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THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



Vol. 118

April 2019

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.

If you wish to become a special FRIEND OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL, please send your donation to the Business Manager (address inside front cover). These donations are tax deductible.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to
The Brethren Journal, 705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836.



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Press On . . . by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell
The Scholar and the Rabbi . . . by Jim Pokorny
In Christ's Love

. . . and much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Visit the
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unityofthebrethren.org

Matching Technology Grant Program

The Synodical Committee ap-
proved an application for a Match-
ing 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 wor-
ship 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, 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 Execu-
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betty_parthum@yahoo.com



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

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

Yvonne Kovar
P.O. Box 66
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 219-0375

Youth Directors

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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

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

Buckholts – Worship at 9 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 AM; Fellowship Lunch at
Noon; Worship at 1 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
for spiritual resources, events, videos, &
more! Friend us on Facebook!
– Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Crosby – 9 AM: Worship
10 AM: Faith Adventure
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Dime Box – worship at 9 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
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 AM every Sunday
with Sunday School for all ages
following.
– Rev. Joe Emerson

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

New Tabor – Sunday School at 9 AM &
Worship at 10 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 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 –
Sunday: Adult Bible Study and Sunday
School for children at 9 AM; worship at
10:30 AM.
Wednesday: 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.
Sunday School 9 AM every Sunday with
free breakfast every 5th Sunday at 8:30
AM.; Friends Fellowship (seniors) 4th
Tuesday (except Nov. & Dec.) at 2 PM.
– 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 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 AM every Sunday.
Sunday School follows.
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

West – Sunday School at 9 AM and
worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Curtis Holland

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

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

Fayetteville #5: Sandra Stepan, PO Box 145, Fayetteville, TX 78940, 512-468-2396, sandranaustin@yahoo.com

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

Snook #7: Ann Sebesta, Box 115, Snook, TX 77878, 210-244-3362, 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

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

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

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

Rosenberg #21: Cathy Kuritza, 5220 Reading Road, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 281-344-1386, michael-pruett@sbcglobal.net

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

Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Drive, Humble, TX 77346, 281-620-0480, 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

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

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Treasurer: Paige Hearn, 17150 FM 971, Granger, TX 76530. (512) 567-1436; usmcmom@ymail.com

Synodical Committee Liaison: Rev. Whitney Amos, 3rd Vice President

– Make A Monthly/Yearly Donation –

Hus Camp Building Fund

Make your tax deductible donation any way you like . . .

On Line - 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, or call 512-352-6165.

By Mail - make checks payable to Hus Camp Building Fund and mail to Todd Corporon, 5350 CR124, Georgetown, TX 78626

– Volunteer to Serve –

Special Events/Fundraising Social Media Church Presentations 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 (or) 512-352-6165

Rick Weise: 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

Glenda Laza Moreland & Kathy Simcik Harris

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

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Ryze Ceska Banka, Member F.D.I.C.
Granger, Texas
www.grangernationalbank.com

Three Ways to Give Online by credit card, Recurring Monthly Pledge, or One-Time Gift

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone # _____

Email _____

Donation Amount: _____ ☐ Recurring Monthly Pledge

☐ One Time Gift

If recurring monthly pledge, please provide: Bank Routing #

Financial Institution Name:

Account # _____

Signature: _____

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

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Please provide address for acknowledgment:

Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Please make checks payable
to: "Hus Encampment Building Fund"

Mail to:
Todd Corporon, Hus Board Treasurer
5350 CR 124
Georgetown, TX 78626

For credit card donations, go online to huscamp.org and click Donate.

2019 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

(*updated camper ages)

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old*

Camp Cost: \$250

Camp Date: June 30-July 2

ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old*

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 9-13

PIONEER

Ages 12-13 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-Adult*

Cost \$550**

Date: July 7-19

*Ages for these camps have changed by 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

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

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bbc@hot.rr.com

TempleBrethrenChurch.org

Rev. Tim Chaplin

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

(254) 718-6094

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

tpch4359@gmail.com

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

April 6, 2019 – “Hey! Day” for College Students and Young Adults at the Hus Encampment

April 21, 2019 – Resurrection Sunday. *Christ has risen . . . He has risen indeed!*

SAVE THE DATES...

