

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL



Vol. 123

June 2024

No. 5

28 pages



Hus Encampment Outdoor Chapel

IN THIS ISSUE...

The First Years of the Unity... by Jim Pokorny
Ocker Brethren Church Father's Day Invitation
BYF Retreat and Volleyball Tournament Information

...AND MUCH MORE!!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

EDITOR -

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

BUSINESS MANAGER -

Ben Polasek, 1108 Harrisonburg Lane,
College Station, TX 77845; 979-220-9270
manager.brethrenjournal@gmail.com

BUSINESS COMMITTEE -

Chairperson: Rev. Mike Groseclose
(Synodical 2nd VP)

Treasurer: Dorothy Milberger, 312 N. Lantana
Cr., Sealy, TX 77474; mildw@sbcglobal.net;
979-885-7129 (h), 979-492-5091 (c)

Secretary: OPEN

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS -

Daily Morsels: Mari-Anne K. Gordon
5639 Carta Valley Lane, Richmond TX 77469
Jim Pokorny, jwppsa@yahoo.com;
blog: otherbrotherjim.blogspot.com

RATE - \$15 per year via hard copy/email
(All subscriptions expire December 31st)

FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS, RENEWALS, AND GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS,
Hard Copy and E-mail, write The Brethren Journal
Business Manager (see addresses above).

FOR ADDRESS CHANGES - Include address
changes from your most recent issue and write to :
The Brethren Journal **Business Manager**,
1108 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, 1108 Harrisonburg Lane,
College Station, TX 77845.

Visit the
Unity of the Brethren
Website:
unityofthebrethren.org

Index:

First Years of the Unity	3
Ocker Brethren Fundraiser	7
Summer Retreat/Volleyball	8
Leadership Team Invite	9
Great Payback Comeback	10
Sunday School	11
Schedule of Activities	17
Daily Morsels	20

CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION 2024-2026 OFFICERS

President: Carolyn F. Beseda (Houston)
carolyn.beseda@att.net, Ph (281) 546-7941,
2515 Lazybrook Dr, Houston, TX 77008

Vice President: Connie Janac (Snook)
conniejanac@gmail.com, Ph (979) 587-0363
301 West Brookside, Bryan, TX 77801

Secretary: Ann Sebesta (Snook)
sebestaA2015@outlook.com Ph (210) 244-3362,
P O Box 115, Snook TX 77878

Financial Secretary: Carolyn Groseclose (Ocker)
Ph (254) 541-2246, 358 State Hwy 53,
Rosebud, TX 76570

Treasurer: Janice Zavodny (New Tabor)
jmzavodny@gmail.com, Ph (979) 220-0657,
4182 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836

Synodical Committee Liaison: Rev Dr Jerry Terrill
Ph (281) 744-1147, 7 Torch Pine Court,
The Woodlands, TX 77381

The First Years of the Unity

By Jim Pokorny

In 1457, the ancient Unity of the Brethren was founded by Gregory the Patriarch in Kunwald. With the arrival of priest Michael Bradacius, Gregory and Michael worked in tandem. Looking to the Bible and the Articles of Prague, the pair drew up the initial guidelines by which the community would live. The name chosen for the community was “Brethren of the Law of Christ.” In time, a new name was chosen, Jednota Bratrská, or Unity of the Brethren.

This community still relied on ministers of the na-

tional churches who shared their views. A new priesthood composed of men from within their own ranks was still some years away. That said, their next step was to elect twenty-eight Elders to function as the community’s spiritual guides. Their names and backgrounds were covered in the previous article.

By 1458, the community began to develop at an accelerated pace. According to one source: “friend longed for friend and brother for brother, so that more persons continually joined the

→

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

Serving Christ, Serving Our Community

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

Brethren, and their numbers increased.”

Gregory’s uncle, archbishop elect Rokycana, looked favorably upon the new community. In his view, the inhabitants of Kunwald were simply trying to reproduce the ideal of the original apostolic church without severing ties with the National Church. This satisfied Rokycana as he also saw this as a means of maintaining his own personal influence. This, and the fact that his close friend George Podiebrad occupied the Bohemian throne, added fuel to his personal ambition.

But by 1459, friction began to develop within the Brethren themselves. Ironically, this friction involved

the Lord’s Supper. Some held to the Utraquist and Catholic view. Still others clung to the Taborite viewpoint. Disagreement over the sacrament turned bitter. Tempers began to flare and even led to outbreaks of violence within the community. As a result, the Elders convened an emergency Synod to settle the matter. The elders adopted, in substance, the teachings of Chelcicky: “All who receive the sacrament in truth, through faith, believe and confess that it is the true body and blood of Christ, according to His word and mind, without adding anything, or taking away anything, and rejecting all human explanations.” This →

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: Robbie Price
Cell: 505-715-2003
Email: rev.robbyprice@gmail.com
Church: wallbrethren@gmail.com
www.WallBrethrenChurch.net

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

President
Board of Elders
Lance LaBedelle
325-227-9900

Youth & Discipleship
Pastor
Brady Collard
254-229-5217

Church Office
Secretary
Roxie Holik
M-Th-7:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

is according to a defense of the faith originally submitted by the Brethren to the Elector of Brandenburg in 1528 that cited the Synod of 1459. In other words, this meant accepting, in faith, the words of Christ without any need of explanation.

