

# THE BRETHREN



# JOURNAL



Vol. 117

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No. 10

40 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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The Brethren Journal, 705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836.



## **New Tabor Brethren Church Celebrates 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

*Present and past members, along with family and friends, stand outside the New Tabor Church after services celebrating the 125th Anniversary of its organization (see story inside this issue).*

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

**TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!!**

**New Tabor Church Celebrates 125 Years**

*Their Heart's Desire . . .* by Jim Pokorny

*The Cornerstone . . .* by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

**A Beautiful Life Women's Campference Information**

*Our Tie to Isreal is Supernatural . . .* by David Miller

**... and much, much more!**

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## Hus Camp Needs Your Help Can We Count On You?

### – The Need –

Due to continued growth and demand for summer youth camps, and a desire to make the Hus Encampment more accessible for groups of all ages, our **current facilities are in need of renovation or replacement to accommodate the needs of our mission.**

### – The Solution –

**ALPHA - Phase A (Complete)**

**Kitchen Renovation/Expansion**

**Waste Water Treatment System**

These projects were funded and completed in June 2018

**DREAM BIG - Phase B (Current Phase)**

**Main Building/Dining Hall Renovation**

Renovation of the Entire Main Building to Include the Addition of Restrooms

Cost & Status: Final design and fundraising are in progress for this \$380,000 renovation →

## FUTURE PHASES - Phases C, D, E (Conceptual Designs Complete)

### New Dorm/Housing Construction

Addition of a new multi-purpose, ADA compliant housing facility for approximately 200 guests.

### Outdoor Gym/Pavilion Common Space

Multi-purpose common space located between the proposed new housing structures.

### Parking & Walkways

Designated parking and accessible walkways throughout the campus to maximize space and ensure safety.

### Repurposing of Old Boys' Dorm

Utilization of the existing Boys' Dorm as a recreation/craft area.

## How Can I Help?

### – Be A Friend to the Hus Camp –

Show your support and receive current information about what's going on at the Hus Camp. Seimply email your contact information (Name, Mailing Address, Email Address & Phone Number) to: Suzie Dusek at [sdusek5@gmail.com](mailto:sdusek5@gmail.com)

## 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 (PO Box  
163, Caldwell, TX 77836) – A Home  
Mission Project since 10-22-11 – Sunday  
School at 11:00 AM; Fellowship Lunch  
at Noon; Worship at 1:00 PM.  
– Rev. Kay Polasek  
Co-Pastor, 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

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 – worship at  
10:30 AM every Sunday.  
– Pastor Lisa Johnson

# Fayetteville Brethren Church

**Sunday School 9:30 am**  
**Worship 10:30 am**

**Pastor – Rev. Joe Emerson**  
**P.O. Box 1295**  
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**(254) 931-1653**

[FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org](http://FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org)

*“Site of the First Czech  
Protestant Preaching  
in Texas - 1855”*



**1022 Kramr Rd at Ross Prairie Church Road**  
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20. Christ Jesus became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption. I Corinthians 1:30
21. I the Lord will speak the word that I speak, and it will be fulfilled. Ezekiel 12:25a
22. You know me, O Lord; and you examine my heart's attitude toward you. Jeremiah 12:3a (NASB)
23. **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let Your face shine, that we may be saved. Psalm 80:19**
24. An angel of the Lord said to Joseph, "...Mary shall bear a son, and you are to name Him Jesus, for He will save the people from their sins." Matthew 1:20, 21
25. The law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. John 1:17
26. He has gained renown by His wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. Psalm 111:4
27. With God we shall do valiantly, and it is He Who will tread down our adversaries. Psalm 60:12
28. Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory. Revelation 19:6,7a
29. Our heart is glad in the Lord, because we trust in His holy name. Psalm 33:21
30. **He awakens me morning by morning. He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple. Isaiah 50:4 (NASB)**
31. I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38, 39

### **Knesek Family Funeral Chapels**



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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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Jennifer Chervenka, Ocker (2017),  
(254) 983-1002; [jennchervenka@farm-market.net](mailto: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](mailto:agsnelgrove@hotmail.com)

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

**Facilities Manager:** Contact Kent Laza,  
Chairman

**Caretakers:** Robert  
([rschlechte@hotmail.com](mailto:rschlechte@hotmail.com)) & Cathleen  
([schlechte86@msn.com](mailto: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.

**KUBENA Funeral Home**  
**507 South Main St.**  
Hallettsville, Texas 77946  
Pre-Arranged Funerals  
Phone 361-798-3271

## **- Make A Monthly/Yearly Donation -**

**On Line** - [huscamp.org](http://huscamp.org) (click on the donate label for credit card info)

**Bank Draft** - for a recurring monthly bank draft, email James  
Marek, [james@cnbt.com](mailto:james@cnbt.com), or call 512-352-6165.

**By Mail** - make checks payable to Hus Camp Buliding Fund and  
maile to Todd Corporon, 5350 CR124, Georgetown, TX 78626

## **- Volunteer to Serve -**

**Special Events/Fundraising    Social Media    Church Presen-  
tations    Work Days    Publicity**

Get involved by volunteering to serve on a Hus Camp Committee  
Simply Email or call us to find out more about working on behalf of  
the Hus Camp with one of these groups.

James Marek: [james@cnbt.com](mailto:james@cnbt.com) (or) 512-352-6165  
Rick Weise: [weise.rick@aol.com](mailto:weise.rick@aol.com) (or) 325-656-2620

## **- Join the Hus Camp Prayer Team -**

Become a Hus Camp prayer warrior by signing up to be on our  
prayer team. Whenever prayers are needed at the camp, you will  
be notified by email about the prayer request.

To join the team, simply email your contact information  
(Name, Mailing Address, Email Address & Phone Number) to:

**[husprayer@gmail.com](mailto:husprayer@gmail.com)**

Glenda Laza Moreland &  
Kathy Simcik Harris

#### **Unity Archivist**

Clint Machann

[c-machann@tamu.edu](mailto:c-machann@tamu.edu)

979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

#### **ADERHOLD**

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*"Thoughtful Service -  
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West, Texas  
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## 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.

## DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

### Daily Morsels for December 2018

By Mari-Anne K. Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

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

1. Forgive the iniquity of this people according to the greatness of Your steadfast love. Numbers 14:19
2. **As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease. Genesis 8:22**
3. Do not be afraid of sudden panic, or of the storm that strikes the wicked, for the Lord will be your confidence. Proverbs 3:25, 26
4. I will look with favor upon you and make you fruitful and multiply you; and I will maintain My covenant with you. Leviticus 26:9
5. You rule the raging of the sea; when its waves rise, You still them. Psalm 89:9
6. The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. II Corinthians 3:17
7. Bring me out of prison, so that I may give thanks to Your name. Psalm 142:7a
8. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Psalm 84:3
9. **Think of us in this way: as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. I Corinthians 4:1**
10. I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no one shall make you afraid. Leviticus 26:6a
11. God reconciled us to Himself through Christ and has given us the ministry of reconciliation. II Corinthians 5:18
12. Christ says, "I am the Vine, you are the branches. He who abides in me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:4
13. Indeed the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12
14. Do not take the word of truth out of my mouth, for my hope is in Your ordinances. Psalm 119:43
15. If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself. II Timothy 2:13
16. **Be strong, do not fear! Your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you. Isaiah 35:4**
17. I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to My chosen people. Isaiah 43:20b
18. We know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the perfect comes, the imperfect will come to an end. I Corinthians 13:9,10
19. The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. Psalm 50:1

### 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 Skrivaneck*  
Secretary  
P.O. Box 1605  
Bellaire, TX 77402  
(832) 930-8061

## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT WEDDINGS

MALLORY STRMISKA and ADAM TALLAS of Taylor were united in marriage on August 18, 2018, on the cabin deck of Mallory's grandparents, Ken and Paulette McConchie, in Red River, New Mexico.

### RECENT DEATHS

BETAK, SR., CHARLIE LEE, was born on Wednesday, November 28, 1928, and departed this earthly life on Wednesday, September 19, 2018, at the age of 89 years, 9 months, and 22 days. Charlie loved his barbecue, fishing, camping, dominos, polka music, gambling in Louisiana, and spending time with family and friends. He is preceded in death by parents Lee and Lucy Betak, brothers James and Roy Betak, and his wife of 33 years, Patsy. Charlie is survived by wife Margie; children Charlie Jr. and wife Linda, Carolyn, David, Linda Gootman and husband Wallace, Doug Johle and wife Maricela, Ronnie O'Brien and wife Stacey, Craig O'Brien and wife Sandy, and Angela Sweet and husband Paul; numerous loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and brothers, Edward and wife Sharon and Ray and wife Gloria. Visitation was Sunday, September 23, 2018, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and a Funeral Service was on Monday, September 24, 2018, at 10 a.m. at Condra Funeral Home in Taylor, Texas. Charlie was laid to rest after services in the Taylor City Cemetery in Taylor, Texas.

KOTRLA, MARY ANN, age 91, of Taylor passed away peacefully on September 14, 2018, at the SPJST skilled nursing facility. She was born August 8, 1927, to Vince and Alice Shiller Faltese near Thrall, Texas, where she also attended school. On May 7, 1960, Mary was united in marriage to Edwin Kotrla at the Taylor Brethren Church, and was blessed with 38 years of happiness. Prior to her marriage, Mary was a cosmetologist, and afterwards devoted her time being a mother, homemaker, and farmer's wife. Mary's life will be lovingly remembered for her kindness, gentleness, and Christian spirit. Mary was preceded in death by husband Edwin Kotrla, her parents, brothers

Tom, Vince, and Jerry Faltese. Her survivors are sons Larry Kotrla and Edwin Kotrla, Jr. Also surviving are brothers Ben Faltese (Sue), Alvin Faltese (Sandy), and sister Alice Bracewell; sisters-in-law Margie Faltese, Kathy Faltese, Dorothy Kotrla, and Evelyn Bouska; and numerous nieces and nephews. Mary was a lifetime, deeply committed and faithful member of the Taylor Brethren Church. She belonged to the Christian Sisters of the church, and also was a member of SPJST Lodge 29, Taylor. A visitation was held on September 18, 2018, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Providence Funeral Home, Taylor, Texas. The funeral service was at the Taylor Brethren Church, 710 Sloan St., Taylor on Wednesday, September 19, at 11 a.m. Burial followed at the Taylor City Cemetery.

#### BYF LEADERSHIP TEAM 2017-2018

##### Youth:

Allyson Cocker  
[allycocke@yahoo.com](mailto:allycocke@yahoo.com)  
Jordan Eilers  
[eilers.js@gmail.com](mailto:eilers.js@gmail.com)  
Kelton Hooker  
[Keltonhooker@yahoo.com](mailto:Keltonhooker@yahoo.com)  
Grace Jungmann  
[grace.jungmann99@gmail.com](mailto:grace.jungmann99@gmail.com)  
Taylor Krcha  
[krcha1998@gmail.com](mailto:krcha1998@gmail.com)  
Philip McSorley  
[Mcsorley.philip@gmail.com](mailto:Mcsorley.philip@gmail.com)  
Colton Machu  
[coltonmachu@icloud.com](mailto:coltonmachu@icloud.com)  
Reed Olsen  
[Rolsen1776@gmail.com](mailto:Rolsen1776@gmail.com)  
Montgomery Raesz  
[mogom16@gmail.com](mailto:mogom16@gmail.com)  
Madalynn Woelfel  
[madwoefel@gmail.com](mailto:madwoefel@gmail.com)

##### Adults:

Taylor Brinkley  
[taylorbrinkley@yahoo.com](mailto:taylorbrinkley@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  
[awotipka58@yahoo.com](mailto:awotipka58@yahoo.com)

##### Pastor:

Rev. Whitney Amos  
[chatney@aol.com](mailto:chatney@aol.com)

##### Unity Youth Coordinator:

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

## New Tabor Church Celebrates 125th Anniversary with Homecoming Event



Members of New Tabor Brethren Church held their 125th Anniversary and Homecoming celebration on Sunday, October 14, at the church.

The day began with a service at 10 a.m. led by Rev. David Johnson. The service featured special music, songs sung in Czech, the sacrament of Holy Communion and much more.

A barbecue meal was served at noon along with Czech pastries for dessert. Czech music played during lunch and a bucket raffle of unique items was offered, including a pew from the church that was auctioned off. One highlight was the special display of photos of the church and its members past and present.

The history of the New Tabor Brethren Church had its beginning in 1870, when the Czech settlers began

arriving in this small community located about three miles east of Caldwell. This was the first Czech-Moravian settlement in Burleson County. Some of these settlers came directly from Czechoslovakia and Moravia, while others settled in Wesley (Washington County) first and later came to New Tabor. These people had come to America for the purpose of seeking freedom of worship, so it was only natural that soon after the community was established, they began making plans for conducting worship services in the faith of their forefathers, the Evangelical Czech-Moravian Brethren.

At first, they met only about twice a year for community services in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Josef Macat,





with the men of the community taking turns conducting the services. This continued from 1870-1877, the year which Rev. L. J. Chlumsky, who at that time was serving the church in Wesley, was called to conduct the services. He accepted and fulfilled the call until 1881.

