

THE BRETHREN



JOURNAL



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32 Pages



**The 2010 Four-Church Fellowship Gathering
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. . . and much more!

THE BRETHREN JOURNAL

EDITOR – Rev. Milton A. Maly
6703 FM 2502
Brenham, TX 77833-9803
(979) 277-2619
miltmaly@mssblue.net

BUSINESS MANAGER –
Cathleen Schlechte
3635 CR 225
Caldwell, TX 77836
schlechte86@msn.com
(979) 255-8266

BUSINESS COMMITTEE –
President: Rev. Joe Emerson
Treasurer: Alice Kocurek
Secretary: Cathleen Schlechte,
Bryan/College Station

CONTRIBUTING WRITER –
Daily Morsels: Dorothy Kocian,
107 S. Barbara, Waco, TX 76705-1317.

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President's Column . . . Claren Kotrla

WOE

Woe to those who call evil good
and good evil, who put darkness for
light and light for dark-
ness, who put bitter for
sweet and sweet for bit-
ter is the warning Isaiah
5: 20 provides.

The word woe is a sad
word associated with
grief, great sorrow, mis-
ery, affliction and trouble.
Therefore, avoiding call-
ing evil good and good evil would
seem to be something everyone would
want to avoid. But that isn't always
true. We each decide what is evil or
good as individuals. Church denomi-
nations, other organizations, or groups
and countries do the same. Recently
it has been obvious that in our coun-
try we are seeing more and more
instances where by most standards
evil is called good and good is called
evil. Unfortunately, many people are
accepting this phenomenon for what
on the surface seem to be good or
valid reasons, or perhaps it is just
apathy.



One of the most insidious examples
of evil being called good is found in
the drug culture of
America. When the ad-
dict takes a drug, that
person feels good, but
the effect on their life is
evil. The drug provides a
short-term sense of eu-
phoria and well being.
However, sometimes the
drug reaction is just the
opposite, where the individual be-
lieves they are being attacked and
covered with spiders or some other
sense of foreboding. Even after a
frightening event such as this, they
will be back again looking for that
short-lived good feeling. They will
not eat, they will steal and will live a
terrible life on the street just to have
that next sense of good that is indeed
evil.

We all know of someone who has
been caught in this evil is good trap
and have seen the lives that are
ruined by it. It ruins the life of the one



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(Unity of the Brethren)

Worship – 10:45 A.M.

Sunday School – 9:30 A.M.



Pastors:

Rev. Henry Beseda
(979) 567-7033

Rev. Rick Chandler
(281) 355-1474

Church Phone – (281) 955-1655

12915 Cypress North Houston
P.O. Box 0233
Cypress, TX 77410-0233

President: Rev. Henry Beseda

who accepts that drugs are good even while they realize it is evil. The addict also ruins the lives of others in their family, others whom they encourage to use drugs, and those from whom they steal or hurt. They not only steal directly, but they steal from society as a whole, requiring additional treatment, police and medical assistance due to their believing that evil is good. Their woe is great, resulting in lifelong pain, inability to find a job or to have loving, long-term relationships.

There is another fad that our children are subject to. It is a game called choking. In this game the young person chokes himself until unconscious. The goal is to receive a brief high. What the kids don't know is they may suffer brain damage or actually die from it. This practice may provide a brief good feeling, but the evil of their brain damage or the evil of losing a child is a woe that is unacceptable.

Society through its actions calls evil something good. For example, just a few months ago Dave Letterman revealed that he had affairs with most of the women on his staff while he was married. His ratings went up. Now most of us would look at the Ten Commandments or any other guidance for society and believe that a married person having multiple affairs with the people who work for you would be a bad idea. Yet his ratings went up and he has been rewarded for his repeated infidelity. That means that more Americans watched his program than before and it appears that he hasn't had any trouble getting guests for his show. In this case, by all moral standards, Americans are calling evil good. What is our woe? Will it be a further degradation of society and acceptance of evil through our apathy? Was his woe the destruction of his marriage although his TV ratings went up?

The final example is one where good is called evil. The Super Bowl accepted a 30-second presentation by 2007 Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow and his mother Pam Tebow. In the presentation, which took place prior to the game, Tim's mother shared the joy of the birth of her son after doctors told her that an abortion would have been in her best interest. At the time, 1987, Bob and Pam Tebow were missionaries in the Philippine's. Fortunately for Tim and many football fans, she chose not to have the abortion, and Tim was born August 14, 1987, in Manila. Tim grew up being home schooled and had a desire to play football. They had moved to Florida, and Florida law allowed home schooled children to play sports in schools in the district where they lived. Tim proved himself a fine ath-

lete in high school and, as we know, distinguished himself in college, playing quarterback for the Florida Gators. This is a good, caring, and heart warming story of how a choice allowed Pam to become a mother. The result of that choice was a child who grew up to be a fine young man and excellent athlete. Among other demonstrations of his character, Tim spent summers before college working with his father at an orphanage in the Philippines.

Yet there are those who call this story evil, and that it shouldn't be shared. There were several "right to choose" groups who pressured CBS not to carry her story and the wonderful outcome of her choice. They claimed that the success story of this Heisman Trophy winner would be



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5th Sunday – Holy Communion

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17454 State Highway 53
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Sunday School 9:00 AM
 Worship 10:15 AM

<p><i>Pastor</i> Rev. Ron Winsman 3112 W. Ave. R Temple, TX 76504 (254) 742-0827 ronwinsman@hotmail.com</p>	<p><i>Elder Board President</i> Bill McGuire 2418 South 49th Temple, TX 76504 (254) 778-2988</p>
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divisive and had no place in a venue where people just wanted to enjoy the game. The point here isn't about a woman's right to choose what she does with her body or not. This is a case where a woman actually made a choice for life and was being castigated by the same people who say that a woman has a right to choose. In this case, those people are calling what by any standard was a good choice an evil choice. The interesting thing about the presentation was that it was not confrontational and most would view it as a great story about a happy family. What is the woe for those who so vehemently opposed just hearing this story? Will it be to pressure women to have an abortion when life could have been the better choice? Perhaps those people won't know the joy of a mother's choice as

did Pam Tebow. Whatever the woe, those who opposed this presentation looked pretty silly.

There are many other examples you can think of where evil is called good or good is called evil. But on a personal level, don't we do the same thing in our everyday life to help explain away our words and actions? It is easy to look at politicians, the media, and the examples above and say I don't do that. What we are seeing are the obvious cases, and these examples are only the tip of the old iceberg. It is easy to see cases where evil is called good in others, but sometimes it is really difficult to see it in ourselves, and then to make the changes necessary to avoid the woe to those of us who don't make the necessary changes.

INVITATION TO THE CHRISTIAN SISTERS' CONVENTION – April 24, 2010

The Executive Committee of the Christian Sisters' Union cordially extends an invitation to all delegates, to all representatives of women's work in the church, to all members of the local Christian Sisters Societies, to all ministers of the Unity, and to all friends of the Christian Sisters' Union to this year's convention. This will be held at the Taylor Brethren Church on April 24, 2010, beginning at 9:00a.m.

