

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 118

September 2019

No. 7

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, 1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College Station, TX 77845.



Thirteen ordained Unity ministers present for Ryan Volkman's ordination: Koslovsky, Junek, Labaj, Tallas, Groseclose, Ryan Volkman, Hejl, Terrill, Mitchell, W. Amos, C. Amos, K. Polasek, J. Polasek. Not pictured – Mark Sebek
(See story and additional photos inside this issue.)

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A Time of Work . . . by Timothy Coffman

Heads Up! . . . by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Glimmers Within the Darkness . . . by Jim Pokorny

Cross Church at Birdcreed New Beginnings Weekend Invitation

... and much, much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Matching Technology Grant Program

The Synodical Committee approved
an application for a Matching Tech-
nology Grant for all Unity churches.
Churches may apply for a matching
grant up to \$1,000.00. This is to assist
churches who are seeking to enhance
their worship experience through the
use of technology and A/V equip-
ment.

The deadline to apply for a grant is
Dec 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 Executive Committee.

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The 68th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren – Minutes Summary

- by Angie Hairrell, Secretary

The 68th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren was held July 11 and 12, 2019, in Wall, Texas. Attendance was 134 on Thursday and 100 on Friday. The Convention opened with a worship service and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Convention participants participated in breakout discussions regarding issues facing the Unity.

Missionaries Joel and Teresa Jelski and Robert and Annie Thiessen also shared their work.

The evening concluded with a program by motivational comedian and magician, Billy Riggs. Former and current Hus School members sang “Hoj Verni v Boj”, led by Rev. Tommy Tallas and accompanied by Donna Tallas.

Friday was opened with worship and a devotional by the 2019 Hus School class. Participants participated once again in breakout sessions; summaries of the discussions were presented. Several business sessions

were conducted to take care of motions and elections.

Motions approved include:

1) That the 69th Unity of the Brethren Convention will be held at Camp Allen, or a similar retreat facility,

2) Amend Bylaws Article II.B;

3) Amend Bylaws Article XX.A,

4) To pay from Major Gifts (formerly Grants and Bequests) \$8000 toward the salary of the Unity Youth Coordinator,

5) Approve current salary with an increase in mileage reimbursement to meet the IRS employee rate,

6) To amend Bylaws Article VI.B.2,

7) Development of a committee to look at cost-effective means to operate *The Brethren Journal*,

8) To approve an annual salary of \$9600 for the Executive Assistant AND to reimburse Executive Assistant mileage at the IRS employee rate, and

9) That Brethren Fund annual assessment be increased from \$35 to



Wall Brethren choir.

\$40 per member, and that the funds be dispersed as follows: Administrative Revenue: from 9% to 10%, Brethren Journal Revenue: from 17% to 10%, Contingency Fund Revenue: from 30% to 18%, Educational Ministries : from 13% to 35%, Executive Assistant: from 10% to 9%, Hus School Revenue: from 21% to 18%.

(Additional information on the amended Bylaws can be found in the Convention Minutes or the Referendum.)

Election results were as follows:

President: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

1st Vice-President: Rev. Mike

Groseclose (elected as Pastor to the Pastors)

2nd Vice-President: Angie Hairrell (Snook)

3rd Vice-President: Rev. Whitney Amos

Secretary: Shara Davis (West)

Treasurer: Lynette Urbanovsky (Caldwell)

Financial Sec: Kayla Marek (Taylor)

Lay Alternate: Taylor Brinkley (Ocker)

Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Ryan

Volkman.

For the PRC, James Marek (Taylor) and Jon Farrow (Temple/Cross Church at Birdcreek) were elected with Jon Farrow elected Chair.

Rev. Tim Chaplin was elected Chair of the Home Missions Board.

Deborah Schiller (Temple/Cross Church at Birdcreek) was elected Chair of the Board of Christian Education.

David Miller was elected Chair of the Foreign Missions Board.

Kent Laza (BCS) was elected Chair of the Hus Board of Trustees.

Brethren Journal Business Manager is Ben Polasek and Editor is Cathleen Schlechte.

Ministerial Credentialing Committee elections included Rev. Tim Chaplin, Rev. Whitney Amos, and Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill.

Missionaries Phil and Eunice Raiford also shared about their work in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Friday evening concluded with worship and the Ordination of Ryan Volkman.

Convention Minutes and the Referendum have been emailed to all pastors, churches, Synodical Com-



Friday evening service.

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 – Cross Church on Birdcreek –
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

CELEBRATING NEW BEGINNINGS

WHERE CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive, Temple TX
254-778-8759

<http://crosschurchonbirdcreek.org>
ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org

In life we all come to CROSSroads where we must decide which way to go. At Cross Church on Birdcreek we know every path must bring us closer to our Heavenly Father. We have come to our own CROSSroad, it is time to make a change. The end goal is the same, the CROSS of Christ. However, the way we approach that CROSS is changing. You will find a little of the old and a lot of the new, but the goal stays the same, a deeper, more powerful encounter with our God and Father. Come join us as we celebrate our new beginning. Then come back and worship with us weekly as we grow together in a community of faith.

EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

WHEN
Sept. 6th - 8th

Friday Night:
Worship Experience, 7:00 p.m.

Friday Night:
Youth Bash, 7:00 pm-12:00 a.m.

Saturday Evening:
Community Gathering, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Morning:
Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.

FEATURING

**Encouraging Life Change
Messages, Live Music, BBQ
Fundraiser, Fun for the kids,
and much more!**

mittee Members, and convention delegates. Referendum information has also been mailed to all churches.

Referendum results are due to Angie Hairrell, Unity Secretary, by September 30, 2019.

The Fall Synodical Committee Meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2019 at 9am at the Hus Encampment.



Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky - Charge to the Church.



Rev. James Hejl presiding over the Rite of Ordination.

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 | Board of Elders President | Youth Directors |
|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Rev. Joseph Polasek | Yvonne Kovar | Randall & Jonna See |
| P.O. Box 54 | P.O. Box 66 | P.O. Box 345 |
| Snook, TX 77878 | Snook, TX 77878 | Snook, TX 77878 |
| (979) 272-1624 | (979) 219-0375 | (979) 272-8179 |



Pastors praying over Ryan Volkman.



Pastors "laying on of hands" for Ryan.

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South
www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

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



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

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for September 2019

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

All Scripture from the *New International Version* unless otherwise indicated.

Sundays in bold.

1. **We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives, as well. I Thess. 2:8**
2. Jesus had compassion on them and healed their sick. Matt. 14:14b
3. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Eph. 4:31
4. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Eph. 4:32
5. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. Prov. 31:26 (ESV)
6. Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Col. 3:12
7. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Col. 3:13
8. **Love is patient; love is kind. I Cor. 13:4a**
9. The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously. Ps. 37:21
10. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His mercy. Titus 3:4-5a
11. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Rom. 12:21
12. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Eph. 2:10
13. Do nothing out of vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Phil. 2:3
14. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Phil. 2:4
15. **We pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way, bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God. Col. 1:10**
16. She is well known for her good deeds. I Tim. 5:10a
17. Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. 3 John 11a
18. Love must be sincere: Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Rom. 12:9
19. But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. I Pet. 2:20
20. Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him. Ps. 34:8
21. Those who seek the Lord lack no good thing. Ps. 34:10
22. **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. Matt. 5:44**
23. Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Heb. 12:1b
24. I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, Who has given me strength, that He considered me faithful, appointing me to His service. I Tim. 1:12
25. We live by faith, not by sight. II Cor. 5:7
26. The One Who calls you is faithful, and He will do it. I Thess. 5:24
27. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Matt. 25:21b
28. God, Who has called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. I Cor. 1:9
29. **Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Matt. 11:29**
30. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth. Isa. 53:7a

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Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale and Quilt Show Invitation

The Christian Sisters of Seaton Brethren Church are hosting their annual bake sale and quilt show fundraiser on Saturday, November 2, 2019, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 12561 State Highway 53, Temple (Seaton community).

Featured items in the sale will be kolaches, cakes, pies, cookies, bread, jellies, chicken dressing, homemade egg noodles, homemade canned goods and craft items. A resale shop will be open. Sandwiches and homemade soup will be available to purchase for lunch. Quilts will be on display in the sanctuary.

A handmade quilt and gift cards from different businesses will be given away for a love donation of \$1 per

ticket or 6 tickets for \$5. The proceeds from the fundraiser benefit the many projects the Sisters' support. The sale is open to the public with free admission.

HUS ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman: Kent Laza (2017),
(979) 220-1957

Treasurer: Todd Corporon (2016), 5350
County Road 124, Georgetown, TX
78626; toddcorporon@yahoo.com

Members:

Todd Snelgrove, BCS (2011);
rsnelgrove@gmail.com

Tami Laza, BCS (2015), 4913 FM 166,
Caldwell, TX 77836;
tami.laza@verizon.net

James Marek, Taylor (2017);
james@cmbt.net

Rick Weise, Wall (2017);
weise.rick@aol.com

Rev. Tommy Tallas (2017), (325) 656-8558;
rev.tjt@gmail.com

Jennifer Chervenka, Ocker (2017),
(254) 983-1002; jennchervenka@farm-market.net

The Encampment is governed by a Board
of Trustees of 8 members.

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

Non-Voting Appointments:

Programming Director: Amy Snelgrove
agsnelgrove@hotmail.com

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

Facilities Manager: Contact Kent Laza,
Chairman

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

Synodical Committee Oversight:
Rev. Whitney Amos.

