

# THE BRETHREN



# JOURNAL



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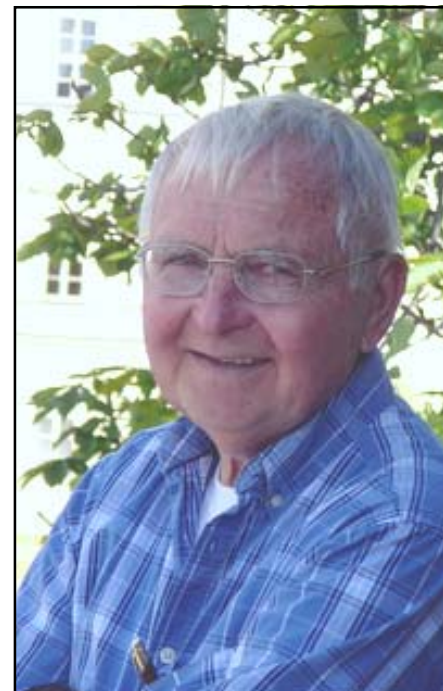
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*— from the editor*

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

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**Reverend Milton Alvin Maly**  
**May 13, 1940-May 30, 2016**

## **IN THIS ISSUE . . .**

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*Are You Leaving Your Gate Open? . . .* by Rev. Kay Polasek

*If Necessary, Use Words . . .* by Jim Pokorny

*Standing Tough . . .* by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

**... and a bit more!**

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### EDITOR –

Cathleen Schlechte  
3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836  
979-255-8266  
[editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com)

### BUSINESS MANAGER –

Ben Polasek  
705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836;  
979-220-9270  
[manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto:manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com)

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE –

President: Rev. Mike Groseclose  
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Cr., Sealy, TX 77474; [mildw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mildw@sbcglobal.net);  
979-885-7129 (h), 979-472-5091 (c)  
Secretary: Stacy Hooker

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS –

Daily Morsels: Dorothy Kocian,  
107 S. Barbara, Waco, TX 76705-1317.  
Sunday School Helper: Angie Hairrell,  
11482 FM 2155, Somerville, TX 77879;  
[Hairrell@gmail.com](mailto:Hairrell@gmail.com)  
Jim Pokorny, [jwppsa@yahoo.com](mailto:jwppsa@yahoo.com);  
blog: [otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com](http://otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com)

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### Life's Rhythm and our Spiritual Lives... Practicing the Presence of the *I Am* in Our Daily Lives Part 4 - Lauds

Larry Koslovsky,  
Unity Pastor to Pastors,  
Pastor of  
Crosby & Pasadena  
Brethren Churches

*I am the resurrection and the life. He  
who believes in Me, though he may  
die, he shall live. And whoever lives  
and believes in Me shall never die.  
Do you believe this?*

John 11.25-26

Lauds begin as dawn breaks the night,  
and we wake up to a new day. Gener-  
ally this is marked at the 6 a.m. hour.

If going to sleep is a type of death,  
committing our bodies and souls to  
the Lord's care and keeping through  
the darkness of night, then, as the  
sun rises and birds begin their songs  
of praise along with all creation, our  
rising is in a sense a resurrection and  
a recreation of a new day.

## DIRECTORY OF MINISTERS

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Pastor Tim Chaplin, 1326 Starlight Dr., Temple  
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[tchaplin@hotmail.com](mailto:tchaplin@hotmail.com)

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no answer, try 2nd number, (979) 200-0513;  
[jimheckman46@gmail.com](mailto:jimheckman46@gmail.com)

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Rev. David Johnson, 902 Timberlane, Caldwell,  
TX 77836. (979) 567-1838(h),  
(979) 220-3822(c);  
[pastordjbama@gmail.com](mailto:pastordjbama@gmail.com)

Dr. Larry Koslovsky, 4311 Fir Valley Drive,  
Kingwood, TX 77345. [lwkoslo@aol.com](mailto:lwkoslo@aol.com)  
(281) 328-2442 (off), (713) 594-4518 (c)

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

Rev. Denise Mikeska, 409 E. Upshaw, Temple,  
TX 76501. [dkaym@hotmail.com](mailto:dkaym@hotmail.com)

Rev. Vanessa Lucia Mitchell, 2070 Carter Lake  
Drive, College Station, TX 77845.  
(979) 574-0268; [laiojediedieu@gmail.com](mailto:laiojediedieu@gmail.com)  
Blog: [notboxingtheair.wordpress.com](http://notboxingtheair.wordpress.com)

Rev. Joseph Polasek, P.O. Box 54, Snook, TX  
77878, (979) 272-1624;  
[josephpolasek@yahoo.com](mailto:josephpolasek@yahoo.com)

Rev. Kay Polasek, 705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell,  
TX 77836. (979) 220-1289;  
[revkaypolasek@yahoo.com](mailto:revkaypolasek@yahoo.com)

Rev. Mark Sebek, 9235 FM 437, Rogers, TX  
76569. (254) 931-2000;  
[papasebek@gmx.com](mailto:papasebek@gmx.com)

Rev. Thomas Tallas, 3829 Sandstone,  
San Angelo, TX 76904.  
(325) 949-7543;  
[rev.tjt@gmail.com](mailto:rev.tjt@gmail.com) (h),  
[rev.tjt@zipnet.us](mailto:rev.tjt@zipnet.us) (ch)

Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill  
[jerryleeterrill@comcast.net](mailto:jerryleeterrill@comcast.net)

Rev. Larry Zabcik, 2013 Burnie Bishop Place,  
Cedar Park, TX 78613. (903) 265-2277;  
[zabcikville@ymail.com](mailto:zabcikville@ymail.com)

### SUPPLY OR INACTIVE PASTORS

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Rev. Nello Strickland, 1006 Top Hill Drive,  
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#### Military Chaplaincy

CH (Maj) Daniel Husak, 1627 Lakeview Street,  
DeRidder, LA 70634.  
[daniel.husak@aggienetwork.com](mailto:daniel.husak@aggienetwork.com)

### MINISTERIAL STUDENTS

Ben Kruse – [krusedadb@yahoo.com](mailto:krusedadb@yahoo.com)  
(Westheimer)

## DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARIES

Carolyn Groseclose  
NDO  
P.O. Box 630260  
Choma, Zambia  
e-mail: [carolyngroseclose@yahoo.com](mailto:carolyngroseclose@yahoo.com)

