

# THE BRETHREN



# JOURNAL



Vol. 119

December 2020

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.*

Send address changes to:

The Brethren Journal, 1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College Station, TX 77845.



*Rev. James Gordon Heckman, Jr., May 17, 1946-August 3, 2020  
Diane Heckman, November 2, 1949-August 3, 2020*

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

Obituary for Rev. Jim and Diane Heckman, Jr.

*The Christmas Truce . . .* by Jim Pokorny

*Why Prayer is a Lifeline . . .* by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

*Life is What Happens: A Homily . . .* by Dr. Jerry Terrill

**. . . and much more!**

## THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

### EDITOR –

Cathleen Schlechte  
261 Fieldstone Place  
College Station, TX 77845; 979-255-8266  
[editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com)

### BUSINESS MANAGER –

Ben Polasek  
1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College Station,  
TX 77845; 979-220-9270  
[manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto:manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com)

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE –

President: Angie Hairrell  
Treasurer: Dorothy Milberger, 312 N. Lantana  
Cr., Sealy, TX 77474; [mildw@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto:Hairrell@gmail.com)  
Jim Pokorny, [jwppsa@yahoo.com](mailto:jwppsa@yahoo.com);  
blog: [otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com](http://otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com)

**RATE** – \$15.00 per year via hard copy/email.  
**(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**, 1103 Harrisonburg Lane, College  
Station, TX 77845, or email  
[manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto: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, 261  
Fieldstone Place, College Station, TX 77845,  
or email: [editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com](mailto: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. Send  
address changes to *The Brethren Journal*, Attn:  
Business Manager, 1103 Harrisonburg Lane,  
College Station, TX 77845.

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

## Matching Technology Grant Program

The Synodical Committee ap-  
proved an application for a  
Matching Technology Grant for  
all Unity churches. Churches  
may apply for a matching grant  
up to \$1000. This is to assist  
churches who are seeking to  
enhance their worship experi-  
ence through the use of tech-  
nology and A/V equipment.

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

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

## DIRECTORY OF PASTORS

Rev. Charles Amos, 845 Airville Road,  
Temple, TX 76501. (254) 791-9611

Rev. Whitney Amos, 845 Airville Road,  
Temple, TX 76501. (254) 913-5757

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](mailto:tpch4359@gmail.com)

Rev. Joe Emerson, 5404 Southern  
Crossing Dr., Temple, TX 76502.  
(254) 931-1653;  
[joe.emerson\\_ma@yahoo.com](mailto: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. 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](mailto:brad.herridge@gmail.com)

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

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

Rev. Lawrence Junek, 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](mailto:lwkoslo@aol.com)

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

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

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

Rev. Denise Mikeska, 409 E. Upshaw,  
Temple, TX 76501.  
[dkaym@hotmail.com](mailto:dkaym@hotmail.com)

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

Rev. Joseph Polasek, P.O. Box 54,  
Snook, TX 77878, (979) 272-1624;  
[josephjpasek@yahoo.com](mailto:josephjpasek@yahoo.com)

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

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

Rev. Thomas Tallas, 3829 Sandstone,  
San Angelo, TX 76904.  
(325) 949-7543;

[rev.tjt@gmail.com](mailto:rev.tjt@gmail.com) (h),  
[rev.tjt@zipnet.us](mailto:rev.tjt@zipnet.us) (ch)

Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill, 7 Torch Pine  
Court, The Woodlands, TX 77381.  
(281) 744-1147  
[jerryleeterill@comcast.net](mailto:jerryleeterill@comcast.net)

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

Rev. Larry Zabcik, 2013 Burnie  
Bishop Place, Cedar Park, TX  
78613. (512) 992-5824;  
[zabcikville@yahoo.com](mailto:zabcikville@yahoo.com)

### RETIRED PASTORS

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

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

#### DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARIES

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

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

Carolyn Groseclose  
NDO  
PO Box 630260  
Choma, Zambia  
e-mail: [carolyngroseclose@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:jfarrow@hot.rr.com)

Trish Groseclose; (979) 865-3026

James Marek; (512) 844-8520;  
[james.Marek@cnet.bank](mailto:james.Marek@cnet.bank)

Anna Wotipka; (979) 218-9043

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

**Synodical Committee Liaison:**  
Dr. Larry Koslovsky

#### HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Chair: Vacant

Beth Dusek; [bethbrenham@gmail.com](mailto:bethbrenham@gmail.com)

Clarence (Tillman) Clark;  
[foxfire890@aol.com](mailto:foxfire890@aol.com)

Rev. Larry Zabcik; [zabcikville@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:hairrell@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

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

**Ministerial Alternate:** Rev. Ryan Volkman

**Pastor to Pastors:** Rev. Michael Groseclose

**Non-Voting Lay Alternate:** Taylor Brinkley,  
Ocker

#### Lay Members:

Austin: Darrel Kolinek, [dkolinek@yahoo.com](mailto:dkolinek@yahoo.com)

BCS: Alan Haisler, [haislera@gmail.com](mailto:haislera@gmail.com)

Buckholts: Charlene Vogelsang,  
[cakv@hotmail.com](mailto:cakv@hotmail.com)

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

Crosby: Debbie Clark, [foxfire890@aol.com](mailto:foxfire890@aol.com)

Dime Box: Roberta Brinkman,  
[superblues123@gmail.com](mailto:superblues123@gmail.com)

Fayetteville: Sandra Stepan,  
[sandrinaustin@yahoo.com](mailto:sandrinaustin@yahoo.com)

Good Shepherd: Beltran Perez,  
[beltranperez65@gmail.com](mailto:beltranperez65@gmail.com)

Granger: Vacant

Houston: Vacant

Industry: Harvey Treybig, [harvey.treybig@gmail.com](mailto:harvey.treybig@gmail.com)

Nelsonville: Jenell Zettel, (979) 203-8390

New Tabor: Robert Campbell,  
[robertfcampbell05@yahoo.com](mailto:robertfcampbell05@yahoo.com)

