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THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 121

April 2022

No. 3

24 Pages

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— 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.



Westheimer Community Church Welcomes New Members By Confirmation

(See story inside this issue.)

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Hus and the Resurgent Storm ... by Jim Pokorny
Hus Camp Schedule

. . . and more!

Send address changes to:

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

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Westheimer Brethren Church Confirms New Members

A pizza party was held on
Sunday, February 20, 2022, spon-
sored by the Westheimer Chris-
tian Sisters Society honoring
new members of Westheimer
Community Church. Confirma-
tion certificates and gifts of
keychains with religious motif
were presented to each
Confirmand during the party.

Pictured on the front cover
of *The Brethren Journal* are L
to R: Carolyn Beseda, Christian
Sisters Vice-President; Buddy
and Neidin Allen, Confirmand
parents; Jake Allen, Confirmand;
Sophia Allen, Confirmand; LeRoy
Parthum, President of the
Westheimer Board of Elders;
Adrienne Ross, Confirmand;
Reynauldo Ross, Confirmand;
Ray Ross and Christine Ramos,
Confirmand parents. Not Pic-
tured: Rev. Lisa Johnson.

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Christian Sisters Convention Invitation

The Executive Committee of The Christian Sisters' Union cordially extends an invitation to all Delegates, Representatives of women's work in the Church, Members of the local Christian Sisters' Societies, Ministers of the Unity, and all friends of the Christian Sisters' Union to the:

50th Biennial
Christian Sisters Convention
Saturday, April 30, 2022
Hus Encampment, Caldwell

8:30 A.M. – Registration
(A light breakfast will be served)

9:30 A.M. – Morning Worship Service and Communion
First Session
Lunch will be served
(Free Will donation)

After Lunch:
Memorial Service
Convention

For those wishing to spend the night at the camp, it will be available starting:
5 PM Friday, April 29, 2022

Your Sisters In Christ
The Christian Sisters' Executive Board

SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

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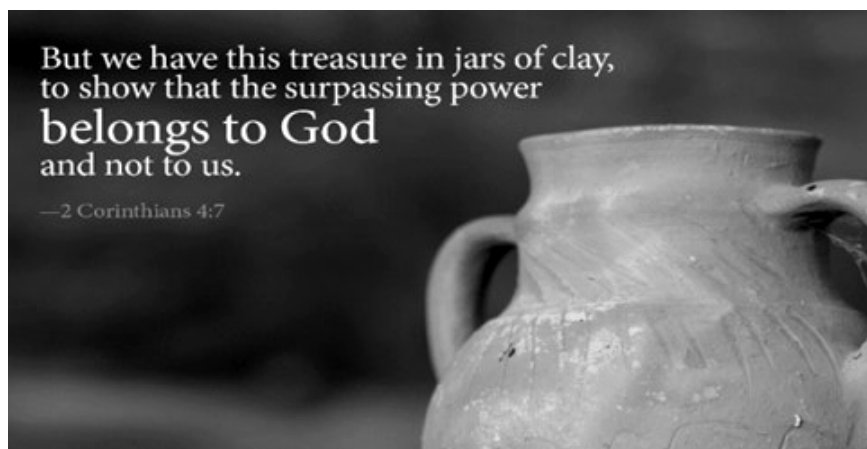
COME WORSHIP WITH US

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 |
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Treasure

- by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell



I treasure so many things that my mom left behind when she passed in 2020. I have many of her prayer journals, her plush turquoise robe that became too heavy for her to wear in her final months, a ring with an amber stone that she wore with many outfits, her research notes on how to pray for healing, Bibles that were barely in one piece from her daily devotions, her leopard print overnight rolling bag used for hospital visits, her maroon prayer shawl that kept her warm, her First Communion

photo turned into an antique pin, and so much more. I still listen to voicemail messages I have saved on my phone from Mom. Then the Holy Spirit reminds me of the true treasure that she passed on to me and all who knew her. Beyond her God-given gifts of kindness and compassion for those in need, her ability to learn anything that she desired to pursue, her artistic pursuits in all the paintings she labored over patiently and joyfully, her mastery in the kitchen over home-cooked meals and baked delights,

Fayetteville Brethren Church

**Worship on the
2nd, 3rd, & 4th Saturdays
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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.
– Rhonda Johnson - Pulpit Supply

Fayetteville – Worship at 10:00 AM. on the 2nd, 3rd, 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.
– Judy Gotcher - Pulpit Supply

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. David 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.
Wednesday – Children's Awanas, 5:30 PM.
– Rev. Thomas Tallas

Wesley – Worship at 9 AM every Sunday.
Sunday School follows.
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

