

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 122

May 2023

No. 4

28 pages



*Caldwell BC Children celebrate Easter with an Egg Hunt.
“Thank You, Lord Jesus, for the resurrection power You give
us through the Holy Spirit as we REJOICE IN YOU!!!”*

IN THIS ISSUE...

Resurrection ... by Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

Prelude to the Hussite Wars... by Jim Pokorny

Change to the Hus Camp Summer Schedule

...AND SO MUCH MORE!!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

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Index:

Resurrection Power	3
Prelude to the Hussite War	7
Hus Encampment	10
Seaton Christian Sisters	11
Foreign Missions	13
Schedule of Activities	15
Sunday School	17
Daily Morsels	20
Vital Statistics	22

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Resurrection Power!

By Rev. Vanessa Mitchell

The power to get back up and dust yourself off and move forward...

Where does this come from?

After the death of a loved one,

After receiving a grim diagnosis for yourself or for a loved one,

After losing your job,

After yet another call from a collection agency,

After a harsh exchange of words...

The “After” of things in life can be rough.

The power to get back up and dust yourself off and move forward in the RIGHT direction...

Where does this come from?

It comes from Jesus Christ.

How does Jesus Christ strengthen us?

Through the Holy Spirit, Christ Himself living in you, filling you and encouraging you to keep going in the way that you know is right.

Through the life altering words of the Bible, Jesus calls on us to follow Him even though we may feel too weary. When we read the words of the Bible with faith in Jesus, asking Him to show us how to get back up



and dust ourselves off, His response is simple yet perfectly mirrored in the selfless way He followed His Father’s will:

Here’s a story about a man who had survived many rough life experiences and now encountered ***yet another one*** after following God’s lead and doing exactly what he knew God had planned for him:

“In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, look-

→

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Rita Tyson
Secretary

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

ing at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form!' Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, 'Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.' Even with these words, they scarcely re-

strained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them. But Jews came there from Antioch and Iconium and won over the crowds. **Then they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead. But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.** After they had proclaimed the good news to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, then on to Iconium and Antioch. There they strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, 'It is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God.'

This account was from the Book of Acts, chapter 14, verses 8-22, in the Holy Bible.

Has anyone ever thrown a stone at you?

As a child, I remember being kicked in the chin or shoved by a bully, but no one ever threw a stone at me. In the Apostle Paul's day, to be stoned was a common practice for killing someone who had done wrong. What Paul had done was speak freely, with conviction, that

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Rev. Mike Groseclose

FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

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Jesus Christ is the one Way to salvation. He was stoned and left for dead. However, Acts 14:20 shows how Paul was able to get up, dust himself off and move forward in the RIGHT direction:

But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.

Jesus says in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." At that moment of unimaginable agony, as Paul lay dying from the stoning, the disciples surrounded him. They were all followers of Jesus, gathered in His Name, for His cause, to spread the message of loving salvation to all people everywhere who will receive Jesus into their hearts. More than that, they had Jesus living within their hearts as the Holy Spirit, as all who believe in Jesus as Savior and Lord do, so there was UNIMAGINABLE POWER FROM HEAVEN THAT OVERCAME THE UNIMAGINABLE AGONY THAT PAUL WAS EXPERIENCING. Whatever bones may have been broken by the stones, whatever bruises, whatever concussion he potentially suffered,

it was all gone. After being drug out of the city to be stoned and left for dead, Paul now surrounded by his fellow disciples got up and went BACK INTO THE CITY where his killers were and the next day moved on to continue to FOLLOW JESUS, TO COMPLETE THE MISSION JESUS HAD FOR HIM.

"But when the disciples surrounded him, he got up and went into the city. The next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe. After they had proclaimed the good news to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, then on to Iconium and Antioch. There they strengthened the souls of the disciples and encouraged them to continue in the faith, saying, 'It is through many persecutions that we must enter the kingdom of God.'"

