

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



Vol. 118

December 2019

No. 10

36 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.



The New Beginnings Church Building Committee

Members of the New Beginnings Church Building Committee at the recent dedication of the new building in Caldwell, Texas.

L to R: Rev. Mark Sebek, Rev. Kay Polasek, Lamar Urbanovsky, Jerry Dove, Rev. Larry Koslovsky, Martha Dove, Ben Polasek.

Merry Christmas!

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Back to the Beginning . . . by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

They Belong to the Lord . . . by Jim Pokorny

In Christ's Love: New Beginnings Church

Ladies' Campference Invitation

. . . and much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

EDITOR –

Cathleen Schlechte
3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836
979-255-8266
editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com

BUSINESS MANAGER –

Ben Polasek
1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College Station,
TX 77845; 979-220-9270
manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com

BUSINESS COMMITTEE –

President: Kayla Marek
Treasurer: Dorothy Milberger, 312 N. Lantana
Cr., Sealy, TX 77474; mildw@sbcglobal.net;
979-885-7129 (h), 979-472-5091 (c)
Secretary: Stacy Hooker

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS –

Daily Morsels: Dorothy Kocian,
107 S. Barbara, Waco, TX 76705-1317.
Sunday School Helper: Angie Hairrell,
11482 FM 2155, Somerville, TX 77879;
Hairrell@gmail.com
Jim Pokorny, jwppsa@yahoo.com;
blog: otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com

RATE – \$15.00 per year via hard copy and/
or email; \$7.50 after June 1st
(All subscriptions expire December 31st)
FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS, AND GIFT
SUBSCRIPTIONS, Hard Copy & E-Mail, write
The Brethren Journal Business Manager (see
addresses above).

FOR ADDRESS CHANGES – Include ad-
dress label from your most recent issue and
write to: The Brethren Journal Business
Manager, 705 Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836,
or email manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com.

FOR ADVERTISING –

Rates (per column inch per year)
Commercial coverage – \$50.00
Religious coverage – \$50.00

Write:
The Brethren Journal Business Manager

FOR ARTICLE AND REPORT

SUBMISSION – DEADLINE is the first day
of the month preceding publication.
Write: The Brethren Journal Editor, 3635 CR
225, Caldwell, TX 77836, or email:
editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com.
Permit #064220

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL (ISSN 0006-9655)
is published monthly except for January and
July, which are bimonthly, at \$15.00 per year
by The Unity of the Brethren through SuzAnne
Kurten dba Your Business Center, 1050 S.
Hwy. 95, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-921-1068,
periodical postage paid at Taylor, TX. POST-
MASTER: Send address changes to The Breth-
ren Journal, Attn: Business Manager, 705
Woodson Dr., Caldwell, TX 77836.

Visit the
Unity of the Brethren
Website:
unityofthebrethren.org

Seaton BC Annual Sausage Supper Fundraiser Invitation

The Seaton Brethren Church an-
nual sausage supper fundraiser will
be held Saturday, February 15, 2020,
beginning at 3:00 p.m. until the sau-
sage 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.

Knesek Family Funeral Chapels



"Neighbors helping Neighbors
Since 1914"

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

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

DIRECTORY OF PASTORS

Rev. Charles Amos, 845 Airville Road,
Temple, TX 76501. (254) 742-2629

Rev. Whitney Amos, 845 Airville Road,
Temple, TX 76501. (254) 742-2629

Rev. Linda Von Chandler, 13108 North
Ridge Circle, Leander, TX 78641.
(512) 836-2712

Rev. Tim Chaplin, 1326 Starlight Dr.,
Temple TX 76502. (254) 718-6094;
tpch4359@gmail.com

Rev. Joe Emerson, 5404 Southern
Crossing Dr., Temple, TX 76502.
(254) 931-1653;
joe.emerson_ma@yahoo.com

Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez, 3913 Brinkman
Drive, Port Arthur, TX 77642.
(409) 293-2065

Rev. Michael Groseclose, 352
Nelsonville Church Rd., Bellville, TX
77418. (979) 865-3026

Rev. Jim Heckman, 9849 PR 1015,
Rockdale, TX 76567. (979) 676-4447,
leave message. If no answer, try 2nd
number, (979) 200-0513;
jimheckman46@gmail.com

Rev. James D. Hejl, 309 Cherrywood
Circle, Taylor, TX 76574. (512) 365-6890

Rev. Dr. Brad Herridge, 2816
Braemar, Waco, TX 76710. (254)
716-2578; brad.herridge@gmail.com

Rev. Curtis Holland, 1017 Southwood,
Waco, TX 76712. (254) 715-0477

Rev. David Johnson, 902 Timberlane,
Caldwell, TX 77836.
(979) 567-1838(h),
(979) 220-3822(c);
pastordjbama@gmail.com

Pastor Lisa Johnson, 10221 Centrepark
Drive #737, Houston, TX 77043, (713)
548-4901; writer.johnson@gmail.com

Rev. Lawrence Juneke, 3316 Lyle,
Waco, TX 76708. (254) 714-2622

Dr. Larry Koslovsky, 4211 Misty
Timbers Way, Kingwood, TX 77345.
(281) 328-2442 (off),
(713) 594-45 18 (c);
lwkoslo@aol.com

Pastor Ben Kruse, 11714 Needville
Fairchilds Road, Needville, TX
77461; (713) 376-3646;
krusedadb@yahoo.com

Rev. John Kueker, P.O. Box 325,
Buckholts, TX 76518. (254) 605-0434

Dr. Mark L. Labaj, 3410 Meadow
Creek Lane, Temple, TX 76504.
(254) 774-8179; Baylor Medical
Center, Round Rock, TX,
mark.labaj@utexas.edu

