Needed: FRIENDS OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

- from the editor

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

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to

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THE BRETHREN





Vol. 118

November 2019

No. 9

32 Pages



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... and more!

32/November 2019 BRETHREN JOURNAL

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Visit the Unity of the Brethren Website: unityofthebrethren.org

Attention, all Unity Congregations and Supporters:

Unity Financial Secretary Transition Completed

The transition to the new Unity Financial Secretary, Kayla Marek, has been completed and all contributions to the *Unity of the Brethren* should now be sent to her. Her mailing address is:

Kayla Marek 1804 Mallard Ln. Taylor, TX 76574

This includes all contributions that were sent to Rev. Joe Emerson during the past two years. Please continue to include a 'Funds Distribution Memo' (FDM) with all mailings and also a Ministers' Retirement coupon (if applicable) when sending to those funds. An updated FDM can be found on the Unity website (go to Calendar, Forms).

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Turning Away from Fear

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

God's words in the Holy Bible have the power to help you turn away from fear and walk through each day in complete joy!

What fears are you clinging to lately?

What if every morning and every evening your day could be framed in a spirit of confident trust that God is with you and for you?

Take a few moments right now to read over the following excerpts from the Holy Bible, as if on vacation, resisting the tyranny of the urgent in your life. Read each passage until you sense yourself believing in what God is saying to you. Read each passage again and again *until you feel your faith in God increasing*. All the while, **ask Jesus to increase your faith**.

Such love has no fear, because perfect love expels all fear. If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced His perfect love. (1 John 4:18, NLT)

For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He

will take delight in you with gladness. With His love, He will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs. (Zephaniah 3:17)

I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then vou will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. (Ephesians 3:16-19)

The Lord is my light and my salvation – so why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble? When evil people come to devour me, when my enemies and foes attack me, they will stumble and fall. Though a mighty army surrounds me, my heart



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.

will not be afraid. Even if I am attacked, I will remain confident. (Psalm 27:1-3)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to His purpose for them. (Romans 8:28)

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. (Romans 5:3-4)

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in Me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you." (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Do you believe that God does love you?

Do you believe that God can calm you?

Do you believe that God can make you strong?

Do you believe that God can remove your fears?

Do you believe that God is always working for your good?

Do you believe that God will make you stronger through every trial you face?

Do you believe that lasting peace is a gift that only God can give you?

Do you believe that God is always fighting for you?

God's words in the Holy Bible have the power to help you turn away from fear and walk through each day in complete joy!

What fears are you clinging to lately?

What if every morning and every evening your day could be framed in a spirit of confident trust that God is with you and for you?

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

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HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH

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

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

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill

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

Donna Verwold Secretary 325 Sunnyside St. Houston, TX 77076 (713) 692-0808

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Austin - Bible Study at 10 AM Worship at 11 AM.

Rev. Linda Chandler

Brvan-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. - Visiting Ministers

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 AM. 5th Sunday - Sing-along led by the Elders and Christian Sisters.

- 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. - Visiting Ministers

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. Da ve 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 Heil

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 Labai 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

Czech Influences Live On

- by Jim Pokorny

On September 28, 2019, I had the honor and privilege of addressing the Texas Czech Genealogical Society at the Civic Center in Caldwell, Texas. As one of four speakers for the event, I was asked to discuss the history and development of the Brethren Churches in Texas.

Now speaking about Brethren history to an audience composed exclusively of Brethren is one thing. Speaking to a diverse group is another. I recognized that the audience would include members of Catholic and various Protestant denominations. A 35minute time limit coupled with the expectation of a timeline of Brethren churches required a careful bit of planning. The theme "Czech Influences Live On" proved to be an invaluable asset.

I opened my discussion with the question: "Who are the Brethren?" I suspected a number of those in attendance would be wondering just that. So, I turned back the calendar to the time of John Hus. I explained how Hus, as rector of Bethlehem Chapel in Prague, chose to deliver his sermons

in the Czech language and how those sermons had a direct impact on the daily lives of those who heard him preach. I added that Hus was quite outspoken on badly needed reforms within the church of his day. I stressed his belief that the truth was of God and it deserved to be treated as such.

