

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PD  
TAYLOR, TX  
PERIODICAL

# THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 120

January/February 2021

No. 1

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.

36/January-February 2021

BRETHREN JOURNAL



*Ocker Brethren Church will celebrate the dedication of the restored Sanctuary on February 21, 2021.*

*(For more information, see story in this issue.)*

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

**Dedication of the Ocker Brethren Church Sanctuary**

*A Long Chapter Closes . . .* by Jim Pokorny

*Joy Rebuilt . . .* by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

*May It Be Well With Your Soul: A Homily . . .* by Dr. Jerry Terrill

**. . . and so 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)

### 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@cmbt.net](mailto:james@cmbt.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-](mailto:jennchervenka@farm-market.net)  
[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 4  
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-](mailto:jennchervenka@farm-market.net)  
[market.net](mailto:jennchervenka@farm-market.net); (254) 983-1002

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

**Caretakers:** Open

### Synodical Committee Oversight:

Rev. Whitney Amos.

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

## 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  
[jerryleeterrill@comcast.net](mailto:jerryleeterrill@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@hotmail.com](mailto:jfarrow@hotmail.com)

Trish Groseclose; (979) 865-3026

James Marek; (512) 844-8520;  
[james.Marek@cnbt.bank](mailto: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: 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: J.T. Verwold, [dmverwold@yahoo.com](mailto:dmverwold@yahoo.com)

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, [taylordbrinkley@yahoo.com](mailto:taylordbrinkley@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)

## Ocker Brethren Church Sanctuary Dedication

Brethren Family,

My name is Brad Herridge and I am the pastor at Ocker Brethren Church.

I would like to formally invite all our fellow Brethren Churches to a special Sanctuary Dedication Service on February 21 at 3 p.m. in our newly rebuilt and remodeled building at Ocker Brethren Church. We want to celebrate with you the completion of a long journey from fire and devastation to new life and restored sanctuary.

I know that all our Brethren churches have had a challenging year due to the COVID crisis and I pray for all our churches on a regular basis.

However, Ocker Brethren Church has had a particularly difficult and unique year. I want to take this opportunity to share with you a more detailed version of what has taken place at Ocker over this past year:



The beginning of 2020 started out like any other year for us... The church and her ministries were humming along as they always had without fail. Then, the COVID pandemic hit and, like many of our fellow Brethren churches, we had to make some tough decisions.

While under a stay-at-home order issued in March by the county government and a prohibition on meeting in groups of ten or more, and presented with what we believed to be the very real threat of sick individuals overrunning our hospitals, the Board of Elders (along with myself) agreed that the most responsible decision (at that time) would be to temporarily pause in-person worship and all in-person ministries at Ocker Brethren Church. I would like to stress that this unprecedented decision was only made

after much discussion, thought and prayer.

Just as we were figuring out how to best be the church in the middle of a once-in-a-century pandemic, we were hit with another tragedy. On the evening of April 2, 2020, a strong lightning storm was illuminating the sky and dazzling onlookers in and around our community. While Ocker's sanctuary building has witnessed countless storms in its almost 100-year history and survived without major incident, it did not survive this storm. That one storm produced one lightning bolt which hit our Sunday School/Sanctuary building and ignited a devastating fire that quickly spread. In a matter of minutes our building was engulfed in either thick smoke or flaming fire.

If it were not for the quick work of local and community volunteer and city fire departments, our beloved sanctuary would have been a total

loss. Thankfully, even though it suffered extensive damage, we were able to save the sanctuary structure.

The outpouring of love and support we received from around the Brethren denomination and the greater community was immense and heart-warming. Stories of how much our church meant to so many people through the years became commonplace. With each story, the true sacredness of our church was revealed and its incalculable meaning to so many was laid bare.

From that moment on, Ocker Brethren Church (I am sure) entered the Spring as being one of the only churches in America to be dealing with a pandemic and the immediate results of a devastating church fire.

After the fire, Ocker did what we all knew she would do... We banded together and started the hard work of rebuilding in a pandemic. With our motto – *we love our building, but we*



## 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](mailto:sandrainaustin@yahoo.com)

Dime Box #6: Vacant

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

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

New Tabor #13: Connie Surovik, 1701 St Hwy 21 E, Caldwell, TX 77836, [conniesurovik76@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:jjskrabanek@gmail.com)

Wesley #18: Elaine Koehn, 9053 Leaning Oak Lane, Brenham, TX 77833, 979-836-5196, [koehns72@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:michael-pruett@sbcglobal.net)

Westheimer #22: Betty J. Parthum, 3620 Avenue O, Rosenberg, TX 77471, 713-826-7993, [dparthum@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](mailto:natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com)

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

\*\*Position currently filled by Administrative Board members

### 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@gmail.com](mailto:usmcmom@gmail.com)

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

*love the people more* – we set about the overwhelming task of cleaning, remediation and remodeling.