The Executive Committee requests that all delegates be present and on time for the opening of the convention, and make arrangements to stay until the convention ends.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., followed by a morning worship service at 9:00 a.m. The memorial service will be held after the noon hour.

Pray with us that this convention will be a blessing to each one who attends.

Mrs. Patsy Blaha, President
Mrs. Janet Pomykal, Vice-President
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Mrs. Evelyn Henry, Treasurer
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Sunday School 10:45 A.M.
Off: 979-693-3606
Hm: 979-779-3634

Four Church Fellowship

- by Bro. Milton & Bro. Mike

In 2008, out of a growing sense of the need for more unity within The Unity, the four Brethren Churches located southwest of Brenham (Fayetteville, Industry, Nelsonville, & Wesley) decided to start having regular fellowship with one another. This fellowship included quarterly joint elders' meetings focusing on keeping one another updated on what was happening within the four congregations and identifying ways that each could help the others, worship services in October lead by the Nelsonville/Wesley BYF, and, most importantly, a joint worship fellowship centering on hymn singing/praise and prayer. The first worship fellowship was held at Nelsonville in August 2008, and the second was held at Fayetteville in February 2009.

On Saturday, February 6, 2010, 50 individuals from all four congregations gathered at Wesley for the third annual 4 Church Fellowship. A wonderful time of worship was enjoyed by all on what was a most beautiful day. Following a tradition established at Fayetteville last year, the group enjoyed a chili supper provided by

the Wesley Congregation and prepared by the Wesley Men's Brotherhood after the time of worship. A free-will donation was taken up at the meal and we are happy to report that \$349 was collected for the State BYF. Although the attendance was not quite what we had hoped for, the sense of Unity that has developed over the past two years between the four congregations from these endeavors is very encouraging. Everyone is already looking forward to next year's fellowship, which will be held at Industry.

While we still have a way to go in regard to reaching the full potential that is out there in so far as unity goes, we have made a great start. The results include the development of relationships/friendships between the folks of the four congregations, an understanding that we are not in this alone, and that we can help and support each other. But, even more importantly, that we are willing to help and support one another to not only put unity back into The Unity, but to truly be the Unity of The Brethren in our neck of the woods.

THE BUCKHOLTS BRETHREN CHURCH

606 N. 4th Street
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Worship 9 AM
Study 10:30 AM
(No service on
fifth Sunday.)



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

In Christ's Love . . . from the Mission Field

From the Woos...

God is doing Great things here, and we are so excited to be a small part of it.

Regarding...

Our helper: She is soaking up the Bible. We study with her every day, which helps our language, and it helps her to learn, too. She is like a sponge. She still has not gone to visit her family to share, but we are praying for this.

Her husband: As you know, she recently married a Chinese man. We are praying for her to have Chinese language lessons twice a week. I shared with him when they gave us their wedding invitation, and we also gave him many tracks and movies. This past week we took him and our helper to a local believing Chinese group that we are friends with. The pastor there shared clearly in the husband's own language, and he again decided to pray and receive the Lord. That night he told his mother and brother and shared the movies with them. She asked him if he was scared to go to hell, and he said why should I be

scared when God loves me and will help me to heaven. Our helper is SO excited. PTL.

Last Sunday: We live in a unique situation. Here in our country there are few believers among the people we serve. But right across the border, like 10 minutes away, there are several churches among our people. They have been there for hundreds of years. They have been scared to reach out to their own people. Last Sunday, Michael went across the border with our helper to her church. For a year now they have been reaching out to the local people, their own people, the Dai people. After their service, they all go to a home for lunch and Bible study. They have invited the village to come. They have it at a different home each Sunday. Last Sunday it was right across from the village Buddhist temple, and about 50 non-believing Dai grandmas and grandpas, sitting around eating, talking, and listening to the Bible study. They LOVE it. The stories are great and they love to have community things like this and eat food together. But



TAYLOR BRETHREN CHURCH

Seventh Street at Sloan in Taylor, Texas
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 351, Taylor, TX 76574
512-352-6423

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

Pastor
James D. Hejl
512-365-6890

President
Larry Kotrla
512-863-4965

Secretary
Mary Kokes
M-Th 8:00 am-noon

since they have started this, none of them have believed. Please pray a blessing on these dear brothers and sisters reaching out to their own people and for the Holy Spirit to come upon those that hear.

English in our home: The little girl of the village that we like to go to is out of school for Chinese new year break. For the past 4 days she and her grandmother have come into the city to live with relatives. Every day they come to our home and we teach the little girl English. It's boring for the grandmother just to sit their for 2 hours, so we pick that time to teach our helper, and the grandma is right their listening and getting into it. We love this family. They will do this for the next few months of Chinese New year break.

POWER: The Dai can understand the message and like it and think JC is a great guy, but they don't come to Him. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to come, for them to dream dreams about

JC, for miracles to happen, for people to be healed and delivered from demons, all for HIS glory.

Thanks for being a part of this work, We love you guys.

Caroline, for the Woos

From the Thiessens.... (two letters)

Baptism Matters, But How and Why?

Dear friends,

When was the last time you thought about your baptism? In the last 48 hours, that's been the hot topic in seven separate conversations. The best news is that the couple we asked you to pray for in our last letter, Gerardo and Yasli, is getting baptized! Yay! In fact, we will be baptizing three new believers tomorrow in that familiar swimming pool of cold water.

Gerardo and Yasli bring up an interesting theological question. What do you do about people who have

"said the Sinner's Prayer" but refuse to obey the command of Christ to identify with Him in baptism? Are they believers? Are they part of the Church? Yasli and Gerardo took a year to choose baptism, and during this time we called them seekers, not believers, but this caused some tension as we excluded them from the Lord's Supper and church leadership. We have several visitors in this same situation.

In mission situations there are, roughly speaking, two camps when it comes to offering baptism to new, adult believers. One immediately baptizes new believers, while the other waits, testing for true repentance. The first camp roots itself in the stories of Acts, the idea of unearned grace, and the images of birth into a family and marriage to the Bridegroom. The second camp desires holiness and purity in the Body of Christ, proof of repentance, and uncheapered grace.

By far, the second group has dominated in missions. Anne's father was a pioneer of the first camp, welcoming new members immediately in baptism. Today most cross-cultural church planters filtering out Western traditions have moved over to more immediate baptism as they disciple new leaders

in the spontaneous reproduction of churches.

In our experience, the quandary of what to do with those who are living between repentance and baptism is resolved by offering immediate baptism as the seal, the confirmation of repentance and faith. We don't put any barriers around baptism, but truly leave it as their choice, their own demonstration of true repentance and faith. They may have many reasons for waiting, some quite valid, in which case we continue to love them and give what we can. But what assurance can we give them if this simple obedience is still too much?

What do you think, and why? Could it make a difference in North America, too?

Above all, join us in giving thanks for the three friends taking this step tomorrow.