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.

July 20-21, 2019 – Youth Convention and Volleyball Tournament at the Hus Encampment.

OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 806, Rogers, TX 76569
Web Address: www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org
Church Email: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

Preaching the Word, Loving the People

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor

Dr. Brad Herridge

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Cemetery

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The Scholar and the Rabbi

- by Jim Pokorny

This is my take on a humorous story I first encountered years ago. It was the lead-in to a devotional about the importance of diversity. I also see within it a good lesson about pride.

Long ago, a new king ascended the throne. He wanted nothing more than to stabilize the kingdom. He decided the best means to this end was to make certain that everyone in the realm worshiped his way. The king declared that any who refused to convert would be forced into exile in three weeks. All the towns and villages complied except for one small Jewish village. The surprised king, wishing to avoid bloodshed, consulted with the church.

Church officials decided the matter could best be settled by means of a debate. The church would put forward its most learned scholar, who should be able to win the debate decisively and leave the villagers no option but to comply or leave. The church selected its most able scholar and informed him of this plan.

Meanwhile, an emissary of the king rode into the village with the news. The villagers were informed that if they lost the debate, they would have no option but to convert or leave. The elders of the village accepted the challenge with one provision. An old and wise Rabbi would

represent the village in the debate. They stated language would be a problem as their Rabbi spoke only Yiddish, so they insisted the debate would have to be a “silent” one. The use of words must be prohibited. With time running out, the emissary agreed and returned to the capital to inform both the king and the church of this demand.

While this was an unusual request, both the king and the church remained confident its chosen scholar would still win.

After much anticipation, the great day arrived. The wise old Rabbi entered the capital and was escorted to the castle. There, a table had been prepared and the debate would take place in the presence of the king and his court. The wise old Rabbi and the church scholar sat opposite each other.

The scholar began by raising three fingers. The Rabbi looked back and shook one finger in reply. The scholar next raised one finger and with it traced a large circle over his head. The Rabbi simply pointed to the ground beside him. The scholar paused and then brought out bread and a chalice of wine. The old Rabbi reached into his pocket and pulled out an apple.

With this, the scholar stood and



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declared that he had been beaten. He congratulated the Rabbi on his profound wisdom. He then apologized to the king and prayed he would honor the terms and allow the villagers to stay.

Later, church officials met with the scholar and asked in disbelief just what had happened.

The scholar said, "First I held up three fingers to represent the Trinity. The Rabbi responded by shaking one finger to remind me there is but one God who is common to both our beliefs. Next, I waved my finger in a circle over my head to show him that God was all around us. He calmly pointed to the ground beside him to remind me that, while true, God was also right here with us! I could see I needed to change my tactics, so I produced bread and wine, to remind him that God absolves us of all sin. He shrewdly brought out an apple to remind me of original sin. I'm sorry, my brothers, but this wise old man

had me beaten at every turn. I simply could not continue and had no choice but to declare him the victor."

Meanwhile, word had reached the village of the Rabbi's great victory and everyone eagerly anticipated his return. The moment he entered the village, he was taken before the elders who wanted every detail.

"Tell us, Rabbi, how you won the debate."

"It's difficult to say," said the Rabbi.

"Then tell us exactly what happened," said a second elder.

"First, he said we had only three days left to get out of the country. I told him he had another thing coming! Then he tells me that all of us are going to be rounded up. I told him that we were staying right where we are."

"What happened then?" asked a third elder.

"I honestly don't know," replied the Rabbi. "He got out his lunch, so I got out mine."



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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.)

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DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for April 2019

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

All Scripture from the *Holy Bible Revised Standard Version*, slightly modified, unless otherwise indicated.

Sundays in bold.