What was the result? In relative short order, the damage to the sanctuary and affected area(s) was cleared and a construction company was hired to help us rebuild. Now, almost seven months later, we are approaching completion of what will be a beautifully restored country church. We hope to have worship services in our remodeled sanctuary by the beginning of 2021, if not sooner.

On a personal level, I believe this was a real tipping point year for our church. The tragedies of this past year offered a distinct fork in the road for us as a community of believers... and I am happy to report that I believe we took the path of grace, love and mercy... I am so proud.

Our desire is that when you walk into Ocker's remodeled sanctuary you will be taken back with its beauty...not

because of what you see with your physical eyes, but by what you see with the eyes of your heart. It is our hope that, with the eyes of your heart, you will see the walls gleaming with the fruits of the Spirit that have been given and received in that same space for so many years...we hope you see the stage filled with the Holy Spirit swirling around in the wood...and the pews packed to capacity with the spirit of our saints along with current members who strive to follow Christ in all they say and do.

We look forward to next year when we can worship in our renewed Sanctuary as a renewed church family... solid in our foundations, anchored in our rich tradition, and rebuilt (literally and physically) by love.

I will save a seat for you all at our Dedication Service and Fellowship on Sunday, February 21...I think it is going to be a great day!



## Joy Rebuilt

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Our joy is a fragile thing. It seems that joy can be lost, and it can be found. Weariness and fear can squelch our joy. The beauty of holy joy is that it is an eternal gift from God which can be made complete in our hearts and minds in the here and now. Holy joy can be rebuilt. The very author of our faith, God Himself, promises to rebuild our joy. Just like a gingerbread house can be rebuilt if it topples over, our joy can be made fresh and new. Even in the midst of seemingly hopeless circumstances, holy joy makes a comeback that cannot be denied.

Our pathway towards joy:

**Press closer towards the Lord Jesus as we feel our feet "held to the fire" and our joy slipping away.**

- 1) Read the words of the Holy Bible asking God to open your mind and your heart to Himself.
- 2) Ask God the Holy Spirit to take ownership over you.
- 3) Tell God that you desire to do only what is in alignment with His holy character.
- 4) Embrace the joy that results –

that is, the steadfast peace and contentment that result from seeking Jesus as your Master.

In the Holy Bible, we encounter Nehemiah, a governor whom God placed in the right place at the right time to help the nation of Israel return to a pure joy-filled devotion to God. The nation was war-torn, confused, in rubble, almost unrecognizable. It was time to rebuild Jerusalem. After years of wandering off and shrinking back in their faith, the One Holy God who loves to restore, to rebuild His people, was now seeking to captivate their minds and their hearts again, to rebuild their holy joy!

From The Holy Bible, the Book of Nehemiah 8:1-12:

*1 All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. 2 So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men*

## 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

## SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL FORM

### Your *Brethren Journal* Subscription Expired 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 services 2nd and  
4th Saturdays 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

and women and all who were able to  
understand. 3 He read it aloud from  
daybreak till noon as he faced the  
square before the Water Gate in the  
presence of the men, women and  
others who could understand. And  
all the people listened attentively to  
the Book of the Law. 4 Ezra the  
teacher of the Law stood on a high  
wooden platform built for the occa-  
sion. Beside him on his right stood  
Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah,  
Hilkiah and Maaseiah; and on his  
left were Pedaiah, Mishaël, Malkijah,  
Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah  
and Meshullam.

5 Ezra opened the book. All the  
people could see him because he was  
standing above them; and as he  
opened it, the people all stood up. 6  
Ezra praised the LORD, the great  
God; and all the people lifted their  
hands and responded, “Amen! Amen!”  
Then they bowed down and wor-  
shipped the LORD with their faces to  
the ground. 7 The Levites – Jeshua,  
Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub,  
Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah,  
Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and  
Pelaiah – instructed the people in  
the Law while the people were stand-  
ing there. 8 They read from the Book  
of the Law of God, making it clear  
and giving the meaning so that the  
people understood what was being  
read.

9 Then Nehemiah the governor,  
Ezra the priest and teacher of the  
Law, and the Levites who were in-  
structing the people said to them all,  
“This day is holy to the LORD your  
God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all  
the people had been weeping as they  
listened to the words of the Law. 10  
Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice

food and sweet drinks, and send  
some to those who have nothing  
prepared. This day is holy to our  
Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the  
LORD is your strength.” 11 The Levites  
calmed all the people, saying, “Be  
still, for this is a holy day. Do not  
grieve.” 12 Then all the people went  
away to eat and drink, to send por-  
tions of food and to celebrate with  
great joy, because they now under-  
stood the words that had been made  
known to them.

Your pathway towards joy:

**Press closer towards the Lord  
Jesus as you feel your feet “held to  
the fire” and your joy slipping away.**

1) Read the words of the Holy  
Bible asking God to open your mind  
and your heart to Himself.

2) Ask God the Holy Spirit to take  
ownership over you.

3) Tell God that you desire to do  
only what is in alignment with His  
holy character.

4) Embrace the joy that results –  
that is, the steadfast peace and con-  
tentment that result from seeking Jesus  
as your Master.