Hus was neither Protestant nor was he the founder of the Unity of the Brethren, but his willingness to die for the truth on July 6, 1415, and his delivery of sermons in the native language of the people served to inspire Gregory the Patriarch and his community to establish the Unity of the Brethren in 1457. I then reminded my audience that Martin Luther was called "The Saxon Hus" by both his supporters and detractors alike.

In discussing the ancient Unity of the Brethren, I stressed that one of their greatest contributions was the development of the Kralice Bible – a true Czech translation of scripture from the original Hebrew and Greek

Before moving into the timeline, I



BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South www.unitvofthebrethren.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

decided to speak on the early pastors. They not only organized the early Brethren congregations but also traveled extensively to support them often dependent on train schedules. I opted to discuss three of these men of God in some detail.

The first of these was Rev. Adolf Chlumsky, who deserves to be called the Father of the Unity of the Brethren in Texas. I discussed his dedication, vision, and organizational skills. I stressed his publication of *The Brethren Journal* in 1902 and how it kept individual congregations informed. I also discussed how he chaired the committee that led to the Mutual Aid Society and how he organized congregations in Snook, West, Granger, and New Tabor.

Another of these early pastors I discussed was the Rev. Henry Juren. I stressed his education at seminaries in Basel, Bonn, and Edinburgh. I shared how he spent 45 years as pastor and 40 years as an educator. I spoke of his preaching at Ocker, Smithville, Shiner, New Tabor, Vsetin, Wallis, Nelsonville, Granger, Elgin, Snook, and Crosby.

My focus then turned to Rev. Anton Motycka and how he was initially a teacher at Nelsonville. I spoke about how the congregation at Industry wanted him to preach and how, with their prodding, he was ordained. I discussed his years as President of the Synodical Committee and his influence in Nelsonville, New Tabor, Seaton, Rosebud, and Shiner. I then told my audience how he died singing the opening hymn at a confirmation service he led.

I then presented an abbreviated list of other Unity pastors including

Rev. Josef Barton, Rev. Josef Hegar, Rev. Henry Beseda, Sr., Rev. Frank Horak, and Rev. Frank Kostohryz.

With time rapidly slipping away, I then proceeded with a century-long timeline beginning with Wesley in 1864 and concluding with Pasadena in 1957.

When I reached the year 1903, I spoke of how the elders in Granger and Taylor worked together to invite 22 delegates from 11 congregations to form a friendly union – tasked with whether to join an existing church or to organize a new independent one. I shared the fact that they unanimously chose the second option based on language and a genuine desire to revive the ancient Unity of the Brethren.

As my time expired, I gratefully acknowledged Rev. Daniel Marek. I remain eternally grateful for both his compassion and his passion for Brethren history.

The influence of those who preceded us lives on!

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

The deadline to apply for a grant is 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.

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

VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT DEATHS

CHERVENKA, JOHNNY L., JR., age 75 of Rogers, died September 11, 2019, in Temple. Born July 18, 1944, to Johnny L. Chervenka, Sr., and Martha Repka Chervenka, he graduated from Rogers High School in 1962 and from Temple College, where he played basketball and ran track. He served in the National Guard. He married Carol Sebek on February 14, 1970, and worked for the First State Bank of Rogers, followed by 46 years with Texell Credit Union, retiring as their Senior Loan Officer. He was a member of the Ocker Brethren Church and SPJST Lodge #24. Survivors include his wife, Carol Chervenka of Rogers; son John Paul Chervenka and wife Jennifer of Rogers, daughter Tracey Chervenka and Jerome Stowers of Temple, and a brother, Jimmy Don Chervenka of Brenham, along with eight grandchildren. The funeral service was held Monday, September 16 at the Ocker Brethren Church with burial in the Ocker Cemetery. Participating Ministers: Brad Herridge, Mark Sebek, and Larry Zabcik.

GRANGER NATIONAL BANK

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

Fayetteville Brethren Church

Sunday School 9:30 am Worship 10:30 am

For the schedule of visiting ministers, please visit the church website.

FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org



DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for November 2019

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

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

Sundays in bold.

- Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!
 Cor. 9:15
- 2. I thank my God every time I remember you. Phil. 1:3
- Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 1 Thess. 5:18
- Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever.
 1 Chron. 16:34
- Now, our God, we give You thanks, and praise Your glorious name.
 1 Chron. 29:13
- I will give You thanks in the great assembly; among the throngs I will praise You. Ps. 35:18
- Sacrifice thank offerings to God, fulfill your vows to the Most High. Ps. 50:14
- I will give You thanks, for You answered me; You have become my salvation. Ps. 118:21
- Give thanks to the God of heaven. His love endures forever. Ps. 136:26
- 10. I always thank my God for you because of His grace given you in Christ Jesus. 1 Cor. 1:4
- But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57
- I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. Eph. 1:16
- We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. Col. 1:3
- 14. We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. 1 Thess. 1:2
- 15. I will give thanks to You, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonderful deeds. Ps. 9:1
- Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name. Ps. 100:4
- Let them give thanks to the Lord for His unfailing love and His wonderful deeds for mankind. Ps. 107:8
- Open for me the gates of the righteous; I will enter and give thanks to the Lord. Ps. 118:19

- Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Eph. 5:20
- And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him. Col. 3:17
- 21. Then he restored the altar of the Lord and sacrificed fellowship offerings and thank offerings on it, and told Judah to serve the Lord, the God of Israel. 2 Chron. 33:16
- 22. I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness; I will sing the praises of the name of the Lord Most High. Ps. 7:17
- 23. Save us, Lord our God, and gather us from the nations, that we may give thanks to Your holy name and glory in Your praise. Ps. 106:47
- 24. Then He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you." Matt. 26:27
- 25. And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Luke 22:19
- 26. Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. John 6:11
- 27. So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me." John 11:41
- 28. Give joyful thanks to the Father, Who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of His holy people in the kingdom of light. Col. 1:12
- 29. How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy we have in the presence of our God because of you? 1 Thess. 3:9
- 30. "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" Rev. 7:12

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: \$309,444

Additional Funds Needed: \$70,556

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 Treasurer 5350 CR 124 Georgetown, TX 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

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: Bar	nk Routing #
Financial Institution Name:	
Account#	
Signature:	
[] The Hus Encampment may list my name and	
written materials when giving thanks to don	ors.
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 <u>huscamp.org</u> and click Donate.

2020 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old Camp Cost: \$250

Camp Date: June 28-30

PIONEER

Ages 12-13 years old Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 14-19

CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: July 5-10

ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old Camp Cost: \$350 Camp Date: June 7-11

DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 21-26

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

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.

November 10, 2019 – Industry and Fayetteville Brethren Churches *Honor Our Veterans Service.* Joint service at 9 a.m. held at the Industry Firemen's Hall, Industry, Texas. Continental breakfast served after the service. For more information, contact Harvey Treybig, 512-923-5315, or Liz Ripple, 979-378-2239. Guest speaker: Colonel Kennard Karr, Vietnam Veteran from the La Grange, Texas, area.

November 23, 2019 – Granger Brethren Annual Arts & Crafts Show at the church in Granger from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the Granger BC Christian Sisters. For more information, see the invitation in this issue or contact Edwina Jezisek at 512-859-2677 or 512-639-0091.

November 28, 2019 - Thanksgiving Day

SAVE THE DATES ...

December 2019 – Christmas Cantata Performances TBA. For more information, contact Lynette Urbanovsky at 979-450-1820. Also see the article in this issue.

February 15, 2020 – Seaton Brethren Church Annual Sausage Supper Fundraiser. See this issue for more information.

March 28, 2020 - Spring Synodical Committee Meeting at the Hus Encampment. More information to come in a later issue.