THIS IS RESURRECTION POWER! It's when the Lord Jesus Christ who lives in you gives you what you need, the literal power to get back up and dust yourself off and move forward in the right direction- HIS DIRECTION. "Come, follow Me," Jesus says. The RESURRECTION POWER serves to advance God's



BRYAN/COLLEGE STATION BRETHREN CHURCH

2650 Earl Rudder Freeway South
www.unityofbrethren.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

mission of spreading salvation to all who would say “yes”! God draws us out of our weariness, and we are strengthened, renewed, even rested!

Jesus says: “Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” (Matthew 11:28-30)

Jesus invites us to REST IN HIS YOKE. A yoke is a wooden beam that enables two animals to pull a load together. **Jesus is calling you to continue to pull the load WITH HIM.** He is calling you to continue to share His loving words of eternal life and peace in Him with everyone everywhere. We do not allow weariness to take hold of our minds and

hearts because the Lord Jesus Christ is the One Stronghold of our souls, our King of Peace who yearns all day and all night for as many as possible to come to salvation in Him. We are His instruments to complete His mission!

The power to get back up and dust yourself off and move forward...

Where does this come from?

- After the death of a loved one,
 - After receiving a grim diagnosis for yourself or for a loved one,
 - After losing your job,
 - After yet another call from a collection agency,
 - After a harsh exchange of words...
- The “After” of things in life can be rough.

The power to get back up and dust yourself off and move forward in the RIGHT direction...

Where does this come from?

It comes from Jesus Christ, FOR THE PURPOSE OF LEADING MORE PEOPLE TO HIS KINGDOM OF LIGHT. AMEN.

Right With You in Jesus’ Resurrection Power for the Sake of His Mission, Sister Vanessa Mitchell

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2439 County Road 225, Caldwell, TX 77836
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(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
pastorjdbama@gmail.com

Prelude to the Hussite War

By Jim Pokorny

News of the martyrdom of Hus reached Bohemia. Many who had previously stood on the sidelines were motivated to act and join those who followed Hus. Roman Catholic priests were expelled from their parishes. These parishes now fell into the hands of the Hussites. The homes of those who previously opposed Hus were plundered. The Archbishop fled as his palace was seized. The Council's attempts to restore order merely added fuel to a fire that was rapidly growing out of control. It issued letters that justified its actions against Hus, warned against his doctrines, and threatened those who still followed Hus with severe disciplinary action from the Church.

On September 2, 1415, a defiant answer was written containing countermeasures. 425 barons and knights signed this letter. A Hussite league formed on September 5. Its members pledged to act as a unified body. This body would permit preaching of the Gospel on members' estates. They would obey Church mandates provided that these mandates did not conflict with Scripture. They would

resist bans considered unjust. They would also support decisions made at the University of Prague. In response, a Catholic league was quickly formed. This act failed to impress the Hussites.

For four years, The Council of Constance deliberated the means of Church unification and purification. The Council officially concluded in April 1418 and had accomplished nothing in terms of reform. At this point, the Czech lands of Bohemia and Moravia were already in a state of turmoil that showed no sign of abating.

A result of the Hussite movement was the appearance of travelling ministers who preached in private homes or fields to large groups. In 1419, Wenzel ordered that expelled priests be allowed to return to their former parishes. As these priests returned, their congregations began travelling to neighboring (in some cases more distant) churches where they could partake of Holy Communion in both kinds. A hill near Austi quickly became a favorite place among wor-

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To communicate with the HUS Encampment...

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

Kent Laza

4913 F.M. 166

Caldwell, TX 77836

(979) 220-1957

Kent.laza@verizon.net

**This must be done well in advance.*

shippers and was christened Mt. Tabor. Many members of the Hussite clergy set up tents there after having been driven out of Austi. These men ministered to the ever-growing crowds that came to Mt. Tabor.