**Your JOY can be rebuilt.**

Press closer towards the Lord Jesus  
and see!

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

### MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

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



# A Long Chapter Closes

- by Jim Pokorny

Believe me when I say that this was not the article I planned to submit at the end of November. It was days before Thanksgiving that I and each of my colleagues received the phone call that no employee wants to receive. One informing us that a decision had been made to permanently close our office in Austin by year's end.

I am not privy to any details behind the decision, I don't think I am going out on a limb in believing that the pandemic played a role. Our industry has always been a volatile one. It has been "Boom or Bust", "Feast or Famine" in my 29-plus year career with the firm which began in the Spring of 1991. Yet even during the lean times, we managed to retain a competent workforce. Many of my colleagues have been with us 20 years or more. Even when there was a downturn in our industry, we knew we would have the experience our clients needed when things rebounded.

Despite the periodic reassurances we received as we worked remotely

during the pandemic, I could not help but notice that many of the firms who hired us in the past were either being acquired or simply closing their operations altogether.

Although I consider myself a man of faith, I confess it still took me a couple of days to fully process the announcement prior to Thanksgiving. When Thanksgiving Day arrived, my faith guided me to a place where I was able to be truly Thankful. Thankful not only for a career that spanned nearly three decades, but also thankful for those with whom I worked, laughed, and loved along the way. I made it a point to telephone these individuals offering not only my gratitude but also an ear willing to listen and, in some cases, a shoulder to cry on.

When all is said and done, it will be the people that I will miss the most. They were more than colleagues. They were more than friends. They were family. I have watched their children grow up and they have shared photographs of their grandchildren with

## TEMPLE: CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive

Temple, TX 76502

Pastor: Rev. Tim Chaplin  
(254) 718-6094

## WALL BRETHERN CHURCH

PO Box 195

7921 Tx Loop 570

Wall, TX 76957

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas  
(325) 949-7543

Pastor/Director of Youth & Young Family Ministries: Rev. Ryan Volkman  
(325) 213-0671

## WESLEY BRETHERN CHURCH

8000 FM 332

Brenham, TX 77833

Pastor: Rev. Michael Groseclose  
(979) 865-3026

## WEST BRETHERN CHURCH

901 N Marable Street

West, TX 76691

Pastor: Visiting Ministers

## WESTHEIMER COMMUNITY CHURCH

15635 Westheimer Road

Houston, TX 77082

Pastor: Lisa Johnson  
(281) 220-0280

Home Mission Project (10-22-11):  
New Beginnings at Cade Lake Community

(Cade Lake Community Chapel)

PO Box 163, 1005 Elm Drive

Caldwell, TX 77836

Pastor: Rev. Kay Polasek  
(979) 220-1289

## FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

### Chairman:

David Miller (2015), Wall; cell 325-245-5616, [dml103157@wcc.net](mailto:dml103157@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)

## 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

## 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

## 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](http://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**



GRANGER BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 943  
306 W Broadway Street  
Granger, TX 76530  
Pastor: Visiting Ministers

HOUSTON BRETHREN CHURCH  
6207 North Main Street  
Houston, TX 77009  
Pastor: Dr Jerry Terrill  
(281) 744-1147

INDUSTRY BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 73  
2758 Main Street  
Industry, TX 78944  
Pastor: Rev. Mike Groseclose

NELSONVILLE BRETHREN  
CHURCH  
332 Nelsonville Church Road  
Bellville, TX 77418  
Pastor: Rev Michael Groseclose  
(979) 865-3026

NEW TABOR BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 262  
2439 CR 225  
Caldwell, TX 77836  
Pastor: David Johnson  
(979) 567-1838

OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH  
1810 Scarborough Lane  
Pasadena, TX 77502  
Pastor: Dr. Larry Koslovsky  
(713) 594-4518

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH OF ROSENBERG  
5220 Reading Road  
Rosenberg, TX 77471  
Pastor: Ben Kruse  
(713) 376-3646

SEATON BRETHREN CHURCH  
12561 State Hwy 53  
Temple, TX 76501  
Pastor: Rev. Denise Mikeska  
(254) 721-7340

SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO 247  
9882 FM 2155  
Snook, TX 77878  
Pastor: Rev. Joseph Polasek  
(979) 272-1624

TAYLOR BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 351  
700 Sloan Street  
Taylor, TX 76574  
Pastor: Rev. James Hejl  
(512) 365-6890

me. And, when Mom passed away in December 2005, many attended her funeral service.

One thing that people within The Unity of the Brethren have proven to me time and again is the importance of relationships. The first being our relationship with God and the second being our relationship with our fellow man. That is also why I hold John Amos Comenius, a bishop in The Ancient Unity of the Brethren, in such high regard.

