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THE BRETHREN



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Vol. 120

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

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32/April 2021

BRETHREN JOURNAL



*Death Could Not Hold Him.
Rejoice in the Resurrection of
Jesus Crist!*

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Hus Main Building Renovations Update

Unity Activities: Ocker Brethren Sanctuary Rededication Service
rescheduled!

. . . and much more!

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Veselé Velikonoce! Happy Easter! From the Czech Center Museum

Easter in the Czech Republic has a sincere and colorful history, celebrated by the public with beautiful traditions and fantastic food. The Czech name for Easter is Velikonoce, made up of two words, Veliké and Noci translates to Great-Nights. This is in reference to the night of Jesus Christ's resurrection in the New Testament. The Czech Republic celebrates Easter in many ways and is known for the great traditions and vibrant Easter markets. Many Czech and Velikonoce customs reflect a celebration of spring, fertility, and youth.

Holy Week

This year *Velikonoce* falls on April 4, 2021. However, the customs and celebrations will begin with *Svatý týden* or Holy Week. Starting with "Blue" Monday, which is named after the color used to decorate churches. Next is "Grey" Tuesday, which means there is nothing special about this day. Then there is "Ugly" Wednesday, where it is believed if you frown on this day, you will always look bad on Wednesdays for the year.

"Green" Thursday is when families would need to eat only green food to be healthy for the rest of the year. This is also the last day you will hear church bells until "White" Saturday. While "Blue" Monday, "Grey" Tuesday, and "Ugly" Wednesday are a part of Holy week, these days are also known for the beginning of spring cleaning.

The official national holiday begins on Good Friday, which was the day of Christ's Crucifixion. Mostly practiced in some Moravian regions, groups of boys would walk through the town shaking wooden rattles or noisemakers called *rehtacky*. This chased away any evil spirits in the community. Today, the boys will stop at every house and rattle until they are given money, which they will split between the group.



Kraslice

The Czech Republic is well known for the *kraslice*, and many Czechs take pride in this tradition. The hand-painted eggs sometimes represent different regions of the country. They are traditionally decorated by using a variety of different materials from straw to beeswax, onion peels, and, of course, food coloring and watercolors.

For the Easter Sunday tradition, girls will hard boil the eggs, then decorate them to be given out and eaten later. For the more elaborately decorated eggs that are used for ornamentation, the egg will be decorated, and then tiny holes will be





made on either end of the egg for the yolk to be blown out. Today, many brightly colored and highly decorated *kraslice* can be found throughout the Easter Markets in the Czech Republic.

Pomlázka

The Easter *pomlázka* (from *pomladit* or “make younger”) is meant to bring good health, beauty, and fertility for those who are hit with it. Boys will go house to house and hit girls with the *pomlázka* to bring them good health, fertility, and beauty for the coming year. They are made of willow twigs that are braided together and are tied with different colored ribbons. There is also the tradition of dousing a girl with water, which holds the same purpose as the *pomlázka*.

This tradition is known to originate from housemaids who used to whip their livestock and their whole family to promote good health, beauty, and fertility. While this tradition is

not as widespread anymore, the *pomlázka* can still be purchased at the Easter Markets and stores.

Easter Food

While Czech Easter food traditions are not as elaborate as Christmas or other holidays, there are still many traditional dishes that are made today. One of the most popular dishes is baked lamb. But do not be fooled; this dish has nothing to do with meat. *Beránek* (a baked lamb) is popularly made with dough and mixed with raisins. The lamb represents Jesus Christ, also known as the “Lamb of God” for his sacrificial death.



Another traditional Easter food is the *Mazanec*. This food is like sweet bread; it is made with rum-soaked dried fruits and then topped with shaved almonds. *Mazanec* is made throughout Holy Week and can also

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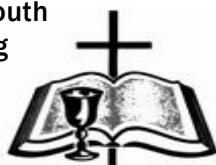
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be bought at the Czech Republic's Easter Markets. Another food you would find during *Velikonoce* is called *Jidáše*. It is usually made with leftover dough that is braided or made into smaller buns and baked with the other loaves of bread.

The Easter table is not given as much significance as that of Christmas, but there is still food, particularly baked goods, prepared especially for this holiday as well. Just as fish, mainly carp, is associated with the Christmas feast, lamb and goat's meat, baked or fried, is associated with Easter. It was usually prepared with potatoes. Even before the days of Christianity, the symbol of the lamb was widespread in Mediterranean culture, with its long pastoral tradition. For Christian churches, the lamb came to symbolize the Lamb of God – Jesus Christ.