West – Sunday School at 9 AM and worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Gerald Davis

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

16. The chief priests and Pharisees went with the guard of soldiers and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone. Matt. 27:66
17. "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen." Lk. 24:5
18. 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
19. "Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into His glory?" Lk. 24:26
20. Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them the things about Himself in all the scriptures. Lk. 24:27
21. While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified. Lk. 24:36-37a
22. He 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. Repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. Lk. 24:47
24. For God so loved the world, He gave His only Son, that everyone who believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. Jn. 3:16
25. 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
26. These are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in His name. Jn. 20:31
27. God exalted him at His right hand as Leader and Savior that He might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. Acts 5:31
28. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, Who is and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty. Rev. 1:8
29. The LORD is my strength and my might; He has become my salvation. Ps. 118:14
30. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. Ps. 118:22

The Daily Morsels are now available on the Unity Website at
<http://unityofthebrethren.org/daily-morsels/>.

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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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there is something more.

The true treasure that Mom left behind is her legacy of faith in Jesus Christ, her Lord and Savior, her best Friend, her Healer, her Redeemer, her Strength, her Shield, her Rock, the One Who Enabled Her to Soar on Eagle's Wings.

A life-enhancing spiritual practice for me has been to pray the words of the Holy Bible, inserting personal pronouns. In the Gospel of John, chapter 1, verse 14, we see that Jesus IS the Word of God. The verse reads:

"The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

When we pray the Word of God, we are approaching Jesus Himself and opening our minds, our hearts, and our souls to receive His teaching.

Take time right now to pray these words from the Holy Bible, from the apostle Paul's letter to the Corinthian Christians. He is reminding them what truly is treasure.

"But (I) have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from (me). (I am) afflicted in every way, but not

crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in (my body). For while (I) live, (I am) always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in (my) mortal flesh... so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So (I) do not lose heart. Even though (my) outer nature is wasting away, (my) inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing (me) for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because (I) look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal" (2 Corinthians 4:7-11, 15-18). Amen.

Now ask the Lord Jesus to reveal to you these things:

1) Do I believe that anything to be treasured in me is a gift from You, Lord Jesus?

2) What treasures, gifts, have You given me?

3) Am I using these treasures for You? ➔

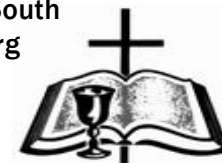
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Mailing Address:
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www.facebook.com/groups/bcsbrethren

Sunday School at 9:15 A.M.
Church at 10:30 A.M.
Off: 979-693-3606
email: papasebek@gmx.com



4) Do I understand that any extraordinary power displayed in me does not come from me? I am like a fragile clay jar.

5) Am I willing to believe the truth that the suffering that I undergo in this body is for the sake of others seeing You, Lord Jesus, in all your power shining through me?

6) Do I commit right this moment to not give up, to not be discouraged, to run to You for the strength and especially the JOY that I need as I move through these struggles that are temporary and momentary in view of eternity?

7) Teach me, Lord Jesus, to trust that You are preparing me for eternal glory. Receive this prayer from me now just as You did from a young boy's father long ago who wondered if his son could be healed:

"I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24)

When the Lord God calls someone home to Heaven, we often feel as if we are left with nothing of our loved one. We hold memories, but nothing compares to the ability to hear that person's voice just one more time or the opportunity to hold and be held by the one we miss so deeply. Then God steps in

and whispers to us through the words of the Apostle Paul that the one we love is with Him always. What peace! Paul shares this reality with us in his letter to the Roman Christians of his day: "For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38-39)

I miss my precious mom, with her flowing blond hair, her affinity for leopard print and skills as an artist, and her heart of solid gold. Yet my grief has taken a new turn. I am healing more fully now, because my heart and my mind and my soul have caught up to what her Lord Jesus, my Lord Jesus, has been telling me since she went to be with Him:

The Treasure is the power of Jesus Christ surging within her and through her that overflowed to so many and continues even now as I embrace the truth that Mom knew well and prayed when she was well and when she was ill, with lavender scent filling the room as she sat with her Jesus in her Amish rocking chair:

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23. For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the LORD. Isa. 55:8
24. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. Isa. 55:9
25. O God, You are my God, I seek You, my soul thirsts for You. Ps. 63:1a
26. My flesh faints for You, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Ps. 63:1b
- 27. Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Ps. 32:1**

28. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah. Ps. 32:4
29. Therefore, let all who are faithful offer prayer to You. Ps. 32:6
30. You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from trouble; You surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah. Ps. 32:7
31. [The son] set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; [the father] ran and put his arms around [his son] and kissed him. Lk. 15:20

The Daily Morsels are now available on the Unity Website at
<http://unityofthebrethren.org/daily-morsels/>.