The Lord’s Supper was not the sole focus of the Synod. Disagreement over the sacrament had been fueled by controversial works of the times. The Tracts of the Taborites being chief among these. The Synod deemed such writings to be unprofitable. The friction they caused proved them to be damaging. According to one historical document, a formal declaration was adopted that stated the Brethren “should be satisfied with God’s Word and simply believe what it taught, avoiding all Tracts; and that even

such as seemed to approximate Truth ought not to be read until they had been examined by the Elders.” This was formally adopted. Some eight years later, a letter was sent from the Brethren to Rokycana in 1468. In this letter, the Brethren claim to have set aside all such writings.

From these decisions, it →

**BOARD OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Chair: Jordan Barbisch (2019)
(Ocker-elected Chair in 2023),
jordanbarbisch@gmail.com

Tiffany Hargraves – (2023) (Snook)

Anna Wotipka – (2023) (Caldwell)

Jonna See – (2023) (Snook)

Open Seat

Open Seat

Jennifer Chervenka – Youth
Coordinator (Ocker)

Synodical Committee Liaison: Rev.
Dr. Jerry Terrill, 3rd VP

CROSS CHURCH ON BIRDCREEK

2202 Birdcreek Drive
Temple, Texas 76502

email: ccb@crosschurchoonbirdcreek.org
<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

can be said that from early on, the Brethren chose to regulate their lives according to Scripture. They also made a determined effort to eliminate confusion and friction. More importantly, such moves would keep fanaticism at bay.

With the conclusion of the Synod, Michael Bradacius took two particularly important steps. He simplified both public worship and the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. These steps were also indicative of the Brethren leaning in a more Protestant direction where worship was concerned. Meanwhile, the Taborites have been facing harsh persecution in Bohe-

mia and Moravia. In 1460, a large group of Taborites were visited by Gregory near Kattau. Gregory was welcomed as "an angel of God" to unite with the Brethren.

And so, the initial years of the Brethren came to a successful conclusion. Their community was firmly established. Gregory and Michael established guidelines for life in the community based on Scripture and the Articles of Prague. Twenty-eight Elders were elected from diverse backgrounds to guide the people spiritually. With their help, the Brethren managed to successfully navigate the waters of friction and contention that could have ultimately destroyed them. But unknown to them was the fact that their First Persecution loomed just over the horizon.

**ADERHOLD
FUNERAL HOME, INC.**
*"Thoughtful Service --
A Payne Family Tradition"*
West, Texas
254/826-5321

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.

<i>Pastor</i>	<i>Board President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>
<i>James D. Hejl</i>	<i>Daniel Knippa</i>	<i>Mary Kokes</i>
<i>512-365-6890</i>	<i>512-844-0208</i>	<i>M-Th 8 a.m.-noon</i>

Ocker Brethren Church Father's Day Fund-Raiser

**Sunday, June 16; 11am-??
Seaton Star Hall**

\$15 BBQ PLATES (Dine-in or To-Go)

Ribs, sausage, beans, coleslaw, westphalia noodles, and all the trimmings; dessert and tea.

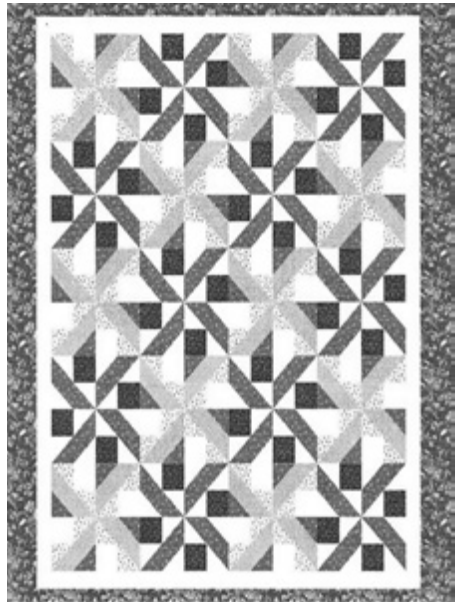
Quilt Raffle **\$1 or 6/\$5**

1st- "Carnation Duet" Quilt
handmade by Ocker Chris-
tian Sisters

2nd- \$500 Visa Gift Card

3rd- \$300 Visa Gift Card

4th- \$200 Amazon Gift
Card 5th- \$100 Amazon
Gift Card



Silent Auction

Gun Drawing

**THANKS FOR
YOUR
SUPPORT!**

The Community Christian Church of Rosenberg

**5220 Reading Road,
Rosenberg, TX 77471
(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

Summer Youth Retreat & Volleyball

Friday, July 5 - Sunday, July 7

Check-in: Friday- 6:30-8:00 pm OR

Saturday- 8:00 am - 9:00 am

State Business meeting: Saturday - 8:30am

Worship and Communion: 9:30 am

Tournament begins: 10:00 am

Sunday dismissal: 9:30 am

Registration DEADLINE is June 16.