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

CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

President: Paula Wagner, 10506
Mourning Dove Dr., Austin, TX
78750. (512) 632-6644;
paulak1121@sbcglobal.net

Vice President: Carolyn Beseda,
2515 Lazybrook Dr., Houston,
TX 77008. (281) 546-7941;
cffilipp@earthlink.net

Secretary: Anna Wotipka, 652
County Rd. 324, Caldwell, TX
77836. (979) 218-9043;
awotipka58@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Lydia Faust,
P.O. Box 125, Snook, TX 77878.
lydiavajdakfaust@gmail.com

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

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

A Time of Work and Celebration for our Lord

- by Timothy Coffman,
Wall Brethren Church Historian

As I write this, I'm reflecting on my experiences of the past few days of attending the 68th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren that took place at the Wall Brethren Church. I had never attended a church convention for the Unity in the past, much less as a delegate of my congregation. Leading up to the Convention, I did not know what to expect or what would be asked of me as a delegate to the convention, so I went to our Lord and Savior in prayer and asked for His guidance and leadership in assisting me and the other delegates of the convention to make decisions that were His will and in the best interests of the Unity.

The days of the convention were busy with worship and praise to our Lord through scripture and music. I observed the delegates of the convention take their work very seriously, and we all worked to make difficult decisions that are in the best interests of the Unity of the Brethren. I cannot speak of the discussions and deliberations of the other groups of the convention as we each addressed our assigned tasks, but I can speak to the discussions that were conducted

by the delegates that were assigned the task of addressing some concerns in relation to *The Brethren Journal*. The delegates assigned to this group took the assigned task very seriously, and we attempted to determine the most cost-effective way to continue to publish *The Brethren Journal*, but we also looked to lessen the burden on the Brethren Fund that supports the printing and publication of *The Brethren Journal*. Through the two days of work, the delegates of this group discussed several ideas for lowering the cost of publication of *The Brethren Journal*, but in the end, we all agreed that there was not enough information available to us for a definite and educated decision to be made, so we crafted a motion to the main body of the convention for additional work to be conducted on the matter that was assigned to us. The motion was presented to the main body of the convention, and after amendment we approved for the Synodical Committee to establish a sub-committee to address the concerns related to the publishing costs of *The Brethren Journal*.



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

*This must be done well in advance.

In addition to the business-related work that was conducted by the delegates of the convention, we rejoiced in an evening worship service on Thursday evening which included a presentation by Billy Riggs. Mr. Riggs, a motivational speaker and illusionist, performed to a full sanctuary. His presentation was inspirational and got me to thinking what I could do to further serve the Lord, my family, and my congregation as a godly person.

On Friday evening, after the work of the convention was completed, members of the Wall Brethren Church and many of the attendees of the convention attended the Ordination Service for Ryan Volkman. The service was a beautiful experience to witness, as I had never observed the ordination of a pastor before. To be able to witness the service was awe inspiring and a true testament to Gods work and guidance for a young man to lead him into the ministry.

The busy past few days will con-

clude Saturday evening with the celebration of the 90th Anniversary of the Wall Brethren Church congregation that will consist of a meal and a dance to celebrate the years of devoted service to our Lord and to the Wall Community.

Throughout the convention experience, I met many new people from throughout the Unity and feel as though I have created some new friendships. I also was able to visit and talk with people that I had not seen in several years. As a first-time delegate to the Unity of the Brethren Convention, I was inspired to continue to actively work not only in my congregation, but to work in any way possible within the Unity of the Brethren.

In reflecting on my experience at the convention, I strongly believe that God called on me to volunteer to represent my congregation and to conduct the work needed by the Unity of the Brethren.

brothers Raymond and Eugene Kotrla. She is survived by her Goddaughter and niece Jennifer Kotrla Mitchell and husband Nathan, and their sons Hagan and Drayton; niece Alicia Kotrla McGuire and husband Brandon, and their son Jaxon and daughter Madison; sister-in-law Kay Cotter, nephew Tim Kotrla and wife Lisa, niece Stacey Kotrla and nephews John and James Kotrla. Pallbearers will be Larry Kotrla, Eddie Kotrla, Tim Kotrla, Dale Weise, Rick Weise, and Bernie Fuchs. Honorary pallbearers will be Nathan Mitchell, Hagan Hartman, Drayton Mitchell, Brandon McGuire, Jaxon McGuire and Madison McGuire. Donations can be made to Wall Brethren Church.

HRUSKA, LUCILLE "LUCI" JANE, age 56, was born on August 23, 1961, in La Grange, Texas, to Gus and Sarah (Kochenderfer) Hruska, died on May 11, 2018. She worked as an office administrator for several construction firms. She enjoyed traveling, ceramics, bike riding, cooking, and the restoration of her family home in Ellinger. She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by 3 sisters, 1 brother, 1 aunt, 3 nieces, 5 nephews, special friend Torry Hill, Jr., and beloved pet, Scrappy. A private family service was held on June 22 at the Fayetteville Brethren Church Cemetery.



