

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



Vol. 117

April 2018

No. 3

32 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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“He is not here; He has risen!”

Remember how He told you, while He was still with you in Galilee:

*‘The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinners,
be crucified, and on the third day be raised again.’”*

Luke 24:6-7 (NIV)

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Hus Renovations Update

All About Easter . . . by Rev. Liz Treybig

Why Pray for Israel . . . by Rev. Linda Chandler

Austin Brethren Israel Trip Announcement

The Author of Your Life . . . by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

. . . and much, much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Visit the Unity of the Brethren Website: unityofthebrethren.org

Invitation to the 49th Biennial Christian Sisters' Convention from the Christian Sisters' Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of
the Christian Sisters' Union cor-
dially extends an invitation to all
Delegates, Representatives of
Women's Work in the Church,
Members of the Local Christian
Sisters' Societies, Ministers of
the Unity and all Friends of the
Christian Sisters' Union to the
49th Convention on April 28, 2018,
beginning at 9:00 A.M. at the
Caldwell Brethren Church.

Registration begins at 8:30 A.M.,
followed by a Morning Worship
Service and Communion begin-
ning at 9:00 A.M. There will be a
Memorial Service after the noon
hour.

Please pray that God will di-
rect and lead us in all we do and
say.

Ann Sebesta: President
Paula Wagner: Vice President
Anna Wotipka: Secretary
Lydia Faust: Financial Secretary
Linda Planka: Treasurer

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FROM THE PRESIDENT... Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Time is an interesting concept. For a six-year-old, just waiting for a birthday, Christmas, or summer vacation is forever. For someone in their seventies, Christmas seems like it was just a couple of weeks ago.

There is something I would like to call *Unity time*. (in contrast to *Brethren time*, translated we wait until everybody gets to worship, meeting, or activity to start). It is the time segment, from July to July, two years apart. We gather for convention, make decisions, and go into the Fall of convention year to have a referendum by congregations to ratify or reject the decisions made. New officers of the Executive Committee are installed and learn about and exercise their positions. There are four meetings of congregational representatives at the Synodical Committee level that seek to carry out the decisions of the convention and plan for the next convention in that two-year time period.

We met last summer. This summer we are off, and our next convention convenes in July 2019 at Wall Brethren Church, our most distant congregation to the west. Basically, we are about a year away.

The demands of being a corporate entity are increasing and becoming more complicated. Your leadership at the local level may be experiencing the same thing. Banking, compliance with insurance, issues of security, building codes, the carrying of firearms, payroll taxes, and reporting all require time, attention, paperwork, and often proof or validation through minutes and signatures of those carrying out duties along with personal iden-

tification. All this takes time, energy and attention to detail.

There are no paid positions among those who hold Executive Committee positions. We have added a very capable individual, Liz Ripple, Administrative Assistant to the President, and basically to all Executive Committee and standing committees, who serves the denomination well. For the most part, what is accomplished is accomplished through dedicated volunteers on time outside their employment.

In addition to convention decisions and adjustments to by-laws, we have had hurricane Harvey, the fire at Cade Lake, renovations at the camp, and challenges with the Ministers' Retirement Program. All to say, *Unity time* is very short between conventions and the focus is on taking care of what is pressing at the moment.

So, when do we dream and vision as a denomination? When do we pray, seeking new avenues of service and ministry as a denomination from Christ the Head of the Church? How do we move beyond housekeeping (the things we are required of us to do to maintain our status as a church) to the mission and ministry of Christ?

Questions to ponder... with a response that needs to come from all us.

He is the head of the body, the church... Col 1:18a

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it... 1 Corinthians 1 :27



Cade Lake

Cade Lake Community Chapel, which burned on December 1, 2017, has been determined to be a total loss by the insurance company. The Unity has received payment for the loss, and a recent loan for the roof has been repaid to the Unity, which purchased the building as well as holds the insurance. The next step is the demolition of the remaining structure. Bids are being taken now. Work continues on getting a clear title to the property.

Ministers' Retirement

Over the years, the Unity has added several pastors to its ranks – some full time and some bivocational, without increased funding for the overall program to compensate pastors in an equitable way. The resolution to this challenge is in the making and hopefully will be resolved in the next few weeks as the Ministers Benefits Committee develops a plan that recognizes the faithful service of pastors and financial feasibility and viability of the overall program.

Hus Encampment

Progress is being made on the first stage of the renovation of the Main

Building. The anticipated completion of the kitchen renovation is mid-April, and at this time is on target. The septic system is being addressed, as well. Other renovations will hopefully begin after this summer's camps. Your prayers and donations are greatly appreciated.