1. Take delight in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4
2. Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers. Jeremiah 20:13
3. I have trusted in Your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in Your salvation. Psalm 13:5
4. He who hears you hears Me, and he who rejects you rejects Me, and he who rejects Me rejects Him Who sent Me. Luke 10:16
5. I am the Lord your God from the land of Egypt; you know no God but Me, and besides Me there is no savior. Hosea 13:4
6. I am God, and also henceforth I am He; there is none who can deliver from My hand; I work and who can hinder it? Isaiah 43:13
7. **Jesus said to them, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, so I send you." John 20:21**
8. In His hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:10
9. As therefore you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so live in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7
10. Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God. Let Your good spirit lead me on a level path. Psalm 143:10
11. He who has the Son has life; he who has not the Son has not life. I John 5:12
12. I will send survivors to the nations... that have not heard of My fame or seen My glory; and they shall declare My glory among the nations. Isaiah 66:19
13. Love the Lord, all you His saints! The Lord preserves the faithful. Psalms 31:23a
14. **Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Psalm 118:26**
15. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. Isaiah 53:3a
16. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. Isaiah 53:4a
17. He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities. Isaiah 53:5a
18. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. Isaiah 53:6a
19. He poured out His soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet He bore the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors. Isaiah 53:12b
20. "In overflowing wrath for a moment I hid my face from You, but with everlasting love I will have compassion on you," says the Lord, Your Redeemer. Isaiah 54:8
21. **He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Matthew 28:6a**
22. I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people. Leviticus 26:12
23. Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. Hebrews 2:1
24. The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1b
25. Then He said to them, "Why are you afraid, O men of little faith?" Then He rose and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. Matthew 8:26
26. I am sure that He Who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. Philippians 1:6
27. The Lord is just in all His ways and kind in all His doings. Psalm 145:17
28. **God has not destined us for wrath but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thessalonians 5:9**
29. Hear, you who are far away, what I have done; and you who are near, acknowledge My might. Isaiah 33:13
30. We know that God has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not only in word but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. I Thessalonians 1:4-5

Press On

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Often the hardest thing to do in this life is to press on.

Many questions bubble upward in our minds as we seek to press on:

Why is it so hard to press on?

How am I going to press on?

When will I feel that God is helping me to press on?

What precisely am I pressing on towards?

Children endure mockery while at school.

Adults navigate financial challenges.

Athletes work through injuries.

Young adults plunge headlong into self-discovery.

Those who are ill persevere through tests and treatments.

Oh Lord Jesus, how did You press on?

Help us, Jesus, to press on.

Give each one of us Your mind, Holy Christ.

Strengthen the weary who are seeking You, Jesus.

Heal this world, Jesus.

Heal the world, that all may embrace what it entails to press on in Your resurrection power, Holy Christ.

We love You and trust You, Jesus...

With every heartache

With every unknown

With every breath

We love You and trust You, Jesus...

Truly

Madly

Deeply

We pray in faith, in You, Jesus,

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

The Book of Hebrews in the Holy Bible, chapter 12, verses 1-4 (NRSV), sheds some light into the framework of "pressing on":

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that



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was set before Him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken His seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider Him who endured such hostility against Himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

What does the Holy Spirit teach each one of us from these precious words in the Holy Bible?

1) You are not alone as you press on. We live in community, with one another as a resource for pressing on.

2) Press on without all the extra emotional and psychological weight. Leave those things at the foot of the Cross. Leave those things in Jesus' Hands.

3) Without pause, look to Jesus for help with enduring the "cross" that God has called upon you to bear. Press on in your anguish, seeking Jesus' empowerment.

4) At some point there will be full joy, though it may appear to only stream in at moments in the here and now. The struggle you are pressing on to overcome will not last forever.

Oh Lord Jesus, how did You press on?

Help us, Jesus, to press on.

Give each one of us Your mind, Holy Christ.

Strengthen the weary who are seeking You, Jesus.

Heal this world, Jesus.

Heal the world, that all may embrace what it entails to press on in Your resurrection power, Holy Christ.

We love You and trust You, Jesus...

With every heartache

With every unknown

With every breath

We love You and trust You, Jesus...