In the southern Czech Sumava Mountains there used to be a tradition that blessing a lamb would help pilgrims to find their way through the forests. These days lamb is rarely eaten in the Czech Republic, but this does not mean that lamb has disappeared entirely from Czech Easter celebrations. It still appears in the form of a cake called *Velikonoční Beránek* or Easter Lamb cake.

The Brethren Journal would like to thank the Czech Center Museum Houston for allowing us to share this

article with our readers. The Czech Center Museum is one of 18 museums in Houston, Texas. It is a colorful museum that provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects, art, music, stories, and lives of Czechs, Slovaks, and people of all cultures who left their country to seek liberty and democracy in America.

According to their website, their purpose is to: "inspire people to learn from those who sought freedom despite oppressive rulers and systems. The museum strives to be an accessible resource, actively encouraging the study, appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of diverse cultures and traditions."

We would like to encourage you, your family and friends to visit the Czech Center Museum at 4920 San Jacinto Street, Houston, TX, 77004. You can also visit their website at www.czechcenter.org.

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

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Selah/Praise: A Homily

- by Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill

Psalms 77: *I I cried out to God for help; I cried out to God to hear me.*

2 When I was in distress, I sought the Lord;...

11 I will remember the deeds of the Lord; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago.

12 I will consider all your works and meditate on all your mighty deeds."

13 Your ways, God, are holy. What god is as great as our God?

14 You are the God who performs miracles;...

John Donne (1572-1631) was a poet, scholar, soldier, lawyer, and finally the Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in London. He became an Anglican clergyman after King James I (Bible) encouraged him to do so.

He married Anne More, together they had 12 children in 16 years of marriage. Anne died of complications from giving birth to their last child. Their years together were filled with poverty because Anne's wealthy fa-

ther disapproved of John, born a Roman Catholic.

Donne was a favorite poet of Queen Elizabeth and is considered to be the preeminent metaphysical poet of the Elizabethan era.

In the year 1624, Donne was meditating on the question of why an individual should be concerned about the death of a stranger. (Meditations for Emergent Occasions) His insight is simple, clear, and as relevant today as it was 396 years ago. We mourn because:

No one is an island,
Entire of itself,
Each of us is a piece of the continent,
A part of the main.

If a clod be washed away by the sea,
Europe is the less.

As well as if a promontory were.

As well as if the home of your friend
Or even your own home was washed
away.

Each person's death diminishes me,
For I am involved in humankind,
Therefore, do not send a neighbor to

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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

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

Services were held on Saturday, July 25, 2020, at Marek-Burns-Laywell Funeral Home in Cameron with burial in Corinth Cemetery in Buckholts. He was preceded in death by a son, Kenneth Ray Jones. Survivors include his wife; a son, Mark Jones; 2 brothers, Michael Jones and Matthew Jones; 1 sister, Linda Culp; and 4 grandchildren. Minister: Rev John Kueker

JANKE, LARRY GENE, age 85 and member of Crosby Brethren Church, died Wednesday, July 22, 2020. He was born on April 12, 1935, in Davilla, Texas, to Walter and Ira Mae Janke. He married Doris Balusek on June 13, 1953. She died of cancer in 2007. He had an amazing mechanical mind and could fix most anything. He had a special love for working on tractors. Being the oldest of 12 children and raised on a farm, he probably had lots of experience growing up. A funeral service was held on Wednesday, July 29, 2020, at Brookside Funeral Home in Houston, Texas, with burial at Brookside Memorial Park. Larry was preceded in death by his wife Doris; granddaughter Lauren Morgan; son-in-law Ronald Grothe; his parents; and 4 brothers. Survivors include 3 daughters, Jeanne Gutierrez (Victor), Debbie Morgan (Mike), and Karen Grothe (Alvin); 2 sons, Larry Janke, Jr. (Trish) and Todd Janke (Rachel); 6 grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; 3 brothers, Donald Janke, Curtis Janke, and Robert Janke; and 4 sisters, Janet Jones, Anita Howell, Tricia Henry, and Sandra Garrett. Minister: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