Rev. Denise Mikeska, 409 E. Upshaw,
Temple, TX 76501. dkaym@hotmail.com

Rev. Vanessa Lucia Mitchell, 2070
Carter Lake Drive, College Station,
TX 77845. (979) 574-0268;
lajoiediedieu@gmail.com Blog:
notboxingtheair.wordpress.com

Rev. Joseph Polasek, P.O. Box 54,
Snook, TX 77878, (979) 272-1624;
josephjpilasek@yahoo.com

Rev. Kay Polasek, 1103 Harrisonburg
Lane, College Station, TX 77845.
(979) 220-1289;
revkaypolasek@yahoo.com

Rev. Mark Sebek, 9235 FM 437,
Rogers, TX 76569. (254) 931-2000;
papasebek@gmx.com

Rev. Thomas Tallas, 3829 Sandstone, San
Angelo, TX 76904. (325) 949-7543;
rev.tjt@gmail.com (h),
rev.tjt@zipnet.us (ch)

Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill,
jerryleterrill@comcast.net

Rev. Ryan Volkman, 4905 Oaklawn
Blvd., San Angelo, TX 76904, (325)
213-0671; ryvolkman@gmail.com

Rev. Larry Zabcik, 2013 Burnie
Bishop Place, Cedar Park, TX
78613. (512) 992-5824;
zabcikville@ymail.com

RETIRED Pastors

Rev. Al Newby, 2210 Forest Trail,
Temple, TX 76502. (254) 778-1860

Rev. Nello Strickland, 1006 Top Hill
Drive, Brenham, TX 77833.
(979) 836-2609

DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARIES

Pastor Pavel and Stanya Kozak
Norska 42
77900 Olomouc
Czech Republic
e-mail: Pavel.Ko@volny.cz

Phil & Eunice Raiford
(parents' address in U.S.)
230 SW Sandy Way
Port Saint Lucie, FL 34986
pbrmissions@gmail.com

Rob and Anne Thiessen
25 E. Camino Nacional
Tlalixtac de Cabrera
Oaxaca, MEXICO 68627
(011) 52-1-951-145-8947
e-mail: rvthiessen@gmail.com

Carolyn Groseclose
NDO
PO Box 630260
Choma, Zambia
e-mail: carolyngroseclose@yahoo.com

Joel & Teresa Jelski
Mazkeret Moshe
19
Jerusalem 9431619
Israel

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Jon Farrow; (254) 718-1938;
jfarrow@hot.rr.com

Trish Groseclose; (979) 865-3026

James Marek; (512) 844-8520;
james.Marek@cnbt.bank

Anna Wotipka; (979) 218-9043

Adviser: Rev. Michael Groseclose;
(979) 277-4816

Synodical Committee Liaison:
Dr. Larry Koslovsky

HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Chair: Rev. Tim Chaplin (2019)

Beth Dusek; bethbrenham@gmail.com

Clarence (Tillman) Clark;
foxfire890@aol.com

Rev. Larry Zabcik; zabcikville@gmail.com

Jerry Dove (2019), Fayetteville

Gerry Davis (2019), West

Jon Farrow (2019), Temple

Rev. Mike Groseclose (Liaison)

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

President: Rev. Larry Koslovsky, (713) 594-4518

1st Vice President: Rev. Michael Groseclose
(979) 277-4816

2nd Vice President: Angie Hairrell, 11482 FM
2155, Somerville, TX 77879, (979) 219-1582;
hairrell@gmail.com

3rd Vice President: Rev. Whitney Amos,
(254) 742-2629, chatney@aol.com

Secretary: Shara Davis, 1218 La Vega St.,
Waco, TX 76705, (254) 299-7742;
sharatweety@aol.com

Treasurer: Lynette Urbanovsky, 1711 Gray Stone
Dr., Bryan, TX 77807; (979) 450-1820,
lurbanovsky@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Kayla Marek, 1804 Mallard
Ln, Taylor, TX 76574, (512) 944-2619;
kmarek2012@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Liz Ripple, 311 W.
State Hwy. 71, Fayetteville, TX 78940;
(979) 378-2239, lizripple@hotmail.com

Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Ryan Volkman

Pastor to Pastors: Rev. James D. Hejl,
(512) 365-6890

Non-Voting Lay Alternate: Taylor Brinkley,
Ocker

Lay Members:

Austin: Darrel Kolinek, dkolinek@yahoo.com

BCS: Alan Haisler, haislera@ymail.com

Buckholts: Charlene Vogelsang,
cakv@hotmail.com

Caldwell: Lynette Urbanovsky (Treasurer); Martha
Huffman, marthahuffman@gmail.com

Crosby: Debbie Clark, foxfire890@aol.com

Dime Box: Roberta Brinkman,
superblues123@gmail.com

Fayetteville: Sandra Stepan,
sandrinaustin@yahoo.com

Good Shepherd: Beltran Perez,
beltranperez65@gmail.com

Granger: Vacant

Houston: Dorothy Hinson, (281) 620-0480

Industry: Harvey Treybig, harvey.treybig@gmail.com

Nelsonville: Jenell Zettel, (979) 203-8390

New Tabor: Robert Campbell,
robertfcampbell1105@yahoo.com

Ocker: Taylor Brinkley, taylorbrinkley@yahoo.com

Pasadena: Becky Lively

Rosenberg: Alice Kocurek,
katalice8@gmail.com

Seaton: Doug Rowald, dougrowald@yahoo.com

Snook: Angie Hairrell (2nd VP); Yvonne Kovar,
ykovar@outlook.com

Taylor: Carol Raesz, jcraesz@gmail.com

Temple: Deborah Schiller,
dschiller1123@gmail.com

Wall: Paul Beatty, pbeatty@gmail.com

Wesley: Mark Surovik

West: Shara Davis (Sec); Gerry Davis,
grdfbc58@gmail.com

Westheimer: Leroy Parthum,
betty_parthum@yahoo.com

Fall 2019

Synodical Committee Meeting Summary



Rev. Joe Emerson and Rev. Mark Sebek recognized for their service to the Executive Board and the Unity by Rev. Larry Koslovsky, President.

