deep-rooted understanding that the metaphorical mountain you are facing can be overcome through Jesus' power and not your own.

Perhaps it entails a blatant surrender of the ownership over your life to God, whom you cannot see yet absolutely believe is present.

Perhaps having a strong heart involves feeding it good things so that holy output would be the norm.

A strong heart grabs on to Jesus to literally meet every single need in life.

What do you need, truly?

What are the things that you dare not tell anyone about?

In Psalm 73:21-26, we encounter the secret to how to stand strong in all situations:

When my soul was embittered, when I was pricked in heart, I was stupid and ignorant; I was like a brute beast toward You. Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold my right hand. You guide me with Your counsel, and afterward You will receive me with honor. Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than You. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Will you let God be the strength of your heart?

Desire Jesus more than anyone or anything else and His strength will see you through.

Pray with fervor for this desire and your strength for life will be tangible.

Amen.



In the Beginning, Sort of - by Jim Pokorny

If you are not already aware, Anne Thiessen has a blog which can be found at http://annietmovingtooz.blogspot.ca/. If you have not yet read what Anne has been moved to share, I highly encourage you to visit her blog site.

What exactly is a "blog"? That is a question I have been asked more than once. The word blog is actually a shortened form of the word "weblog", which is defined as "a regularly updated website or web page, typically run by an individual or small group, which is written in an informal or conversational style."

I recently had a conversation with a good friend who knows Anne and we discussed her blog for some time. We then discussed writing in general.

As a result of this conversation, I looked back at this particular part of my journey and I thought I would share some of that experience with you. Who knows? You may even get a laugh or two at my expense, but that is also part of the journey and I am well prepared for it. If my current schedule is any indication, this article

might just be the closest thing I get to a vacation this year.

The best place to tell any story is from the beginning. I first surveyed the path that led to writing on a cold Monday evening in January 2010. I sat down after dinner and began taking stock of what I was doing in the way of service. I had recently begun teaching an adult Sunday school class at the Taylor Brethren Church and that was going well. For some time I had been serving on our Christian Education Committee and taking photographs for the church. These services were also going well. As the evening progressed my thoughts turned to how I might take one of these avenues of service to a different level.

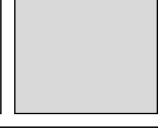
My thoughts suddenly turned to writing a Christian blog. I quickly dismissed that idea. After all, what did I know about writing? I am a consultant by trade. I work with computers. I have always been a "numbers" sort of person. I was not a writer. Just ask any English teacher who ever had the great misfortune of trying to teach me.

Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53
Temple, TX 76501
Church Phone: 254-985-2694
seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com

Rev. Denise Mikeska, Pastor – sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com Charles Amos Sr., Board of Elders Chair The Lord was with Joseph, and he became a successful man... Genesis 39:2





Sunday School Helper





This month we continue to explore Children of the Bible. This issue focuses on Joseph. As a boy he was the victim of some sibling rivalry, but God turned that bad event into something used for good. Big lesson learned: Jealousy can lead to hatred and hatred can lead to murder. The best way to overcome all of these is through love, kindness, and forgiveness.

Caldwell Brethren Church Honors Veterans



Caldwell Brethren Church was honored to pay tribute to our nation's veterans at a special meal that the church hosted at the VFW on Thursday, May 14, 2015. "Our church family reaches out to the community in special ways once a month, and the VFW tribute was one of the most treasured that we have held," says Pastor Vanessa Mitchell "We thank our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the men and women who have served, and still serve, to protect our freedom as Americans"





Tuesday night came and the same scenario began to replay itself. I found myself thinking about a Christian blog again and had even reached the point of trying to work out a tentative schedule. That more or less brought me back to reality and, just like the night before, I talked myself out of it.

Wednesday night came and, you guessed it, I found myself returning to this concept yet again. I honestly tried talking myself out of it for a third time. I reminded myself that I was not a writer and never once had I ever expressed any intention or desire of becoming one. I then asked myself one very unforgettable question, "Why am I even thinking about this?"

As this question echoed along the relatively vacant corridors of my mind I asked myself another rather unsettling question: "What if this idea is not really my own?" This, of course, led to another question that I found even more unsettling. "What if this is God's subtle (not to mention persistent) way of telling me that this is what He wants me to do next?"