HILDEBRAND, WILFRED AUGUST, age 84 and member of New Tabor Brethren Church and New Tabor SPJST #17, died Tuesday, September 1, 2020. He was born September 2, 1935, in Birch Community to Ernest and Elsie (Meier) Hildebrand. He attended Big Creek School in Somerville and left school after 8th grade to help on the family farm because his father was ill. He was a mechanic by trade and retired from Nagel Manufacturing in 1995 with 32 years of service. He held several positions at New Tabor Brethren including New Tabor Men's Brotherhood (treasurer), New Tabor Mutual Aid, New Tabor Church Cemetery Association as Vice President, and New Tabor SPJST #17 as Vice President for 22 years. He received the SPJST Lifetime Achiever Award in 2002. A graveside service was held on Friday, September 4, 2020, at New Tabor Brethren Church Cemetery. He was preceded in death by his parents. Survivors

include his wife of 61 years, Helen (Faust); 1 son, David Hildebrand (Deborah), and 1 daughter, Sheila Orsak (Bill); 4 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. Minister: Pastor David Johnson

OWENS, MARY FRANCES VAJDEK (HAYES), age 88 and member of Caldwell Brethren Church, died Sunday, September 20, 2020. She was born on January 2, 1932, to Tom and Milady (Havel) Vajdak in Merle, Texas, which is now part of Snook, Texas. She was baptized on March 3, 1932, by Reverend Frank Horak, Sr., confirmed on April 3, 1947, at the Caldwell Moravian Brethren Church by Rev. Henry Beseda, Sr., and remained a member of that church her entire life. When she started school she didn't know a word of English, but learned the language quickly. She met her first husband, Sgt. James T. Hayes, in Austin. Since James was in the Air Force, many moves took place. They had 3 children together. The marriage took a toll after several more relocations. She married T/Sgt. George Owens in 1968. When George retired from the Air Force after 21 years of service, Caldwell was home again. Mary was a member of the Christian Sisters (an officer for 25 years), a life-time member of the American Legion, and a founding member of the Burleson County Theater Guild. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, George; her daughter, Sara Hayes; her brother Franklin Vajdak and his wife Shirley; her sister Alice Piwonka and her husband Alex; and nephew Harold Piwonka. Survivors include 2 sons, David Hayes and Darrell Hayes; 1 step-granddaughter; 2 step-great-grandchildren; 1 step-great-granddaughter; several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

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

find out For whom the death bell rings.
It rings for you.

We are all children of God. Because we are all part of the family of God, we are called to love one another. This means we are called to be as concerned for the safety, health, and happiness of others as we are concerned for our own health, safety, and happiness. In the Covid-19 era we need to remember the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37) who paid out of his own pocket for the medical care and healing of a man from a different race and community.

To paraphrase psychiatrist Harry Stack Sullivan, MD, the definition of love is... "that whenever you are as concerned about the safety, the satisfaction, or the happiness of another person as you are about your own safety, satisfaction, and happiness, there the state of love exists."

Romans 12:9-10 shares with us: "Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor."

1 Peter 4:8: "Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for

love covers a multitude of sins."

Galatians 6:10: "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all..."

Justin Martyr, a second-century theologian, once remarked: "We who used to value the acquisition of wealth and possessions more than anything else now bring what we have into a common fund and share it with anyone who needs it. We used to hate and destroy one another and refused to associate with people of another race or culture. Now, because of Christ, we live together with such people and pray for our enemies."

Our Lord Jesus Christ remarks: "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:43-44).

In closing, the Book of Acts speaks of Tabitha, the Gazelle:

(Acts 9: 36-42) v. 36 *In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. 37 About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs*



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

room. 38 Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

39 Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

40 Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes and seeing Peter she sat up. 41 He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. 42 This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord.

Dorcas and her good deeds were alive and recalled beyond her death. So much so that the Apostle Peter

was called to witness her resurrection. That Dorcas was called a disciple reminds us that whatever our gender, whatever our work, we can perform miracles in the world that we are called to be a part of.