By the year 1881, a public-school building had been built, and the worship services were held there. From 1881-1893, Rev. Henry Juren of Fayette County served as pastor for the community services. Rev. L. L. Chlumsky and Rev. Henry Juren each came to serve only two or three times a year, and laymen served between these visits. Services continued to be held in the public-school building until 1893.

In the year 1893, the church congregation was officially organized under the guidance of Rev. Adolph Chlumsky and became known as the Evangelical Brethren Church. It was the first of the Brethren congregations organized in this community and the ninth of its kind in the State of Texas. Twelve elders were elected to conduct the affairs of the new church. These were Joe F. Nedbalek, Josef Macat, Frank Stefka, Josef

Stalmach, Tomas Kubin, Josef Skrivanek, Jan Machan, Vinc Balcar Jr., P.J. Skrabanek, Jan Skrabanek, Frank Haisler and Frank Marek. By this time the congregation was composed of some 40 families.

Inadequate space in the school building forced the congregation to plan for a building of its own. The members decided to conduct a building fund campaign, with three members contacting the regular members for donations while others spread out in the surrounding communities asking for help. Most of the settlers were in adverse circumstances financially, but they made contributions of labor and cotton as well as cash, each according to his ability.

A total of \$2,000 was collected in cash, and the family of Frank Skrivanek, Sr., donated a plot of ground. Members began hauling lumber in wagons from Brenham free of charge, each trip taking from three to four days. Joe Havel, Sr., was the general contractor, and other members worked as a building crew without charge. The completed building was built at a total cost of \$2,850.

This first church building was formally dedicated to the Lord on Octo-

## 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.

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Board President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>James D. Hejl</i>	<i>Bryan Holubec</i>	<i>Mary Kokes</i>
<i>512-365-6890</i>	<i>512-922-5470</i>	<i>M-Th 8 a.m.-noon</i>

## 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, 512-468-2396, [sandrainaustin@yahoo.com](mailto:sandrainaustin@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: Eugene Haisler, 19081 Cyclone Branch Road, Burlington, TX 76519, 254-985-2316

New Tabor #13: Connie Surovik, 1701 St Hwy 21 E, Caldwell, TX 77836, [conniesurovik76@gmail.com](mailto:conniesurovik76@gmail.com)

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, [jjskrabanek@aol.com](mailto:jjskrabanek@aol.com)

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

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

Westheimer #22: Betty J. Parthum, 3620 Ave O, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 713-826-7993, [betty.parthum@yahoo.com](mailto:betty.parthum@yahoo.com)

Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Drive, 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: Brenda Schroeder, 4193 FM 696, Caldwell, TX 77836, [bschroeder@caldwellisd.net](mailto:bschroeder@caldwellisd.net)

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

\*\*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

B/CS #34: Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, [natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com](mailto:natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com)

\*\*Position currently filled by Administrative Board members

### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chair: Peggy Hejl – Taylor Brethren, (512) 365-6890, [peggyhejl@gmail.com](mailto:peggyhejl@gmail.com)

Debbie Clark – (2014) Crosby Brethren

Angie Hairrell – (2011) Snook Brethren

Sandra Merz – (2016) Nelsonville

Rev. Vanessa Mitchell (2017)

Suzie Dusek – (2017) Wall

Jennifer Chervenka – Youth Coordinator, Ocker Brethren

Synodical Liaison – Rev. Whitney Amos, 3rd Vice-President, [chatney@aol.com](mailto:chatney@aol.com)



**MY HEART BEATS FOR JESUS  
YOUTH WINTER RETREAT  
JANUARY 5-6, 2019**

**Hus School Encampment  
Ages 6<sup>th</sup> grade (min age 11)- age 21**

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Info and forms at  
[www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org](http://www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org)**

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**To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .**

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

Kent Laza  
4913 FM 166  
Caldwell, TX 77836  
(979) 220-1957  
[Kent.laza@verizon.net](mailto:Kent.laza@verizon.net)

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

ber 15, 1893, with Rev. Adolph Chlumsky and the Rev. Henry Juren participating in the dedicatory service. The large number of people who attended assembled first in the schoolhouse, and then went by procession to the new building, where the church key was presented to the pastor by Emilie Pollock (Mrs. John St. Wrba). One feature of the dedication service was the presentation of special songs by a choir that had traveled from the Wesley church.

In that same year, 27 young people were received into the church membership by the rite of confirmation. A free-will offering taken was used to buy an organ at a cost of \$71.60. Albina Skrivanek (Mrs. John Dusek) became the first organist and choir director, a service rendered until 1897. With the congregation now fully organized, and ministers more readily available, worship services were being conducted on a monthly basis.

In 1897, Rev. Adolph Chlumsky discontinued serving the church, so Rev. Anton Motycka of Nelsonville was called. He accepted and served until 1899. Between 1899 and 1905, Rev. B. O. Kubricht, Rev. A. V. Koukol, Rev. Adolph Chlumsky, and Rev. Henry

Juren were called to serve on a temporary basis, but in 1905 Rev. Anton Motycka again became pastor and continued to serve until his death in the fall of 1935.

At this point a new era was begun in the life of the church, when Rev. F. J. Kostohryz was called. He was baptized and confirmed in the New Tabor church and had taught Sunday school and was active among the young people. He was the first young man from New Tabor to enter the ministry, and was now being called back to be pastor of his home congregation. He began serving in 1936 and served as the Czech pastor until his death in August 1971. During this period, Mrs. Kostohryz was organist for all his services and assisted in training all the confirmation classes.

In 1898, the women of the church bought a bell for the church at a cost of \$70.15. It was placed in the belfry and dedicated in October of 1898. By 1899, there were about 150 families of the Evangelical Brethren faith in the community, and the average attendance at worship services was about 250 people. In 1899, the Sunday school was organized with Joseph Siptak, Sr.,



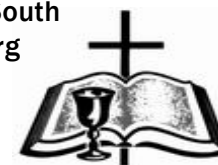
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2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South

[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)**

as the first teacher.

In August of 1915, a tornado struck the community and demolished the church building and all its furnishings. Being a complete loss, the members of the congregation immediately set to work clearing the debris and rebuilding.

The second building was dedicated on October 15, 1951. The community was becoming more populated, and church membership was increasing. More space was needed, so in 1921 the congregation decided to add an extension to the building. This enlarged building was used until October of 1953, when it was torn down and rebuilt. The school property adjacent to the church was no longer used, so it was purchased and the material used. This third building, which now included a fellowship room, Sunday school room, and kitchen, was dedicated on May 30, 1954. Many families of the congregation had placed memorials in the new sanctuary in honor or memory of their loved ones. The present church building is still in the same spot where the first church was built in 1893 and the same lumber was used in rebuilding it that was used in the church built in 1915.