That night I prayed about it, and when Thursday morning dawned, I knew I would simply have to trust Him. I distinctly remembered think-

ing, "Okay, God. I will do this, but You are going to have to help me."

At this point I feel a certain moral obligation to warn you that you have to be extremely careful when you make a bargain like this with God because He will in all likelihood take you up on it when you least expect it. You will see what I mean by this later in the article.

When Friday came, I wrote what was to be the first of many blog posts which I entitled Don't Let Being a Sheep Get Your Goat. I uploaded it the next day, Saturday, January 30, 2010. At the time I was a member of Max Lucado's Community. This was a Facebook-type of website designed for believers. I began posting my blogs there, as well. I then began reading some of the blogs others posted there and began following a handful of them regularly. As time went by I became friends with a few bloggers. A few of those I followed hit upon the concept of combining their talents. A group blog was established and I began following this one, as well.

I had not been blogging for very long when I received an invitation

Temple Brethren Church

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

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Tim Chaplin, Interim Pastor (254) 718-3898

BRETHREN JOURNAL 24/July-August 2015 BRETHREN JOURNAL July-August 2015/13 from this group to participate in their effort. I made the mistake of reading the biographies of the contributors. The roster included pastors, authors, editors, educators, and so on from several nations. I thanked them for their consideration, but before I said yes, I had to have the answer to one very important question, "What, exactly, makes me sound like a good idea to you?"

The person who was in charge of the group replied with equal humor. After several exchanges of email I agreed, and he sent me a set of guidelines with which I would have to adhere.

I agreed to those terms and began contributing to that site, as well, alternating between it and my own. Through the course of time contributors came and went. Eventually they began leaving more rapidly than replacements could be found.

Ultimately, I found myself to be the site's only remaining contributor. I still alternate between it and my site. There are times that I wonder if it could ever be what it once was. That is doubtful. Be that as it may, contributing to two sites does allow me to connect with more people, and I have

noticed a small but regular increase in the number of readers over the last few months.

Max Lucado's Community eventually shut down, and it was at this point that I delved into other social media to maintain some of the friendships I made there. I also used it to share links to my blogs and to foster new friendships.

In March 2013 I became friends with Cathleen Schlechte. She asked me to write a piece for *The Brethren* Journal. I agreed to do so because what I published online was intended for an extremely broad audience. I looked upon this invitation as both an opportunity and a challenge to write something in a very different format for a very specific audience. Once I had the original article written, I decided to pray about this. As a result, I offered to contribute a regular monthly piece. I concluded that since God generously provided me with four pieces each month, He would graciously extend it to five.

More than five years have passed and a total of 289 blog posts and articles mark this part of my journey. Looking back I can see just how far I have come. Looking forward I can see

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

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

In God's Hands Ministry Clients Served by Poverty Level and Number of Households served 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 Clients served (Households) In God's Hands Ministry Clients Served by Age 350 300 250 200 150 100 50 2/14 3/14 5/14 9/14 10/14 11/14 12/14 7/14 ■ Clients served (Ages 0-5) ■ Clients served (6-12) ■ Clients served (13-17) ■ Clients served (18=40) ■ Clients served (41-64) ■ Clients served (65+) In God's Hands Ministry Clients Served by Race 400 300 200 100 8/14 9/14 10/14 11/14 12/14 7/14 Clients served (Asian) Clients served (Black) Clients served (Hispasnic ____ Clients served (White) Clients served BRETHREN JOURNAL

- The washer, dryer, and shower that were provided by Calvary Baptist Church in Caldwell are used by community members who have no water service.
- We have hosted a community Thanksgiving dinner each year we have been here.
- · Other activities have included Christmas cookie "make and take" events, tree decorating, movie nights, and Vacation Bible School.

In God's Hands Ministry June 2015

In God's Hands Ministry continues to offer services to low-income families in Northern Burleson County with a particular emphasis on the Cade Lake Estates.

• During 2014 and 2015 we have provided 134,544 pounds of food for a cost of \$4877, or 3 cents a pound. The wholesale value per pound is \$1.72 The current wholesale value of 134,544 pounds is \$229,416.