Catechism

The catechism was reviewed and approved by pastors. The final version has been submitted to and accepted by Synodical Committee for personal and congregational use. You can now find the complete document online at the Unity website (www.unityofthebrethren.org) under the *About Us* tab.

Ministers Code of Ethic

Dr. Mark Labaj has been pursuing certification as Chaplain under the care of the denomination. Part of the process includes an application by the denomination to certify that we do in fact exist, are who we say we are, and operate under articles of incorporation as well as a constitution and by-laws. The certification process also requires a defined Code of Ethics, which has been hammered out by the clergy and approved by the Synodical Committee.

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
Co-Pastor, Rev. Kay Polasek

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 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

Dime Box – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Kay Polasek

Fayetteville – Sunday School at 9:30 AM, worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Joe Emerson

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. Joe Emerson

Nelsonville – Sunday School at 9:00 AM
Worship at 10:15 AM
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

New Tabor – Sunday School at 9:00 AM & Worship at 10:00 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. Dr. Brad Herridge

Pasadena – Sunday School at 9:30 AM and worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
– 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.
– Rev. 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.
– Pastor Lisa Johnson

Fayetteville Brethren Church

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am

Pastor – Rev. Joe Emerson
P.O. Box 1295
Belton, TX 76513
(254) 931-1653

FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

"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



HUS SCHOOL ENCAMPMENT SUMMER CAMPS

It's time to register your camper for the summer camping program!
Register by April 15th to get the early bird discount!

Registration forms can be downloaded at
<http://www.huscamp.org/>

	Early Bird Fee (by April 15)	Regular Fee (by May 1)	Late Fee (by May 15)
Encounter	\$200	\$250	\$275
Alpha	\$300	\$350	\$375
Pioneer	\$300	\$350	\$375
Discovery	\$300	\$350	\$375
Challenger	\$300	\$350	\$375



2018 DATES

**ENCOUNTER
CAMP**
JULY 8-10
(AGES 7-8)

ALPHA CAMP
JUNE 10-14
(AGES 9-10)

**PIONEER
CAMP**
JUNE 17-22
(AGES 11-13)

**DISCOVERY
CAMP**
JUNE 24-29
(AGES 14-15)

**CHALLENGER
CAMP**
JULY 1-6
(AGES 16-19)

QUESTIONS

Contact:
Amy Snelgrove
Camp Programmer
979-229-5013
agsnelgrove@gmail.com

Spring Synodical Meeting Report

The 2018 Spring Synodical Meeting was held Saturday, March 3, at the Caldwell Brethren Church. The meeting began with a devotional by Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky on John 15:5, concluding with the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

The new Catechism was approved and is available online. A Code of Ethics for Pastors was also approved.

An update on the Hurricane Harvey Relief efforts was provided by Aaron Van Der Linden. The Port Arthur church is 90% complete and there is still work to be done for the parishioners. Donations have totaled over \$60,000. Esmy Racha, Secretary of the Good Shepherd Church, thanked the Unity for their support and prayers.

Kent Laza, Chair of the Hus Encampment Board of Trustees, provided an update on the renovations. Currently, the main building is being remodeled. Work on the sewer system will begin in March. Fundraising is underway, with current donations at \$462,000. Updates on programming and policies were shared. A motion was passed to approve Amy Snelgrove as the Programming Manager. A motion was also passed to allow the Board to operate outside of the By-Laws as they develop new operating

procedures.

Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky updated the group on the Retirement Program. There are many issues to be addressed by the Benefits Committee: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky, Liz Ripple (Treasurer), Rev. Jimmy Hejl (Chair), Rev. Mike Groseclose (Secretary).

It was approved to donate \$5000 to the Moravian Church for a John Hus Documentary.

Rev. Mark Sebek provided an update on the Foreign Missions Budget.

The Home Missions update included changes in the organizational structure at Cade Lake. Additional information was provided on the demolition from the fire, next steps, and the status of the land ownership.

Rev. Nello Strickland's retirement was acknowledged.

Officer reports were provided. A By-Laws Committee was approved. Members are Rev. Jimmy Hejl, Gayle Farrow, Liz Ripple, and Rev. Whitney Amos.

A motion was approved to defer the interest on the roof loan to Good Shepard until December 31, 2018.

A motion was passed to approve the budget revisions of the Home Mission Board.



