

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PD
TAYLOR, TX
PERIODICAL

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



Vol. 120

July/August 2021

No. 6

32 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.



*New Tabor Brethren
Church Vacation Bible School 2021
“Rocky Railway”*

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Invitation to the 69th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren
Misplaced Worship ... by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell
Cyril and Methodius ... by Jim Pokorny

. . . and more!

Send address changes to:

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

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

EDITOR –

Cathleen Schlechte
261 Fieldstone Place
College Station, TX 77845; 979-255-8266
editor.brethrenjournal@gmail.com

BUSINESS MANAGER –

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

BUSINESS COMMITTEE –

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

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS –

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

RATE – \$15.00 per year via hard copy/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.

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.

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

HUS ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairman: Kent Laza (2017),
(979) 220-1957

Treasurer: Todd Corporon (2016), 5350
County Road 124, Georgetown, TX
78626; toddcorporon@yahoo.com

Members:

Todd Snelgrove, BCS (2013);
rtsnelgrove@gmail.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

Non-Voting Appointments:

Programming Director: Amy Snelgrove
agsnelgrove@hotmail.com

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

Facilities Manager: Alan Haisler,
haislera@ymail.com

Caretakers: 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

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

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

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

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

Rev. Dr. Brad Herridge, 5925 Mt.
Rockwood Circle, Waco, TX 76710.
(254) 716-2578;
brad.herridge@gmail.com

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

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

Rev. Lawrence 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

Pastor Ben Kruse, 11714 Needville
Fairchilds Road, Needville, TX
77461; (71) 376-3646;
krusedadb@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

rev.tjt@gmail.com (h),
rev.tjt@zipnet.us (ch)

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

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

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

RETIRED PASTORS

Rev. 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

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

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

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

Joel & Teresa Jelski
Mazkeret Moshe
19
Jerusalem 9431619
Israel

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Trish Groseclose; (979) 865-3026

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

Anna Wotipka; (979) 218-9043

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

Synodical Committee Liaison:
Dr. Larry Koslovsky

HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Chair: Vacant

Beth Dusek; bethbrenham@gmail.com

Clarence (Tillman) Clark;
foxfire890@aol.com

Rev. Larry Zabcik; zabcikville@gmail.com

Jerry Dove (2019), Fayetteville

Gerry Davis (2019), West

Jon Farrow (2019), Temple

Rev. Mike Groseclose (Liaison)

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

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

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

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

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

Secretary: Contact Administrative Assistant with
any questions.

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

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

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

Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Ryan Volkman

Pastor to Pastors: Rev. Michael Groseclose

Non-Voting Lay Alternate: Taylor Brinkley,
Ocker

Lay Members:

Austin: Darrel Kolinek, dkolinek@yahoo.com

BCS: Alan Haisler, haislera@ymail.com

Buckholts: Charlene Vogelsang,
cakv@hotmail.com

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

Crosby: Debbie Clark, foxfire890@aol.com

Dime Box: Roberta Brinkman,
superblues123@gmail.com

Fayetteville: Sandra Stepan,
sandrinaustin@yahoo.com

Good Shepherd: Lorenzo Wilson,
lorenzowilson911@gmail.com

Granger: Vacant

Houston: J.T. Verwold, dmverwold@yahoo.com

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

Nelsonville: Jenell Zettel, (979) 203-8390

New Tabor: Robert Campbell,
robertfcampbell05@yahoo.com

Ocker: Taylor Brinkley, taylorbrinkley@yahoo.com

Pasadena: Becky Lively, rebecca.lively1@comast.net

Rosenberg: Alice Kocurek,
katalice8@gmail.com

Seaton: Doug Rowald, dougrowald@yahoo.com

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

Taylor: Carol Raesz, jcraesz@gmail.com

Taylor: Kayla Marek, kmarek2012@gmail.com

Temple: Deborah Schiller,
dschiller1123@gmail.com

Wall: Paul Beatty, pbeatty@gmail.com

Wesley: Mark Surovik

West: Roy Janek, grandpajanek@att.net

Westheimer: Leroy Parthum,
betty_parthum@yahoo.com

Invitation to the 69th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren “The Heartbeat of Worship and Work”

To the Synodical Committee
Pastors & Lay Members, Del-
egates, and Committee Chairs:

The Synodical Executive Com-
mittee most warmly invites you to
the 69th Biennial Convention of the
Unity of the Brethren to be held on
Friday, July 9, 2021, at the Hus
Encampment, Caldwell, Texas.

This year's Convention will be a
one-day event. In an abundance of
caution and out of concern for
your safety, we ask that only vot-
ing and essential members be in
attendance. The proceedings of the
Convention are usually open to the
public, but this year due to health
concerns and a limited capacity in
the Main Building, the Convention
may need to rule otherwise to
reduce the crowd size and enhance
safety for everyone. Face masks
will be required, and social dis-
tancing will be practiced as much
as possible.

This year's Convention theme is
“The Heartbeat of Worship and
Work” with scripture taken from
Romans 12:1-2: *“I appeal to you
therefore, brothers and sisters, by
the mercies of God, to present your
bodies as a living sacrifice, holy
and acceptable to God, which is
your spiritual worship. ²Do not be
conformed to this world, but be
transformed by the renewing of
your minds, so that you may dis-*

*cern what is the will of God – what
is good and acceptable and per-
fect.”* NRSV

Lodging can be secured at Ameri-
cas Best Value Inn (979-567-3535)
or The Surrey Inn (979-567-3221).
If you bring a Texas Hotel Occu-
pancy Tax Exemption Certificate
from your Church, you can avoid
the State Tax.