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for April 2022

By Mari-Anne K. Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible Revised Standard Version*.

Sundays in bold.

1. Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old. Isa. 43:18
2. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isa. 43:19
3. May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Ps. 126:5
4. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Ps. 126:6
5. I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Phil. 3:8a
6. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in Him. Phil. 3:8b-9a
7. I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the sharing of His sufferings by becoming like Him in His death. Phil. 3:10
8. Forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Phil. 3:13b-14
9. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. Jn. 12:3
10. Blessed is the One Who comes in the name of the LORD. Ps. 118:6a
11. Here is My Servant, Whom I uphold, My Chosen, in Whom My soul delights; I have put My spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. Isa. 42:1
12. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Jn. 12:25
13. "Now My soul is troubled. And what should I say - 'Father, save Me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Jn. 12:27
14. Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. Jn. 13:1
15. He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon Him was the punishment that made us whole, and by His bruises we are healed. Isa. 53:5

(Editor's Note: The Dailey Morsels were inadvertently left out of the March issue of the Brethren Journal. I apologize for the inconvenience this may have caused.)

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for March 2022

By Mari-Anne K. Gordon and Dorothy E. Kocian

From the *Holy Bible Revised Standard Version*.

Sundays in bold.

1. All were astounded at the greatness of God. Lk. 9:43a
2. Yet even now, says the LORD, return to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. Jl. 2:12
3. Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the LORD, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Jl. 2:13
4. Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, ... to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Isa. 58:6a,c
5. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and He will say, Here I am. Isa. 58:9
6. **When they call to Me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them. Ps. 91:15**
7. If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. Rom. 10:9
8. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." Rom. 10:13
9. Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness. Lk. 4:1
10. For forty days He was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, He was famished. Lk. 4:2
11. Jesus answered the devil, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Lk. 4:4
12. Jesus answered the devil, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only Him.'" Lk. 4:8
13. **Jesus answered the devil, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Lk. 4:12**
14. Abram believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. Gen. 15:6
15. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? Ps. 27:1a
16. The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Ps. 27:1b
17. One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple. Ps. 27:4
18. For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble. Ps. 27:5a
19. Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! Ps. 27:14
20. **Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Isa. 55:6**
21. Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts. Isa. 55:7a
22. Let them return to the LORD, that He may have mercy on them, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. Isa. 55:7b

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.*

"But (I) have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from (me). (I am) afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in (my body). For while (I) live, (I am) always being given up to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus may be made visible in (my) mortal flesh... so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So (I) do not lose heart. Even though (my) outer nature is wasting away, (my) inner nature is

being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing (me) for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because (I) look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:7-11, 15-18)

I hear you, Momma.

I'm listening to the Lord just like you did. Thank you for this great Treasure.

I miss you.

I love you.

- Your little girl, always.

Praying With You All,
Just Another One of Jesus' Clay Jars, Sister Vanessa Mitchell

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lajoiededieu@protonmail.com
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Sunday School
9:30 AM

Children's Choir
Practice, Sundays
10:15 a.m.

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

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

www.lifeatcbc.org

Come as you are . . .

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Hus and the Resurgent Storm

- by Jim Pokorny

The momentary calm that settled over Hus and the Czech Reformation did not last. The clouds of chaos and controversy returned with the Council of Pisa. Meeting in 1409, their goal was to end the schism that plagued the church. Their first act was to elect Alexander V to the papacy. Next, the Council deposed both Gregory XII and Benedict XIII. Although neither was willing to submit to the Council's decree, the newly elected pontiff was recognized by the majority of Latin Christians.

Tensions increased the following year with the sudden death of Alexander V. He was succeeded by Balthasar Cossa, a man of dubious character. Cossa assumed the title of John XXIII. He was quickly driven from Rome by Ladislaus of Naples, a supporter of Gregory XII, who desired to unite all of Italy under his guidance. Formal curses between the rival popes were exchanged. These anathemas did not spare Ladislaus, who was labelled a "perjurer, schismatic, reviler, heretic, traitor, and conspirator."

During the crusade against the Turks, indulgences for sin were offered to those who participated in the conflict, provided financing, or supplied troops. A new crusade was now proclaimed against Ladislaus. The same indulgences would now be offered to those who made tangible efforts to oppose him.

The sale of these indulgences was entrusted to commissioners. Two of them, Wenzel Tiem and Pace de Bononia, arrived in Prague in 1412 armed with a papal bull. This bull was read in the churches. Purveyors of these indulgences sold them in the streets granting certificates of pardon to the masses. The receipts were stored in three large chests set aside for this purpose. In some cases, indulgences were distributed wholesale to the highest bidder. In what was viewed as a scandalous abuse of power, parishes and even entire districts were absolved in this way.