Blessings, Robert and Anne

* * *

Dear friends,

Do any of you remember that movie *The Dead Poet Society*? Remember how Robin Williams' character, the school teacher, shows his students how hard it is *not* to fall into step with the crowd? Remember how he entices them to think for themselves and to



CALDWELL BRETHREN CHURCH
401 South Main Street
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Sunday School
9:30 AM
Sunday Worship
10:30 AM

Jim Heckman, Pastor
(512) 446-6962
jimheckman@clergy.net

Welcome

To communicate with the Hus Encampment . . .

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

Dawn Marie Baletka
600 Benchmark Drive
College Station, TX 77845
(979) 777-9940 or (979) 693-2710
BaletkaD@navasotaisd.org

**This must be done well in advance.*

encourage dialogue about the classics? I hadn't thought about this movie for a long time. But recently, believe it or not, it popped into a conversation with a woman who has just recently joined our church.

After just a few visits, this new friend, Maggie, was explaining why she joined. She had been wounded by a former church experience that had taught her never to question the leaders, never to think out Scripture for herself, never to step outside the boundaries the church laid out for her. She had always thought she was dirty, second-rate, tainted, because she couldn't fall into perfect step with the leader's wishes. She spent her time in that church feeling condemned. This kind of church would sound like a cult to us, but unfortunately for some Oaxacans, it is their only church model.

Maggie, after prayer in one of our Thursday night women's prayer times, exclaimed to me, "You guys are really

a Dead Poet Society!" After recovering from my surprise that this woman would even remember this American movie and think to apply it to a *church*, of all things, I tried to imagine what she meant. I think she might be referring to the way anyone can interrupt the speaker on Sunday morning to make a comment or ask a question. Maybe she was referring to the way we have a large group of people involved in teaching. Or maybe it's the lack of rules posted on the walls or the lack of emphasis on the things people ought *not* to do. Maybe it's the way a group of women can pray freely for each other from the heart.

Natan just said to us today, "This church is a jewel. It has so much to offer." And my friend Gisela said, "Every time we meet, I come back so encouraged, so refreshed!" I know just what she means. But here's the rub. We have a good thing going. But it is too easy for us to get comfortable with what we have and not reach out.

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For information please contact one of the following:

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 Cypress, TX 77433
 (281) 373-4376

John David Skrivaneck
Secretary
 P.O. Box 1606
 Bellaire, TX 77402
 (713) 626-0522

We are a very social group: meeting, eating, and socializing together at the drop of a hat. We are good at that. But we are not growing as we should, and we need to get out of our wonderful Dead Poet Society and take it to all the other Oaxacans who have nowhere to go.

Please thank God for us for His goodness to our church, our Dead Poet Society, our Resurrected Saviour Society. But ask Him to help us

share this goodness with more and more of the Oaxacans around us. That is what we are all here for!

P.S.: Also thank God that my friend Yasli is going to be baptized in two weeks! Pray her husband Gerardo will join her in baptism. He struggles with alcoholism, but wants to follow God, too. Pray as we counsel them as couple, and pray that they would take this step as a family.

Blessings, Anne and Robert

Seaton Brethren Church

12561 State Highway 53, Temple, Texas 76501

(254) 985-2694

Sunday Schedule

9:15 a.m.
 Prayer
 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School for ALL Ages
 10:30 a.m.
 Worship

Wednesday Schedule

5:30 p.m.
 Wednesday Night Meal
 6:30 p.m.
 KiD's ZoNe (ages 3 – 5th gr.)
 Priority ONE Youth (6th gr. – 12th gr.)
 & Adult Bible Study
 7:30 p.m.
 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Rev. Joe Emerson, Pastor

P.O. Box 4615, Temple, TX 76505
 (254) 791-0420 hm (254) 931-1653 cell sbcpastorjoe@yahoo.com

Denise Mikeska, Associate Pastor

409 East Upshaw, Temple, TX 76501
 (254) 742-0890 hm (254) 721-7340 cell dkaym@hotmail.com

Steve Davis, Youth Pastor

P.O. Box 658, Rogers, TX 76569
 (254) 913-1214 cell sdejddavis@netscape.net

Dolores Skrabanek, Board of Elders Chair.

13107 State Highway 53, Temple, TX 76501
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We Do **LIFE** Together

UNITY OF THE BRETHREN SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY



Saturday, February 27, 2010
8:30am-4:00pm
Cost \$15.00

Schedule of Events:

8:30-9:00 - Registration &
Continental Breakfast
9:00-10:00 - Worship
10:00-10:15 - Break
10:15-11:30 - Session 1
11:30-12:30 - Lunch
12:30- 1:45 - Session 2
1:45- 2:00 - Break
2:00- 3:15 - Session 3
3:15- 3:30 - Break
3:30- 4:00 - Closing

There will be age-guided breakout sessions focusing on curriculum, teaching strategies, missions, outreach, and fellowship. VBS information from several publishers will also be available for your viewing throughout the day. It is recommended that each church send at least one representative for children, youth, and adults.

Form & Fee Due: February 12, 2010
Available at: www.unityofthebrethren.org

Mail to:
Jennifer Chervenka
9494 Big Elm Creek Rd.
Rogers, TX 76569

For More information contact:
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Our work continues with studying the names of Jesus. We continue with **"The Lamb of God" (John 1:29).**

As we continue with the names of Jesus, our verse for March is John 1:29, "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world'." Referring to Jesus as a Lamb gives insight into His character-He is gentle and meek, and most importantly innocent of any wrongdoing. Calling Jesus the Lamb of God would have significant meaning for the Jews. In the Old Testament, a lamb was sacrificed to pay for their sins and renew their relationship with God. With Jesus as the willing sacrifice for our sins, He replaced the old covenant with a new and better covenant. By faith, believing and accepting Jesus as your Savior pays the price for sin. This is a basic principle of our faith that we can share early on with kids.



*See the Unity of the
Brethren website for
the online version!*

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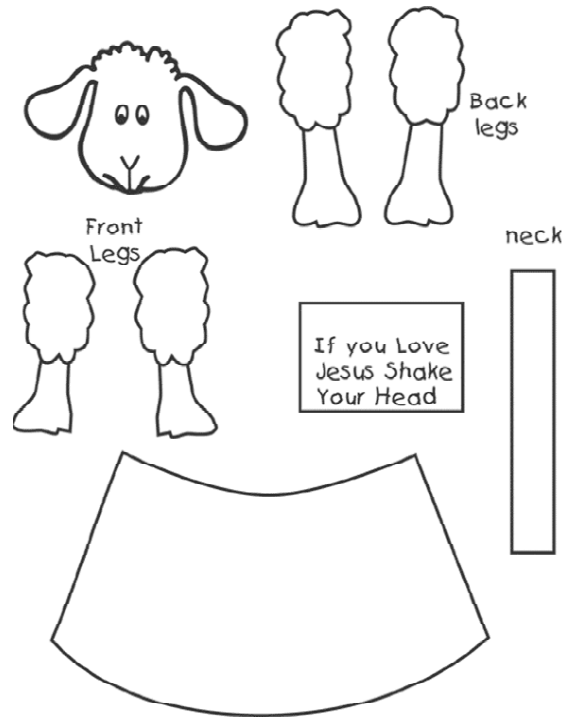
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 Cut out the pieces.
 Glue body piece to form a cone.
 Glue cotton ball son the legs and head.
 Glue arms and legs to the sheep's body.
 Glue the sign to the sheep's mouth.
 Fan fold the neck and attach it to the inside of
 the top of the cone. Glue the head to the other
 end. The head will shake when you move the
 sheep.