***“Whenever you encounter one of your neighbors, regard him as yourself in another form (which he is), or indeed as God in another form, for he is the image of God, and God will be watching to see how reverently you treat him.” – Comenius***

As I write these words, I still have a month to go before my time with the firm is officially done, and I have a substantial amount of work to do. In addition, I still have a support role to play which now takes on added significance. For along with my technical expertise, I also plan to see how individuals are coping and will do my utmost to help them in that regard.

As for my future, I will not venture

into speculation at this point. But, as a man of faith, I know that although the world changes, Christ never does.

***Hebrews 13:8 (NET) – Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever!***

I can say that I plan to continue pursuing my avenues of service, such as *The Brethren Journal*. My Sunday School class is set to resume, and that prospect fills my heart with some very welcome joy.

I remain hopeful. In November 2015 I attended the Jan Hus After 600 Years: History and Heritage symposium. One of the speakers was the Rev. Dr. Craig Atwood who said of hope: “Hope is what keeps us going in those dark and sleepless nights because we know the sun will rise again. Hope is what makes it possible to labor, day after day in ministries of justice and mercy, knowing that such labor is not in vain. And it is what lifts our eyes from our own pain and misery so that we can look into another’s eyes with compassion, Hope is confidence that love is stronger than death and that this life is not our only life.”

## CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

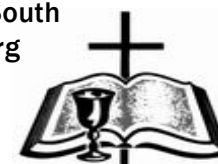
2202 Birdcreek Drive  
Temple, Texas 76502  
email: [ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org](mailto:ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org)  
<https://www.crosschurchonbirdcreek.org>

(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)

## 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)

## May It Be Well With Your Soul!

### A Homily by Dr. Jerry Terrill

Friends,

I hope and pray that you are well. Today is the day that the Lord has given each of us to celebrate the life and the love of Jesus Christ, the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the midst of this pandemic, we truly experience the words of the apostle Paul in Romans 5:3-5. *3 Not only so, but we[a] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

In 1871 a Christian lawyer from Chicago named Horatio Spafford lost his only son. A few months later he lost his life's savings when the Great Chicago Fire destroyed his real estate investments.

In 1873, he and his family decided to take a European vacation. But at the last minute he was delayed by business. He placed his wife and four daughters on the S.S. Ville de Havre

sailing from New York to France. He fully expected to leave on another ship to join them in about three or four days.

On the evening of November 22, 1873, the Ville de Havre was suddenly struck by an iron sailing vessel, the Lochearn, and sank in twelve minutes. 226 people were killed.

Back in the United States Horatio Spafford was waiting for news of his family. After waiting for ten days, he received a six-word telegram from his wife which read: "Saved alone. What shall I do?"

Filled with anguish, Spafford immediately left Chicago to bring his wife home. While sailing near the place where his daughters had died, he wrote the words to the hymn "It Is Well With My Soul".

"When peace like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll, Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well, with my soul."

In spite of the tragedy in their lives, neither Spafford nor his wife, Anna, lost faith. Instead, it sustained

## UNITY OF THE BRETHREN

### DIRECTORY OF CONGREGATIONS

### As of December 2020

AUSTIN BRETHREN CHURCH  
P.O. Box 181252  
1706 Peyton Gin Road  
Austin, TX 78718  
Pastor: Rev. Linda Chandler  
(512) 836-2712

BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION  
BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 9283  
2650 Earl Rudder Freeway  
College Station, TX 77842-9283  
Pastor: Rev. Mark Sebek  
(254) 931-2000

BUCKHOLTS BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 192  
606 N 4th Street  
Buckholts, TX 76518  
Pastor: Rev. John Kueker  
(254) 605-0434

CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH  
401 South Main Street  
Caldwell, TX 77836  
Pastor: Rev. Vanessa Mitchell  
(979) 574-0268

CROSBY BRETHREN CHURCH  
PO Box 599  
5202 1st Street  
Crosby, TX 77532  
Pastor: Dr. Larry Koslovsky  
(713) 594-4518

DIME BOX BRETHREN CHURCH  
8361 FM 141  
Dime Box, TX 77853  
Pastor: Visiting Ministers

FAYETTEVILLE BRETHREN  
CHURCH  
PO Box 11  
1022 Kramr Rd  
Fayetteville, TX 78940  
Pastoral Care: Rev. Mike Groseclose  
(979) 865-3026

GOOD SHEPHERD MORAVIAN  
CHURCH  
2910 South 34th Street  
Port Arthur, TX 77640  
Pastor: Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez  
(409) 293-2065



### NEW TABOR BRETHREN CHURCH

2439 County Road 225 Caldwell, TX 77836  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 262, Caldwell, TX 77836  
(979) 272-3008

Website: newtaborchurch.com Facebook: New Tabor Church  
Sunday School: 9 a.m. Worship: 10 a.m.

*New Tabor Brethren is here for you. We're not only a church. We're a fellowship of believers coming together to declare the glory of the Lord.*

**Reverend David Johnson (979) 220-3822**  
**pastordjbama@gmail.com**

### TAYLOR BRETHREN CHURCH

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

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

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

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

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

mother; 2 sisters, Cheryl Marsh and Janice Divis; and a brother, Kevin Divis. Services were held on Saturday, May 25, 2019, at Hewett-Arney Funeral Home in Temple.