MIKESKA, RUTH ANN, age 70, of San Angelo went to be with the Lord on Friday, December 14, 2018, in San Angelo. Ruth was born November 15, 1948, to Robert and Sadie Simecek Mikeska. Ruth grew up in San Angelo and Wall and attended school until the 11th grade. She was a loving daughter and sister and enjoyed being a homemaker with her mom. Ruth also had an incredible faith in the Lord and loved being in church and attending her Sunday School Class at Wall Brethren Church. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, her parents Robert and Sadie, and her nephew-in-law Rick Molder. Ruth is survived by her sister Dorothy Brenek and her husband Jimmie of Wall; her nieces and nephews, Annette DeFrees and her husband Larry of Hewitt, Allen Brenek of Wall, Janet Molder of Wall, and Jean Brenek, of Wall; her great-nieces and nephews, Justin Russell, Ashley Russell, Morgan Gliha, Ricky Molder, Nic Molder, Tyler Molder, Mason Molder, and Jacelyne Kort; 6 great-great-nephews, and 1 great-great-niece; her close cousin Barbara Holiday of Santa Fe, NM, and dear aunt Frankye Mae Mikeska of West, TX. The Funeral Service was held on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at Wall Brethren Church with Rev. Tommy Tallas officiating. Interment followed at Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens.



CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

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

Sunday School
9:30 AM

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

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Church email: lifeatcbc@gmail.com

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

www.lifeatcbc.org Come as you are... Friend us on Facebook!



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SPJST
520 North Main Street
Temple, Texas 76501
(800) 727-7578
www.spjst.org

VITAL STATISTICS

NEW MEMBERS

The following have become members of the Wall Brethren Church after completion of Confirmation studies and became members of the church on the date indicated.

Trinity Ruebsman – October 21, 2018
Aspen Ruebsman – October 21, 2018
Jayden Ruebsman – October 21, 2018
Ryan Dusek – November 25, 2018

The following have become members of the Wall Brethren Church by Reaffirmation of Faith on the date indicated.

Dakota Shane Riddle – March 24, 2019
Kendall Paige Riddle – March 24, 2019
Jay Moore – June 30, 2019
Kayla Moore – June 30, 2019

RECENT BAPTISMS

On January 31, 2019, Clint and Julie Halfmann brought their son, HOLT MORGAN HALFMAN, forward for baptism. Holt was born January 27, 2019.

On June 16, 2019, ROBERT "BOB" COFFMAN of the Wall Brethren Church came forward to Reaffirm his Baptism. Coming forward to celebrate with him were his family, Tim and Christa Coffman, Rebekah May and her daughter Aurora May, John Coffman, and Ella Coffman. Special music for the service was provided by Christa Coffman and Rebekah May.

RECENT WEDDINGS

McKINZIE-KUBESCH. Blaise Alexandria McKinzie and Eric Anthony Kubesch were joined in marriage at the Fayetteville Brethren Church on Saturday, January 19, 2019. Witnesses: Amy Rackley and Aaron Kubesch. Blaise is the daughter of Elizabeth (Michalsky) and Joe Ripple and David McKinzie; Eric is the son of Barbara (Kiesel) Kubesch and the late Anthony "Anton" Kubesch. Minister: Rev. Joe Emerson.

RECENT DEATHS



CASON, DARLENE KOTRILA HORTON, age 73, passed from this earthly life to her heavenly life on January 24, 2019. Darlene was born December 7, 1945, in San Angelo, Texas, to Lillian and Oscar Kotrila. She graduated from Wall High School. Darlene was a life-long member of Wall Brethren Church, where she was very honored to have served a term on the Board of Elders. Service was held on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, at the Wall Brethren Church in Wall with the Rev. Tommy Tallas, pastor, officiating. Darlene was laid to rest in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens between her husbands, David O. Horton and Bob L. Cason, who preceded her in death. She was preceded in death by her first husband of 17 years, David O. Horton. She later married Robert Lowell (Bob L.) Cason. They lived, worked, laughed and worshiped together for 20 years. She was also preceded by her parents, and

HUS CAMP

Main Building Renovation

The Impact of Camp Is Eternal... You Can Help Make It Possible!

Due to your generous support of the Hus Camp and its Facility Improvement Capital Campaign, we have completed Phase A (Renovation of the Kitchen) and are now well on our way to starting **Phase B, Renovation of the Main Building!** This phase will not only renovate the interior and exterior of the building, but will also stabilize the structure, add restrooms and insulation, complete air conditioning, and make the building more accessible for a variety of people, functions, programs and activities. While we hope to begin renovations soon, we can't do it without your help!

Please prayerfully consider your support of the Hus Camp and its growing ministry by making a donation to the Building Fund.

Estimated Main Building Renovation Cost: **\$380,000**

Generous Donations Thus Far: **\$261,000**

Additional Funds Needed: \$119,000

THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE...