Annual Christian Sisters Bazaar, 2nd Saturday in September
The Rosenberg Brethren Church
Christian Sisters
 5220 Reading Road, Rosenberg, Texas 77471

Teen Cabana



The sacrificial system of the Old Testament was meant to point inward, upward and forward. It pointed inward to convince you of your sinfulness. If you were honest before God then you would soon realize that you could never make enough sacrifices for your sin. It pointed upward to make you trust in God for your salvation instead of sacrifices that you could make (Psalm 51:16,17). It pointed forward to the ultimate sacrifice of the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, who would someday come to take away the sin of the world (John 1:29). When Jesus came to the earth he came as the fulfillment of the law (Matthew 5:17) and the ultimate sacrifice (Luke 24:45). He lived the perfect life that we could not live and died in our place, for our sin. When he died upon the cross he screamed the words "It is finished" (John 19:30). What he meant by these three words was that the price for our sins was paid completely. He was fully God and entirely man. As a perfect human he could die for other humans. As the true and living God his payment for sin was infinite.

“Mission Makeover”... Mission Accomplished

A Report from Jennifer Chervenka, State Youth Coordinator



**Winter Youth Retreat
Participants dressed for a Soup Kitchen Meal**

The theme for the Winter Youth Retreat was “Mission Makeover.” 45 youth and 12 adults were filled with the Spirit as we worked together in Christian service. We learned that the Lord has gifted us. He has given us special interests, experiences, relationships, and talents, and He wants us to use those for His service. Not just by giving to the needy and volunteering for projects, but each and every day. He wants all of us, all the time, sharing His love and sharing His Gospel.

The youth were involved not only in learning about service, but also in several outreach projects. 12 boxes were filled for 6 soldiers who are currently deployed, 36 goody bags were created for children at Fibi’s home in the B/CS area, and many beautiful valentines were created for veterans. Thank you to everyone who donated to these projects. Many

people are going to be touched.

Special thanks to John Brinkley for sharing eyeballs and his testimony about Sattilo, Mexico. He encourages us to step out in faith to use our talents to help others. Thanks also to Laurie Griggs for sharing about missions and missionaries around the world. It is important to know that the interests we have and our natures are God-given, and that He has a plan for us to use them. Thank you also to Brother Jim Heckman for sharing about local missions. Mission efforts are around the world, but sometimes those most in need are right next door. We are God’s servants, and it is important that we help all of our neighbors in need.

We have been equipped for His mission. Our challenge is to take that step in faith and reach out to those around us.

Thoughts about giving...

Remembering the Unity of the Brethren or any of its ministries is a fitting testimony of your belief. Your gift in a will can be a legacy that continues to affect the Christian values, mission, and ministry that is important to you.

You can give without restrictions and let us use the funds for the most pressing needs or you can specify how, when, or where you want the funds used.

You can require that we hold the principle as an endowment and use only the earnings each year.

You can give in memory or in the honor of someone.

Your gift can be contingent. The funds go to someone if they survive you and if not, then to the Unity.

You can tell us now that you have named the Unity in your will and allow us to express our gratitude...or you can let it be known later.

There are many other ways to give. Contact any Board of Grants and Bequests member about what you can give and how you can give.

Guy Huffman . . .

cpaguy@cpaguy.com ph: (979) 567-4974

Frank McKay III . . .

mckayfrank@aol.com ph: (281) 424-5126

Ronald Dusek

rdusekdds@aol.com ph: (979) 567-3732

Dewyan Weise . . . ph: (325) 651-8550

Upcoming Youth Activities ..

State Youth Fishing Retreat, Port O'Connor, Texas
Friday, April 30-Sunday, May 3
 Registration Deadline: Friday, April 2
 Forms available at
www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com
 or by contacting Jennifer Chervenka

Saturday, March 6: Praise Parade
 Children's Rally at Hus School
 Encampment

Friday, April 2: Registration
 Deadline for Youth Fishing
 Retreat

Friday, April 23-Sunday, April 25:
 Camp Planning Retreat for all
 camp staff. Contact
kcstew@austin.rr.com

Friday, April 30-Sunday, May 2:
 State Youth Fishing Retreat at
 Port O'Connor

Wednesday, June 30: Annual youth
 reports due for all congregations

Friday, July 10: Summer Retreat
 Registration Deadline

Saturday, July 24-Sunday, July 25th: BYF Retreat, Convention,
 and Volleyball Tournament

Saturday, November 20-Sunday, November 21: BYF Fall Retreat

BYF Leadership Team

Taylor Brinkley, 119 CR 3000, Lott, TX 76656; wphalia@ctwa.com
 Brittany Coots, 926 FM 437, Burlington, TX 76519; brittanyacoots@yahoo.com
 Monique Duron, 1613 Southwest Pkwy, College Station, TX 77840; cuteesti101@aol.com
 Sarah Holik, 13809 S. US Hwy 87, Wall, TX 76957; saholik@aol.com
 Mary Jones, PO Box 212, Wall, TX 76959; gkjone@wcc.net
 Christina Kirby, 1366 FM 437, Burlington, TX 76519; meekofreko13@aol.com
 Kathryn Laza, 13858 Apricot Glen, College Station, TX 77845; guardian.angel14@verizon.net
 Chris Stauffer, 9206 Sunlake Court, College Station, TX 77845; ChrisStauffer011@gmail.com
 Megan Stauffer, 9206 Sunlake Court, College Station, TX 77845; Megan_Stauffer@baylor.edu
 Emily Surovik, 535 CR 208, Caldwell, TX 77836; emilysurovik@gmail.com
 Ryan Surovik, 535 CR 208, Caldwell, TX 77836; ryansurovik@gmail.com

State Youth Coordinator:

Jennifer Chervenka, 9494 Big Elm Creek Rd., Rogers, TX 76569; jennchervenka@farm-market.net

Pastoral Advisor:

Rev. Bill Rinderknecht, 19 Brandenberry Court, The Woodlands, TX 77381
williamr90@aol.com

Advisors:

Angie Hairrell, 11482 FM 2155, Somerville, TX 77879; Hairrell@dishmail.net
 Dave Love, 3829 Terry Trail, San Angelo, TX 76905; dlove@suddenlink.net
 Albert Surovik, 535 CR 208, Caldwell, TX 77836; albertsurovik@gmail.com
 Anna Wotipka, Treasurer, 652 CR 324, Caldwell, TX 77836; awotipka@caldwell.k12.tx.us



YOUTH FISHING RETREAT

At Port O'Connor, Texas

Friday, April 30-Sunday, May 2

Retreat Fee: \$60

This fee includes lodging, food, and all of the supplies for fishing. You are responsible for your food and snacks while traveling, and a salt-water fishing license (ages 17 & older).