The Fall Synodical Committee Meeting was held October 5, 2019, at the Hus Encampment. There were 44 in attendance.

Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional. The referendum was canvassed with all portions passing. The Executive Committee for 2019-2021 was installed by Rev. Tommy Tallas. Members of the Committee are: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky, President; Rev. Mike Groseclose, 1st Vice President; Angie Hairrell, 2nd Vice President; Rev. Whitney Amos, 3rd Vice President; Shara Davis, Secretary; Lynette Urbanovsky, Treasurer; Kayla Marek, Financial Secretary; Taylor Brinkley, Lay Alternate; Rev. Ryan Volkman, Ministerial Alternate.

Rev. Mark Sebek and Rev. Joe Emerson were recognized for completed terms on the Executive Board.

A new name for Cade Lake was proposed and approved by Rev. Kay

Polasek – *New Beginnings*. Rev. Curtis Holland has been diagnosed with Parkinson's and will semi-retire. Rev. Gerry Davis will preach in the transition. Rev. Curtis Holland will continue to administer the Sacraments. Fayetteville and Industry reported on their challenges with pulpit supply and are working with the PRC.

The 2020 Budgets were approved. Home Missions: *Total Budget*: \$61,650.00; Foreign Missions: *Total Budget*: \$73,000.

Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky challenged churches to think outside the box (second services, sharing facilities, dinner church, online Bible studies). He also asked members to read the following portions of the Constitution and By-laws: Congregations: pg. 8, Synodical Committee: pg. 11, Pastors: pg. 22.

License Renewals for Ben Kruse and Lisa Johnson were approved for 1 year. ➔

The following appointments were approved:

Board of Christian Education: *Chair:* Deborah Schiller (Cross Church at Birdcreek), *Members:* Deanna Hairrell (Snook), Jordan Eilers (Ocker), Debbie Clark (Crosby) One additional member is needed.

Hus Encampment: *Chair:* Kent Laza (BCS), *Treasurer:* Todd Corporon (Taylor), *Members:* Tami Laza (BCS), Angie Labaj (originally Temple), Rick Weiss (Wall), Todd Snelgrove (BCS – lives in San Antonio), Jennifer Chervenka (Ocker), James Marek (Taylor), *Facility Manager:* Alan Haisler. The *Building Fund* balance was \$286,000.

Board of Foreign Mission: *Chair:* David Miller, *Current:* Arnold Cuba (Taylor), Reesa Ueckert (Nelsonville), Erin Brinkley (Ocker), Daniel Vjotek (BCS), Paula Wagner (Taylor), Alan Haisler (BCS)

Board of Home Mission: *Chair:* Rev. Tim Chaplin (Cross Church at Birdcreek), *Current:* Clarence Clark (Crosby), Beth Dusek (Wall), Rev. Larry Zback (Granger), Jerry Dove (Fayetteville), Gerry Davis (West), Jon Farrow (Cross Church at Birdcreek).

Brethren Journal Business Committee: Secretary: Stacey Hooker, Treasurer: Dorothy Milberger.

Archivist was put on HOLD.

Ministers' Benefit Committee: *Members:* Rev. James Hejl, Liz Ripple (Executive Secretary/Treasurer), Rev. Tim Chaplin, Rev. Mike Groseclose, Angie Hairrell, Rev. Joe Emerson, Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky (Ex-Officio).

Brethren Journal Committee: *Members:* Sandra Stepan (Fayetteville). The Executive committee will fill the remaining spots.

Unity Convention 2021 will be held at Camp Allen. Tentative dates are July 13-15, 2021.

No Prime Timers this year.

The Spring Synodical Committee Meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2020.

Rev. James Hejl closed in prayer.

Announcements

- Cade Lake/New Beginnings Dedication – Sunday, October 13, 3 p.m.

- 3rd Quarter Pastor's Salary Reports to Administrative Assistant due October 24, 2019.

- November 10: Annual Veteran's Service at Industry.

- Use the Funds Distribution Memo – go through Kayla Marek. One Funds Distribution Memo per check. Every check needs to be payable to The Unity of the Brethren; memo needs to state what it is for (Home Missions Board, etc.). Instructions are in the form.

- Let Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky know if you record your services.

- If you are a pastor willing to help these congregations, please reach out to the congregations. We have not always had Sunday morning services. We can think outside the box.

- Christmas Cantata: If you are interested, contact Lynette Urbanovsky.

- Positions to be filled:

Board of Christian Education,

1 position.

Brethren Journal Committee,

4 positions.

Mutual Aid Society – Listing of Local Secretaries' Addresses and Phone Numbers

Granger #1: Angie Malicoat, PO Box 362, Granger, TX 76530, 512-859-2837

Taylor #3: Marie Ann Ripple, 2302 Heights Blvd, Taylor, TX 76574, 512-365-6916

West #4: Dorothy Kocian, 107 South Barbara Street, Waco, TX 76705, 254-799-5331, dekocian@yahoo.com

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

Dime Box #6: Marvin Chlapak, PO Box 1163, Caldwell, TX 77836, 979-272-9102,

mjcarc@airplexus.com

Snook #7: Ann Sebesta, Box 115, Snook, TX 77878, 210-244-3362, bfsinc@tconline.net

Ocker #8: Eugene Haisler, 19081 Cyclone Branch Road, Burlington, TX 76519, 254-985-2316

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

Nelsonville #14: Peggy Peschel, 8000 Hwy 159 W, Bellville, TX 77418, 979-865-5095

Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek, 7157 FM 2086, Temple, TX 76501, 254-984-2283, jjskrabanek@aol.com