To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

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

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4913 FM 166
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 220-1957
Kent.laza@verizon.net

**This must be done well in advance.*

Announcements:

- 1st Quarter Pastor's Salary Reports for the IRS to the Administrative Assistant, Liz Ripple, due April 20.
- The Death of Rev. William Hodge, Associate Pastor Houston Brethren Church. Memorial service was yesterday. Age 97.
- Christian Sisters Convention – April 28, 2018, at Caldwell Brethren Church.
- Mutual Aid Society Convention – July 21 at Taylor.
- *Tentative* Date of Unity Convention – July 11-13, 2019, at Wall Brethren Church.
- No golf tournament this summer.

We adjourned with prayer by Rev. Mike Groseclose. Lunch was provided by Caldwell Brethren Church.

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VITAL STATISTICS

NEW MEMBERS

HARRY and DELORES NELSON welcomed into the Granger Brethren Church by Letter of Transfer from Christ Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, Texas. Minister: Larry Zabcik.

Knesek Family Funeral Chapels



*"Neighbors helping Neighbors
Since 1914"*

- Service all Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans
- Share Plan Concept with Pre-Arranged Funerals
- Sponsor Mission Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans

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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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jennchervenka@farm-market.net

Unity Archivist

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



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- Community Involvement
- Youth Activities and Camp
- Scholarships
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www.spjst.org**

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for April 2018

Dorothy E. Kocian
with Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon

From the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*,
slightly modified, unless otherwise indicated.

1. **I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection. Philippians 3:10**
2. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift. I Corinthians 9:15
3. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Philippians 4:13
4. I will sing to the Lord, because He has dealt bountifully with me. Psalm 13:6
5. Make a note of His deeds among the nations; proclaim that His name is exalted. Isaiah 12:4
6. And this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. John 17:3
7. Christ Himself is before all things and in Him all things hold together. Colossians 1:17
8. **Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." John 20:21**
9. God is not far from each one of us, for "in Him we live and move and have our being." Acts 17:27-28
10. The Lord is the strength of His people. Psalm 28:8
11. Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teaching; for it is well for the heart to be strengthened by grace. Hebrews 13:9
12. Oh Lord, I am oppressed; be my security! Isaiah 38:14
13. Christ said, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." Mark 16:15
14. Love does not rejoice in wrong doing but rejoices in the truth. 1 Corinthians 13:6
15. **Jesus said, "Why do you see the speck in your neighbor's eye but do not notice the log in your own eye?" Luke 6:41**
16. If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. Romans 14:8
17. Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, says the Lord of hosts. Zechariah 4:6
18. The same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on Him. Romans 10:12
19. You came near when I called on You; You said, "Do not fear!" Lamentations 3:57
20. God did not call us to impurity, but to holiness. Therefore, whoever rejects this, rejects not human authority but God, Who also gives His Holy Spirit to you. 1 Thessalonians 4:7-8
21. God does great things that we cannot comprehend. Job 37:5
22. **If God so clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, how much more will He clothe you – you of little faith! Luke 12:28**
23. God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Christ. Colossians 1:19 (NIV)
24. The unfolding of Your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple. Psalm 119:130
25. He remembered us in our low estate, for His steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 136:23
26. The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1
27. The Lord is just in all His ways and kind in all His doings. Psalm 145:17
28. Paul wrote, "I am confident of this, that the One who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Christ Jesus." Philippians 1:6
29. **Jesus says, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the Water of Life." Revelation 21:6**
30. Do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards your needy neighbor. Deuteronomy 15:7

Hus Encampment Capital Building Campaign

Pledge Form:

Please accept this joy-filled pledge.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone #: _____

Email _____

3-Year Pledge: ☐ \$100,000 ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$15,000
☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$7500 ☐ \$5000 ☐ \$2500 ☐ \$1500
☐ Other _____

Amount Enclosed: _____ ☐ Check # _____ ☐ Cash

(Please make checks payable to: "Hus Encampment Building Fund")

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard – Credit Card # _____

Exp. _____ Security # _____

Remaining Amount: \$ _____ to be paid over the next

☐ 12 months ☐ 18 months ☐ 24 months ☐ 36 months

Monthly Payment Amount: \$ _____

☐ Please charge my credit card monthly ☐ Please bill me monthly

☐ Please use electronic funds transfer from my bank acct. monthly:

Bank Name _____

Routing # _____ Account # _____

☐ The Hus Encampment may list my name and pledge amount in written materials when giving thanks to donors.