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

Pasadena: Becky Lively, [rebecca.lively1@comcast.net](mailto:rebecca.lively1@comcast.net)

Rosenberg: Alice Kocurek,  
[katalice8@gmail.com](mailto:katalice8@gmail.com)

Seaton: Doug Rowald, [dougrowald@yahoo.com](mailto:dougrowald@yahoo.com)

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

Taylor: Carol Raesz, [jcraesz@gmail.com](mailto:jcraesz@gmail.com)

Temple: Deborah Schiller,  
[dschiller1123@gmail.com](mailto:dschiller1123@gmail.com)

Wall: Paul Beatty, [pbeatty@gmail.com](mailto:pbeatty@gmail.com)

Wesley: Mark Surovik

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

Westheimer: Leroy Parthum,  
[betty\\_parthum@yahoo.com](mailto:betty_parthum@yahoo.com)

## From the President of the Synodical Committee Larry Koslovsky, Pastor

2020 is winding down. When Day-light Savings Time ended on November 1, a question was raised about falling back an hour – *Do we really want another hour in 2020?* It has been that kind of year. We do not need to rehearse all the challenges we have faced as families, churches, schools, communities, and the nation. We are all too familiar and know quite well what the year has been like.

In the early part of the year pastors, elders, and congregations scrambled to do what was best at the time. All our congregations took the precautions of not meeting initially. With that came a lot of creativity to meet the spiritual and worship needs of congregations. Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom became tools to be used almost immediately instead of just being discussed as a possibility for ministry. These tools enabled congregations to reach outside the walls of congregations and continue to be a part of connecting individuals within and outside of congregations.

As time went on it seemed more appropriate for congregations to go

back to meeting for worship in ways appropriate to their context. Some congregations held outside services in the safety of their cars; others were able to return to their buildings because of the size of the building and attendance. Some congregations were able to do this quicker than others, but each according to attentiveness to what seemed safe and appropriate for the congregation. For all of us who have been able to meet regularly, there are congregations that have just not been able to meet given all the factors of the congregation and community since March.

### Wrapping Up the Fall and Going into Winter

As we continue into the fall and winter, congregations will need to work through what is best for their congregants ensuring that measures are taken for the safety and well being of those who attend. At this point with virus numbers going up, it is better to err on the side of caution.



### 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

First of all, individuals and families need to do what is best given personal circumstances. For those with compromised health issues, please do what is necessary to reduce the risk. For some this may mean refraining from worship attendance. Several congregations continue to place worship or the weekly message on Facebook or YouTube.

For those attending, masks and social distancing as much as possible is the next step. For smaller congregations this is not difficult to do. For large congregations, it may be appropriate to hold two or more weekly services, taking into consideration those who are more susceptible (senior adults) to the virus and its complications. It may be necessary in some communities to not hold worship for a week or two in order to mitigate the spread.

There is a wide spectrum of comfort levels for individuals when it comes to the virus. What is called for is respect and consideration for each other. Health guidelines are changing as the virus is better understood. Decisions about worship, activities, and ministry should be made for short

periods of time – one to two weeks since things are constantly changing.

The guiding principle of the day is our motto... *in all things, love*. Ultimately the goal is to love God and love neighbor by providing worship and ministry safely. Questions to ask as we all (pastors, congregations, and Boards of Elders) proceed together through the next few weeks are:

1. What is going on around us in our neighborhood as well as our congregation?
2. **What is the most loving thing we can do given our context?**

#### **Jim and Diane Heckman**

The Unity mourns the passing of Jim and Diane Heckman, who died in a tragic car accident on August 3 at the outskirts of Rockdale. Brother Jim served the Pasadena, Caldwell, and Dime Box congregations in his ministry. Together Jim and Diane were instrumental in establishing Cade Lake Community Church. Their ministry together was one of loving and helping the least, the last, and the lost.

Jim was active in the Caldwell Ministers Alliance, having served as President.

## *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

## 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**

# 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the Heckman family. May the Lord comfort them and grant them peace in their loss.

### Hus Encampment Improvements

Phase 2 of the improvements to the Main Building will have begun by the time this issue of *The Brethren Journal* arrives in mailboxes. These improvements include additional air conditioning, altering entryways, the addition of restrooms, and renovation of the porch. These improvements will be the finishing touches to a building that has served the Unity for over 60 years.

### Missions

The 2020 budget for Home Mission is \$61,650; donations to date are \$39,940.68. The budget for Foreign Mission is \$73,000; donations received are \$35,710.68.

### Ocker Brethren Church

The congregation is recovering from the fire and water damage that occurred earlier this year. Modifications to the sanctuary have been made and work is nearing completion with a return to the sanctuary in next six to eight weeks at the writing of this article.

### Nelsonville Brethren Church

An interior remodel of the sanctuary that includes new ceiling, paint, carpet and pews is nearing completion. During this time of renovation, the congregation has been meeting outside and plan to do so regularly as weather permits in the future.

### Fall Synodical Committee Meeting

Out of careful consideration for the health and well-being of members of the Synodical Committee, the Executive Committee decided it was best not to meet until early 2021. A date will be announced after the first of the year.

### 2020 Brethren Fund Assessment

All are reminded that the assessment used to fund *The Brethren Journal*, Hus Encampment, Educational Ministries, Administrative Assistant, Contingency Fund, and Administration is \$40 per member.

### 2021 Unity Convention – July 13-15

Anticipating that we will be able to meet for convention this summer, congregations should elect convention delegates. The convention will be held at Camp Allen, Navasota, TX.

