

## **Fayetteville Brethren Church News**

**April, 2007**

*God is our refuge and strength!*

Pastor: Rev. Milton Maly    Sunday Worship Service    10:30 AM  
Phone: 979-872-8762    Sunday School:    9:30 AM  
Organist: Elizabeth Ripple  
Website address: FayettevilleBrethrenChurch.org

1022 Kramr Rd. at Ross Prairie Church Rd.  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 11  
Fayetteville, TX 78940

### **Upcoming Events:**

**Apr. 1 & 15 (Sun.)**

**Apr. 6**

**April 8 (Sun.)**

**Apr. 13 & 27 (Fri.)**

**Apr. 15 (Sun.)**

**Apr. 22 (Sun.)**

**Apr. 22 (Sun.)**

**May 6 (Sun.)**

**May 13 (Sun.)**

**May 27 (Sun.)**

**June 24 (Sun.)**

**June 27 (Wed.)**

**Faith Sharing, 7:00 PM**

**Choir Practice for Sunrise Service**

**Easter Sunrise Service – 7:00 AM**

**With Holy Communion,  
breakfast and Egg Hunt**

**A 10:30 AM worship will not be held.**

**Praise & Prayer, 7:00 PM**

**Jill Miller here; potluck lunch**

**Congregational meeting after worship**

**Christian Sisters' mtg. after worship**

**Elders meeting after worship**

**Mother's Day; Holy Communion**

**8:00 AM Sunday Worship**

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Celebration**

**Pictures will be taken for a new**

**Church directory (more details soon)**

### **Pastor's Corner:**

*"This cup is a new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."  
(Luke 22:20)*

As we always do on Easter Sunday, we will be partaking of the Lord's Supper on Easter Sunday. As in most Christian Churches, we Brethren are regular in our observance of this Sacrament that was instituted by our Lord Jesus. Communing with God in this way is a reminder of the bond we have with Him through the life and sacrifice of His Son. I believe that it would be good for us to remember something about that Good Friday event in the life of our Lord to get a fresh perspective of the meaning of this practice.

To do so, I share with you some thoughts found in our denomination's Youth Newsletter... an e-mail information and outreach ministry of the Unity's Youth Director: Kimberly Stewart:

"Three days before Easter, Jesus gathered the disciples together for a Passover Seder – what we now know as The Lord's Supper. In a traditional Seder, when Jesus lifted the cup of wine, He should have said, "Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, for giving us the fruit of the vine."

"But He did something unexpected. He said, "This cup is a new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:20) And the disciples would have recognized that, too, because that is very close to the language used in a Jewish betrothal. When the father of the young woman has agreed to the betrothal, the young man holds out a cup of wine to the young woman and says. "This cup is a new covenant in my blood, which I offer to you." It is as if he has said, "I love you, and I'll give you my life. Will you marry me?" And if she accepts the cup, she accepts the offer, and gives her life in response.

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"How astounding, then, are the words of Jesus! This wasn't the Last Supper – this was a marriage proposal. Each time we participate in communion, we renew our own marriage vows to God – and are reminded that He is truly in love with us."\*

And so, as we gather this Easter Sunday to participate in this Sacrament, may we be powerfully aware of God's love for each one of us!

***Rev. Maly***

**Prayer Concerns:**

Barbara Roesler  
Leara Henneke  
Ann Heintschel  
Brenda Hammond (daughter of Pauline and David Ott)  
Estelle Vasut (mother of Ed Vasut)  
Rose Lundeen – daughter of Doris and Laddie Ripple  
Noel Thomas  
Ed and Edna Krivacka and their son Mark and family (neighbor to Edith Rek)  
The Thiessens (our missionary family in Mexico) and Jill Miller  
For our military personnel serving in Iraq and other places  
Ginger Marshall's sister and brother-in-law  
For rain  
Tamara and Cynthia – Crystal Thomas' sisters  
Mrs. Waldine Oncken – daughter of Henry and Sabina Elsik  
Elroy Geisler (brother to Doris Cervenka)  
Betty Favor (sister to Lee Roy Cervenka)  
Joe Hayek and Evelyn Koehl  
Millie and Charles Schiller – Industry Brethren Church  
Charisse Richarz (Rev. Maly's fellow Spanish instructor at Blinn).  
Mr. Wise (husband of J.B. Branan's cousin)  
Matthew Boer and family (friends of the Malys)  
The persecuted church  
Delores Coufal – Industry Brethren Church  
Anita Coufal - Industry Brethren Church  
Leland Moeckel -- Industry Brethren Church  
Dottie – friend of Nancy Vasut  
Safe travels for those on the road.  
Gregory Maly (serving in the Air Force overseas)  
John Ragsdale and his sons  
For individuals who are overcoming alcoholism and maintaining sobriety

**April Birthdays**

13 – Phillip Ragsdale      14 – Pat Johnson      16 – Lillie Brightwell      17 – Noel Thomas  
27 – Alma Urban      30 – Rick Longobardi

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### **Flowers, Communion Set-up, Church Cleaning:**

For April: - Margaret Michalsky – thank you!!