- 1) Make an online donation via credit card at: huscamp.org
- 2) Make a recurring donation using the pledge form at: huscamp.org
- 3) Send a one-time gift to:

Hus Camp Building Fund
c/o Todd Corporon, Hus Board Treas.
5350 CR 124
Georgetown, Texas 78626



The Hus Camp Board of Trustees

Kent Laza (Chair), Todd Corporon (Treasurer), Jennifer Chervenka, Tami Laza, James Marek, Todd Snelgrove, Rev. Tommy Tallas, Rick Weise

TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

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

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

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

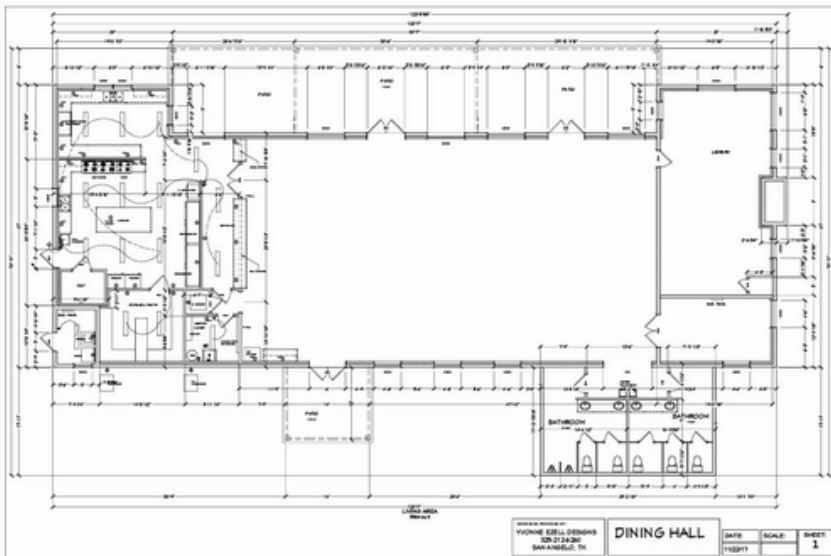
HUS CAMP

Main Building Renovation

The Impact of Camp Is Eternal... You Can Help Make It Possible!



Main Building Elevation



Main Building Plan

2020 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old

Camp Cost: \$250

Camp Date: June 28-30

ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 7-11

PIONEER

Ages 12-13 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 14-19

DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 21-26

CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: July 5-10

HUS SCHOOL

In-depth Leadership Program

Ages 16-Adult

Cost \$550

Date: Not held in summer 2020

**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.

CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive

Temple, Texas 76502

email: ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org

<https://www.crosschurchonbirdcreek.org>

(254) 778-8759

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Tim Chaplin

(254) 718-6094

tpch4359@gmail.com

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

September 6 - 8, 2019 – New Beginnings Weekend Event at Cross Church on Birdcreek. A community gathering of fun and fellowship. The weekend will be filled with special services, great music, guest speakers, and some of the best BBQ you can find.

Friday, Sept 6: Worship Experience, 7:00PM

Friday, Sept 6: Youth Bash, 7:00PM -12:00AM Worship, fun, food, special guests: Kingdom Grind (Christian Rappers)

Saturday, Sept 7: Community Gathering, 4:00PM to dark. Life change messages, Live music, BBQ Fundraiser, Kid corner, much more!

Sunday, Sept 8: Worship Service 10:45AM

We invite you to keep an eye on our new website for more details and hints of things to come.

September 14 - 15, 2019 – BYF Fall Retreat at the Hus Encampment. Check in from 8:30-9am. Activities begin at 9:15am. We will have inflatable bounce activities on Saturday. Dismissal will be at noon on Sunday. ? Forms must be received by August 31. \$15 late fee applies to all late registrations. All shirts will be ordered on September 3. No late orders! There are NO Friday night arrivals. If you are traveling a long distance, and need accommodations, contact Jennifer Chervenka @ jennchervenka@gmail.com or text/call (254)913-1244

****October 5, 2019 – Fall Synodical Committee Meeting** at the Hus Encampment. 8 a.m. Kolaches & Coffee; 9 a.m. Meeting begins. Referendum results and installation of officers for 2019-2021. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, contact Dr. Larry Koslovsky, lwkoslo@aol.com.

****DATE CHANGE**

Save the Dates . . .