Nicholas von Pistna, formerly attached to the court of Wenzel, fell out of favor when he asked that more churches be granted to the Hussites and was banished from Prague. Under his orchestration, on the morning of July 22, processions from through-

out Bohemia and Moravia began to arrive at Mt. Tabor. Under their banners and emblems of the Sacrament, a gathering of about 42,000 assembled there to worship. Priests took charge of the numerous congregations that formed, each composed exclusively of either men or women. The priests preached, served Holy communion in both kinds, and heard confessions. At noon, all were served a simple meal followed by an afternoon of equally simple fellowship. This was a meeting on an unprecedented scale. In the evening, they said their farewells, pledged to both uphold the use of the Cup and defend free preaching. The groups then parted and made their ways home. The owners of the fields were compensated in order that future gatherings like this would be welcomed.

Events in Prague were not as peaceful. On Sunday, July 30, a priest named John of Selau led a Hussite procession past the Council



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Rev. Vanessa Mitchell, Pastor
lajoiededieu@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: lifecatcbc@protonmail.com

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

www.lifecatcbc.org

Come as you are . . .

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House of the Neustadt. Councilors and servants hurled insults. Conflict ensued as armed men came in from every direction. A cry of alarm spread throughout the Neustadt as the local populace seized control of it. The Council House was taken and all who opposed the mob were dispatched. Eleven Councilors managed to escape. Three were thrown out of an upper window and were impaled by spears and lances waiting below.

When Wenzel was informed of the incident, he experienced a fit of severe rage that left him momentarily incapacitated. On August 15, he had a second and more severe episode and died shortly afterward.

Sigismund was to be his successor according to the compact of 1411. Determined to crush all resistance in Bohemia, he instead appointed Queen Sophia as his regent. This done, he persuaded the Pope to launch a crusade against the Hussites. The powder keg had at last found its spark. Sixteen years of warfare would now be waged as the com-

bined Catholic forces of Holy Roman Emperor Sigismund, the Papacy, and European monarchs loyal to the Catholic Church sought to eradicate the Hussite factions in a conflict history would remember as the Hussite Wars.

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**The Community Christian
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 (832) 449-3358**

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
 Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
 Wednesday Eve 5:30 p.m.
 Prayer Service and Bible Study

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 (Interim)
 Cell: 325-656-8558
 Home: *rev.tjt@gmail.com*
 Church: *wallbrethren@gmail.com*
www.WallBrethrenChurch.net

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

<i>President</i> Board of Elders Rick Weise 325-656-2620	<i>Director of Youth and Young Family Ministries</i> Brady Collard 254-229-5217	<i>Church Office Secretary</i> Roxie Holik M-Th-7:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
-------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Change Made to The Hus School 2023 Schedule

After much consideration and debate, the Hus School directors have decided to change this year's Hus School to Challenger Camp.

Challenger Camp is a week-long camp designed for 16–19-year-old campers. It is an absolute blast! Please see the flyer below for updated dates and pricing!

Hus Encampment Summer Camps



It is time to register your child for
2023 Summer Camp!

TO REGISTER, VISIT

WWW.HUSCAMP.ORG/REGISTER

Returning campers should use their previous login.

Register by May 15th to avoid a \$50 Late Fee!

Camp	Price before 5/15	Price after 5/15
Encounter	\$300	\$350
Alpha	\$350	\$400
Pioneer	\$350	\$400
Discovery	\$350	\$400
Challenger	\$350	\$400

2023 Dates

Encounter Camp

July 9-12*

Ages 7-9

Alpha Camp

July 16-20

Ages 10-11

Pioneer Camp

June 25-30

Ages 12-13

Discovery Camp

June 18-23

Ages 14-15

Challenger Camp

June 11-16

Ages 16-19

*Encounter is now 4 days & 3 nights!

Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Recent Activities

The Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters have been busy in 2022 and 2023. The Sisters support many projects for the church and community. New clothes, diapers, and other items are donated quarterly to The Rainbow Room which supports Child Protective Services to help children that are in foster care and families that take care of the children.