Holy Communion will be observed on Easter Sunday

***PLEASE – bring an Easter lily to decorate the church on Easter Sunday morning!!***

**NOTE:** Several months are still open on the flower and communion set up list in the narthex. Sign up for a month and help with our worship in this way. You can share a month with another person.

### **Church News:**

- 1) **Lunch in April:** A potluck lunch will be held on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup> when missionary Jill Miller will visit us. In May, a potluck will held on the 20<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) **We welcome our new members:** - On Sunday, March 25, Josh McCoy, Michelle Smith and Cameron and Blake became members of our church. We welcome them in to our fellowship.
- 3) **April 15 – Missionary Jill Miller will be visiting with us:** On Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, Jill Miller be visiting with us. Jill has served as a missionary in Oaxaca, Mexico. She is now back in Texas and is more excited than ever about her call to missions. Some options that she is currently looking into are returning to Oaxaca, attending a Youth With A Mission school in Spain, or applying to a Birth Attendant School offered by a YWAM base in Australia. Please make plans to join us as we welcome Jill along with her parents.
- 4) **Sunday Morning Adult Study on Hebrews** is being led by Mike and Elaine Kelly. Please come and grow in faith as we study God's world.
- 5) **Faith Sharing:** Sunday, April 1st and 15th at 7:00 PM at church. Please come and be encouraged as members give testimony to Jesus' presence in their lives.
- 6) **Men's Prayer Breakfast:** Meets each Monday at 6:45 AM at the church. Please contact Jim Walker, Jerry Marshall or Ed Vasut if you have questions.
- 7) **Prayer and Praise Service:** Friday, April 13th and 27th at 7:00 PM at church. Please come ready to sing your favorite songs as we sing praises to our wonderful Lord! We have time of singing each person's favorite hymn followed by a brief time of prayer.
- 8) **Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>:** An 8:00 AM worship service will be held on May 27<sup>th</sup> followed by Sunday School. The Board of Elders approved this change due to the Ellinger Chamber of Commerce festival.

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- 9) **Board of Elders Report:** The construction of the fellowship hall is complete. The first function in the new hall was held on March 23 and 24 – the Christian Sisters' fundraiser. On April 22 a congregational meeting will held to vote on a representative to attend the Unity of the Brethren convention at the Wall Brethren Church on July 5-7 the next project will be a parking lot. Prause Paving from Columbus has been hired to do this job. The cost will be \$16,639. Donations are being accepted to fund this project. If you would like to make a donation towards this effort, please make your check payable to "Fayetteville Brethren Building Fund."
- 10) **Please remember our military personnel:** When you are picking up Easter treats for loved ones or at any other time, please remember to pick up an item to send to our military personnel serving in Iraq and other places oversea. Some of the items needed include crackers, nuts, trail mix, gum, hard candy, tissues, lip balm, letters of encouragement, beef jerky, baby wipes, hand wipes and foot powder. Please place these items in the box in the narthex. Pauline Ott is in charge of this project and reports that the recipients are highly appreciative of what is sent and often share the items with their group. Please see Pauline if you have any questions.
- 11) **The Christian Sisters' Society:** The Christian Sisters' met Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> after the worship service with 10 members present. Items discussed were the results of the fundraiser held on March 23 and 24, and the Christian Sisters' Union Retreat on April 21 at the Hus Encampment near Caldwell. Elected to serve for 2007-2009 was Beverly Mikeska – secretary and Barbara Arambula – treasurer. Julia Thomas gave information about her opportunity to go to New York this summer to study with the Geoffrey Ballet and of a fundraiser that will be held on May 6 at the Czech Pavilion at the Fayette County Fairgrounds. She has tickets for a Dance Theater - \$10.00 donation, which includes a show and a spaghetti meal – and she also has raffle tickets for sale.  
The Christian Sisters' Union Retreat will be held on April 21 at the Hus Encampment. A continental breakfast will be served from 8:15 AM – 9:00 AM; Registration begins at 8:30 AM. The fee is \$12 per person (includes lunch); activities begin at 9:00 AM; retreat will end at 3:30 PM. Esther Holz of Houston will lead the study sessions; Esther is a deacon at Willow Baptist Church in Houston. The deadline to register is April 7. Those interested in going, please contact Liz Ripple.  
If you would like to join the Christian Sisters' Society, please contact Beverly Mikeska or Liz Ripple. Dues (\$20) for 2007 can be paid now thru April 29. All ladies age 16 and over may become a member. You do not have to be a member of the church to join.
- 12) **Hus Camp -** Registration forms for the Unity of the Brethren 2007 Summer Camping Program are in the foyer. The deadline for camp registration is May 15. There are Several camps for our youth: Alpha Camp (ages 9-10); Pioneer Camp (ages 11-12); Discovery Camp (ages 13-14); and Hus School (ages 15 and above). Any child who Wants to go to camp may go – you do not have to be a member of the church to attend. If you know of a child that wants to attend, please be informed that the cost is taken care of by our church. There will also be a Brethren Youth Fellowship retreat on July 21 and 22 at the Hus Camp. For more information, contact Rev. Maly or Liz Ripple.