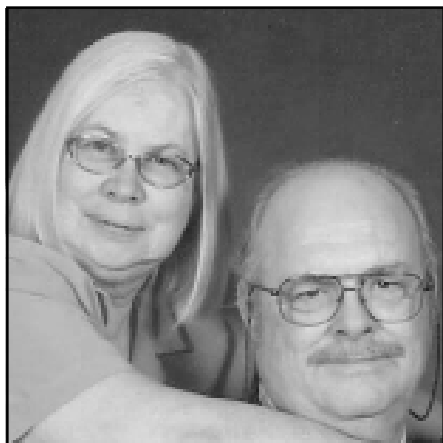
### To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

. . . 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.*

## James and Diane Heckman, Jr.



Rev. James “Jim” Gordon Heckman, Jr., 74, of Rockdale, Texas, died in a car accident near Rockdale on August 3, 2020, along with his wife, Diane Heckman. Jim was born May 17, 1946, in Houston, Texas, to James Gordon Heckman, Sr., and Anita May (Goldsworthy) Heckman Townsend. Jim attended Houston public schools and graduated from Milby High School in Houston. After high school, he joined the U.S Navy and served off the coast of Vietnam, among other stations, from 1963 to 1965. Jim worked in the airline industry and then attended the University of Houston, North Texas State University, the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Houston Graduate School of Theology. He received the Associate of Christian Studies (1993) and the

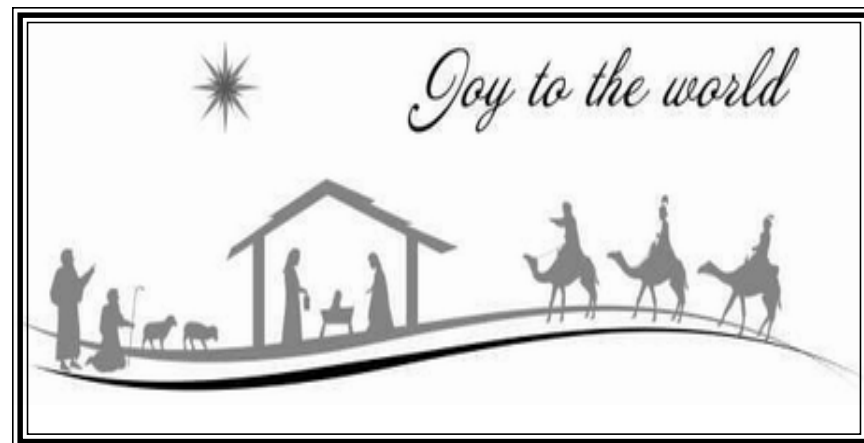
Bachelor of General Studies (1994) from the New Orleans Seminary. He studied in the Master’s degree program at the Houston Graduate School of Theology. Rev. Heckman was ordained into the gospel ministry by the Metairie Baptist Church in June 1994.

Diane Elizabeth Heckman, 70, died in a car accident near Rockdale, Texas on August 3, 2020, along with her husband, Jim Heckman. Diane was born on November 2, 1949, in Pekin, Illinois, to Dr. Calvin Wayne and Florence Elizabeth (Moody) Janssen. Tragically, her mother was 23 when she was killed by a drunk driver, so the woman who raised her and who she proudly called Mom was Caroline Irene Smalley Janssen. Dr. Calvin and Caroline Janssen were very proud that Jim and Diane followed in their

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

### GRANGER NATIONAL BANK

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



## Mutual Aid Society Local Secretary Contact Information

Granger #1: Vacant, Mutual Aid Secretary, PO Box 943, Granger, TX 76530

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

West #4: Vacant

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

Dime Box #6: Vacant

Snook #7: Ann Sebesta, PO Box 115, Snook, TX 77878, 210-244-3362, sebestaa2015@outlook.com

Ocker #8: Sandra Dubcak, 3239 FM 437, Rogers, TX 76569-3705, 254-985-2374, sandrad@spjst.com

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, 254-721-6324, jjskrabanek@gmail.com

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

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

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

Westheimer #22: Betty J. Parthum, 3620 Avenue O, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 713-826-7993, dparthum@sbcglobal.net

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

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, 979-280-5597

\*\*Crosby #28: Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road, Bryan, TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012, natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

\*\*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

13. Publication Title <b>The Brethren Journal</b>		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below <b>October 1, 2020</b>	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		656	642
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	456	441
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	151	151
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)		
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		607	592
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	30	31
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	4	4
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)		
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		34	35
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		641	627
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		15	15
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		656	642
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		95%	94%

\* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

 <b>Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation</b> <b>(All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)</b>			
16. Electronic Copy Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies		2	2
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		609	594
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		643	629
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c x 100)		95%	94%
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.			
17. Publication of Statement of Ownership			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the <u>December</u> issue of this publication.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required.			
18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner		Date	
Ben L Polasek, Jr., Business Manager		10/01/2020	
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).			

footsteps and went into the ministry.

Jim and Diane met in Denton, Texas, and were married on May 25, 1970, in Durant, Oklahoma. This year they had just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They had lived in several different states: Texas, Wyoming, Oregon, Colorado, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and back to their beloved Texas, where they decided to lay down roots.

Diane was a librarian in the earlier years of her marriage. She graduated with her Bachelor of Education at William Carey University in 1997. She was an Educator for Pasadena ISD at Miller Intermediate for 8 years. She retired from Caldwell ISD in 2018, having taught at Caldwell Intermediate School and Caldwell Elementary School. She had spent the last two years substituting at the various Caldwell ISD schools.

Together they served as founders and co-directors of the East Howard Center, in the East Howard Baptist Church in Biloxi, Mississippi. The East Howard Center was an urban missionary center designed to meet the everyday needs of the neighborhood in which they lived. They had many ministries over the years, in-

cluding numerous food pantries, clothes closets, ESL, Crisis Pregnancy, Celebrate Recovery, tutoring, free weekly meals to people in need, school supply drives, Christian Sisters, In God's Hand Ministry, and Make Christmas Happen. They were both very involved in the Republican Convention and local elections. They loved their country and they loved people.