Sealy #17: Esther Breeden, 2728 Osborn Appt #1002, Bryan, TX 77803, 979-779-3835

Wesley #18: Elaine Koehn, 9053 Learning Oak Lane, Brenham, TX 77833, 979-836-5196, koehns72@yahoo.com

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

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

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

Houston #23: Dorothy Hinson, 7331 Misty Morning Drive, Humble, TX 77346, 281-620-0480, dorothy.hinson@hotmail.com

Wall #25: Sharon J. Hohmann, 222 Crestwood Drive, San Angelo, TX 76903-9106, 325-651-5884

Caldwell #27: Brenda Schroeder, 4193 FM 696, Caldwell, TX 77836, bschroeder@caldwellisd.net

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

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

Pasadena #33: Betty Orsag, 5118 Coventry Ct, Friendswood, TX 77546-3001, 281-482-1501

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

**Position currently filled by Administrative Board members

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE
"Bear ye one another's burdens
And so fulfill the Law of
Christ." (Gal. 6:2)

THE MUTUAL AID SOCIETY

Rev. Joseph J. Polasek, President
Daniel Vojtek, Vice-President
Natalie Outlaw, Gen. & Jr. Dept.
Secretary
Ruth Ann Wuensche, Treasurer
Dorothy Hinson, Board Member
Ann Sebesta, Board Member
Synodical Liaison: Kayla Marek, 2nd
Vice President

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; cfilipp@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

FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

Chairman:

David Miller (2015), Wall; cell 325-245-5616, dm103157@wcc.net

Unity Representatives:

Reesa Ueckert (2015), Nelsonville; 979-472-0559, reesa@hrueckert.com

Paula Wagner (2015), Taylor; 512-996-8846, paulak1121@sbcglobal.net

Arnold Cuba (2015), Taylor; 512-247-8019, arcuba188@yahoo.com

Erin Brinkley (2015), Ocker; erinbrinkley@yahoo.com

Alan Haisler (2019), BCS
Daniel Vojtek (2019), BCS

Synodical Committee Liaison (First Vice-President: Rev. Mike Groseclose

Advisors:

Rev. Lawrence & Barbara Junek (Unity at large)

Back to the Beginning

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Sometimes, in order to get a better hold of a situation, you have to go back to the beginning.

Back to when the flowers were fresh,

Back to when you were not exhausted,

Back to when there was only harmony and growth.

Our sin nature compels us most days to move into the realm of poor decision making, to a mind that is dubious of God's Active Presence, to an emotional whirlwind with casualties far greater than we ever imagined.

So go back.

Go back to the beginning.

Go back to when you first became a passionate committed disciple of Jesus Christ.

Perhaps you do not recall that moment.

Perhaps it has all become a blur.

You can still go to the beginning with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Simply pray, "Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit."

Then expect the Holy Spirit to come and be with you in the midst of your struggle with sin.

Go to the Holy Spirit.

Ask Him to bring to your mind the sin that is keeping you from loving the Lord your God with all of your soul, with all of your heart, with all of your strength, and with all of your mind.

Every human being in this world needs to pray this prayer.

"Come, Holy Spirit. Show me my sin. Cleanse me like a refreshing rain that I would live for You without excuse."

This revival powered by the Holy Spirit is what we all need every day. It is what churches need. It is what our world needs. It is upon us to seek this revival of the Holy Spirit within ourselves, and then it will trickle down and outward like a ripple effect to transform the entire world so that it may be "on earth as it is in Heaven." In the time of the prophet Isaiah – the most-quoted prophet by Jesus Christ –



Insuring & Enriching Lives

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

Membership Benefits

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

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

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

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

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



**1022 Kramr Rd at Ross Prairie Church Road
P.O. Box 11 • Fayetteville, TX 78940**

the Jewish people were in desperate need of revival, just as our world is today. Back then, Jesus had not come yet but God the Father had revealed Himself to them in countless ways for hundreds of years: In a burning bush, by parting the Red Sea, through many prophets...

Read this vision – given by God to the prophet Isaiah – aloud, and ask the Holy Spirit for the phrase that God intends for you to meditate upon and allow the Holy Spirit to transform you once again or even for the first time into a disciple of Jesus who loves the Lord your God with all of your soul, with all of your heart, with all of your strength, and with all of your mind.

1 *The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.* 2 *Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth; for the Lord has spoken: I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me.* 3 *The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib; but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.* 4 *Ah, sinful nation, people laden with iniquity, offspring who do evil, children who deal corruptly, who have forsaken the Lord, who have despised the Holy One of*

Israel, who are utterly estranged! 5 Why do you seek further beatings? Why do you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. 6 *From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but bruises and sores and bleeding wounds; they have not been drained, or bound up, or softened with oil.* 7 *Your country lies desolate, your cities are burned with fire; in your very presence aliens devour your land; it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.* 8 *And daughter Zion is left like a booth in a vineyard, like a shelter in a cucumber field, like a besieged city.* (Isaiah 1:1-8, NRSV)

- 1) **God, what are you telling me?**
- 2) **How am I rebelling against You, God? Why am I rebelling against You, God? When did I get off track?**
- 3) **How can I be healed, God? Heal me. I believe You can heal me.**

So go back.
Go back to the beginning.
Go back to God. He is waiting with arms wide open.

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

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.*

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

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 Beginnings (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

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

Thoughts about giving...

Remembering the Unity of the Brethren or any of its ministries is a fitting testimony of your belief. Your gift in a will can be a legacy that continues to affect the Christian values, mission, and ministry that is important to you.

You can give without restrictions and let us use the funds for the most pressing needs or you can specify how, when, or where you want the funds used.

You can require that we hold the principle as an endowment and use only the earnings each year.

You can give in memory or in the honor of someone.