FORMS & FEES must be received by this date.

No EXCEPTIONS.

Youth fee: \$30; Adult overnight guests: \$10. [Anyone over 18 must have a background check, so be sure all adults submit a form. (No fee for ADULTS no staying the night.)]

--- Group Eligibility for Volleyball ---

Team members must be 12-21 years of age as of July 6, and be active in your local youth group.

Number of teams must be submitted by June 16. Rosters due by 8:30 am Saturday, July 6.

Youth Groups must submit names and email (snail mail address if no email) of each active member and sponsor for their group and a summary of their activities for the year by June 16.

More information www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.org; jennchervenka@gmail.com; (254) 913-1244

INTERESTED IN BEING PART OF THE STATE YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM?

**The leadership team is made
up of adults, youth, and pastors.
These individuals meet together
to coordinate the state youth
retreats and activities.**

**They are appointed at the
business meeting each summer.**

**Please text, call, or email
Jenn Chervenka at
jennchervenka@
gmail.com or
(254) 913-1244
if you are interested
in serving.**

GRANGER NATIONAL BANK

Ryze Ceska Banka, Member F.D.I.C.
Granger, Texas
www.grangernationalbank.com

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

The Great Payback Comeback



Hus Camp

Calling ALL HUS Camp Supporters

An Opportunity to Return and Help Prepare for Future Campers

- Camp Cleanup/Fixup Workday
 - Clean out and demolish barn on the new property
 - Cut down dead trees and clean up landscape
 - Repair recreation equipment and Putt-Putt course
- Fellowship
- Hamburger and Hot Dog Cookout

Saturday, June 1, 2024, 9 am - 3 pm

Please reply to PaybackComeback@yahoo.com with the names of those participating to ensure you are included in the meal count.



SUNDAY SCHOOL HELPER

**"FOR THE LORD
YOUR GOD IS
GOD OF GODS
AND LORD OF
LORDS, THE GREAT,
THE MIGHTY, AND
THE AWESOME
GOD..."
DEUTERONOMY
10:17**

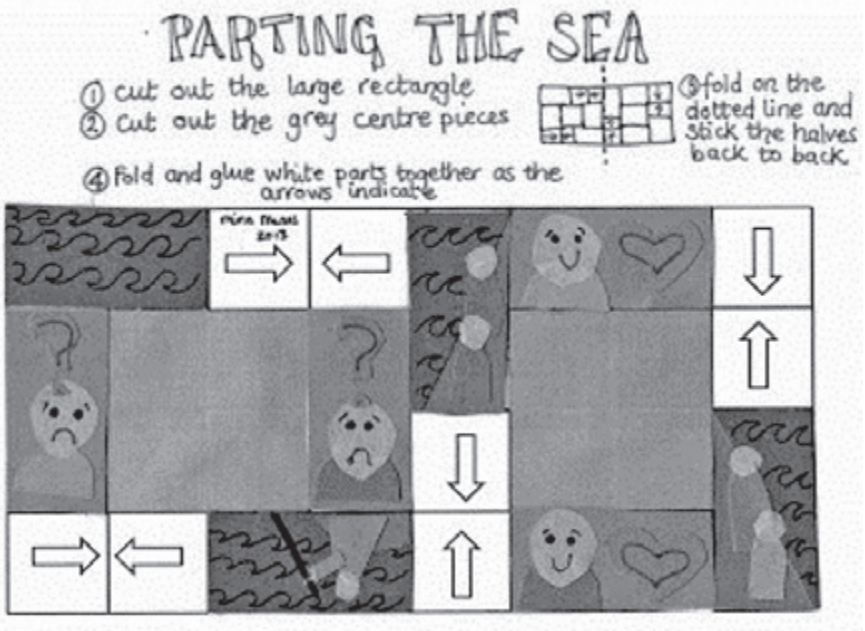
This month is all about size, like the BIG, EXTRA LARGE size. The ocean is BIG! God is BIG and he can help us do BIG things. There is also an ocean creature that is really big—The Blue WHALE! It is one of the largest animals to ever live on earth.

Bible Story: Parting the Red Sea

Scripture: Exodus 14:5-31

Focus: God makes a way where things seem impossible, He can do big things.

