

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 114

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No. 9

36 Pages

Needed: FRIENDS OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

— 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.

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**Martha Huffman, Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, and children of the
Caldwell Brethren Kids' Choir**

(See story in this issue.)

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More Than Meets the Eye . . . by Jim Pokorny

This Life . . . by Rhonda Johnson

History Symposium Invitation

Invitations from across the Unity

. . . and so much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Visit the Unity of the Brethren Website: unityofthebrethren.org

Unity Financial Secretary Transition

The Unity Financial Secretary transition will officially take place at the Synodical Committee meeting on October 24, 2015. Beginning at that time, all Unity contributions currently being sent to Dan Merz should be sent to the new Financial Secretary, Liz Ripple, at 311 W. State Hwy 71, Fayetteville, TX 78940.

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

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Someday, is Today!

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Someday I will call him or her.

Someday I will clean out the garage.

Someday I will visit my childhood friends.

Someday I will go back to school.

Someday I will eat healthier.

Someday I will exercise.

Someday I will apologize to those I have hurt.

Someday I will save money.

Someday I will go on a missions trip to a third world country or to a poor area in our community.

Someday I will read the words of the Bible daily and strive to be transformed by them.

Someday I will trust God to schedule my day for me.

Someday...

Someday...

The prophet Zephaniah writes in the Book of Zephaniah, chapter 3, verses 14 through 20, to the Israelites who are scattered and feeling disoriented and dismayed about the Day of the Lord Jesus' return, the day when He will reign on earth and the Lord's Prayer is consummated, when things are on earth as they are in heaven. Zephaniah writes:

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, He has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will renew you in His love; He will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. "I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.



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
DMBaletka@gmail.com

*This must be done well in advance.

Our "someday" is in the here and now!

The Lord Jesus has taken away all judgments against us by His blood!

The Lord Jesus is in our midst, indwelling us; we have nothing to fear!

The Lord Jesus strengthens our hands so that we do not grow weak through the trials of life.

The Lord Jesus gives us victories in life.

Jesus rejoices over you.

Jesus renews you with His love.

Jesus celebrates over you with singing.

Jesus will remove disasters from you.

Jesus will deal with anyone who is against you.

Jesus is ready to save you if you are sick or feeling alone.

Jesus is your home.

Jesus restores whatever is lacking in your life.

What is on your "someday" list?

Give it to Jesus, the Lord of Lords.

Give it to Jesus, the King of Kings.

Give it to Jesus, the Master of your heart.

Your "someday" is today!

Let Jesus take you through this moment, through this day, through this week, and through the rest of your life.

Your "someday" is in the hands of Jesus Christ.

Will you trust Him?

Do not wait for "someday" to place your trust in He who is the author of Love and Life, the One and Only Jesus Christ!

Someday is today!

Amen.

In Jesus' Inexpressible Joy,
Sister Vanessa Mitchell

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tbc@hot.rr.com

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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



CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, Pastor
lajoiededieu@gmail.com
(979) 574-0268

Sunday School
9:30 AM

Children's Choir
Practice, Sundays
10:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Church email: lifeatcbc@gmail.com

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

www.lifeatcbc.org

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GRANGER BRETHREN CHURCH

1903 *Where it all began*

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76530

Bible Study
Worship Services

9:00 a.m.
10:15 a.m.

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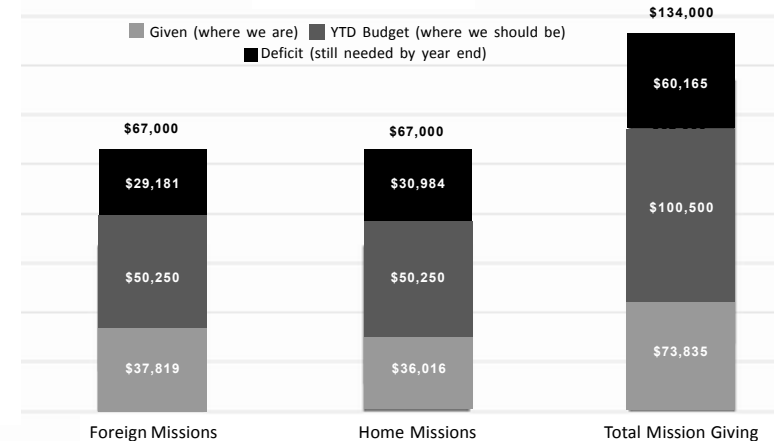
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Denominational Mission Giving
as of October 5, 2015



Temple Brethren Church Christmas Invitation

The Temple Brethren Church will host the University of North Texas presentation of 'Ceska mse vanocni': traditional Czech music under the direction of Dr. Tom Sovik on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary.