In 1915, the Independent Unity of the Brethren Churches was formed in a meeting held in the New Tabor church.

In 1919, during a state convention of all Czech-Moravian Brethren Churches in Texas held in the New Tabor Church, the Evangelical Unity of the Czech-Moravian Brethren Churches was formed, resulting in a combination of churches into a unified denomination.

The congregation donated one acre of land on July 2, 1971, for the establishment of the New Tabor Brethren Cemetery just north of the church building.

The Sunday school had grown to the point that more room was necessary, so an extension was added which included five Sunday school rooms, a recreation room, hall, and a storage room.

Improvements were made to the church facilities such as refurbishing the chancel and the sanctuary, installing central heating and air-conditioning, paneling the fellowship room, carpeting the sanctuary, and paving the parking area.

On October 1, 1993, the church celebrated its centennial anniversary

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

#### Pastor

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

#### Board of Elders President

Justin Lewis  
P.O. Box 222  
Snook, TX 77878  
(979) 220-4732

#### Youth Directors

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

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## Seaton BC Sausage Supper Invitation

The Seaton Brethren Church annual sausage supper fundraiser will be held Saturday, February 16, 2019, beginning at 3 p.m. until the sausage is gone. The menu consists of home-made pork sausage, sauerkraut, new potatoes, seasoned green beans, bread, homemade desserts and tea or coffee. Dine in or drive-thru plates will be available for \$10 each.

The **LOCATION** of the supper is at **Seaton Star Hall**, 10842 State Hwy. 53, Temple (Seaton). There will be a bake sale consisting of kolaches, pies, cakes, strudels, other baked goods & jellies; a raffle and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the ministry of the church, community and other projects. The public is invited.

## Matching Technology Grant Program

The Synodical Committee approved an application for a Matching Technology Grant for all Unity churches. Churches may apply for a matching grant up to \$1,000. This is to assist churches who are seeking to enhance their worship experience through the use of technology and A/V equipment.

The deadline to apply for a grant is December 31, 2020. The application can be found on the Unity website at [UnityoftheBrethren.org](http://UnityoftheBrethren.org), Contact Us – click on Forms. If you need one mailed to you, please contact the Unity Secretary, Angie Hairrell. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Executive Committee.

Visit the  
Unity of the Brethren  
Website:  
[unityofthebrethren.org](http://unityofthebrethren.org)

### FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

#### Chairman:

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; 512-247-8019, [arcuba188@yahoo.com](mailto:arcuba188@yahoo.com)

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

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

Open seat (2017-2019)

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

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

**Synodical Committee Liason (First Vice-President:** Rev. Mark Sebek; 254-931-2000

#### Advisors:

Rev. Lawrence & Barbara June (Unity at large)

#### Missionaries:

Robert & Anne Thiessen  
Phil & Eunice Raiford  
Pastor Pavel & Stana Kozak

This board shall be comprised of 7 qualified members: Chairperson (elected by the Convention) and 6 other members appointed by the Synodical Committee. The liaison is a non-voting position. Term of office is 2 years, subject to re-election or re-appointment for a maximum of 4 terms or 8 years. (Art. XV, Section A.1.)

with morning worship and an afternoon program and social.

In 1994, the church built its own parsonage for the pastor in Copperas Hollow in Caldwell.

In 1998 a new stand-alone family fellowship building was built to better serve the growing congregation for social events.

In 2005, the new church sign marquee was donated in honor of Dennis Marek by his family and by the family of Theodore Dusek and placed in front of the church beside the front roadway.

In 2010, a major remodeling of the old fellowship room and Sunday school classrooms began, and in the process of the work some major structural issues were discovered which resulted in the doubling of the cost of the project. New front entry doors to the church foyer were dedicated in honor of Johnny Stefka by his family. The recreation room was remodeled into a family gathering room for families to be more comfortable at funeral services and used for pre-wedding gathering and smaller meeting events. The project was completed in 2011.

In 2013 the church celebrated its 120th Anniversary with Czech music, lunch, and many other activities. In 2014 a local food ministry was started for the residents at Burleson County Heights Apartments. Each month members of the congregation donate food items to reach out to those in need. The mission is to find a need and meet it, find a hurt and heal it.

The church continues to be an enthusiastic participant in CAMA (Caldwell Area Ministers Alliance), participating in various activities such as community revivals, praying for

the schools, school assemblies on character and quality decision choices and the annual Baccalaureate event for CHS graduates.

Earlier this year (2018), the church completed a remodel of the entire sanctuary. This remodel included painting, carpeting, lighting, and extending the platform area as well as upgrading the audio/visual capabilities of the church. New granite countertops were installed in the Fellowship Building with funds provided by memorial donations in memory of Albert Surovik, Sr.

Everyone is invited to come to visit and see the newly renovated sanctuary. The members appreciate all who came out and continue to support the New Tabor Brethren Church in their effort to help others and to continue making the history of their church.

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE

*"Bear ye one another's  
burdens*

*And so fulfill the Law of  
Christ."* (Gal. 6:2)

## THE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

Rev. Joseph J. Polasek, President  
Daniel Vojtek, Vice-President  
Natalie Outlaw, Gen. & Jr. Dept.

Secretary

Ruth Ann Wuensche, Treasurer  
Dorothy Hinson, Board Member  
Ann Sebesta, Board Member  
Synodical Liaison: Kayla Marek,

## Their Hearts' Desire

- by Jim Pokorny

Collectively speaking, my Sunday school class is known as "The Encouragers." I have been privileged enough to lead this class for the last few years, and spending time with my students is something I look forward to each week.

We take up a weekly offering which we utilize for things like VBS, church projects, and community outreach programs, to name a few. Along with these, there is an ongoing program we have been a part of since its inception – the purchasing of Bibles for believers around the world in each recipient's language. As I write this, we have purchased 795 Bibles to date, and the program has distributed almost 3.6 million worldwide.

This is an impressive figure, but what makes it even more impressive is that the organizers of this effort felt that if 10,000 Bibles were financed, the program would have been deemed a success. When the program reached the one million mark, a letter was sent to participants in gratitude. Included was a phrase that I will never forget: "But God blew the doors off our feeble faith."

Our Bibles have made their way into 17 countries. Listed in descending order of Bibles purchased are China, India, Vietnam, Colombia, Egypt, Indonesia, Cuba, Nepal, North Korea, Nigeria, Burma, Ethiopia, Hmong, Iran, Mexico, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. We have learned a great deal about the persecution Christians in these regions face. In many cases, revealing the fact that you are Christian makes

life difficult. In some cases the consequences can prove lethal.