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 9th

There are a limited number of spots available. This is a first come first serve retreat! Get your forms turned in as soon as possible. Forms available at www.unityofthebrethrenyouth.com.

Mail forms, rules, and \$60 registration fee to:

Jennifer Chervenka
 9494 Big Elm Creek Rd.
 Rogers, TX 76569

(Make checks payable to Unity of the Brethren)

If you would like to be a guide and provide the use of your boat, or provide lodging, or if you have any questions, please contact:
 Jennifer Chervenka: jennchervenka@farm-market.net; 254-983-1002

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COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday School – 9:30 AM; Worship – 10:45 AM
 Bible Buddies – 2nd Wednesday, 6:00-7:30 PM

Pastor

Rev. Joseph Polasek
 4241 Blue Heron
 Bryan, TX 77807
 (979) 779-3634

Board of Elders President

Rayfield Slovacek
 P.O. Box 267
 Snook, TX 77878
 (979) 272-8845

Youth Directors

Randall & Jonna See
 P.O. Box 345
 Snook, TX 77878

It's Time to Sign Up for Camp!

(by program director Kimberly Stewart)

Attention Parents, Grandparents, Uncles and Aunts! It is time to sign your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews up for the Hus Encampment's summer camps! The directors have been hard at work to develop great camps this summer. Now all they need are all the children who will attend!

Please note there have been a few changes in prices and deadlines this summer. You can get a really good deal if you make your plans and send in your registration by April 15th!

Mark your calendar now, if you haven't already, and make a note to get your forms in by the deadline.

Forms are available at your church and online at the Unity's website (www.unityofthebrethren.org). Please be sure to include your completed form with all signatures, your payment, and a copy of your insurance card. These will be mailed to Cathleen Schlechte at 3635 CR 225, Caldwell, TX 77836.

*****Special Notice for Hus School-age (or soon to be) campers***** Summers are busy for high school students and we want you to be able to make your plans for this summer and in the future. Hus School, three-weeks of further Christian development and leadership training, will be held every-other-year. (even years) The odd year summers will offer a one-week Senior High Conference. This summer, 2010, the three-week Hus School Program will be available for those 15 years-old and up. Next summer, 2011, there will be a one-week Senior High Conference.

2010 Camp Dates:

Alpha Camp	June 13 – 15
Pioneer Conference	June 20 - 25
Discovery Conference	June 27 - July 2
Hus School	July 5 (Mon.) – July 23

DEADLINES & FEE STRUCTURE:

Deadline	Date	Alpha	Pioneer/Discovery	Hus School
Early Bird	By April 15	\$175	\$250	\$550
Deadline	By May 1	\$225	\$300	\$600
Late Registration	By May 15	\$250	\$325	\$625
Space Available	After May 15	\$275	\$350	\$650

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

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Summer Camp Counselors

- by Kimberly Stewart

Are you 19 years old or older? Are you looking for something fun and exciting to do this summer? Do you love kids, outdoors, sports, singing, learning about God, and having fun? Then there is a spot waiting for you in the summer camping program at the Hus Encampment!

Directors put together great camps. Kids sign up and attend. Counselors make camp work!!! Counselors are the connection that the campers have with the camp experience. Won't you be a part of the fun?

If you are interested in being a counselor and haven't been approached yet, please contact Kimberly Stewart, 512-846-2925, kcstew@austin.rr.com for a staff application and information on open positions. (An application process and background check is required of each staff member.)

Some helpful info:

- Counselors need to be 19 years old (Counselors-in-Training should be 16). Counselors should love God

and young people, have an energy level to keep up with 6-7 campers day and night, have a huge capacity to serve others, have good leadership skills, and be comfortable leading others (given material) in small group discussions.

- New Counselor Training will be April 23-25 (Friday evening 8 PM to Sunday afternoon 1 PM) at the Hus Encampment. This is for anyone who has never been a counselor or who might want a refresher course.

- Camp Planning Day – when all directors and staff gather to assign duties, go over the theme and direction of the camp, get to know each other, etc. – will be April 24, beginning at 9:00 AM. *This day also includes state required training that all staff members must complete before serving at the camp.*

- Day Before Camp – The Sunday afternoon when camp begins is busy and full of preparation for the arrival of the campers. Directors request staff



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to gather on Saturday, the day before camp begins, for a variety of reasons. This gives staff a chance to get in and get settled in their rooms, time to set up special interest areas, time to get to know each other, time to go over any changes or additions since camp planning day, and time to break from the busy-ness of life and get ready for the awesome week ahead.

• During Camp – (short list). Counselors should be available to welcome parents and campers, help get campers settled in the room, guide and direct his/her campers, be aware and involved in all that they do, lead an activity or two, lead a small group, actively help with dorm and kitchen

duties, be there for the campers, actively participate in camp activities, lead devotionals and prayers, help campers in leadership/participation roles, be a role model, and assist the camper on his/her walk with Christ.

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Pastor: Rev. Thomas Tallas
Home: 325-949-7543 Cell: 656-8558
Home: rev.tjt@verizon.net
Church: rev.tjt@zipnet.us
www.wallbrethrenchurch.org

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

President
Dewyan Weise
325-651-8550

Youth Director
David Love
325-656-8363

Secretary
Jonnie Smith
Tu-F-8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Schedule and Details of Upcoming Unity Activities

Keep these activities in your prayers.

March 27: Spring Synodical Committee meeting at the Hus Encampment.

April 24: Christian Sisters' Convention at the Taylor Brethren Church.

(see the Youth Activities Schedule in the Youth Section)

And, looking ahead . . . Summer 2010 Camp Schedule

Alpha Camp	June 13-15
Pioneer Conference	June 20-25
Discovery Conference	June 27-July 2
Hus School	July 5 (Mon.)-July 23

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Tami Laza, tami.laza@verizon.net
Kim Ulmer, kimulmer@mail.ecpi.com

Temple Brethren Church
2202 Birdcreek Drive
Temple, Texas 76502
(254) 778-8759
tbc@hotmail.com

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

Pastor Larry Zabcik
(254) 718-8898
zabcikville@hotmail.com

DAILY BIBLE READING GUIDE

Daily Morsels for March 2010

Dorothy E. Kocian

1. I wait for the Lord, and in His word I put hope. Ps. 130:5
2. In the Lord's hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind. Job 12:10
3. The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. Titus 2:11
4. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives. Titus 2:12
5. "The Lord is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." 2 Pet. 3:9
6. "Turn to Me and be saved, all you ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is no other." Isa. 45:22
7. **Salvation comes from the Lord. Jonah 2:9**
8. Our Redeemer, the Lord Almighty is His name, is the Holy One of Israel. Isa. 47:4
9. "I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you." Isa. 48:17
10. Christ redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Jesus Christ. Gal. 3:14
11. In the past God overlooked ignorance, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent. Acts 17:30
12. In Christ we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sin, in accordance with the riches of God's grace. Eph. 1:7
13. Those who cling to worthless idols forfeit the grace that could be theirs. Johah 2:8
14. **The Lord Himself will redeem His people form their sins. Ps. 130:8**
15. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. Deut. 6:5
16. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Rom. 12:12
17. Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Rom. 12:9
18. Jesus said, "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you." Jn. 15:12
19. Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations. Rom. 12:18
20. My child, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Prov. 6:20
21. **Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Ruth 1:16**
22. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Gal. 5:24
23. Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other. Gal. 5:26
24. For the Lord will be your confidence, and will keep your foot from being snared. Prov. 3:26
25. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever. Daniel 12:3
26. Do not despise the Lord's discipline or be weary of His reproof. Prov. 3:11
27. Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. Rom. 3:22
28. **There is only one God, who will justify the circumcised (Jews) by faith and the uncircumcised (Gentiles) by that same faith. Rom. 3:30**
29. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make straight Your ways before me. Ps. 5:8
30. The Lord is gracious and righteous; our God is full of compassion. Ps. 116:5
31. By God's great mercy He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Pet. 1:3