Pastor Pavel and Stanya Kozak  
Norska 42  
77900 Olomouc  
Czech Republic  
e-mail: [Pavel.Ko@volny.cz](mailto:Pavel.Ko@volny.cz)

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230 SW Sandy Way  
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25 E. Camino Nacional  
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e-mail: [rvthiessen@gmail.com](mailto:rvthiessen@gmail.com)

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Chiang Mai 50000  
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Temple – Kellie Chaplin; [kelliechap74@gmail.com](mailto:kelliechap74@gmail.com)  
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West – Roy Janek; [grandpajanek@att.net](mailto:grandpajanek@att.net)  
Westheimer – Leroy Parthum; [betty\\_parthum@yahoo.com](mailto:betty_parthum@yahoo.com)

## Morning Has Broken

Eleanor Farjeon

Morning has broken,  
like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken,  
like the first bird  
Praise for the singing,  
praise for the morning  
Praise for the springing  
fresh from the world

Sweet the rain's new fall,  
sunlit from heaven  
Like the first dewfall,  
on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness  
of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness  
where his feet pass

Mine is the sunlight,  
mine is the morning  
Born of the one light,  
Eden saw play  
Praise with elation,  
praise every morning  
God's re-creation  
of the new day

Each new day holds promise. It is a time to give thanks for night's rest and protection and begin the opening moments of the day aware of what the Lord in the Holy Spirit has done and is doing.

Each day is gift. We are never promised tomorrow in the sense of this earthly life. We are called to live in the present and in the moment. The Sermon on the Mount and James remind us of this present moment kind of living, for the day and the right now.

*So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.*

Matthew 6:34

*Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money." Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that."*

James 4:13-15

At the very best, we number our days, living fully and exuberantly and making the most of each and every day.



## 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](mailto:DMBaletka@gmail.com)

*\*This must be done well in advance.*

*So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.*

Psalm 90:12

We pray for daily bread – physical sustenance for 24 hours, even as the Lord sends manna to the Israelites one day at a time except in preparation for the Sabbath. It was then and is now always just enough for the day. Not only do we need and receive physical nourishment, but also spiritual, emotional, and relational nourishment on a daily basis. So we pray,

*Give us this day our daily bread.*

Matthew 6.11

Stepping into a new day is only by the grace of God, by virtue of God's love, grace, and faithfulness.

*The mighty one, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.*

Psalm 50:1

*The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.*

Lamentations 3.22-23

Resurrection always means new life and new possibilities in this earthly life and existence. Each morning brings new opportunities and growth per-

sonally and for all creation. There are no dead ends with the Lord of life. God is in the life-giving business. In the closing line of St. Francis of Assisi's Prayer:

*it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.*

Being born to eternal life – God quality life – for only God is eternal, comes through our faith and trust in Jesus.

*This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in Him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."*

John 6:40

*I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand.*

John 10:28

As we take time to reflect over previous day or days, whether the last 24 hours or over the course of the last week or month, it can be beneficial to consider where we have experienced resurrection and new life by God's gracious hand. Such is a call for praise and thanksgiving. Similarly, it can be helpful to recognize where we may be in need of resurrection and new life. This could be physical, emotional, financial, vocational, or relational with the Lord and/or others. This would give cause for petition and reaffirmation of faith in Jesus, the Resurrection and the Life, the one who has come to bring life and abundant life – life overflowing to all.

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

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

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

Cade Lake Community Chapel – 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 – Come as you are! **Sundays** – explore the Bible @ 9:30 AM (all ages); KIDS CHOIR practices @ 10:15 AM; & worship @ 10:30 AM! **Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday**, join the fun @ Family Game Night, 6-7:30 PM! Check out [lifeatcbc.org](http://lifeatcbc.org) for spiritual resources, events, videos, & more! Friend us on Facebook!  
– Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

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  
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.  
– Position Open

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.  
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

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.  
– Pastor Ben Kruse

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 and 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 Education; 10:30 AM, Worship, with Holy Communion every 5th Sunday.  
– Visiting Ministers

## BYF OFFICERS AND ADVISORS

### State Youth Coordinator:

Jennifer Chervenka,  
[jennchervenka@farm-market.net](mailto:jennchervenka@farm-market.net)

### Youth Members:

Erin Brinkley – Foreign Mission Board Representative,  
[erinbrinkley@yahoo.com](mailto:erinbrinkley@yahoo.com)  
Krystal Dusek,  
[krystal.dusek@gmail.com](mailto:krystal.dusek@gmail.com)  
Jordan Eilers – Hus Board of Trustees Representative,  
[eilers.js@gmail.com](mailto:eilers.js@gmail.com)  
Deanna Hairrell,  
[d.abcd108@gmail.com](mailto:d.abcd108@gmail.com)  
Kelton Hooker,  
[kth99@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kth99@sbcglobal.net)  
Reed Olsen,  
[futurepres21@gmail.com](mailto:futurepres21@gmail.com)  
Montgomery Raesz,  
[mogom16@gmail.com](mailto:mogom16@gmail.com)  
Ben Wilde,  
[alwaysbenwild@gmail.com](mailto:alwaysbenwild@gmail.com)  
Cameron Wilt,  
[jcwilt16@yahoo.com](mailto:jcwilt16@yahoo.com)  
Madalynn Woelfel,  
[madwoefel@aol.com](mailto:madwoefel@aol.com)

### Adult Members:

Taylor Brinkley,  
[taylorbrnkley@yahoo.com](mailto:taylorbrnkley@yahoo.com)  
Kari Raesz,  
[kari.raesz@dps.texas.gov](mailto:kari.raesz@dps.texas.gov)  
Tammie Reithmayer,  
[triethmayer1972@gmail.com](mailto:triethmayer1972@gmail.com)  
Anna Wotipka – Treasurer,  
[awotipka58@yahoo.com](mailto:awotipka58@yahoo.com)

### Pastoral Advisors:

Bro. Jim Heckman,  
[jimheckman46@gmail.com](mailto:jimheckman46@gmail.com)  
Bro. Mark Sebek,  
[papasebek@gmx.com](mailto:papasebek@gmx.com)

### Unity Archivist

Clint Machann

[c-machann@tamu.edu](mailto:c-machann@tamu.edu)  
979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

## BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS

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David Miller (2015), Wall Brethren Church; cell 325-245-5616,  
[dm103157@wcc.net](mailto:dm103157@wcc.net)