- We have provided the leadership for Make Christmas Happen for the past six years, and will continue that effort in 2015. In 2014 we raised \$3,339. We helped 72 families with 132 children... or about \$25 per child.
- In conjunction with Cade Lake Community Chapel, the ministry has provided school supplies for children in the elementary and intermediate schools. Over a two-year period we have supplied 125+ student. This ministry is primarily performed by David and Melinda Palicka, whose family has worked diligently for eight years to help make it a success.
- On June 20, 2015, we initiated a "Free Produce Saturday." Working with the Houston Food Bank and Area 3:16 Church in Caldwell, we distributed 10 pallets of fresh produce. We will be providing this service monthly beginning the first Saturday in August, 2015.

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@gmail.com Church: rev.tjt@zipnet.us www.wallbrethrenchurch.org

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

Pastor/Director of Youth Church Office President Board of Elders and Young Family Ministries Secretary Ryan Volkman David Miller Johnie Smith Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 325-651-7597 325-213-0671

that God's graciousness shows no sign of letting up.

In all that time, I can honestly say that I never encountered the one thing every "real" writer dreads the most; namely, writer's block. That does not mean that the process has been completely painless.

Remember that I stated earlier that you had to be careful when bargaining with God? Allow me to illustrate.

A few years ago as we neared Christmas, a volunteer agreed to dress up as an angel and speak to some young children in our Sunday school. At the very last minute, that volunteer was forced to cancel and the Sunday School desperately needed someone to step in. I offered my services and was immediately shown where the costumes were kept. I was informed that I had only a few minutes to get dressed and go over my lines.

I do not know who put these costumes together, but it became immediately apparent to me that in their mind angels simply did not come in my size. Even the halo I wore was stretched almost to its breaking point. (Some of you that know me personally are already taking advantage of that statement and I have a pretty good idea who you are.)

Without looking, I knew that I must have looked completely ridiculous. As I made my way to where the children waited I carefully chose a path that would steer me clear of any reflective surface. I instinctively knew that if I caught so much as a glimpse of what I actually looked like I would have cancelled that performance before it had the chance to open.

After what seemed like an eternity, I finally received my queue, I entered and gave those children the best I had within me. When I left them, I carefully retraced my steps back to "wardrobe" for the same reason as before. As I got back into my normal attire it was as if I could sense God telling me, "You said that you needed my help writing. Now you have something to write about."

I returned the costume to its closet where it quietly and patiently awaiting its next victim. As I walked away the seeds of a future blog post began taking root.

I think about that day every now and then. I sometimes smile when I imagine a young child telling some





family member the story about the day a big, bearded, and rather awkward-looking angel showed up in Sunday School to talk about Christmas.

Speaking of stories, I previously shared with you my fondness for the Western genre. This fondness extends to Western art, as well.

Among my favorite Western artists was a man named Charles Russell, whose friends called him "Kid" Russell because of his youthful appearance. Russell was born in 1864 in St. Louis, Missouri, and died in Great Falls, Montana, in 1926. The C. M. Russell Museum Complex in Great Falls contains over 2,000 paintings, sculptures, and artifacts of his.

Although I own only one of his prints, Russell's work fascinates me. Russell not only attempted to capture the action, emotion and drama of the American West in his art, he also attempted to tell an entire story through a single frozen moment in time. One of my favorite works of his depicts a cowboy trying to break a wild horse, and the pair has suddenly barged their way through the campfire, sending coffee pot, skillet, and embers flying while cowboys scatter in every direction looking for cover.

Russell was an avid storyteller, and he always carried a lump of beeswax or clay in his pocket. Whenever he found an audience willing to hear one of his tales, he would reach into his pocket and break off a piece of wax or clay. As he told the story, he would mold that lump into the form of a character or figure from that story. It was said that Russell also possessed the uncanny ability to finish both his sculpture and his story at the same time. He would then give that miniature sculpture to a member of his audience. Russell was, in a sense, leaving behind a small piece of himself for that listener to take with him.

In a similar sense, I think that is what Anne and I and every other Christian blogger ends up doing. We are attempting to leave behind a small piece of ourselves for each reader to take with him.

Lawrence Kasdan once said, "Being a writer is like having homework every night for the rest of your life." There is more than a fair amount of truth in this. Even when you are not actually writing, you are thinking about writing. You become more attuned to everything and everyone around you out of necessity. Most surprisingly, you also learn a great deal about yourself along the way.