VASEK, FRANK J., age 83 and member of Ocker Brethren Church, died Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at his home east of Temple. He was born on July 5, 1935, to Frank J., Sr., and Rosie Matous Vasek. Frank served his country in the U.S. Army. During his time in the armed services, he was a proud member of the Color Guard. Services were held on Friday, June 14, 2019, at the funeral home followed by burial at Hillcrest Cemetery in Temple. Survivors include his wife, Linda; 2 daughters, Nikki Costanza (Matt) and Dawn Heitman (Mark); 1 son, Steven Vasek; 8 grandchildren; and 1 sister, Edna Pechal.

MOSELEY, SANDRA (SANDY), age 74 and member of Temple Brethren Church, died Saturday, August 31, 2019. She was born on May 26, 1945, the eldest child of James L. and Mildred Skrabanek Hejl. She married Jimmie (Jim) Moseley on August 24, 1968. Services were held on Saturday, September 7, 2019, at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home in Temple with interment in Greathouse Cemetery. Survivors include her sister, Pat Williamson; her brother, Rev. James D. Hejl (Peggy); 2 nieces; 1 nephew; 2 great-nieces; her beloved Welsh Corgi mix, Snickers; 5 cousins, and numerous friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. Minister: Rev. James D. Hejl

COUFAL, ROBERT LEE, age 77, died on Tuesday, September 22, 2019, after a short illness. He was born May 4, 1942, to Robert Frank and Evelyn Moeller Coufal, and then went on to join the Army. He served in the 49th Armored Division of the National Guard for 5 years, and during that time he was called up for the Cuban Crisis. He married Patsy Ann Hill on June 1, 1963, at Ocker Brethren Church. He was an original member of the Evangelical Brethren Church. Survivors include his wife, Patsy; a daughter, Yvette Coufal; a son, Dwain Coufal (Sandi); 2 grandsons; 1 sister and 4 brothers. Services were held on Thursday, September 26, 2019, at Scanio-Harper in Temple with interment at Bellwood Memorial Park.

PALLA, MARTHA, age 95 and member of Cross Church on Birdcreek in Temple and the Christian Sisters, died Thursday, October 2, 2019. She was born on October 21, 1923, to George and Frances Adamek Pavlica. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Eugene Palla; 3 brothers and 2 sisters. Survivors include 2 sons, Eugene Palla, Jr. (Katie) and Marvin Palla (Cindy); 1 daughter, Barbara Poulter (Larry); sister, Irene Beran; 2 sisters-in-law, Georgia Pavlica and Kathy Pavlica; 4 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. Services were held on Saturday, October 5, 2019, at Cross Church on Birdcreek in Temple with burial at Seaton Cemetery.

them, and it grew stronger. And in 1881 they moved to Jerusalem to meet the needs of the people there, and to become missionaries.

There is a Hassidic story about a man who went for a walk in the forest and got lost. He wandered for hours, unable to find his way back to town. He followed one dead-end path after another. Finally, he came to another man walking in the forest. He cried out, "Thank God for another human being. Can you show me the way back to town?" The other man replied, "No, I'm lost too. But we can help each other in this way." In this COVID-19 season we can share with each other which paths we have already tried. This will help us find the "one that leads out." We move from being inner directed to outward directed. We move from being self-centered to being other centered. We receive the peace that only God may give:

John 16: 33, *"I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."*

John 14: 27, *Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not*

*give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.*

Experiencing the peace of God allows us like eagles to fly above the storms that life brings. Unlike many birds, eagles fly into a storm knowing they will use the power of the storm to rise above the storm and experience peace from on high.

Isaiah 40:31 shares with us: *but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.*

In this season of virus which only seems to be worsening, remember the words of Horatio Spafford:

"Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul."

May it be well with your soul!  
Be safe and be blessed, Dr. T. – Jerry



## 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...*

### 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

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

## Renovations of Main Building Begin at Hus Encampment

The remodeling has begun at the Hus Encampment. We had a delay in getting started due to asbestos abatement that became necessary in the Library. There was an asbestos liner between the tile flooring and the concrete that had to be removed before we could proceed, but we got that taken care of and are now moving forward with the remodel. The current

schedule has substantial completion set for April 16 and final completion on May 15.

We recently mailed out our annual newsletter that gave an update on activities in 2020. If you did not receive one and would like one, send your mailing address to Kent Laza at [Kent.laza@verizon.net](mailto:Kent.laza@verizon.net) and he will send it to you.