In places such as China and Egypt, Christianity is legal. The Chinese government influences what can be taught and preached from the pulpit. Books of the Bible dealing with prophecy are "discouraged". Those who seek complete truth gather in independent "house churches", which the government has openly declared illegal. When discovered, these house churches are typically demolished. Its leadership is often arrested.

In Egypt, the situation is better, but not much. Although Christianity is legal, Christians find themselves deemed second class citizens. This makes it extremely difficult for them to find employment or get married.

On the other end of this spectrum are countries that are openly hostile toward Christians.

Take India, for example. It currently has the largest Hindu population in the world. Throughout much of its history, India has had a strong Muslim presence, as well. Assuming trends continue, it could eventually have the largest Muslim population as well. Despite Hinduism's vast presence and Islam's growing influence, one thing is becoming quite clear. There is a growing curiosity about Jesus. That said, there is clear opposition both to the gospel and those who share it. The government is openly asking foreign Christians to leave the country to bolster its Hindu nationalism. Hindu radicals have turned to beating Christians, burning Bibles,

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 15 – College "Hey" Day

January 5-6 – Winter Retreat (forms due December 15)

February 23 – Children's Rally (forms due February 1)

March 16-17 – Spring Retreat (forms due March 1)

April 6 – College "Hey" Day



## State BYF 2017-2018 Wrap Up

Our theme for 2017-2018 was Covered by God's Grace. The Fall Retreat was September 16-17, 2017, and the Winter Retreat was January 6-7, 2018. Who doesn't love to come and hang out at the camp and grow closer to God with good friends, good food, and good fellowship? The youth have focused on faults, flaws, and failures and the sufficiency of God's grace to cover them all.

In the fall, we admitted that we tend to criticize and judge others more than seek to recognize the sin in our own lives. With studies from Matthew, James, and 3 John, we determined that we are all God's children, and he loves us equally. Our words and actions towards others can build or tear down God's kingdom.

In January we dug into the book of Romans to look at ourselves and our own struggle with sin. Paul talks about the struggle between our sinful nature and the Holy Spirit that dwells inside of us. He reminds us that Christ

died to set us free and that God has a greater glory awaiting us in heaven.

God's grace is great enough to cover all our faults, flaws, and failures. His love is never-ending and never-failing, and nothing can separate us from it.

The BYF year wrapped up in July with summer worship, BYF convention, and State Volleyball Tournament. The convention began at 8:30 a.m. During the business meeting, the constitution was amended, and the leadership team for 2018-2019 was elected. After the convention, worship began at 11 a.m. with a reminder that Jesus's death on the cross was both something we grieve and something we celebrate. His death was torture and gruesome, yet it brought us victory over sin and death. We celebrated with Holy Communion. The tournament followed. After a hot day, long night, and some of the wee morning hours, Snook took 1st, Ocker 2nd, and Wall 3rd.



and killing pastors, knowing that regional authorities will likely look the other way.

In North Korea, being a Christian has fatal consequences. I recall watching a video taken on a cell phone that was somehow smuggled out of the country. The government learned of a man who was evangelizing in his village. Early one morning, the military entered this village in strength. The entire village was forced to witness this man's execution by firing squad. The deed done, an officer stood up in his vehicle and warned all the villagers through a megaphone: "This is what happens to fools! Do not be a fool!" North Koreans who manage to get Bibles go to tremendous efforts to memorize it. To have one found in their possession guarantees an automatic death sentence.

One of the most moving stories I encountered came out of Iran. A young

man and his friends were given free reign by local religious leaders to enforce their interpretation of Islam. He admitted this "honor" quickly deteriorated into just an excuse to throw their weight around. Having heard that someone had converted to Christianity, the young man confronted him alone. The accused denied nothing. In fact, he used this as an opportunity to share Christ with the young man. His faith and bravery eventually swayed the young man, who turned his life over to Christ, as well. He is now among the persecuted. Several unsuccessful attempts on his life have been made.

These are but a few of the stories we as a class have shared. With each monthly purchase, we pray for the safety of the recipients and for their courage to share what we sometimes take for granted.

### 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](mailto:rev.tjt@gmail.com)

Church: [wallbrethren@gmail.com](mailto:wallbrethren@gmail.com)

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

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

*President*  
*Board of Elders*  
Lance LaBedelle  
325-227-9900

*Pastor/Director of Youth*  
*and Young Family Ministries*  
Ryan Volkman  
325-213-0671

*Church Office*  
*Secretary*  
Libby Lane  
Tu-F: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

## The Cornerstone

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

What or who is the cornerstone of your life? The centerpiece? The “back-bone”?

Is it work?

Is it your family?

Could it be yourself?

A cornerstone in architectural terms is critical to a building. It is a stone forming a part of a corner or angle in a wall. Until the development of modern construction, a building could not stand without the cornerstone. It was a real support.

In the Gospel of Mark, in the Holy Bible, we witness the reality that this world belongs to God.

**As we strive to build lives for ourselves, are we forgetting that the mission is to build lives that hold Jesus Christ as the Centerpiece, the Cornerstone, the One without whom we cannot stand?**

Listen in on Mark, chapter 12, verses 1-12, from the Holy Bible (NRSV):

***Then Jesus began to speak to them in parables.***

***“A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine***

***press, and built a watchtower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. 2 When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. 3 But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty handed. 4 And again he sent another slave to them; this one they beat over the head and insulted. 5 Then he sent another, and that one they killed. And so it was with many others; some they beat, and others they killed. 6 He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ 7 But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ 8 So they seized him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard. 9 What then will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. 10 Have you not read this scripture: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; 11 this was***

**March 30, 2019 – Spring Synodical Committee meeting** at the Hus Encampment. 8 a.m.: Kolaches & Coffee; 9 a.m.: Meeting begins. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Dr. Larry Koslovsky, [lwkoslo@aol.com](mailto:lwkoslo@aol.com).

**July 11, 12, & 13, 2019 (Thursday, Friday & Saturday) - 68th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren** at Wall Brethren Church. Begins July 11 at 9 a.m. and goes through Friday evening. If there is any unfinished business, we will resume Saturday morning to conclude before lunch. More information will be available soon.

### 2019 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

#### ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-8 years old

Camp Cost: \$250\*

**Camp Date: June 30-July 2**

#### ALPHA

Ages 9-10 years old

Camp Cost: \$350\*

**Camp Date: June 9-13**

#### PIONEER

Ages 11-13 years old

Camp Cost: \$350\*

**Camp Date: June 16-21**

#### DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old

Camp Cost: \$350\*

**Camp Date: June 23-28**

#### CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old

Camp Cost: \$350\*

**Camp Date: July 21-26**

#### HUS SCHOOL

In depth Leadership Program

Ages 16-19

Cost \$550\*\*

**Date: July 7-19**

\*Ages for these camps are subject to change pending board review and approval.