Be safe and Be blessed,

FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

Chairman:

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

Unity Representatives:

John Brinkley
Paula Wagner (2015), Taylor; 512-996-8846, paulak1121@sbcglobal.net
Arnold Cuba (2015), Taylor; 512-247-8019, arcuba188@yahoo.com
Erin Brinkley (2015), Ocker; erinbrinkley@yahoo.com
Alan Haisler (2019), BCS
Daniel Vojtek (2019), BCS

Synodical Committee Liason (First

Vice-President: Rev. Mike Groseclose

Advisors:

Rev. Lawrence & Barbara Juneke (Unity at large)

WALL BRETHREN CHURCH

12 miles east of San Angelo, Loop 570, Wall, Texas
P.O. Box 195, Wall, Texas 76957
Phone: 325-651-4444 ~ Fax: 325-651-5100

Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas
Home: 325-949-7543 Cell: 325-656-8558
Home: rev.tjt@gmail.com
Church: wallbrethren@gmail.com
www.WallBrethrenChurch.com

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

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

enjoyed hunting, fishing and traveling. A graveside service was held Thursday, May 7, 2020, in Palms Memorial Park Cemetery in Dayton. She was preceded in death by her parents. Survivors include her husband of 54 years, Lawrence Jones, Sr.; 2 sons – Lawrence Jones, Jr., and Robert Jones (Connie); 4 daughters – Sherry Stephenson (Russell), Judy Jones, Susan Hawkins (Wesley), and Nancy Meyer (Brandon); 7 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren; 2 brothers, Edwin Psencik and Walter Psencik, and 1 sister, Louise Lyrock. Minister: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

HARRISON, J.W. age 67 and member of Ocker Brethren Church, died Sunday, May 17, 2020. He was born February 22, 1953, in Temple, Texas, to Roy and Emma Harrison. He was retired from Wilsonart. J.W. will be remembered for his outstanding love of his family and of his giving nature. His theory above all in life was that everything was "Gonna be okay." A private funeral service was held at the Ocker Brethren Church Pavilion with burial in Ocker Brethren Church Cemetery. He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter, Lanie Shannon Watts. Survivors include his wife of 38 years, Kathy; 1 daughter, Cynthia Funderburk (Greg); 2 sons, Karl Harrison (Kari) and Bradley Harrison (Kristina); 9 grandchildren; 2 step grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; 5 step great-grandchildren; 1 brother, Leroy Harrison; numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. Ministers: Rev. Dr. Brad Herridge and Pastor Ron Winsman

VAVRA, PATRICIA, age 83 and member of New Tabor Brethren Church, died Friday, May 22, 2020. She had Parkinson's Disease. She was born on May 24, 1936 in Fort Worth, Texas, to Horace and Louise Fowler. Pat

taught Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, held offices in the Christian Sisters Society and Church Financial Secretary. A private family funeral service was held on Wednesday, June 3, at New Tabor Cemetery due to COVID-19. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Lawrence A. Vavra; her parents; one sister, Johnnie Parsons; and her great-granddaughter, Ryleigh Doonan. Survivors include her 3 daughters, Connie Bowers, Shirley Vavra, and Carolyn Doonan (Charles); 3 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren. Minister: Pastor David Johnson

SHAFFNER, Wilma Kolay, age 91 and member of Cross Church on Birdcreek (formerly Temple Brethren Church) and the Christian Sisters' Society, died Thursday, June 4, 2020, at a local care center. She was born on March 20, 1929, in the Oscar Community in East Bell County to Walter and Albina Martinek Kolay. For many years she operated Pop's Family Restaurant on East Adams Avenue in Temple until she retired to care for family members with failing health. Funeral services were held on Monday, June 8, 2020, at Cross Church on Birdcreek with burial at Seaton Cemetery. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Jack. They had no children. Survivors include friends, cousins, and her church family. Minister: Rev. Tim Chaplin

JONES, MORRIS M., age 75 and member of Buckholts Brethren Church, died Wednesday, July 22, 2020, at a Temple hospital. He was born October 1, 1944, in Cameron to Morris Marvin and Martha Lee Tomasek Jones. He married Imogene Krenek on October 10, 1964. He retired as a warden for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.