The Sisters had their annual bake sale in November and donated a large portion of the profits to the church building fund to help with the repair of the sanctuary. They helped with the Church Sausage Supper in February.

In March 2023 the Christian Sisters supported the Bell County Sheriff's office with a Subway sandwich lunch and gave a check for \$1000.00 to the Bell County Sheriff's Foundation which supports fallen law enforcement and their families.



Seaton Brethren Church Christian Sisters Recent Activities



SNOOK BRETHREN CHURCH

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

Church Phone -- (979) 272-3303

COME WORSHIP WITH US

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

Bible Study - Each Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study - Each Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Pastor

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

Board of Elders President

Justin Lewis
P.O. Box 222
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 220-4732

Youth Directors

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

In Christ's Love... from the Foreign Missions Fields

From the Thiessen's

March 2023

Dear friends,

I'm getting ready for a quick trip, flying, to Oaxaca, after a quick trip to North Carolina and Florida, driving.

Anne and I drove down to Winston-Salem, NC, two weeks ago and spent her Spring Break there and in Florida. In NC we visited many supporters and a few churches over the two weekends (10th-12th, 17th-19th), catching up with friends after almost three years away. In those middle days we drove down to see Anne's mother at her missionary retirement community in Sebring. It's been 13 months since Dad died and we haven't been able to get back there till now. Mom's encroaching dementia makes it a bit more difficult to fill the whole day but overall, we had a good time with her. She is so

well looked after by the SIM staff, and we are grateful that she has this blessing.

We returned late Monday (after 5,200kms) and now I leave Monday (27th) for one week. I'll spend that week in Tlaxiaco with the Sin Fronteras group, helping with their church Planting and Incarnational Missions week for their missionaries in training. One of the great things about our "work" is that it is with good friends, so I am looking forward to spending the time there, and in Oaxaca City on the final weekend, with great people.

Anne is still finding the adjustment to Ontario a bit hard, especially around how many more discipline issues she faces in the school here compared to the one she worked at in Oaxaca for 12 years. With the 35-minute drive each way she is gone almost ten

→

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Temple, Texas 76502

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<https://www.crosschurchoonbirdcreek.org>

[youtube.com/channel/UCVsyYokWvdtloeQi9151rCA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVsyYokWvdtloeQi9151rCA)

(254) 778-8759

Rev. Tim Chaplin

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

(254) 718-6094

Worship: 10:45 a.m.

tpch4359@gmail.com

In Christ's Love... from the Foreign Missions Fields

From the Thiessen's

hours daily. This is the first time in 33 years together that we aren't mostly around each other.

I'm working my way slowly into understanding the First Nation reality here. There are many similarities with the indigenous of Mexico and yet very real differences. The marginalization and systemic abuse (residential schools weren't the only form of that) here seems to have permeated their culture more negatively than the overt rac-

ism and neglect affects the people I know down in Guerrero and Oaxaca. I read books and articles and talk with a wide range of people involved in addressing the situation, yet it feels like such small steps. I am also beginning to engage some of the local churches in our denomination (Mennonite Brethren) exploring what a humble learning journey towards reconciliation and kinship might look like. That is still very much in the beginning stages.

Please pray for:

- Safe travels next week
- Great learning for new missionaries
- And a great refresher for the "returnees"
- Times of encouragement both ways as I meet with leaders in Oaxaca and Tlaxiaco
- Anne's teaching (she is going to spend the week with good friends while I am away)
- Ontario church leaders' openness to difficult conversations

We thank you for your faithfulness and co-labor in God's Kingdom.

*Blessings,
Robert and Anne*

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Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

June 11 – 16 - Challenger Camp at the Hus Encampment. This camp was added after the Hus School Directors decided to not offer Hus School in 2023. (See flyer on page 10)

June 18 - 23 - Discovery Camp

June 25 – 30 – Pioneer Camp

Save the Dates ...