### Unity Representatives:

Arnold Cuba (2015), Taylor Brethren Church; cell 512-247-8019, or work 512-352-3646,  
[arcuba188@yahoo.com](mailto:arcuba188@yahoo.com)

John Brinkley (2011), Ocker Brethren Church; cell 254-721-3196, home 254-742-2771,  
[wphalia@yahoo.com](mailto:wphalia@yahoo.com)

Reesa Ueckert (2015); phone 979-472-0559, [reesa@hrueckert.com](mailto:reesa@hrueckert.com)

### Board of Christian Education:

Tammy Laza, Bryan/College Station Brethren Church; home 979-690-7068, or cell 979-777-6044, [tami.laza@verizon.net](mailto:tami.laza@verizon.net)

### Christian Sisters Representative:

Paula Wagner (2015), Taylor Brethren Church; home 512-996-8846, or cell 512-632-6644,  
[paulak1121@sbcglobal.net](mailto:paulak1121@sbcglobal.net)

### BYF Representative:

Erin Brinkley (2015), Ocker Brethren Church;  
[erinbrinkley@yahoo.com](mailto:erinbrinkley@yahoo.com)

### Synodical Committee Liason:

Rev. Mark Sebek, Bryan/College Station Brethren Church; cell 254-931-2000, [papasebek@gmx.com](mailto:papasebek@gmx.com)

### ADVISORY MEMBERS

Rev. Lawrence & Barbara Juneke (Unity at large); 254-714-2622,  
[ljuneck@hotmail.com](mailto:ljuneck@hotmail.com)

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**I am the Resurrection  
and the Life**  
Matins/Lauds  
6 a.m.

*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?*

John 11.25-26

## Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun

Bishop Thomas Ken (1674)  
Tune: Doxology

Awake, my soul, and with the sun  
Thy daily stage of duty run;  
Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise,  
To pay thy morning sacrifice.

Wake, and lift up thyself, my heart,  
And with the angels bear thy part,  
Who all night long unwearied sing  
High praise to the eternal King.

All praise to Thee, who safe has kept  
And hast refreshed me while I  
slept  
Grant, Lord, when I from death shall  
wake,  
I may of endless light partake.

Heav'n is, dear Lord, where'er Thou  
art,  
O never then from me depart;  
For to my soul 'tis hell to be  
But for one moment void of Thee.

Direct, control, suggest, this day,  
All I design, or do, or say,  
That all my powers, with all their  
might,  
In Thy sole glory may unite.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings  
flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here  
below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*The steadfast love of the LORD  
never ceases,  
His mercies never come to an end;*



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they are new every morning;  
great is Your faithfulness.  
Lamentations 3.22-23

---

“Great is Thy faithfulness!”  
“Great is Thy faithfulness!”  
Morning by morning  
new mercies I see;  
All I have needed  
Thy hand hath provided –  
“Great is Thy faithfulness,”  
Lord, unto me!

---

*But in fact Christ has been raised  
from the dead, the first fruits of those  
who have died. For since death came  
through a human being, the resur-  
rection of the dead has also come  
through a human being; for as all die  
in Adam, so all will be made alive in  
Christ.*

1 Corinthians 15.20-22

---

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O Lord, my Creator and reCreator,  
As the day begins  
And night turns into day  
And creation begins its songs of  
praise,  
I, too, join in the joyful chorus  
Thanking you, Lord, for a night of  
rest and this day of which so far I  
am a part,



A new creation and  
resurrection from the dead of night.  
May I glory in this day  
and praise You with all that I am.  
Amen

---

**The Gloria Patri**  
Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

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## DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

### Daily Morsels for August 2016

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; may Your good Spirit lead me on level ground. Ps. 143:10
2. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Eph. 6:1
3. We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His commands. 1 Jn. 2:3
4. The Lord says, "Walk in all the ways I command you, that it may go well with you." Jer. 7:33
5. My God turns my darkness into light. Ps. 18:28
6. The Lord will send His angel with you and make your way successful. Gen. 24:40
7. **I can do everything through Him who gives me strength. Phil. 4:13**
8. How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news! Rom. 10:15
9. It is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and with your mouth that you confess and are saved. Rom. 10:10
10. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Rom. 12:11
11. The commandments are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Rom. 13:9
12. Each of us will give an account of himself to God. Rom. 14:12
13. Fear the Lord your God and serve Him. Hold fast to Him. Deut. 10:20
14. **Your people will be my people and your God my God. Ruth 1:16**
15. Serve one another in love. Gal. 5:13
16. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Gal. 5:14
17. The Lord will reply, "Whatever you did for the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me." Mt. 25:40
18. Thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress. Isa. 25:4
19. The eyes of the Lord are on those who fear Him, on those whose hope is in His unfailing love. Ps. 33:18
20. A generous man will himself be blessed, for he shares his food with the poor. Prov. 22:9
21. **My grace is sufficient for you, for My power made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9**
22. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Mt. 5:7
23. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Eph. 4:2
24. Do everything in love. 1 Cor. 16:14
25. For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers. 1 Pet. 3:12
26. Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Prov. 31:8
27. Let brotherly love continue. Heb. 13:1
28. **By this shall all men know that you are My disciples, if you love one another. Jn. 13:35**
29. There is joy for those who promote peace. Prov. 12:20
30. Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord. Ps. 32:10
31. Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord. Ps. 144:15

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# DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