Materials: The Parting the Red Sea Storyteller



The storyteller and directions for use can be found at:
Flame: Creative Children's Ministry: Printable Parting of the Red Sea Storyteller (Exodus 14)
(flamecreativekids.blogspot.com)

Use the storyteller to tell the story of Moses and the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. Talk about how God can do big things. Ask children if they can think of other big things God has done.

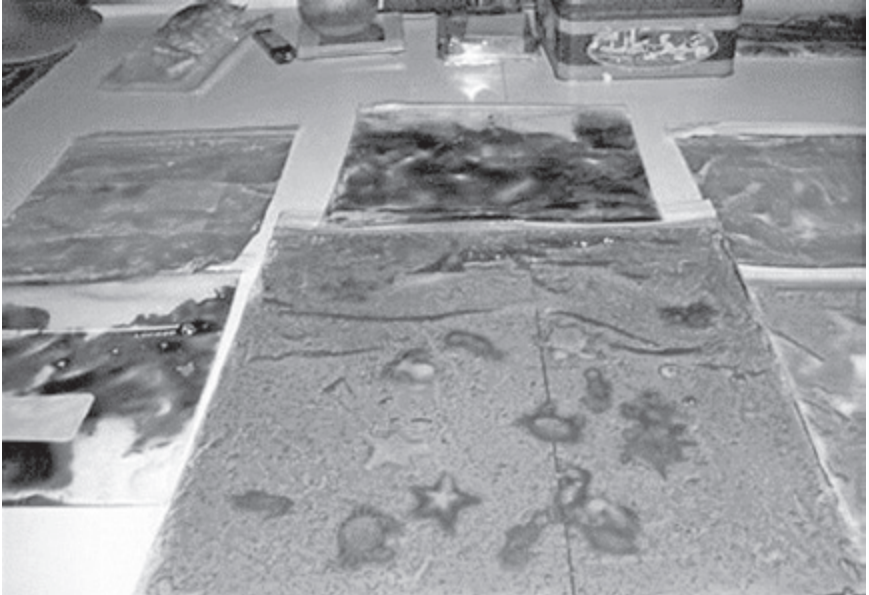


Craft: Sea Sensory Bags

Materials: Freezer bag, blue gel (you could also use blue colored rice or sand), fish/whale shapes

Directions: Put the gel/sand/rice in the freezer bag. Add in fish shapes. Tape the opening with duct tape for extra security.

Lay the bag flat. Children can use their fingers to “divide” the water in the bag. Discuss how God can do big things.



Game: The Red Sea

This is London Bridge, but change the words:

Round 1: The Red Sea is making a way, making a way, making a way. The Red Sea is making a way. Our Big God!

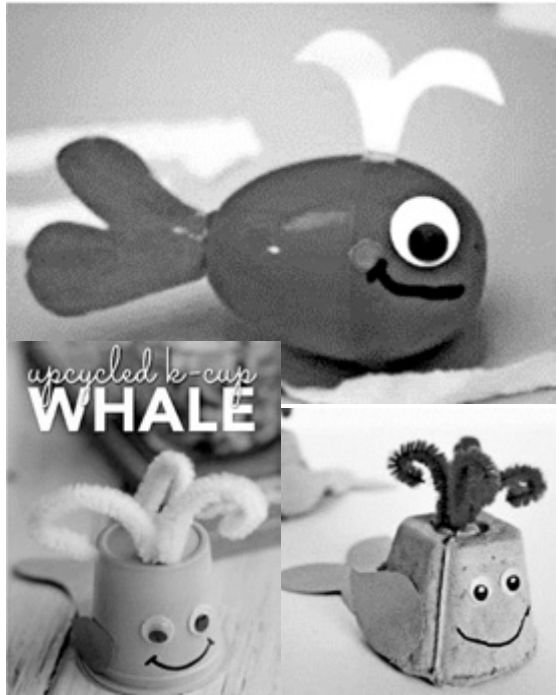
Round 2: The Red Sea is crashing down, crashing down, crashing down. The Red Sea is crashing down. On the Egyptians.



Craft: Recycled Whales

Materials: plastic eggs, wiggly eyes, cardstock, marker, glue, used K-cup, pipe cleaners, paint, egg carton

Directions: Egg whale: Cut a tail and a water spout from cardstock. Glue these to the egg. Add the eye. Draw on a mouth. K-cup whale: Paint the kcup. Cut a tail and fins from cardstock. Use a pipe cleaner to make a spout. Glue on tail, fins, and eyes. Draw a mouth. Egg carton whale: Cut carton into individual sections. Paint if necessary. Cut out a tail and fins from cardstock. Use a pipe cleaner to make a spout. Glue on tail, fins, and eyes. Draw a mouth.