Registration will begin at 8:00
a.m., followed by worship and
Holy Communion at 9:00 a.m. The
agenda will be sent out before the
convention. A dedication service
will also be held for the Main
Building as the remodeling project
was completed this year. A conti-
nental breakfast, lunch, and snacks
will be served.

Let us all join in prayer that God
will bless this gathering and that
the work of the Holy Spirit will be
evident among us as we seek to
serve our Lord in this day and time.

For the Synodical Committee,

Rev. Larry Koslovsky
Executive Committee President

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD (2019-2021)

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

Misplaced Worship

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

The Shema

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Deuteronomy 6:4-5

Jesus answered him, "It is written, "YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND SERVE HIM ONLY. Luke 4:8

On May 13, 2021, a 71-year-old Florida man was seen taking two baby swans from their parents' nest, reports an online Florida news site, *Inside Edition*. The parents were captured on camera trying to save their babies from the man. He put the baby swans in a red cooler and was later caught and charged by police. The man believed that he was saving them from predators. The baby swans are safe with their parents again.

Sometimes we lose sight of what is best.

Whatever is "best" usually has a significant authoritative weight ascribed to it.

Sometimes we lose sight of what God has revealed to us is best.

Our challenge and our blessing as followers of the LORD GOD is to:

Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.

— as Jesus retorts to Satan's challenge to worship him, in the Gospel of Luke, chapter 4, verse 8, when He is in the middle of the desert wilderness period of temptation to which the Holy Spirit has led Him. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ not once fell prey to Satan's temptations in the desert nor at any other point. Jesus IS the Lamb of God Who Takes Away the Sins of the World, the Resurrection and the Life, the One and Only, the Word Made Flesh, the Light of the World, the Exact Living Image of the Invisible God, Creator, Head of the Church, In Whom All Things Hold Together, By Whose Wounds We are Healed, Abba, and Lover of Our Souls.

Are you up for the greatest challenge of your life: to worship God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your might?

Are you ready to respond to the

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Austin – Bible Study at 10 AM
Worship at 11 AM.
– Rev. Linda Chandler

Bryan-College Station – Sunday School at 9:15 AM and Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Mark Sebek

Buckholts – Worship at 9 AM every Sunday except the 5th Sunday.
Holy Communion on 1st Sunday.
Guest speaker on 4th Sunday.
– Rev. John Kueker

Caldwell – Come as you are! **Sundays** – explore the Bible @ 9:30 AM (all ages); KIDS CHOIR practices @ 10:15 AM; & worship @ 10:30 AM! **Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday**, join the fun @ Family Game Night, 6-7:30 PM! Check out lifeatcbc.org for spiritual resources, events, videos, & more! Friend us on Facebook!
– Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Crosby – 9 AM: Worship
10 AM: Faith Adventure
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Dime Box – Worship at 9 AM every Sunday.
– Visiting Ministers

Fayetteville – Worship at 10:00 AM. on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays.
– 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 – Worship at 5:00 PM on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Saturdays.
– 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 10:30 AM; Worship at 11:45 AM; Lunch after the service.
– 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

Becky also left nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, friends, cousins, aunts, and uncles.

NEW MEMBERS

SVAJDA, WAYNE & DEBBIE, transferred to Seaton Brethren Church on January 12, 2020, from 1st Christian Church. Rev. Denise Mikeska officiated.

VANICEK, DAVID & PAT, joined Seaton Brethren Church on August 9, 2020. Rev. Denise Mikeska officiated

SALINAS, NORMA, joined Seaton Brethren Church on March 28, 2021. Rev. Denise Mikeska officiated.

GEERS, SHANE EUGENE, joined and was baptized at Seaton Brethren Church on March 24, 2021. Rev. Denise Mikeska officiated.

GEERS, IAN SCOTT, joined and was baptized at Seaton Brethren Church on March 24, 2021. Rev. Denise Mikeska officiated.

CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

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

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

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

Financial Secretary: Lydia Faust, P.O. Box 125, Snook, TX 77878. lydiavajdakfaust@gmail.com

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

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

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
Phone: (254) 985-2240

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) 913-1244

jennchervenka@gmail.com

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

(254) 482-0498

Hebrew prayer, the Shema, found in Deuteronomy 6, with complete humility?

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

The Shema is a prayer that Jesus knew well in His upbringing. Just like swans teach their young how to survive and how to develop their own distinct voice, Jesus learned from Mary and Joseph how to stay faithful to His calling – a calling that they only understood in part but which they were committed to support without reservation. The best response to the Shema and to the whole of the Holy Bible is to worship God every moment of each day in the power of the Holy Spirit, making all decisions in life in awe and in respect for the sovereignty of God, for the nature of God. We have received a call to listen and respond to the truth that Yahweh, the LORD our GOD, is the One True God. Jewish believers recite this prayer every morning and every night.

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

What God wants from each one of us is worship that is not "misplaced."

Misplaced worship takes place when

a person does not look to God for answers and does not wait on God for the answers.

Misplaced worship runs to backup plans amid situations that seem to have no answer.

Misplaced worship does not trust God and hang on closely to God in the tough times.

Misplaced worship does not thank God for the smooth and peaceful parts of life, nor for His revelation of Himself and refinement of our faith in periods of struggle.

Misplaced worship seeks peace from circumstances, substances, or people, and is always disappointed because peace is God's gift to us by the Holy Spirit. We cannot orchestrate peace. We can choose to act in a manner that promotes peace – but not even that will satisfy in the person who is entangled in misplaced worship.

Misplaced worship can be healed.

It often requires a time of temptation as Jesus endured in the desert. Jesus's worship of His Father was never misplaced. He met every temptation to exalt Himself in front of



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

Satan with words from the Holy Scriptures. The humanity of Christ was not allowed to sin because of the deity that He is. Our humanity can only reach to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, intensely and continuously in order to experience freedom of your soul and of your spirit here on earth until that day that is glorious beyond words when you will feel your Savior's arm around you and look into His eyes in heaven.