Signature: _____

Mail donation to:

Todd Corporon, Hus Board Treasurer
5350 County Road 124
Georgetown, TX 78626

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Hus School Renovations Update

Renovation of the Main building kitchen at the Hus Encampment continues. The drywall is up, ceiling has been installed, and window trim has been done. Painting will soon begin, and workers have started digging for the new sewer system. For updates, you can check out the Facebook page: **Hus Encampment—Unity of the Brethren Church.**



2018 Summer Camp Dates:

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-8 years old

Camp Cost: \$250*

Camp Dates: July 8-10

ALPHA

Ages 9-10 years old

Camp Cost: \$350*

Camp Dates: June 10-14

PIONEER

Ages 11-13 years old

Camp Cost: \$350*

Camp Dates: June 17-22

DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old

Camp Cost: \$350*

Camp Dates: June 24-29

CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old

Camp Cost: \$350*

Camp Dates: July 1-6

HUS SCHOOL

Not offered in 2018.

For more information about the Hus School Encampment go to:
www.huscamp.org

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.

HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH

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

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School 9:15 a.m. – Church Service 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill

Dorothy Hinson
President

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

John David Skrivane
Secretary

P.O. Box 1605
Bellaire, TX 77402
(832) 930-8061

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

April 1, 2018 – Easter/Resurrection Sunday

April 22, 2018 – 125th Anniversary of the Granger Brethren Church: beginning at 9 a.m., there will be coffee, juice, and pastries. The worship service begins at 10:15 a.m. with Granger native, Rev. Thomas Tallas, delivering the message. Those planning on attending are asked to RSVP to zabcikville@ymail.com.

April 28, 2018 – 49th Biennial Christian Sisters' Convention beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Caldwell Brethren Church. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by a morning worship service and Communion at 9:00 a.m. A memorial service will follow after the noon hour.

May 6, 2018 – Annual Fried Chicken Fund Raiser for Industry Brethren Church at the Industry Fireman's Hall (16632 Fordtran Blvd., Industry, TX). Eat there or plates to go. Serving 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Auction, desserts available, country store, and raffle. For more info., contact Liz Treybig at 512-217-2140.

SAVE THE DATES...

July 21, 2018 – 65th Biennial Mutual Aid Society Convention at the Taylor Brethren Church.

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: wallbrethren@gmail.com
www.WallBrethrenChurch.com

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>
Lance LaBedelle	Ryan Volkman	Libby Lane
325-227-9900	325-213-0671	Tu-F: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.



In God's Hands Ministry

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

Why We Should Pray for Jerusalem

Editor's Note: This article was first published in the nationally released book *Praying and Praising Across America*, available for churches as a tool containing strategies for prayer. If you are interested, please contact:

Rev. Linda V. Chandler (L77c@aol.com)

Today I want to present a case for praying for a place that is decidedly not often on the American people's radar screen, but is at the center of God's heart. It is a place that shares both time and space with the eternal purposes of God. It is a place we are commanded to pray for: "*Pray for the peace of Jerusalem*" (Psalm 122:6) not once but constantly and continually: "*You who call upon the LORD, give yourselves no rest and give Him no rest till He establishes Jerusalem and makes her the praise of the earth*" (Isaiah 62:6-7). America, you are spiritually and literally embedded in God's divine purposes that emanated from the city of JerUSAlem, do you not see us hidden in there?! Let's reveal God's purposes for Jerusalem being our responsibility in our prayer closets.

In the ancient world of the Bible Jerusalem was considered the center of the earth. She is mentioned in the

Bible, 881 times, more than any other place. Today she is a city where east meets west and has been called the "epicenter" of the world by the renowned and contemporary author, Joel Rosenberg. As a world constantly in turmoil, Jerusalem is front and center in God's epic story of love and justice. God's story seems to shout from the Heavenly gates: *As Jerusalem goes, so goes the world!* God sends this word through the Prophet Zechariah: "*I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the peoples reeling*" (Zechariah 12:1). God's measure for "this cup" was given to Abraham, Father of the Jews: "*I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*"

Jerusalem is first recognized by Abraham in God's story of Abraham meeting with Melechizedek, king of Salem. Salem means "*peace*" and was

Temple Brethren Church

2202 Birdcreek Drive
Temple, Texas 76502

(254) 778-8759

TempleBrethrenChurch.org

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

tbc@hot.rr.com

Rev. Tim Chaplin

(254) 718-6094

tpch4359@gmail.com

Memory Verse

We will serve: take a bow (as though bowing to a master)

The Lord our God: point to the ceiling

We will obey: nod your head

Him: point to the ceiling

Joshua 24: hold 2 fingers on one hand and 4 fingers on the other hand

24: hold 2 fingers on one hand and 4 fingers on the other hand

God Says (a.k.a. Simon Says)