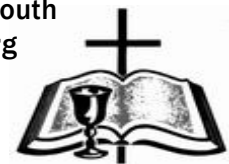
Jim began serving the Pasadena Brethren Church in August 1996 and was granted a pastoral license by the Unity of the Brethren in March 1997 to serve Pasadena. In March 2002, the Synodical Committee approved Full Pastoral Status to Jim. He resigned from Pasadena Brethren on May 31, 2004, and on June 1, 2004, he assumed pastoral duties at Caldwell Brethren Church, at which he served until 2011. He served at Dime Box Brethren Church from September 2006 to January 1, 2017. In 2011, Jim and Diane began a ministry at Cade Lake starting a new mission church – Cade Lake Community Chapel – which he served until he retired in July 2019. Jim was active in the Caldwell Ministers Alliance, having served as President. He also served as a supply pastor at several



## BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South

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



Rev. Mark Sebek

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

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



Unity churches, including Caldwell, Fayetteville, and Industry.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; brothers Joseph Garnet Heckman and John Heckman; sister Sharon Dorman; and a nephew, John Heckman, II. Diane was preceded in death by her parents Dr. Calvin and Caroline Janssen, and mother Florence Moody Janssen.

Their surviving family are their 3 children: Caroline Elizabeth Hensley and husband David of Wichita, Kansas; Destiny Emery and domestic partner Desiree Williamson of Caldwell; James Gordon Heckman III and wife Jennifer of Rockdale; son-in-law, Christopher Emery of LaPorte; nine grandchildren: Adrian Hensley-Garcia (Andres), Jaydon Hensley, Noah Emery, Arielle Emery, Shephard Emery, Christopher Poe, Jimmy Heckman, Anita Heckman, and Crystal Heckman; and one great-grandson, Daniel.

James' siblings: sister, Shirley Wheeler of Houston and brother, Jef-

frey Heckman of Rockdale. Diane's siblings: Deborah Thomas and husband Greg of Magnolia, Stephen Janssen and wife Terry of Springfield, Illinois, and Denise Lowe and husband Daniel of Ringgold, Georgia. Both are survived by numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Jim and Diane were cremated with the remains interred at a service on Saturday, August 15, at 10 a.m. at the Hranice Cemetery in Dime Box, between Caldwell & Old Dime Box. The service was followed by a Celebration of Life from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hus Encampment in Caldwell. Philips and Luckey Funeral Home of Caldwell, Texas, was in charge of the arrangements.

Memorials can be made in their memory to:

Hus Camp, Todd Corporon  
5350 CR 124  
Georgetown, TX 78626



## + 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!

 <b>Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation</b> <b>(All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)</b>		
1. Publication Title <b>The Brethren Journal</b>	2. Publication Number 0 0 0 6 - 9 6 5 5	3. Filing Date 10/1/2020
4. Issue Frequency Monthly	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 10	6. Annual Subscription Price \$15.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 1103 Harrisonburg Ln, College Station, TX 77845		Contact Person <b>Ben Polasek</b> Telephone (include area code) 979-220-9270
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) 1103 Harrisonburg Ln, College Station, TX 77845		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)		
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Ben Polasek, 1103 Harrisonburg Ln, College Station, TX 77845		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Cathleen Schlechte, 261 Fieldstone Place, College Station, TX 77845		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) NONE		
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)		
Full Name <b>The Unity of the Brethren</b>	Complete Mailing Address c/o James Marek 1304 TH Johnson Dr. Taylor, TX 76574	
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None		
Full Name	Complete Mailing Address	
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		
PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (see instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-01-000-9931 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com		



## 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](http://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.  
– Visiting Ministers

Fayetteville – Parking lot service 3rd  
Saturday at 11:00 AM.  
– Rev. Mike Groseclose

Good Shepherd Moravian – Worship at  
11:30 AM and 6:30 PM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez

Granger – Worship service Sundays,  
10 AM. Bible Study Wednesdays,  
5:30 PM.  
– Visiting Ministers

Houston – Sunday School at 9:15 AM;  
Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.  
– Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill

Industry – Parking lot service 2nd, 3rd,  
and 4th Saturdays at 3 PM. Stay in  
your vehicle  
– Rev. Mike Groseclose

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 – Kids’ 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.  
– Visiting Ministers

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

## The Christmas Truce

- by Jim Pokorny

***“Glory to God in the highest, and  
on earth peace, good will toward  
men.”***

World War I officially began in  
July 1914. Tensions between nations  
had already been running high for  
many years. The European continent  
was a powder keg simply awaiting a  
spark. That spark occurred on June  
28, 1914, in Sarajevo. On that day,  
Archduke Franz Ferdinand – heir to  
the throne of the Austro-Hungarian  
Empire – was gunned down along  
with his wife Sophie. The gunman  
was Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip.  
This spark set off an expanding chain  
of events that resulted in a devastat-  
ing war between European and other  
nations.

To those who lived at the time, it  
was known as “The Great War”. En-  
glish author H. G. Wells, best known  
for his science fiction classics, wrote  
a series of articles for various news-  
papers during the conflict. In these,  
he referred to “The Great War” as  
“The War That Will End Wars”. By  
1918, the term “The War to End All  
Wars” had spread across Europe.

Leaders hoping for quick victories  
were disillusioned. Fighting ground  
to a stalemate. In the face of heavy  
artillery and machine gun fire, com-  
batants on both sides dug hundreds  
of miles of trenches to protect them-  
selves. They brought back an ancient  
term for the cratered landscape be-  
tween the lines – “No Man’s Land”.  
When ordered by their superiors, the  
men would leave the relative safety of  
the trenches only to be decimated by  
enemy weapons. As the end of 1914  
approached, the number of dead and  
wounded exceeded four million.

On December 7, 1914, Pope Benedict  
XV suggested a suspension of hos-  
tilities for the celebration of Christ-  
mas. No warring country made a move  
to create an official cease fire. The  
generals who fought the war behind  
the lines certainly did not. But some-  
thing remarkable was about to happen.