The original composition is dated 1796 by Jan Ryba. The musical group is being hosted in Temple by the Czech Heritage Museum and Genealogy Center. The event is open to the public and there is no admission fee. Non-perishable food items may be donated and they will be given to Churches Touching Lives for Jesus, a local food pantry that is supported by multiple congregations in the Temple area.

For more information, please contact the church or email Grace Labaj at elabaj@hotmail.com

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Jan Hus after 600 Years: History and Heritage History Symposium

The Unity of the Brethren will be sponsoring a history symposium entitled, *Jan Hus after 600 Years: History and Heritage*. Co-sponsoring the event with the Unity of the Brethren will be Blinn College and the Texas Historical Society.

The event will allow for reflection about who Jan Hus was and what his significance is for Christians today. The symposium is also geared at acknowledging other events in the world that were taking place in this era as well as the lingering impact that Jan Hus has had on thousands of Czech Americans.

The main speakers for the event include Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood and Dr. Thomas Fudge. Atwood is the director for the Center for Moravian Studies. Fudge is the author of *The Magnificent Ride: First Reformation in Hussite Bohemia* and *The Crusade Against the Heretics in Bohemia, 1418-1437*. Dr. Fudge has worked at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand lecturing mainly on European History.

In addition, Dr. Arnold Krammer, professor emeritus from Texas A&M University, Dr. Kenneth W. Howell from Blinn College, and Dr. Charles Gear from Central Texas College

have been instrumental in assisting with planning and logistic arrangements for the event.

The anticipated audience include: members of the Unity of the Brethren, others from Czech descent (including the large population of Catholics in Texas), students of history, historians and seminary students. It is believed that between 100 and 200 individuals will participate the history symposium. Partnerships with organizations not listed above who are interested in this event are actively being sought by committee members.

If you, or an organization that you are affiliated with, would like to lend support to the history symposium, please contact Dr. Larry Koslovsky, lwkoslo@aol.com or Dr. Dawn Marie Baletka, DMBaletka@gmail.com.

The event will take place on November 14, 2015, at Blinn College in Brenham, TX, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Information on registration and hotel accommodations will be distributed in the next few weeks.

If you have any questions concerning this event, please feel free to contact any of the Hus History Symposium Committee members or chairperson, Dr. Larry Koslovsky, lwkoslo@aol.com.

In God's Hands Ministry

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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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 – 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 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
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– Visiting Ministers

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More Than Meets the Eye

- by Jim Pokorny

It has been almost a year since my firm was acquired by a large multinational corporation. Although I have a different title, I still answer to the same vice president. The month of May will mark my 25th anniversary with the firm, and I have answered directly to this individual for more than 20 of those years.

Recently, a contingency of executives from corporate's Economics Division came to our Austin office for a series of meetings. This made our Human Resources person a tad nervous.

To be completely honest, I was not much help in that regard. I have the kind of sense of humor that keeps Human Resources people awake at night. While I would not say anything considered inappropriate, I have been known to speak my mind in a number of creative ways.

During a one-on-one session, a visiting executive asked me a question I thought was a bit out of the ordinary. He asked me what my superior was like. Without missing a beat I answered, "We have a great working relationship. He tells me what to do and I do it."

He found this incredibly funny. Granted I was trying to be funny, but there was also a tremendous amount of truth in my response.

The meetings eventually concluded, and once they had their fill of Texas' hospitality and great barbecue, the

executives and their assistants made their way home. Afterward, I reflected on the working relationship I have established with my vice president. I recalled how the basis of that relationship had its foundation in, of all things, a PBS documentary on wild-life in Yellowstone National Park.

When bison are born, their fur is red in color. Their fur gradually turns brown as they mature, and eventually turns dark brown when they reach adulthood.

During the spring and summer months, young bison try to stay concealed in the grass. Having color vision, it is easy for human beings to tell their red fur apart from the green grass. The same does not hold true for predators that are color blind as they have difficulty distinguishing between red and green. Both colors appear as remarkably similar shades of gray to them. To prove this point, the makers of the documentary suddenly switched from color footage to black and white and the young bison practically vanished from sight.

For some reason, I latched on to that particular bit of information, not realizing I would find it useful later on in my professional life.

When hired by the firm, I was told that my primary function would be analyzing large amounts of data and subsequently presenting the results of those analyses in forms that are



easier to comprehend. Most of the time this would mean graphing the resultant data so that others could see at a glance what the data was trying to tell us.