## Daily Morsels for July 2016

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. Give to the Lord the glory due to His name. Ps. 29:2
2. Love the Lord your God and keep His requirements, His decrees, His laws and commands. Deut. 11:1
3. **The Lord said, "I will not be with you anymore unless you destroy whatever among you is devoted to destruction." Josh. 7:12**
4. Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord. Ps. 31:24
5. Be careful that no one entices you by riches. Job 36:18
6. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, His power, and the wonders He has done. Ps. 78:4
7. Lord, there is no one like you to help the powerless against the mighty. 2 Chron. 14:11
8. If you seek the Lord, you will find Him, but if you forsake Him, He will forsake you. 2 Chron. 15:2
9. We speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. 1 Cor. 2:7
10. **Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. 2 Cor. 3:5**
11. The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Ps. 27:1a
12. The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Ps. 27:1b
13. The Lord will keep you from all harm; He will watch over your life. Ps. 121:7
14. For with God nothing will be impossible. Lk. 1:37
15. The Lord is faithful, who will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. 2 Thes. 3:3
16. You will pray to Him and He will hear you. Job 22:27
17. **God is mighty, but does not despise mankind; He is mighty and firm in His purpose. Job 36:5**
18. Through Christ Jesus, the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. Rom. 8:2
19. Blessed is the person who makes the Lord His trust. Ps. 40:4
20. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. Col. 3:2
21. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. Eph. 5:11
22. Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path. Ps. 119:105
23. God is not a God of disorder but of peace. 1 Cor. 14:33
24. **The Sovereign Lord is my strength. Hab. 3:19**
25. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret. 2 Cor. 7:10
26. Unless you repent, you, too, will perish. Lk. 13:3
27. The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him. Lam. 3:25
28. The Lord said, "If you will obey Me and keep My covenant, you will be My own special treasure." Ex. 19:5
29. I stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord. Renew them in our day. Hab. 3:2
30. We will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4
31. **The Lord said, "The righteous man trusts in Me and lives." Hab. 2:4**

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

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

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Synodical Liaison

## Rev. Milton Alvin Maly

The Reverend Milton Alvin Maly, the youngest, and only son of 6 children of Czech parents Edwin and

for 12 years in several schools, colleges and universities.

He will be remembered by his quiet



Albina Maly, was born on May 13, 1940, in Taylor, Texas. He served his country proudly for 4 years in the U.S. Air Force, and later graduated from the University of Texas, followed by Moravian Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Austin Presbyterian Seminary in Austin, Texas, from which he was ordained into Christian ministry and awarded

a Master of Divinity degree in 1969. He, with his family, served the Miskito Indians through the Moravian Board of World Mission in Ahuas, Honduras, for 6 years. During his 45 years of Christian ministry he pastored many Unity of the Brethren congregations in Texas including Rosenberg, Alief, Seaton, Buckholts, Wesley, Industry, Fayetteville, and Caldwell, as well as served as a hospice chaplain. For 26 years he was the editor of *The Brethren Journal*, the denominational publication, and shared his passion for the Spanish language by teaching it

patience and humility, moderately funny humor, love for all people no matter their age, race, or station in life, his '79 Datsun and '02 red Tacoma, hundreds of baby stools and other handcrafted furniture, his intense, unwavering affection for his "Lady" of 36 years, his sense of pride and fulfillment in his family, his mechanical and electrical skill, the dusty

self-portrait of Rembrandt in his very messy shop, his command of many languages, his moral compass, his hankering for traveling and family vacations, the home he made in the woods, his pride at serving his country, a weakness for spiced pumpkin pecan Blue Bell ice cream, his 40-year membership in Lion's Club International, his 2 books, *Rev's Elations* and *Rev's Elations 2*, and dedication to Christian ministry.

After a long battle with brain disease, he quietly and confidently left this life surrounded at home by his



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Diane Heckman, Manager

family on May 30, 2016, to be with his eternal Father in Heaven and to be reunited with his parents, sister Elsie, and son Darren. He leaves behind to mourn his passing his wife of 36 years, Jean; children Michael, Ginger and Eddie, Brandon, Rachel and David, Gregory and Susan, Andrew and Mindi, and Benjamin; grandchildren Christopher, Alexander, Isabel, Savannah, David, Jake, Naomi, Taylor, and Cruz; sisters Annie, Georgia, Elizabeth, and Sylvia, as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

His family is grateful for the loving care received from caregivers Jeanette Willis, Yvonda "Cookie" Adams, and Diane "Anna" Williams.

The public memorial service took place at Taylor Brethren Church on Saturday, June 4, 2016, at 10:30 a.m. with The Reverend Doctor Larry Koslovsky officiating. A private family internment of his cremated remains followed on a later date at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas.

Services were in the care of Brenham Memorial Chapel, 2300 Stringer St., Brenham, TX; 979-836-3611. To share condolences, visit:

[www.BrenhamMemorialChapel.com](http://www.BrenhamMemorialChapel.com)

*(Editor's Note: Jean Maly is looking for a copy of Rev. Maly's first book entitled Rev's Elations. She would like copies to give to their children since theirs burned in their house fire several years ago. If you would like to contact Jean about the book or to send the family a card, address it to Mrs. Jean Maly, 6703 FM 2502, Brenham, TX 77833.)*

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

**Vice-Chair:** Rick Weise, P.O. Box 28, Vancourt, TX 76955. [rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us](mailto:rick.weise@sanangelotexas.us)

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

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

**At-Large:** Phil Michalik, 15918 Brook Forest Dr., Houston, TX 77059. [Pmichalik1@peoplepc.com](mailto:Pmichalik1@peoplepc.com)

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

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

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

**Member:** Todd Snelgrove, 5207 Draycott Ct., Bryan, TX 77802. (979) 229-7524; [rttsnelgrove@gmail.com](mailto:rttsnelgrove@gmail.com)

##### Non-Voting Appointments:

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

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

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

(979) 255-8266; [rschlechte@hotmail.com](mailto:rschlechte@hotmail.com); [schlechte86@msn.com](mailto:schlechte86@msn.com)

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

## Mutual Aid Society – Listing of Local Secretaries' Addresses and Phone Numbers

Granger #1: Angie Malicoat, PO Box 362, Granger, TX 76530, 512-859-2837

Taylor #3: Marie Ann Ripple, 2302 Heights Blvd, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-365-6916

West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107 South Barbara Street, Waco, TX 76705, 254-799-5331, [dekocian@yahoo.com](mailto:dekocian@yahoo.com)

Fayetteville #5: Sandra Stepan, PO Box 145, Fayetteville, TX 78940, 979-378-4167, [sandrainastin@yahoo.com](mailto:sandrainastin@yahoo.com)

Dime Box #6: Marvin Chlapek, PO Box 1163, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-272-9102, [mjcarc@airplexus.com](mailto:mjcarc@airplexus.com)

Snook #7: Ann Sebesta, Box 115, Snook, TX 77878, 210-244-3362, [bfsinc@tconline.net](mailto:bfsinc@tconline.net)

Ocker #8: Doris Svoboda, 109 Friendship Ln, Temple, TX 76501-9614, 254-742-1405

New Tabor #13: Evelyn Henry, PO Box 336, Caldwell, TX 77836-0336, 979-567-4397

Nelsonville #14: Peggy Peschel, 8000 Hwy 159 W, Bellville, TX 77418, 979-865-5095

Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek, 7157 FM 2086, Temple, TX 76501, 254-984-2283

Sealy #17: Esther Breeden, 2728 Osborn Appt #1002, Bryan, TX 77803, 979-779-3835

Wesley #18: Elaine Koehn, 9053 Learning Oak Lane, Brenham, TX 77833, 979-836-5196, [koehns72@yahoo.com](mailto:koehns72@yahoo.com)

Temple #20: Irene Marek, 2900 Pecan Valley Drive, Temple, TX 76502, 254-778-2120

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Rosenberg #21: Cathy Kuritza, 5220 Reading Rd., Rosenberg, TX 77471, 281-344-1386, [michael-pruett@sbcglobal.net](mailto:michael-pruett@sbcglobal.net)

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Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Dr., Humble, TX 77346, 281-620-0480, [dorothy.hinson@hotmail.com](mailto:dorothy.hinson@hotmail.com)

Wall #25: Sharon J. Hohmann, 222 Crestwood Drive, San Angelo, TX 76903-9106, 325-651-5884

Caldwell #27: Matthew Hyvl, 9760 FM 3058, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-255-0025, [mhyvl131@gmail.com](mailto:mhyvl131@gmail.com)

Crosby #28: Gisela Gaeke, PO Box 599, Crosby, TX 77532, 281-426-5506

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\*\*Austin #32: Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, [natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com)

Pasadena #33: Betty Orsag, 5118 Coventry Ct., Friendswood, TX 77546-3001, 281-482-1501

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## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT DEATHS

WIGGINTON, ROSA VERA "Tot", age 98, a member of Seaton Brethren Church, died May 2, 2016. She was born October 31, 1917. Services were held on May 5, 2016, at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home, Temple. Burial was at Bellwood Memorial Park. Survivors include one son, Charles Wigginton (Lanette); one daughter, Glenda Jo Foster; three grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, and eight great-great-grandchildren. Minister: Rev. Joe Emerson.

FRERICHS, WILMA STASTNY, age 84, a member of Seaton Brethren Church, died May 28, 2016. She was born on August 19, 1931. Services were held on June 2, 2016, at Harper-Talasek Funeral Home, Temple. Burial was at Seaton Cemetery. Survivors include her son, Fred Michael Frerichs; a daughter, Dianne Cehand (Charles); one brother, Clarence Stastny (Malena); three sisters, Evelyn Reznicek, Georgia Bartek, Dorothy Lightfoot; and two grandchildren. Minister: Rev. Denise Mikeska.

PECHAL, LaVERNE JANICE, age 80, a member of Seaton Brethren Church, died July 4th, 2016. She was born April 10, 1936. Services were held on July 9, 2016, at Seaton Brethren Church. Burial was at Seaton Cemetery. Survivors include her husband, Clarence; a son, Steve Pechal (Patricia); a daughter, Linda

Machicek (Andy); 2 grandsons, 2 sisters-in-law, 2 brothers-in-law, an aunt, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Minister: Rev. Joe Emerson.

MACHALEK, ANTON WILLIAM "TONY", age 97, a member of Seaton Brethren Church, died July 6, 2016. He was born on August 9, 1918. Services were held July 8, 2016, at Seaton Brethren Church. Burial was at Seaton Cemetery. Survivors include sons, William Joe Machalek and Russell Wayne Machalek (Natalie), eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Minister: Rev. Joe Emerson.

MALY, MILTON ALVIN, age 76, retired Unity of the Brethren Pastor, Missionary, and former Editor of *The Brethren Journal*, died on May 30, 2016. He was born on May 13, 1940, in Taylor, Texas. Memorial Services were held at the Taylor Brethren Church on Saturday, June 4, 2016, with internment later at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Jean; children Michael, Ginger and Eddie, Brandon, Rachel and David, Gregory and Susan, Andrew and Mindi, and Benjamin; grandchildren Christopher, Alexander, Isabel, Savannah, David, Jake, Naomi, Taylor, and Cruz; sisters Annie, Georgia, Elizabeth, and Sylvia; as well as numerous nieces and nephews. Minister: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky.

## If Necessary, Use Words

- by Jim Pokorny

On Friday, May 13, 2016, I celebrated my 25th anniversary with my firm. Please do not read too much into the word "celebrated". The corporation that acquired us in November 2014 is not exactly big on celebration. Our Senior Managing Director did stop by my office that morning and offered a handshake and a few congratulatory remarks. After that, it was business as usual.

All things considered, 25 years is still a milestone, and in today's world it is the exception rather than the rule.

I have always found reflection to be an important part of life. Reflection allows us to see both how far we have come and how much we have grown. In this particular case, it also allows me to see that it was far easier for me to share my faith on the job in 1991 than it is in 2016.

In today's multinational corporate world, the sharing of one's faith is most definitely frowned upon. I find it more than a bit ironic that we are expected to show concern for the

feelings of others, but not so much their eternal souls. Still, opportunities have arisen over the course of those 25 years where matters of faith could not and would not be denied.

Shortly after I was hired by the firm I found myself in the middle of a rather interesting project. One of our clients considered purchasing a company in the area that had come up for sale. We were hired in order to make certain that the seller had not overstated the value of its assets.

The project was taken on by my vice president and, after we ran a few calculations, he decided a trip to the seller's office was in order. Some research into their older records was necessary. A meeting was arranged, and early one morning we set out to meet with the current owner.

The owner was extremely cordial and forthcoming with some of the information. When the topic turned to records of the oldest assets he telephoned his father, from whom he inherited the business.



### HOUSTON BRETHERN CHURCH

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

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

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

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President

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

*John David Skrivaneck*  
Secretary

P.O. Box 1605  
Bellaire, TX 77402  
(713) 626-0522

### TAYLOR BRETHERN CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas

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

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

*Pastor*  
*James D. Hejl*  
512-365-6890

*Board President*  
*Buddy Michna*  
512-365-1621

*Secretary*  
*Mary Kokes*  
M-Th 8 a.m.-noon

A short time later, the man's father arrived, and he quickly located the records we wanted to see. About 11 a.m. he suggested we break for lunch. He knew the best restaurant in town, and said we would have to get there early if we wished to be seated.