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

Donna Verwold
President
325 Sunnyside St.
Houston, TX 77076
Cell: 713-553-5542

Rita Tyson
Secretary
22015 Golden Cedar Dr.
Cypress, TX 77433
Cell: 713-899-8272

VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT DEATHS

HOLICK, JOHNNIE MILTON, age 90, and member of Seaton Brethren Church, died Thursday, March 12, 2020. He was born on March 31, 1929, to Joe and Mary (Kovar) Holick. The oldest of five children, Johnnie served in the U.S. Navy on the USS Princeton for 4 years during the Korean War. Survivors include his wife Della (Meier) Holick; 2 sons, Jerry Holick and Darrell Holick (Judy); 1 grandson, Garrett Holick (Donyale); 2 great-granddaughters; 1 brother and 1 sister. Services were held on Tuesday, March 17, at Pecan Grove Chapel with burial at Seaton Cemetery. Minister: Rev. Tom Pearson

SHILLER, DEMETRA JEAN, age 90, and member of Taylor Brethren Church, died Friday, April 17, 2020, in Round Rock. Demetra was born April 16, 1930, to Louis and Vlasta Stasny. She was preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Gilbert. Survivors include 2 daughters, Gloria Wuthrich (Mike) and Karen Richter (Randall); 2 sons, Randy Shiller (Molly) and Larry Shiller (Beverly); 4 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandson; 1 brother, John Stasny.

OLSEN, MARILYN FRANCES, age 89, and member of Temple Brethren Church, died Friday, April 24, 2020. Marilyn was born June 15, 1930, in Zabcikville, Texas, to Ernest and Frances (Talas) Bartek. She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband of 54 years, Ardale; her brother, Ernest Bartek, Jr.; and her sister, Juanita Bartek Marek. Survivors include 2 daughters, Laurie Bagby

(Don) and Carla Valenta (Tommy); 1 son, Mark Olsen (Stacy); 6 grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

MIKESKA, MAY TAYLOR, age 93, of Bleiberville and member of Nelsonville Brethren Church, died Saturday, April 25, 2020, in Brenham, Texas, from COVID-19. She was born on September 15, 1926, in Macclesfield, England, to Percy and Martha Taylor. She was a proud "war bride" to Lonnie Mikeska. They married on July 30, 1945, in Macclesfield, England. Shortly after they married she traveled to the United States on the Queen Mary. Lonnie and May lived in the Houston Heights at first then moved to Bleiberville in 1957. May became a seamstress in England at the age of 14, having to help support her family during WWII. She continued as a seamstress in Houston and then worked for Maddox Furniture Co. in Brenham as a seamstress for 25 years. May was preceded in death by her husband, Lonnie; siblings, Bertha, Betty, Annie, Bill, and Jack. Survivors include 1 daughter, Judy Schulz (Alvin Jr.); 2 sons, Gary Mikeska (Cathy) and Steven Mikeska (Antonette); 11 grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild. A memorial service was held graveside on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at National Cemetery near Bellville, Texas. Minister: Rev. Mike Groseclose

JONES, MARTHA MARGARET, age 76 and member of Crosby Brethren Church, died Thursday, April 30, 2020, in Liberty, Texas. She was born on February 6, 1944, in Dayton, Texas, to Miloslav and Martha Lesikar Psencik. She was an avid outdoorsman who

Culturally Outdated

- by Jim Pokorny

I have always had a soft spot for TV Westerns. I recently tuned in to watch one and was surprised to see an "OC" warning. I looked this up on the Internet and learned it stood for "Outdated Cultural Depiction". Granted, I could see where this might apply to depictions of Native Americans. Often those with speaking parts were portrayed by white actors in heavy makeup who employed many inaccurate stereotypes. That said, I was surprised to learn that this warning has been liberally applied to many TV Westerns in general, even those without Native Americans in their plot lines.

I was saddened by this. During my childhood, several TV Westerns were part of our regular family TV viewing. One of these was *Guns smoke* which ran for 20 seasons (1955-1975) and was the most popular show on television from 1957 to 1961. Set in and around Dodge City, Kansas, the stories revolved around U.S. Marshal Matt Dillon (James Arness) and his friends Chester Proudfoot (Dennis Weaver), Miss Kitty Russell (Amanda

Blake), Doc Adams (Milburn Stone), and later Festus Haggen (Ken Curtis). Although Matt Dillon was a fictional character, I admired him as a child. He kept the peace while often jeopardizing his own safety. He was overworked and underpaid. Yet he and his friends knew they could count on each other when times were tough. They often laughed with each other without becoming offended.

Another TV Western from my childhood was *Bonanza*. It centered around a wealthy family of men who lived near Virginia City on a spread known as The Ponderosa. The head of the family was Ben Cartwright (Lorne Greene). His sons were Adam (Pernell Roberts), Eric or "Hoss" (Dan Blocker), and Joseph or "Little Joe" (Michael Landon). The Cartwright men consistently strove to do the right thing. When Dan Blocker, a gentle giant, died at 43 in 1972 it was as if we lost a family member as well.