July 20-22, 2023 (Thursday – Saturday) – 70th Biennial Unity of the Brethren Convention at Camp Allen, Navasota, TX. Arrival/check-in to the hotel is Thursday, July 20th at 3:00 pm. Dismissal after lunch on Saturday. More information will be announced soon.

REMINDER FROM THE ACTING SECRETARY: All the convention information has been sent to ministers, synodical representatives, organizational members, committee chairpersons and other Unity contacts. **Ministers and Representatives** – please communicate so the person in charge of filling out the credentials form gets the form. The deadline to send back delegate credential forms with proper funds per delegate and for all reports is June 9, 2023.

Please return the credential forms with fees and all reports to Liz Ripple. Copies of the Convention invitation, secretary's letter, and credential forms can be found on the Unity Website (see 2023 Convention).

If you have not sent in your Brethren Fund Assessments for 2022, please do that soon. Annual Brethren Fund Assessments should be sent directly to Kayla Marek, Financial Secretary – kmarek2012@gmail.com.

Contact for further information: Liz Ripple, Executive Assistant: lizripple@hotmail.com or 979-702-1886.

TAYLOR BRETHREN 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
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

Board President
Daniel Knippa
512-844-0208

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

2023 Summer Camp Dates

ENCOUNTER

ages 7-9 years old

Camp cost: \$250

Camp Date: **July 9 - 12**

ALPHA

ages 10-11 years old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: **July 16 - 20**

PIONEER

ages 12-13 years old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: **June 25 - 30**

DISCOVERY

ages 14-15 years old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: **June 18 - 23**

CHALLENGER

ages 16-19 years old.

Camp cost: \$350

Date: **Not Held in 2023**

HUS SCHOOL

In depth Leadership

Program ages 16-Adult

Cost: \$550

Date: **June 4 - 16**

**** DATES HAVE CHANGED (Hus School will not be offered in 2023, and in it's place, Challenger Camp is being offered.)**

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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Sunday School Helper



**Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (NIV)**

This month is a family activity---a Prayer Walk!
We are challenged to pray about everything, all the time! Prayer is talking to God and also listening. This Prayer Walk will give you and your child an opportunity to do both, together. During your Prayer Walk, use your 5 senses. What do you see? Hear? Are there sounds that you don't typically hear? What do you smell? Touch things. Taste if you can.

This Prayer Walk has 5 stations.
Enjoy your time with your child and God!

Prayer Walk

The best way to overcome worry is to trust God. Prayer provides you an opportunity to talk to God, praise Him, make requests, ask for wisdom, and listen and enjoy time with God. Use this prayer walk to model prayer. Before you begin, explain to your child that no matter where they go, God is always with them. They can share all their worries and fear with God.

Take a walk around your neighborhood, park, or open area. You can find the items you need “organically” or you can have the stations set up ahead of time.

Station 1

You will need to find some leaves. Discuss how all the leaves are different. Look at the different lines and patterns in the leaves.

Talk about how God made the leaves so beautiful and different. Have your child look at their fingerprint. Discuss how God loves us so much and made us each different. Pray thanking God for loving us so much and making each person special and unique.

Station 2

You will need to find smooth stones. Take some deep breaths with your child. Hold the smooth stone in your hand. Ask your child to share some things that worry them or that they fear. You may need to share some ideas first. Explain to your child this stone can be a worry stone. Pray with your child asking God to take their worries and fears. Now place the worry stone in a cup of water (or a puddle if you can find one). Explain that the water is like God’s love. It surrounds our worries so we can let them go. Read Isaiah 41:10 “So do not be afraid. I am with you. Do not be terrified. I am your God. I will make you strong and help you.” Pray again, thanking God for his love and care.



Station 3

After walking for a minute or so, stop. Read Psalm 46: 1-3, 7.

“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.” Discuss how sometimes the world seems crazy and scary. But God says he is our refuge and strength, he helps us if we have trouble. Read the verse again. Have your child say it with you. Pray together that God will help you remember this verse whenever they are scared or worried.