Our Bible Verse means that we need to obey. To obey means to listen and follow directions. Who should we listen to? (Allow for responses.) When our parents and others want us to obey, they know what is best for us. We are going to play God Says. Whatever God says...you need to do. If God does not say it... don't do it.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1) God says blow your trumpet. | 5) Got says stomp your feet. |
| 2) God says walk in a circle. | 6) Turn around |
| 3) God says yell hallelujah! | 7) God says blow your trumpet |
| 4) Clap your hands. | |

Story Retell

The city of Jericho had tall walls (*build the walls with boxes or blocks*). The leader of God's people was a man named Joshua (*hold up an action figure*), and he told them to follow God's advice and God would knock over the walls of Jericho! (*build the wall with blocks*). So, Joshua and the people marched around the city like God told them (*march action figure around the city*). The people of Jericho watch and laughed from the top of the walls (*make army men laugh and dance around*). This happened every day for a whole week. Joshua leading his people (*march Joshua action figure*) and the soldiers of Jericho laughing at them as they passed (*make the army men jump around and laugh*). Day after day for six days...until finally, on the last day they blew their trumpets! (*pull out a kazoo*). When the trumpets sounded the people shouted as loud as they could - why don't you do that part? Ready? The people shouted as loud as they could...I said as loud as you could! Good job! And the walls fell down! (*knock them down*) and God's people knocked over all the people of Jericho! (*make your action figure attack all the little green army men*). God fought for His people and they listened to God! The End.

Video: Veggie Tales Video of the Story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QXM2o_Hb9Ls

Bring Down the Walls

Act it out in a new way! You will need little army men from the dollar store and a bunch of regular and mini marshmallows.

1. As a class, build the town of Jericho out of big and little marshmallows.
2. Use the army men and walk around the city, one time for six days. (You can pretend to sleep in between the "days".)
3. Then on day seven, God knocked down the walls (really jiggle the table) and the army men took the city.
4. Send each child home with a baggie of men and marshmallows.

Blow that Horn



Buy cheap party horns. Make creases in the bell as directed in the photo above. Make sure the middle bend is not severe enough to block the airflow or the horn will not work. Let kids paint the horn with glue and wrap with strips of colored tissue paper. Let it dry. Play.

the ancient site of Jerusalem (Genesis 14:18-20). King Melechizedek blessed Abraham and Abraham returned the blessing on the king and city of Salem by giving a tenth of all he owned. Jeremiah prophesies a day when the LORD will fully restore Israel and Jerusalem will be called "*The Throne of the LORD, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the LORD*" (Jeremiah 3:17). Finally, in the last days Jerusalem will become "*the city of the Great King*" (Matthew 5:35) and will take her curtain call as "*the bride, the wife of the Lamb... the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God... (shining) with the glory of God... (Revelation 21:9-11).*"

Abraham Joshua Heschel, a well-known Jewish theologian, defines Jerusalem as "*a witness, an echo of eternity.*" An echo is produced by a voice resounding off a solid surface – a place. Heschel then brings us into the picture as the people who provide the echoes that witness by reminding us that Jerusalem alone is as nothing. "*Jerusalem is not divine; her life depends on our presence. Alone she is desolate and silent, with Israel she is a witness, a proclamation. Alone*

she is a widow, with Israel she is a bride." Jerusalem needs people, and God is revealing she needs people to pray for her constantly and continually!

Finally, for us who call ourselves Christian, Jerusalem stands both as a witness to the purposes of the Divine, and as an echo of the Bride with whom Messiah Jesus began the birthing process of new sons and daughters for the Kingdom through resurrection. These sons and daughters are the spiritual inheritance guaranteed to the Son in Psalm 2:7-8 "*I will proclaim the decree: The LORD said to me, 'You are my son; today I become your father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance; the whole wide world will be your possession.'*" As those who follow the Way of Jesus the Messiah, Jerusalem becomes our place of birthing. On that day of Passover, long ago, as the sword pierced the side of our crucified savior, blood and water gushed forth and joined with the ground of Jerusalem, symbolically producing new birth and new beginnings. It is a reminder of the distant past in The Garden when God reached into man's side and drew forth woman.



TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

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

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

Pastor
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

Board President
Bryan Holubec
512-922-5470

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



This day of “piercing the side” would produce and call forth the nations from the sacred ground of Jerusalem. No longer would only the Jews carry God’s story, but the whole world would now be grafted in through the Jewish Son of God, Jesus, who reminds us in Revelation “...I am the Root and the offspring of David...” (Rev. 22:16). Now, Jerusalem, the city of kings and the Jewish capital of Israel, becomes as our birth mother. Our spiritual umbilical cord has come forth from the Jewish root and Jewish ground and the vine of God’s purposes will emerge to encapsulate the world! It is no wonder that God would call us forth to honor Jerusalem with our prayers. “Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you” (Deuteronomy 5:16). Prayers of honor and praise for our

birthplace and spiritual mother, Jerusalem, bring forth blessings of life and wellness. Next, we continue in our prayers for Jerusalem by focusing on Psalm 122:2-5:

*“Our feet are standing
In your gates, O Jerusalem.
Jerusalem is built like a city
that is closely compacted together
That is where the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD
To praise the name of the LORD
according to the statute given to
Israel.
There the thrones for judgment stand,
the thrones of the house of David.”*

We, like the tribes of old, should offer prayer which “praise the Name of the LORD”. Praise God for what He has done, what He is now doing, and what He will do in the not too distant future for and with Jerusalem. Pray for our Nation of America to be a bless-

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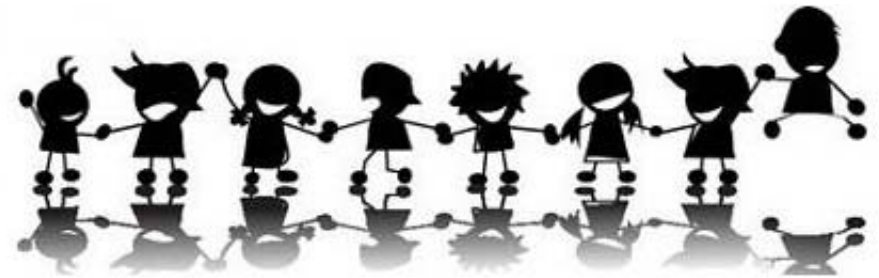
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2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South
www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

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



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



Sunday School Helper

**We will serve the Lord our God.
We will obey Him.
Joshua 24:24 (NIRV)**

Here is another Superhero from the Old Testament: JOSHUA! This story shows a Bible Super Hero who brings down the biggest, fattest city wall of its day without karate kicks – merely by listening to what God said and letting Him do the work. Joshua listened to God, even when it seemed like the craziest battle plan ever. The story of Joshua and Jericho helps us remember that God is in control and if we just listen, He will provide.

Have you ever asked God the Son, Jesus Christ, to “rule” your heart and your mind so that your every step is in sync with His?

The story of your life is not completed yet.

The more Jesus Christ pours His goodness, His love, and His wisdom into us and to others through us, the more magnificent each day of life will be.

What if you were a little sprig from a cedar tree that God intends to grow into a towering cedar tree, meant to flourish in your spiritual communion with God and consequently yield a life of beauty and holy accomplishments, with God as Your Author, and as Your God and Friend?

Consider the words of the prophet Ezekiel from the Holy Bible, as He speaks of the nation of Israel as a little sprig of cedar with such potential:

Thus says the Lord God: “I Myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I Myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it. (Ezekiel 17:22-24, NRSV)

What if you were a little sprig from a cedar tree that God intends to grow into a towering cedar tree, meant to

flourish in your spiritual communion with God and consequently yield a life of beauty and holy accomplishments, with God as Your Author, and as Your God and Friend?

The story of your life is not completed yet. The more Jesus Christ pours His goodness, His love, and His wisdom into us and to others through us, the more magnificent each day of life will be. Dive into this Holy Interaction!

In Jesus’ Hands,
Right With You,

Sister Vanessa Mitchell

Invitation to the 49th Biennial Christian Sisters’ Convention from the Caldwell Christian Sisters

The Members of the Caldwell Brethren Church Christian Sisters local group extends an invitation to all Delegates, Representatives of Women’s Work in the Church, Members of the Local Christian Sisters’ Societies, Ministers of the Unity and all Friends of the Christian Sisters’ Union to the 49th Christian Sisters’ Convention on April 28, 2018, beginning at 9:00 A.M. at the Caldwell Brethren Church.

Registration begins at 8:30 A.M., followed by a Morning Worship Service and Communion beginning at 9:00 A.M. There will be a Memorial Service after the noon hour.

Your Sisters’ in Christ,
Caldwell Brethren Church
Christian Sisters’

ing and not a cursed obstacle when God uses Jerusalem as His cup of measure. Believe and trust these prayers to resound and echo throughout the courts of heaven; for we are praying for Jerusalem to fully realize her destiny as the City of the Great King and the city where the thrones of judgment stand.