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- 12) **Commemorative Church Plate:** We now have available commemorative plate with a picture of the church from the 1890's on the front along with a brief history and a list of the pastors who have served. It is a 9" plate with a 24K gold rim. We are selling them for a \$25 donation. They would make excellent gifts or birthday presents and come in individual gift boxes – ready for wrapping. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Liz Ripple. If you would like to have one shipped to you, please send \$25.00 plus \$5.00 for shipping and handling to FBC, PO Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940
- 14) **Our congregation's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration** is two months away, but NOW is the time to plan or make homemade items for the country store and the auction. Please note that the Christian Sisters' need and appreciate items for their silent auction which will be held during the celebration.
- 14) **Thank you for the new manger:** A very late, but grateful thank you is extended to the nice person who built a new manger for our nativity scene! Thank you!
- 15) **Church Sesquicentennial Cookbook:** These cookbooks make ideal gifts and contain many special recipes. If you would like to order a cookbook, please let Liz Ripple know how many you would like. We are selling them for a \$20.00 donation of which all proceeds go to the building fund. If you would like to have one mailed to you, send \$20.00 plus \$2.00 for shipping and handling to FBC, P.O. Box 11, Fayetteville, TX 78940
- 16) **Memorials received** – Memorials were made to the building & cemetery funds last month in memory of Sabina and Henry Elsik, Anna, Arque and Elo Elsik and Eleanor Bruton. If you would like to give a memorial for a friend or a loved one you may do so at any time. Please note it on your check.
- 17) **May Newsletter deadline:** Articles are due **no later than April 25th**, please.

**Closing Thoughts:**

There was a redbird who came to a certain window each day to peer in at a family as if to say "hi!" Then the little bird would fly up to a dogwood tree and sing to the heavens.

The family members looked forward to the redbird's visits. The mother began thinking that God also looks forward to our visits with Him. She reflected that God is made happy when we leave His presence singing His praises!

May Easter find you in God's presence with thankfulness and singing praises to our Risen Lord!