Truly

Madly

Deeply

We pray in faith, in You, Jesus,

Amen.

Amen.

Amen.

(You) can do all things through Jesus Christ who strengthens (you).

(Philippians 4:13, NRSV)

Yes. You can.

Press on.

In Jesus' Hands, Right With You,
Sister Vanessa Mitchell



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

Kent Laza

4913 FM 166

Caldwell, TX 77836

(979) 220-1957

Kent.laza@verizon.net

**This must be done well in advance.*

Snook Community Revival Service

The Snook Community Revival Service took place March 3-5 at the Snook Brethren Church. It was the 20th Anniversary of the Revival and featured John Gantt, Harry Lewis, and Rudy Junek as speakers, and The Community Cantata Choir, which has

participants from Snook, Caldwell, Cooks Point, College Station, Dime Box, Cade Lake, and New Tabor Brethren Churches, as well as other community churches. Also, the Snook Brethren Youth sang on Sunday Evening.



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Beautiful Life 2019 Ladies Campference

- by Rhonda Johnson

The first week of February ladies met at the HUS Camp in Caldwell, Texas, for the second Ladies Campference, the theme was Beautiful Life. Life of Love Ministries and New Tabor Brethren Church sponsored the event.

John 10:10 says, *"The thief comes but to steal, kill, and destroy, but I have come that they may have and enjoy life and have it in abundance [to the full]."* Jesus died so believers could have a beautiful life. Our lives in the sinful world in which we live are sometimes so filled with sadness, frustration, and disappointment we forget that it is God's will for us to live above our circumstances and enjoy our lives. The Lord cares for those who belong to Him. One problem some believers have in receiving abundant life is they haven't fully committed themselves to the Lord. By having divided hearts, we don't qualify for all the blessings God longs to give us. Deuteronomy 28 says, "If you fully obey..." then a list of the blessings for those who have made God

their God, with no other gods before Him. The foundation for a Beautiful Life is that we *belong* to The Lord, that He has first place in our hearts and lives.

In Exodus chapter 8 we read of the plagues the Lord brought on the Egyptians when Pharaoh refused to let the Children of Israel go from Goshen, the place they had lived in slavery for over 400 years. Each time the plagues were put on the Egyptians, the Israelites were kept from the harm of the plagues. The wording in these chapters is so important as we see that God "made a distinction about them." God made a difference in the land where HIS people were. He protected them and made a way (even supernaturally, as in the plague of darkness where the Israelites had light in their homes while there was darkness which could be FELT in Egypt). God still makes a distinction about those who belong to Him today. Scripture says in 1 Thessalonians 4:13 *"...we don't want you to grieve*





as those having no hope.” Those who belong to the Lord do not grieve over losses or lost loved ones as though who are not part of God’s family, there is a difference even in the way we process loss because God Himself is close to us and helps us. If we truly believe and belong to the Lord, there is a distinction or a difference in the way we do *everything*, because the Lord helps us with every part of our lives.

Additionally, there were 4 crafting workshops, vendors with great items available, wonderful food provided by the New Tabor Ladies. First Assembly of God Church shared their worship team with us, and author Dee Levens led our Book Club session with brilliant insights to the book of Esther. It was a great weekend.

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Next year, Ladies Campference 2020 will be January 24-26 at the HUS Camp. Ladies, I hope you will make plans now to join us!

To subscribe to the Life of Love weekly email devotion, please send your request to:

RhondaJohnsonMinistries@gmail.com

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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Bad Company

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15:33

Materials: egg, vinegar, egg left in vinegar for 24 hours

Directions:

1. Fill a clear jar with white vinegar. Drop the egg inside. Bubbles will start to form around the egg immediately. Discuss the Bible verse and how the friends we choose to be around can make bad decisions and those decisions can rub off on us.
2. Show the egg that has been in the vinegar for 24 hours. It is like a rubber ball. It has hardened in a very short time with just a little acid. *Blessed is the one who always trembles before God, but whoever hardens their hearts falls into trouble.* Proverbs 28:14