## VITAL STATISTICS

### RECENT DEATHS

VAVRA, SYLVIA, age 104, and member of Houston Brethren Church, died Friday, November 20, 2020, in Austin, Texas. She was born on December 5, 1915, to Thomas and Frances (Hruska) Vavra. Sylvia was a life-long member of the Brethren Church, first in Wesley and then in Houston. She is preceded in death by her parents, 3 brothers, Rudolph, Jerry, and Edward, and 1 sister, Annie. Survivors include her niece, Lillie Mae Brightwell, and several great-nieces, great-nephews, and many friends. A private family graveside service was held at Wesley Brethren Church Cemetery on Wednesday, November 25, 2020. Minister: Rev. Mike Groseclose

### OBITUARIES FROM 2019

SVOBODA, DORIS JEAN, age 82 and member of Ocker Brethren Church, Ocker Christian Sisters, and SPJST Lodge #24, died Friday, January 4, 2019, in a Weimar Nursing home. She was born on February 23, 1936, in Perry, Texas, to Reinhold and Bertha Weideman Neumann. Graveside services were held Monday, January 7, 2019, at the church cemetery. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Johnnie Svoboda. Survivors include one sister, Sharon Clark, 1 nephew, 1 niece, 1 great-niece, and 2 great-nephews. Minister: Rev. Ron Winsman

RUBAC, JOYCE, age 73 and member of Buckholts Brethren Church and the Christian Sisters, died Friday, March 22, 2019, at her residence. She was born on November 17, 1945, to William and Margurite Mandrel Halpain. Services were held Monday, March 25, 2019, at the Marek-Burns-Laywell Funeral Home in Cameron with burial in Corinth Cemetery near Buckholts. Survivors include her husband, Johnnie Rubac; two sons, Johnny Rubac, Jr., and Carl Rubac; a daughter, Margaret Reigher; a brother, Jimmy Halpain; a sister, Mary Cantrell; 6 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Minister: Rev. Johnnie Kueker

KOTRLA, REV. EUGENE HARRY, age 79 and a retired pastor in the Unity of the Brethren, died Tuesday, March 26, 2019, at home

surrounded by family. He was born January 14, 1940, in Temple, Texas. He was a graduate of the University of Texas in Austin and Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. He married Elizabeth Pearl Giles on September 1, 1962. He served as pastor in the Unity of the Brethren in Texas in Temple, Houston, Pasadena, Crosby, Seaton, and Ocker. Following this, he served as pastor at First United Church of Christ in West and St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Elm Mott.

Gene was an outdoorsy type of guy and was most comfortable working in his yard, plowing a garden, or planting a tree. He loved building things and was most proud of the cabin he built for his family in his thirties. He worked with countless youth at the various churches where he pastored, playing endless volleyball games, singing camp songs while playing guitar, and leading Bible studies. He spent time as Mission Board Director for the Unity of the Brethren, reaching out to those in need and making mission trips to Honduras and Mexico.

Services were held on Friday, March 29, 2019 in Elm Mott at St. Paul's United Church of Christ. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Pearl Kotrla; 3 daughters, Melissa Kotrla Selden (Greg), Denise Kotrla, and Tina Kotrla; 2 granddaughters; sister and brother-in-law Carolyn and Mal Fischer, and brother and sister-in-law Donald and Vicki Kotrla; and a little chiweenie named Stu. Minister: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

BENNETT, CYNTHIA GAYE "CINDY", age 56 and member of Seaton Brethren Church, died Monday, May 13, 2019, at a Fort Worth hospital. She was born on July 11, 1962, in Spokane, Washington, to Robert "Bob" L. and Jerry Shirlene Haisler. Services were held Thursday, May 16, 2019, at Seaton Brethren Church with burial in the Seaton Cemetery. Survivors include a son, Dustin Pogen; 2 daughters, Jennifer Hardin and Lindsey Pierce; father, Bob Haisler; brother, Robert Haisler; 7 grandchildren, and 2 great-grandchildren. Minister: Rev. Denise Mikeska

DIVIS, DARRYL WAYNE, age 61 and member of Temple Brethren Church, died Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at his residence. He was born on June 18, 1957, in Temple to John and Ruby Jezek Divis. Survivors include his



13. For God, Who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Christ. 2 Cor. 4:6
14. **Six days later, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And He was transfigured before them, and His clothes became dazzling white. Mk. 9:2-3a**
15. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Mk. 9:4
16. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is My Son, the Beloved; listen to Him!" Mk. 9:7
17. Yet even now, says the LORD, return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. Joel 2:12
18. Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Joel 2:13
19. Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the cords of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Isa. 58:6
20. Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Isa. 58:8
21. **Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." Mk. 1:15**
22. To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. Ps. 25:1
23. Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths. Ps. 25:4
24. Lead me in Your truth, and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all day long. Ps. 25:5
25. Jesus said to him, "I am the Way, and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." Jn. 14:6
26. I will make nations of you {Abraham}, and kings shall come from you. I will establish My covenant between Me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. Gen. 17:6b-7
27. For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. Rom. 4:13
28. **I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Ps. 135:5**

## 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

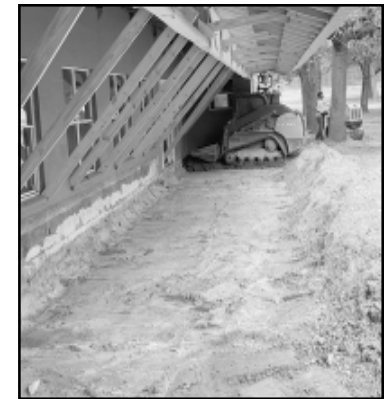
Home: [rev.tjt@gmail.com](mailto:rev.tjt@gmail.com)

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.