Station 4

Walk for a minute or two. Find a place to sit down. You will need a space to write. Tell your child that it doesn't matter where you are walking, but who you are walking with. We can walk with Jesus. Talk about all the things your child remembers about Jesus. Remind your child that Jesus knows them by NAME! Jesus was there when the world was created. He is the Son of God.

He is also our friend! Read 1 Peter 5:7, “Turn all your worries over to him. He cares about you.” Have your child write or draw their prayer on a piece of paper. Include thanking Jesus for walking with them and being their friend.

Station 5

As you walk to the last station, ask your child to close their eyes and imagine they are walking up the steps to a great palace. It is so beautiful! You are going to a party. As you arrive, you realize that you are a special guest to Jesus' party. Tell your child that in Bible times, people honored special guests by putting a little bit of oil on them. Have your child dip their finger in a small bowl of oil and draw a heart on the back of your hand. Do the same and draw a heart on your child's hand.

Explain to your child that God's presence is soothing. We are a part of his family. When bad things happen or you feel scared, remember you are a part of God's family and he loves you.

Pray together thanking God for choosing you to be a part of his family. End by singing a favorite song.



Daily Morsels for May 2023

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

From the Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version, slightly modified

1. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers. Acts 2:42

2. Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. Acts 2:43

3. Day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved. Acts 2:47b

4. It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. 1 Pet. 2:19

5. For to this you have been called because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in His steps. 1 Pet. 2:21

6. He himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed. 1 Pet. 2:24

7. Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. Acts 7:55

8. "Look," he said. "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" Acts 7:56

9. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Acts 7:59

10. Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died. Acts 7:60

11. Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. Ps. 31:5

12. "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in Me," Jesus said. Jn. 14:1

13. Come to Him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight. 1 Pet. 2:4

14. Like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Pet. 2:5

15. "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments," Jesus said. Jn. 14:15

16. Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of His praise be heard. Ps. 66:8

17. Truly God has listened; He has given heed to the words of my prayer. Ps. 66:19

18. Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me. Ps. 66:20

19. The God who made the world and everything in it, He Who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands. Acts

→

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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17:24

20. Nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. Acts 17:25

21. Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. Ps. 47:1

22. For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth. Ps. 47:2

23. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Acts 1:8

24. Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. 1 Pet. 4:12

25. But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when

His glory is revealed. 1 Pet. 4:13

26. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you. 1 Pet. 4:14

27. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that He may exalt you in due time. 1 Pet. 5:6

28. Cast all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. 1 Pet. 5:7

29. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion, your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. 1 Pet. 5:8

30. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. 1 Pet. 5:9

31. After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, Who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. 1 Pet. 5:10

OCKER BRETHREN CHURCH

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Church Email: ockerbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

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Worship 10:15 AM

Pastor

Dr. Brad Herridge

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brad.herridge@gmail.com

Youth Director

Jennifer Chervenka

(254) 913-1244

jennchervenka@gmail.com

Cemetery

Sharon Marek

(254) 482-0498

VITAL STATISTICS

NEW MEMBERS

KOTRLA, Willie Joe joined Seaton Brethren Church on June 5, 2022

KOTRLA, Vicky joined Seaton Brethren Church on June 5, 2022

GREEN, Kyle joined Seaton Brethren Church on June 5, 2022

GREEN, Lindsey joined Seaton Brethren Church on June 5, 2022

RECENT BAPTISMS

BENNETT, Gerald Wesley, was baptized at Seaton Brethren Church on October 2, 2022

RECENT CONFIRMATIONS

BOSTICK, James Paul, was confirmed at Seaton Brethren Church on July 24, 2022

RECENT DEATHS

CABLA, ELSIE ANNA, 101, of Temple and a member of Seaton Brethren Church died on February 6, 2022. She was born June 1, 1920 to Charlie and Teresa Mkeska Martinek in Oscar. She married Mathu John Cabla on June 1, 1938. She was a member of SPJST Lodge No. 47, Seaton and a former director of the Seaton Cemetery Association. She was preceded in death by her husband. Survivors include her daughter, Janet Young and husband Bill; a sister Dorothy Tomasek; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held on February 10 at Harper Talasek Funeral Home, Temple with Rev. Jay Thomas officiating. Burial was private at Seaton Cemetery.