Although before my time, television grew in popularity in the 1940s and 1950s. TV Westerns became a



TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas – 512-352-6423

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76754

Church email: taylorbrothers@sbcglobal.net

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

CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive

Temple, Texas 76502

email: ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org

https://www.crosschurchonbirdcreek.org

(254) 778-8759
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Tim Chaplin
(254) 718-6094
tpch4359@gmail.com

staple in America's viewing diet. By 1959 there were 30 Westerns broadcast in prime time. *The Lone Ranger* was about a masked Texas Ranger and his faithful and clever Native American companion Tonto. Together, they travelled the Old West righting injustices without seeking recognition or reward. When their work was done, the locals were left asking themselves, "Who was that masked man?"

Another of these old Westerns was *The Roy Rogers Show*, which ran from 1951 through 1957. Rogers was one of many singing cowboys. The program was nominated for an Emmy Award for Best Western or Adventure Series. Rogers' wife Dale Evans also starred in the show and their duet of *Happy Trails* became iconic. It is one of the Top 100 Western songs of all time. Rogers also started a club for children known as the *Roy Rogers' Riders Club*. Like other clubs, this one had rules and children received a membership card with the ten rules printed on the back: Be neat and clean, Be courteous and polite, Always obey your parents, Protect the weak and help them, Be brave but never take chances, Study hard and learn all you can, Be kind to animals and take care of them, Eat all your food and never waste any, Love God and go to Sunday school regularly, and Always respect our flag and our country.

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

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

Rogers also wrote a prayer which he recited at the beginning of each club meeting: "Lord, I reckon I'm not much just by myself, I fail to do a lot of things I ought to do. But Lord, when trails are steep and passes high, Help me ride it straight the whole way through. And when in the falling dusk I get that final call, I do not care how many flowers they send. Above all else, the happiest trail would be, For You to say to me, 'Let's ride, My Friend.' Amen."

Although morality tales had their origins in the 1400s, TV Westerns were, for the most part, a continuation on the same theme. They were dramas that depicted the struggle between good and evil and offered moral lessons. Their popularity has faded significantly over time and some now choose to warn me that they contain "Outdated Cultural Depictions". I must be getting older. Perhaps I am culturally outdated as well. But in view of what passes for today's culture, perhaps being culturally outdated is not altogether a bad thing.

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

17. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out. Acts 3:19
18. **See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God... 1 Jn. 3:1a**
19. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know Him. 1 Jn. 3:1b
20. Then Jesus said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about Me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Lk. 24:44
21. Jesus opened their minds to understand the scriptures. Lk. 24:45
22. Jesus said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day." Lk. 24:46
23. Jesus said, "Repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem." Lk. 24:47
24. Let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man

is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Whom you crucified, Whom God raised from the dead. Acts 4:10

25. **This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'** Acts 4:11
26. There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12
27. We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. 1 Jn. 3:16
28. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? 1 Jn. 3:17
29. Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. 1 Jn. 3:18
30. And this is His commandment, that we should believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us. 1 Jn. 3:23

OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

17454 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 806, Rogers, TX 76569
Web Address: www.ockerbrethrenchurch.org
Church Email: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

Preaching the Word, Loving the People
Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor
Dr. Brad Herridge
(254) 716-2578
brad.herridge@gmail.com

Youth Director
Jennifer Chervenka
(254) 983-1002

Cemetery
Sharon Marek
(254) 482-0498

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for April 2021

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible Revised Standard Revision*.

Sundays in bold.

1. In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 1 Cor. 11:25
2. When Jesus had received the wine, He said, "It is finished." Then He bowed His head and gave up His spirit. Jn. 19:30
3. So {the chief priests and Pharisees} went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone. Matt. 27:66
4. **But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; He is not here..."** Mark 16:6
5. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing Him. Lk. 24:15-16
6. Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them the things about Himself in all the scriptures. Lk. 24:27
7. When He was at the table with them, He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Lk. 24:30
8. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. Lk. 24:31
9. Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul. Acts 4:32a
10. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. Acts 4:33
11. **Jesus said to {Thomas}, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Jn. 20:29**
12. This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in Him there is no darkness at all. 1 Jn. 1:5
13. If we say that we have fellowship with Him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true. 1 Jn. 1:6
14. But if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 Jn. 1:7
15. If we confess our sins, He Who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 Jn. 1:9
16. The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified His servant Jesus. Acts 3:13a