Your gift can be contingent. The funds go to someone if they survive you and if not, then to the Unity.

You can tell us now that you have named the Unity in your will and allow us to express our gratitude...or you can let it be known later.

There are many other ways to give. Contact any Board of Grants and Bequests member about what you can give and how you can give.

Leroy Parthum, Chair – Westheimer – 713-826-7993;
betty_parthum@yahoo.com

Eugene Haisler, Secretary – Ocker – 254-985-2316, dmheeh@msn.com

Ron Tyson, Treasurer – Houston – 281-373-4376 (home),
rdtyson1@hotmail.com

Lynette Urbanovsky, Unity Treasurer - Synodical Liaison – 4050
Pendleton Dr., Apt. 628, Bryan, TX 77802; (979) 450-1820;
lurbanovsky@gmail.com

Alan Tomasek – 512-859-2197, amtomasek@thegateway.net

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:	\$322,482
Additional Funds Needed:	\$ 57,518

THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE...

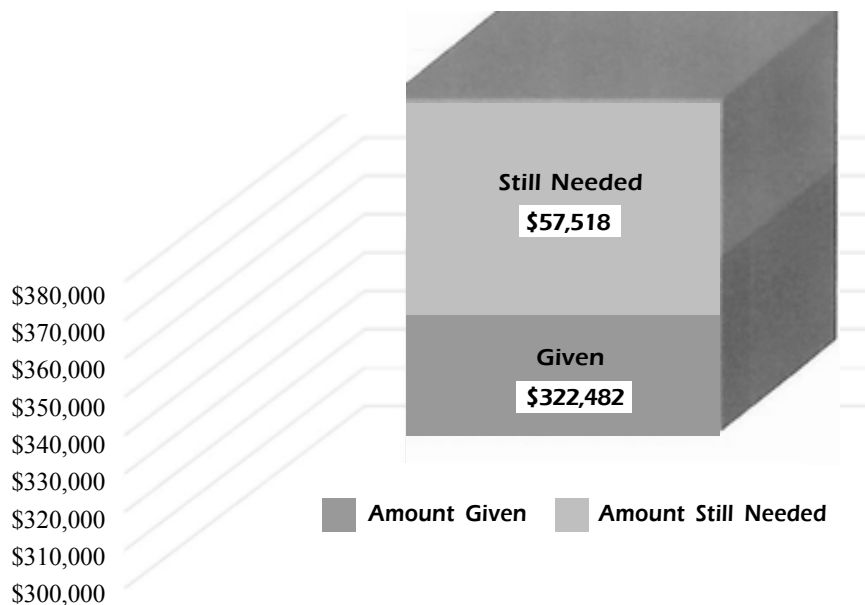
- 1) Make an **online donation** via credit card at: huscamp.org
- 2) Make a **recurring donation** using the pledge form at: huscamp.org
- 3) Send a **one-time gift** to: Hus Camp Building Fund
c/o Todd Corporon, Hus Board Treasurer
5350 CR 124
Georgetown, TX 78626



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

Hus School Main Building Renovation Project as of November 8, 2019 Goal: \$380,000





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!

Matching Technology Grant Program

The Synodical Committee approved an application for a Matching Technology Grant for all Unity churches. Churches may apply for a matching grant up to \$1,000.00. 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.

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

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

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

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@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: 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.

GRANGER NATIONAL BANK

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

SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM
Your *Brethren Journal* Subscription Expires
December 31st

Annual Subscription Rate – \$15.00/year

PLEASE CONSIDER making a donation . . . to support the publication of *The Brethren Journal*. We depend on gifts from those who read and appreciate the information we share each year. Your gift is tax deductible.

Send your check, payable to *The Brethren Journal*, to the Business Manager:
Ben Polasek, 1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College Station, TX 77845

Please note: Whenever sending address changes, always include old address.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

I would like gift subscriptions for:

Gift Sub 1: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Gift Sub 2: Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone # _____

Email _____

Donation Amount: _____ ☐ Recurring Monthly Pledge

☐ One Time Gift

If recurring monthly pledge, please provide: Bank Routing #

Financial Institution Name:

Account # _____

Signature: _____

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

In memory/honor (circle one) of:

Please provide address for acknowledgment:

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

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

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

They Belong to the Lord

- by Jim Pokorny

Personally speaking, 2019 has been a tough year. So many I knew completed their earthly journeys this year. I've said goodbye to both family and friends, including a faithful student in my class. Although we have faith, saying goodbye is never easy. The most difficult by far were the losses of two young people.

The first was Kayla Wuensche. News of her untimely passing as the result of an accident came like a body blow on the heels of losses I experienced earlier in the year. Kayla was a remarkable young lady whose faith was evident and without pretense. As I watched her grow up, I could see the profound influence Kayla's late aunt Denise had upon her. I saw Kayla take part in a VBS skit one summer and it was like watching Denise doing one of her memorable children's sermons on Sunday mornings. When Denise passed away, I felt that Kayla made it a personal mission to make certain that people remembered her "Aunt Dee Dee."

Kayla worked at the Golden Chick restaurant in Taylor for a time. Many

evenings I would stop there for a sandwich after returning from a difficult day in Austin. There I would see Kayla working the drive-thru window. Every time she saw me, her face lit up. She would smile and lyrically exclaim, "Hi, Mr. Pokorny!" and the cares of my day would instantly vanish. I am certain many other people shared similar experiences.

It appears that it falls to the rest of us to keep both Kayla and Denise's memory alive.

The second young person was an intern we employed over the summer. His name was William Zachary Elders. Originally from Portland, Oregon, Zach grew up in Mineral Wells, Texas. He was a Petroleum Engineering senior at Texas A&M University. Although I bleed burnt orange, I found Zach to be a very pleasant and unassuming young man.