In the end, it would not surprise me at all if that was one of the things God had in mind for me when He sent me down this path.

In God's Hands Ministry

P. O. Box 321 Caldwell, TX 77836 979-574-7134

Everyday Ministries to Meet Everyday Needs A Home Mission Work to Cade Lake and Burleson County

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

Editor's Note: The following has been taken from reports by Rev. Jim Heckman and will be submitted to Convention.

Cade Lake Community Chapel June 2015

The past two years have been eventful ministry filled years for us. Here is a brief review of our programs.

- Two new volunteers have helped provide tutoring for grades 1-5 on Tuesday and Thursday, helping 10-25 children. Snacks of sandwiches, drinks, chips and desserts have been provided.
- Transportation has been provided to doctors and hospitals in Bryan/College Station, Rockdale, Houston and Temple areas.
- I don't have the exact number, but we sent about 12 children to the 2014 Kids Rally as well as 15 children, one adult, and one youth helper to 2015 Kids Rally
- In 2014 nine youth and three adults attended the Youth Fishing Retreat, and nine youth and two adults

attended the 2015 Fishing Rally.

- We sent 16 children to the Camps in 2014 and have 11 children attending Camps in 2015.
- We have conducted fund raising events to supplement Unity funds for most of these events.
- In May of 2014 there was a workday to paint and repair wood on the church.
- We have initiated a Celebrate Recovery ministry in the past year.
- Since November of 2013 we are averaging 30+ attendees on Sunday.
- We conduct Sunday School classes for all age groups.
- We still offer a full lunch during our Sunday services.
- We have assisted various members of the community with utility assistance and medication.
- All of our building maintenance, lawn maintenance, and janitorial services are provided by community members.
- Periodic visits are made to the jail and courts to visit members of the community.

SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247, Snook, TX 77878 Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:00 AM; Worship – 10:15 AM Bible Buddies – 2nd Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 PM

Pastor	Board of Elders President	Youth Directors
Rev. Joseph Polasek	Rayfield Slovacek	Randall & Jonna See
P.O. Box 54	P.O. Box 267	P.O. Box 345
Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-1624	(979) 272-8845	(979) 272-8179

Thoughts about giving...

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Eugene Haisler – Ocker – 254-985-2316, dmheeh@msn.com

Dewyan Weise – Wall – Unity Treasurer and Synodical Committee Liaison – 325-651-8550, hdweise@zipnet.us

Alan Tomasek – 512-859-2197, amtomasek@thegateway.net

Giving and Stewardship Corner

The Giving and Stewardship Corner is a small way of reminding us what the Bible has to say about giving and stewardship. Generosity is not only an act of worship, but an expression of our gratitude to God our Father and provider. Giving is also a spiritual discipline that promotes spiritual development and maturity. What is God prompting your heart to give?

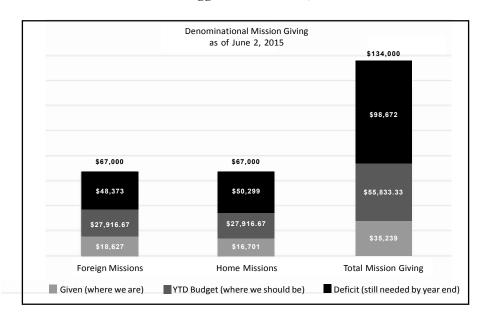
Psalms 37:21

"The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously."

II Corinthians 9:6

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will reap generously."

"I shovel money out and God shovels it back ...
but God's shovel is bigger." Industrialist, R. G. LeTourneau



To communicate with the Hus Encampment...

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.

Caldwell Brethren Church VBS

We "glowed" as we were blessed at Vacation Bible School at Caldwell Brethren Church on June 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The children sang, made glow-in-the-dark crafts, participated in interactive Bible stories, and sang a wide array of songs. Our theme was: "G.L.O.W." (Generously Love Others Worldwide). We are so grateful for all who gave of their time and talents to bring the children closer to Jesus.









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OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53 Temple, Texas 76501

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

Youth Director Jennifer Chervenka

9494 Big Elm Creek Road Rogers, TX 76569 (254) 983-1002

Elder Board President John Brinkley

119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656 (254) 721-3196 wphalia@yahoo.com

Cemetery Sharon Marek

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