The 71-year-old man in Florida thought that he was doing the right thing. He thought he was saving the baby swans from predators. Much as he likely was, or even more so, we will face disappointment and a defeated spirit in our daily lives if we make decisions based on what we think is best. This is misplaced worship. We are not God. The Apostle Paul, who was a Jew of Jews, a Pharisee, learned True Worship through much suffering. He was sleepless, homeless, stressed by others, beaten, hungry, cold, imprisoned, shipwrecked,...

Misplaced Worship seeks to please oneself and shrinks back from pain and difficulty. The truth is that God will see you through absolutely anything as you act in accordance to His

Voice, to His Direction. Paul reached a point of no return in the remodel of his misplaced worship as a Pharisee – a paradigm where one's holiness could be measured and meted out according to deeds and affiliations. Through Christ's appearance to Him when he was blind on the road to Damascus and thereafter in his new life as a Christian, Paul who was Saul the Pharisee, learned to live these Scriptures through the Grace of Jesus Christ:

Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one!

Worship the LORD YOUR God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your might!

Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.

One of the Apostle Paul's deepest expressions of his True Worship of the LORD GOD, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit comes in his letter to the Philippians, chapter 3:

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. 8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing

with burial in the Caldwell Masonic Cemetery. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Lloyd Streetman; 1 son, Randy Streetman; 2 sons-in-law; 1 grandson; 5 brothers, Ted, Bert, Clyde, Lee, and Coonie, and 1 sister, Hilda; 1 granddaughter and 1 grandson. Survivors include her husband, Jerry Kubin; 2 sons, Darrell Streetman and Mark Streetman (Martha); 4 daughters, Karen Barker (Ron), Paula Gilmore (Gary), Sharon Fuller, Michelle Mendez (Victor, Jr); stepson, Dudley Kubin; 1 sister, Barbara Pribiski; 20 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 9 great-great-grandchildren.

MAASS, WALTER EDWIN, age 91 of Somerville, Texas, died Wednesday, March 3, 2021. He was born August 27, 1929, to Otto and Freida (Ernst) Maass in the Mound Prairie Community. He taught Vocational Agriculture in Snook and Caldwell. A graveside service was held March 8, 2021, at the Mound Prairie Cemetery near Snook, Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents; 3 brothers, Ernst, Otto, and Theodore; 2 sisters, Katherine Bravanec and Esther Schafer. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Linda Rubach Maass; 2 sons, Paul Maass (Heather), Ernst Maass (Kristin); Terry McMullin who he considered like a daughter; brothers-in-law, Dr. Alton Rubach and Walter John Rubach; 2 grandchildren. Minister: Rev. Joseph Polasek.

KELAREK, SHIRLEY ANN, age 85 of Temple and member of Seaton Brethren Church and SPJST Lodge 24, died Sunday, March 14, 2021, at a Temple living center. She was born November 24, 1935, in Meeks to Joe R. and Emma Marie Salac Schneider. She worked at Curtis Shoe Factory and was also a farmer and homemaker. Services were held March 18, 2021, in Seaton Cemetery. She was preceded in death by her husband of 59 years, Johnny Kelarek. Survivors include 2 sons, Garry Kelarek (Valerie) and Larry Kelarek (Kristie); a sister, Linda Smetanka (Billy), and 2 grandsons.

RUBAC, JOHNNY LELAND, age 53, of Buckholts, died Wednesday, March 31, 2021, in a Temple hospital. He was born July 22, 1967, in Cameron to Johnnie Leland and Joyce Carolyn (Halpain) Rubac. Services were held April 8, 2021, at Marek-Burns-Laywell Funeral Home in Cameron with burial at the Corinth Cemetery. He was

preceded in death by his mother, Joyce Rubac. Survivors include his father, Johnnie Rubac; 1 daughter, Brittney Rubac; 1 brother, Carl Rubac (Anna) and 1 sister, Margaret Reigher; 1 grandson; 4 nieces and nephews.

KOTRLA, LORENE E, 90 born on January 29, 1931, died on May 17, 2021. Lorene was born to Joe & Rosie Vitek Pechal. She attended school at Little Elm. She married William Joe Kotrla, Sr., on December 30, 1950. He preceded her in death on December 14, 2001. She was a homemaker. Lorene was a member of Seaton Brethren Church, the Seaton Christian Sisters and SPJST lodge #47. She lived in the Red Ranger & Oscar area all of her life. She was also preceded in death by one granddaughter, Selley Kotrla, her sister Josephine Dudley, & brothers Joe, Ed, Jerry, Raymond, & Clarence Pechal. Survivors include four sons, William Joe Kotrla, Jr, & wife Vickie; Daniel Kotrla; Joseph Kotrla; Gary Kotrla & wife Vickie; one sister Vallie Zavodny & husband Leon; six grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on May 22, 2021, at Seaton Brethren Church with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial was at Seaton Cemetery.



LIVELY, REBECCA JANET, age 70, passed away after a brief illness on May 29, 2021. Becky was the second of six daughters of Everett Lively and Alice Kovar Lively. Becky graduated from South Houston High School in 1969, University of Houston with a BS in Education in 1973 and Sam Houston State University with a Masters in Education in 1976. She had a long and colorful teaching career starting in Conroe ISD for 6 years, then taught 30 years for DODDS in Turkey, Germany, Japan, South Korea, and England. After retirement, Becky returned to live in Clear Lake and Webster. She was active with her family in the Pasadena Brethren Church growing up and after retirement. Becky enjoyed the church choir as well as music, movies, television, reading, and family events. Becky is survived by her sisters, Kathleen Lively and husband Jack Waugh, Nancy Goldsberry and husband Eddie Goldsberry, Robin Lively and husband Jim Woodruff, Terri Lively, and Laura O'Rear and husband Patrick O'Rear.



BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South

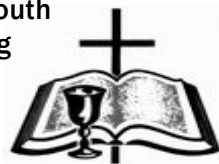
www.unityofthebrethren.org

Rev. Mark Sebek

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 9283

College Station, TX 77842



Sunday School at 9:15 A.M.

Church at 10:30 A.M.

Off: 979-693-3606

email: papasebek@gmx.com

VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT DEATHS

BARTEK, JOE CHARLIE, age 73, born on August 20, 1946, died on February 21, 2020. He was born to Joe & Bessie Martinec Bartek. He served in the Army National Guard for 4 years ending in 1970. Joe spent the majority of his life working for the Santa Fe Railroad as a brakeman and conductor for 45 years, retiring in 2010. He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Norma, and his brothers James & Glen. His survivors include 3 children, Melissa Raymond of Dallas, Joseph Bartek of Temple, and Michelle Bartek-Porubsky & husband Danny of Temple; 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on February 24, 2020, at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial was at Seaton Cemetery.

SLYE, JOHN R, age 97, of Temple died on March 23, 2020. Private graveside services were held at Hillcrest Cemetery with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. John was a retired electrician for the City of Temple and served in World War II. He was preceded in death by his wife, Doris, and 1 daughter. He is survived by 1 son, Richard Slye, and 1 daughter, Susan Christian, 4 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren.

STEPAN, RUBEN DAN, age 75, born on March 14, 1945, died on May 15, 2020. He was born to Rudolph Henry & Annie Stepan. He married Gloria Ann Cox on May 4, 1963, and she preceded him in death on March 7, 2009. Dan was a self-employed tile contractor until his retirement in 1995. He is survived by 1 son, Daniel "Danny", of Temple, & 3 daughters, Tammy Peace of Corpus Christi, Theresa "Kay" Woodward of Copperas Cove & Ashley Roantes of Ft. Hood, 7 grandchildren & 1 great grandchild. Graveside services were held at Seaton Cemetery on May 21, 2020, with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating.

CHLAPEK, MARTHA (COLEMAN), 86, born on February 28, 1934, died on October 9, 2020. She was born to Robert & Essie Coleman. Martha graduated from Temple High School. She married Edward L. Chlappek.

She worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone and was part owner of Canipe & Chlappek Lumber, Chlappek Construction, & Midway Equipment Services, Inc. She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Mark Chlappek, her brother, Robert Coleman, Jr. Her survivors include her husband, 2 sons, Rodney Chlappek, Eddie Chlappek & wife Karen, a daughter Pam Tyroch & her husband Rodney, 5 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren. Private graveside services were held October 15, 2020, at Seaton Cemetery with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating.

BARTLETT, JAMES BYRON, age 70 of Belfalls, Texas, and member of Seaton Brethren Church, died Saturday, February 6, 2021, at a Waco care facility. He was born May 3, 1950, in Temple to Marion L. and Leona H. Motl Bartlett. He served in the U.S. Navy. Services were held February 9, 2021, in Seaton Cemetery. Survivors include 2 brothers, M.L. Bartlett and Gaylon Bartlett, and 2 sisters, Kay Schwank and Darlene Graves.

KRAUSE, BENOLYE GLADYS (ZETTEL), age 86 of Industry, Texas, and member of Nelsonville Brethren Church, died Friday, February 12, 2021, in Industry. She was born March 28, 1934, in Nelsonville to Alfred and Celia (Shupak) Zettel. She and her husband Eddie owned and operated Krause Cafe in Industry. She enjoyed cooking and baking. Services were held February 23, 2021, at Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in the National Cemetery, Nelsonville. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband of 68 years Edward "Eddie" Krause; brother, Clarence Zettel, and sister, Donna. Survivors include 1 daughter, Shirley Gross (Gary); 1 son, Edward Krause (Lorinda); brother, Alfred Zettel (Marlene); sister-in-law, Ruth Zettel; 6 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren and other relatives. Minister: Rev. Michael Groseclose.

KUBIN, LUCILLE NOACK STREETMAN, age 86 and member of New Tabor Brethren Church and SPJST Lodge 186, died Friday, February 12, 2021. She was born July 25, 1934, to Walter and Annie Noack. Services were held February 20, 2021, from the Phillips & Luckey Funeral Home, Caldwell,

*Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ **9** and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. **10** I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the sharing of His sufferings by becoming like Him in His death, **11** if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. **12** Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own. **13** Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.*

What decision do you need to make today?

To not sin again in an area of struggle? To show the kindness of Christ to someone who is unkind?

To thank God for what He has taught you in your sufferings?

To be healed of your misplaced worship, stepping out on God's terms and casting aside your own?

What decision do you need to make today?

Remember that, like those baby swans, you are safest and most secure in that place where God wants you to remain or to go.

For the Heavenly Father knows how you were made; He remembers that you are dust. (Psalm 103:14)

Just love Him. He will never leave you and never forsake you. This is True Worship.

*In Jesus' Hand, Right With You,
Sister Vanessa Mitchell*



CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, Pastor
lajoiediedieu@protonmail.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@protonmail.com

Wednesday Family Night Gathering:
1st & 3rd Wednesdays each month

www.lifeatcbc.org Come as you are... Friend us on Facebook!