Unity Archivist

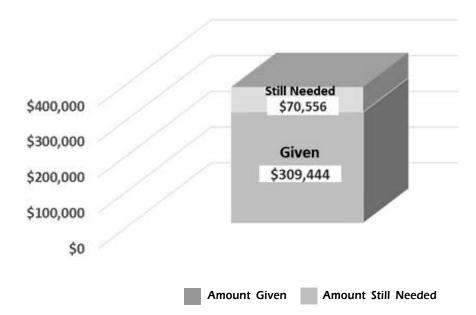
Clint Machann c-machann@tamu.edu 979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

ADERHOLD

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"Thoughtful Service – A Payne Family Tradition" West, Texas 254/826-5321

Hus School Main Building Renovation



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

Granger Food Pantry

Earlier this year, the First United Methodist Church in Granger closed its doors. Pastor Judy Gotcher served the church for a number of years, and during that time she established the Granger Food Pantry, which is open the third Thursday of every month in the afternoon.

Pastor Judy and the volunteers expanded the services of the Pantry over the years to include backpacks filled with school supplies given out just prior to the start of each new school year. Then came backpacks filled with food items for students in need of nourishment over the weekends. Students who qualify for assistance are provided to the Pantry by the Granger ISD.

With the closing of the FUMC, the Pantry needed a new home. The com-

munity of Granger and those residing within the boundaries of the Granger ISD receive a great benefit from the services of the Pantry. What to do?

In the early part of this year, being aware of the pending closing of the Methodist church, the Board of Elders of the Granger Brethren Church answered the call of Pastor Judy for a new home from which to operate the Pantry. Beginning this past spring, the Granger Food Pantry began operations out of the Fellowship Building of the GBC.

Pastor Judy and her faithful volunteers found a new home for the Pantry and GBC found a way to more fully utilize the facilities that we have been blessed with.



Insuring & Enriching Lives

A fraternal benefit society serving Texans and their families since 1897.

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

Membership Benefits

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

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

- Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 6:00-7:45 p.m.
- Thursday, November 28, 2019, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (with fellowship meal)

Performances:

- The Snook Brethren Cantata performance will be Friday, December 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.
- Date and time for performance(s) at the Caldwell Brethren Church have not been set as of this time. Please, check the Unity Website and check your bulletins close to December for information or contact Lynette.

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

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.

PresidentPastor/Director of YouthChurch OfficeBoard of Eldersand Young Family MinistriesSecretaryJosh HolikRyan VolkmanLibby Lane325-234-8667325-213-0671Tu-F: 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Christmas Cantata Choir Invitation



Caldwell Brethren Church is sponsoring a Cantata this year honoring the Birth of Christ! This year's music is titled "Christ was Born for This". Churches all over the area will be represented from both the Brethren Church and other community churches.

We would like to invite you to come and be a part of this time to serve and honor our Lord. If you enjoy singing, please come and join us!

For more information, contact Lynette at 979-450-1820. More details are to come soon. Come PRAISE the LORD with us!!

Remaining Practice Dates:

- Thursday, November 7, 2019, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 12, 2019, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

TAYLOR BRETHREN 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.

PastorBoard PresidentSecretaryJames D. HejlBryan HolubecMary Kokes512-365-6890512-922-5470M-Th 8 a.m.-noon

Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Annual Bake Sale and Ouilt Show

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 home-made 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 raffled 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.

Knesek Family Funeral Chapels



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

Bellville Sealy Wallis 865-3121 885-3535 478-6311

Granger BC Annual Arts & Crafts Show Invitation

The Granger Brethren Church Annual Arts & Crafts Show will be Saturday, November 23, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be booths with unique, hand-crafted items by local artists. Raffle tickets are also available for a chance to win a homemade quilt, a whitetail deer shoulder mount, a homemade domino table, and much more! There are 23 chances to win! Tickets are \$2 each or 6 for \$10. Homemade chicken salad will be available for lunch. It's the best you've ever tasted...guaranteed!

This event is sponsored by the Granger Brethren Church Christian Sisters as a fund-raiser for painting the exterior of the church building. For more information, contact Edwina Jezisek at 512-859-2677 or 512-639-0091. Your support will be sincerely appreciated.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Chair: Deborah Schiller – (2019) Temple, (254) 721-2735; dschiller1123@gmail.com

Debbie Clark - (2014) Crosby

Deanna Hairrell - (2019) Snook

Jordan Eilers - (2019) Ocker

Open seat

Open seat

Jennifer Chervenka – Youth Coordinator, Ocker

Synodical Liaison – Rev. Whitney Amos, 3rd Vice-President, chatney@aol.com

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

From Pavel and Stania Kozak . . . Missionaries in the Czech Republic

October 1, 2019

Welcome our dear brothers and sisters!