I recall helping Zach out a time or two when he was assigned tasks by our engineering staff. I realized that he was with us to gain work experience to go along with his education. It seemed only fair that I share with

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 enjoy performances at the Snook Brethren Church and New Tabor Brethren Church in December.

Performances:

- The Snook Brethren Cantata performance will be Friday, December 13, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.
- The New Tabor performance will be Saturday, December 21, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.

For More information contact Lynette at 979-450-1820. Come PRAISE the LORD with us!!

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

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

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for December 2019

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

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

1. **The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. Isaiah 9:2a**
2. For unto us a child is born, to us a Son is given. Isaiah 9:6a
3. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6b
4. He will reign on David's throne and over His kingdom. Isaiah 9:7b
5. He will establish and uphold His Kingdom with justice and righteousness. Isaiah 9:7c
6. I will fulfill the gracious promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. Jer. 33:14
7. I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line. Jer. 33:15a
8. **But you, Bethlehem, Ephrathah, though you are small..., out of you shall come One Who will be Ruler over Israel. Micah 5:2**
9. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son and will call His name Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14
10. The angel Gabriel went to Mary and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored. The Lord is with you." Luke 1:28
11. "You (Mary) will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus." Luke 1:29
12. The Lord will give Him the throne of His father David. Luke 1:32
13. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever; His kingdom will never end. Luke 1:33
14. The Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35b
15. **Mary said, "My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47**
16. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence there is fullness of joy. Psalm 16:11a
17. John's father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied. Luke 1:67
18. Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because He has come and has redeemed His people. Luke 1:68
19. When the time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law. Gal. 4:4
20. God's Son was born to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. Gal. 4:5
21. This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. 1 John 4:9
22. **For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16**
23. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. John 1:14a
24. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, Who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14b
25. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11
26. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests. Luke 2:14
27. The shepherds... found Mary, Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Luke 2:16
28. When the shepherds saw the baby, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child. Luke 2:17
29. **The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:20**
30. My eyes have seen Your salvation. Luke 2:30
31. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. 2 Cor. 5:17b (ESV)

him my almost three decades of experience.

When the time came for Zach to leave us, he made it a point to thank me for my assistance. I told him that it was my pleasure as I remembered what it felt like when I was new to the job. I wished him well and told him I had every confidence that his future would be a bright one.

A month later, we received word that Zach was killed in a multivehicle accident near campus.

Shortly afterward, my friend Mark Olsen shared with me a *Silver Taps* article about Zach that referred to him as a dedicated Aggie and passionate learner. From that article I discovered several things about Zach that I never knew about.

First was his struggle with dyslexia. As a freshman, Zach struggled with his grades in several engineering courses. Zach's mother was quoted: "He lived the 'Aggies never quit' mantra. He wanted to be there. He did not give up. He wanted to be an engineer, so he went to every A-Plus Tutoring offered for every class, no matter the time of night." He also wanted to join the Aggie Council of Engineers but was not initially ac-

cepted. The following year, Zach attended every function, setting up, tearing down, and doing everything possible to show them he had what it took. On his next application, Zach was accepted hands down.

At the beginning of the semester, Zach and his roommate became accountability partners. Zach's mother stated they were working to become better people and help those around them make better choices. They were striving to make the transition from college students "to productive, loving and faithful adults."

Upon reflection, I could see that both Kayla and Zach had that in common. Both had learned to bring to surface the best in themselves and bring about the best in others through their faith.

It seems a shame that this vast amount of potential will go unrealized in this world. It does not matter what church we call home, or what team we root for on Saturday. It falls to us to carry on what they had begun.

Romans 14:8 (NIV) – *If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.*

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

12 Years of Support for Community and First Responders

- by Timothy Coffman

Wall Brethren Church Historian & San Angelo Police Sergeant

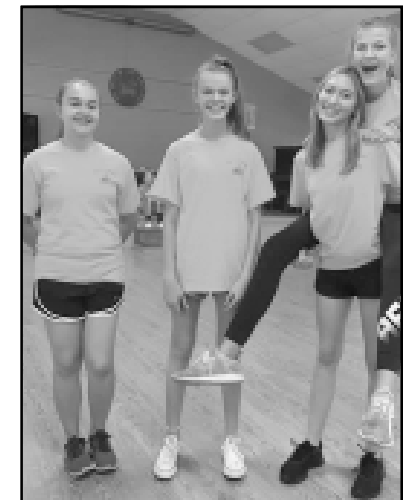
National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances.

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories, and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in August (Texas and select areas celebrate on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts, and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more.

On Tuesday, October 1st, neighborhoods throughout the San Angelo area were invited to join forces with thousands of communities across the nation for the “36th Annual National Night Out” crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and co-sponsored locally by the San Angelo Police Department, will involve over 16,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world. In all, over 38.5 million people are expected to participate in “America’s Night Out Against Crime.”

National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

On October 1, 2019, the members of the Wall Brethren Church brought the Wall community and local first responders together as they celebrated their 12th Annual National Night Out event at the Wall Brethren Church. The event, which is one of the largest events in the San Angelo area and was attended by 375 people, brings local law enforcement and other first responders together with members of the community they serve in a non-



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

REFRESH: STATE BYF RETREATS 2019-2020

The Fall BYF Retreat was held September 14-15. There were 31 youth present. The weekend focused on relaxing and refreshing. Students were guided in how to study the Bible for themselves and spent sessions in prayer and scripture reading. They also made stress balls, learned breathing exercises, and did yoga. The refreshing came with inflatable waterslides that were enjoyed all afternoon.

The Winter Retreat is January 4-5, 2020. Registrations are due December 15. Registrations will be available via camp doc and done online for this retreat. Please be looking for the email and Facebook post with details and the link for registration. The January retreat will focus on refreshing through prayer and reconnecting with God. Retreats are for youth ages 12-21. Cost is \$30. T-shirts are optional.