Starting on Christmas Eve, British  
and German troops that huddled in  
their trenches began singing Christ-  
mas carols. The German soldiers sang  
*Silent Night* which was followed by



## TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas

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

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

*Pastor*  
*James D. Hejl*  
512-365-6890

*Board President*  
*Daniel Knippa*  
512-844-0208

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

British soldiers singing *The First Noel*. Troops up and down the line spontaneously broke out in song as well. Songs of the season drifted across the lifeless expanse of No Man's Land. When the caroling subsided it was replaced by Christmas greetings. British Private Frederick Heath described the moment: "English soldier, English soldier, a merry Christmas, a merry Christmas!" In a letter to family, Heath later wrote: "Officers, fearing treachery, ordered the men to be silent. But up and down our line one heard the men answering that Christmas greeting from the enemy. How could we resist wishing each other a Merry Christmas, even though we might be at each other's throats immediately afterwards? So we kept up a running conversation with the Germans, all the while our hands ready on our rifles. Blood and peace, enmity and fraternity – war's most amazing paradox. The night wore on to dawn – a night made easier by songs from the German trenches, the pipings of piccolos and from our broad lines, laughter and Christmas carols. Not a shot was fired."

Communications were somewhat difficult as few British soldiers spoke German. On the other hand, many German soldiers spoke some English having worked in Britain before the war. British Captain Clifton Stockwell wrote in his diary of one such German. One who asked, "How is London getting on?" and "How was Gertie Millar and the Gaiety?", and so on. When the Captain asked his German counterpart who he was, the reply came back "Ah – the officer – I expect I know you – I used to be head waiter at the Great Central Hotel."

At dawn the British noticed that some of the Germans had placed small Christmas trees along the parapets of their trenches. As morning broke on Christmas Day, German soldiers warily emerged from their trenches, waving their arms to demonstrate that they had no ill intent. When it became clear that they were not carrying weapons, British soldiers soon joined them. They met in No Man's Land to socialize and even exchange gifts. Several soccer matches between combatants also took place. As Christmas Day ended, the soldiers bid each other farewell and returned to their trenches.

The Christmas Truce of 1914 was a truly remarkable wartime event. A time when opposing soldiers laid down their arms and together formed a fragile peace. It never happened before. It is unlikely to ever happen again.

By the war's end in 1918, an estimated 20 million were dead and 21 million were horribly wounded.

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

## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT DEATHS

ROESLER, BARBARA J., age 88, of Ellinger, Texas and formerly of Pasadena, Texas, died October 18, 2020. She was born on July 11, 1932. She was a member of Pasadena Brethren Church, and then after she and her second husband, Raymond, moved to Ellinger became a member at Fayetteville Brethren Church in 1992. A private family memorial service was held on November 6, 2020, at Fayetteville Brethren Church. Survivors include her son, Ronald Roesler; 2 daughters, Brenda Johnson and Candee Roberson; 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren. Minister: Rev Mike Groseclose.

### CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

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

**Vice President:** Carolyn Beseda, 2515 Lazybrook Dr., Houston, TX 77008. (281) 546-7941; [cfilipp@earthlink.net](mailto:cfilipp@earthlink.net)

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

**Financial Secretary:** Lydia Faust, P.O. Box 125, Snook, TX 77878. [lydiavajdakfaust@gmail.com](mailto:lydiavajdakfaust@gmail.com)

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

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

## OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 806, Rogers, TX 76569  
Web Address: [www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org](http://www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org)  
Church Email: [ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com](mailto:ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com)

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

Sunday School 9:00 AM

Worship 10:15 AM

#### *Pastor*

**Dr. Brad Herridge**

(254) 716-2578

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

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

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

26. "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom He favors!" Lk. 2:14
27. **But when the fullness of time had come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. Gal. 4:4-5**
28. This is what the LORD says: "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Jer. 31:15
29. When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you." Mt. 2:13a
30. In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and new earth, where righteousness dwells. 2 Pet. 3:13
31. Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His splendor is above the earth and the heavens. Ps. 148:13

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

##### Chairman:

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

##### Unity Representatives:

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

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

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

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



### 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](http://www.spjst.org)**

## Why Prayer is a Lifeline

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Imagine the impossible – trying to breathe without oxygen.

This image is terrifying. It brings to mind the sight of one unable to even gasp for breath. No oxygen, no brain function. For a person who has made the decision to center life around God the Son, Jesus Christ, prayer is how we breathe. Jesus Christ, having given Himself over to a sacrificial death – crucifixion, once for all of humanity for the forgiveness of sins – sent us an indescribable Gift after He rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven. Jesus placed the Gift of God the Holy Spirit to dwell within you the moment you first asked Jesus to be your Savior from eternal death. With the Gift of eternal life beginning in the here and now as we invite Jesus to rule our lives with His compassion, His wisdom, and His power, we are part of something way bigger than ourselves. We are part of God's flawless, loving, and truly redemptive plan for the whole world. God longs day in and day out to be in personal communion with every human being. Since He is the embodiment of perfect

love, we have the free will to choose to be filled with God the Holy Spirit.

Where do you stand right this moment?

Are you someone who has grown up in church and asks God for help from time to time?

Are you someone who feels unworthy of asking God for anything?

Or are you someone who has a holy friendship with God – praying throughout your days and even some nights?

You were meant to be in continuous communion with God? Yes, with God.

Prayer is a lifeline because it cultivates a deep relationship with God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Just as we cannot live without oxygen, blood, food, or water, we cannot have "living" spiritual lives without the God the Holy Spirit working within our thoughts and our emotions to "create in us a new" mind and heart. Once you ask God to be the literal center of your life, God the Holy Spirit places a permanent seal



### CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive  
Temple, Texas 76502

email: [ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org](mailto: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](mailto:tpch4359@gmail.com)

upon you guaranteeing you eternity in Heaven. However, heavenly living begins now. Pray to God the Holy Spirit as if your current life depended on it.

“Holy Spirit, cleanse me of all the entanglements that keep me from feeling Jesus’s love and from experiencing Jesus’s healing.”

“Holy Spirit, flow throughout my being and heal me of all physical, mental, and emotional hindrances.”