Blue Whale Facts:

1. One of the largest animals ever to live on earth.
2. It's tongue weights as much as an elephant.
3. It's heart is the size of a car.
4. Whales are found in all the oceans, except the Arctic.
5. Whales eat up to 40 million krill a day.
6. Their calls can be heard underwater for 1,000 miles.
7. A baby whale can drink up to 150 gallons of milk a day.





**Sliding into
Summer Camp!**



**It is SCARY
how much we love camp!**

2024 Camp Dates!

Encounter: June 9-12

Discovery: June 16-21

Pioneer: June 23-28

Hus School: July 7-19

Alpha: July 21-25

SPJST Annuities



*A Retirement Income
You Can't Outlive*

Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity

Qualified and Non-Qualified
(Traditional and Roth IRAs)

5-Year Preferred Annuity

1-Year Annuity • 2-Year Annuity

3-Year Annuity



Keep your family protected



Ask about our life insurance

Insuring & Enriching Lives Since 1897

SPJST Home Office • 800-727-7578 • www.spjst.org

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

Saturday, June 1 - Hus Encampment workday on the new property and tree-trimming/removal.) See the article in this issue for more information.

Sunday, June 16 - Father's Day Fundraiser at SP-JST Lodge 47, Star Hall hosted by Ocker Brethren Church. \$15 BBQ plates: ribs, sausage, Westphalia noodles, coleslaw, beans, dessert, and tea. Dine in or to go. Quilt Raffle tickets \$1 each or 6/\$5. See flyer in this issue and the Ocker Brethren Facebook page for more information.

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

Yvonne Kovar
P.O. Box 66
Snook, TX 77878
(979) 219-0375

Youth Directors

Derek & Aubri Cotton

NEW TABOR BRETHREN CHURCH

2439 County Road 225, Caldwell, TX 77836

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 262, Caldwell, TX 77836

(979) 220-3822

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

Save the Dates ...

July 6, 2024 – Youth Retreat & Volleyball Tournament at the Hus Encampment.

(For information, see article in this issue.)

KUBENA Funeral Home
507 South Main St.
Hallettsville, Texas 77946
Pre-Arranged Funerals
Phone 361-798-3271

MINISTERIAL CREDENTIALS BOARD

Rev. Vanessa Mitchell
(Pastor to the Pastors)
Rev. Joe Emerson (member)
Rev. Jerry Terrill (member)
Rev. Mike Groseclose (member)

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.*

HOUSTON BRETHERN 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
Call: 713-553-5542

Rita Tyson
Secretary

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

2024 Summer Camp Dates

ENCOUNTER

ages 7-9 yrs old

Camp cost: \$250

Camp Date: June 9 - 12

ALPHA

ages 10-11 yrs old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: July 21 – 25

PIONEER

ages 12-13 yrs old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 23 - 28

DISCOVERY

ages 14-15 years old

Camp cost: \$350

Camp Date: June 16 - 21

CHALLENGER

ages 16-19 years old.

Camp cost: \$350

Date: Not Held in 2024

HUS SCHOOL

In depth Leadership

Program ages 16-Adult

Cost: \$550

Date: July 7 - 19

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.

Daily Morsels for June 2024

by Mari-Anne K. Gordon

From the *Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version*, slightly modified.

1. Ps. 81:1 Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
2. **Ps. 81:2 Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.**
3. Ps. 81:3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.
4. Ps. 81:7a [The Lord said,] "In distress you called, and I rescued you..."
5. Ps. 81:10 I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt."
6. Ps. 139:1 O LORD, you have searched me and known me.
7. Ps. 139:2a You know when I sit down and when I rise up.
8. Ps. 139:2b You discern my thoughts from afar.
9. **Ps. 139:3b You are acquainted with all my ways.**
10. Ps. 139:4 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.
11. Ps. 139:5 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay Your hand upon me.
12. Ps. 139:6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for →

Fayetteville Brethren Church

Worship on the
2nd, 3rd, 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 Morsels for June 2024

by Mari-Anne K. Gordon

From the *Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version*, slightly modified.

me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

13. Ps. 139:13 For it was You Who formed my inward parts.

14. Ps. 13b You knit me together in my mother's womb.

15. Ps. 139:14 I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

16. Ps. 14b Wonderful are Your works; that I know very well.

17. Ps. 139:16b In Your book were written all the days ordained for me,

when none of them as yet existed.