## 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 Tami Laza, Hus Board  
 4913 FM 166  
 Caldwell, TX 77836



#### **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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>23. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Ps. 139:15</p> <p>24. <b>Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In Your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. Ps. 139:16</b></p> <p>25. How weighty to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Ps. 139:17</p> <p>26. "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." Jon. 3:2</p> | <p>27. And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. Jon. 3:5</p> <p>28. For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from Him. Ps. 62:5</p> <p>29. He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken. Ps. 62:6</p> <p>30. On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God. Ps. 62:7</p> <p>31. <b>Trust in Him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before Him; God is a refuge for us. Selah. Ps. 62:8</b></p> |
|--|---|

## DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

### Daily Morsels for February 2021

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.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Ps. 111:1</li> <li>2. Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them. Ps. 111:2</li> <li>3. Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever. Ps. 111:3</li> <li>4. He has gained renown by His wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful. Ps. 111:4</li> <li>5. The works of His hands are faithful and just; all His precepts are trustworthy. Ps. 111:7</li> <li>6. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice His precepts have good understanding. To Him belongs eternal praise. Ps. 111:10</li> <li>7. <b>Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the</b></li> </ol> | <p><b>everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; His understanding is unsearchable. Isa. 40:28</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Isa. 40:29</li> <li>9. But those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Isa. 40:31</li> <li>10. Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for He is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting. Ps. 147:1</li> <li>11. He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds. Ps. 147:3</li> <li>12. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. 2 Cor. 4:5</li> </ol> |
|---|---|



**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

# DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

## Daily Morsels for January 2021

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. For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven. Eccl. 3:1
2. O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens. Ps. 8:1
3. **Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Eph. 1:3**
4. He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him in love. Eph. 1:4
5. He destined us for adoption as His children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will. Eph. 1:5
6. On entering the house, the wise men saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Matt. 2:11
7. In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Gen. 1:1
8. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. Gen. 1:3
9. Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name; worship the LORD in holy splendor. Ps. 29:2
10. **And just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on Him. Mk. 1:10**
11. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with You I am well pleased." Mk. 1:11
12. The voice of the LORD is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the LORD, over mighty waters. Ps. 29:3
13. The voice of the LORD is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty. Ps. 29:4
14. May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace! Ps. 29:11
15. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for Your servant is listening." I Sam. 3:10
16. As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. I Sam. 3:19
17. **I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are Your works; that I know very well. Ps. 139:14**
18. O LORD, You have searched me and known me. Ps. 139:1
19. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You discern my thoughts from far away. Ps. 139:2
20. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Ps. 139:3
21. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, You know it completely. Ps. 139:4
22. For it was You Who formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. Ps. 139:13

## 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"

**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

**Mail to:**  
**Tami Laza, Hus Board Member**  
**4913 FM 166**  
**Caldwell, TX 77836**

For credit card donations, go online to [huscamp.org](http://huscamp.org) and click Donate.



# 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  
 Friends on Facebook!  
 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

## 2021 Summer Camp Dates

### ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old  
 Camp Cost: \$250  
 Camp Date: **July 5-7**

### ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old  
 Camp Cost: \$350  
 Camp Date: **July 25-29**

### PIONEER

Ages 12-13 years old  
 Camp Cost: \$350  
 Camp Date: **July 18-23**

### DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old  
 Camp Cost: \$350  
 Camp Date: **July 11-16**

### CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old  
 Camp Cost: \$350  
 Camp Date: **Not Held in 2021**

### HUS SCHOOL

In-depth Leadership Program  
 Ages 16-Adult  
 Cost \$550  
 Date: **June 20-July 2**

**For more information about the Hus School Encampment go to:**  
**[www.huscamp.org](http://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](mailto:editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com). Information must be received by the first day of the month immediately preceding the month of publication.*



## *Insuring & Enriching Lives*

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

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

### **Membership Benefits**

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

**SPJST**  
**520 NorthMain Street**  
**Temple, Texas 76501**  
**(800) 727-7578**  
**[www.spjst.org](http://www.spjst.org)**

### **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](mailto:Kent.laza@verizon.net)

*\*This must be done well in advance.*

## Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

**January 1, 2021 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**February 21, 2021 – Ocker Brethren Church Sanctuary Dedication Service** in the newly rebuilt and remodeled building. Service begins at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. For more information, see the article in this issue or contact Rev. Brad Herridge at (254) 716-2578 or by email at [brad.herridge@gmail.com](mailto:brad.herridge@gmail.com).