The restaurant was a short walk down the street, and a line had already formed that stretched just outside the door. About 11:30 we were seated and our orders were taken. My vice president and the current owner were talking shop. I sat across from the older gentleman, who asked me a question I could not have anticipated. "You know Jesus Christ, don't you?"

I told him that I did. "I thought so," he replied. He then proceeded to tell me how reading from the book of Hebrews one evening after he retired had changed his life. One verse in particular struck a chord deep within him.

Hebrews 13:3 (NET) – Remember those in prison as though you were in prison with them, and those ill-treated as though you too felt their torment.

Upon reading that verse he felt moved to start a prison ministry. He

knew he would not be able to do this alone, so he immediately picked up the phone and began calling some old friends he had made throughout his years in business to see if any would be willing to assist him in this venture.

To his great surprise, only one of the men he called turned him down. The rest agreed on the spot.

He then told me about the obstacles and red tape he and his friends had to overcome before they were allowed to reach out to any prisoners. The day finally arrived when they would be allowed to minister to their first handful of prisoners. Their excitement turned into dread when they realized that neither the prison staff nor the men they were trying to reach welcomed them with open arms. He immediately realized that he and his friends came from a different world than these men and they instinctively knew it.

"Can you guess what happened?," he asked. Frankly, I was so caught up in his story that I found it difficult to speak. I merely shook my head in response.

"Well, that's when the Holy Spirit took over and reminded me of that

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

**July 9, 2016 – 64th Biennial Convention of the Mutual Aid Society** – Snook Brethren Church. Contact: Rev. Joseph Polasek or Natalie Outlaw, NatalieOutlaw@yahoo.com.

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

**August 14, 2016** – 5th-year anniversary celebration of Cade Lake Community Church. Free-will donation lunch at 1:00 and services at 2:00.

### SAVE THE DATES:

**October 6-8, 2016** – 22nd Annual Primetimers' Retreat for Adults 40+, Hus Encampment. Contact Person: Kimberly Kennard Marx (kimberlykkennard@yahoo.com) 254/931-5657.

**October 22, 2016** – Fall Synodical Committee Meeting, 9 a.m. Hus Encampment, coffee & kolaches served at 8 a.m. Contact Kent Laza, President, or Angie Hairrell, Secretary.

*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.*

## Fayetteville Brethren Church

"Site of the First Czech Protestant Preaching in Texas – 1855"



**1022 Kramr Rd at Ross  
Prairie Church Road;  
P.O. Box 11  
Fayetteville, TX 78940**

Come join us!  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Worship 10:45 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Kay Polasek  
Home: 979-567-1999 Cell: 979-220-1289  
Email: revkaypolasek@yahoo.com

www.FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

## 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.**

President	Pastor/Director of Youth	Church Office
Board of Elders	and Young Family Ministries	Secretary
Josh Holik	Ryan Volkman	Johnie Smith
325-234-8667	325-213-0671	Tu-F: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

## 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 – 713-826-7993;  
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

verse I read in Hebrews.” He told the prisoners that he knew they felt disrespected. They felt disrespected by society, guards, and even other inmates. “All of us in this room,” he said, “are men. That means we are all worthy of respect. We are worthy of respect because Jesus Christ willingly laid down His life for every one of us in this room. Because He did that, every man in this room is a child of God and is deserving of respect. Whenever we come into this room, we will enter it as men and we will respect one another.”

I will always remember this man and his story. He and his friends succeeded because he completely followed through with the leading of the Holy Spirit. By doing this they successfully tore down barriers, found common ground upon which each participant found equal footing and the word of God could flourish.

As for me, time went by and the sharing of faith in the workplace became more challenging.

Some years ago, we hired an engineer from India. About a month into her tenure, a group of friends from her previous job invited her to lunch one

Friday in December. I could tell that she was really looking forward to this outing because it tended to dominate her conversation.

The day finally arrived and she met up with her friends as planned.

Later that day, she encountered a software problem and asked me for my assistance. I entered her office, sat down at her computer and began running some diagnostics.

While they ran, I asked if she had enjoyed lunch with her friends, and she began to tell me all about it. She then added, “I even learned something about your Christmas.”

This took me by surprise, as I never quite thought of it as “my Christmas” before.

What was even more surprising was her newly acquired “knowledge”. The friends she had spoken so highly of had woven a rather elaborate tale that concluded with Santa Claus being one of the wise men who brought the baby Jesus a Christmas tree.

By the look on her face, I could tell she had been completely taken in by this fabrication. I found myself in a rather awkward situation. If I told her the truth I would not only be sharing



### BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South

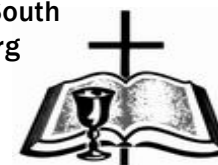
[www.unityofthebrethren.org](http://www.unityofthebrethren.org)

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](mailto:papasebek@gmx.com)

my faith, I would also be calling her friends liars. I decided that it was important that she be told the truth, but I knew from the outset that this would not go over well.

I took a deep breath and informed her the story she had been told was completely false. I then told her the real story, carefully separating the secular from the spiritual.

To say that she did not take this well is an understatement. "Why would my friends lie to me like that?" she shouted.

I told her that I honestly did not know, and added that I thought it was unfortunate they did so.

When Monday morning rolled around, she asked me to stop by her office. Frankly, I expected the worst.

God was looking out for me as she was now quite calm.

She thanked me for telling her the truth. Over the weekend something very important occurred to her. She told me that If I had not told her the truth, she would have shared her "understanding" of Christmas with her daughter, who attended elementary school. The child would no doubt have shared her new found "understanding" with her friends. Realizing

how unkind children can be, the result could have been quite painful.

I told her that there was no need to thank me. The only thing I did was make certain that she knew the truth.

Then came the day our firm was acquired by a large multinational corporation. From the word go we were subjected to training videos informing us as to what corporate considers acceptable workplace behaviors and what are not.

It was clear that the sharing of one's faith definitely falls into the second category.

The stress of the acquisition has taken its toll on a few and some unanticipated changes have cropped up as a result. More than a few staff members now work behind closed doors in order to cut down on interruptions.

I decided very early on that I would comply with corporate's policies. I also decided that there would be some things not covered that I would not change.

My door would always remain open.

I would show the summer interns the same respect I show the Senior Managing Director.