The autumn is here and Stania and I do send you all our warmest greetings from Moravia again! As we always say – it is really BIG privilege to share with you our ministry updates and news via this newsletter. Thank you so very much for reading it and we trust to the Lord Jesus you will like it too! May our Lord richly BLESS your hearts!

Our Ministry Update

Praise God, most of you know but maybe some are reading our newsletter for the first time so let us share that we do serve and do minister in the FIVE localities: Olomouc, Prostejov, Trinec, Decin, and Dresden now.

In Olomouc we do continue to meet the students and share the good news among them regularly. The best place where to do it is in the front of the schools. We know which school ends and are waiting for the students when leaving the school. Mostly there are hundreds of young people out-

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

Rev. Michael Groseclose (Pastor to the Pastors) Rev. Whitney Amos Rev. Tim Chaplin Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill side and – PRAISE GOD – it is our privilege and chance to go forth and try to start the conversation and share the testimony and the Faith, the Gospel.

You know, some are very friendly and appreciate what we do, some are ignoring us, and some are evil and arrogant, saying bad words about God and about us. This is what we can hear almost daily!

But PRAISE God, that there are still those who are willing to listen to the Word. In this Moravian region is still big influence of the Catholic Church and so many of these young ones are having some experiences with the church.

In Prostejov it is mainly about working among the youth and kids too. Great help is that we do rent a small place which we call it as the "Christian Club". We are humbly thankful that more than a hundred young people and kids could attend and could hear the Gospel. They could see what the difference is, between GOOD and EVIL, and what is difference between GOOD life in Christ and BAD life in the world without God.

Prostejov is great mission field that we are reaching little kids and



Explanation:

Density is the measurement of how compact a substance is – how much of it fits in a certain amount of space. If you measure an equal volume of oil and water, you'll find that the water is heavier than the same amount of oil. This is because water molecules are packed more tightly and a cup of water actually has more mass than a cup of oil. Because water is more dense than oil, it will sink to the bottom when the two are put in the same container. The hotter a liquid is, the less dense it will be. Even though they have different densities, oil and water would eventually mix together if it weren't for polarity. Water molecules are "polar" because they have a lopsided electrical charge that attracts other atoms. Just like in a magnet, where north poles are attracted to south poles ("opposites attract"), the positive end of the water molecule will connect with the negative end of other molecules. Oil molecules don't have a positive or negative charge, so they are not attracted to the water molecules at all. This is why oil and water don't mix! Real lava lamps use a polar and non-polar liquid just like our homemade one did. In a real one, however, the densities of the liquids are much closer together than vegetable oil and water. The denser liquid sinks to the bottom, but the lava lamp light heats it up until it expands and becomes less dense, causing it to rise upward. As it gets farther from the light, it cools down, becoming more dense again until it sinks; then the cycle starts all over. Instead of using a light, in our homemade lava lamp we used Alka-seltzer to power the lamp. The Alka-Seltzer reacts with the water to produce carbon dioxide gas bubbles. These stick to the water droplets. The water/gas combo is less dense than the oil, so they rise to the top of the flask. At the top, the gas bubbles pop and escape into the air, allowing the dense water to sink back to the bottom again.

HIGH-FIVE PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for my eyes. I like to look at ____. Thank You for giving me ears. My favorite sound is___. Thank You for creating skin. I really like the feel of ___. Thank You for my tongue and the taste of ___. Thank You for bad smells that warn me not to touch or taste! Thank You for good smells, especially ____. Amen.



The Altar

READ: Joshua 3:9-4:24

DISCUSS:

The Israelite children had only heard stories of how their parents had miraculously crossed the Red Sea. Do you think the children were excited that they were about to see a similar miracle? Do you think the priests at the front of the ark were afraid when they stepped into the flooded Jordan River? What happened when the priests stepped in the water? How was the altar that God told the Israelites to make like a photograph? What did God want the Israelites to remember? What were the Israelites to tell their children who asked about the twelve stones?