18. Ps. 139:17 How weighty to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

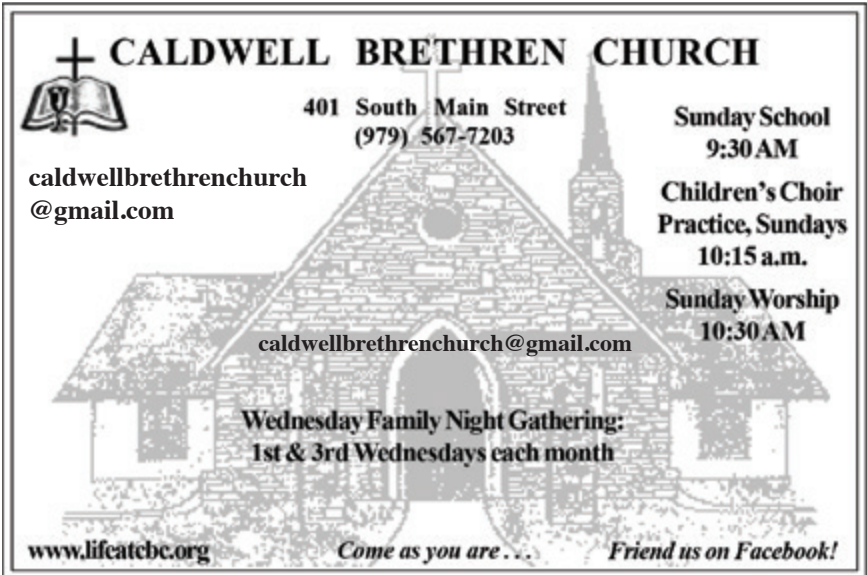
19. Ps. 139:18 I try to count them—they are more than the sand.

20. Ps. 18b I come to the end—I am still with You.

21. 2 Cor. 4:5b We proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord.

22. 2 Cor. 4:6 The God

→



+ CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH

401 South Main Street
(979) 567-7203

Sunday School
9:30 AM

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

Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

caldwellbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

caldwellbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

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

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

Daily Morsels for June 2024

by Mari-Anne K. Gordon

From the *Holy Bible New Revised Standard Version*, slightly modified.

who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

23. 2 Cor. 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.

24. 2 Cor. 4:8 We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair.

25. 2 Cor. 4:9 [We are] persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but

not destroyed.

26. 2 Cor. 4:16 So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day.

27. 2 Cor. 4:17 For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure.

28. 2 Cor. 4:18 Because we 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.

29. 2 Cor. 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

30. Ps. 92:4 For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work; at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.

Knesek Family Funeral Chapels



*"Neighbors helping
Neighbors Since 1914"*

- Service all Pre-Arranged Funerals
- Share Plan Concept with Pre-Arranged Funerals
- Sponsor Mission Pre-Arranged Funeral Plans

Bellville Sealy Wallis
865-3121 885-3535 478-6311

**MUTUAL AID SOCIETY
LOCAL SECRETARIES**

Granger #1: Donna Vitek, PO Box 943,
Granger TX 76530,
dlvitek@yahoo.com

Taylor #3: Pat Daffin, 2950 FM 3349,
Taylor TX 76574, 512-913-6084,
pat.daff@yahoo.com

West #4: Mike James, 414 Fort Rd,
Waco TX 76705-5718,
pswmhjames@gmail.com

Fayetteville #5: Sandra Stepan, PO Box
145, Fayetteville TX 78940, 512-468-
2396, sandrainaustin@yahoo.com

Dime Box #6: Vacant*

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

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

New Tabor #13: Connie Surovik, 1733
St Hwy 21 E, Caldwell TX 77836,
conniesurovik76@gmail.com

Nelsonville #14: Sondra Brau, PO Box
252, Industry TX 78944, 979-820-5632

Seaton #16: Joyce Skrabanek, 7157 FM
2086, Temple TX 76501, 254-721-
6324, jjskrabanek@gmail.com

Wesley #18: Elaine Koehn,
9053 Leaning Oak Lane, Brenham TX
77833, 979-836-5196,
koehns72@yahoo.com

Temple #20: Irene Marek, 2900 Pecan
Valley Drive, Temple TX 76502,
254-778-2120

Rosenberg #21: Cathy Kuritz, 5220
Reading Rd, Rosenberg TX 77471,
281-344-1386, mpruett3660@att.net

Westheimer #22: Vacant*

Houston #23: Vacant*

Wall #25: Sharon J. Hohmann,
222 Crestwood Drive, San Angelo TX
76903-9106, 325-651-5884

Caldwell #27: Brenda Schroeder,
4193 FM 696, Caldwell TX 77836,
979-280-5597

Crosby #28: Vacant*

Austin #32: Vacant*

Pasadena #33: Betty Orsag,
5118 Coventry Ct, Friendswood TX
77546-3001, 281-482-1501

B/CS #34: Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon
Road, Bryan TX 77808-8085, 979-
589-2012, natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

*Contact Natalie Outlaw at
979-589-2012 or
natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

**MUTUAL AID SOCIETY
BOARD MEMBERS**

President: Joseph Polasek, PO Box 54,
Snook TX 77878, 979-272-1624,
josephjpolasek@yahoo.com

Vice President: Daniel Vojtek,
5434 Marcia Lane, Bryan TX 77807,
979-823-4147,
cdvojtek05@yahoo.com