**February 27, 2021 – Fayetteville Brethren Christian Sisters Fundraiser:** On the square in Fayetteville at the Old Fire Station from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. – Drive-thru breakfast tacos and raffle. Raffle tickets sold thru February 26. 10 prizes – Top prize is a \$250 VISA Gift Card. For information, contact Liz Ripple (979) 378-2239 or [lizripple@hotmail.com](mailto:lizripple@hotmail.com) or visit: [FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org](http://FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org).

**Save the Dates . . .**

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

**July 3-4, 2021 – State BYF Summer Retreat & Volleyball Tournament** at the Hus Encampment.

**July 13-15, 2021 – Unity Convention** at Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas. More information to come soon.

### 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.

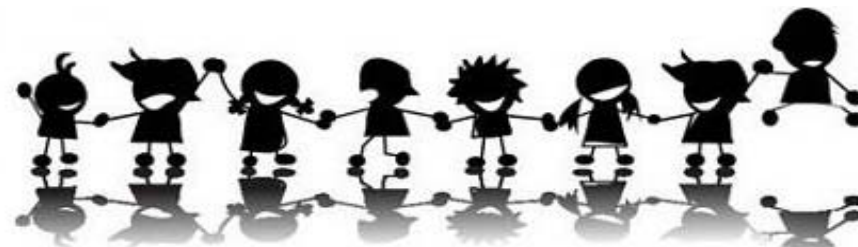
**Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Terrill**

*Dorothy Hinson  
President*

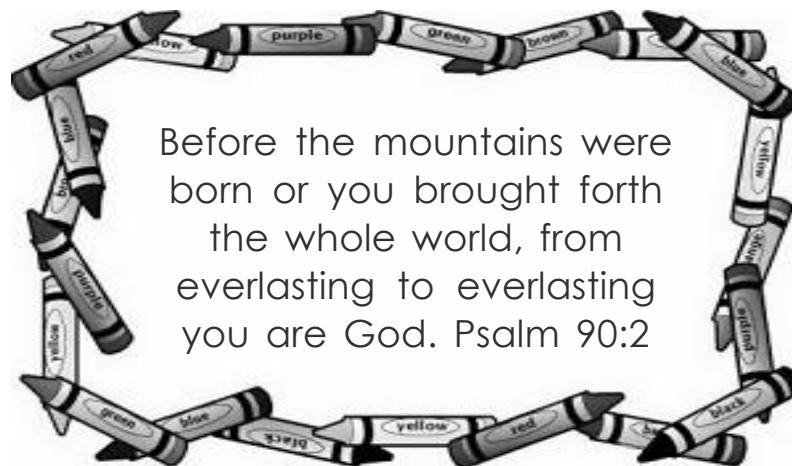
7331 Misty Morning Lane  
Humble, TX 77346  
(281) 620-0480

*Donna Verwold  
Secretary*

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



# Sunday School Helper



Before the mountains were  
born or you brought forth  
the whole world, from  
everlasting to everlasting  
you are God. Psalm 90:2

### Bible Characters

Creation

### Bible Reference

Genesis 3

Welcome to a new year! 2021! This year all the lessons will focus on a common material – the paper plate. Each month will include a paper plate craft to illustrate a Bible Story. If you are like me, supplies can be expensive, but you always have paper plates around!



# CREATION

## BIBLE LESSON

Scripture: Genesis 1-3

## Creation

**TELL** the story.

<https://ministryspark.com/creation-story-elementary/>

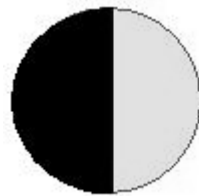
This website has a visual telling of the story of creation that is very engaging.

## MAKE:

**Supplies:** Paper plates, yarn, construction paper, cotton balls, feathers, googly eyes, markers, crayons, or paint

### Day 1: Night & Day

To illustrate night and day, color half of a paper plate black and half yellow to illustrate night and day.



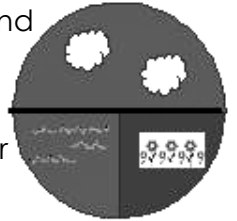
### Day 2: The Sky

To illustrate the sky, color the entire paper plate blue. Then add cotton ball clouds.



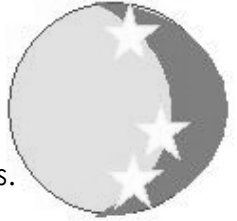
### Day 3: Dry land, seas, plants, & trees

Color the top half the paper plate blue and the bottom half green/half blue. Use construction paper to make flowers and trees for the land. Use a darker blue color to make waves in the lower blue portion.



### Day 4: The Sun, Moon, & stars

Color the entire plate yellow except for a moon shape. Color the moon shape gray. Add construction paper stars.



### Day 5: Creatures that live in the sea and creatures that fly

Cut a paper plate in half. One half will be a bird and the other a fish. Add googly eyes. For the fish, add a triangle tail and draw on scales. For the bird, add a feather tail and wing and a beak.



### Day 6: Animals that live on the land and Adam & Eve

Color the plate skin color. Add yarn hair and googly eyes. Draw on a nose and smile.