The Israelites didn't have cameras to take pictures, but God had another plan to help the Israelites remember the day they crossed the Jordan River. God told Joshua to build an altar. The purpose of the pile of rocks was to help the Israelites remember the good things God had done for them and to remind them that He would be with them in the Promised Land. We can guess that the little Israelite kids probably asked their parents to tell them the story of crossing the Jordan River over and over again, every time they saw the big pile of rocks. From this story, we learn that God wants us to plan ahead, creating reminders so that we don't forget His goodness and care.

DO: Make a Lava Lamp Altar

Materials: glass jar, vegetable oil, water, food coloring, Alka-Seltzer **Steps:**

- 1. Fill the flask most of the way with vegetable oil.
- 2. Fill the rest of the flask with water. The water will sink to the bottom under the oil.
- 3. Add a few drops of food coloring; your choice of color. The food coloring is water-based, so it will also sink and color the water that is now at the bottom of the flask.
- 4. Break an Alka-Seltzer tablet into a few small pieces, and drop them in the flask one at a time.
- 5. Watch your lava lamp erupt into activity! As the reaction slows down, simply add more Alka-Seltzer.



their parents too. Their parents know us are very happy for the care we do for their kids. We try to do our best to give them all our LOVE in Christ, encouragement, understanding, acceptance, and also the God's Word. Stania is doing great job when ministering to them. We try to have nice program ready for each meeting. There are super testimonies of mothers who say that their kids are looking forward to go to the club like crazy!

In Trinec it is mostly street evangelism among the local students too. Trinec is pretty "religious" city, but when we do share the Gospel among the young people, they do not understand the real meaning why Lord Jesus died on the CROSS! They know something but they do not pay attention to what Bible say about the sin.

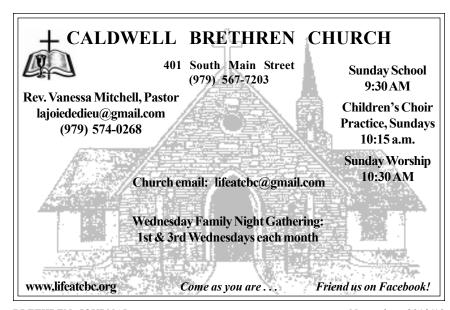
We trust and PRAY that the GOOD SEED of the Word of God will do in the power of the Holy Spirit it's work in them!



Seeding the Seeds

Sharing the Gospel – BUT PRAISE Father God that there is the CHURCH of His Son, who as the living Body is called to share His Grace and Word among all the nations! And this is – as you know me – what we do eagerly as our call and ministry in Czech Republic. We know that we cannot save anybody, we cannot persuade anybody, but we surely can communicate the Good News of the God's Grace and Mercy! And we can pray... We do our maximum to do it and to fulfill





the Words of the Lord Jesus about the Great Commission!

This is why we are so thankful for the ministry we can do with the Lord and FOR the Lord Jesus! You know that we are primarily focused on the YOUTH and on the KIDS. They grow and ONE DAY they will be adult and will have their families and will lead this country. And we surely NEED genuine believers and bold Christians even in the Government and Parliament!

Let's share the Good News and let's be seeding the Good Seed!

1 Cor 3:6-8. I planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: but each shall receive his own reward according to his own labor.

Our Ministry in Germany

As we mentioned lastly, a significant group of believers moved, thanks to the bad economical, social, housing situations, high unemployment, and also thanks to the same kind of persecution decided to move to the Dresden/Germany, 2-3 years ago. One family did move to the Ireland too.

We have been several times already to meet the Brothers and Sisters over there, their families, friends, and we could serve to them as they needs was.

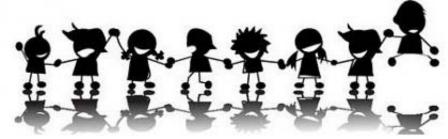
The biggest problem of the most of them is a huge language barrier! They cannot speak much German and also their understanding is very poor. From this reason they are not willing to attend the local German churches around them.