Certain standards have been adopted by our industry, and it is important that I adhere to those standards. This includes the use of certain colors to represent certain commodities. The very first time I generated such a graph for this vice president, I could see that he was having difficulty with it. In particular, I noticed that he was having difficulty distinguishing between the green and red data points.

Recalling that red and green look similar to the color blind it stood to reason that this was why he was having difficulty, so I offered to put a bit more work into it.

Convention demanded that I not change the colors so I opted to change the shapes. I left the red dots as they were but changed the green ones to squares.

He did not struggle at all with this version, and even complimented my work. I told him that I did this to

accommodate his color blindness. This took him by surprise.

“How did you know I was color blind?” he asked.

“A little buffalo told me,” I replied. This, of course, made no sense to him, so I told him about the documentary I had seen.

“You appeared to be struggling with red and green,” I added. “Based on what I knew, this was the only conclusion that made sense.”

He told me that he was indeed color blind, and added this often made his job more difficult.

We have worked together ever since. It isn’t always easy to produce work that both conforms to industry standard and remains useful to him, but we always manage. There are times when others need to produce work for him. For example, we have two individuals in our firm who are responsible for creating maps. Both are quite good at what they do. Whenever either of these individuals is creating a map for him, I try to look at their work in progress and suggest changes that will make things better for both of them.

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Home: 979-567-1999 Cell: 979-220-1289
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Ben L Polasek, Jr, Business Manager

Date

10/01/2015

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Although not officially part of my job description, I try to imagine what their product will look like to him. I then suggest changes that will accommodate his needs, meet standard, and save them time and frustration. In my opinion, it is much better to put effort into the building of a usable work product than in replacing it later.

I find it interesting that in English we use the words “see” and “understand” interchangeably. It certainly applies to this set of circumstances. By providing my superior with something he can better see, I provide him with something he can better understand.

Perhaps other words should be broader in scope. Dictionaries, for example, typically define ministry as the work associated with pastors and priests. The sermon and other services the pastor provides helps his congregation see glimpses of God they are not been able to see for themselves.

God is generous in His gifts to us. When we use them properly, the services we provide can help others get glimpses of Him, as well. Thus, the

term ministry should not be confined strictly to the role of clergy.

Such was the case with the service Anne Sullivan provided for Helen Keller.

When Helen Keller came into the world in 1880 her parents expected she would grow up and live a normal life. In 1882 she experienced a very high fever which left her both blind and deaf.

Deprived of these senses, she was not able to develop an effective means of communicating with those around her, and her frustration with the world grew. As time went by this frustration resulted in frequent tantrums.

When Helen was old enough, her parents hired Anne Sullivan to teach her.

Anne understood that Helen's primary means of connecting with the world around her was through her sense of touch. Upon her arrival, Anne gave Helen a doll as a present. Using sign language, she spelled out D-O-L-L in Helen's hand. Although Helen understood that the doll was a gift for her, she did not make the



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connection that these strange signs made upon her hand had meaning.

Days went by as Anne continued trying to teach Helen. With no visible sign of progress, the tension between Helen's parents and Anne Sullivan grew.

Eventually, at Anne's insistence, she and Helen were allowed to live by themselves in a cottage on the Keller estate.

Helen had no way of understanding what had become of her family or why she now found herself living alone with this strange person.

Helen grew more stubborn and her tantrums grew more violent. Anne used every opportunity to spell things in sign language into Helen's hand, yet Helen simply could not grasp that there was meaning in this activity.

Helen's parents, having seen no progress thus far, were considering Anne Sullivan's dismissal.

Just as Anne's allotted time was about to expire, she took Helen out to the water pump. As the water splashed over Helen's hand Anne spelled out the letters W-A-T-E-R.

Suddenly the veil lifted, and Helen

understood that these strange signs had meaning. She now understood that this wonderful liquid had an equally wonderful name. If water had a name, then surely everything else in the world must have one as well.

Helen immediately wanted to know the identity of everything around her. Before that day ended Helen had amassed a vocabulary of 30 words.

Helen Keller went on to accomplish a great deal in life. She was even awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Yet the one thing she treasured most of all was the relationship she had with Anne Sullivan. A relationship with someone who helped her see what she had not been able to see for herself.

Someone once asked Helen Keller what could be worse than being blind.

Helen replied, "The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."

Scripture reminds us that Jesus cured the blind. We may not have the power to cure blindness, but with the gifts God has given us, we do have the power to help others see.