Walking on Eggshells

Scripture: Matthew 14:29

Materials: 4 dozen eggs, vinyl tablecloth

Directions:

1. Place eggs on the vinyl tablecloth in their cartons. Have a volunteer stand directly on the eggs. They could even jump up and down!
2. Explain: Eggs seem fragile, but God had a great design for them in their shape. The shape of the eggs gives them their strength. The curve of the shell distributes the pressure evenly.
3. Talk about Peter walking on water. Most people would never guess that you can actually walk on eggs, but we know that walking on water is impossible. God shaped eggs to give them strength so actually walking on them is possible. Peter was able to walk on water because he had the power of his faith in Jesus Christ.



Saltiness Makes Life Better

Scripture: Matthew 5:13

Materials: 1 raw egg, salt, water, food coloring, clear jar

Directions:

1. Fill each jar $\frac{3}{4}$ full of water and add food coloring.
2. Add 2 normal eggs (not hard boiled). Ask if they will sink or float?
3. Explain the water in the jar represents the world (the sinful world that is not part of the Kingdom of God). The Egg represents God's children. The world can be a dark place and even a Christian can get lost and act just like the world. The problem with this egg is that it sunk down into the world.
4. Explain: God doesn't bring us to His for us to just get lost in the world. The Bible says we are the salt of the earth. (Hold up salt and read Matthew 5:13). Salt adds flavor to food. It can heal wounds. It can preserve meat. God wants us to be like salt.
5. Remove the egg from the jar. Pour several cups of salt into the water.
6. Explain: To be any good in the world, we have to mix in with it. We won't add flavor or heal or save if our saltiness stays in the bag. (Stir the salt and water together).
7. When we are salty Christians, something interesting happens. (Place egg in water. It should float $\frac{1}{2}$ in and $\frac{1}{2}$ out of the water.)
8. Explain: The Bible tells us to be in the world but not of the world. We are here to bring people to His Kingdom, and we do that by not sinking into the world, but by being salty.

For a dramatic effect, add vegetable oil. It will look like the egg is suspended between two levels (heaven & earth).



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

Rev. Kay Polasek

Cade Lake Community Chapel Meets in New Building

Sunday, February 17, 2019, Cade Lake Members met for the first time at the "new to us" building located 1005 Elm Street. And, to their surprise, the local news station, KBTX TV (channel 3) came to interview them and film their service. And, Thursday, February 14, 2019, the Burleson County Tribune featured an article about their journey, on the front page.

On December 1, 2017, Cade Lake Community Chapel was gutted by a raging fire, rendering the Chapel useless. Rather than letting the evil one defeat them, the pastors, members, and friends sprang into motion and bought two tents, two propane heaters, and one gasoline generator to heat food.

The members gathered each Sunday in the tents in spite of inclement weather. As Spring moved in, the

small group moved out of the tents and under the trees until the heat of the Summer rolled in and they had to roll out. For a short time span the members met at one of their members' home, Pam and Eddy McPayne, and then moved to Ebony Essence, owned by Rev. Cassandra Wilson, until she needed to begin work for her new beauty school in the section they were meeting in. From there members moved to the Caldwell Middle School Cafeteria and were grateful to be inside out of the elements.

Lamar Urbanovsky was instrumental in searching out buildings for the building committee to see. After months of searching, the right building (24' X 64' metal) was located in Thrall, Texas, owned by Shultz House Moving located in Athens, Texas. The building was finally located, but had to wait until a pad was in place at the



The new Cade Lake Community Chapel building.



*Cade Lake members gathered in the new building
for their first worship service*

Cade Lake Chapel's previous location. Because of rain, the process of building the pad and moving the building onto the site was delayed a few weeks. With great joy and excitement, the members saw the building moved to the previous location and secured to the pad on February 1, 2019.

Before members could meet their insurance had to be secured, which happened the following Monday. And,

finally, they met in their new home, grateful to God for keeping them strong during the process.