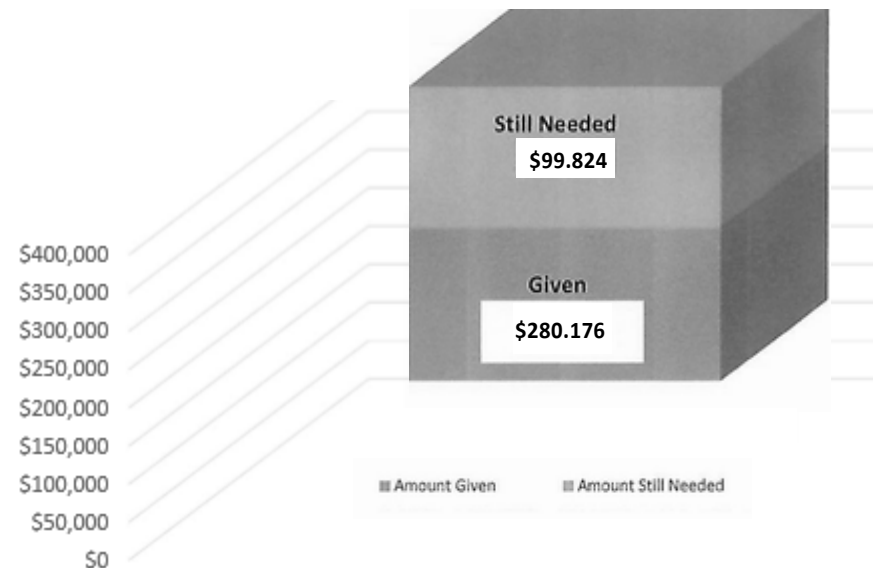
November 2, 2019 – Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale and Quilt Show at the church located at 12561 State Highway 53, Temple (Seaton community). Food, canned goods, and craft items available. A handmade quilt will be given away. For more information, see the invitation printed in this issue.

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

Hus School Main Building Renovation Project Update as of August 1, 2019



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
(254) 716-2578
brad.herridge@gmail.com

Youth Director
Jennifer Chervenka
(254) 983-1002

Cemetery
Sharon Marek
(254) 482-0498

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

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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.

Say: God was working on your specialness even before you were born. Let's try to figure out which one of God's special creations ate my cookie. Try to match someone's fingerprints with the ones on the plate. *Kids will discover that the fingerprints are yours.*

Say: How did you figure out that the prints belonged to me? How are my fingerprints different from yours? I'm glad God made our fingerprints so different and special!

MIRROR IMAGES

Materials: Bible, mirror, photo of each child

Experiment:

Do: Form small groups. Give each group a mirror, and have kids take turns looking at Bible text reflected in the mirror.

Say: What do you see? Mirrors produce a reflection that appear backwards because light waves reflect straight off the surface. A face in the mirror is different; it doesn't look backward in a mirror because it's symmetrical, which means that when the image is divided, both halves look the same. Take turns looking into the mirror. What unique facial qualities do you see in the mirror?

Do: Demonstrate how to hold the edge of the mirror perpendicular to the photo. Half of the face should reflect into the mirror, making the photo and reflection look like a whole face. Allow time for each child to test the mirror concept.

Ask: How was your symmetrical reflection similar/different to your photo? Did this experiment reflect an image that you would easily recognize, or does the image look like a stranger to you?

Discuss:

Read 2 Corinthians 3:18. *Say:* This Scripture says that we're to reflect the Lord's glory. Your life is a reflection of a life that's been changed by God; your actions can reveal what God is like. Look at your reflection in the mirror. Does your image reflect a person who's been changed by God? What can you do to reflect what God is like every day?



KNITTED TOGETHER

Materials:

Dark colored plate (glass), half-eaten cookie, talcum powder, small paintbrush, 3x5 cards, baby wipes, stamp pad

Preparation:

Place a half-eaten cookie on the plate. Then make very clear fingerprints on the top of the plate. Make sure no one else touches the plate.

Experiment:

Say: Can you help me figure out who ate my cookie? What's something that each person has and no two are alike?

Do: Remove the cookie and sprinkle the plate with powder. Use the paintbrush to lightly spread the powder across the plate.

Say: What did the powder show? We all have oil on our fingers and leave a little of it on everything we touch. Here, the oil left behind fingerprints! Each of us has a different fingerprint. It is one of the things that make you special. Let's look at your fingerprints!

Say: You each have a 3x5 card. Press one finger into the stamp pad, then onto the card. Label your print with which finger and which hand. Continue the process until you have done all ten fingers! When you are done, wipe off your hands with a baby wipe.

Ask: What do you notice about your fingerprints? Do they look like anyone else's? What's the same? What's different?

Explain:

The science of identifying fingerprints is called dactylography. People who investigate crimes use fingerprints to help capture criminals because no two prints are alike. One of the ways your fingers got those little prints on them is from moving around in your mother's womb. That's where God formed you, and you grew there until it was time for you to be born. All of your movements in the womb made those little swirls on your fingers. Read Psalm 139:13.



Heads Up!

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Who doesn't like it when a friend or other loved one gives you a "heads up!"? A "heads up!" could be to warn you of a conflict coming your way or perhaps of an opportunity for you to seize. Virtually every time, a "heads up!" is welcome and sought after. **God gives us a "heads up!" as we remain in touch with Him.** The challenge with receiving a "heads up!" in a timely manner is that you have to be in tune with your surroundings.

Mostly, we just need to be in tune with God's voice – singing through life with His joy, His truth as our way of life, and His love as our impetus for our every action. The question now comes to bear: How close are you to God? Have you cultivated a spirituality that enables you to maintain maximum closeness to Jesus Christ?