“Holy Spirit, I trust You to guide me through life. I know that You are God and can see everything taking place. I am limited. I defer to You in every pocket of my life, with absolute trust in You.”

When you pray in this manner, God the Holy Spirit pours through you in ways you never dreamed.

You begin to bless others.

You begin to have God’s perspective over the circumstances of your life and consequently feel deep peace, trusting in God to do as He has promised in the Holy Bible: “to work for the good of those who love Him.”

You begin to let go of your need to control things.

You begin to live in a moment-by-moment contentment, even joy!

You begin to pray for others more than for yourself.

You are faithful to ask God for all that you need and desire without focus on outcomes.

THIS is how Jesus prayed when He was on earth.

Absolute trust in God the Father. Never concerned about forging His own destiny; instead committing to God the Father’s plan.

Prayer was a lifeline for Jesus while He was on earth, because He was distanced somewhat physically from God the Father.

Jesus suffered.

Jesus cried.

Jesus was happy.

Jesus had peace even while in agony.

Sounds like the human condition, doesn’t it?

All the while, Jesus is God, so He never allowed His temporary humanity to overcome Him.

Now, by the lifeline of prayer to God, you can ask God to transform you each day more and more into the

# DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

## Daily Morsels for December 2020

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible Revised Standard Revision* and *New International Version*, slightly revised.

### Sundays in bold.

1. Help us, God our Savior, for the glory of Your name; deliver us and forgive our sins for Your name’s sake. Ps. 79:9
2. Then we Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will praise You forever; from generation to generation we will proclaim Your praise. Ps. 29:13
3. Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge Him. Hos. 6:3a
4. As surely as the sun rises, He will appear; He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth. Hos. 6:3b
5. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. Ezek. 36:26
6. **Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. Isa. 40:5**
7. I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Ps. 27:13
8. Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD. Ps. 27:14
9. My soul yearns for You in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for You. Isa. 26:9a
10. When Your judgments come upon the earth, the people of the world learn righteousness. Isa. 26:9b
11. LORD, You establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished You have done for us. Isa. 26:12
12. The LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy. Ps. 126:3
13. **My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Lk. 1:46b-47**
14. John said, “I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ as the prophet Isaiah said.” Jn. 1:23
15. The One Who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie... His sandal. Jn. 1:27
16. A scroll of remembrance was written in His presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored His name. Mal. 3:16b
17. I will sing of the LORD’s great love forever; with my mouth I will make Your faithfulness known through all generations. Ps. 89:1
18. “I have made a covenant with My chosen one, I have sworn to David my servant...” Ps. 89:3
19. ‘I will establish your (David’s) line forever and make your throne firm through all generations.’ Ps. 89:4
20. **He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His ancestor David. Lk. 1:32**
21. His mercy extends to those who fear Him, from generation to generation. Lk. 1:50
22. He has performed mighty deeds with His arm; He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. Lk. 1:51
23. There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides You; there is no Rock like our God. 1 Sam. 2:2
24. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. Isa. 9:2
25. For a child has been born for us, a Son given to us; authority rests upon His shoulders; and He is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isa. 9:6



## SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247, Snook, TX 77878

Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

### COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:00 AM; Worship – 10:15 AM

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

#### Pastor

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

#### Board of Elders President

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

#### Youth Directors

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

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

**December 25, 2020 – MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**January 1, 2021 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

### SAVE THE DATES:

**Summer 2021 – Class of 1968 Hus School Reunion** at the Hus Encampment. For information, contact Arnold Cuba at 512-247-8019.

*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.*

**For more information about the Hus School Encampment go to:  
[www.huscamp.org](http://www.huscamp.org)**

### WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

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

P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957

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

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas

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

Home: [rev.tjt@gmail.com](mailto:rev.tjt@gmail.com)

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

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

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

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

image of Jesus Christ. Though you will never be God – as Jesus is God – you have the rich heritage that Jesus set forth of powerful prayer. Every prayer – as you ask the Holy Spirit to flow through you and rule you – will bring miracles in your life so that more people will come to know God intimately as you do, too.

Consider this prayer from a king in the Holy Bible, who was keenly aware of his critical need to pray and believed and saw how prayer engendered a profound work of God the Holy Spirit within him:

*1 You have searched me, LORD, and you know me. 2 You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar. 3 You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways. 4 Before a word is on my tongue You, LORD, know it completely. 5 You hem me in behind and before, and You lay Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. 9 If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, 10 even there Your hand will guide me, Your right hand will hold me fast. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," 12 even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day, for darkness is as light to You. 13 For You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise You because I am fearfully and wonder-*

*fully made; Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be. 17 How precious to me are Your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! 18 Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand – when I awake, I am still with You. 19 If only You, God, would slay the wicked! Away from me, You who are bloodthirsty! 20 They speak of You with evil intent; Your adversaries misuse Your name. 21 Do I not hate those who hate You, LORD, and abhor those who are in rebellion against You? 22 I have nothing but hatred for them; I count them my enemies. 23 Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139, NRSV)*

Imagine the physically impossible again – try to breathe without oxygen.



### 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

Imagine the spiritually impossible – try to get close to God without prayer in the power of God the Holy Spirit.

Now do the spiritually possible – pray to God, asking for the power of God the Holy Spirit to guide you, to transform you, to work through you.

Pray as if your life depended on it... because it does.

Prayer is also like a heartbeat, a sign that you are spiritually ALIVE!

Pray. You'll see.