Finally, pray as God commands: “...for the Peace of Jerusalem” so she will fulfill her destiny as God’s City of Peace. Our prayers for peace should pull from a definition of peace. Pray for peace *evidenced in calm; tranquility among the inhabitants, harmony in the homes*, and for Jerusalem to be a location that imbues *quiet, stillness, reconciliation, and tranquility*. These prayers become our witness that we desire for God’s will to be done and for Jerusalem to be established as “praise in all the earth!”

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Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Eve. 5:30 PM
Prayer Service and Bible Study

HUS ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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rev.tjt@gmail.com
Jennifer Chervenka, Ocker (2017),
(254) 983-1002; jennchervenka@farm-market.net
The Encampment is governed by a Board
of Trustees of 8 members.

Terms: 2 years, may be re-elected/re-appointed for a maximum of 4 terms or 8 years (Unity of the Brethren By-Laws, Article XIV, Sec C, Par.4).

Non-Voting Appointments:

Programming Director: Amy Snelgrove
agsnelgrove@hotmail.com

Unity Youth Coordinator: Jennifer Chervenka; jennchervenka@farm-market.net; (254) 983-1002

Facilities Manager: Contact Kent Laza, Chairman

Caretakers: Robert
(rschlechte@hotmail.com) & Cathleen
(schlechte86@msn.com) Schlechte;
(979) 324-5560 or (979) 255-8266.

Synodical Committee Oversight:
Rev. Whitney Amos.

Hus Encampment Address: 3635 County
Rd. 225, Caldwell, TX 77836;
(979) 272-8176.

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2017-2019)

Rev. James D. Hejl
(Pastor to the Pastors)
Rev. Mark Sebek
Rev. Whitney Amos
Rev. Joe Emerson

Austin Brethren Church Tour

Hosted by Linda and Gary Chandler

October 13 - 24 2018

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Experience Jerusalem, The Galilee, Samaria, Dead Sea, and more on a fantastic tour in October 2018.

Travel throughout Israel, where the Bible comes to life, prophecy is fulfilled, and faith is renewed.

Encounter the Presence of the Lord, meet today's heroes, and fulfill your journey of a lifetime.



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The Author of Your Life

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Who is writing the story of your life?

We almost always give ourselves credit for the accomplishments in our lives.

We almost always assign ourselves credit for the disappointments and hardships in our lives as well.

Who is writing the story of your life?

In the deep waters of spiritual communion, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, three-in-one, we catch glimpses of the reality that it is God who is writing the story of our lives. Notwithstanding this truth, there is the complimentary reality of the synergistic relationship that one possesses with God. Absolutely, we are His created beings. Absolutely, He is the One who is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent. Notwithstanding this reality,

you and I do hold to a certain degree a synergistic relationship with God. Free will is our gift from Him with this life which He has gifted to us. **We are to interact with God: Praying, meditating, absorbing the Holy Bible, gazing at Creation, lovingly serving others, speaking, writing, listening...** In spite of the freedom to make decisions and impact what the Author of our lives includes in our autobiographies, God is God. He is the One who is omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent. God transcends time and space. Even so, God reaches out to us individually and pours His goodness, His love, and His wisdom into us, into our circumstances. God is the Author of your life: Establishing plot twists when necessary, adding chapters by His Grace, introducing new characters to add perspective to your mind...





CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

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

Church email: lifecatcbc@gmail.com

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

www.lifecatcbc.org

Come as you are ...

Friend us on Facebook!

Sunday School
9:30 AM

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

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Unity Members Come Together to Present Easter Cantata



*Members of the Easter Cantata
honoring the Resurrection of Christ.*

Members represent Caldwell, College Station, Cooks Point, New Tabor and Snook Brethren Churches as well as a couple participants from the Community.

Top Row, left to right: Josef Orsak, Joel Mitchell, Rev. Joseph Polasek, Daniel Vojtek, Dr. Ron Dusek

Middle row, left to right: Bettie Poehl, Lynn Blinka, Ann Sebesta, Mary Polasek, Mollie Marsh

Bottom Row, left to right: Lynette Urbanovsky, Bonnie Chandler, Anna Wotipka, Barbara Drgac, Gail Urbanovsky, Martha Huffman

Editor's note: The following article was originally published in the April 2017 Industry Brethren Church Newsletter. Reprinted by permission.

All About Easter

- by Liz Treybig

Everyone knows that Easter falls on different dates during various years, but do you know how that is determined? Sometimes Easter is early, as in March, and other years late, like this year when it is in the middle of April (April 16). It starts with Lent, which is a 40-day period beginning on Ash Wednesday. Maundy Thursday is the day signified by the Last Supper Jesus shared with His Apostles in the year 33AD. Crucifixion has been determined to be about April 3, 33AD. (This is also the day that an eclipse was taking place.) Easter always is a Sunday. The First Council of Nicaea in 325AD decided that the first Sunday after the full moon of Passover (around same time of the Last Supper) would be Easter. It is the 14th day of the lunar month, since full moon is different days in different time zones. It takes place on the full moon after the Spring Equinox, called the Paschal Moon. In 2018, Easter will be on April 1.