Even with an increased workload,

## Temple Brethren Church

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

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

Tim Chaplin, Interim Pastor  
(254) 718-3898

### Demonstration of the Proverb for Teens:

Distribute paper and pencils to students to jot down notes as they are listening. Divide them into two groups. One group will listen for "If/Then" statements. The second group will listen for "Benefits of Wisdom." Read Proverbs 2:1-15 slowly, emphasizing the conditional elements and benefits of searching for wisdom. Have the students share their findings and write them out as a visual. Here is a paraphrased reference for your convenience:

#### IF/THEN

If... we accept God's word and obey

If... we listen for wisdom and search for it

If... we understand that wisdom is like a great treasure

Then...we will respect God and know Him well.

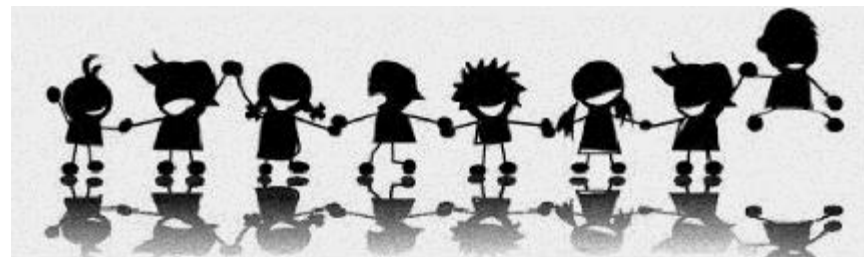
#### BENEFITS OF WISDOM:

- Victory
- Safety/Protection
- Understanding
- Knowledge
- Discretion: Understanding of right/wrong
- Guidance/Direction

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

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

<https://www.pinterest.com/ahairrell/ss-helper-proverbs-for-children/>



Proverbs 2:6  
For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come  
knowledge and understanding.

#### Understand the Proverb:

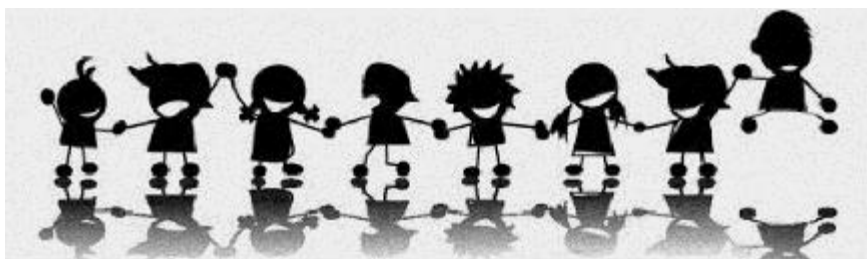
Read Proverbs 2:6. Have the students brainstorm ways that we can grow in wisdom. Here are some examples:

1. Trust Jesus as our Savior and honor God.
2. Read His word, since the Bible teaches us how to find wisdom.
3. Make right choices.
4. Stay away from wrong choices (sin).
5. If we do sin, ask for forgiveness and learn from our mistakes

#### Practice the Proverb

Read the following statements. Have the students make a W (by slanting both arms in the air) if the statement shows someone using wisdom. Have them cross their arms and shake their heads if the statement shows someone lacking wisdom (LW).

1. Even though Damien had been coming to church for a while, he realized that he had never invited Jesus to be his Lord and Savior. He decided to make a decision to follow God. (W)
2. Cara could never understand her Bible, so she quit trying to read it. (LW)
3. Ivette knew she was wrong when she stole her friend's money, so she returned it and asked for forgiveness. She never stole anything after that. (W)
4. Trent didn't understand his Bible either, but he kept trying. He read it in small parts and he asked questions when he didn't get it. He couldn't believe some of the stories that were in there! (W)
5. Derek wasn't prepared for the test, so he cheated. He knew it was wrong, but it got him good grades without having to work hard, so he kept doing it. (LW)
6. While Ji Yeong was at a friend's house, the friend started playing a video game that Ji Yeong's mom would not have liked. Since he knew it was wrong, he ended up leaving right away. (W)
7. Samantha loved being popular, wearing name brand clothes, and getting everyone's attention. The Bible, in her opinion, was old and didn't have anything good to say. Besides, her favorite TV shows told her how to act anyway. (LW)



I would remain willing to stop whatever I was doing and assist whenever someone encountered a technical problem.

One more thing happened when my 25th anniversary rolled around. I received an unexpected email from our local Office Manager. Along with her professional commendations, she added a very personal one when she referred to me as "a man of God".

With each passing day, the business world makes it more and more challenging for believers to share their faith. It can tell us what we can and what we cannot say. Under no circumstances can it ever dictate how we choose to live.

I am reminded of a quote attributed to St. Francis of Assisi (though no published source has yet been found): "Preach the gospel, and if necessary, use words."

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## OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 806, Rogers, TX 76569

### *Preaching the Word, Loving the People*

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship 10:15 AM

#### *Elder Board President*

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3910 Red Ranger Rd.  
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(254) 985-2578

#### *Youth Director*

**Jennifer Chervenka**

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Rogers, TX 76569  
(254) 983-1002

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**Sharon Marek**

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

## Standing Tough

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

As a child, “standing tough” might have meant guarding your Cheetos during lunch. As a twenty-something, “standing tough” might mean guarding your physical purity. In your thirties and forties, “standing tough” could involve learning to place God first in all your decisions, whether they are financial, relational, or simply in how you decide to spend your time. As life progresses, “standing tough” seems to broaden even further in its scope. **Whatever your age, “standing tough” is only truly accomplished by a persistent pursuit of closeness to Jesus Christ through prayer, meditation upon the words of the Bible, and quite naturally, amid the friendships and acts of service you carry out as a member of the actual Body of Jesus Christ – through church life.**

What is making you feel run down these days?

What has you bewildered?

How is your faith being tested?

**The recipe for “standing tough” is clear: Lose yourself in Jesus Christ.**

Hands down.

Fists unclenched.

Negative thoughts kicked away.

**Pray:**

Jesus,

Rule my thoughts.

Jesus,

Rule my heart.

Holy Spirit,

Fill me till there is no room in me for anything but You and Your power.