In Jesus's Hands,  
Right With You,

Sister Vanessa Mitchell

#### **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

#### **Unity Archivist**

Clint Machann

c-machann@tamu.edu

979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

#### **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](mailto:toddcorporon@yahoo.com)

##### **Members:**

Todd Snelgrove, BCS (2013);  
[rtsnelgrove@gmail.com](mailto:rtsnelgrove@gmail.com)

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

James Marek, Taylor (2017);  
[james@cnbt.net](mailto:james@cnbt.net)

Rick Weise, Wall (2017);  
[weise.rick@aol.com](mailto:weise.rick@aol.com)

Angie Labaj, (2019) Temple

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

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

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

##### **Non-Voting Appointments:**

**Programming Director:** Amy Snelgrove  
[agsnelgrove@hotmail.com](mailto:agsnelgrove@hotmail.com)

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

**Facilities Manager:** Alan Haisler,  
[haislera@ymail.com](mailto:haislera@ymail.com)

**Caretakers:** Open

**Synodical Committee Oversight:**  
Rev. Whitney Amos.

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

#### **MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)**

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

Is the final quote true, that words never hurt us? We remember what others say to us. That is what makes our words so important.

#### **Object Lesson:**

Take a tube of toothpaste, a spoon and a paper plate. Ask for a volunteer. Ask the volunteer to squirt some of the toothpaste onto the paper plate. He can do however much or however little he wants. He can use the whole tube if his heart desires (whatever he feels is a good amount). When he is done, ask the student to put the toothpaste back into the tube.

When done with this exercise, explain this is how words work. Once a thing is spoken, it cannot be taken back. Sometimes the words we use take years to apologize for and/or overcome. If one spreads gossip, trust is broken. Trust is hard to regain. If one cusses another person out, a relationship can be lost because one person is offended and hurt by the other. (Feel free to share examples, and let your students share their own experiences of being hurt by someone else's words.)



#### **ACTIVITY: Sticks & Stones**

This is a great activity that exemplifies the damage words can do!

<http://hellosunshineteachers.blogspot.com/2015/07/sticks-n-stones-power-of-words.html>





## WORDS

### BIBLE LESSON

*Solomon Becomes KING*

Scripture: 1 Kings 2:1-4

**TELL** the story.

David was old. He had been king over Israel for a long time, and now his son, Solomon, had become king. Because David was at the end of his life, he gave Solomon some instructions. "Be strong and brave, Solomon," David said. "Obey God, and you will be successful. God will keep His promise that every king of Israel will come from our family." David died, and Solomon took control of his father's kingdom.

**DISCUSS:** David used his words to help Solomon become a good king. David used his words to bless Solomon. We can use our words to help and bless others.

**GAME:** Words Matter

Finish the following quotes:

"To be, or (not to be). That is the question." – *Macbeth*, Shakespeare

"Ask not what your country can do for you, but (what you can do for your country)." – John F. Kennedy

"Luke, I am (your father)." – Darth Vader, *The Empire Strikes Back*

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him shall not perish, (but have everlasting life)." – John 3:16, The Holy Bible

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, (but words will never hurt me)." – Anonymous Proverb



## Life is What Happens...

**A Homily by Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill**

The Greek Stoic philosopher Epictetus (50-135 A.D.) was born a slave. He would write: "People are distributed not by events (COVID-19), but by the views which they take of them." As Epictetus put it, "Men feel disturbed not by things but by views which they take of them." Psychiatrist Viktor Frankl, who survived the Nazi death camps, wrote that "everything can be taken from a man except the greatest of the human freedoms, the freedom to choose one's attitude in any given set of circumstances."

Psalm 42 inspires us: "How deep I am sunk in misery, groaning in my distress: Yet I will wait for God; I will praise Him continually, my deliverer," NEB. As Christians we believe the words found in Romans 8:28 – TEV. "We know that in all things God works for good for those who love him, those whom He has called according to His purpose."

William Barclay quotes Epictetus who revealed his absolute trust in God: "Have courage to look up to

God and to say, 'Deal with me as Thou wilt from now on. I am as one with Thee; I am Thine; I flinch from nothing so as Thou dost think that it is good. Lead me where Thou wilt; put on me what raiment Thou wilt.' "

The intrusion of the unexpected is familiar to all of us. Such intrusions range from minor inconveniences to major catastrophes. From the breakdown of an automobile to the sudden illness or death of a loved one, we know what it means to have the unexpected happen to us.

Who among us has not experienced some unexpected event that makes us remember the Scottish poet Robert Burns' famous line about "the best laid schemes of mice and men . . . ?" The American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr (1884-1971) used to call such unexpected intrusions "the vicissitudes of life."

In Ohio, a man named Clarence Crane, a chocolatier, was disturbed by his declining business during the



### 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

### BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

hot summer months. So, he tried to develop a summertime specialty of hard mints “summer candy”. He employed a local pill manufacturer to press the hard mints into shape, but there was trouble with the machinery. The press stamped out little rings instead of little discs. So, in 1912, Clarence Crane started selling something called “Life Savers,” and since 1912 over 29 billion rolls of the candy rings have been sold. The candy’s name is due to the fact that its shape resembles that of a traditional ring-style life preserver also known as a “life saver”. For the last three years in the State of Delaware Life Savers has been the favorite candy to give out at Halloween.

A Bavarian immigrant, Anton Feuchtwanger, started selling frankfurters in St. Louis in 1904 at The World’s Fair. The customers could not eat them piping hot without burning their fingers. So, he tried issuing gloves to hold the frankfurter. Losing money when customers did not return the gloves, Feuchtwanger’s wife suggested serving the sausages in a roll, a long sliced roll. Thus, the hot dog was invented! Life is what happens...”

Jesus shares with us in Matt. 6:8: “The Father knows what we have need of even before we ask Him.” God lets us participate in the struggle which brings life, but He prompts us, backs us up, sustains us all the way. In Rom. 8: 26-27: “The Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness...” Remember the words of a man named Job; crushed, bewildered, sick unto death, seeking answers and getting none. He was wanting to argue with God but could not find Him. Then things began to happen in the Dark Night of His Soul

(St. John of the Cross). Job hears himself declaring in Job 19:25: “I know that my Redeemer lives.” Out of his hopeless doubt the Spirit spoke through him, to him, words of hope and faith. It did not stop there. More words were born out of the depths of his despairing spirit, “Though He slay me, yet will I trust him.” Job 13:15. Something in Job was declaring a faith he did not have until he heard himself speaking the words. His unutterable groanings were finding expression, and they were making sense. The Spirit Himself was speaking for him, through him, and the light was dawning. Job 42:5 informs us: “My ears had heard of You but now my eyes have seen You.”