Some churches light candles starting on Easter Eve (midnight) to show that Jesus is the "light of the world". He rose to life on Easter Day (Resur-

rection) to rid the work of darkness of evil. In Greece fireworks are used to start Easter services. Flowers fill the church to represent new life. Priests wear their brightest/best robes. In Italy, the Pope holds a large mass or communion in St. Peter's Square in Vatican City. Some churches hold sunrise services.

Eggs and chicks are related to Easter because in Pagan times they were signs of fertility and new life. Christians took over the meaning of new life to remember the Resurrection and new life through Jesus from the Pagan custom in later years.

In Russia in the early 20th Century, eggs were made of gold and white emerald. Inside one that Alexander III gave to his wife, there was a golden hen with ruby eggs. Inside the hen there was a tiny golden crown. Faberge made these eggs in following years with different designs, and each had a surprise in it. These eggs are very expensive and kept in royal collections.

Egg rolling races are also held down hills in some places for Easter. Eggs were used by ancient Persians



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Diane Heckman, Manager

and Egyptians to celebrate the New Year, which was in spring. In Hungary and Romania, wooden eggs are beautifully painted in different patterns which have special names and meanings to tell the Easter story. Egg knocking games are played in Germany, France, Norway, and Syria. It uses hard-boiled eggs and is a kind of game of “conkers”. The object is to hit everyone’s egg, but keep yours unbroken.

Bonfires are set on hillsides in Europe on Easter Eve also. This is done in places outside Austin also. Germany celebrates the holiday with children off from school for three weeks, and no one works on Good Friday, Easter Saturday, or Easter.

In France, church bells do not ring for three days, and then on Easter there is a major celebration in the country and the bells all ring.

In Hungary, boys sprinkle perfume or cologne on young ladies’ heads and ask for a kiss.

In Brazil, they make straw dolls to represent Judas and hang them in the streets and beat them.

In Sweden, children dress up as Easter witches with long skirts, painted

faces, and colorful head scarfs. They go house to house and exchange paintings for goodies. Kind of like our Halloween in the US.

In Indonesia, statues are carried through the streets and men consider it an honor to carry them.

In the Czech Republic, on Easter Monday men spank women with hand-made whips made of willow and decorated ribbons. Willow is believed to be the first tree to green in the Spring. The willow is believed to transfer fertility to the lady. It is all done in a playful and good-time-fun way. No harm is done.

In Florence, Italy, decorated wagons are dragged through the streets with white oxen, and when they get to the church and Gloria is sang inside, the Archbishop sends a dove-shaped rocket into the cart and ignites it to make a large firework display for everyone.

In Washington, DC, the annual Easter egg roll (since the early 19th Century) is held on the White House lawn on Easter Monday, with children rolling colored hard-boiled eggs with a large serving spoon down the hill.

Native items were used to color

eggs many years ago. Spinach leaves were used to make the color green, beet root was used for red, tea bags for dark brown, onion skins on white eggs makes yellow/gold and on brown eggs it makes rusty red, red cabbage makes light red, purple cabbage on white eggs makes blue and on brown eggs makes green, beets make pink on white eggs and maroon on brown eggs, turmeric makes yellow on white eggs, and red Zinger tea makes lavender.

So, no matter what type of celebration you have for Easter... the celebration of Life Everlasting is the reason to celebrate and to give “thanks” for Jesus’s sacrifice. Go and celebrate the Resurrection this Easter! Praise the Lord!

Mutual Aid Convention Invitation

The Administrative Board of the Mutual Aid Society extends an invitation to all Ministers, Delegates, and Members of the Society to attend its 65th Biennial Convention to be held Saturday, July 21, 2018, at the Taylor Brethren Church. A warm welcome is extended to visitors who would like to observe the proceedings. We also ask you to remember this gathering in your prayers.

Rev. Joseph J. Polasek
President

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

David Sebek

3910 Red Ranger Rd.
Temple, TX 76501
(254) 985-2578

Youth Director

Jennifer Chervenka

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

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

23383 Milam Road
Burlington, TX 76519
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SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

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Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

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Bible Study – Each Tuesday, 9:00-10:00 AM

Pastor

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P.O. Box 54
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Board of Elders President

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