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for November 2015

- by Dorothy E. Kocian

1. **Put your hope in the Lord, both now and forever. Ps. 131:3**
2. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. Heb. 6:19
3. Great are the works of the Lord. Ps. 111:2
4. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who finds great delight in His commands. Ps. 112:1
5. My heart is steadfast, O God; I will sing and make music with all my soul. Ps. 108:1
6. Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Ps. 106:48a
7. Let all the people say, "Amen! Praise the Lord!" Ps. 106:48b
8. **Be doers of the word, and not hearers only. James 1:22**
9. May mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance. Jude 2
10. Let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger. James 1:19
11. To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ. Rom. 16:27
12. Do not fear, only believe. Mk. 5:36
13. The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, shining brighter until full day. Prov. 4:18
14. Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57
15. **Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Cor. 10:31**
16. May the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times, in all ways. 2 Thes. 3:16
17. God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. Joel 2:13
18. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress." Ps. 91:2
19. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into His presence with singing. Ps. 100:2
20. Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him. Ps. 62:8a
21. God is a refuge for us. Ps. 62:8b
22. **The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy. Ps. 126:3**
23. Blessed are all who fear the Lord, who walk in His ways. Ps. 128:1
24. The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and evermore. Ps. 121:8
25. Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the first fruits of all your crops. Prov. 3:9
26. You are my God and I will give You thanks; you are my God and I will exalt You. Ps. 118:28
27. I thank You that You have answered me and have become my salvation. Ps. 118:21
28. If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up. Ps. 27:10
29. **By grace you have been saved through faith; it is the gift of God. Eph. 2:8**
30. I will bless the Lord at all times. Ps. 34:1

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This Life...

- by Rhonda Johnson

Job 5:7 "Yet man is born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upwards." NIV

This life can often be described as a hostile and challenging series of events.

When I was nine years old, my older sister died of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Five months after my husband and I married, my 19-year-old younger brother suffered a gunshot wound and was paralyzed for 26 years, until he passed away in 2011. In 2002, my mother passed away of lung cancer (adenocarcinoma) and my dad has been in cancer treatment since 2001. These are just the biggies, the list doesn't include raising three sons, personal health issues, spiritual challenges, career-related troubles, and other matters we all tackle as part of daily life on planet Earth.

This life is hard. There have been many times, as I met the Lord for prayer and poured my heart out to Him, that I have thought, "How would I cope with life if I didn't know God." What would I do if I didn't know The

Lord wanted me to run to Him with my heavy heart and share my concerns with Him? As these thoughts run through my mind I think two things; First, what a privilege and how blessed I am to know The Lord and to have a close friendship with Him. Second, how important it is for me to tell others in this world of a God who loves them and who wants to lift them up and help them through this life.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble, but I have overcome the world." NIV

John 14:12 "...I tell you, whoever believes in Me will do the works I do, and even greater things than these...." NIV

We will have trouble in this world, but because Jesus overcame the world we, too, can overcome the troubles in this world, and even in our own lives.

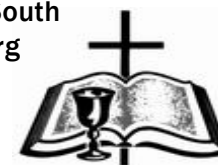
Because God loved us so much He gave us His sinless son, we cannot only survive the troubles of life, but we can thrive right in the middle of



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heartache, suffering and loss. We can let God raise our spirits, hearts, and minds above the trouble and soar as an eagle above the storms of life.

How do we get there? What do I need to do to make this happen, you may ask. The answer is so simple many reject it due to its ease. Find a place where you can be alone and ask God to come to where you are. Ask Him to be with you. Ask the Holy Spirit to come to you. Then, do the unthinkable, think about God and not your problem. Thank Him for Jesus' death for your life, thank God for all He has done for you... name them. Ask God to help you love Him more. Read His word and know it was written to you and for you. Let the Father convince you of how valuable you are to Him and sit in His presence and be loved.

When you do these things, then

pour out your heart about your cares and concerns; your worries and your fears, and you will soon realize you are walking above your circumstance. No longer overwhelmed, but overcoming your troubles and cares and the concerns of this world, just as Jesus said you would do.

Trials in this life have purpose to believers; they teach us to trust God, they show us that God is truly faithful and is always with us. Romans 8:28 says that all things work together for our good, so we can know that somehow our troubles will be used for a good purpose. Even if we can't imagine how good can come from terrible losses or events.

Be encouraged and know there will be an end to your suffering and you will see joy again. Don't give up, trust the Lord, Emmanuel is still with us in *this Life*!