Cyril and Methodius

- by Jim Pokorny

Christianity arrived in the Czech lands in the first half of the ninth century via the Latin Church. Prince Mojmir embraced the faith and erected three churches at Neitra, Olmutz, and Brunn. In 846 Mojmir was deposed and replaced by Rastislav, who requested Christian teachers from Constantinople. His ambassadors found two distinguished missionaries at the court of Emperor Michael. Their names were Cyril and Methodius.

Cyril and Methodius were brothers. These sons of Leo were born at Thessalonica. As they matured, no one doubted their piety. They declined numerous worldly offers and opted to live in the seclusion of a monastery instead. The pair stepped forward when they heard of the need for missionaries to minister to the heathens. Cyril went to the tribe of Khazares while Methodius went to the Bulgarians, each bringing a knowledge of the Gospel.

Their success in winning over old foes of Christianity brought acclaim to the two brothers. So, in response

to Rastislav's request, Emperor Michael sent the pair to Moravia. They arrived in 863 and decided to make Welehrad their center of operations. From there, their itinerant ministries extended throughout the nation. Repentance and the remission of sins were hallmarks of their preaching.

Their new ministry was successful and accomplished many things. They opened the hearts of the people to the Gospel. They trained young Czechs to serve as native priests. They completed a Slavonian version of the Bible using an alphabet Cyril developed, known as *Cyrillic*, in 855. Cyril translated the Gospel lessons, the Epistles, the Psalms, and the Old Testament lessons. Methodius translated the rest of the Bible. In addition, they translated the liturgy into the native language and introduced it to every parish. Through their efforts public worship, Scripture reading, and preaching were conducted in the language of the people. The national Church they built up made the Czechs feel at home.

27. This is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of His glory. Eph. 1:14
28. I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. Jer. 23:5b

29. Fools say in their hearts, "There is no God." Ps. 14:1
30. The LORD is just in all His ways, and kind in all His doings. Ps. 145:17
31. The LORD is near to all who call on Him, to all who call on Him in truth. Ps. 145:18

Daily Morsels for August 2021

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version*.

Sundays in bold.

1. **For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father. Eph. 3:14**
2. I pray that, according to the riches of His glory, He may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through His Spirit. Eph. 3:16
3. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith. Eph. 3:17a
4. May you be rooted and grounded in love. Eph. 3:17b
5. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend... the breadth and length and height and depth (of God's love). Eph. 3:18
6. And to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Eph. 3:19
7. Now to Him Who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine... Eph. 3:20
8. **To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. Eph. 3:21**
9. David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." 2 Sam. 12:13a
10. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. Ps. 51:1a
11. According to Your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Ps. 51:1b
12. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity. Ps. 51:2a
13. Cleanse me from my sin. Ps. 51:2b
14. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Ps. 51:3
15. **Against You, You alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in Your sight. Ps. 51:4a**
16. You are justified in Your sentence and blameless when You pass judgment. Ps. 51:4b
17. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore, teach me wisdom in my secret heart. Ps. 51:6
18. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Ps. 51:7b
19. Create in me a clean heart, O God. Ps. 51:10a
20. Put a new and right spirit within me. Ps. 51:10b
21. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Ps. 51:12a
22. **Sustain in me a willing spirit. Ps. 51:12b**
23. Give Your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern Your people, able to discern between good and evil. 1 Kgs. 3:9
24. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind... and also what you have not asked, both riches and honor all your life. 1 Kgs. 3:12b-13a
25. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. Ps. 111:10a
26. Wisdom has built her house, she has hewn her seven pillars. Prov. 9:1
27. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight. Prov. 9:6
28. Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise. Eph. 5:15
29. **So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Eph. 5:17**
30. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit. Eph. 5:18
31. I am the living Bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this Bread will live forever. Jn. 6:51

Fayetteville Brethren Church

Worship on the
2nd and 4th Saturdays
10:00 a.m.

Rev. Mike Groseclose

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

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for July 2021

By Mari-Anne Kocian Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version*.

Sundays in bold.

1. We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. Ps. 48:9
2. Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory. Ps. 48:10
3. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." Ez. 2:4
4. **Tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever. Ps. 48:13b-14**
5. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him. 2 Sam. 5:10
6. Our eyes look to the LORD our God, until He has mercy upon us. Ps. 123:2
7. "If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." Mk. 6:11
8. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this (thorn in the flesh), that it would leave me. 2 Cor. 12:8
9. But He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." 2 Cor. 12:9a
10. So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. 2 Cor. 12:9b
11. **Therefore, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong. 2 Cor. 12:10**
12. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might. 2 Sam. 6:5a
13. Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of My people Israel; I will never again pass them by." Amos 7:8b
14. Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His faithful, to those who turn to Him in their hearts. Ps. 85:8
15. Surely His salvation is at hand for those who fear Him, that His glory may dwell in our land. Ps. 85:9
16. 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
17. He chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before Him in love. Eph. 1:4
18. **He destined us for adoption as His children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will. Eph. 1:5**
19. He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Mic. 6:8
20. To the praise of His glorious grace that He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. Eph. 1:6
21. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace that He lavished on us. Eph. 1:7-8a
22. With all wisdom and insight, He has made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure that He set forth in Christ. Eph. 1:8b-9
23. As a plan for the fullness of time, (He shall) gather up all things in Him, things in heaven and things on earth. Eph. 1:10
24. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of Him Who accomplishes all things according to His counsel and will. Eph. 1:11
25. **So that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of His glory. Eph. 1:12**
26. In Him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in Him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit. Eph. 1:13

Cyril and Methodius became known as the "Apostles of the Slavonians". Their work can be likened to the missionary activities of the early Church. It was unlike that introduced by Rome. Priests sent from Germany into Bohemia and Moravia utilized Latin in public worship and stressed the need for tithes. In stark contrast, Cyril and Methodius drew their inspiration from the Greek Church. They sought to unfold the Gospel, not in a language unintelligible to the people, but rather in their native tongue, thus unleashing "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth."