Fully aware of the risks, Hus felt he had to express his disgust directly to the Pope. In doing so, Hus realized

2022 Summer Camp Dates

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Ages 7-9 years old

Camp Cost: \$250

Camp Date: **June 21-23**

PIONEER

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Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 17-22**

CHALLENGER

Ages 16-19 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 10-15**

ALPHA

Ages 10-11 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **June 26-30**

DISCOVERY

Ages 14-15 years old

Camp Cost: \$350

Camp Date: **June 12-17**

HUS SCHOOL

In-depth Leadership Program

Ages 16-Adult

Cost: \$550

Date: **Not Held in 2022**

**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.

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Temple, Texas 76502

email: ccb@crosschurchonbirdcreek.org

<https://www.crosschurchonbirdcreek.org>

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Worship: 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Tim Chaplin

(254) 718-6094

tpch4359@gmail.com

TAYLOR BROTHERS CHURCH

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

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574

Church email: taylorbrethren@sbcglobal.net

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

Pastor

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512-365-6890

Board President

Daniel Knippa

512-844-0208

Secretary

Mary Kokes

M-Th 8 a.m.-noon

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

April 17, 2022 – Resurrection Sunday/Easter

April 30, 2022 – Christian Sisters' Convention at the Hus Encampment, Caldwell. Registration begins at 8:30 AM (a light breakfast will be served). Morning Worship Service and Communion will be at 9:30 AM. Lunch will be served (Free Will donation), and after lunch will be a Memorial Service. For those wishing to spend the night at the camp, it will be available starting 5 PM Friday, April 29, 2022.

Save the Dates . . .

July 9-10, 2022 – BYF Retreat and Volleyball Tournament at the Hus Encampment. Be looking for more information coming in Spring 2022.

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Church Email: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com
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Pastor

Dr. Brad Herridge
(254) 716-2578

brad.herridge@gmail.com

Youth Director

Jennifer Chervenka
(254) 913-1244
jennchervenka@gmail.com

Cemetery

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that he was placing himself in jeopardy. Although the church had lost a tremendous amount of prestige, appealing directly to the Pope would have consequences. Friends and colleagues would likely desert him. But Hus stood by his convictions. Believing that his objection to the sales of indulgences was correct and that God approved of his personal stance, Hus went on the offensive. He boldly denounced the sales from the pulpit. Drawing on his knowledge of Scripture, Hus preached on forgiveness – “From all this it appears, dear Christian, that a man can receive the pardon of his sins only through the power of God and by the merits of Christ. Let who will proclaim the contrary, let the Pope, or a bishop, or a priest say: ‘I forgive thee thy sins, I absolve thee from their penalty, I free thee from the pains of hell’ – it is all vain and helps thee nothing. God alone, I repeat, can forgive sins through Christ, and He pardons the penitent only.”

Addressing the University on June 7, 1412, Hus testified that the sales were in violation of Scripture. Just three days later, priests encouraged their sales in their preaching. Three young men protested: “Priest, thou liest! We have heard better things from Master Hus; the indulgences are a fraud!” The three were quickly arrested and immediately sentenced to death. Hus, with over 2,000 students in tow, presented himself to their judge and pleaded that they be spared as their outburst resulted directly from his teachings. As these proceedings went on, a growing percentage of the city grew agitated. Officials grew increasingly concerned as the crowd around the place continued to swell. In fear, they begged Hus to pacify the crowd and promised to grant his request. Hus complied and the crowd dispersed. These same officials then demanded that the executions take place without delay. As news of this treachery spread, the



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Cell: 325-656-8558

Home: rev.tjt@gmail.com
Church: wallbrethren@gmail.com
www.WallBrethrenChurch.net

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mob returned. As their numbers grew, soldiers beheaded the three in the street. Their bodies were carried to Bethlehem Chapel. On the following day, Hus delivered the funeral service with all rites. In his sermon, Hus declared that they were martyrs.

Hus, like the Czech Reformation, was now well past the tipping point. As he had long surmised, his friends began deserting him. Some even became outspoken enemies. At the same time, he garnered additional support from the people and even some members of the nobility.

The storm had resumed with a vengeance, but Hus had already set his course.

Unity Archivist

Vacant – To be filled

CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

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Synodical Committee Liaison: Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, 3rd Vice President

When they see it, they can say: *What do I need to grow in God? I need to read my Bible and say my prayers. Watch me grow! (This can also be sung to Frere Jacques.) Dear Jesus, please help me grow in you. Amen.*

Make Some Dirt

Materials: milk, instant chocolate pudding, whipped topping, crushed Oreos, small silk flowers, gummy worms, one cup per child.