More dirt is coming and will be added to the front of the building to help with less steps into the building. It is divided into two sections and is a blank canvas. Remodeling will begin to take place as soon as a contractor is hired and able to start the work.

A kitchen, two bathrooms, and storage will be built into one side and

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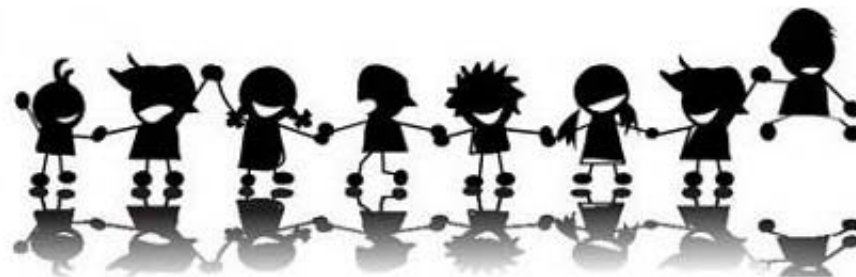
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Sunday School Helper

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

Matthew 5:13 (NIV)

This month I have found some EGG-cellent experiments to illustrate several Bible truths. Each of these experiments or demonstrations can be used with various age groups and are sure to amaze and spark some good discussions.

been an important first step in seeing what was put on our heart become a reality.

Last week, we finished our first discipleship track that I was a part of as a leader. This program, Olive Tree discipleship, has been taking place for almost 8 years with David leading it on his own. But this was the first one that David and me led as a team. It was small, challenging at times, but definitely worth it. Part of the experience is learning to work together with our different strength and weaknesses; how to be flexible, listen, and change. I think we have a lot to work with for our next discipleship track and are already in discussion and prayer for what that will look like.

On February 25th, I will take the two young men from our Program, Eddie and Benny, to Ethiopia for a two-week outreach. Part of it will be serving in a medical outreach in remote areas of Ethiopia where Ethiopian Jewish Tribes are located. We

will also be volunteering in some children's hospitals and schools. This is my first time leading or taking a team on an outreach trip, and although small, this is that first small step that I hope to see grow in the future. We definitely ask that you pray for us during this time, for protection physically and spiritually, and for God to use us to share His love to the people of Ethiopia. Also, for Teresa and Boaz, who will be staying behind in Israel.

Discipleship and Missions is what the Lord imprinted in my heart two years ago when our journey started. This season was the coming to fruition of the past 2 years and all that came with it.

Thank you for all your continuing prayer and support! We couldn't have reached this point without you, and we definitely need you as we continue moving forward!

Joel, Teresa, and Boaz

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the other side will serve as the Sanctuary. The members will be able to meet in the Sanctuary side as the other side is being remodeled.

People have asked "What do you need?" Basically, everything that normally goes into a kitchen (microwave, refrigerator, freezer, electric slide-in oven/cook top – one that has a flat top for easier cleaning). Bathrooms will be added, as well, and will need fixtures.

They will need new flooring for both sides, treated wood for the entrance with a wheelchair ramp. Light fixtures, sound system, microphones, projector, pulpit (small), lightweight folding tables, and more.

The building committee had hoped to add a 16' extension to the new building, but due to cost (about \$30,000) it was decided to go forward with this building alone. God is good and has provided the money for the group to

be able to rebuild through the insurance money received after the fire, the owner of Schultz House Moving, Scott Schultz, for a fantastic price for the building and the moving of it, and several anonymous donors.

Rev. Kay Polasek, Rev. Jim Heckman, and the members would like to thank the community for all their support through prayer and gifts to help them during this time. During these last 14 months they have all learned what it means to be truly patient and that the church is not the building, but its people. They have stayed strong and are looking forward to working together as they minister to our Cade Lake friends.

Please contact Rev. Kay Polasek at 979-220-1289 if you have questions regarding how you can help should you choose to do so. Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 163; Caldwell, Texas 77836.