Word reached the pontiff about what was happening in Bohemia and Moravia. He called upon Cyril and Methodius to appear before his tribunal. They obediently responded in 868, but Nicholas the First died before they reached Rome. Instead, they were warmly received by Adrian the Second. He hoped the brothers would revive the diocese of Pannonia that had fallen into decay during the Hunnic wars. It was to be free of both the Greek Patriarch and German bishops. His aim was to have it (along with Bohemia and Moravia) fall under papal jurisdiction that included the realms of Styria, Carinthia, and Carniola, a portion of Hungary, Slavonia, a section of Croatia and Bosnia. Unique and special privileges would also be granted, at least until an opportunity to withdraw them arose.

With this agenda, Adrian sanctioned both the Slavonian Bible and liturgy. Cyril and Methodius were named bishops of the new diocese. Teaching according to the Greek system of theology would be permitted. Personal agendas aside, the current

reality was that Cyril's health was failing. He declined the appointment, preferring instead the life of a monk and the solitude it offered. This would be the way in which he prepared for his death. That death came just a few weeks later. February 16, 868, brought an end to his remarkable life. Methodius was consecrated Archbishop of Pannonia and returned to Moravia in 869.

About 871, Duke Boriwoj of Bohemia was baptized by Methodius at Olmutz. Christianity now spread across Bohemia. Whether Methodius ever set foot in Bohemia is not known, but he certainly directed the work there. A National Church was built up in the light of the Slavonian Bible and the promises of the Gospel were freely proclaimed in the native language.

These victories, however, aroused jealousy among the German bishops, who sent numerous complaints to Rome. Methodius was summoned before the papacy once more. He appeared and successfully proved his cause before John the Eighth. The concessions of Adrian were renewed, but with stipulations added. Methodius died April 6, 885.

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

In Christ's Love . . .

From the Foreign Mission Fields

From Robert & Anne Thiessen... Missionaries in Mexico

June 1, 2021

Simple

Dear friends,

We are being reminded in the news how evil people can be towards each other, especially where race is involved. One hundred years ago, in Tulsa, OK, countless black people were mercilessly killed and broad areas where they lived were burned and destroyed, by whites. Last week, the unmarked graves (from sometime in the last hundred years) of over two hundred First Nations children were discovered, in a schoolyard run by a church, and that is likely only the tip of a terrible toll. Yet, in the news this week is also how many Native Ameri-

can tribes, many in OK, are resisting the call to allow full citizenship to descendants of the blacks they themselves enslaved.

These large and looming issues are complex with no easy pathway forward. No easy ones, yet we pray and yearn for God's Kingdom to come to earth, and hopefully take concrete steps to make that an increasing reality.

Here in southern Mexico very few people are even yet aware of the terrible racial injustices perpetrated over five centuries, and currently upheld, towards the Indigenous of this nation. We struggle often with helping them see their worth to God, as they live in the lies that time has cemented in their group psyche. One of the aspects that we love about working alongside Sin Fronteras is their commitment (about 80% of the group are Spanish-speaking majority culture – *mestizo*) to valuing the local



10/July-August 2021

BRETHREN JOURNAL

Save the Dates . . .

2021 Summer Camp Dates

ENCOUNTER

Ages 7-9 years old

Camp Cost: \$250

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

PIONEER

Ages 12-13 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 18-23**

CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **Not Held in 2021**

ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 25-29**

DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 11-16**

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

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.*

BRETHREN JOURNAL

July-August 2021/23

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

July 3-4 – 2021 State BYF Summer Retreat & Volleyball Tournament at the Hus Encampment. Contact Jennifer Chervenka for more information.

July 9 (Friday) – 69th Biennial Convention of the Unity of the Brethren. One-day Unity Convention at the Hus Encampment, 3635 County Road 225, Caldwell, Texas. Registration at 8 a.m. followed by worship and Holy Communion at 9 a.m. Please see Convention invitation in this issue. All the information has been sent to Ministers, Synodical Representatives, Organizational Chairpersons, and other essential members. *Ministers and Representatives* – please communicate so the person in charge of filling out the credentials form can return the needed information along with the credential fee of \$100 per delegate. The deadline to return the forms and for all Convention reports is June 18, 2021. Reminders will be sent out. Check the Unity Website “2021 Convention” for up-to-date information. Contact for further information: Liz Ripple, Administrative Assistant, lizripple@hotmail.com, or (979) 378-2239.

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.

cultures and languages, and raising up local leaders in emerging churches, working hard to filter out any imposition of outside culture.

This is an area that we get to speak into repeatedly, and Alejandro looks to us to help him convince new members and the extended family of this central truth about God and His Kingdom.

Last week I spent about seven hours helping two couples (who recently joined SF) to process humble leadership, empowering discipleship, and indigeneity. This was in conjunction with a week-long session of Biblical leadership, so there were many places daily for me to augment the general teaching.

Tito & Abigail, and Carlos & Liz, all followers of Jesus for a while, are being thrust into central leadership for the first time. T&A are Chinantec indigenous from the NE of this state, and C&L are Latins working among Mixtecs a couple hours from here. We introduced them to the Train & Multiply leadership discipling materials that Anne’s father developed in Honduras in the seventies. This is a simple tool for simple discipling for simple churches, by emphasizing simple

obedience to Jesus Christ. The tool and the concepts of simple obedience are so simple, we could have done that in about one or two hours. It is the accumulation of complexity and tradition that we all have that took the rest of the time to process.