General & Jr. Dept. Secretary:
Natalie Outlaw, 7575 Wixon Road,
Bryan TX 77808-8085, 979-589-2012,
natalieoutlaw@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Ruth Ann Wuensche,
2451 CR 405, Taylor TX 76574,
512-365-3013,
ruthannwuensche@gmail.com

Board Member: Ann Sebesta,
Box 115, Snook TX 77878, 210-244-
3362, sebestaa2015@outlook.com

Board Member: James Marek,
1304 T. H. Johnson Drive, Taylor TX
76574, marek1304@hotmail.com

FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD

Chairman:

Carolyn Groseclose (2023) – (Ocker)
Missionaries invited to join the board
but not as voting members

Alan Haisler – (2019) (BCS)
Jerry Dove – (2019) (Fayetteville)
Rev. Gerry Davis – (2019)
Jon Farrow – (2019) (CCB - Temple)
Connie Janac –(2023) (Snook)
Open Seat

Synodical Committee Liason (1st VP):

Rev. Joe Emerson

MINISTERS BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Liz Ripple, Executive Sec./Treas.
Members: Rev. Mike Groseclose,
Rev. Tim Chaplin, & Rev. Joe Emerson
Synodical Liason - - Rev. Mike
Groseclose (2nd VP)
Ex-officio: Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

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

Dan Merz (2021), Nelsonville
James Marek: (512) 844-8520;
james.Marek@cmbt.bank
Anna Wotipka: (979) 218-9043

Advisors: Rev. Vanessa Mitchell
Synodical Committee Liaison:
Dr. Larry Koslovsky

HUS SCHOOL ENCAMPMENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

*Please send ALL HUS SCHOOL
DONATIONS TO: Susan Marek,
Treasurer – see below for address*

Chairman: Kent Laza (kent.laza@verizon.net), 4913 FM 166, Caldwell, TX 77836;
(979) 220-1957 (2017 – BCS)

Treasurer: Susan Marek (Marek1304@hotmail.com), 1304 T H Johnson Dr.,
Taylor, TX 76574; (512) 352-6165 (2021 –
Taylor)

Member: Rick Weise (2017 – Wall)

Member: Angie Labaj Dolan (2019 – Temple)

Members: Ben Wilde (2021 – Ocker)
Jennifer Chervenka (2017 – Ocker)
Dillon Barbisch – 2023 (Ocker)

Member: Natalie See Kovar – 2023 (Snook)

The Encampment is governed by a Board of Trustees of 8 members. Chairperson is elected by the Convention. Terms: 2 years, may be re-elected/re-appointed for a maximum of 4 terms or 8 years. (Unity of the Brethren By-Laws, Article XIV, Sec C.)

Non-Voting Appointments

Programming Director: Jordan Barbisch
jordanbarbisch@gmail.com

Facilities Manager: Alan Haisler
haislera@ymail.com

Caretakers: OPEN Position

Synodical Committee Oversight:
Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill, Synodical 3rd VP

BRETHREN YOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM 2023-24

Youth Members:

Joanna Chervenka (Ocker)
Jacelyn Chervenka (Ocker)
Riley Green (Snook)
Harper Houser (Wall)

Ryan Dusek (Wall)
Katelyn Zrubek (Taylor)
Anabelle Denise (Ocker)
Alyson Cocke (Taylor)

Adult Members:

Dillon Barbisch (Ocker)
Teresa Cocke (Taylor)
Brady Collard (Wall)
Synodical Committee Liaison: Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill, 3rd VP

Jordan Barbisch (Ocker)
Kayla Marek (Taylor)
Jennifer Chervenka (Youth Coordinator)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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! caldwellbrethrenchurch@gmail.com

– Rev. Joe Emerson

Crosby – 9 AM: Worship
10 AM: Faith Adventure

– Rev. Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Dime Box – Worship at 9 AM every Sunday.

– Rev. Joe Emerson

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.

– Pastor Jose Pantin Mora

Granger – Worship service Sundays, 10 AM.
Bible Study Wednesdays, 5:30 PM.

– Pastor Judy Gotcher

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.

– Rev. 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.

– Rev. 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. Robbie Price

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

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

Joel & Teresa Jelski
Mazkeret Moshe
19
Jerusalem 9431619
Israel

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
James Marek, Board Member
Ann Sebesta, Board Member
Synodical Liaison: Rev. Mike
Groseclose, 2nd Vice-President

HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Chair: Rev. Joe Emerson, (2023)
Alan Haisler – (2019) (BCS)
Jerry Dove – (2019) (Fayetteville)
Rev. Gerry Davis – (2019) (West)
Jon Farrow – (2019) (CCB - Temple)
Connie Janac – (2023) (Snook)
Open Seat