Non-perishable food items may be donated and they will be given to Churches Touching Lives for Jesus, a local food pantry. For more information, please contact the church or email Grace Labaj at elabaj@hotmail.com.

December 12, 2016 – Granger Brethren Church Annual Christmas Singing will be held beginning at 6 p.m. For many folks, this event marks the beginning of the Christmas season. Refreshments are available after the program. The church is located at 306 W. Broadway.

IMPORTANT REMINDER...

ALL Brethren Journal Subscriptions expire on December 31st of each year. Please send your renewal in early! You can use the form in this issue or go to the Unity website at www.unityofthebrethren.org and click on the "Organizations" tab and then the "Brethren Journal" tab to find the pdf form that can be printed out and mailed with your payment. Annual subscription rate is \$15.00 per year. Please make your checks payable to the "**Brethren Journal**" and mail to: Ben Polasek, Business Manager, 705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836. You can contact Ben at manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com for additional information or questions.

SAVE THE DATES...

January 9-10, 2016 – BYF Winter Retreat at the Hus Encampment.

March 5, 2016 – Children's Rally at the Hus Encampment.

April 29 – May 1, 2016 – Annual Fishing Retreat in Port O'Connor, Texas.

July 15-17, 2016 – BYF Summer Retreat, Convention and Volleyball Tournament at the Hus Encampment.

Summer Camp Dates:

Encounter Camp (ages 7-8) June 9-11, 2016

Alpha Camp (ages 9-10) June 12-16, 2016

Pioneer Camp (ages 11-12) June 19-24, 2016

Discovery Camp (ages 13-15) June 26-July 1, 2016

Hus School (ages 16 – High School Seniors) July 3-15, 2016

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



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Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

November 7, 2015 – Granger Brethren Church Garage Sale at the church, 306 W. Broadway, Granger from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. The proceeds will be used to help repair the steeple. For more information, contact Edwina Jezisek at (512) 859-2677 or (512) 639-0091.

November 7, 2015 – Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale & Quilt Show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 12561 State Highway 53, Temple (Seaton community). *For additional information, see article in this issue.*

November 8, 2015 – Industry Brethren Church Honor Our Veterans Service: Texas A&M Singing Cadets Quartet will perform. For more information, please contact Liz Treybig at Liztreybig@yahoo.com or (512) 327-2504.

November 14, 2015 – Unity of the Brethren History Symposium commemorating the 600th Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Jan Hus, to be held on the campus of Blinn College, Brenham, Texas, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Unity, Blinn College, and The Central Texas Historical Society. Speakers are Dr. Thomas Fudge, who is considered by many to be the world authority on Jan Hus, and Dr. Craig Atwood, author of *The Theology of the Czech Brethren from Hus to Comenius*. Information on registration and hotel accommodations will be distributed in the next few weeks. For any other information, please contact Dr. Larry Koslovsky at (281) 328-2442 or email: lwkoslo@aol.com.

November 21, 2016 – Granger Brethren Church Autumn Arts and Crafts Show at the church beginning at 9 a.m. Hand-crafted, affordable gift items, selections of jewelry, art, seasonal home decor, unique crosses, metal art, cosmetics, etc. In addition, there will be a homemade chicken salad lunch and bake sale. The proceeds will be used to repair the steeple. For more information, contact Edwina Jezisek at (512) 859-2677 or (512) 639-0091.

November 26, 2015 – Thanksgiving Day

December 2, 2015 – Presentation by the University of North Texas of “Ceska ms vanocni”, traditional Czech music at the Temple Brethren Church. The program will begin at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The event is open to public and there is no admission fee.

Reverend Glenn F. Jurek February 7, 1937 - September 13, 2015

Glenn Frank Jurek passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Sunday, September 13. Glenn was born on February 7, 1937, to Henry E. Jurek, Sr., and Anna Mae Hejtmanek Jurek in Rosenberg, Texas.

Glenn grew up in Pasadena, Texas, graduating from Pasadena High School in 1955. He graduated from Schreiner Institute in 1957 and from the University of Texas in 1960 with a Bachelor of Arts in History. At the University of Texas Glenn met Robbie, Roberta Lee Downing, when both were students living in the Christian Faith and Life Community. They married August 27, 1960, at Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Dallas.

Glenn's first calling was to the ministry, so he and Robbie moved to Bethlehem, PA, where he graduated from Moravian Theological Seminary in 1964 with a Master of Divinity degree. During the divinity program, Glenn and Robbie and newborn son, Jonathan, served a year in the 230-year-old Moravian mission field of

the U.S. Virgin Islands, St. John and St. Thomas.