\*\*Camp pricing is under review by the board and may be adjusted.

**For more information about the Hus School Encampment go to:**  
**[www.huscamp.org](http://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](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com). Information must be received by the first day of the month immediately preceding the month of publication.*

## Temple Brethren Church

2202 Birdcreek Drive  
Temple, Texas 76502

(254) 778-8759

[TempleBrethrenChurch.org](http://TempleBrethrenChurch.org)

[tbc@hot.rr.com](mailto:tbc@hot.rr.com)

Rev. Tim Chaplin

(254) 718-6094

[tpch4359@gmail.com](mailto:tpch4359@gmail.com)

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

**December 1, 2018 – Christmas Cantata Performance** at Snook Brethren Church at 6:30 p.m. with fellowship meal following. (See information about the Cantata in this issue.)

**December 7, 2018 – Christmas Cantata Performance** at Snook Brethren Church at 6:30 p.m. with fellowship meal following. (See information about the Cantata in this issue.)

**December 15, 2018 – “Hey! Day” for College Students and Young Adults** at the Hus School Encampment.

**December 16, 2018 – Christmas Cantata Performance** at Copperas Hollow Nursing Home in Caldwell, TX, at 1:30 p.m. (See information about the Cantata in this issue.)

**December 23, 2018 – Christmas Cantata Performance** at CHI St. Joseph Manor Nursing Home in Caldwell, TX, at 1:30 p.m. (See information about the Cantata in this issue.)

**December 25, 2018 – Christmas Day – Joy to the World, the Lord is Born!**

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### SAVE THE DATES...

**January 5-6, 2019 – BYF Winter Retreat** at the Hus School Encampment.

**February 1-3, 2019 – Women’s Campference** at the Hus School Encampment. Look for information coming SOON!

**February 16, 2019 – Seaton Brethren Church Annual Sausage Supper Fundraiser** at Seaton Star Hall, 101842 State Hwy. 53, Temple (Seaton) beginning at 3 p.m. until the sausage is gone. (See invitation in this issue for more information.)

**February 23, 2019 – Children’s Rally** at the Hus School Encampment.

*the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?” 12 When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.*

Is Jesus Christ your Cornerstone, the “backbone” of your life?

Are you trying to build a life for yourself apart from Him?

*“The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; 11 this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?” (Mark 12:10)*

What might God be attempting to build or cultivate in your life?

Is it possible that you may have discounted His will or His wisdom?

When we come to a realization that there is something counter in our

lives to the teachings of Jesus Christ, our response is not best couched in fear, but rather in humble surrender to Jesus in prayer – a surrender that involves allowing oneself to be re-fashioned into an even more effective instrument in this world for the spreading of Jesus Christ’s love to anyone we encounter. What is more, the spreading of this love begins with a simple prayer:

“Jesus, help me to live in a manner that reflects You as my Cornerstone, my Centerpiece, my real support.

“Jesus, be my All.”

So pray.

“Jesus, be my All.”

In Jesus’ Hands,

Right With You,

Sister Vanessa Mitchell

## OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 806, Rogers, TX 76569

Web Address: [www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org](http://www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org)

Church Email: [ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com)

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

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship 10:15 AM

#### *Pastor*

**Dr. Brad Herridge**

(254) 716-2578

[brad.herridge@gmail.com](mailto:brad.herridge@gmail.com)

*Youth Director*  
**Jennifer Chervenka**  
(254) 983-1002

*Cemetery*  
**Sharon Marek**  
(254) 482-0498



## Prime-Timers' 2018 Retreat



The Prime-Timers' 2018 Retreat was held Saturday, October 13, at the Hus Encampment in Caldwell. Although we were fewer in number this year, we were HUGE in spirit.

Brother Ben Kruse from Rosenberg Community Church led us in a 3-session Bible Study of Jesus said, **"Come"**; *Matthew 14:22-33*. Discussion included: A healthy fear of GOD; Recognizing Jesus in a storm, and; Causes that lead us to lose our focus on Jesus.

Retreat attendees were delightfully entertained by Snook SPJST Beseda dancers; 16 youth who form two Beseda circles: SPJST has 6 active youth Beseda circles, two are from Snook and two from New Tabor.

Save the date for The Prime Timers' 25th Retreat; Saturday, October 12, 2019. More information to follow in *The Brethren Journal*.



Dumb, devil-possessed man	Matt. 8:32-33	<a href="https://missionbibleclass.org/new-testament/part1/life-of-christ-middle/healing-of-a-demon-possessed-man/">https://missionbibleclass.org/new-testament/part1/life-of-christ-middle/healing-of-a-demon-possessed-man/</a>
Canaanite woman's daughter	Mark 7:24-30	<a href="https://rfour.org/childrensmessgae_a_39.html">https://rfour.org/childrensmessgae_a_39.html</a>
Boy with devil	Luke 9:38-43	<a href="https://childrensministry.com/jesus-casts-evil-spirits/">https://childrensministry.com/jesus-casts-evil-spirits/</a>
Two blind men	Mark 10:46-52	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/i-want-to-see-jesus.html">https://www.sermons4kids.com/i-want-to-see-jesus.html</a>
Demon possessed man in synagogue	Luke 4:31-37	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/extreme_makeover.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/extreme_makeover.htm</a>
Blind man at Bethsaida	Mark 8:22-16	<a href="http://www.missionarlington.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/LOC08-28-BlindMan.pdf">http://www.missionarlington.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/LOC08-28-BlindMan.pdf</a>
Crippled woman	Luke 13:10-17	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/bent-out-of-shape.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/bent-out-of-shape.htm</a>
Man with dropsy	Luke 14:1-4	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Ten men with leprosy	Luke 17:11-19	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Nobleman's son at Capernaum	John 4:46-54	<a href="https://ministry-to-children.com/bible-lesson-jesus-heals-officials-son-john-446-54/">https://ministry-to-children.com/bible-lesson-jesus-heals-officials-son-john-446-54/</a>
Sick man at the pool of Bethsaida	John 5:1-15	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Man born blind	John 9:1-41	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Raising Jairus' daughter	Luke 8:40-56	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/unwrapped_gift_smith.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/unwrapped_gift_smith.htm</a>
Raising Widow's at Nain	Luke 7:11-17	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/miraculous_turnaround.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/miraculous_turnaround.htm</a>
Raising Lazarus	John 11:1-44	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/savior_who_weeps.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/savior_who_weeps.htm</a>