SODEK, CLARENCE RAYMOND, 96, of Temple, member of Seaton Brethren Church died on February 21, 2022. He was born on November 29, 1925 in Seaton to Raymond Sodek and Matilda Luksa Sodek. He married Kitty Sue Hillard. She preceded him in death in 1998. He served in the U.S. Army. He worked for Boutwell Installation, the Temple VA Hospital, Ray Stallings Motor Company and the Texas Department of Corrections. He was a member of American Legion Post 133, SPJST 47 Seaton, The Masonic Lodge and served on the East Bell Water Supply board. Clarence was preceded in death by one son, Scott Sodek in 2019. Survivors include one son, Steve Sodek and wife Ginger; one sister Dorothy Novosad; grandchildren Darrin Lee Sodek and wife Nikki; Christopher Ray Sodek and wife Jamie; Coby Lynn Sodek and wife Jay; Scott Andrew Sodek and wife Brittany; Jacy Lynn Kelch and husband Tyler and Jackson Ray Sodek and wife Micah and eleven great grandchildren. Funeral services were held on February 26, 2022 at Seaton Brethren Church with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial was held in Seaton Cemetery.

SULAK, ALICE A., 91, of Temple died on Monday, June 20, 2022. She was born on January 17, 1931 in Seaton to Tom and Tracy Motl Sefcik. Alice was

VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT DEATHS

a lifelong proprietor of Sefcik Hall in Seaton, where she started out helping her father, Tom Sefcik with the business and upon his death took over running the business. She was a musician having played the saxophone with “Jerry Haisler and the Melody 5” (formerly Otis Beck & “the Melody 5”) and “Adela and the Music Masters”. She received the Texas Dance Hall Preservation Lifetime Achievement award in 2017 and was featured in many publications for her music and for the dance hall. The city of Temple declared that November 17th to be Alice Sefcik Sulak day. Alice played various instruments including the saxophone, accordion, drums and keyboard with many musicians including her house band. She was a member of SPJST Lodge 47 Seaton. She is survived by her children, Tommie Sulak and wife Linda; Steve Sulak and wife Brenda; and Kenny Sulak and wife Irene; 5 grandchildren: Jonathan Sulak and wife Emily; Alek Sulak; Sterling Sulak; Shelby Beck and husband John and Shannon Strong and husband Patrick and a great-granddaughter, Scout. She was preceded in death by her parents and sister Adela Urubek. Visitation was held on June 24 at Scanio-Harper Funeral Home, Temple. Funeral was held on June 25 at Seaton Brethren Church with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial was at the Seaton Cemetery.

KOSLOVSKY, ALBERT JOSEPH, 71, of Cyclone passed away on January 19, 2023. He was born on October 10, 1951 in Rosebud to Joe and Emilie (Hering) Koslovsky. He was a 1970 graduate of Rosebud High School, was a Master Plumber, a member of Seaton Brethren Church and a member of SPJST Lodge 47, Seaton. Albert was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, Patsy; daughter Melanie Regan and husband Christopher; son David Koslovsky and wife Kindra; and grandchildren, Colton and Emma Regan and Tessa and Foster Koslovsky. Funeral services were held on January 24 at Seaton Brethren Church with burial at Seaton Cemetery with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating.