CAMP GAMES AND ACTIVITIES NEEDED!

The State BYF has decided to purchase new board and card games for the camp. A wish list has been created on Amazon, and several items have already been purchased. These items are mailed directly to the camp, and several of the games were put to good use at the Fall Retreat. We will keep this list updated, and you can shop and donate at your convenience. An easier way to get to the link is to check out State BYF Retreats on Facebook and use the link from there or you can use this link online.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/29UOUSH3D11WU?ref_=wl_share

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BYF

Web: www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org

Facebook: State BYF Retreats

Email: jennchervenka@gmail.com

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



BRETHREN JOURNAL

enforcement event. During the three-hour event there were several first responder vehicles on display for the community to view and ask questions about the equipment that the different agencies utilize in the performance of their daily duties. There were events for the kids, such as a bounce house and a rock-climbing wall. In addition to the first responder vehicles, the rock-climbing wall, and the bounce house, several volunteer organizations and local businesses attend the event and had booths to also interact with the community. The local Team Chip Tae Kwon Do demonstration team performed a demonstration that amazed everyone in attendance.

The event, which is usually attended by between 300 and 600 people each year, has the atmosphere of a large community party with friends and neighbors being able to visit and eat a hamburger or a hot dog meal. The event is organized each year by the San Angelo Police Department in conjunction with the Tom Green County Sheriff's Department. The main local sponsors for the yearly event are Ener-Tel Security Services, HEB, Market Street Supermarket, Pepsi

Cola Bottling Company, and DeCoty Coffee Company.

The food for the event is obtained each year through donations from local businesses. The food is then prepared by the men's group of the Wall Brethren Church and desserts are provided by the members of the church. Throughout the evening, door prizes that have been donated by area businesses are given away to those in attendance.

The first responders that attend the annual event cover a wide range of jurisdictions and consist of the San Angelo Police Department, Tom Green County Sheriff's Department, Texas Department of Public Safety, the San Angelo City Marshals Office, the Game Wardens from Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Wall Volunteer Fire Department, the Texas Forestry Service, and the U.S. Forestry Service.

The event, which is one of the largest area National Night Out events, is a true testament to the Wall Brethren Church and Saint Ambrose Catholic Church working to unite the Wall Community and show support for their local first responders while sending a message to criminals that crime in their community is not welcome.

TAYLOR BRETHERN CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574
512-352-6423

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

Pastor
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

Board President
Bryan Holubec
512-922-5470

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

In Christ's Love from the Foreign Mission Fields

From Robert & Anne Thiessen . . .
Missionaries in Mexico

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

Visiting the Raifords

Dear friends,

We are back from a week in Mixe land. I was helping our teammates Phil and Eunice jump into the *Growing Participator Approach* to learn Mixe. Robert was fixing a door in Eunice's medical clinic and a fence that the neighbor's dump truck knocked over.

The feel of Juquila de los Mixes was different from the Mixtec towns I know. People spoke louder and more freely. There were more two-story concrete buildings (though few of them are painted). Painted on the high school's roof was the phrase, "Never conquered" (meaning that the Spanish conquistadors never subdued this



people. The Mixes are less aware of other ways the conquistadors' culture now dominates: Many Mixe children speak only Spanish). And the language sounds nothing like Mixtec. Mixtec is nasal and the words are short. Mixe words are longer and tend to end in bunches of hard consonants (tsk or pch or kpt etc).

I thought that after learning two Mixtec variants, I'd get Mixe right



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

December 13, 2019 – Christmas Cantata Performance at Snook Brethren Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, see article in this issue or contact Lynette Urbanovsky at 979-450-1820.

December 15, 2019 – Winter BYF Retreat Registrations due.

December 21, 2019 – Christmas Cantata Performance at New Tabor Brethren Church beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, see article in this issue or contact Lynette Urbanovsky at 979-450-1820.

December 25, 2019 – Christmas Day!

SAVE THE DATES . . .

January 4-5, 2020 – Winter BYF Retreat at the Hus Encampment. See more information in this issue or go online to www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org.

January 24-26, 2020 – Ladies' Campference at the Hus Encampment. See this issue for more information.

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

February 22, 2020 – State Children's Rally at the Hus Encampment. Registrations due January 31. For more information go online to www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org, Facebook: State BYF Retreats, or email: jennchervenka@gmail.com

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

ADERHOLD
FUNERAL HOME, INC.
*"Thoughtful Service –
A Payne Family Tradition"*
West, Texas
254/826-5321

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

away. Hah! Not so. I experienced what Greg Thompson calls "the wall of noise." Although I did fine for the first few sessions, eventually all the words ran together so that I couldn't distinguish them. I got to experience what happens when you try to do language learning with no review (I wanted P&E to take all the time with the ANKI review program on the computer.) After the first few sessions, I took a back seat as a facilitator, and I let them prepare and run the sessions.

They have the perfect language companion, Lola. Humble: Willing to enter in the games we had prepared. Fun: Had us running upstairs to learn "up" and "down". Quick to catch on: When they didn't point to the right object at her command, she waited a bit and then came back to it for review. Her willingness to share her language and the Raiford's commitment to enter in "growing participation" in her culture paid off during this first kick-off week. They now recognize over

200 Mixe words (I'm at a few dozen) and are set to continue on their own. Lola now speaks to Phil and Eunice's kids in Mixe. The week was a huge success and an answer to prayer.

Now I am prepping to take this "mobile language learning workshop" on the road to each of the Sin Fronteras teams. That means four areas and five languages plus more Mixtec variants.

Prayer:

- That our mobile language learning workshops will give a good boost to all our missionary colleagues in their local areas.

- That we will grow in our participation in the cultures *and* languages of the minority peoples we serve and that this incarnational work will bear much fruit.