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VITAL STATISTICS

RECENT BAPTISMS

KATHERINE RENEE SKINNER, daughter of James and Rita Skinner, born on December 4, 2004, was baptized on March 13, 2005, at the West Brethren Church. Sponsors: Gary and Michele Krueger. Minister: Curtis Holland.

DAISHA LANAI DIENJUSTE, daughter of Jean Dienjuste and Jakiya Purce, born on June 13, 2007, was baptized on August 26, 2007, at the Good News Fellowship of Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Shahzia Hashmi and Tenise Billings. Minister: James E. Henry.

HARMONI AUBREY BOWERS, daughter of Terry Bowers and Vestal Henry, born on January 31, 2007, in West Palm Beach, Florida, was baptized on August 26, 2007, at Good News Fellowship Church of the Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Genna and Balford Ellison, Pedro Martinez, and Bonnie McDonald. Minister: James. E. Henry.

KIMANI MARIE WALTER, son of Margarita Gomez and Jose Walter, born on December 11, 2008, in Fort Lauderdale, was baptized on March 29, 2009, at Good News Fellowship Church of the Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Raily Bonust, Guillermo Fluetes, Yacira Castillo, and Diania Vasquez. Minister: James E. Henry.

FALENE MULLER, daughter of James Smith and Marlyn Muller, born on February 24, 1994, in West Palm Beach, Florida, was baptized on March 29, 2009, at Good News

Fellowship Church of the Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Raily Bonust, Barbara Bonust, Emiklio McLean, Yolanda McLean, and Doreen Ellis. Minister: James E. Henry.

KELSEY BONUST, daughter of Raily Bonust and Jamie Ashe, born on December 28, 1994 born in Belle Glade, Florida, was baptized on March 29, 2009, at Good News Fellowship Church of the Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Leslie Henriquez, Luna Henriquez, Emilio and Yolanda McLean, Barbara Rodney, Marlyn Muller, Patricia Casey, and Marlyn Henriquez. Minister: James E. Henry.

ZACHARY JAMES SKINNER, son of James and Rita Skinner, born December 2, 2008,, was baptized on August 30, 2009 at the West Brethren Church. Sponsors: The West Brethren Church Family. Minister: Curtis Holland.

HALEY BONUST, daughter of Raily Bonust and Jamie Ashe, born on September 24, 1997, was baptized on March 29, 2009, at Good News Fellowship Church of the Palm Beaches, Florida. Sponsors: Leslie Henriquez, Luna Henriquez, Emilio and Yolanda McLean, Barbara Rodney, Marlyn Muller, Patricia Casey, and Marlyn Henriquez. Minister: James E. Henry.

MEMBERS RECEIVED

At the Ocker Brethren Church by Reaffirmation of Faith:

January 3 - RENE GREEN

January 17 - JEREMY and CINDY WENTRCEK

January 24 - JAMES and MILDRED WENTRCEK

RECENT WEDDINGS

HENRIQUEZ-BONUST. Raily Gene Bonust and Barbara Ann Henriquez were joined in marriage at Good News Fellowship of the Palm Beaches, Florida, on February 7, 2009. Minister: James E. Henry.

HINZE-JANOVSKI. Mrs. Andrea Hinze of the Nelsonville Brethren Church was married to Cliff Janovski on November 14, 2009, at the Lillian Farms Bed and Breakfast at Chappell Hill, Texas. Witnesses: Melissa Glenewinkle and Cody Jankowski. Minister: Michael Groseclose.

The Rosenberg Brethren Church

5220 Reading Road
Rosenberg, TX 77471
(281) 342-3060

Sunday School 9:00 AM
Worship Service 10:30 AM
Wednesday Eve. 5:30 PM
Prayer Service and Bible Study

Bro. Larry Butcher
3030 Prescott, Houston, TX 77025
(713) 299-4813 (Home)
Youth Minister: Debbie Gloria

MILLER-VOSHALIKE. Miss Kathy Miller of the Fayetteville Brethren Church was married to Billy Earl Voshalike on December 21, 2009, at the Las Brisas Event Center near Fayetteville. Witnesses: Mrs. Julia Battle and Mr. Allen Smith. Ministers: Henry Beseda, Jr. and Milton Maly.

RECENT DEATHS

SEBESTA, ELVIS E. (LISKA), age 94 and a member of the Rosenberg Brethren Church, died December 7, 2009. She was born on October 30, 1915, near Bleiberville in Austin County, and was married to Frank Sebesta on October 21, 1939, at the Rosenberg Brethren Church. Mrs. Sebesta is survived by 3 sons and daughters-in-law, 3 grandchildren, and 1 sister. Services were on December 10, 2009, at Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Chapel in Rosenberg with burial at Greenlawn Memorial Park in Rosenberg. Minister: Bro. Larry Butcher.

SYPTAK, VLASTA HERMINA (MACAT), age 91 and for years a member of the Nelsonville Brethren Church, died November 14, 2009, at Nelsonville, Texas. She was born October 1918 at Nelsonville, and was married to Johnnie Syptak on September 11, 1934. Mrs. Syptak is survived by 2 children, 5 grandchildren, 1 sister, and 3 great-grandchildren. Services were on November 17, 2009, from the Nelsonville Brethren Church with burial in National Cemetery. Minister: Michael Groseclose.

REK, EDITH F., age 87, died on December 24, 2009, in La Grange. She was born on September 12, 1922, to Ed Louis Hruska and Frances Zabcik Hruska of Fayetteville. Mrs. Hruska is survived by 3 daughters, 6 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren. Funeral Services were held on December 27 at Fayette Memorial Chapel and burial was at the La Grange City Cemetery. Minister: Milton Maly.

VAJDAK, ELLA MARIE JUNEK, age 92, a member of the Houston Brethren Church, died on December 9, 2009, at College Station, Texas. Born December 7, 1917, at Merle, Texas, to John and Mary (Nedbalek) JuneK, she married Walter Vajdak on October 8, 1940. Mrs. Vajdak was a faithful, serving, and many-talented church member.

Mrs. Vajdak is survived by a son and 3 grandchildren. Services were on December 12, 2009, from the Snook Brethren Church with burial in the Snook Cemetery. Ministers: Henry Beseda Jr. and Lawrence JuneK.