At Glenn's home church, Pasadena Brethren Church, he was ordained into the ministry of the Unity of the Brethren in 1964, and served churches in Granger, Wall, and Houston. Glenn believed in Biblical preaching and pastoral visits to the people of his congregations.

In 1969 Glenn felt called to a different kind of field, the profession of farming, like his Czech ancestors did when they first came to the U.S. and Matagorda County, he moved his family to Collegeport, where he worked for his Uncle George Hejtmanek to get a start. Three years later he began farming on his own. Glenn took the challenges of farming very seriously, farming rice and soybeans and milo on the AP Ranch in Collegeport and Buckeye with Mr. Clive Runnells, Jr. The family lived in Collegeport and Bay City, Texas, for 22 years. Glenn was named Matagorda County Rice Farmer of the Year in 1981. He worked



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

hard to produce the best rice, taking pride in the farming legacy of his Czech family heritage.

Glenn and Robbie have been blessed by fine children, Jonathan Glenn Jurek (Heather) of Armonk, NY; and Sarah Elizabeth Erpenbeck (Matt) of Vero Beach, FL; and six beloved grandchildren, John Henry and James Richard Erpenbeck; and Jacob Henry, Abigail Grace, Megan Lee, and Liam Gregory Jurek.

Glenn is survived also by his two sisters, Patricia Ann Jones and family of Deer Park, and Alice Marie Braley and family of Fayetteville, GA; brother-in-law, Jack Gregory Downing (Suzanne), of Portland, OR; and aunt Martha Jane Schimek of Bay City. He was preceded in death by his parents Henry and Anna Mae Jurek, his brother Henry E. Jurek, Jr., and his niece, Laura Braley Williams and her infant. Glenn

always felt richly blessed by the close-knit Hejtmanek and Jurek families.

Glenn loved to play tennis and bridge. He enjoyed deep friendships with his fellow players. He and Robbie have lived in the same Lake Travis neighborhood for 24 years.

A memorial service to celebrate Glenn's life in worship and thanksgiving was held at 1 p.m. Saturday, October 17, at St. Luke's on the Lake Episcopal Church, 5600 Ranch Road 620 North, Austin, TX. A reception followed in the parish hall.

Gifts in Glenn's memory can be given to St. Luke's on the Lake or to Hospice Austin, 4107 Spicewood Springs Rd., Ste. 100, Austin, TX 78759, www.hospiceaustin.org.

Published in Austin American-Statesman from September 26 to September 28, 2015.

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

Elder Board President

John Brinkley

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

Youth Director

Jennifer Chervenka

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

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

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



Date	Symbol/Ornament	Bible Story Reference
December 9	Moses-10 Commandments or Burning Bush	Exodus 3 and Exodus 20: Moses Meets God in the Burning Bush
December 10	Joshua-Wall of Jericho	Joshua 6: Fall of Jericho
December 11	Rahab-Red Cord	Joshua 2: Rahab and the spies
December 12	Samson-Scissors & Hair	Judges 16:21-30: Samson's Strength
December 13	Ruth-Wedding Rings	Ruth 1:15-18: Ruth Marries
December 14	Jesse-Sheep	Isaiah 1-2: The Son of David
December 15	David-Crown or Harp	1 Samuel 16-17: David as a Boy; 2 Samuel 5-6: David as King
December 16	Solomon-Temple	1 Kings 3:3-14: The story of the Temple
December 17	Elijah-Fire	1 Kings 18: Elijah confronts Baal
December 18	Jeroboam & Rehoboam-Broken Crown	1 Kings 12:21-14:31; 2 Chronicles 11-12: Imperfect Rulers
December 19	Isaiah-I Scroll	Isaiah 9 and 11: Isaiah tells a Savior will come
December 20	Jeremiah-J Scroll or Tears	Jeremiah 29 and 31: Jeremiah's Message of Hope
December 21	Ezekiel-E Scroll	Luke 1: His Name is John
December 22	John the Baptist-Dove	Luke 1 & Matthew 3:13-17: John Baptizes Jesus
December 23	Joseph-L square or hammer	Matthew 1:19-25: Jesus' Father
December 24	Mary-Rosary or White Lilly	Luke 1:26-38: Jesus' Mother
December 25	Jesus-Cross or Manger	Luke 2:1-20: The Birth of Jesus

Preparing for a Very Special Baby

Background: The idea of the Jesse Tree originates from Isaiah 11:1-2: *There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.*

Preparation (Before Dec. 1): Select a tree to use for your Jesse Tree. Use White or Purple (the color of Advent) lights.