In his letter to the Colossian Church, the Apostle Paul explains the why and how of “standing tough.” Colossians chapter 1, verses 10 through 23 (NRSV) :

*...lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, as you **bear fruit in every good work** and as you **grow in the knowledge of God**. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from His glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while **joyfully giving thanks** to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the*



### Proverbs 2:6

For the Lord gives wisdom, and from  
His mouth come knowledge and  
understanding

Wisdom and knowledge; what is the difference? Knowledge is knowing facts, but wisdom is the ability to apply those facts to daily life. Wisdom leads one into the path of righteousness (Prov 4:11) because it is “the man who pleases Him [that] God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness” (Eccl 2:6). What Solomon is saying is that wisdom is obedience and obedience leads to righteousness. If you don’t have wisdom that goes with knowledge, you are only a walking encyclopedia. A book of knowledge is useless without the wisdom to know how to apply that knowledge.

## Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53

Temple, TX 76501

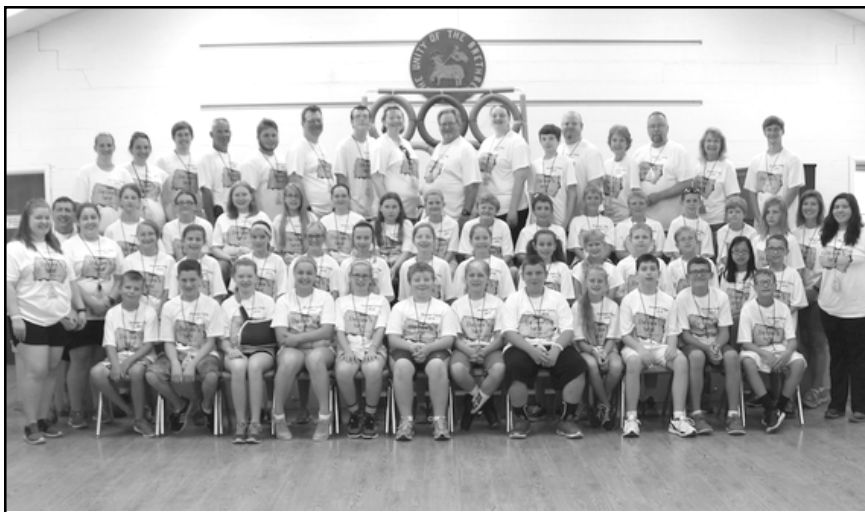
Church Phone: 254-985-2694

[seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:seatonbrethrenchurch@yahoo.com)

Rev. Denise Mikeska, Pastor –

[sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com](mailto:sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com)

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### **Discovery Camp 2016**

*See more camp information and photos in future issues!*



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**(800) 727-7578**  
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*power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in Him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through Him and for Him. He Himself is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is the head of the Body, the Church; He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, **so that He might come to have first place in everything.** For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him God was pleased to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of His cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, He has now reconciled in His fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before Him – provided that you **continue** securely established and steadfast in the faith, **without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard,***

*which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven...*

What is making you feel run down these days?

What has you bewildered?

How is your faith being tested?

**The recipe for “standing tough” is clear: Lose yourself in Jesus Christ.**

Hands down.

Fists unclenched.

Negative thoughts kicked away.

Only as you “lose yourself” in Jesus Christ, placing Him first in everything, will you be able to “stand tough.”

Let us “stand tough” together!

#### **Pray:**

Jesus,

Rule my thoughts.

Jesus,

Rule my heart.

Holy Spirit,

Fill me till there is no room in me for anything but You and Your power.

Amen.

I love you all in the Holy Love of Jesus Christ.

In Jesus' Joy, Sister Vanessa Mitchell

## **SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH**

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

Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

### **COME WORSHIP WITH US**

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

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

#### **Pastor**

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

#### **Board of Elders President**

Rayfield Slovacek  
P.O. Box 267  
Snook, TX 77878  
(979) 272-8845

#### **Youth Directors**

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



## Are You Leaving Your Gate Open?

- by Rev. Kay Polasek

One of my fond memories of growing up in the country was that my grandparents both had gardens. My mother's family grew everything, but I especially liked the potatoes. There were so many of them that I thought we were Irish. (You know "Irish Potatoes"). But according to our family ancestry records, not one came from Ireland. My Daddy's side always had a wonderful garden as well. The tomatoes and watermelons were so sweet and juicy. I heard someone the other day reminiscing about stealing watermelons from other people's gardens. Evidently, young people did that a lot.

So Ben has been tending to his garden, and it is doing well for his first try in years. Thanks to those of you who let him know that broccoli and cauliflower are fall vegetables and will not produce in the warm summer months. He pulled those up and planted other things there. It was suggested to him that he "thin" out some of the plants. That was tough on him as he loved each one of his plants equally. Finally, after much

thought and trepidation he did take some out. But to me, it doesn't seem to be enough. He still goes out to check his garden once a day, some times more.

He built a short fence to shut off the side of the house so that Bella (our Shih-Tzu) didn't "mess up" his plants. After a while, he decided that Bella didn't really care about trampling his garden as she had other interests, like the dogs in the other yard. So, he left the little gate open. And, a day or so later when he went to check his garden, there were two rabbits in there. I think that they knew that he needed to prune some of the plants! Bella was with him that fateful day. And, I wish you could have heard the "hollering" going on out there, not to mention the barking. Bella was delighted! She finally had her rabbit cornered. I wish you could have been there to run 'em out! Talk about excitement! I don't think that I had that much fun and excitement when the kids were growing up.

And so, my thoughts reflect back to Jesus using the analogy of God

being the Master Gardener of our lives in John 15:1-8, where Jesus says:

1. "I am the true vine, and My Father is the gardener.
2. "He cuts off every branch in Me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.
3. "You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you.
4. "Remain in Me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in Me.
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.
6. "If you do not remain in Me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.
7. "If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

8. "This is to My Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be My disciples."

Like Ben with his garden, we, too, need to be careful not to leave our gates open to worldly things lest we become barren. Grape vines need a lot of pruning and, as one gardener once said, you need to cut off the "suckers" that are using up nourishment. In our lives "suckers" can be those things that take time away from God: internet browsing, watching TV, and the list goes on. Take a look at your life. Are you producing fruit? Do you need to prune the "suckers"?

Think about it and read the above scripture slowly, reflectively, and carefully. Are you leaving your gate open? Are the rabbits of the world sneaking in to destroy you? Today is the day to change your world.

Always remember that no matter what comes, God loves you because you are you!

Blessings, Pastor Kay

### GRANGER BRETHREN CHURCH

1903 *Where it all began*

306 WEST BROADWAY STREET, GRANGER, TX  
76530

Bible Study 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Services 10:15 a.m.

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



### 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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