SPRINGER, JOHN WILLIAM, age 86, passed away January 29, 2010, in Caldwell. He was born on March 6, 1923, to Frank and Myrtle Springer of Killeen, Texas. He was a longtime resident of Caldwell, and married Jacqueline on December 27, 1975. John was a member of the Caldwell Brethren Church. He also was member of the American Legion, the VFW and was in the VFW Honor Guard. John is survived by his wife, 1 son, his 3 stepchildren, a sister, 6 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, and numerous nephews and nieces. Services were held at Strickland Funeral Home, Caldwell, TX, and internment at Masonic Cemetery in Caldwell. Minister: Rev. Jim Heckman.

TIPPITT, JOYCE LYNETTE, 71, of Caldwell passed away January 29, 2010. Joyce was born January 29, 1939, and was married to Ernest Herman Tippitt on January 25, 1988. Joyce was a member of the Caldwell Brethren Church and enjoyed her time spent as a Christian Sister. Joyce is survived by a daughter, 2 brothers, 2 grandsons; and 1 great-grandchild, and many nieces and nephews. Services were held on February 2, 2010, at Strickland Funeral Home with interment at the Masonic Cemetery in Caldwell.

BLAHA, MILLIE, age 94, died on January 10, 2010. She was born near Caldwell on February 17, 1915, to Joe Jerry and Trezie Kristoff Dusek. She married Joe Blaha in 1934. Survivors include 3 children, 1 sister, 2 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Services were held on January 13, 2010 with burial at the San Antonio Prairie Cemetery.

SHIPLEY, MARY CAROLYN JUNEK, age 66 and a member of the Temple Brethren Church, died on January 30, 2010, at Copperas Cove. She was born January 25, 1944, to Ernest J. and Anna Hegar JuneK in Hillsboro and is survived by one brother, Rev. Lawrence J. JuneK of Waco, and one sister, Elizabeth J. Pittman of Beaumont. Services were on February 6, 2010, at the Temple Brethren Church with burial at the Seaton Cemetery. Minister: Larry Zabcik.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Austin – Bible Study at 10:00 AM
Worship at 11:00 AM.
– Rev. Linda Chandler

Bryan-College Station – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday.
– Visiting Ministers

Buckholts – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday except the 5th Sunday.
Holy Communion on 1st Sunday.
Guest speaker on 4th Sunday.
– Rev. John Kueker

Caldwell – Sunday School at 9:30 AM, worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
Bible Study on Tuesday at 10:30 AM.
– Rev. Jim Heckman

Crosby –
Sunday – 9:00 AM: Worship
10:00 AM: Faith Adventure
11:00 AM: Celebration
– Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Cy-Fair Community Church – worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays – Rev. Rick Chandler
2nd & 4th Sundays – Rev. Henry Beseda
– Rev. Henry Beseda

Dime Box – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Jim Heckman

Faith Brethren in Bryan – Sunday School – 9:30 AM; Worship – 10:45 AM.
– Pastor Kay Polasek

Fayetteville – Sunday School at 9:30 AM, worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Milton Maly

Good News Fellowship Church of West Palm Beaches – worship at 1:00 PM every Sunday at First Presbyterian Church, Boynton Springs, Florida.
– Rev. James Henry

Good Shepherd Moravian – worship at 11:30 AM and 6:30 PM every Sunday.
– Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez

Granger – worship services every Sunday at 9:00 AM; Sunday School at 10:15 AM.
1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sunday – Rev. Charles Amos, Rev. Whitney Amos
4th & 5th Sunday – Mark Sebek

Houston – Sunday School at 9:15 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday.
– Visiting Ministers

Industry – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday with Sunday School for all ages following.
– Rev. Milton Maly

Nelsonville – Sunday School at 9:00 AM
Worship at 10:15 AM
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

New Tabor – Sunday School at 9:30 AM & Worship at 10:30 AM every Sunday, “Tune Up” on Wednesdays, 7:30 PM.
– Rev. Dave Johnson

Ocker – worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.
Sunday School at 9 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Ron Winsman

Pasadena – Sunday School at 9:30 AM and worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
Bible Study at 7:30 PM on Wednesday.
– Scott Keaton

Rosenberg –
Sundays: Adult Bible Study and Sunday School for children at 9:00 AM; worship at 10:30 AM.
Wednesdays: 5:30 PM, Dinner; 6:30 PM, Bible Study; 6:50 PM, Prayer Meeting.
– Bro. Larry Butcher

Seaton –
Sunday, 9:15 AM – Sunday School, All Ages; 10:30 AM – Worship Celebration Service.
Wednesday, 6:30 PM – Kid’s NITE Out and Priority ONE Youth (BYF), Adult Bible Study.
– Rev. Joe Emerson

Snook – worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Joseph Polasek

Taylor – worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. James Hejl

Temple – Sunday School at 9:30 AM., Worship at 10:45 AM.
– Pastor Larry Zabcik

Vsetin –
Worship at 10:00 AM every Sunday.
– Dr. Mark Labaj
5th Sunday – Visiting Ministers

Wall – Sunday School (for all ages) at 9:30 AM; worship at 10:45 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Thomas Tallas

Wesley – worship at 9:00 AM every Sunday. Sunday School follows.
– Rev. Michael Groseclose

West – Sunday School at 9:00 AM and worship at 10:15 AM every Sunday.
– Rev. Curtis Holland

Westheimer Community – 9:30 AM, Christian Education; 10:30 AM, Worship, with Holy Communion every 5th Sunday.
– Visiting Ministers

DIRECTORY OF MISSIONARIES

Jill Miller (at home in San Angelo now)
e-mail: jillmiller7@gmail.com

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

Michael and Caroline Woo
P.O. Box 27
Chiang Mai 50000
Thailand
e-mail: mcswoo@psmail.net
To access their pictures, go to
<http://gallery.mac.com/woofamily>

Unity Archivist

Clint Machann

c-machann@tamu.edu
979-696-1360 or 979-845-4898

CHRISTIAN SISTERS' UNION OFFICERS

President: Patsy R. Blaha, 1002
Delma Drive, Bryan, TX 77802.
(979) 691-2149

Vice President: Janet Pomykal, P.O.
Box 560, Brenham, TX 77834.
(979) 836-3772

Secretary: Dorothy Hinson, 7331
Misty Morning Lane, Humble, TX
77346. (281) 620-0480

Financial Secretary: Ann Sebesta,
P.O. Box 115, Snook, TX 77878.
(979) 272-8786 or 292-8691

Treasurer: Evelyn Henry. P.O. Box
336, Caldwell, TX 77836.
(979) 567-4397

Unity Mission Board Representatives: Sharon Hohmann, 222
Crestwood, San Angelo, TX 76903.
(325) 651-5884
Janet Pomykal (address above)

Hus Encampment Board Representatives: Lillie Chafin, 800 County
Road 284, Caldwell, TX 77836.
(979) 272-1136
Anna Wotipka, 652 County Road 324,
Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 567-3613