Take a moment to read Psalm 3 below. Note the Hebrew word, "selah," appears three times. "Selah" is generally accepted to mean to pause and reflect over what has just been said. As you read Psalm 3, pause whenever the word "selah" appears and re-read what came before it. "Selah" is almost functioning as a "heads up!" to what God is speaking to you. Ask God to "lift up your head" as stated in verse three, and to speak to you. He will.

Psalm 3 (NRSV)

1 O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; 2 many are saying to me, "There is no help for you in God." (Selah) 3 But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head. 4 I cry aloud to the Lord, and he answers me from his holy hill. (Selah) 5 I lie down and sleep; I wake again, for the Lord sustains me. 6 I am not afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. 7 Rise up, O Lord! Deliver me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. 8 Deliverance belongs to the Lord; may your blessing be on your people! (Selah)

Now ponder these three questions:

- 1) Are you allowing God to be *your only help* in the middle of a struggle you are having? **(Selah)**
- 2) What could you see in your life *if God* lifted up your head? **(Selah)**
- 3) Do you believe that God is always fighting *for you*? **(Selah)**

Heads up! God is speaking to you!

In Jesus' Hands,
Right With You,

Sister Vanessa Mitchell

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

Rev. Michael Groseclose
(Pastor to the Pastors)
Rev. Whitney Amos
Rev. Tim Chaplin
Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill

Unity Archivist

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

Glimmers Within the Darkness

- by Jim Pokorny

I consider myself a student of history. Many chapters of history are dark and some of them do make people feel uncomfortable. Among these is the Holocaust.

Recently, someone posted something on social media about the Holocaust. In practically no time, the site's organizers removed the post citing "discomfort" as the reason for its removal. Frankly, I was astonished. In my opinion, the Holocaust is something that should make everyone feel uncomfortable. We must never forget the Nazi regime's attempt to commit systematic genocide of Jews along with others like Slavs, political dissenters and prisoners of war.

Genesis 12:3 (KJV) - *And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

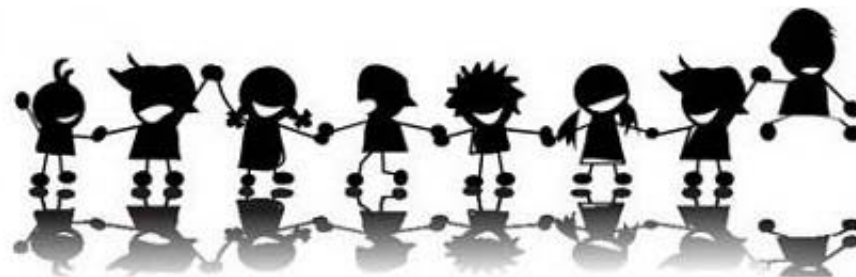
When it came into power, the Nazi regime proudly proclaimed its Third Reich would last for a thousand years. It never came close. In fact, the dumpster of history is full of rulers and regimes that failed to remember

this promise God made to Abraham.

Yet even within the darkest chapters of history are glimmers of light, instances of humanity and flickers of hope. One example was Corrie ten Boom and her family. Despite great personal risk, they lived out their Christian faith by turning their home into a hiding place, typically sheltering 5 or 6 people at a time from the Nazis. It is believed that the ten Boom family and their friends saved the lives of 800 Jews and other refugees. Corrie recalled her father Casper stating, "I would consider it an honor to give my life for God's Chosen People." He died 10 days after being arrested for his efforts.

The ten Boom family was by no means the only family willing to jeopardize personal safety during this period of history. Sadly, we will never know the names of all those who lived out their Christian faith as an oppressive darkness swept over a continent.

I was reminded of a book I read decades ago by Victor E. Frankl entitled *Man's Search for Meaning*. Frankl was an Austrian born psychologist



Sunday School Helper

*For you created my inmost being; you
knit me together in my mother's womb.*

Psalms 139:13

HOUSTON BROTHERS 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

Each person has been uniquely created by God. The experiments in this issue will help illustrate just how unique each child is and how precious they are in the sight of God! We are His masterpiece!

Even the building has received a makeover, we have taken out some of those things you would see in a traditional church and replaced them with things that you might find in your local coffee shop. We have even gone as far as changing the name of the church. We are currently finalizing the process of changing our name from *Temple Brethren Church* to *Cross Church on Birdcreek*. We wanted our name to reflect, in contemporary language, who we are and what we believe. The cross tells people we are a Christian church, that believes in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

Will these changes make a difference, only God knows the answer to that question. We do know that we do not want to become another statistic; we do not want to be listed among other churches that have closed their doors over the last few years. The changes may or may not make a difference, but we feel that by making

these changes, just to list a few, we can at least stand before God and say we did all we could to further his Kingdom.

All of these changes are in preparation for what we are calling our "Replant Weekend." During the weekend of September 6-8 we will be hosting a community gathering of fun and fellowship. The weekend will be filled with special services, great music, guest speakers, and some of the best BBQ you can find. There will be plenty of other activities, as well, but you will have to come see those for yourself. As we finalize all the details, we invite you to keep an eye on our new website for more details and hints of things to come. <https://www.crosschurchonbirdcreek.org/>

(Editor's Note: For information about the New Beginnings Weekend at Cross Church on Birdcreek, please refer to the Unity Activities page in this issue of the Brethren Journal.)

WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

12 miles east of San Angelo, Loop 570, Wall, Texas

P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957

Phone: 325-651-4444 ~ Fax: 325-651-5100

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas

Home: 325-949-7543 Cell: 325-656-8558

Home: rev.tjt@gmail.com

Church: wallbrethren@gmail.com

www.WallBrethrenChurch.com

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

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

who survived the Holocaust. The fact that Frankl survived is amazing as he spent time in Theresienstadt, Auschwitz, Kaufering, and Türkheim.

What I recall most about Frankl's book, aside from his views on psychology, were his memories about his days in these camps and the treatment he and others received.

Frankl stated that both human kindness as well as inhuman cruelty could be found in all groups. He recalled a guard who beat prisoners at every opportunity. He went on to state that "the camp commander, to my knowledge, never once lifted his hand against any of us." In a footnote which speaks volumes, he recalled the actions of several Jewish prisoners on behalf of this commander as their liberation by American troops drew near.

Frankl told of three young Hungarian Jews who hid this commander in the Bavarian woods. American forces were very eager to capture this commander. These young men told their liberators they would reveal his location only under one condition: The American commander first had to promise that no harm would befall the

camp commander. Eventually, the American commander agreed to this demand and the camp commander's location was revealed. Not only was he unharmed, he was, in a sense, allowed to resume command of the camp. This man then supervised the collection of clothing from neighboring Bavarian villages and the distribution to those interred. Despite the cruelty inflicted by guards, these prisoners were still able to recognize his kindness and repay it.

Yes, there are chapters in history that are dark. They may even make us feel uncomfortable. Perhaps uncomfortable enough so that we refuse to allow them to ever happen again.

I think Rod Serling put it best in his closing narration to the 1961 *Twilight Zone* episode *Death's Head Revisited*: "All the Dachaus must remain standing. The Dachaus, the Belsens, the Buckenwalds, the Auschwitzes – all of them. They must remain standing because they are a monument to a moment in time when some men decided to turn the Earth into a graveyard. Into it they shoveled all of their reason, their logic, their knowledge, but worst of all, their conscience. And the moment we forget this, the moment we cease to be haunted by its remembrance, then we become the gravediggers. Something to dwell on and to remember, not only in The *Twilight Zone*, but wherever men walk God's Earth."

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Phone 361-798-3271

Fayetteville Brethren Presents Check for Hus Encampment Building Fund



*Pictured: Board of Elders President, Joe Ripple with Fayetteville Brethren members presenting a check for the Hus Encampment Building Fund to James Marek, Hus Encampment Trustee.
Picture taken by Susan Marek.*

On June 30, 2019, James Marek from Taylor Brethren and Hus Encampment Trustee was the guest speaker at Fayetteville and Industry Brethren Churches. James' message was "Evangelism through Stewardship" with scripture readings from

Malachi 3:6-10, Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 8:1-3, and Hebrews 11:1-6. After the worship service at Fayetteville, the Fayetteville congregation presented James with a check for the Hus Encampment Building Fund.

New Beginnings

In an ever-changing society, organizations are constantly recreating themselves in order to stay relevant. Should the church be any different? I believe the church must be willing to change if it is going to stay relevant. By no means do I promote the church losing or changing what makes it the church. However, I believe it is past time for some churches to take a long hard look at who they are and what might need to change if they are going to remain an active means of promoting the Kingdom of God.

It is common for businesses to change the way they look and the way they present their message. The message itself does not necessarily change, just the way they say it and promote it does. The church could learn a lesson from the business world here.

The Gospel is our message, and it should never be changed; however,

by changing the way we present the Gospel we open our ministry up to whole new generations. If our presentation of the message remains stuck in the past, before too long our message will remain stuck with past generations and will be lost to generations to come.

It is never easy to change what we have become comfortable with, but Jesus never called us to be comfortable, he called us to carry on his message. Is the Church willing to get out of its comfortable pews and make a difference in our changing world?

Temple Brethren Church had to ask itself that question. After 100-plus years of ministering to the people of Central Texas, we came to realize we were no longer reaching the next generation, we were quickly becoming irrelevant to our changing society. Though we added new members over the past few years, we were losing more members to the typical issues that arise during the aging process. Visitors would join us regularly but would not return more than a few times. When the opportunity would arise to question them about why they did not return, the answer was always the same, "we are looking for something different, something more contemporary."

In January we decided as a congregation it was time for radical change. We have changed our music, becoming more contemporary, though we have kept some of the old favorites and their deep theological truths. We changed the way we look; you see a lot less suits and a lot more jeans.



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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Fayetteville Brethren Church

Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am

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

FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

"Site of the First Czech
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