... from the Foreign Mission Fields

**From Robert and Anne Thiessen ...
Missionaries in Mexico**

March 8, 2019

Joy and Sadness

Dear friends,

Today my language guide, Celsa, who is teaching me an Oaxacan dialect of Mixtec very different from my Guerrero variant, brought tears to my eyes. "Now I see that God can even use me," she said. She is just my age, 58. She's a mother of nine, but two of her children died as small children

and her twins died at birth. She has five grandchildren. She doesn't see how much she's already served God.

When I get to her house after a 40-minute walk first thing in the morning, she's reading her Mixtec Bible or listening to it in audio. She gives me a big glass of water and a cup of chamomile tea. We compare blood sugar levels and how hot our walks were and get to work.

You're wondering why I'm learning a new Mixtec dialect. My job here in our new home of Tlaxiaco is to help mentor the missionaries and mission-



ary candidates of the Mexican mission agency *Sin Fronteras* in two areas: church planting and language learning. Robert also mentors in church planting as well as in vocational trades that they will use in their villages. To help them in language learning, I am climbing a steep learning curve for a new language acquisition model called the Growing Participator Approach by Greg Thompson, which I turn around and pass on to both the missionaries and the missionary candidates of *Sin Fronteras*.

And how better to help other people learn a new language acquisition model than to use it yourself? This is why I approached Celsa, a Mixtec Christian from Magdalena Peñasco, and asked her to guide me into a growing participation in her language and culture. Come Monday, she will be introducing our GPA model to the new group of missionary candidates of *Sin Fronteras* on their first day of class. Together she and I will guide the group into Mixtec language learning over the next 4 months, and then we will send them off to continue their GPA in Indian villages during their 5-month practicum. Yes, God is using Celsa to showcase His gift of lan-



Jaime and Paty

guage to the Magdalena Mixtecs for our Spanish speaking missionaries.

But there's a cost. Maybe some of you have already heard what it cost one of our missionary teams to be in a Mixtec village learning Mixtec and incarnating the gospel there. Paty and Jaime have been working in Zapote Cabezón, Guerrero, for four years, learning the language and heading up a development project for teaching carpentry in the village. On January 15, Jaime, on his way to deliver some doors in another town, went missing. By January 17, Paty had traced his steps to another town, where she was

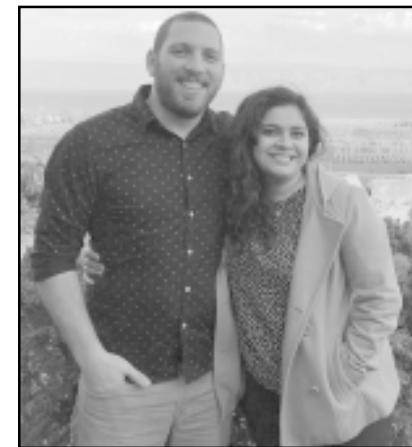
shown photographs of him . . . murdered. We don't know exactly what happened, but the official reports are incorrect. He did not die from bashing his head in a drunken fall. What we do know is that he died in service to his king, a faithful servant to the end. We grieve with Paty because he left behind a hole that can never be filled. We lost a brother, a comrade in arms, the teammate who was always the life of the party. Paty lost the love of her life.

Paty hopes to go back to Zapote Cabezón. She has already gone back once to hold a memorial for Jaime and bear witness to his love for the people and for Jesus. But for now, she is trying to shape a new life without him among her own family and make new plans. Pray for her.

All of *Sin Fronteras* missionaries know that this is one possible outcome of all their work in learning language and acculturation. They may get in someone's way. They may become an obstacle or a threat. They may pay the ultimate price. Yet still they go on. They are my heroes. Celsa and I are honored to be serving them.

Anne

Joel Jelski: Monthly Israel Update



Joel and Teresa Jelski

February 22, 2019

When Dreams Come to Life

Isn't it amazing when something you dreamed about for years, that you have prayed and interceded for, begins to come to life before your eyes? The journey, the changes, difficulties, and challenges all of a sudden pay off, it makes it all worth it. Well, we aren't fully there yet, we still have so much growing and learning to go through, but this season has



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