For example, we talked about one of the seven basic commands of Jesus, to be baptized, and the NT pattern of doing so immediately as the entry into the family of Christ. Both sets of my new friends related difficult stories about man-made rules preventing family members from doing so for various reasons, and Liz even blames this for her parents separating years ago, after they became Christians (because they weren’t legally married). This was only the beginning of the scars and hurts they were able to finally see that Jesus never intended for them, and however well-meaning their previous spiritual leaders were, they were free to begin anew, in the full grace of a Jesus-centered obedience.

Watching them grasp this simplicity, discern for themselves this freedom, and realize they have the support of the SF family, is worth every-



SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

9882 FM 2155/P.O. Box 247, Snook, TX 77878
Church Phone – (979) 272-3303

COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:00 AM; Worship – 10:15 AM
Bible Study – Each Tuesday, 9:00-10:00 AM

Pastor	Board of Elders President	Youth Directors
Rev. Joseph Polasek	Yvonne Kovar	Randall & Jonna See
P.O. Box 54	P.O. Box 66	P.O. Box 345
Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878	Snook, TX 77878
(979) 272-1624	(979) 219-0375	(979) 272-8179

thing. We thank you for your part in all this.

Blessings, Robert

From Carolyn Groseclose... Missionary in Zambia, Africa

June 2, 2021

God Never Left Us

We have all had days when we have said to ourselves, "Just 5 more minutes and I will be home." But then you get stuck in traffic, hit every red light going out of town, get behind a slow-traveling vehicle, or even get behind a large tractor. You get flustered or impatient and it just puts you behind, getting home even later. Well! This happened as I was returning to New Day.

Mulenga picked me up from the airport in Lusaka on Saturday. Spent the night at the Baptist Apartments, went to Shoprite to purchase groceries, then started off for New Day. It rained off and on the entire time we traveled. It takes about 4 hours to travel from Lusaka to New Day. We stopped briefly in Choma, then continued on to New Day.

We got to the turn off and called New Day that we were about 15 to 20 minutes away. Then, we got to the river and the bridge. The bridge was completely under water. The water was rushing very swiftly. People were crossing over, carrying people on their backs. Mulenga got out of the truck to check things out. I knew that we could not cross, but I trusted God and Mulenga to somehow get us across. By the way, the time was just before 6:00 p.m. Mulenga got back into the truck and said we would cross at another spot. So, we turned around and went back the way we came.

We traveled by the side of the river, then arrived at the spot to cross. There wasn't a bridge to cross over, but the water wasn't rushing as bad. We got across with the help of a couple of guys who guided us to the other side. We continued on our way. By this time it was around 7:00 p.m. and dark, yet we both knew with prayer God was going to guide us all the way home.

Everything was going well, until Mulenga went to turn right. We must have hit a very low spot because we got stuck. Mulenga tried to get us

the house. It was the same with Moses. Then God told Moses of the big job He wanted him to do: to bring the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses showed respect to God by removing his shoes so he was able to listen to God.

OBJECT LESSON: Special Shoes

Bring in several different kinds of shoes (cleats, running shoes, basketball, ballet, tap, etc.)

Almost every sport or activity requires different shoes. There seems to be a shoe for every sport. Each shoe is designed to help you move quickly on your feet in whatever sport you are doing. God wants us to be fitted with readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. That means God wants us to be able to share Jesus with everyone at anytime. When we see someone who needs help, we move. When we see someone sad, we rush in to bring peace. When we see someone who needs Jesus, we tell them about Jesus. God wants us to be ready to serve and show His love to the world. If our feet are fit with the shoes of peace and readiness, then we can share the gospel with anyone at anytime.

MAKE: Paperplate flip flops

Materials: paper plates, paint, ribbon.

1. Have children make a footprint on the paper plate using the paint.
2. Cut around the footprint.
3. Use ribbon to create flip flop straps.



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

Flip Flops

BIBLE LESSON

Shoes in the Bible

Scripture: Ephesians 15:6 & Exodus 3:5

OBJECT LESSON: Shoes of Peace

Take off your shoes. God tells us that when we go to battle, we need a shield, a sword, a helmet, and SHOES of peace. Read Ephesians 15:6. What kind of shoes do you think of when you think of "shoes of peace"? I think of my super comfy flip flops. I am going to put on my shoes of peace now. Put on your flip flops. I want you to pretend that you have a nice comfy pair of flip flops to put on. When I count to three, put on your shoes of peace. Ready? 1, 2, 3!!!

OBJECT LESSON: Standing on Holy Ground

Read Exodus 3:5: "Then he said, 'Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.'"

In Bible times, people wore sandals. The land where they lived was very hot and dry. Sandals, or flip flops, give your feet plenty of air and feel cool and comfortable. Moses had a pair of flipflops! One day he saw a burning bush. He got closer to look at it and when he did, he heard the voice of God! God told him to take off his shoes because he was walking on Holy Ground.

Have you ever been told to take your shoes off when you come inside? Why do moms and dads say that? Probably to keep you from bringing mud and dirt into



out, but he just couldn't. The more he tried the deeper we sank. We were right next to a village, and the men came to see what was going on. When they realized we were stuck, they got large branches and rocks to put under the tires to try to get us out. Didn't work. By this time, it was after 10:00 p.m.

Mulenga called New Day, and told one of the guys where we were and to come help us. About 30 minutes later, we could hear the engine. But, then silence. Then, about 45 minutes later we heard an engine. This time they arrived. They hooked the Mule to the front end of the truck to try and pull it out. Nothing! They tried hooking it to the back of the truck and pull it out. Nothing! Mulenga finally told the guys to get my luggage, groceries, and me and take me on to New Day. By the time we arrived, it was after midnight.