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

Hus Encampment Main Building Renovation Update

March 14, 2021

Construction is moving nicely at the camp. Here are some pics I took earlier today. The most noticeable change is the exterior siding being installed. Inside, the walls of the library and restrooms are painted and the walls in the main hall have been prepped. Wainscoting and window seats have been installed as well as the cabinetry at the drink serving area. "Substantial Completion" is anticipated in about a month with Final Completion in mid May. There is still a lot to do, but the end is in sight.





2021 Summer Camp Dates

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old

Camp Cost: \$250

+++Camp Date: **July 6-8**

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**

+++Date Correction

**For more information about the Hus School Encampment go to:
www.huscamp.org**

Does your church/organization have an activity that you would like to include in this listing? Please send activity information including a contact name, phone number, and/or email address to the Brethren Journal Editor at: editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com. Information must be received by the first day of the month immediately preceding the month of publication.

To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

. . . regarding scheduling* of meetings or events there, contact:

Kent Laza
4913 FM 166
Caldwell, TX 77836
(979) 220-1957
Kent.laza@verizon.net

**This must be done well in advance.*

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

April 18, 2021 – Ocker Brethren Church Sanctuary Dedication Service in the newly rebuilt and remodeled building. Service begins at 4 p.m. in the sanctuary. For more information, contact Rev. Brad Herridge at (254) 716-2578 or by email at brad.herridge@gmail.com.

****IMPORTANT** DATE CHANGED** May 15, 2021 – The deadline to return the 2020 Unity Questionnaire.** Please send back your completed form to Liz Ripple, Administrative Assistant.

Save the Dates . . .

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.



Membership Benefits

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

Insuring & Enriching Lives

**A fraternal benefit society
serving Texans
and their families**

*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 NorthMain Street
Temple, Texas 76501
(800) 727-7578**





14/April 2021

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This website will provide information for each balloon.
<https://www.homeofthemothor.org/en/resources/games/4991-balloon-savenger-hunt>

PaperPlate Craft: BEE Attitudes Beehive

Materials: 6 paper plates per child (yellow, or color or paint yellow), black paper, scissors, glue, bee stickers

Place 6 paper plates on top of each other, staggering them by about 3/4 of an inch. Glue them together, then cut in an oval shape. Use black paper to create an entrance to the hive. Attach 8 bees to the hive, 1 for each "bee" attitude. One the back write: Humble, Merciful, Peacemaker, Pure of Heart, Persecuted, Righteous, Need Jesus, Sad



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Beatitudes

BIBLE LESSON

Bee Attitudes

Scripture: Matthew 5:1-12

READ the scripture. Ask children what word they heard over and over. (*Blessed*) Ask what it means to be blessed. These verses are called the Beatitudes, which is just a big word for blessed. Here's a simple way to define what a blessing is: a blessing is God's gift favor in our lives, even when we don't deserve it. God loves us so He wants to give us good things. The Beatitudes are blessings we receive when we have certain attitudes. These attitudes are the attitudes of people who follow Jesus. We're going to call them the BEE ATTITUDES because they are what our ATTITUDES should BE. These are the opposite of the ME ATTITUDES, which are what we have when we choose to make ourselves and what we want more important than Jesus and what He wants.

VIDEO to help you explain the Beatitudes <https://youtu.be/7QgeNDb1nck>

GAME: Balloon Scavenger Hunt

The purpose of this game is to learn all 8 beatitudes and become an apostle. Create teams. Each team will need a set of 8 balloons all the same color (1 balloon per beatitude). Inside each balloon will be a challenge to help the children learn about the beatitude. Once the team completes the challenge they can move on to the next challenge.



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
- 2) Make a **recurring donation** using the pledge form at: huscamp.org
- 3) Send a **one-time gift** to:
Hus Camp Building Fund
c/o 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

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

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

16/April 2021

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Sunday School Helper



MATTHEW 5:3

"Blessed are the poor in
spirit, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven."

Bible Story
Beatitudes

Bible Reference
Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes are part of the Sermon on the Mount. They are short, powerful descriptions of what it looks like to live our lives the way God wants us to. And it is often contrary to what is the norm of the world!



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