We always have a great time of common fellowship with encouragement, teaching, and prayers. Our biggest desire is that a small live Bible group of believers could be formatting among them. They need it very much!

We see as very important ministry the outreach among their unbelieving friends. Each time we do serve outside among Czech people, who never clearly hear the Gospel. Many of them are having bondages of superstitions, having their own wrong sights on God, experiences with a magic, drugs, cheating, etc. Some of them are very arrogant to us for the first time, but thanks to the prayers, love, and Power of the Holy Spirit they are touched, calm, and are looking forward to meet us again...

I am sharing the Gospel with people and doing some teaching and my wife Stania is doing great ministry among the kids and ladies. Mainly kids love her a lot! She is always well prepared to do the best for them. She is using Bible stories, dramas, games, drawings, etc., to help them better understand to the God's Love and His Plan of Salvation. Praise God!

Stania, me and two more brothers will go to meet with them this weekend again. They are looking forward to see us a lot! We pray for Lord's mighty touch of His Grace for each of them, for the whole district where they do live! This area where they live is very multicultural with variety foreign people from the whole world. They told us that unlike to the Czech Republic – most people who do live in that area are friendly to talk about



Sunday School Helper

Psalm 145:7
They will celebrate Your abundant goodness and joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

People in the Bible created an altar as a way to thank God. They would collect a big pile of stones, put a sacrificial animal on and burn it. That is what people in the Bible used to do then, but wouldn't it be fun if we could make a different kind of altar; An altar that we can use to thank God for all the good things He has given us. Of course, we can't use a fire or an animal, but maybe we can use a lava lamp...

Seaton BC Annual Sausage Supper Fundraiser Invitation

The Seaton Brethren Church annual sausage supper fundraiser will be held Saturday, February 15, 2020, beginning at 3 p.m. until the sausage is gone. The menu consists of homemade pork sausage, sauerkraut, new potatoes, seasoned green beans, bread, homemade desserts and tea or coffee. Dine in or drive thru plates will be available for \$10 each.

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

BYF LEADERSHIP TEAM 2019-2020

Youth:

Maverick Raesz – Taylor BYF Logan Woefel – Taylor BYF Allyson Cocke – Taylor BYF Colton Machu – Taylor BYF Kaylynn Harkey – Nelsonville BYF Jessica Chervenka – Ocker BYF Taylor Krcha – Ocker BYF Grace Jungmann – Ocker BYF

Adults:

Dillon Barbisch – Ocker Jordan Eilers – Ocker Tamyra Riethmayer – Taylor Anna Wotipka – Caldwell

Pastoral Advisory:

Rev. Mike Groseclose

Youth Coordinator: Jennifer Chervenka

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 (2013);
rtsnelgrove@gmail.com

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

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

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

Angie Labaj, (2019) Temple
Jennifer Chervenka, Ocker (2017),
(254) 983-1002; jennchervenka@farmmarket.net

The Encampment is governed by a Board

of Trustees of 8 members.

Terms: 2 years, may be re-elected/reappointed 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@farmmarket.net; (254) 983-1002

Facilities Manager: Alan Haisler, haislera@ymail.com

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.

KUBENA Funeral Home 507 South Main St.

Hallettsville, Texas 77946 Pre-Arranged Funerals Phone 361-798-3271 spiritual things, including Christianity! And that's great!

We do pray for the Lord's guidance to fulfill His Will...

Our Prayer Requests

Please pray with us for new people, touched by the Word of God who will be willing to trust and faithfully follow Lord Jesus. Czech Republic really needs NEW DISCIPLES in these hard times! Pray for those little kids who attend the Club to stay with us during the bad age of their growth.

Please pray for the kids in the club to grow in the knowledge of Lord Jesus Christ and be His faithful disciples.

Please pray with us for our protection. We strongly feel and know that our public ministry is hated by some people and by the principalities of the darkness.

Please pray with us for our good health. Thank you, a lot!

THANK YOU so very much for your PRAYERS, for your LOVE and for your OPEN HEART for us to give and support! May our Lord Jesus Christ REPAY you back abundantly!