Directions:

- Beforehand, make the pudding according to the package directions. Stir in whipped topping and some of the crushed Oreos
- Give each child a cup. Help them spoon some of the pudding mix in the cup. Let them sprinkle some additional crushed Oreos on top. Tell them this is the dirt.
- Let them add a few gummy worms to their "dirt", then "plant" a fake flower. Another option is to glue the fake flower to the handle of the spoon and "plant the spoon".
- Talk about how plants grow and how God takes care of the plants as they enjoy their snack.

Fun Additional Reading

The Sunflower Parable by Liz Curtis Higgs

Whose Garden Is it? by Mary Ann Hoberman

van Gogh and the Sunflowers by Laurence Anholt

Sunflower House by Eve Bunting

The Seeds that Grew and Grew by Jeffrey E. Burkart

Lola Plants a Garden by Anna McQuinn

Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert

The Tiny Seed by Eric Carle

Plant the Tiny Seed by Christie Matheson

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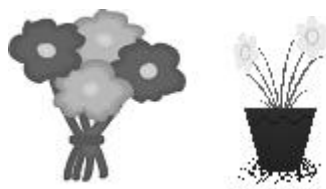
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Grow in God

Object Lesson

Materials: a bouquet of real flowers, a potted flowering plant.



Directions: Show two sets of flowers. Begin with the bouquet. Ask them what they see. (*Pretty flowers, lots of colors.*) Allow children to smell the flowers. You can refer to Ephesians 5:2 (*...and walk in the way of love, just as Christ*

loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God). Repeat with the potted flower. Ask what is the difference between these two flowers. (*One will continue to grow; the others will wither and die.*) Share Isaiah 40:8 (*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*) Remind children the word of God is unchanging). Tell children that we want to grow. We want to always learn more about God. Ask how we can grow in God. (*Coming to church and Sunday School, reading the Bible, etc.*) We don't want to be like the bouquet of cut flowers that will wither away, but like the potted plant that will continue to grow. Give each child a flower from the bouquet to take home.

Watch Me Grow

Materials: small flower pots, potting soil, seeds or small plants, paint markers.

Directions: On the flower pot, write Grow in God. Allow children to decorate their pot with paint markers. Once dry, plant seeds or a small plant in the pot. Tell children to set the pot in a place where they will see it every day.



In Christ's Love . . .

From the Foreign Mission Field

From The Jelski Family

February 27, 2022



The New Addition to the Family

We are so happy to introduce to you the newest member of our family, our 2nd son, Eyal Yonatan (Jonathan) Jelski. It has been such a wild start to 2022. Although we were very much expecting the arrival of our baby, he still managed to surprise us in a crazy way. You can read the story of how our baby Eyal arrived on the scene on our Facebook page. The story is too long to share here, but in short, Eyal was born on January 11th, on the way to the hospital, surprising us by arriving much faster than we anticipated. A week later, we held a beautiful



circumcision ceremony on January 18th with friends and family where we also revealed his name.

Why the name?

Eyal in Hebrew is a little of a word play. It is both Ayal and Eyal. The first means deer and also signifies a gentle strength (Psalm 42:1). The second comes from Psalm 22:19 and Psalm 88:4. In the first scripture it appears as a name describing the Lord as "my helper", and in the second, the word appears as "strength". We loved



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Prayer Service and Bible Study



those meanings for his name and felt that was what the Lord was saying over him.

The name Jonathan means the Lord gave, and we felt it was appropriate considering the journey we had this past year. In January 2021, Teresa was able to get pregnant only to have it end in a miscarriage again. After that, I felt exactly like what Psalm 88:4 describes – *"I am counted among those who go down to the pit, I am a man who has no strength (Eyal)."* And yet the Lord was our strength in that season, and miraculously, He gave us this beautiful son. A year

later, on January 11th of 2022, we received that gift into our family.

We want to thank all of you who have been praying for us on this journey. It has been a journey of ups and down, with disappointments and difficult moments, but ultimately the Lord brought us through, and showed us His faithfulness to hear our prayers and answer with miracles.

With much love and appreciation,
The Jelski Family

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Sunday School Helper



2 Peter 3:18

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity.

Amen.



Spring can remind us just how powerful and amazing our God is. Plants – trees, flowers, grasses – that were bare and dormant during the cold winter months begin to bloom and grow to become new and beautiful during the spring. The activities this month focus on helping children understand how they can Grow in God!