Yes, it turned out to be one of those days when things didn't quite go the way we planned. The "5 minutes" turned into about 5 hours. Yet, God never left us. He guided us on our way and when the way became difficult, He guided others to help us. By the way, the area we were stuck in

was about 20 minutes from New Day.

Thanks, Carolyn.

From The Jelski Family... Missionaries in Israel

June 14, 2021

Coming to Texas!

Dear friends,

I'm excited to let you know that I will be coming to Texas from August 7-30. After not traveling for 2 years, I felt it was time to take a trip again to the States. If you are interested, there are several ways you could be involved in helping us make this trip fruitful for us:

1. Referrals – if you know a church or community who would be interested in getting to know me and our ministry or connect with local messianic believers in Israel.

2. Host a small group where I can share and answer questions – this has been a very effective way I have raised support over the years.



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

3. Meet in person if you are interested to know us better.

Please email me at : joel.jelski@gmail.com if you would like to know more and are interested in connecting more with me.

We are restarting our Katzir national youth camps this summer. Our first camp since 2019 will take place during the last week of July and we are super excited!! Please pray for me as the director of the camp and all the details that still need to come together. Pray for the youth that will be participating, we feel this will be an important time of encouragement and encountering the Lord for many youth after such a long time of isolation and such a challenging season.

We had been trying to purchase property for our ministry the past few months. We had given an offer, had a short time of negotiation, but the owner recently decided not to sell. So, we are back to square 1, so to

speak, in searching for a property, and at the same time we are also still praying for a miracle for a door that seems to have shut for the time being. Please pray for us as we seek the Lord for wisdom for our next steps moving forward. We will not give up on the vision the Lord has given us to have a place set aside for the equipping of the body of messiah in Israel for the harvest.

I know many of you have been following the events of the elections, wars, and new government formed in Israel. I wanted to share with you this excellent article on the recent changes to government, and why many of us believers here in the land are happy Benjamin Netanyahu is out of power and how that impacts us. We don't know how long this new government will last, but we are just happy we don't have to go to a 5th(!) election in two years. Here are two links to articles written by local leaders that express my thoughts well on the cur-

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)

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, 979-589-2012

Ruth Ann Wuensche, Treasurer

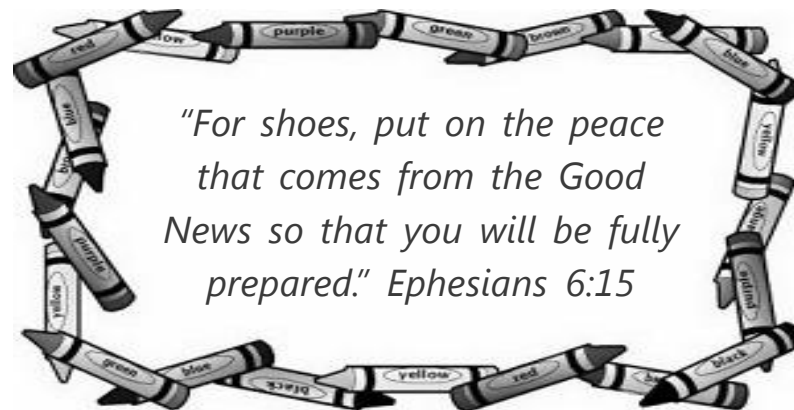
Dorothy Hinson, Board Member

Ann Sebesta, Board Member

Synodical Liaison: Kayla Marek, 2nd
Vice President



Sunday School Helper



*"For shoes, put on the peace
that comes from the Good
News so that you will be fully
prepared." Ephesians 6:15*

Bible Story

Shoes of Peace

Bible Reference

Ephesians 15:6 & Exodus 3:5

Summer brings sunshine and warm days. Summer always reminds me of family trip to the beach. And what do you wear to the beach – flip flops. This month's lesson is also about shoes in the Bible.



Thoughts about giving...

Remembering the Unity of the Brethren or any of its ministries is a fitting testimony to your faith. Your gift leaves a legacy that continues to support the mission or ministry of the Unity that is important to you.

You can give without restrictions and let the funds be used for the most pressing needs. You may also designate to a particular ministry.

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. The Executive Committee of the Synodical Committee receives and manages special gifts, grants, and bequests in coordination with the Synodical Committee. For more information or to make a donation, contact the Unity President.

Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky, Executive Committee President
4211 Misty Timbers Way
Kingwood, TX 77345
(713) 594-4518
lwkoslo@aol.com

rent events: <https://news.kehila.org/the-rise-and-fall-of-leaders-political-and-spiritual/>

<https://news.kehila.org/bibi-great-for-christians-not-so-much-for-messianic-jews>

Thank you for your prayers and support during this season. I also wanted to ask for prayers for our family. Boaz is finishing kindergarten this week. During the month of July I will be pretty busy planning and overseeing our youth camp, preparing for the trip to the US, and then in August actually travelling. We know the summer will be a pretty intense season for both of us, juggling ministry and family, especially for Teresa with Boaz at home. At the same time, the last two weeks Teresa has been dealing with a medical issue that I can't share openly at this point, but I wanted to ask that you please pray

for her and for wisdom for the doctors to give her some answers and good advice. I will share more when we are able to, so thank you ahead of time for praying for her and us even without having all the information. We covet your prayers during this season.

Thank you,
The Jelski family

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



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**

New Tabor Brethren Hosts VBS

New Tabor Brethren Church hosted Vacation Bible School June 6-10. Our theme was Rocky Railway. At Rocky Railway VBS kids climbed aboard and discovered Jesus' power can pull them through life's ups and downs. Each night the children heard incredible Bible stories, sang great songs, played fun games, and made cool crafts! The food was delicious! We averaged 60 children each night with 25 helpers to make everything run smoothly. Everyone had a great time and learned more about Jesus!



**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

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