Miracle	Reference	Activity
Calming the storm	Matt. 8:23-27	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Feeding 5,000	Matt. 14:14-21	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Walking on water	Matt. 14:22-23	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Feeding 4,000	Matt. 15:32-39	<a href="http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/1-7-8-49l.pdf">http://www.apcurriculum.com/dcirfol/1-7-8-49l.pdf</a>
Fish with coin	Matt. 17:24-27	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Fig tree withers	Matt. 21:18-22	<a href="https://www.jw.org/en/publications/books/jesus/final-ministry/cursed-withered-fig-tree-faith/">https://www.jw.org/en/publications/books/jesus/final-ministry/cursed-withered-fig-tree-faith/</a>
Huge catch of fish	Luke 5:4-11	<a href="https://ministry-to-children.com/bible-lesson-fishers-of-men-from-luke">https://ministry-to-children.com/bible-lesson-fishers-of-men-from-luke</a>
Water into wine	John 2:1-11	<a href="http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/-5/bible-themes-miracles.html">http://www.daniellesplace.com/html/-5/bible-themes-miracles.html</a>
Man with leprosy	Luke 5:12-14	<a href="http://www.dltk-bible.com/jesus/healing_of_the_leper-index.htm">http://www.dltk-bible.com/jesus/healing_of_the_leper-index.htm</a>
Roman centurion's servant	Luke 7:1-10	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/faith_is_the_key_group_activities.htm">https://www.sermons4kids.com/faith_is_the_key_group_activities.htm</a>
Peter's mother in law	Mark 1:30-31	<a href="http://www.northwestbible.org/am-site/media/elk-2101214.pdf">http://www.northwestbible.org/am-site/media/elk-2101214.pdf</a>
Two men possessed with devils	Luke 8:27-39	<a href="https://childrensministry.com/jesus-casts-evil-spirits/">https://childrensministry.com/jesus-casts-evil-spirits/</a>
Man with palsy	Mark 2:3-12	<a href="https://www.sermons4kids.com/corner-of-blanket.html">https://www.sermons4kids.com/corner-of-blanket.html</a>
Woman with bleeding	Luke 8:43-48	<a href="http://ministryark.com/lesson/seeking-jesus-childrens-lesson-bleeding-woman/">http://ministryark.com/lesson/seeking-jesus-childrens-lesson-bleeding-woman/</a>
Two blind men	Matt. 9:27-31	<a href="http://foursquare-org.s3.amazonaws.com/medialibrary/Jesus_Heals_Two_Blind_Men_All_.pdf">http://foursquare-org.s3.amazonaws.com/medialibrary/Jesus_Heals_Two_Blind_Men_All_.pdf</a>



*Snook Beseda dancers and members of Snook Brethren Church: 2018 SPJST State Queen Grace Lewis, Colby See, Caleb See, Kyleigh Hruska, J. Beaux Hruska, Riley Green, Josh Green, State Duchess Dakota Kienow, and William See. Additional Snook Beseda Dancers include: Sydney Faust, Kimber Sebesta, MaKenzie Sebesta, Kamree Walker, Tatiana Bates, and Brett Withem. Macy Narro, member of the SPJST New Tabor, of the New Tabor Brethren Church, joined Snook circles to dance at the retreat.*



### Membership Benefits

- Life Insurance
- Annuities
- Family Activities
- Community Involvement
- Youth Activities and Camp
- Scholarships

### Insuring & Enriching Lives

**A fraternal benefit society  
serving Texans  
and their families**

*Call us if you have questions  
about naming your church  
or a Unity of the Brethren  
agency as a beneficiary  
in an existing or new  
SPJST insurance certificate.*

**SPJST**  
**520 NorthMain Street**  
**Temple, Texas 76501**  
**(800) 727-7578**

## Ladies Campference Invitation

# Beautiful LIFE

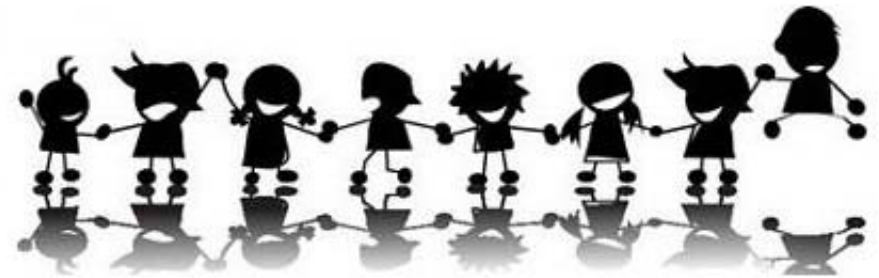
LADIES CAMPFERENCE 2019

Join New Tabor Brethren Church and Life of Love Ministries for a fun and meaningful weekend. Come allow the Lord to convince you of His deep desire to give you a BEAUTIFUL LIFE. Jesus died to give you abundant life, so you could reach your destiny. We want to show you how you can begin a new year with a renewed sense of purpose and the ability to trust the Lord every day.

We're making big plans with interesting workshops, tasty food, heart moving worship, and time in God's Word that we're praying will change your life forever.

Set aside this time for yourself and come see the BEAUTIFUL LIFE God has for you to live... yes, YOU!

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## Sunday School Helper

Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written...

John 21:25



### CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street  
(979) 567-7203

Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, Pastor  
[lajoiededieu@gmail.com](mailto: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: [lifecatcbc@gmail.com](mailto:lifecatcbc@gmail.com)

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

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

*Come as you are...*

*Friend us on Facebook!*

This month our Super Hero is the greatest super hero of all—JESUS! Throughout history, many have claimed to be gods or to know a way to God. But there is only one—Jesus. Jesus is the only one who could perform miracles. The Bible tells of 31 miracles, but there are many more He performed! This month, explore the miracles of **Jesus-our greatest super hero!**



is a bit daunting, after 11 years here, our longest stretch ever in one house and shop.

In October we traveled to Peru to help honor a dozen graduates from their first pastoral training program, which we'd helped to set up. We've been visiting there for two years, and it was uplifting to see this kind of fruit. Anne has written an essay about it and she has also written another article that was just published in the *Anabaptist Witness*, a journal from a sister denominational seminary in Indiana. This is a reflection about partnership in the international Church, especially taking into consideration how different kinds of privilege distort what God intends for us.

Many blessings to all of you.

Robert and Anne

**From Carolyn Groseclose . . .**

**November 2018  
Missionary in Africa**

Greetings from NDO!

As this is being written, we are in the fall semester of school. I am teaching 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade Language

Arts, and I have one boy for 2nd grade Math, then I have Library in the afternoons.