*From Marcia Swearingen  
A Cup of Comfort Devotional*

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<b>1</b> Palm Sunday. Messiah, Christ, our King. You chose to walk that road out of Your love for each of us. Jesus, we praise You above all kingdoms, above all treasures.	<b>2</b> Father, we pray that people in Brethren churches pursue a knowledge of scripture that defends against little heresies causing churches to fall away from the Word of God.	<b>3</b> Jill Miller back in Texas after mission training in Mexico. Pray that God will give her clarity of vision to see the next assignment God has already planned for her. Invite her to your church.	<b>4</b> Without God's help, we make a lot of bad decisions. Lord, in James 1:5-8, You make it know that you delight in giving us wisdom when we ask for it. Lord, bathe our decisions in Your wisdom.	<b>5</b> Missions. Pray for the Theissen's plan to bring together all Mixtec churches in Guerrero for an Easter celebration. Pray for the Ray Griggs plans to provide clean water wells/Mosquitia.	<b>6</b> Lord, develop within me your gift of caring and being sympathetic to the suffering of others desiring to help. Teach me to soothe the broken hearted. Nurture my abiding faith. Compassion	<b>7</b> Deadline for Hus School & Camp registration on the 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> . Pray that parents encourage children and youth to register. Pray for those now making decisions. Decision time.
<b>8</b> Easter Sunday. Messiah! We sing and crown You with praises. Behold the Lamb Who is worthy to rule with righteousness; to rescue us through His mercy; Jesus, You are worthy to open the seals.	<b>9</b> Father, I celebrate and rejoice today in the victory of Jesus' faith. Sharpen the vision of my spiritual eyes that I may see You working in my life; that I may see the manifestation of Your Kingdom here, now.	<b>10</b> Father, although I know, I tend to forget. My strength is not sufficient to keep the world from conforming me to its flawed image. I need Your overcoming strength to face whatever the enemy throws my way	<b>11</b> Seek after the favor of God and not men. Let us not busy ourselves with that which only pleases our peers but let us truly occupy our lives with what pleases our King. Pray for the wisdom and strength to do accordingly	<b>12</b> Government, church and state...let us pray for all people in authority, whether or not we agree with each and every decision they make. President, national and state leaders, pastors and church leaders.	<b>13</b> In 1 Kings 18:4, God said He has many prophets hidden in caves. Brethren, pray: Lord, am I a "little" Elijah tucked away in a cave of my own making. Do You desire that I become one of Your mighty warriors???	<b>14</b> Father, we pray for a strong sense of joy and passion as we worship tomorrow. Renew our first love. Protect us from legalism. We pray that our church will burn with a hot, holy fire of passion for You.
<b>15</b> Jesus, we serve You and love You because You are our Lord. We serve & obey not out of duty or obligation. We serve You because we are grateful and love and fellowship with You with passion.	<b>16</b> Father God, You know my thoughts, my heart and everything about me. You know my needs. Give me the faith and wisdom to be totally honest and open with You about everything.	<b>17</b> If there is someone reading this who is not absolutely certain they are going to Heaven, I say to you, reach out and accept and invite the Lord Jesus into your heart, into your life. Salvation!	<b>18</b> Dear Father, we are surrounded by false gods everywhere we move. The world tries to lead us down the wrong path. Give us discernment that we may identify the tempter's snare. Strength!	<b>19</b> Pray! Father, I know that You desire to use me to further Your Kingdom. To do Your work, I know I must relinquish control. A giant step Lord. I struggle with turning the controls over to You.	<b>20</b> Lord, there are decisions to make and we painfully labor over them. Sometimes we fail to seek Your mighty counsel. Other times we know the right way but lack the courage. Pray & yield.	<b>21</b> Christian Sisters Retreat today. Father, continue to raise up women of all ages in our churches with the spiritual gifts needed in our Christian Sisters organizations.
<b>22</b> Let our worship today be all about God. Not because of the way we feel towards Him but because of who He is. Father, You are our glorious King. This is Your planet and you deserve our praise. Heart!	<b>23</b> Keep in your prayers the Griggs in Honduras and the Theissens in Mexico. Pray for their families, their personal needs, their health, their faith, hope and sustaining spiritual nurture.	<b>24</b> Lord, I know that You desire greater things of me. You desire for me the courage to attempt great new things for Your Kingdom. Power to mount up and soar like an eagle. Faith to move out! Courage to start.	<b>25</b> Father, I am inviting You to take me to a higher level of faith and trust. I pray this with expectation that You will open wide the doors of opportunity establishing Your Kingdom in my life. Be my guide.	<b>26</b> Father God, forgive my spiritual immaturity. Yes, I see a speck of light. Yes, it becomes brighter as I move toward it. Lord, I know if I press on, that speck of light will illumine my life. (Read Phillipians 3: 12, 14)	<b>27</b> People in America tend to go from book to book trying to find God's purpose for their lives. Instead of trying to squeeze God into our lives, let us seek to fit into God's plan for the world. Pray to know that plan.	<b>28</b> Lord Jesus, dwell among us as we renew our intimacy with You. We as a people and a church seek to nurture our first love and relationship with You. Help us keep our focus on the path that leads to Your Kingdom.
<b>29</b> Father God, we worship Your majesty. We acknowledge Your Kingdom authority. We praise and adore You. Accept our prayers as a sweet fragrance of our love for You.	<b>30</b> Father, empower me during critical times. Remind me that passively doing nothing can be as bad as active sinning. Lord, I pray for discernment and power and will not doubt.	<b>PRAYER FOCUS</b> <i>Father, provide spiritual vision and wisdom to all who are planning the upcoming July Unity Convention.</i>	<i>Father, we pray that the Unity officers, pastors and delegates will come into alignment with Your Will and purposes for us and our churches.</i>	<i>Father, may we have the vision to prepare new wineskins to hold the bold, new work you surely desire for our church and each of us.</i>	<i>View or download this calendar on the Unity website: <a href="http://unityofthebrethren.org">unityofthebrethren.org</a> Click on "calendar" and then "DPC". Subscribe at: <a href="mailto:dailypravcal@hotmail.com">dailypravcal@hotmail.com</a></i>	THE DAILY PRAYER CALENDAR IS AVAILABLE BY MAIL OR EMAIL FOR A BULLETIN/NEWSLETTER. Daily Prayer Calendar Editor 100 Calvin Drive Temple, TX 76501 or email the following to <a href="mailto:dailypravcal@hotmail.com">subscribe: dailypravcal@hotmail.com</a>