Each day: Hang the corresponding ornament on the tree. You can use the Bible references here or download the free PDF book from the blog.

Date	Symbol/Ornament	Bible Story Reference
December 1	God the Father-Earth	Creation Story: Genesis 1
December 2	Adam & Eve-Apple & Snake	Adam and Eve and the Fall: Genesis 2:4-24, Genesis 3
December 3	Seth-Mirror	Genesis 4: Adam and Eve's Son; We are all children of God
December 4	Noah-Rainbow	Genesis 6-9: The Flood
December 5	Shem-Grapes	Genesis 10:21,31: Noah's Son
December 6	Abraham-12 stars	Genesis 12 and 15: The Call of Abraham and God's Covenant with Abraham
December 7	Jacob-Ladder	Genesis 28:10-22: Jacob's Vision of God
December 8	Joseph-Coat of many colors	Genesis 37: Joseph and his Brothers

Check out the blog and Pinterest Board for more ideas and links!

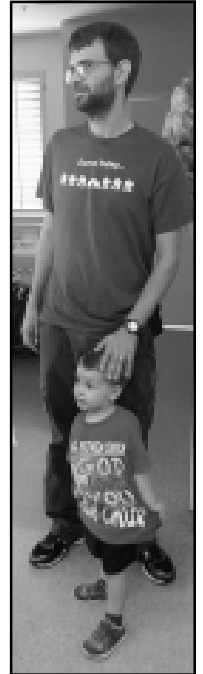
<http://sundayschoolhelperbrethrenjournal.blogspot.com/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/ahairrell/ss-helper-samson/>

Caldwell Brethren Kids Choir Performs

The KIDS CHOIR members embraced their first Outreach Effort Sunday, September 20th, at St. Joseph Manor in Caldwell! The children prayed together with their families and church members, then sang beautifully about Jesus and His love to the nursing home residents. They even sang "Happy Birthday" to some.

The children's faith was humbling as they listened and received the truth that what they are doing as KIDS CHOIR is helping others just as Jesus did in His visible ministry on earth and continues to do through Christ followers everywhere today.



Seaton Brethren Church Bake Sale and Quilt Show Invitation

The Christian Sisters of Seaton Brethren Church are hosting a bake sale and quilt show on Saturday, November 7th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 12561 State Highway 53, Temple (Seaton community).

Featured items in the sale will be kolaches, cakes, pies, cookies, bread, jellies, home-made canned goods and craft items. A re-sale/rummage shop will be opened. Sandwiches and home-made soup will be available to purchase for lunch. Quilts will be on display in the sanctuary.

A hand-made quilt, a \$100, a \$75 and a \$50 gift card from Wal-Mart, two \$50 HEB gift cards, a \$50 Bush's Chicken gift card, & other gift cards will be given away for a love donation of \$1 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. The proceeds from the fundraiser benefit

the many projects the Sisters' support. The sale is open to the public with free admission.



*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his
shoulder, and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace.*

- Isaiah 9:6

Sunday School Helper



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.

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

This month our Child of the Bible is Baby Jesus. It's November, and Christmas is just around the corner. We have to fight the culture that tries to secularize Christmas and diminish its true meaning. This month I am sharing the tradition of The Jesse Tree. It will provide a month's worth of Advent activities to help prepare your child(ren)'s heart, and maybe your heart, too, for the blessed Christmas Season and the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A Jesse Tree is a Christmas tree that tells the stories of the Bible leading to Jesus' birth. Each day you remember a Bible story and add an ornament to the tree to represent that story. Ornaments can be made each day or you can find a link "ready to print" ornaments on the blog.

- Lord, heal Michael's arm completely.
- Lord, help Caroline finish up her 5 more chemos. Thank you that she is doing well.
- Lord, help the Woos get back to Asia by next June.
- Lord, thank you that the boys

BYF OFFICERS AND ADVISORS

State Youth Coordinator:

Jennifer Chervenka,
jennchervenka@farm-market.net

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Erin Brinkley – Foreign Mission Board Representative,
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Pastoral Advisors:

Bro. Jim Heckman,
jimheckman46@gmail.com
Bro. Mark Sebek,
papasebek@gmx.com

and baby Salem love being in the USA.

- Lord, bring revival to the Moravian church through the prayers of the people.
- Lord, we pray for Caroline's dad. His heart has been acting up a bit. Heal his heart.