BIG THANK YOU dear Unity of Brethren, for your faithful SUPPORT, for your kind LOVE!

We love you all very much, we miss you and we are looking forward for the time when we will be able to be together with you again! May our Lord Jesus Christ BLESS YOU ALL abundantly in His Holy Name!!! The greatest thing is to know that you do love us, you do support us, you do pray for us, and that we do have nice and warm connection together! God Bless You!

From Robert & Anne Thiessen... Missionaries in Mexico

Monday, September 30, 2019

Moving Around

Hello friends,

Today I'm at a friend's house in Oaxaca, where I once had a home. I'm between things: A workshop on teaching methods in Mitla and then a week back in Tlaxiaco learning Mixtec. Someone asked me yesterday how many places I had been in this month. I counted eight. Not all my months are like that, but working with the missionaries of Sin Fronteras means moving around. Robert enjoys this. Me...not so much. Most of the missionaries live within hours of Tlaxiaco, where we've moved to. But three teams live in villages near Tlapa, Guerrero (also





a place we once had a home), one family lives in the state of Jalisco, and one guy in Durango.

As I wrote before, each team is learning a different language. Each team faces challenges. The question is how to resource each team appropriately. This past month Robert and I joined with the directors of Sin Fronteras, Alex and Shayra, to visit the missionaries who live the farthest: Rev and Lidia work among the Huichols in Jalisco, and Luis works with the Tepehuan in Durango. Since the Huichols do not allow outsiders to live in their communities, Rev and Lidia make short visits to sell chaquira (beads) for Huichol artisanry. Since they cannot immerse themselves in the language, they look to a migrant family to help them. This group of six related families was expelled from their community for following Christ. They have been willing, but time is always an issue for them, and they persistently ask: "But why on earth do you want to learn Huichol? Can't you see we are quickly moving into Spanish?"

Why, indeed. This is the question for all the Sin Fronteras missionaries. Is the enormous effort of learning the language worth the benefit, when language companions are comfortable speaking the trade language —



Spanish? Is there a better way to bring the gospel into their heart language?

After visiting Rey and Lidia and their kids, seeing this chaquira buck deer monument, meeting the migrant family, and talking about God's insistence that He is honored when Huichols worship in Huichol, we got back in the car and moved on to Durango, where Luis (in the white shirt) introduced his fiancé, Lulu. Again, part of my job was to talk about language learning. Lulu, a speech therapist, wondered whether she needed further training to learn language. Shayra and I organized two language sessions for her and her church leaders to model the Growing Participation Approach that Luis has been using. Then, as we were about to stuff all seven of us into a pickup and bump four rugged hours to Luis' village, I received word my dad had been rushed to the hospital for emergency surgery, and I flew to Florida to be with him. He had serious heart issues but is ok now. I'm back in Mexico, moving on to the next engagement – facilitating a workshop in Mitla in October on how to help indigenous communities plan the future of their languages. Two Sin Fronteras missionaries will be taking this teaching back to their colleagues.

> Nkdioxi koo xu'un, Anne and Robert

Prayer:

- Language learning for all of us
- Open doors to champion indigenous languages
- Endurance (drug-induced diabetes means – ¡¡¡UGH!!! – insomnia and picky eating)

BYF Convention and Volleyball Tournament 2019



Wall Brethren: 1st Place



Snook Brethren: 2nd Place



Taylor Brethren: 3rd Place

A great time and hot day were enjoyed by the 200+ people gathered at the Hus Encampment July 20-21. A business meeting was held with representatives from each local BYF in the morning, setting the 2019-2020 budget, retreat dates, and electing the new leadership team.

After the meeting, all participants and guests gathered in the main building for worship led by Rev. Mike Groseclose and shared in the Lord's supper. After worship, the youth headed over to the volleyball courts to compete. After a long day and much Gatorade, Wall took 1st, Snook 2nd, and Taylor 3rd in the volleyball tournament.

LOOKINGAHEAD

Winter Youth Retreat: January 4-5

Children's Rally: February 22

Summer Meeting/Volleyball: July 11-12

Forms and deadlines available at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org

or by emailing Jennifer Chervenka jennchervenka@gmail.com