Our school days start at 7:30 a.m. On Saturdays I do the Bible Stories for His Club – if I don't do the stories then I help wash dishes afterwards.

We had quite an exciting time the first part of October – nearly all our boys and most of our girls came down

with the mumps. One little girl, Aster, also had a bad case of tonsillitis. We kept around-the-clock watch on her so she wouldn't stop breathing.

We'll be planning all kinds of festivities and fun things for the children in December as we don't have school. We have school three months and then we're off a month. Our months off are April, August, and December. During these months, trips to the dentist and all kinds of field trips are planned.

For those of you who have been to NDO, you know the problems we have crossing the river when it rains. Well, they've brought in huge machinery and are tearing down the old bridge and putting in a new and hopefully better one.

Praying you have a very Merry and Blessed Christmas Holiday!

Carolyn Groseclose

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## Our Tie to Israel Is Supernatural Greetings from the Foreign Mission Board

- by David Miller

Therefore, in the natural (Satan has influence over the natural) or in worldly views, antisemitism has always been around and always will.

From there, let's back up. The media (Hollywood, network TV, you name it) is desensitizing our sensibilities. My kids (now grown up) tell me I read too much into everything, "Can't you just watch this or read that for the entertainment of it?" Sorry, no! I guess it comes from my reading the Bible, where every word is God breathed and has meaning. I'm compelled to pay attention to details, words, sentences, paragraphs, books, trying to grasp what God wants me to see. So, I can't help the way I watch a movie, or a TV show, or even read. (My wife doesn't want to be in the same room with me when I pick up the newspaper.) But I digress!

"We are in the world, not of the world." This notion is consistent with the teaching of the New Testament, even if it isn't a direct quote.

John 15:19: *"If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."*

John 17:14-16 (Jesus praying to the Father on our behalf): *"I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of*

*the world."*

It seems that Jesus understood the tension we would experience as Christians in this hostile ideological world. We could go many ways with this from here, but back to the purpose of this letter.

"Our tie to Israel is supernatural." In other words, it is God ordained. We are all somewhat familiar with the "Abrahamic Covenant."

Gen. 12:3: *I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

We don't have any problem with the prophetic promise of the Christ through Israel, we Christians are products of that promise. And I could put together a long list in history of the first part of this promise being played out. So, are we beneficiaries of the first part so long as we bless Israel? Yes, and more, as Christians we are now under the Abrahamic Covenant, we are the hands and feet of Christ in the fulfillment of this covenant. We understand this as the "Great Commission."

But to find the God ordained connection between the West and Israel, we have to go back even farther than the Abrahamic Covenant with His people to the blessing of Noah to his sons. (Of course, you can argue whether God will honor the blessing of the righteous man Noah concerning mankind, but as a general rule we see this also reflected in history.)



After the flood (Gen 9:1: *And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.'*") God through Noah and his sons populated the earth. Gen 9:18: *The sons of Noah who went forth from the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth.* (Ham was the father of Canaan.) It is generally taken that Shem's descendants populated Arabia, later to become Israel through Abraham. Ham's descendants settled Canaan and Egypt and south and Japheth went west. In a nut shell, we are descendants of Japheth. Let's look at Noah's blessing over Japheth in Genesis 9:27:

*"May God enlarge Japheth, and let him dwell in the tents of Shem, and let Canaan be his servant."*

God has honored this blessing, the West became large and powerful and we would be sheltered in the house of Israel, we too call Abraham, father. Coincidental relationship or God ordained?

What's this all about? Ever since our partnership with the Woo's mission to China came to an end, the Unity Foreign Mission Board has been seeking another family to partner with. If you know anything about the book of Revelation, there is going to be a lot going on involving Israel and that part of the world. More specifically, Israel making a big move toward Christ. Why wouldn't the Unity of the Brethren be involved? For about a year now your Foreign Mission Board has been developing a relationship with Joel Jelski along with his wife Teresa and son Boaz. We have entered into an agreement to partner with them to help our Lord fulfill the Great Commission in Israel

to both Jews and Arabs. Be looking for more information and newsletters to come!

Thanks Unity of the Brethren for your continued support of the Foreign Missions, because of your generosity we are able to support:

Robert and Anne Thiessen, ministering and evangelizing the Mixtec people of Southern Mexico and training and equipping missionaries in Central America (really world wide);

Phil and Eunice Raiford, a medical mission to the Mixe People group, ministering, evangelizing in southern Mexico;

Pavel and Stania Kozak, ministering and evangelizing to the Czech Republic;

Joel and Teresa Jelski, ministering and evangelizing in Israel, Youth camps and short-term missions.

Also sending maintenance and repair crews to the missions hospital in Ahuas, Honduras. This year, plans to drill a water well (anybody with any kind of experience please call 325-245-5616).

Submitted by David Miller,  
Chairman, Foreign Mission Board

### The Community Christian Church of Rosenberg

**5220 Reading Road  
Rosenberg, TX 77471  
(832) 449-3358**

Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Wednesday Eve. 5:30 PM  
Prayer Service and Bible Study

## In Christ's Love . . . From the Foreign Mission Fields

### From Robert and Anne Thiessen . . .

#### November 2018 Missionaries in Mexico

Dear friends,

You've heard us refer to our work alongside the Mexican mission group, *Sin Fronteras*. These 25 (and growing) dedicated people are focused on bringing the Good News of God's love to indigenous villages where there is still very little presence of the hope and freedom that brings.

We started interacting with them about a dozen years ago, with occasional teachings when Robert was on his way to Guerrero every couple of months. The relationship grew when SF invited Anne to teach a week-long course on Cultural Adaptation and Church Planting in 2009, and most years since. Once we got back from the "cancer year", in 2016, we increased our involvement through *Instituto Voces*, a life-long learning platform for missiological reflection.

Every two or three weeks Anne uploads a 5-page essay, an audio recording of it, and they receive it wherever they are and begin to interact with her and the others in the group about the issue. We've also helped SF implement pastoral training, mentoring and discipling among some of the more established churches in the area.

In September, the founder of SF asked Anne for further help. Most of the missionaries are in villages that still speak a mother tongue other than Spanish. There are many difficulties for outsiders as they learn these pre-Columbian indigenous languages. Both members of SF that were responsible for supervising language learning are moving on to new ministries, and Alejandro asked Anne to fill the gap.

Anne had found that the transition away from high-school teaching left her with a frustrating vacuum, and here was a great way for her to serve even more, in a way that maximizes her gifts and experience.

That means that we are moving in

November. SF is headquartered in Tlaxiaco, about three hours west of us. We are in the process of packing up here and finding a suitable place there. Robert is looking for a shop that will facilitate training some of the missionaries in trades. They are all already bi-vocational, and this would augment that. The packing