FOREIGN MISSION BOARD

Chairman:

David Miller (2015); (325) 651-7597,
dm103157@wcc.net

Unity Representatives:

Joyce Baletka (2013), 2505 E. Villa Maria Rd. Apt. 101, Bryan, TX 77802.
(979) 574-8948; jbaletka@hotmail.com

John Brinkley, (254) 721-3196

Anne Wentrcck (2013), 1901 Meadow Lane, Taylor, TX 76574;
aggieanne@att.net

Board of Christian Education Rep.:

Charlie Groseclose (2009), 358 State Hwy. 53, Rosebud, TX 76570. (254) 583-4160; cmrag@aol.com

Christian Sisters Representative:

Ann Sebesta, P.O. Box 115, Snook, TX 77878. (210) 244-3362 (c);
bfsinc@tconline.net

BYF Representative:

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

Synodical Committee Liason:

Rev. Mark Sebek; (254) 931-2000,
papasebek@gmx.com

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Rev. Milton & Jean Maly
Rev. Lawrence & Barbara JuneK
Ray & Laurie Griggs
Jill Miller

CURRENT MISSIONARIES

Robert & Anne Thiessen
Michael & Caroline Woo
Phil & Eunice Raiford
Pastor Pavel & Stana Kozak
Carolyn Groseclose

Invitations From the Granger Brethren Church

The Granger Brethren Church invites you to several activities this 2015 Autumn season:

- Garage sale on Saturday, November 7, at the church located at 306 W. Broadway from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The proceeds will be used to repair the steeple.

- Autumn Arts and Crafts Show on Saturday, November 21, at the church beginning at 9 a.m. Hand-crafted, affordable gift items, selections of jewelry, art, seasonal home decor, unique crosses, metal art, cosmetics, etc. In addition, there will be a homemade chicken salad lunch and bake sale. The proceeds will be used to repair the steeple.

For more information on either of the above activities, please contact Edwina Jezisek at 512-859-2677 or 512-639-0091.

- The annual Christmas singing will be held on Saturday, December 12 beginning at 6 p.m. For many folks, this event marks the beginning of the Christmas season. Refreshments are available after the program. The church is located at 306 W. Broadway.

Thank you! Bro. Larry Z.

Unity Archivist

Clint Machann

c-machann@tamu.edu

979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

HUS ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Voting Members:

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

Vice-Chair: Rick Weise, P.O. Box 28, Vancourt, TX 76955.
rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us

Treasurer: Ron Krueger, P.O. Box 1225, Taylor, TX 76574. (512) 365-7191;
krueg98@austin.rr.com

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

At-Large: Phil Michalik, 15918 Brook Forest Dr., Houston, TX 77059.
Pmichalik1@peoplepc.com

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

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

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

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

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

(979) 255-8266; rschlechte@hotmail.com; schlechte86@msn.com

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

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.

Leroy Parthum, Chair – Westheimer; betty_parthum@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

Harvey Treybig – Industry – Unity Treasurer and Synodical
Committee Liaison, 512-327-2504; htreybig@austin.rr.com

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

From the Woo's...

October 8, 2015

Greetings friends,

Fall is here. Our life in many ways is more crazy here than in China. We have soccer practice and games, art club, friends to play with, cars to fix, homework, none of which we have in Asia. But in all these things there is also fun and enjoyment. So we are thankful.

Michael had shoulder surgery on his shoulder a week ago. It went well. He has a big sling on his arm and must keep it on for 6 weeks. His pain is going down, but he can't drive or change diapers. :)

I have 5 more chemo to go, so 5 more Fridays. Then I will have a short break of a few weeks, and then 6 weeks of everyday radiation. Then in

the new year, maybe March, I will have another surgery, and that will be the end of this treatment and cancer, FOREVER!

I am feeling good, I have lots of energy and am involved in probably too much stuff. If all goes well, we are praying and hoping to get back to Asia at the beginning of June next year.

Thanks for praying for our family and being so supportive.

Love and blessings,
Caroline Woo

Prayer Requests for the Woos

- Lord, raise up prayer for the Shan all over the world.

- Lord, start new churches among the Shan, fill them with power and boldness.



*Jan Hus After 600 Years:
History and Heritage*


Saturday, November 14, 2015

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Student Center Blinn College,
Brenham, TX

Featured Historians:
Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood and Dr. Thomas Fudge

Breakfast and Lunch Included

Sponsored by: The Unity of the Brethren



Register FREE today at:
<http://unityofthebrethren.org> or
http://surveymonkey.com/s/Hus_History_Symposium
For more information contact Dr. Larry Koslovsky at lwkoslo@aol.com
or Dr. Dawn Marie Baletka at DMBaletka@gmail.com