In closing, C. H. Dodd (1884-1971), the Welsh New Testament Scholar wants us to pray: “Prayer is the divine in us appealing to the divine above us.” In this season of COVID-19 our prayers remind us of:

Isaiah 41:10,13: “So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you;... For I am the Lord your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, do not fear, I will help you.”

Phil. 4-6 informs us: “Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7 And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

May you be safe and be Blessed!

Grace and peace,  
Dr. T. – Jerry



# Sunday School Helper



Kind words are like honey,  
sweet to the soul  
and  
healthy for the body.  
Proverbs 16:24 (NLT)

## Bible Characters

David and Solomon

## Bible Reference

1 Kings 2:1-4

## Theme Color

Orange

Like a bright orange sunrise, a new day was beginning with Solomon as king. Solomon was David's son. David had some advice to give Solomon before he died. This month we learn our words have the power to help and bless others.



## 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](http://huscamp.org) and click Donate.

## In Christ's Love . . . from the Home Mission Field

### Rev. Kay Polasek . . . New Beginnings at Cade Lake Community

November 2020

Dear Ones,

I pray that the Lord is blessing you  
today!

I know that you haven't heard  
much from me regarding our Home  
Mission project in Cade Lake and for  
that I am truly sorry. In spite of all the  
setbacks, between my devastating  
life-altering ankle injury on December  
7, 2019, and then Covid-19 shutdowns...  
you would be just as amazed as I am,  
just how committed the members are  
and how faithful they have been.  
When I couldn't physically be there,  
they carried on. Others from the unity  
and the community pitched in during  
my initial recuperation period for which  
I am extremely grateful. Services went  
on as planned. God has helped us get  
through some hard times and we are  
grateful for His support and healing –  
we give Him ALL THE GLORY!

In February, right before the COVID-  
19 shut down, we had 3 men and 2  
ladies that went on the Walk to  
Emmaus. This event was a life-chang-  
ing experience for them. They came  
back more committed to serving God  
and New Beginnings. In a nutshell,  
they were and still are on fire for the  
Lord!

After Texas allowed us to resume  
activities, we started back with a small  
number. I have heard that, that has  
been the case for most churches.  
Before COVID-19, 9-12 children were  
regularly attending, only one came  
back. That is, before three weeks ago.  
It has been so good to see their  
shining faces and their excitement to  
learn about Jesus.

We also resumed Bible study on  
Wednesday nights with 10-12 attend-  
ees. We have been reviewing all as-  
pects of what it means to be a disciple  
of Christ. The adult Sunday School is  
going strong and growing under Ben's  
leadership. Our Worship attendance  
has also been growing. This past  
Wednesday two new people joined  
our worship team (music). What a joy  
has filled my heart!

We have been focusing on out-  
reach in our community. In October,  
we were approached by a woman  
named April McDonald regarding a  
drive-through candy event at our  
church on October 31st. We all agreed  
that this would be a wonderful out-  
reach opportunity for us and a way to  
lift the spirits of children in the com-  
munity. Many children walked to the  
church because their parents don't  
have a car. During the event, we  
handed out our new colorful postcard  
invitations to worship with us. In  
addition, we sent a flier invitation to  
our November fundraiser. By the way,



the woman who approached us, April, has volunteered to help us and is bringing volunteers to help as well.

In November we hosted a drive-through spaghetti supper fundraiser for the Cade Lake Community children. All proceeds will be used to make Christmas a happier time. In previous years, Brother Jim along with the Palicka family spearheaded "Make Christmas Happen" which was for all children in Burleson County. Sadly, as you have probably heard, Brother Jim and Diane died in a tragic automobile accident in August. And recently part of the Palicka family was in a major accident. At this writing, I am not sure that event will take place. Either way, we have chosen to focus on our mission effort to the Cade Lake Community. At the spaghetti fundraiser, we handed out worship invitations, an invitation to our Thanksgiving lunch on 11/22/20, and to our Christmas Eve service. And, right before Christmas members plan to gather together to make Christmas cookies. These will be delivered to people in the community with another invitation to join us for Candlelight and Sunday worship.

In January/early February our Wednesday study group will begin "Life Recovery" which helps attendants review their lives, good and bad, learn to allow God to forgive them and to forgive themselves, encouraging spiritual growth by recognizing those things in their lives that have contributed to their addictions and helpful tools to renew and strengthen their walk with Christ.

18/December 2020

In February we are planning another fundraiser to raise money towards a building for our children and space for dining.

And, we have also received an offer from the Griggs family to raise money with a fish fry (yum!). We are planning to do this in March.

In the last two years since I became the lead pastor, I personally have witnessed some miracles, major changes in behaviors, and definite spiritual growth. One of the members, George, in last Sunday's worship, told everyone that he has seen tremendous spiritual growth in so many in the last 1-2 years, including in his own life. To God be the glory!

Thank you to those who have sent me get well cards and words of healing. Last December, I wasn't sure that I would walk again. But, praise God, the wound and the bones have healed!

Please continue to pray for us as we reach out to the people in the community of Cade Lake. If you are led to help financially, please make your check out to **Cade Lake Community Chapel**. We have changed the name to New Beginnings at Cade Lake Community, but the paperwork looked like a nightmare!

As we look to the future, may we all trust in God's will for our personal lives and for our churches' life. I pray that we will all be the light to a lost and dying world.

Peace to you and yours, and Merry Christmas!

Pastor Kay, New Beginnings at  
Cade Lake Community

BRETHREN JOURNAL

## **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.

### **THREE SIMPLE WAYS TO GIVE...**

- 1) Make an **online donation** via credit card at: [huscamp.org](http://huscamp.org)
- 2) Make a **recurring donation** using the pledge form at: [huscamp.org](http://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

BRETHREN JOURNAL

December 2020/19