- That we will have safety and stamina for the amount of travel that the mobile workshops require.

- That the church planting mentoring that we do will bear fruit.



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

...and from the Home Missions Field

From Pastor Kay Polasek . . .
Caldwell, TX

November 2019

New Beginnings

Dear friends,

Some of you may or may not have heard that Cade Lake Community Chapel's name was changed to New Beginnings. On October 13th we honored Brother Jim's service, installed Pastor Kay, dedicated the building, baptized 3, and celebrated with a meal.

Last Sunday we were visited by a TV crew from Netflix (from the UK). They are making a documentary that will air early next year).

Exciting things are happening, and if you are interested in following us on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/pg/New-Beginnings-Caldwell-TX-105550527549007/> posts/ and like the page, make a comment if you want to.

Come visit us sometime! Sunday 11:00 a.m., lunch at noon, and worship at 1:00 p.m. Hope to see you there!

Blessings,
Pastor Kay

New Beginnings Church



Dissolving Candy Cane Experiment

Materials: Small candy canes, water, cups, stopwatch, kitchen scale

HOW TO:

Fill your cups with the same amount of different liquids or different temperature water. Make sure to label what you have in each cup. Add one candy cane or peppermint to each cup. Make sure you add the same type of candy cane to each cup. Set the timer to record how long each peppermint or candy cane takes to dissolve.

Bending Candy Canes

Materials: Candy canes, aluminum foil, cookie sheet, tongs

HOW TO:

Preheat your oven to 350 degrees and line a cookie sheet with aluminum foil. Unwrap the candy canes. Have children try to bend one... even just in half to make a hill shape. Place 1-2 unwrapped candy canes on a cookie sheet. After the first batch, try building "forms" for the candy to melt around and predict how the candy will behave as it melts. Put the candy canes in the oven. Check them after 2-1/2 to 3 minutes. Pull the candy canes out of the oven. Let them cool for about a minute. Take it off the aluminum foil and set it on a paper plate. Once it is cool enough for your children to touch, let them try to bend it again. *If the candy cools too much, it will be very difficult to separate from the aluminum foil and will crack again when they try to bend it.*



Candy Cane Ornaments

Materials: Borax, Water, Mason jars, Pan, Spoon, Measuring Cup and Tablespoon, Pipe Cleaners {Red, White}, Ribbon

HOW TO:

To fill 3 small mason jars, use 6 cups of water and 18 tablespoons of borax. This fills three small mason jars perfectly. Cut pipe cleaners in half and make small candy canes! Twist white and red pipe cleaners together to make candy canes. You will use the popsicle sticks to hang the pipe cleaner candy canes from. You don't want the candy cane to touch the sides or bottom. It will stick and grow crystals!

THE SCIENCE:

The borax has been suspended throughout the solution and remains that way while the liquid is hot. A hot liquid will hold more borax than a cold liquid! As the solution cools, the particles settle out of the saturated mixture and the settling particles from the crystals that you see. The impurities remain behind in the water and cube-like crystals will form if the process of cooling is slow enough. Using a plastic cup versus the glass jar caused a difference in the formation of the crystals. As a result, the glass jar crystals are more heavy-duty, larger, and cube-shaped. While the plastic cup crystals are smaller and more irregularly shaped. Much more fragile, too. The plastic cup cooled off more quickly and they contained more impurities than those in the glass jar.



Installation of Rev. Kay Polasek as Minister of New Beginnings by Rev. Larry Koslovsky.



Rev. Mark Sebek, Rev. Kay Polasek, Martha Dove, Rev. Larry Koslovsky



John Wyble presenting children's message.



Jon Farrow, Rev. Kay Polasek, Rev. Tim Chaplan, Jerry Dove, Tillman Clark



Rev. Mark Sebek and Rev. Kay Polasek performing baptism.

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

Ladies' Campference Invitation

EXPECT *Joy*

Join New Tabor Brethren Church and Life of Love Ministries for a fun and meaningful weekend, January 24-26, 2020. Come allow The Lord to convince you to Expect Joy! in your life, not fear or dread.

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

Set aside this time for yourself and come learn strategies to live a life full of joy!

Registration is open now at: <https://ExpectJoy.ticketleap.com>

Email: RhondaJohnsonMinistries@gmail.com for more information.

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

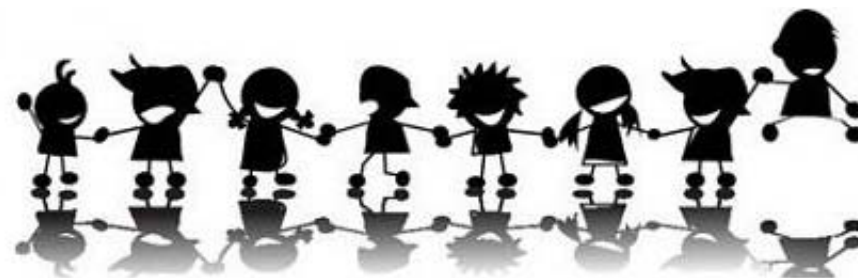
Jennifer Chervenka

(254) 983-1002

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

(254) 482-0498



Sunday School Helper

This month all science activities will focus around the Legend of the Candy Cane. Enjoy the science and the Season.

*"He himself bore our sins
in his body on the tree, so
that we might die to sins
and live for righteousness;
by his stripes you have
been healed" - 1 Pe-
ter 2:24*

*"The LORD is my shep-
herd; I shall not want" -
Psalms 23:1*

Hearing Of The Candy Cane

*Look at the
Bandy Bane
What do you
see?
Stripes that are
red
Like the blood
shed for me.
White is for
my sinless
Who's sinless
and pure
"I" is for Jesus
My Lord
that's for sure!
Torn it around
And a staff
you will see
Jesus my
shepherd
Was born for
Me*