SYNODICAL COMMITTEE

President: Claren Kotrla, (512) 491-7802;
kotrla@flash.net

1st Vice President: Rev. Linda Chandler;
L77c@aol.com

2nd Vice President: Rev. Joe Emerson;
pastorjde@juno.com

3rd Vice President: Rev. Michael Groseclose,
352 Nelsonville Church Rd, Bellville, TX 77418.
(979) 865-3026

Secretary: Kathy Harrison, P.O. Box 593, Little
River-Academy, TX 76554. (254) 721-1815;
kathy@pearson-lawfirm.com;
kathy53087@yahoo.com

Financial Secretary: Dewyan Weise, 6006 FM
Hwy 765, San Angelo, TX 76905;
HDWeise@zipnet.com

Treasurer: James Marek, 1304 T.H. Johnson
Drive, Taylor, TX 76574. (512) 352-6165;
james@cibt.com

Ministerial Alternate: Rev. Michael Groseclose

Pastor to Pastors: Dr. Larry Koslovsky

Lay Alternate: Marvin Chlapek, P.O. Box 1163,
Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 272-9102;
mjcarc@sbcglobal.net

Lay Members:

Austin – Claren Kotrla

BCS – Jim Baletka; TXNFish@aol.com

Buckholts – Dan Balusek

Caldwell – Ron Dusek; rdusekdds@aol.com

Crosby – Chris Armstrong;

ChrisOSE203@aol.com

Cy-Fair – Roger Runnels; rogerhr@swbell.net

Dime Box – Theresa Buchan;

tkbuchan@airmail.net

Fayetteville/Industry – Jerry Marshall;

jerry@thepropertynote.com

Good Shepherd – Alfredo Wilson

Granger – Suzanne Huser; slh1952@gmail.com

Houston – Dorothy Hinson

Industry – Jerry Marshall;

jerry@thepropertynote.com

Nelsonville – Daniel Merz

New Tabor – Evelyn Henry

Ocker – Kathy Harrison;

kathy@pearson-lawfirm.com

Pasadena – Mickey Jones;

mickeyandpat@yahoo.com

Rosenberg – Michael Pruett;

michael-pruett@sbcglobal.net

Seaton – Leonard Mikeska;

mikeskains@hotmail.com

Snook – Rayfield Slovacek; joann@texasbb.com

Taylor – James Marek; james@cibt.com

Temple – Jean Newby; aljean8@sbcglobal.net

Wall – Dewyan Weise; hdweise@zipnet.us

Wesley – Janet Pomykal;

janetpomykal@yahoo.com

West – Dorothy Kocian; dekocian@yahoo.com

Westheimer – Daniel Psencik

DIRECTORY OF MINISTERS

PLEASE NOTE: In all future correspondence to Rev. Michael Groseclose and the Nelsonville Brethren Church, please use the address
352 Nelsonville Church Rd., Bellville, TX 77418.

FULL TIME PASTORS

Rev. Charles Amos, 618 N. 7th Street, Temple, TX
76501. (254) 742-2629

Rev. Whitney Amos, 618 N. 7th Street, Temple,
TX 76501. (254) 742-2629

Rev. Henry Beseda, P.O. Box 516, Caldwell, TX
77836. (979) 567-7033

Bro. Larry Butcher, 3030 Prescott, Houston, TX
77025. (713) 669-9381 (h),
(800) 941-4892 (pager)

Rev. Linda Von Chandler, 13108 North Ridge
Circle, Leander, TX 78641.
(512) 267-4826 (h), (512) 267-4655 (ch)

Rev. Joe Emerson, Seaton Brethren Church,
P.O. Box 4615, Temple, TX 76505-4615.
(254) 791-0420 (h), (254) 985-2694 (off)

Rev. Adolfo Gonzalez, 3913 Brinkman Drive,
Port Arthur, TX 77642. (409) 982-4657

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

Rev. Jim Heckman, 9849 PR 1015, Rockdale, TX
76567. (512) 446-6962(h), (979) 567-7203(off)

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

Rev. James Henry, 1726 15th Ave. N., Lake
Worth, FL 33460. (561) 533-3893

Rev. Curtis Holland, 1017 Southwood, Waco, TX
76712. (254) 776-5886

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

Pastor Scott Keaton, 14048 Pin Oak Lane,
Crosby, TX 77532. (281) 328-6361

Dr. Larry Koslovsky, 4311 Fir Valley Drive,
Kingwood, TX 77345.

(281) 328-2442 (off), (713) 594-4518 (c)

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

Rev. Milton Maly, 6703 FM 2502, Brenham, TX
77833. (979) 277-2619 (c)

Rev. Joseph Polasek, 4241 Blue Heron, Bryan,
TX 77807. (979) 779-3634
josephpolasek@yahoo.com

Rev. Kay Polasek, 1112 Sul Ross, Bryan, TX
77802. (979) 846-6561

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

Associate Pastor Dr. Jerry L. Terrill
jerryleterrill@comcast.net

Rev. Ron Winsman, 3112 W. Ave. R, Temple, TX
76504. (254) 742-0827

Pastor Larry Zabcik, 15759 State Hwy 53,
Temple TX 76501. (254) 718-3898
zabcikville@hotmail.com

SUPPLY OR INACTIVE PASTORS

Rev. W. John Baletka (retired), P.O. Box 614,
Caldwell, TX 77836. (979) 567-4563

Rev. Gordon Hejl (retired), P.O. Box 426,
Granger, TX 76530. (512) 859-2652

Rev. William J. Hodge, 528 N. Post Oak Lane,
Houston, TX 77024. (713) 957-8294

Rev. Robert W. Janek, 261 Edinburg, San Angelo,
TX 76901. (325) 942-8515

Rev. Lawrence Juneke, 3316 Lyle, Waco, TX
76708. (254) 714-2622

Rev. Eugene Kotrla, 4406 Antelope Trail, Temple,
TX 76504. (254) 774-7484

Dr. Mark L. Labaj, 3410 Meadow Creek Lane,
Temple, TX 76504. (254) 774-8179;
mlabaj@swbell.net

Rev. Albert Michalik (retired), 304 Thunder Valley
Trail, Georgetown, TX 78626. (512) 863-0832

Rev. Del Miller, 1710 West O.S.R., Caldwell, TX
77836. (979) 567-7774 (h), (979) 220-0030 (c)

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

Rev. Bill Rinderknecht, 19 Brandenberry Crt., The
Woodlands, TX 77381.

(281) 433-7704 (cell);
email: WilliamR90@aol.com

Rev. Nello Strickland, 1006 Top Hill Drive,
Brenham, TX 77833. (979) 836-2609

Rev. Tony Taylor, P.O. Box 1680, Hilltop Lakes,
TX 77871. (936) 855-2563

UNDER CALL OF THE UNITY

Military Chaplaincy

CH (Maj) Daniel E. Husak 521 Elizabeth, Troy,
TX 76579. daniel.husak1@us.army.mil

MINISTERIAL STUDENTS

Steven Davis – sdejdavis@netscape.net
(Seaton)

Denise Mikeska – dkaym@hotmail.com (Seaton)
Mark Sebek – valsebek@hotmail.com (Ocker)

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