MIKESKA, DONALD “DON” GENE, 78, of Zabcikville passed away on March 5, 2023. He was born on September 29, 1944 to Edwin and Annie Schneider Mikeska. Don lived his entire life in the Temple area. He attended Seaton School until the eighth grade and then Rogers High School where he graduated in 1962. He made his career with Sherwin Williams for over 32 years before his retirement in 2000. He married Monica Wilde in 1977. Don loved the outdoors and enjoyed his yearly hunting trips to Colorado with friends, going to the same place for almost 60 years. He loved his family, fishing, gardening and reading with his grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, brother Leroy Mikeska and sister Sharon Fletcher. He is survived by his wife, Monica; 2 daughters, Michelle Mikeska; Kindra Koslovsky and husband David and three grandchildren, Kaden Lehrmann, Tessa and Foster Koslovsky. Funeral services were held at Seaton Brethren Church on March 9 with Rev. Denise Mikeska officiating. Burial was at St. Joseph Catholic Church Cemetery in Cyclone.

VANICEK, DAVID CHARLES, 75, of Temple died on March 10, 2023. He was born on March 31, 1947 to Henry Joe and Willie Mae Rose Hutka Vanicek in Temple. He grew up in the Ratibor community, attended Lost Prairie School and graduated from Rogers High School in 1965. In school, David was active in the FFA and participated in the University Interscholastic League office skills competitions. He helped his father work the family farm and his grandmother's property. He attended Temple Junior College taking business classes. He married Patsy Joyce Stewart on September 10, 1966. While attending college, he worked at the Arcadia Theatre as a lobby attendant. He worked at American Desk where he learned drafting skills necessary to develop technical plans for product design and installation of auditorium seating. He moved on to have management positions at ABC Scientific, Griggs International, Temple Products and Earle Industries where he served as Vice President. He was a member of SPIST Lodge 24, Cyclone where he served a past president and was a member of Seaton Brethren Church. David started the Bartlett Auction in 1990, became a licensed auctioneer and retired in 2019. He enjoyed fishing, gardening, shopping garage sales and flea markets, collecting and restoring antiques. David is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Harold Wayne Vanicek. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Patsy; daughter, Terri Vanicek; brother Brian Vanicek and wife Joan; sister-in-law, Doris Vanicek and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. Funeral services were held on March 17 at Seaton Brethren Church with burial at the Seaton Cemetery. Rev. Denise Mikeska, officiating.



HINSON, DOROTHY VIRGINIA SCHILLER, 92, of Houston, Texas, passed away on March 22, 2023, after her battle with dementia. She was born on April 18, 1930, in Houston to Eddie E. and Ella (Slovacek) Schiller.

She graduated from Lamar High School. She was married to Earl B. Hinson for 50 years until his death in 2004. She was devoted to God and was a devoted member of the Houston Brethren Church, where she served as president of the Christian Sisters, president of the Board of Elders, taught Sunday School and played the organ and piano during church services. She also served as president of the state Christian Sisters' Union, served on the Unity of the Brethren's Home Missions Board and Mutual Aid Society Board, and was a Synodical Committee member. Dorothy was proud of her Czech heritage and loved talking about her family.

She is survived by her daughters, Lynn Hinson and Frances H. Jensen, son-in-law Mike Jensen, brother Marvin Schiller and sister-in-law Bobye, grandchildren Shaun Hinson, Jeanette, Will and Sydney Jensen, and nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Jimmy Hinson, and granddaughter Christie Dawn Hinson.

A memorial service will be held on May 6 at 11:00 am at The Houston Brethren Church, 6207 North Main in Houston, followed by her burial that afternoon at Jones Prairie Cemetery in Leggett, Texas where her husband is buried. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dorothy's honor to The Brethren Journal, c/o Ben Polasek, 1103 Harrisonburg Lane, College Station, TX 77845.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Austin – Bible Study at 10 AM
Worship at 11 AM.
– Rev. Joe Emerson
“the last service was held on Sunday, July 3, 2022”

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.
– Supply Pastors

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 (1103 Harrisonburg Ln., College
Station, TX 77845) – 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 (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.
– Supply Pastors

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