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

President: Rev. Larry Koslovsky, (713) 594-4518
1st Vice President: Rev. Joe Emerson,
(254) 931-1653
2nd Vice President: Rev. Mike Groseclose,
(979) 865-3026
3rd Vice President: Rev. Dr. Jerry Terrill,
(281) 744-1147
Secretary: Loree Lewis,
loreelewis91@gmail.com
Treasurer: Lynette Urbanovsky Shimek, 13795
Alacia Ct., College Station, TX 77845;
(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 77840;
(979) 378-2239, lizripple@hotmail.com
Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Tim Chaplin,
(254) 718-6094
Pastor to Pastors: Rev. Vanessa Mitchell,
(979) 574-0268
Non-Voting Lay Alternate: Jordan Barbisch,
Ocker
Lay Members:
BCS: Alan Haisler, haislera@ymail.com
Buckholts: Charlene Vogelsang,
cakv@hotmail.com
Caldwell: Anna Wotipka,
annawotipka58@gmail.com;
Lynette Shimek;
Crosby: Sharon Nelson, sne1001@msn.com
Dime Box: Peggy Mensik, pbmensik@gmail.com
Fayetteville: Sandra Stepan,
sandrainAustin@yahoo.com
Good Shepherd: Mateo Vargas, email to Delvia:
niro_del@yahoo.com
Granger: No Representative
Houston: Jay Zamora, jdzamora@aldineisd.org
Industry: Harvey Treybig, harvey.treybig@gmail.com
Nelsonville: Jenell Zettel, (979) 203-8390
New Tabor: Jeff Garbs
Ocker: Taylor Brinkley,
taylorlordbrinkley@gmail.com
Rosenberg: Alice Kocurek,
katalice8@gmail.com
Seaton: Leonard Mikeska,
mikeskains@hotmail.com
Snook: Connie Janac, conniejanac@gmail.com;
Loree Lewis
Taylor: Sidney Smensky,
sid@brushycreekfarms.com;
Kayla Marek
Temple: Jim Hiles, jimhiles1959@gmail.com
Wall: Paul Beatty, pbeatty@gmail.com;
Wesley: No Representative
West: Mike James, pswmhJames@gmail.com
Westheimer: No Representative

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. Tim Chaplin, 1326 Starlight Dr.,
Temple TX 76502. (254) 718-6094;
tpch4359@gmail.com

Pastor Brady Collard, 3829 Sandstone Rd.,
San Angelo, TX 76904; 254-229-5217

Rev. Gerald Davis, 1218 La Vega St.,
Waco, TX 76705. (254) 342-9222;
grdwbc20@gmail.com

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

Pastor Judy Gotcher, 18571 St. Hwy 95,
Holland, TX 76534; 254-541-2089

Rev. Michael Groseclose, 352
Nelsonville Church Rd., Bellville, TX
77418. (979) 277-4816

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

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

Pastor Ben Kruse, 11714 Needville
Fairchilds Road, Needville, TX
77461; (713) 376-3646;
krusedadb@yahoo.com

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

Rev Dr. Mark L. Labaj, 3410 Meadow
Creek Ln., Temple, TX 76504.
(254) 742-8333; Baylor Medical Center,
Round Rock, TX, mark.labaj@utexas.edu

Rev. Denise Mikeska, 3894 Apple Cider
Road, Temple, TX 76501.
sbcpastordenise@yahoo.com

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

Pastor Jose Pantin Mora, 2910 S 34th
Street, Port Arthur, TX 77640

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

Rev. Kay Polasek, 1108 Harrisonburg
Lane, College Station, TX 77845.
(979) 220-1289;
revkaypolasek@yahoo.com

Rev. Robbie Price, 3217 Southland Blvd.,
San Angelo, TX 76904
email: rev.robbyprice@gmail.com
cell: 505-715-2003

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

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

Rev. Ryan Volkman, 23242 Hockman
Rd., Defiance, Ohio, 43512, (325)
213-0671; ryvolkman@gmail.com

RETIRED PASTORS

Rev. Linda Von Chandler, 13108 North
Ridge Circle, Leander, TX 78641.
(512) 836-2712

Rev. Curtis Holland, 1017 Southwood,
Waco, TX 76712. (254) 715-0477

Rev. Lawrence Junek, 3316 Lyle,
Waco, TX 76708. (254) 722-4194

Rev. Al Newby, 2210 Forest Trail,
Temple, TX 76502. (254) 778-1860

Rev. Tommy Tallas, 206 Glenmore
Drive, San Angelo, TX 76903.
(325) 656-8558; rev.tjt@gmail.com

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

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE PD
TAYLOR, TX
PERIODICAL

Needed: FRIENDS OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

– from the editor

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

If you wish to become a special FRIEND OF THE BRETHREN JOURNAL, please send your donation to the Business Manager (address inside front cover). These donations are tax deductible.

Send address changes to:

The Brethren Journal, 1108 Harrisonburg Lane, College Station, Texas 77845